

u3a learn,
laugh,
live

Welcome

to your

u3a West Midlands Region meeting



Jean Jackson, u3a West Midlands Region Trustee

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Also see the u3a west Midlands Region website



Your safety, agenda & introductions

No fire alarms expected, please check your nearest fire exit:
assembly point is on the steps in front of the Church.

Agenda

WM Region: how does it work, what do we want? Jean Jackson, Regional Trustee

Why join a network? Sue Russell, UK Networks Coordinator

The proposed UK Council Allan Walmsley, Vice-Chair, Third Age Trust

Celebration & coffee break Jean Soper, Chair, Sutton Coldfield u3a

Your Questions Sam Mauger, CEO, Third Age Trust

The West Midlands Region: how we fit in with u3a

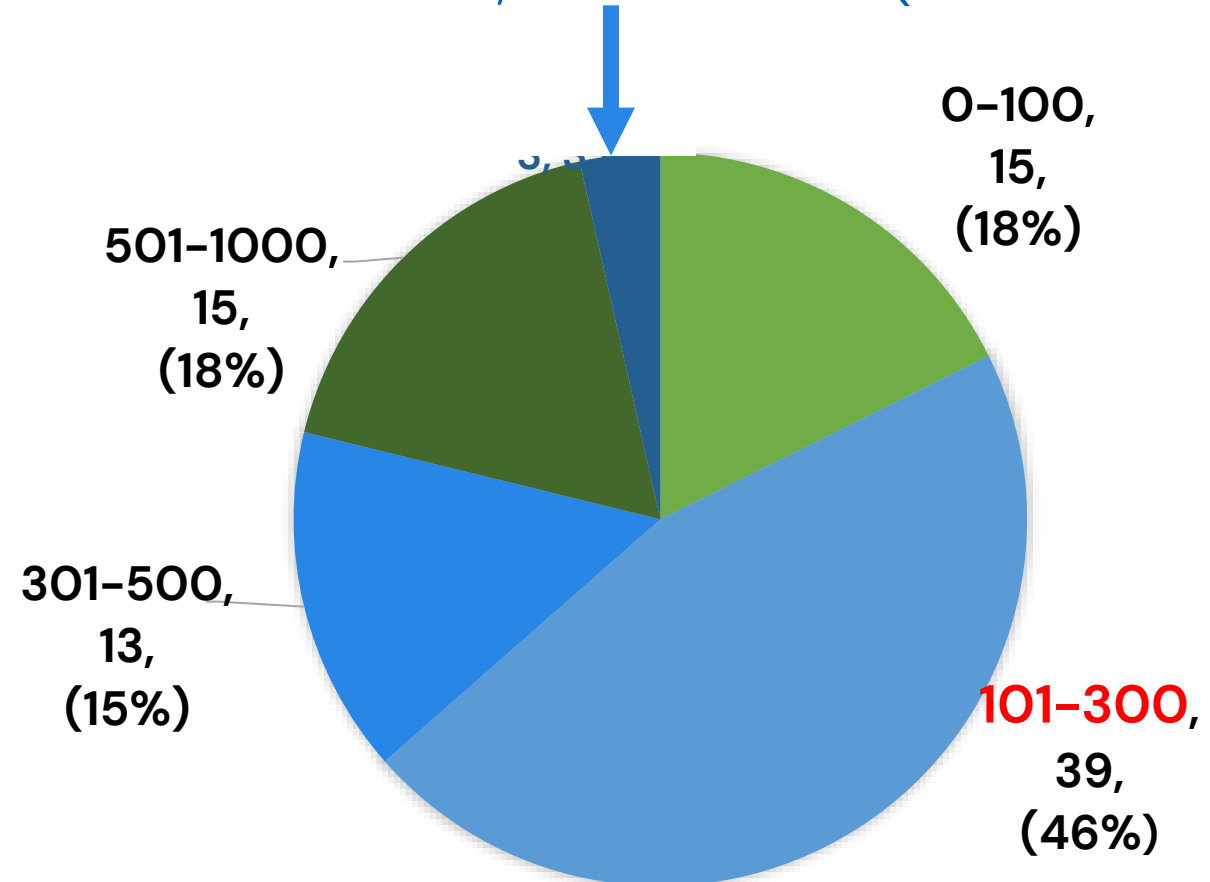


85 u3as with 28,000 members, in rural villages, towns, cities.

Chart below shows the **number of u3as by size (2022 figures)**

Biggest is Sutton Coldfield, 1400 members (3 u3as over 1000)

12 UK u3a Regions, 12 Trustees
1044 u3as, 70 Subject Advisers
377,000 members who pay an average local fee of £16



u3a What you said about your u3a

1. What's your most popular u3a group?
2. What regional events would your members like?
3. What's your u3a's greatest success?



u3a Your Region; how it runs & why

A Region is led by an elected volunteer Trustee who becomes a member of Third Age Trust (TAT) Board and represents the Region. If you have questions, requests etc your Trustee is your first stop.

Your Trustee is supported by a **Regional Committee** who know what's happening in the Region and help to run the Region.

The Regional Committees in the North East & North West operate like u3as – are charities in their own right, with Chair/Secy/Treasurer.

The North–West Region is running a **Summer School** at the University of Carlisle, in August.

The Yorks/Humber Region committee recently ran a “**Recruitment & Retention**” workshop

Region committees often help with publicity, have PR advisers and Newsletter editors.



The West Midlands Region Team?

John and Margaret Aston, Kingswinford (etc): NEWSLETTER (quarterly)

Alison Richards, Much Wenlock

June Slatter/Matthew Stephens, Balsall Common

Anthea Whitehead, Bromsgrove

Jean Soper, Sutton Coldfield

Laurence Wale, Worcester – our u3a COUNCIL Representative

Glynis Nicholls, Wem (their website manager)

Sue Russell, Worcester – UK Coordinator for u3a Networks

After reading chemistry at Manchester University Phil worked with a local company who manufacture chemicals. Retired in 2018, he joined the u3a Local History group & the u3a committee. He's now both their publicity officer and Secretary.



Phil Rowley,

West Midlands PR Adviser, Stoke on Trent South u3a; phil.rowley.2021@outlook.com

u3a What can your Region do for you & your u3a?

Region Trustee:

Member of the TAT Board

Represents Region at Board

Replies to u3a local queries/issues

Monthly online “drop-in” for Chairs: first Monday of each month.

Runs Regional website with u3a information

Encourages u3a activity:

- Publicity
- Recruitment/retention
- Sharing of ideas/events

Regional Committee

Meets quarterly for feedback, and ideas-sharing: subgroups can meet more often for action.

Next is in September.

PR Adviser helps u3as with PR

Newsletter shares good news/ideas across the Region – quarterly

1. Do we want a Recruitment/Retention day?

During Covid, 2 u3as folded

2. Do we want Regional study days? On what?

3. Do we want to try out ideas?

e.g. the “Church Office” answer to a lack of committee members?

u3a Agenda

Why join a network?

Sue Russell, UK Networks Coordinator

The proposed UK Council

Allan Walmsley, Vice-Chair, Third Age Trust

Celebration & coffee break

Jean Soper, Chair, Sutton Coldfield u3a

Your Questions

Sam Mauger, CEO, Third Age Trust



Thank you!

Please stay in touch: Jean.Jackson@u3a.org.uk

See the Regional website: google u3a West Midlands

