



In 1748, King George II decided that rather than taking the salute at his birthday parade each November, he would combine it with the annual military march which took place in June. The royal tradition of the monarch's "official" June birthday continues to this day.

No 62-gun salutes involved, but Rotherham u3a will royally celebrate its "official" birthday on 6th December, with an extra-special Christmas lunch, followed by seasonal music from a professional singer.

The Ru3a was born in August 1994. Created by ten enthusiasts, the infant association had 60 members and offered five activities. Ten years on, and membership approached 200 and 20+ activities were available. A decade later, it had grown to 250 members and 29 activities, and by its 30th anniversary in August this year, membership had almost reached 500, and boasted 38 enjoyable activities.

Alongside the pleasure and satisfaction of learning together, members enjoy each other's company, laughing together and sharing stories and experience. New acquaintances frequently become lasting friends. There are regular socials, sometimes with invited speakers, often with a quiz or songs courtesy of the Ukulele group, always with lots of chatting and, of course, light refreshments. Then there's the Christmas party and group celebrations, plus events open to all, especially mentioning the Choir's annual Christmas concert, at Wickersley Methodist Church, at 7pm on the 7th December . Tickets £7 including refreshments.

Curious to know more? Try visiting a group, alone or with a friend, on one or two occasions before deciding whether it's right for you.

Explore the Ru3a, buy Christmas Concert tickets, or contact Trustees and Group Coordinators, by visiting www.rotherham.u3asite.uk or telephone Sue Cable 07958 178 681 for information.

