

REPORTS TO THE NOTTS. NETWORK 20.04.16.

DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Unfortunately due to Karen Taylor having been in hospital, this report is taken from the minutes of a recent meeting with Development Team Members and Officers.

The Regional Trustee is chasing up the Membership Certificate for Forest Town & District U3A.

The new U3A at Mapperley had a successful launch with over 100 people attending. The Regional Trustee, Jane Pavier, is attending the Steering Committee meeting on 5th April. So far only five people have volunteered for the committee, which is the minimum allowed by the constitution and Charities commission. More members are being sought.

The Development Team is now looking at the viability of future U3As as outlined on the Network's Three Plan.

Karen Taylor, Liz Wilson and Chris Shaw will be attending Regional Volunteer training in the near future.

NORTH NOTTS NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP

To commemorate the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen, our annual social event for 2016 is a Royal Revelry. This will be held on Tuesday 7 June from 10 am onwards at the John Fretwell Sporting Complex on Sookholme Lane, Sookholme, Mansfield, Notts NG19 8LL. It will be free to enter the complex. The neighbours will display a variety of interests groups including craft competitions and demonstrations. It is planned that the outdoor events will include target bowls, croquet, boules and whatever else the weather permits on the day. There is a programme of various musical items. There will be no food for sale but there will be a bar and tea and coffee available during the day. The finale will be a cream tea at 4 pm in the function hall. The cost of this is £8 and admission will be strictly by ticket only. As there are now 10 neighbours each U3A has 25 tickets for sale. **Rita Turner Chairman NNNG**

NEWSLETTER EDITORS & WINE TASTING GROUPS

Sharing Experience and Knowledge across U3As in Nottinghamshire

We have just held second meetings of networks for U3A newsletter editors and for the leaders of wine tasting groups across Nottinghamshire. Both networks have been greeted warmly by participants as opportunities to put U3A values and principles into action, by sharing knowledge and ideas between U3As.

The network for newsletter editors meets 3 monthly. The first introduced one another and discussed commonality and differences in each of our publications. The second meeting focused on desk-top publishing software including demonstrations of a range of programs and advice from editors already using them. The next meeting, on the 7th April, will look at Layout and subsequent meetings will do Distribution, Content, Prices, Vibrancy, etc.

At the most recent meeting of wine tasting group leaders, we shared tips about educational materials, wine suppliers, innovative ways to organize our tastings and the greatest hits (and occasional misses) from tastings over the last year. Wine tasting group leaders have agreed to have a yearly face-to-face meeting and in the meantime, to share information via email about 'flash' wine sales and new suppliers.

Carlton and Gedling U3A sponsors these two networks and pays for the meeting rooms. We hope that other Notts U3As will contribute to this valuable exchange by sponsoring similar meetings and networks.

Paul Martinez and Eric Rennie

Carlton and Gedling U3A