u3a
Learn, laugh, live

London Region of U3As

LONDON REGION CHAIRS' NETWORK LUNCH 26th FEBRUARY 2024
ANALYSIS OF FEEDBACK FORMS

Scores for sessions to be assigned as appropriate

1=Poor	2=Satisfactory	3=Neutral	4=Good	5=Excellent

23 Feedback forms received. Scores not applied to all questions
So the following represent the average of scores applied.

Session	Average Score
1 How do we run our u3as	4.14
2 Ian McCannah & John Bent	3.70
3 Learning from others	4.00
4 What do we do next and how	3.95
5 Suggestions for London Network	3.50
6 Format of discussions	4.00
7 LIFT as a venue	4.41

COMMENTS

Session
1. **Part 1 - How we run our u3as: e.g. initiatives/developments; how members benefit; your contributions; source of inspiration** • Very interesting and good to meet other chairs • This is always the best part of the day - exchanging ideas worth others (hate the plenary session) • I have gone away with a host of ideas - head buzzing - must distil this down to most important, next and so-on. • Some benefit in general but slightly limited in value for new participants • New members like me have collected a lot of ideas • Many ideas from last year were already implemented, so still pushing forward especially with co-operation from neighbouring U3As • Small discussions tended to be specific to individual speeches - not always relevant or transferable to general use. • Lots of subjects to discuss. Not everyone had seen the outcomes from last year. • Several good ideas which I will take back to my U3A • Initiatives and innovations was v useful • Very helpful to compare notes on what is going on in our U3As and exchange ideas on addressing the challenges we face in licking our U3As into shape • Good ideas for new groups, 'Daytime Disco', Bollywood, audiobooks, 60s group, Ambassador packs. • Many interesting ideas, some ideas would be appropriate to certain sized groups. Group leaders require meetings. Follow up with new members - make them welcome, keep them.

2. Presentations (Speakers Ian McCannah and John Bent)

- Sorry but not very interesting. I would have preferred part 2 to have been given this hour and the afternoon as this is what we came to hear
- Interesting to see John but not really any new information, John Bent - not very useful, some/most of us are following council formation
- Always good to get the National perspective and have the chance to ask questions
- Very useful to get the background of how various situations at U3A have evolved
- Clear and informative
- Ian's information not always up to date. John developments relevant - would score 4
- Useful to hear what's going on at National level, rather than via the office
- Too long and rambling
- Enjoyed Ian's presentation and his openness
- Very interesting
- Ian especially presented useful background and food for thought in particular Ian
- Fine and to the point

3. Part 2: Learning from others: e.g. Benefits of networking encouraging involvement; developing digital competence; strategic development

- Unfortunately not as interesting as I would have liked. We need some other U3As to attend - how can we manage that?
- V useful, could have been given more time, already ran over
- Interesting to hear in depth from others. Have made notes and starred ideas I'd like to implement!
- A fascinating and diverse list of ideas
- Good to hear experience of others
- Communication is vital. Using WhatsApp.
- Really interesting to hear different Chairs initiatives, but need to keep he presentation brief - questions can be asked afterwards.
- Plenty of good ideas, some more practical than others
- Some interesting points worth following up
- Very interesting, especially working with universities and other local groups
- LR delegates session on AI. Tables dedicated to different topics and people decide which they want to focus on.
- This was helpful and gave me some ideas and encouragement though I did think there were too many of them. Better to have a shorter list of names and topics.
- Really rather than a dozen mini-reports better to ask attendees to choose off a shortlist of topics.
- U3As of different sizes have different challenges - increase in members not a priority to all.
- Good to catch up with committee members of various sizes and difficulties

4. **Part 3: What to do next and how:** e.g. What is workable and how to implement; ideas would you like to take back to your u3as?

- Useful to be in a group with some 'heavies' giving me some suggestions
- Would like to hear more about surveys and how to implement
- This is not easy to do at this moment. Requires a review of all the points I noted and a triage
- Interesting to hear from others their priorities and intentions
- My group I suspect needs to embrace change, at a reasonable speed
- Although have regular new member meetings will give clearer expectations to the group and "new group" suggestions
- Evenings, weekends would probably be popular , as always depends on organisers
- Use of WhatsApp, Finance - cost centres, Daytime disco!!
- Ideas about shadows for important committee roles. MOTO groups organising outings themselves (not just the leader).
- Committee members visiting some of their U3A groups (i.e. not their own)
- More on how to run a survey and using the results
- kept taking notes on ideas to take away. Could Barnet's survey be shared with us all?
- Arm twisting for new groups
- Bitesize - had not realised that our own new groups were as a result of bitesize. Usually only a few people want to create and then enjoy groups.

5. **Suggestions for London Region network:**

- Ran out of time but heard a bit about updated 'London Summer School'
- Too many presentations. Best parts are chatting on table. Don't make the Agenda too long - we are happy chatting
- Ask for suggestions of problems or issues that Chairs would like to thoroughly investigate - more dedicated spotlight on 1 or 2 things
- Explain roles at a regional level and the availability
- Keep in touch with chairs and every group
- More in-person events, and study days.
- Get WhatsApp working more effectively
- Summer School again. The last ones have been very enjoyable.
- Topics: EDI and AI
- Have event for chairs. Similar to this years, is very positive experience
- Flow chart/table of who does what how to contact them would be useful.
- joining the WhatsApp group
- Interesting concept

6.   Format of discussions – small groups/combined/plenary:

- Very interesting, would like more sessions
- Regrouping did not seem to work. Suggest rainbow colours within first groups, then match is your own colour for 2nd groupings
- Plenaries take too long
- Very useful to have mixed discussion. Types
- A good mixture
- Ideal
- Depending on mix on table, not always easy to split into groups of 3, but general round the table discussion
- Good but ambitious on timing. Maybe shorter agenda to give more time.
- Very good. Best thing is informal chats with other chairs
- Useful especially for new chairs
- Very good, including switching at lunch time so so got the chance to discuss issues and ideas with others.
- Free speech - general discussions are really great
- Small groups - best; combined - also interesting; everyone contributing

7.   LIFT as a venue (including access, facilities, catering):

- Excellent lovely gluten-free sandwich
- Need more toilets, good catering
- Better food than last years; I know where it is now
- A decent venue and catering
- Excellent
- OK - catering very good
- Fine, a bit cool
- Good. Very suitable
- Easy to find - especially as I use Northern Line
- Very happy and location is fine. Refreshments good.

Further Comments

- Excellent sessions and discussions
- Not here as a Chair, so more of an observer
- It was useful to meet other London Chairs
- Very glad you had microphones this year
- Everything was very informative and enjoyable
- Good to hear lots of different ideas
- Enjoyable and useful day

Would you be interested in attending a similar event in future?

Yes	No	Maybe	No reply
17	2	2	2

Would you be interested in participating in a Chairs' Peer Support Group?

Yes (8)	No (9)	Maybe (3)	No reply (3)
Jane Fisher (Merton), Trevor Ford (SE London), Sandy Boden (Bromley), Rosemary Case (Bexley), Melvyn Sandler (Mill Hill)		Peter Chung (Tower Hamlets), Ann Lines (Hillingdon)	