

AGENDA & REPORTS

Meeting Title:	DELEGATES MEETING
Date/ Time:	21st July 2023, 2.00-4.30pm (log in from 1.30pm)
Venue:	On line with Zoom

1.30- 2.00	Login /Registration
2.00- 2.10 10mins	<u>Welcome</u> (Derek Harwood) Comments on previous Minutes (21 st April).
Reports (chaired by Derek Harwood)	
2.10– 2.30 20mins	Reports: Vice Chairs – Jenny Wilson & Derek Harwood Treasurer – John Bent Communications – Vivek Nanda Peer Support Groups - Liz Day. Talks & Summer School – Catherine Ware Vacancies (no reports): Chair Public Relations Advisor Regional Trustee – Stella Morris
Topic 1 - News (chaired by Liz Day)	
2.30-2.40 10mins	News from the Trust & Networks (see reports): What's known, cascading information. Take questions.
2.40-3.10 30mins	News from London u3as: Delegates asked to share news– one thing they have done in their u3a or one thing that they are considering and wondering if anyone else can offer help or one thing they are concerned about (6 examples only @5minseach).
10 mins Comfort Break	
Topic 2 – Environment Crisis (chaired by Jenny Wilson)	
3.20-3.50 30mins	Jenny Wilson (Croydon Chair & VC LRU3A): Jenny will introduce John Baxter, the new Subject Adviser for Environment & Climate Change and ask him to outline his commitment to this role. Jenny will then propose some ideas about the climate crisis within the u3a and the serious opportunities which must be grasped.
3.50-4.10 20mins	Break out Rooms: (approx 8 rooms of 6 members). To what extent do Environment & Climate Change Interest groups differ from other IGs? How can u3a members best use their concerns about the climate crisis?

4.10-4.20 10mins	Plenary: One member per room to feedback their room's views;
4.20-4.25 5 mins	AOB: Regional events, any ideas?
4.25– 4.30 5mins	Wrap Up (Derek Harwood) Any volunteers for the LRU3A Executive Committee.....? Dates for next meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20th October (& AGM)

REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CHAIR: vacant position so no report

VICE CHAIRS (Jenny Wilson & Derek Harwood):

Not too much to report since our last meeting in April. Preparations for our Summer School and sales has progressed well thanks to Catherine and Rikki (more details below). Some of our Peer Support Groups have had meetings in the period as described below and we held a useful follow up meeting for Chairs in May. Our members benefitted from the two free Film Screenings we were offered in May with several in attendance at each. We've now created two more Shared Practice Guides based on issues that are common to our members (Use of Alias email Addresses and Recruiting Committee Members)

TREASURER (John Bent):

Awaited.

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR (Vivek Nanda):

In the second quarter of 2023, almost 1500 emails were sent by the Communications Team. This significant reduction of over 70% was achieved by combining multiple emails into one (for Chairs and Delegates) and because the peak of emails for publicising the London Region Summer School happens in the first quarter of the year. This is allowing us to continue using the Mailchimp free plan with its limits of 500 contacts and 1000 emails per month. However, the continued tightening of security measures by Mailchimp is also making the free accounts less accessible. The London Region Comms Team is continuing the search for alternative email systems, as Beacon is not suitable for the requirements of the London Region Talks Programme and the Summer School. Please email Vivek on communications.lru3a@gmail.com if you are using another email platform, apart from MailChimp or Beacon.

PEER SUPPORT GROUP COORDINATOR (Liz Day):

CHAIRS: To follow up from the February Chairs meeting an online Chairs meeting was held on the 24th May. The Chairs attending discussed what they had instigated since the February meeting or shared what they were hoping to roll out shortly.

The Chairs WhatsApp group has now been set up allowing a quick method for sharing issues or request for help.

GROUP COORDINATORS: Nothing to report. No PSG meeting since October's Delegates meeting. Hoping to re-start if there is an offer from a member to lead on organising the group.

WEBMASTERS PSG (Derek Harwood)

There was an online meeting held on 1st May meeting where the following items were on the agenda: Status Sitebuilder replacement (SiteWorks); Draft SPG – Alias email accounts: Digital Strategy update: Use of Website Analytics. As always there was good sharing and the presentation provided on the progress of the SiteWorks roll out of particular interest for many.

TREASURERS PSG (Derek Harwood)

A meeting was held on 2nd May which largely discussed items raised by members (including tax status & public liability insurance of speakers/tutors; handling payments and income from outings; level of reserves to hold) but also discussed the initiative to develop a sample Excel accounts template.

PUBLIC RELATIONS PSG

In abeyance as no Coordinator since Rodney Fox left the Region. **Any volunteer to re-start this PSG?** Could be that a volunteer from Tower Hamlets has been found (from October 2023)

OTHER LRU3A GENERAL NEWS:

SUMMER SCHOOL -- our 10th Anniversary (Catherine Ware)

Bookings for this year's Summer School have gone reasonably well. Most sessions now fully booked. Could be disruption due to Tube strikes on 25th and 26th! Trying to establish which are the best public transport routes to St. Bride's and will email all Speakers/Walk Leaders/Workshop Facilitators for confirmation of their attendance. As stated in Programme since the beginning, no refunds after 26th June as we have already paid in full for venue and would stand to lose a lot of money. Nearer the time will email all attendees with update on transport logistics and any changes.

LONDON PARKS & GARDENS (Catherine Ware)

Regarding the possible collaboration with London Parks & Gardens Trust - some of our members volunteered at the Open Gardens weekend 10th/11th June. Currently investigating possibilities for collaboration in research, but not hopeful as they are more interested in recruiting members from LRU3A than a joint project.

Their Chair has agreed to replace the speaker who cancelled for health reasons with a talk about Protecting London's historic landscapes.

NATIONAL GENERAL NEWS (Report from London's Regional Trustee, Stella Morris):

News from the Third Age Trust:

Awaited

NETWORK LINK

The last national Network Link meeting was on 13th June. This covered two topics:

- Beacon for Networks – a presentation by John Alexander (Beacon team volunteer)
- SiteWorks – a presentation by Alan Russel (SiteWorks Team lead volunteer)

With over 150 members attending representing Networks and individual u3a, both topics were of great interest and raised many questions.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 12 October. A link to their latest Newsletter is: [here](#).