



u3a



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Hello u3a Chairs and Business Secretaries

At last, I am getting back into the swing of things! The Public Relations Advisers Team has had really positive meetings with TAT CEO Sam Mauger, the new TAT Chair Liz Thackray/TAT Vice Chair Michaela Moody and with our new 'Leader' (u3a Day Co-ordinator Sue Stokes). With all of them, we had lively productive discussions about dates which might prove useful 'publicity hooks' for local and UK-wide u3a media releases. The challenge is prioritising! Of course, in 2022, we will have to incorporate u3a 40th Anniversary events, as well!

u3a Day and u3a Celebrations Week

Following feedback from the UK-wide discussions with u3as, the Public Relations Advisers Team and Liz Thackray/Michaela Moody/Sue Stokes made recommendations to the TAT Board about u3a Day and a u3a Celebrations Week, from 2022 and for the next five years. As yet, I have not heard if these were accepted, but I feel that I can tell you that u3a Day may be in late September and not in June and that u3a Celebrations 'Week' may be the ten days, weekend to weekend, which includes u3a Day. Watch this space!

Third Age Matters

I hope that you enjoyed reading the latest/Autumn edition of Third Age Matters. Attached is a Shout Out for the two u3as from North East England which were featured (Berwick-upon-Tweed on page 6 and Seaham and District on page 15).

The NHS is changing again!

I was pleased to hear that, among other u3a publicity enthusiasts, George Clarke of u3a Stockton-on-Tees has been continuing to forge links with a range of external contacts and organisations – most recently, with his local Clinical Commissioning Group. It is worth noting that, with the introduction of NHS Integrated Care Systems (see attached information from NHS Providers), Clinical Commissioning Groups may disappear on 1 April 2022. Do keep your eye on local changes and identify key individuals in the new structures to contact.

With best wishes to you and your u3a members, as ever
Kelvin



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