

Regional Trustee's Notes for Nottinghamshire Network

26th July 2017

Since the last meeting, my time has been spent in a variety of ways, being involved in committees on the National Executive Council (NEC), attending regular meetings of the NEC and receiving training to enable me to carry out my role as your Regional Trustee to the best advantage. I have also visited Networks and Neighbourhood Groups in addition to one of my favourite roles, visiting U3As. I have also been involved in the launch of three new U3As in the Region, Sutton Bridge in Lincolnshire and Wirksworth and Melbourne in Derbyshire.

Some U3As I visit unfortunately have problems, mainly recruiting sufficient committee members, and I go along and talk to the members, explaining what could happen if their U3A does not have the necessary four officers and at least two other members. My intervention usually does the trick. Please contact me if your U3A has a problem, and I will do my best to help; if I cannot help, I am sure to know someone who can.

The Third Age Trust's new Chief Executive Officer, Sam Mauger, is settling well into her role, and has plans to introduce new ideas into the U3A movement. All her ideas are first discussed at meetings of the NEC before being made known to U3As.

One of Sam's ideas was to have a Communications Officer and Elizabeth Drury has been appointed and joined us on 15th May. She will work part-time and her role will include advising on writing press releases, contact with local and national media and generally helping us all to promote U3A.

Following Pam Jones' appeal in a recent edition of *Third Age Matters* (TAM) for people to join the Standing Committee on Education (SCE) a large number of applications were received and have been interviewed and some appointed to the SCE. The NEC is endeavouring to encourage more volunteer non-NEC U3A members to join the various sub-committees and working parties.

Another appeal Pam Jones will be making in a future issue of TAM is for volunteers (previously known as regional volunteers) to help with launching new U3As, leading national workshops plus conflict resolutions and troubleshooting when U3As have problems. Full training will be given for anyone who wants to be involved, the first training sessions to be for launching new U3As. If anyone thinks they could be interested, keep an eye open for the notice in TAM and apply. It is only with more volunteers that we are able to launch new U3As wherever they may be requested and help existing U3As.

This year, five of the regional trustees and one of the vice chairs reach the end of their term of office and the relevant trustees are seeking their replacements to take office at the National AGM in August.

The results of the report by the working group on the Trust Structure Consultation will be made available for discussion at the plenary session at the National AGM.

There are a number of workshops being put together by the national Development Sub-Committee (DSC). Although some of these may be held in central locations, they can also be brought out into areas where they are requested. The list is not yet available but as soon as it is, I will endeavour to bring one to all the counties in the Region. The ones I know about so far are 'Communication' and 'Growth Matters'.

Jane Pavier
East Midlands Regional Trustee

4 July 2015