

Malmesbury and District U3A Travel Guidance

This document seeks to clarify U3A travel guidelines with regard to travelling to and from M&D U3A meetings and activities.

It is the responsibility of individual members to arrange their own transport to meetings and events, however **in the inclusive spirit of U3A, car sharing / offering lifts is desirable and practical**. Members without their own transport living in villages or at a distance from the centre of town are likely to find it difficult to attend some interest group meetings or events.

General Guidelines

- U3A insurance does not cover car sharing and ‘any accident arising from the driving of a vehicle would fall outside the scope of a Public Liability Insurance, because motor insurance is an entirely separate matter. Such incidents are properly covered under a motor insurance policy’.¹
- The U3A Reference File confirms that members can offer lifts and accept money towards petrol costs without compromising their car insurance policy, but as a non-profit making organisation U3A would expect a driver to get back ‘an appropriate proportion of the fuel costs not the total amount.’
- Interest group leaders, particularly in larger groups, can encourage their members to make arrangements within the group for car sharing where necessary and appropriate.
- Drivers travelling to and from U3A meetings and events are able to accept contributions towards petrol costs, and after appropriate discussion **each interest group can adopt a system which is agreed as fair to all**. It is possible, for example, for members of a group to:
 1. Offer and accept lifts on an ad hoc basis or by a rota.
 2. Work out a way of reimbursing the drivers **fairly and proportionately** in a way in a way that is agreeable to all members of the group.
 3. For passengers to ‘reimburse’ drivers by buying them coffee or a snack during a visit.
- To help members otherwise reliant on inadequate public transport to attend monthly meetings or other larger M&D social events, it may be possible to compile village lists to be shared between members in a locality. **Confirmation must first be obtained in writing that individuals are happy for their contact details to circulate in a controlled and limited way**. This would enable members to make their own arrangements.

1 U3A Committee Reference File, *Insurance and Safety*

- Members with their own transport, who are attending an event, are encouraged to offer assistance to fellow members who may have limited mobility and wish to attend M&D monthly meetings or other larger social events.

The intention of M&D U3A is that, as far as possible, an unavoidable lack of personal transport does not disadvantage members, or prevent them from taking part in a full range of M&D activities. Mutual support is at the heart of the U3A ethos.

Adopted by the M&D U3A Executive Committee: April 2018