Ashby u3a Copyright and Licences

Copyright

Copyright is an area of the law which protects creativity. It confers certain rights on the owner of certain kinds of works including original literary, dramatic, musical & artistic works, as well as sound recordings and films, allowing them to control the way in which such works can be used and exploited. In the UK, copyright arises automatically when a work that qualifies for protection is created and committed to paper or another fixed form. Copyright does not need to be registered and the creator does not have to be a professional in order for their original work to be protected by copyright. So, for example, a photograph by a u3a member can be protected by copyright.

A work does not have to have the copyright symbol or the word copyright on it for it to be subject to copyright. These symbols are merely used to put other people on notice that the piece of work is protected by copyright and not freely available to use. One piece of work can contain lots of different copyright elements. For example, in the case of a song, lyrics are protected as a literary work; the melody is protected as a musical work; and any recording of that song is protected as a sound recording.

Copyright law in the UK is governed by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 as amended. There is comprehensive and current copyright information at https://www.gov.uk/copyright and you should always refer to this information.

For fuller details of Copyright and the use by others of Copyright material as it could apply to a u3a, see u3a.org.uk Copyright and Licences - U3A-KMS-DOC-009 from which this document was compiled.

Your work

Copyright will protect the outputs of many u3a interest groups e.g. craft-based groups, photography, creative writing groups etc. so that others cannot use the output of any of our Groups or Members without permission or licence.

The work of others

On the other hand Ashby u3a groups or members cannot use the work of others without permission or licence.

There are only 4 circumstances in which the work owned by others can be used:

- Copyright in the work has expired and is now in the public domain to be freely used by anyone.
- The copyright holder has given permission for the use of the work, either by direct written permission to the user or via a public licence such as a Creative Commons Licence
- The use falls under one of the copyright exceptions under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988as amended.
- The relevant work and use is covered by a licensing scheme that the u3a and/or the Third Age Trust and/or the relevant venue has subscribed to.

Licences

Ashby u3a, either directly or through the Third Age Trust, holds the following licences:

- MPLC Umbrella Licence for audio-visual content (including DVDs, downloads and streamed materials) to be screened in a public location, for example a community hall or in a member's home as part of an interest group, provided admission is not charged.
- PRS Licence, to legally play music through the radio, television, other digital devices and during live performances. We are covered for any venue, so the venue itself does not need to be licenced.
- CLA for printed or digital material. This allows copying or re-use of extracts from digital or print books, magazines, journals and websites for educational and learning purposes. Note this does not cover newspapers, maps & charts, sheet music including lyrics for which further licencing may be required.

Certain works are not covered by the CLA Licence, as the copyright owner has intentionally excluded them from this scheme. The lists of these works can be checked on the CLA website: www.cla.org.uk/excluded-works.

Maps, newspapers and sheet music are also not covered by the CLA licence.

Copying and re-using digital and printed material

Copies must not exceed one chapter of a book, one article from a publication, one short story or poem from an anthology, or one case report from a published report of judicial proceedings, or 5% of the total, whichever is greater, or the digital equivalent.

Members are entitled to share copies with one another in person or online for educational and learning purposes but must not circulate copies more widely. Paper copies intended for a meeting of an interest group must not exceed the number of members attending. Excess copies should be destroyed or retained for subsequent use.

To copy maps or charts, consult the Ordnance Survey, Google or other original sources for permission.

To reproduce cuttings or extracts from newspapers consult the Newspaper Licencing Agency

For printed sheet music see Music Publishers Association's Code of Fair Practice

Consequences of making unauthorised or illegal use of copyright material

Just because a work is available on the internet, it is not necessarily in the public domain to be used free of charge by the public. Just because an image is accompanied by an acknowledgement it is not exempt from copyright. These are frequent misconceptions.

NOTE:

It is the potential user's responsibility to check whether a work is, or is not, copyright and whether or not it is covered by one of the licences we hold.

Illegal or unauthorised use of copyright material is a serious matter and has led to u3a groups in the UK facing threats of court action and requests to pay substantial damages for copyright infringement.