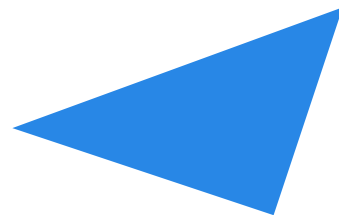




# London Region of U3As

## Introduction to London Region of U3As

Rev. 03 (16.01.2021)



# U3a Regions and Countries

**The Trust's regional structure as constituted in 2008**



# u3a Governance Structure

---

## ➤ Third Age Trust

- Registered charity
- Board of Directors (Officers/Regional Trustees)
- Chief Executive Officer/u3a Office (*not* Head Office or National Office)

## ➤ Countries/Regions

- Formal constituencies of Third Age Trust governance
- Each u3a a registered charity
- Each u3a belongs to just one Country/Region

# LONDON REGION



**44 u3as**  
**25,888 members\***

See also: [London Region Membership Statistics in Context](#)

**North of Thames**  
**28 u3as**  
**15,103 members**

**South of Thames**  
**16 u3as**  
**10,785 members**

\*u3a Office data 2020 (excluding Associate members)

# u3a 'Networks'

---

- No part in Third Age Trust governance
- Most Countries/Regions have several 'networks'  
3 regional networks (London/N.Ireland/Scotland)
- Develop informally/organically for mutual support
- Names vary e.g. Network/Forum/Consortium/Cluster
- Membership by u3as voluntary
- Usually small areas but boundaries very varied  
(may overlap each other/straddle region boundaries)
- u3as can belong to more than one 'network'

## u3a 'Networks' cont'd

---

- About two thirds of u3as belong to a 'network'
  - Estimated 70 such groupings in UK
  - Network Link: national network of 'networks'  
<https://www.u3a.org.uk/advice/network-link#why-should-a-u3a-join-a-network>
    - Meetings twice per year, organised by Third Age Trust
    - Meetings attended by the Trust's Officers, Regional Trustees, Trust's Chief Executive Officer and u3a Office staff
    - Representatives of 'networks' throughout the UK invited
- “Opportunity to hear updates from Trust, other networks and to share best practice”

# LONDON REGION OF U3As (LRU3A)

---

- A regional network - successor body to the Greater London Regional Forum first established 1994
- Same geographical area (London Region) but not part of the Trust's governance structure
- Exists for the mutual benefit of all London u3as and their members
- Network Affiliation Agreement with Third Age Trust (mutual support)
- Registered charity
- Executive Committee + u3a Delegates (2 per u3a)

# LRU3A Support for u3a committees

---

- Inclusive /no membership fee
- A voice for London u3as
- Communication with Trust Directors/u3a Office staff
- Discretionary funding via Regional Trustee\* for regional activities (\*ex-officio member of LRU3A Executive Committee)
- Workshops/speakers/peer groups/surveys/advice & best practice
- Delegates forum/website/information & news updates/email alerts
- Support for online meetings and AGMs
- Regional publicity/influence/outreach & collaboration
- Support for local networks

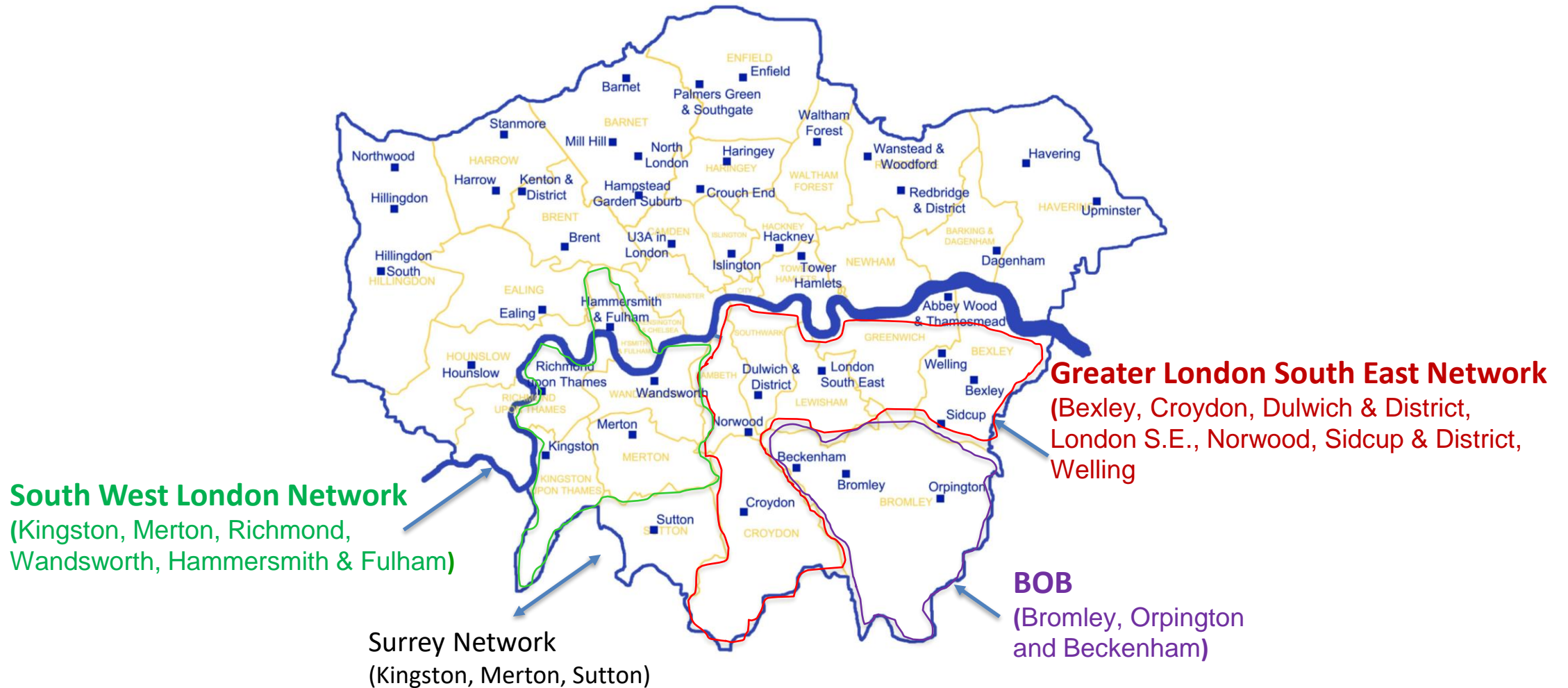


# LRU3A – Enjoyable learning

---

- Regional programme of educational/social activities (self-funding)
  - Talks
  - Study Days
  - Summer School
  - Shared Learning Projects
  - Online learning
  - Social events
  
- Central London venues/good public transport access
- List of speakers

# LONDON REGION: Local networks



# Advantages of local 'networks'

---

- Smaller geographical area: Shorter distances to travel, easier to participate and share organisational workload
- Interest groups: easier to make up groups where subjects are less 'mainstream'/small numbers
- Shared Learning /Study days/Talks
- Social events e.g. friendly competitions (games/matches)
- Social events/Outings: vacant spaces filled more easily to cover costs
- Shared venues, equipment, funding and other resources
- Local interests, information/knowledge, and contacts
- Mutual support: sharing ideas, expertise, communications
- Shared publicity/outreach & collaboration with relevant organisations

# Some useful u3a information sources

---

- u3a national website: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/>  
[About u3a](#); [Map](#); [Advice & support](#); [Events & other learning activities/resources](#); [Sources](#); [National Newsletter](#); [Trust u3a](#); [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Instagram](#)
  
- London Region of U3As: <https://u3asites.org.uk/london-region>  
[Welcome/about](#); [Map](#); [Member u3as \(weblinks\)](#); [Events](#); [Delegates page](#); [Peer groups](#); [London Shared Learning](#); [Local u3a networks](#);
  
- Neighbouring regions/bordering networks:
  - South East Region <https://u3asites.org.uk/south-east/home>
  - East of England Region: <https://u3asites.org.uk/east-of-england>