



U3A Trustee for the East Midlands

Newsletter

Autumn 2019



Annual Conference

It was good to see some of you from the East Midlands at Conference this year, especially those of you who were at the Regional session on Tuesday afternoon. I think a number of you attended on other days and I am sorry I did not manage to talk to you all. I do hope you found Conference interesting and enjoyable.

I presented certificates to Wellingborough U3A, celebrating their 15 year anniversary, and to Whitwick which is 10 years old. Past Vice Chair Michaela Moody stepped up to present me with a 10 year certificate for my own U3A of Keyworth, which I have subsequently passed on at our monthly meeting.

I also have certificates for New Mills and Ripley in Derbyshire, Spalding, West Wolds, Heath and Branston in Lincolnshire, Hinckley, Blaby, Bradgate and Enderby in Leicestershire, Kettering, Higham and Rushden, and Oundle in Northamptonshire and Newark and Soar Valley in Nottinghamshire. Nottingham U3A were congratulated on reaching 35 years!

I plan to bring the certificates to the various Network meetings, over the next few months. If you cannot wait, please let me know and I will post it to you.

Also at the regional session, I raised the issue of how the role of the Regional Trustee continues to grow. As part of the Development Plan Trustees are looking at how best to support the Trustee in the regions and how some parts of the job could be shared.

News from Third Age Trust

U3A Day 3rd June 2020. If you have read the most recent national Newsletter you will know that there are plans for a national U3A day. If you haven't – please do! The aim is to celebrate the movement and to raise its profile with the general public, as well as potential members.

It is expected that the Charity Commission will soon make the following policies compulsory, so if you do not already have them, it is worth putting them in place.

- Safeguarding – there is now an amended version of this in Downloads in the Advice section of the national website.
- Accessibility – information can be found under 'Supporting your members'
- Equality – advice under 'Committee responsibilities'.

Also a reminder that the 'blue book' is no longer up to date and that current advice needs to be looked for on the website. The mammoth job of improving the Advice section is still ongoing. . .

Networks

Derbyshire has successfully launched a new U3A in Clay Cross. Congratulations and thanks to all those who worked hard to make it happen and to those who have offered to be on the Steering committee.

Notts Network is hoping to launch a new U3A in Bulwell on October 2nd.

And in Northamptonshire there are hopes that a U3A will launch at Priors Hall near Corby on 16th October. Enquiries are also being made about a further launch.

It is wonderful that this is happening and thanks to everyone involved. As part of the new national development plan we all need to consider what we can do, in our own U3As and Networks, to spread the word and to enable more Third Agers to enjoy the benefits of U3A. It would be good to see this item on the Agendas of every Network. Several U3As in the Region are currently planning open days.

Notts. Network has arranged to hold the national workshop on Volunteering, on 20th November, in Nottingham.

Leicestershire Network is holding a workshop for group leaders of History, Languages and Going Out Safely.

The workshops that are currently offered by the Trust are:

- **Running your U3A** – which explores governance issues, Trusteeship and organising an AGM
- **Managing Growth** – exploring issues around the effective growth of a U3A
- **Financial Matters** – budgeting, accounting and managing U3A monies
- **Interest Groups Matter** – how to run effective interest groups and inspire new groups
- **Communications** – how to communicate effectively with your membership and how to raise the profile of your U3A
- **Volunteers and Volunteering** – exploring issues around recruiting, valuing and managing volunteers
- **Keeping it Legal** – exploring issues of compliance including: insurance, GDPR, Safeguarding, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

There is an application form available on the website.

I look forward to meeting many of you at Network meetings and workshops over the next few months. If there are things you would like including in my Newsletters do let me know.

April 21st 2020 Regional Conference Eastwood hall Nottinghamshire

I can be contacted on: jean.hogg@u3a.org.uk or phone: 0744 322 1688

Jean Hogg
Trustee for the East Midlands



Learn Laugh Live

The Third Age Trust
52 Lant Street, London SE1 1RB
Tel: 0208 466 6139
www.u3a.org.uk
Registered Charity: 288007
Registered Company: 1759471
VAT Reg No: 821 0156 79