



u3a

Monthly Committee Update

Click [here](#) to read this email in your browser.

April update for u3as

To Chairs, Vice Chairs, Secretaries and Treasurers

Dear Marianne

I'd like to start this month's update with a huge thank you to Valerie Cobain, Jean Cubbin, Jean Jackson, John Lewis, and Susan Parker, who have now stepped down from the u3a Council. Their experience as Trustees was invaluable in supporting the creation of the Council.

This week, we welcome eight new Council Representatives who I'm really looking forward to meeting later in the month.

We still need some sports and music volunteers to lead events at the u3a Festival in York. Please pass this onto your sports and music groups. More information below.

Best wishes

Iain Cassidy

CEO of the Third Age Trust

Please take part in our Digital Services for u3as (DSU) project

We would really appreciate if you, as Chair, would be willing to take 10 minutes to share information about your u3a's digital set-up and how this could be improved. If you would prefer another member of your u3a to fill this out on your u3a's behalf, you can copy and share the link below.

[Take the survey.](#)

News and updates

New u3a Council

Now that this year's elections are over, we're pleased to announce the final members who are joining the u3a Council.

- **Rosie Allen** - East Midlands
- **John Butler** - East Midlands
- **Ruth Freedman** - East of England

Thank you to everyone who took part in the election process.

[Meet all the new Council Representatives on the u3a website.](#)

Annual Return 2026

Yesterday, we sent out emails to Secretaries and Portal Contacts about filling in your annual return for the year. Please make sure your u3a has completed this by **Thursday 30 April 2026**.

Help us shape the future of u3a

We're partnering with an external research agency to help us build a deeper, clearer picture of our members. Who they are, what interests them, and how they experience u3a. As part of this work, the agency will be **randomly selecting 200 u3as** to take part in the next phase.

If your u3a is contacted, we would be extremely grateful for your participation. This is an exciting opportunity to influence future work at the Trust and ensure that our plans truly reflect the needs and aspirations of members across the movement. Your voice will help shape what comes next.

 **Spring u3a matters digital edition** 



Read the highlights of the latest issue of u3a matters magazine online, on the u3a website. Please share this link with your members so they can read the magazine online. If your u3a does not currently receive copies of the magazine and would like to, please email communications@u3a.org.uk.

 [Read the Spring digital issue.](#)

[Read all latest news for members](#)

Events



u3a Festival 26

There's been a fantastic response to the upcoming u3a Festival and we're almost sold out. There are still a few day tickets left for the Friday - so be quick if you'd like to come along!

[Book your Festival ticket.](#)

Lead activities for free Festival tickets

We've already got a brilliant line-up of activities planned, but we're looking for volunteers to lead a few more events at the Festival. Specifically:

- Walking Football
- Croquet
- Musical groups to perform - e.g. choir, ukulele, guitar

Please pass on this request to sports and music groups at your u3a. They will need to be available on at least one of the festival days (1-3 July) and can register interest by emailing festival@u3a.org.uk. Volunteers leading events will get a free day ticket.

Support and resources

Receive regular publicity updates

We have recently started sending quarterly publicity update emails to u3as. These contain information, support and resources to help your u3a with local publicity, PR and marketing.

To make sure your u3a received these, please assign a member of the committee as a Publicity Contact in the Contact Details Portal. The next update will go out at the end of April.

Role Description templates

We've worked with members to update the Role Description templates, designed to help you create versions for use at your u3a. Thanks to everyone who helped!

Find the new versions in the [advice section of the members area](#).

Charity fraud investigation

We have been contacted by Surrey and Sussex police about a serious fraud they're investigating which is targeting people associated with charities for older people.

It seems fraudsters are using information available on the Charity Commission website to contact people. They have then been persuading them there is an issue with their bank account. One couple has already been defrauded out of a significant amount of money.

Please flag this with your members so they are aware. Banks and the police will never ask you to move money. Read about spotting fraud on the government [Stop Think Fraud website](#).



Staying connected with *u3a Friends*

The *u3a Friends newsletter* brings the best of u3a straight to your inbox - make sure your members aren't missing out!

Each edition features exclusive member stories, national u3a events, new learning opportunities and the latest news from across the movement.

By signing up, you and your members will be the first to hear about upcoming events, like the *u3a Festival*, and ways to get creative with our national competitions.

Please encourage members of your u3a to sign up on the [u3a website](#).

If you are receiving this email and are no longer on your u3a committee...

Please talk to the portal contact at your u3a, who will be able to update the committee contact details on the u3a *Contact Details Portal (NetSuite)*. This is the best way to ensure that the right person at your u3a receives these emails.

Please do share this information with the members of your u3a. For an easy way to share this email - click [this link](#) and copy and paste the URL to other platforms, including Beacon.

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You are receiving this email because you are listed on the u3a Contact Details Portal (NetSuite) as a committee member for your u3a.

Our mailing address is:

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