

## THE ETHOS OF NORTH DOWN & ARDS U3A

In normal circumstances those applying for membership of NDA U3A would be invited to an Information and enrolment event, usually lasting an hour or so with ample time for questions, but clearly we cannot do that at the moment due to COVID-19.

The following is a brief summary of what we are all about in NDA U3A. Please read it carefully and sign to confirm that you understand it and that you are prepared to abide by our terms of membership. Please understand that this is an interim step and that, while it forms the basis of full membership, when normality returns you will be expected to attend a more formal induction procedure when we will have the opportunity of meeting you and answer any questions you might have.

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- The U3A is a worldwide, self-help, self-managed movement whose principal objectives are the provision of facilities for leisure time and recreational activities aimed at improving the life conditions of people who are not in full time gainful employment.
  - NDA U3A is non-religious and non-political, bringing together like-minded people to teach and to learn from each other. We are all volunteers and so we do expect members to be prepared to help in some way to the functioning of the movement.
  - Each U3A is a registered charity abiding by the Charity Commission regulations.
  - There is no age limit and no qualifications are required or given.
  - There are no bosses – an Executive Committee, elected at the Annual General Meeting, is there to administer, not to dictate.
  - There are no classes but we do have interest groups led by members. No member is paid and members are expected to contribute to cover the cost of the hire of rooms as required, usually a minimal sum.
  - We have over one hundred such interest groups but, due to COVID-19, they are not all operating, for obvious reasons. However, attached is a list of about thirty groups that are running, although some might require you to have your name added to a waiting list.
  - The annual subscription is £15 for single membership or £25 for two people living at the same address.
  - We value highly the social aspect of membership of the U3A: the feeling of belonging; the joy of learning; companionship; and fun.
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APPLICATION TO JOIN - please complete the following:

Name(1) ..... Name (2) .....

Tel No ..... Email address .....

Address .....

Signature(s) ..... Date of application .....

I/we confirm that I/we have read, understood and am/are prepared to abide by the above ethos.

Please return this with your cheque, £15.00 for single membership or £25.00 for a couple living at the same address, payable to NDA U3A and posted to us at: **PO Box 383, Bangor, BT20 9GB**

**This payment covers your membership until 31 March 2022.** Thank you.