

London Region of U3As - SLP Report 2018-19

Completed Shared Learning Projects 2018.

Painted Hall Conservation at Old Royal Naval College: 2016- 2018

This was a S E Network Project. Leader Roger Mead.

This 2 year project finally ended on 21st June 2018 with a private viewing of the ceiling and a display of the work the photographers have undertaken during the project. There are now plans to compile a book as a memento.

Langdon Down Museum: September 2017 – March 2018.

This was a SW consortium SLP.

9 volunteers. Leader – Ian Jones-Healey.

This was the fourth SLP at Langdon Down Museum. The project was to research the staff at Normansfield (a Victorian hospital for the “feeble minded”) and to create and record their life stories.

There was a lively presentation on 11th April 2018.

Local Heroes and Events: in collaboration with Royal Holloway University: January – June 2018

11 volunteers. Leader - Sue Leigh.

This was a SW consortium SLP aimed at contributing to the Citizens 800 website.

A presentation and book launch of the findings took place in Kingston on 26th June 2018.

The book entitled “Citizens” has been on sale to U3A members. The book is dedicated to the late, much missed Jennifer Anning.

Royal Philatelic Society London: May – July 2018

3 volunteers. Leader – Curator Juliet Turk.

A new SLP (the 6th at RPSL) was launched to coincide with 150 years of RPSL. The team researched different decades of the museum’s history and contributed to their final Temporary Exhibition at 41 Devonshire Place.

This will be on display at the International Philatelic Exhibition in Stockholm at the end of May 2019.

The presentation/ exhibition viewing was 31st July 2018.

The Charterhouse and St Bartholemew’s Hospital - The Year of the Plague: January – March 2018

12 volunteers. Leader - Di Widdis.

This project looked at the impact of the Great Plague of 1665 on the residents of Charterhouse and the close neighbourhood around Smithfield and St Bartholemew’s Hospital.

The presentation to brothers, volunteers and U3A was on 29th March 2018.

17th Century Restoration Hearth Tax with Roehampton University: January – June 2018

Peter Cox led a team of 10 looking at Parishes in the City of London.

Lore Arthur led a group of 5 looking at Parishes in Greenwich and Deptford.

It was a six month collaboration of U3A working with the specialized Hearth Tax transcription team in the History department at the University of Roehampton.

The academics organised a comprehensive education day for the researchers in January. The team then studied the core hearth tax data of 1666, which was used as the base from which to explore the early modern history of each local place and the lives of its people.

The excellent research findings were presented by the team at a reception on June 21st 2018 at the British Academy, attended by several academics experienced in the field.

Citizens 800 Royal Holloway University. London: January 2017 – December 2018

Contact: Peter Cox.

A three year partnership involving U3A members, mainly in the London and South East Region. The remit was to develop a range of school study courses looking at liberty, protest and reform from Magna Carta to the present. Over 30 research articles were submitted in the first 18 months. It has become apparent that the U3A component of Citizens 800 project is seriously under resourced at RH. The final year will concentrate on organizing a series of study days on specific topics. There are six planned for the first half of 2019.

South London Botanical Institute – its history, people and plants: September – December 2018.

6 volunteers. Leader - Maggie Colman

This project researched details of the SLBI building's history and development and also collected and documented oral histories from past botanical experts and staff.

A presentation of findings was given to volunteers, staff and Institute members on Thursday 6th December. The team has been asked to repeat their presentation to the wider membership of SLBI at an evening meeting in 2019.

Current Shared Learning Projects 2019.

Langdon Down Museum: September 2018 – March/April 2019.

5 volunteers. Leader - Jen Cobb.

This is the 5th project with Langdon Down and is researching daily life at Normansfield as revealed by the bills and receipts of 19th and 20th centuries. It is likely to continue until late spring 2019.

Life in 17th Century Charterhouse: October 2018- February 2019

This is a collaboration between Islington U3A and Charterhouse volunteers and residents.

6 U3A volunteers, 4 Charterhouse volunteers/Brothers. Leader - Cynthia Adobea-Aidoo.

It is researching details of life in the Charterhouse during the second half of the 17th century as part of the heritage work and restoration of the Great Chamber.

Their presentation will be on 7th February 2019.

575 Wandsworth Road: - January – March 2019.

This is a SW Consortium SLP.

5 volunteers. Leader - Helen Long.

This group is working with the National Trust looking at the history of this house and its interior over 200 years. Changes in the local area from Georgian times to the present day will also be investigated.

Hampstead Old Town Hall: January – March 2019.

8 volunteers. Coordinator - Brian Levy.

As part of a Heritage Lottery grant, we are collaborating with Wac Arts to identify and capture stories connected with the building, its history and people.

The aim is to contribute to a weekend event of performance and displays at the Town Hall during the weekend of March 29th – 31st 2019.

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