

u3a

Leicester
& Rutland
Network

16th December 2023

Network News

All articles are colour-coded as follows:

For Committee/Specific Roles

For Members

Diary Dates

Special Events/Features

DIARY DATE UPDATE - NETWORK AGM - CHANGE OF DATE



The 2024 L&R u3a Network AGM & Group Meeting will now be held on

Thursday 7th March 2024 at Glenfield Sports Pavilion

Full details in the New Year.



MOST IMPORTANT

A Newsletter from John Lewis, our East Midlands
Regional Trustee is enclosed.

Please read, circulate widely and respond appropriately.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR GROUP OUTINGS WITH A DIFFERENCE?
THEN TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT'S AVAILABLE IN 2024



THIS IS JUST A SELECTION - THERE'S LOTS MORE AVAILABLE
DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR GROUPS OF 10 OR MORE
FOR DETAILS CLICK ANYWHERE ON THIS ARTICLE





MEMBER WORKSHOPS

JAN - FEB 2024

KEEPING IT LEGAL

Tuesday 23rd January 10:00-12:30

RECRUITING AND VALUING VOLUNTEERS

Wednesday 31st January 10:00-12:15

RUNNING YOUR u3a – INFORMATION FOR TRUSTEES

Tuesday 16th January 10:00-12:15

CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Thursday 18th January – 10:00-11:30

WHAT IS BEACON – AN INTRODUCTION

Monday 29th January 10:00-11:30

FINANCE MATTERS

Thursday 1st February – 10:00-12:30

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Tuesday 20th February – 10:00-12:30



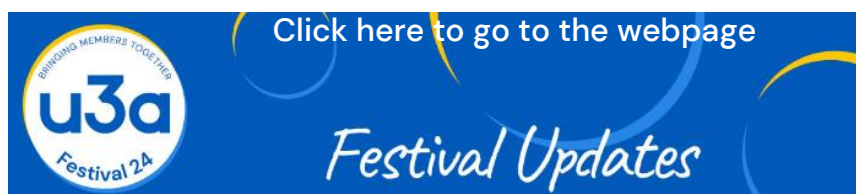
SEE
YOU
THERE

The Third Age Trust has developed online workshops in partnership with u3a members to provide support, information and advice for all u3a members. The workshops are delivered by Trust volunteers who bring their experience as Trustees, u3a Chairs and Committee members.

A new programme of workshops starts in the New Year.
Look for details in the December edition of *Network News*.
For more information about each workshop and how to book [CLICK HERE](#)

NOTE FOR u3a NEWSLETTER EDITORS AND WEBSITE MANAGERS

You can use any of the material from this *Network News* in your own u3a publications. All pictures and artwork are either copyright free or used at the request of the copyright owners. Copies in .png, .jpeg or .docx format are available from the Network Co-ordinator if required.





AND FINALLY...

HERE IS ANOTHER IMPORTANT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY

Have your say about the connection between dementia and hearing to guide future research.

Completion of the survey will only take around 10 minutes.

Details, including the link, can be found in the PDF document enclosed.



from Your Network Committee



The first *Network News* of 2024 will be around 15th January
Any items for inclusion should be submitted by 10th January please

Document enclosed with this *Network News* is:

Regional Trustee December Newsletter

Survey about the connection between dementia and hearing



MERRY
CHRISTMAS



MERRY
CHRISTMAS



Find out more about your u3a Network at <https://u3asites.org.uk/landr>
To contact your Network email coordinator@landru3a.org.uk

A REPORT FROM YOUR REGIONAL TRUSTEE

Since my last newsletter in July, there has certainly been a great deal of discussion by the TAT Board and the Pilot Council of the so-called Fit for the Future proposals.

I think by now everyone is familiar with the existing structure of the membership of TAT being all of the u3as in the UK, the Board of Directors consisting of the National Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer (elected by the whole membership) and the twelve Regional and National Trustees (elected by the u3as in their regions or nations) and the six standing advisory committees, all reporting to the Board, and everyone will also be familiar with the role of the Pilot Council and also the current proposals and the reasons advanced for them.

Fuller details including a timeline for implementation were recently released, including the winding-down of all six committees and a “communication/marketing exercise” running since September 2023 until March 2024.

Key features of the proposals which have now emerged are that the proposed new Board will consist of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, u3a Council Chair, the Chair of Third Age Trust Trading Limited and 4-5 others recruited and elected from the u3a membership as having relevant skills/backgrounds.

If approved by the Board in June 2024, resolutions will be proposed at the 2024 AGM. If they are passed, they will be implemented between October 2024 and the 31st March 2025.

The current Board will disband on the 31st March 2025, and the existing Regional / National Trustees will be required on the 1st April to choose either to transition to the u3a Council or to seek nomination and election to the new Board on the basis of the skills they possess.

Everyone should have received a mailout in November asking for topics, questions and ideas to be included in the agenda for meetings of the Pilot Council via Zoom on the 13th December or in person on the 28th February. Some may think the December deadline was too short bearing in mind the need to discuss the proposals in committee.

Everything I do and say as your Regional Trustee is driven by you, and I need to know what you think of these proposals before deciding whether I should support them as being in the interests of members in the East Midlands.

Key questions for me are whether the replacement of the existing Board structure of 12 Regional / National Trustees and 3 others with one representative of the u3a Council and 8 / 9 others would be a sensible or beneficial change, how the wishes of the members would be represented and carried into effect and whether the scheme will solve the perceived problems of overload and inefficiency of the management.

Now is the time for the members to make their voices heard about these far-reaching and radical proposals and to shape the policies and governance of the u3a movement for many decades to come. Now is definitely not the time for u3as and networks to falter or give up hope.

I am here to represent your interests to the Board,so please feel free to contact me to discuss any questions or comments.

John Lewis

East Midlands Regional Trustee

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SURVEY PARTICIPATION REQUEST

Coexisting Dementia and Hearing Conditions



The following message has been received with a request to circulate it to as many members as possible. Will you please include it in your Newsletters and on your websites. Thank you.

“ We are pleased to share with you that we have launched a short 10-minute survey to collect priority questions for future research about the connection between dementia and hearing.

This work is led by the NIHR (National Institute for Health and Care Research) Nottingham Hearing Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) and the University of Nottingham in a collaboration with Alzheimer’s Research UK (ARUK) and the RNID (Royal National Institute for Deaf People) and supported by the James Lind Alliance.

We would like to share the survey widely to help ensure that future research focuses on the questions that matter most to those it will impact.

The survey can be completed via the link and can be made available in different formats:

<https://www.jla.nihr.ac.uk/priority-setting-partnerships/coexisting-dementia-and-hearing-conditions/>”

and click on “Complete the survey” near the top of the page.