



Margaret McClure, Shirley Gorman, Kathleen Young and Valerie Thompson catch up at Fermanagh House.





Enda Topping and Betty Abercrombie enjoy the choir at u3a.

Erne u3a.

"I joined u3a when my husband Paul was still alive, and it was a very wise thing to do because it meant that I had met a lot of people, a lot of friends.

"It's really the camaraderie, the trips, and the people particularly," she said of why she enjoys being a

member.

Ita Vesey is in her second year of holding the position of Erne u3a chairperson. She was previously secretary for six years.

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"u3a is basically about us helping each other. When I joined first of all, I was useful enough as a secretary,

Something is amusing Anne Rowan, David Munn and Lorna Dane at the u3a event.

but I realised I wasn't actually doing anything and I'm not a flower arranger or a pottery person," she said, explaining how, alongside her role as chairperson, she facilitates the trips.

"I worked as a youth officer, and I used to run Exchange trips to France and Germany and all, over the years. So I thought maybe I could do that. So my first trip was kind of dipping my toe in the water and it was wonderful.

"We've done seven trips, and each year the weather has been beautiful. We've never had to use an umbrella! We've been to Portlaoise, Wicklow, Wexford, Letterkenny, Dundalk and Galway.

"It's about trying to get places that are within a certain radius so you don't have to travel too far," she said.

Currently Erne u3a has 120 plus members. The organisation meets on the second Monday of each month at 10.30am for tea/coffee, business meeting and a speaker at Fermanagh House.



Adrianne Brown, Chair, NI Regional Executive Committee of u3a with Ita Vesey Chair of Fermanagh u3a.