

u3a Herts Network Bulletin 21-3

1st February 2021

Good morning all,

Hopefully you are managing well despite the twin trials of Covid and the cold weather. Though I must confess it was quite delightful to see a covering of snow over our garden and the fields outside! We think it unlikely that we will be able to hold our coming AGM live, so we have decided once again to opt for an online meeting using Zoom.

AGM

The date for the next AGM is confirmed as 16th April (11.00 am) and it will be held via Zoom. Potential Resolution and Nomination forms will be sent out to u3as on or soon after 8th February, and the deadline for their return will be 12th March. In order to legitimise the next meeting we are making changes to the constitution to include the use on online voting and to meet via Zoom. This will be sent to you with the resolution and nomination forms to give our members plenty time to consider the changes.

We need as many u3as to be involved in the voting process as possible, at least 50% to be quorate, and for the meeting to function properly on the day we do need as much support as possible. So if at least one representative (or up to three) can attend on 16th April, that will be much appreciated.

APPEAL FOR NEW VICE CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

In earlier Bulletins I have explained that we need a new Vice Chair and several Committee Members for the Network. I have added an attachment to this Bulletin giving more details of these needs. Traditionally the new network committee members come from u3a committees so the pool from which potential network committee members can be drawn is quite small. If you feel happy to pass this attachment to your own u3a members to increase the chance of us finding the right people to join our committee, we would be most grateful (network committee members don't have to be current u3a committee members).

One of the issues we hope to tackle is to provide u3as with network-level tools to help identify and recruit volunteers more easily and effectively, so paradoxically it may benefit member u3as if the network can recruit from your ranks!

NETWORK – IAN MITCHELL EVENT

This has just taken place, and despite some technical hitches, it was an interesting, enjoyable and informative session with around 700 participating, from 33 of our 41 member U3As. Thank you all for spreading the word! Ian talked about how the brain works in visual and olfactory ways by two different mechanisms – the 'old' brain and the 'newer more developed brain which is slower but more rigorous, and related this to our behaviour, for example in selecting partners, and choosing which dress to wear for an evening out! Here's a link to the recording of the talk for those who would like to revisit it or missed it <https://youtu.be/wQlqOz3Dlvi>

We received the feedback forms from many attendees, for which thanks, and are busy going through them to find ways of improving future presentations.

COMMUNICATIONS (TAT/REGION)

Attached are details of an event focussing on the retention of current u3a members and recruitment of new ones. It has been received today from the TAT Recruitment Working Group. This is a very relevant subject, so I've sent it out straight away as our network has four places available. The event has a 500 limit, so I'm guessing that it will fill up quickly. It has been designed specifically for network members.

Please let me know if you would like a place ASAP - and I will register a place for you (first come, first served). Please reply to Steve hertsnetchair@patandsterve.me.uk

ATTACHMENTS

- *"Keep Smiling 18" – PDF, but Word version available on request from hertsnet.sec@gmail.com*
- *Network event on Recruitment (pdf and Word)*
- *Appeal for new Network Vice Chair and Committee Members (pdf and Word)*

FEEDBACK

Your feedback and comments are always welcome.

Please send any feedback or issues to hertsnet.sec@gmail.com

Best wishes

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