



Report from the Way Ahead Networks meeting.

Some trustees may have attended the **Network Link Zoom meeting** on 12th October. There will be a newsletter produced to share ideas among networks, new events and links. You are welcome to sign up to this on <http://eepurl.com/hJYFnv> with the first edition in January 2022.

u3a 40th Anniversary proposals:

- **The Anniversary Quilt** to be revealed plus the updated High Street database in June
- **u3a Wood** of 5,000 trees to be planted in Wales. Local u3as can plant trees locally as a project if they wish.
- **Picnic in the Park.** Local u3as to meet up for this event around the Jubilee period.
- **Science and Sport.** July event?

U3a Day. Local u3a events to be held on any day during the week containing the **21st September, 2022**, from Saturday 17th to Sunday 25th September.

The presentations from the meeting are available to see on <https://youtu.be/AevjXJcO8r0> which give a lot more detail of the proposals, plus the independent TAT trading arm. (it is recommended that u3as purchase in bulk for their members rather than individual purchases with high delivery costs.) There will be a Network version of the Beacon administration system.

The Advice Section of the TAT website has been recently updated.

The six **Essentials Workshops** are being relaunched soon. The **TAT Grants** webpage has been updated.

SUN Talks can be booked at sunbookings548@gmail.com, stating your u3a please.

- **Lewes & Bonfire Night** with Andy Thomas on Saturday **20th November** 11am -12.15pm, booking from **5th November**.
- **Christmas – a Festive Period** with Andy Thomas on Saturday **11th December**, 11am – 12.15pm. Book from **27th November**.

The SE Region Autumn Gathering for all u3a members is on **Weds 17th November** 10.00am to 1pm. The details are attached and also linked on the SUN Events page and on the SE Region website.

New Speaker. Jeremy Cheek on **Treasures of the Royal Collection** based on his research on the coins and medal in the Royal Collection at Windsor. A Zoom talk is £85 and at a hall venue £ 115 plus travel. Email: jeremycoin14@gmail.com

Wartime in the South East. To commemorate this years' Poppy Appeal, Film Hub South East is delighted to make this archive compilation programme available to community groups from **25 October 2021 – 31 March 2022**.

This short film encompasses footage from across the region during the wartime period, including Ottershaw, Surrey; Herne Bay, Kent; Clacton-on-Sea, Essex; Aspley Guise, Bedfordshire; Norwich, Norfolk; Gog Magog Hills, Cambridgeshire; Hove, **East Sussex**; Honington, Suffolk; and Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire.

The film is available on DVD and download link and is **FREE** to book.

More details on the programme can be viewed

here: <https://www.independentcinemaoffice.org.uk/films/wartime-in-the-south-east/>



Chichester U3A Practical Science Workshop

Although there are many excellent science discussion forums across the u3a, it is surprising how little there is in the way of practical science work across the whole of the country despite so many active discussion groups.

In Chichester, we are fortunate that there is a large science discussion group under the stewardship of Rod Wing so it seemed an excellent place **to try and start a Practical group here in West Sussex**. In addition, Chichester College has generously offered free access to their labs by the u3a Science workshop. The Third Age Trust kindly agreed to extend their insurance scheme to cover our proposed activities. We also valued the advice and support of the u3a science advisor Mike Hollingwood on health and safety issues.

After several preliminary meetings, the Group found itself divided into those that wanted more specialized or advanced projects whilst others preferred to start with more accessible ideas suitable for large group activity. We agreed to run a series of different projects in tandem.

The recent warm summer weather has been beneficial to both plants and insects so one of early projects was **setting moth traps** in members gardens. These have yielded some very exciting finds with several species of Hawk moths identified (including the very rare Clifden Nonpareil which has a large blue underwing). The group hopes to tackle chalk downland butterflies next summer, as well as revisiting the moths. A number of members have also expressed interest in plant identification so we hope to run a series of **introductory woodland and countryside botany outings**. Last month, lavender flowers were harvested and **essential oils were distilled**. The yields were disappointingly low so we look to an improved design for next year, but the house smelt nice for several days.

The October meeting finished with a lecture and demonstration by David House on the early history and evolution of the electric motor. David researched many of the original plans before designing and manufacturing kits of these historic engines which were sent all over the world.

For further information contact sussexareau3a@gmail.com and we will pass on any queries.

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Here are two projects which I am sure some u3a members would like to participate in, as they are very relevant to local Sussex members/residents.

- a) **Gatwick** : Proposals to bring the Northern Runway in routine use alongside the Main Runway. The consultation company are proposing a Zoom meeting including a brief presentation followed by a Q & A session. Details are available from www.gatwickairport.com/futureplans
- b) **A 27 Chichester Bypass**: Potential improvements are being viewed by National Highways so local residents are invited to join their proposed consultation Zoom workshops. The first is on Monday 22nd November 11- 12.30pm. To book a place, email Lexine Attanayake a27chichester@highwaysengland.co.uk



SUN November Update 2021

You are invited to

SOUTH EAST REGIONAL NETWORK

VIRTUAL AUTUMN GATHERING

“WORKING TOGETHER “

Wednesday 17th November 2021

9.30 -13.00

This gathering will be of interest to Chairs, committee members and the membership.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/autumn-gathering-ser-working-together-tickets-174364818867>

Keynote speakers

Liz Thackeray – recently elected chair of the Third Age Trust and **Michaela Moody**, the vice chair.

Liz and Michaela will be sharing their vision for the development of the u3a movement during the next three years while they are in office and their aspiration for its future. They will take questions after their presentations.

Following a short break there will be the opportunity to attend one of 9 break out rooms covering a variety of areas of current interest.

Breakout Rooms

1. **Public Relations** – Jeff Berliner, West Midlands
2. **Pros and Cons of hybrid monthly meetings** – John Haigh, Lymington u3a
3. **Resuming activities safely** – Jane Bailey, Third Age Trust
4. **Different ideas for interest groups** – Hilvary Robinson, Lymington u3a
5. **Revitalising your interest Group**- John Russell & Sue Brimilow – Kent
6. **Revitalising your Committee** – Linda Wilson, Matlock u3a
7. **National Science Network** - Jo Livingston <https://u3asites.org.uk/u3asciencenetwork/welcome>.
8. **Liz Thackray**- Chair Third Age Trust
9. **Michaela Moody**- Vice Chair, Third Age Trust