

LICENCES HELD

St Albans University of the Third Age (StAU3A) holds a number of licences needed to transact its business and assist Groups in their activities:-

Motion Picture Licensing Co Ltd “Umbrella Certificate” – organised by Third Age Trust (TAT) centrally and sent annually to each U3A. The cost is covered by the membership subscription fee. Renewal date is February each year.

Copyright Licensing Agency’s Copyright Licence for Adult and Community Learning. This is purchased annually via TAT for £60. The renewal date is August each year. The licence allows multiple photocopies from books, journals and magazines. Extracts can be up to 5%, one chapter or one article, whichever is the greater. It does not, however, allow multiple copies of maps, charts, newspapers or printed sheet music including the words.

The former Phonographic Performance Ltd (PPL) and Performing Rights Society (PRS) have now merged and TAT provides one licence now to authorise the use of sound recordings at its meetings and events. This is purchased centrally by TAT.

This is separate from the former Performing Rights Society (PRS) Licence to cover the public performance of music and lyrics (as opposed to “private” performances for U3A members). The responsibility for obtaining the licence actually rests with the owner of the venue being used – not the performer/s. (Groups need to be aware of this, but it will not affect most of them who never put on performances which the public can attend).

For completeness, there is no blanket licence available for multiple copying of sheet music; this is always illegal unless it is no longer in copyright. If you would like help and advice on obtaining copyright clearance you can look at Frequently Asked Questions on The Music Publishers’ Association website (www.mpaonline.org.uk) or contact them on 0207 580 0126. There is also some free sheet music available on the internet at choral public domain (www.cpd.org.uk) and this will give you links to other useful sites.