



# Annual General Meeting 2020



of Dulwich & District U3A

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2:00 - 4:00 pm**

online meeting by Zoom or phone - details will be sent to members 24hrs before meeting

1. Registration and apologies for absence
2. Approve Minutes of AGM 2019 (propose and second)
3. Chair's Report and Activity Report
4. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Accounts (propose and second)
5. Motions from members (propose and second) **See below**
6. Election of Officers and Executive Committee **See below**
7. A talk – Herne Hill –Past, Present and Future by Laurence Marsh

At this AGM there are two members' motions to consider

## **Motion 1- Diversity**

**“Living as we do in South East London, with its very multi-cultural population, some members are acutely aware of the lack of diversity in the membership of D&D U3A.**

**We believe that we should be taking positive action to attract a more diverse membership. To this end we call upon the new committee to form a representative working group made up of members from across our U3A to review our current recruitment methods and to propose suggestions/ recommendations on ways to remedy this situation.”**

**Proposed: Ruby Douek**

**Seconded: Pam Cohen**

## **Motion 2 – A change to item 2 in the appendix of our constitution.**

Appendix Item 2 - Appointments currently states :-

“After each AGM of the CIO, the trustees shall appoint the following Officers: a Chair as in paragraph 19 (2), a Vice Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, from among their number.”

**To be replaced by :-**

**After each AGM of the CIO, the trustees shall ratify the appointment of the following Officers elected by the members as in Appendix paragraph 4: a Chair, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The trustees shall also appoint from amongst their number a Vice Chair. In the event that any officer role remains unfilled at the AGM the trustees shall appoint to that role from among their number, or from the membership, providing that the number of trustees does not exceed the maximum of 15.”**

**Proposed: Mary Fyfe**

**Seconded: Caroline Knapp**

The two motions above will be introduced at the Zoom AGM and a vote using the zoom poll facility will take place. If members cannot Zoom or attend the AGM for any reason a proxy or postal vote can be arranged. Any postal votes received by Saturday 1st August will be added to the count on the day.

Please contact the secretary for any assistance with the voting.

### Dulwich U3A Trustee Nominations 2020/2021

Post	First Name	Surname	Proposed	Second
Trustee	Neil	Abrahams	Lesley Barney	Eric Barney
Chair	David	Beamish	Maggie Smith	Carole Abrahams
Trustee	Rona	Black	Liz Wakeley	Lindsay Merriman
Chair	Angela	Brown	Caroline Goffe	Mary Fyfe
Trustee	Pam	Cohen	Stephen Frost	Joyce Roberts
Trustee	Danne	Deudney	Bernard Victor	Peter Saunders
Trustee	Susan	Elias	Pamela Ruben	Tina Thorpe
Trustee	Richard	Elliott	Margo Sheridan	Antony Heal
Trustee	Helen	Graham	Christine Hinton	Allison Loyd
Trustee	Joy	Harris	Jane Gardener	Simon Hebditch
Trustee	Sarah	Howell- Davies	Jill Batty	Cartriona Sutherland
treasurer	Verity	Mosenthal	Jenny Thoma	Steve Mattingly
Trustee	Anne	Sharpley	Lynn Whyte	Katy Shaw
Trustee	Sandra	Tait	Tina Thorpe	Judith Lempriere

The position of chair is contested so there will be an election for this post

### Supporting Statements

#### **David Beamish Standing for Chair**



I joined D&D U3A when I retired in April 2017, and am now a member of five groups: Trees, Walks (I have led three different walks on seven occasions), Cryptic Crosswords (I tutored two eight-lesson courses), Photography (Deputy Convenor), and Maths for Fun (Deputy Convenor). I was the speaker at the monthly meeting in January 2019, and joined the Committee in May 2019.

The strengths of D&D U3A are the many groups and the monthly meetings. The trustees' role is to enable these to flourish, and I am willing to play my part in any way I can.

The strengths of Dulwich & District U3A are its many flourishing interest groups and its monthly meetings. I want to maintain the splendid progress

made to date. In particular:

I want to encourage and support members in becoming convenors, to cover new topics and (just as important) existing topics where there is a waiting list.

Our membership is more diverse than that of some other U3As, but we can do better. I want to reach out to potential members from every background and ensure that everyone who joins is made to feel welcome.

I want to build on our success in coping with the lockdown period. Personal contact with other members is one of our greatest benefits, but we now have valuable experience of new ways of working.

I want to involve members in finding a wide range of interesting speakers for monthly meetings.

I have occasionally met suspicion that some decision-making may be less than transparent. I want to be open to – and encourage – members' ideas, and to ensure that our processes are democratic.

## Angela Brown Standing for Chair



In 2014 I became a founder member of D&D U3A and for three years with Judith Salter was the Interest Group Coordinator, coordinator of new members' teas, link person with the Dulwich Society regarding Rosebery Lodge and with Susan Elias compiled the Newsletter. I convened singles suppers, cinema and the fringe theatre groups.

In 2017 I became the Chair of the GLSE Network and gained wider U3A experience.

My career in Probation, the London Qualification structure, teaching in Czechia, Romania, Brunel University and the LSE provide a background of organising and delivering learning to adults.

After the first six successful years, I am excited by the opportunity becoming Chair offers to take our U3A into its next phase.

My vision includes:

### **Enhancement**

Increasing wider participation through member working groups (including a Trustee) to look at

- “buddying” new or isolated members,
- providing technology assistance
- supporting new convenors,
- suggesting topics for talks and initiatives

Retaining current initiatives which enable “different” attendance

- virtual meetings, talks and walks,
- groups using online learning e.g. Future Learn
- hybrids (people and Zoomers)

### **Diversity and Inclusivity**

Establishing a representative working group to investigate the mismatch between our membership and the local community in terms of BAME members and how this can be remedied.

Investigating ways of creating self-help groups for members with specific needs.

### **The Wider Community**

Continuing engagement with the Third Age Trust and the Greater London S.E network for advice and opportunities for collaboration

Raising our profile in the local area through the distribution of materials, engagement with employers, local authorities and other organisations.

I would seek to ensure that all decisions are reached in a transparent manner with open communication at all levels

### **Voting procedure for AGM 2020**

A link to an online vote will be sent to members at least ten days before the AGM

**Online voting will close Midnight Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August**

**Postal votes to be with the Secretary by Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August.**

The results will be announced at the Zoom AGM and sent to members by email and post as soon as possible.

Please contact the Secretary if you have any problems with voting

## **The trustee positions below are not contested.**

The constitution allows for a maximum of 15 trustees (including officers)



### **Verity Mosenthal Standing for Treasurer Position**

As treasurer for the last 2 years and as a member of the committee I have overseen our finances. With a healthy reserve when I took over, I was able to get a reduction in subscriptions agreed. We came into the lockdown in a strong position and should be able to ride out covid-19 without difficulty.

This will be my final year as treasurer, as I feel 3 years is enough time to be useful and then hand on to someone with fresh ideas.



### **Neil Abrahams Standing for Trustee Position**

I am pleased to have served on the committee for the past 5 years.

As one of the joint Groups Coordinators I have been responsible for helping to organise the Conveners' Meetings and keeping in touch with Conveners.

I have been responsible for the production of leaflets and publicity material including the AGM brochure, Welcome leaflet, and Conveners' handbook.

I lead the Ukulele (Wednesday) Group which has performed at several community events.

I chaired our working party for 'National U3A Day'.

I have encouraged the use of Zoom for Group and Committee meetings and have organised the Zoom Open Day Showcase events.



### **Rona Black Standing for Trustee Position**

I am standing for the committee and would like to be appointed to the vice chair position.

I have been involved in Dulwich and District U3A since its inception, with 2 spells on the committee. I convene the opera group and am a member of art history and Shakespeare groups, all really enjoyable.

I have also spent 3 years on the London Region summer school committee and 2 years as vice chair for London region U3A south of the river.

My professional background is in higher education, valuable over this period of necessary change and adaptation of approaches to adult learning.



### **Pam Cohen Standing for Trustee Position**

I have greatly enjoyed my time in D&D U3A and having got so much out of it, now feel that I need to start doing some of the work needed to keep it going. I would want to work with other trustees to make our U3A as democratic and inclusive as possible so all members feel they have a real part in it. From my past work life I have a good knowledge of how committees work and how to contribute to them.



### **Dianne Deudney Standing for Trustee Position**

I have been an active member of D&D U3A since its inception and I convene 3 groups.

I would like to put myself forward as a committee member as I feel I could contribute significantly, designing, printing and publishing D&D's programmes, posters, leaflets newsletters etc



### **Susan Elias Standing for Trustee Position**

I have been a trustee for 5 years and am happy to continue for one more year. I am joint editor of our Newsletter and also joint Group Coordinator. I deal with enquiries about groups via the website, organising and running Group Convenors' meetings and helping to sort out problems that arise within Groups.

I convene two Groups and also belong to several other groups.

Each year I have organised and presented our Annual Quiz.

I regularly help at our New Members' Teas. I enjoy meeting people and encouraging them to join in with our varied activities.



### **Richard Elliott Standing for Trustee Position**

I wish to join the Executive Committee and am happy to take on most available roles. I have some experience in finance and governance which may be of use in due course. I would welcome the opportunity to join the team and play my bit in pursuing the aims of U3A.

I joined in February 2020 and am a member of the Political Ideas (active on Zoom), Birdwatching (active by email) and Bridge (one of) Groups. Activity has been restricted by Corvid, but in February I did also put myself down to form another Philosophy Group possibly as a Convenor.

I have recently retired at 60 from the University of London, where I was responsible for Strategy, Performance, Risk and Planning. My career before that was mainly in management consultancy and I have worked for the Local Government Association, the Audit Commission and local authorities.



### **Helen Graham Standing for Trustee Position**

I have been a member of the DDU3A Executive Committee for over 4 years and one of the three Group Co-ordinators for 2 years, joining Neil Abrahams and Sue Elias who were already in post. During this time I have been pleased to see the DDU3A grow, and the committee and group co-ordinators encouraging and supporting an increasing number of special interest groups. As group co-ordinators, we hold two convenors meetings annually. In these we stimulate discussion of issues experienced in running the groups, and encourage ideas on how to resolve or approach them.

With new appointments this year of Chair and Secretary, I and my group coordinator colleagues feel it is important to have continuity in some of the roles on the Executive Committee, and hence the reason I am standing.





**Joy Harris – Standing for Trustee Position**

I have been a member of the D&D-U3A for a number of years. I am the Spanish Improvers convenor, a Committee Member and the current Membership Secretary and am volunteering to stand again for 2020/21.



**Sarah Howell – Davies Standing for Trustee Position**

Having been a member of the U3A for nearly three years and enjoyed belonging to several groups (Ukulele 2 which I co-convene, tennis, table tennis, boules, and walks) I feel ready to contribute at a wider level. My work background was in IT, finance and project work giving me a range of useful skills, and I have experience of being a charity trustee and committee member through my choir. I am also a regular volunteer with Link Age Southwark.



**Anne Sharpley Standing for Trustee Position**

A resident of Herne Hill since 1985, I joined the U3A several years ago and am an active member of eight groups. With my husband we convene both Wine Appreciation groups. In the past I have served on the committee of several local organisations (some also charities), including acting as membership secretary and treasurer. Before retiring six years ago, my career was in computer software development. I would like to contribute to Dulwich & District U3A by becoming a Trustee, but I am likely to miss the occasional committee meeting as I travel regularly to Italy, particularly in the summer.



**Sandra Tait Standing for Trustee Position**

I have been a member of the committee for the past year. Not a very normal year. I have been very impressed with the commitment and hard work of the committee members. The tasks that I have taken on have often been working with a more established member of the committee or as part of a planning group. I am particularly interested in looking at ways that D&D U3A can offer something to as wide a group of members as possible. Ensuring that new members are made welcome and become as active as they wish to be.

I hope that I can be a member of the committee for another year.