

EVENTS TEAM REPORT FOR DELEGATES MEETING JAN 2025

9th September saw two walks by Ian Fagelson-London's 3 historic Jewish Quarters. The original morning walk was overbooked so Ian kindly agreed, when asked, to repeat it in the afternoon. Capacity for both a.m. and p.m 25 fully booked cost per walk £10.00 per person

30th September was a walk by Paul Baker – Spitalfields a guided walk. Again this was fully booked immediately but unfortunately Paul could not repeat it in the afternoon as he had other commitments. Capacity and registered 26. Paul is a u3a member cost per walk £10.00 per person

9th October –Wellness day Full Day. This was attended by 30 members (full capacity) cost £41.00 including lunch

17th October Black history month walk (capacity and registered 27) afternoon visit (capacity and registered 18) cost per walk/visit £10.00 per person

12th November –The Wallace Collection full day event capacity was 130, fully booked and paid for attendees 103 £38.00 no lunch

9th December Brandenburg Concert capacity 160 (increased from 130) paid attendees 125 cost £27.00

For these 5 walks/visit, the members heard about the event as follows

Previous summer school attendee 33%

Online talks 17%

Own newsletter, meeting etc 37%

Another u3a member 13%

For the Wellness Day

Previous summer school attendee 25%

Online talks 8%

Own newsletter, meeting etc 55%

Another u3a member 12%

10 out of the 30 members came from Palmers Green and Southgate

Wallace Collection

Previous summer school attendee 25%

Online talks 9%

Own newsletter, meeting etc 53%

Another u3a member 13%

13 from outer London

Concert

Previous summer school attendee 18%

Online talks 7%

Own newsletter, meeting etc 62%

Another u3a member 13%

9 from outer London Region

TOTAL REGISTRATIONS FROM EACH u3a FOR THE EVENTS SEPT-DECEMBER

Lilac indicates no registrations for any event

Yellow indicates the u3as supporting these events.

Quite a difference between the u3as supporting the walks/visits £10 per session as opposed to Wellness Day £41, Wallace Museum £38 and the Concert £27

I have left in Dagenham as they folded after the publicity went out. I've not included Newham yet as they have only just launched

Brent and Hillingdon South have unsubscribed from LR communications and I've had no response in emailing them. Similarly with Abbeywood, many emails gone unanswered

u3a	Ian am	Ian pm	Paul	C.M walk	CM visit	walks/visits	Wellness	Wallace	Concert	total
Abbeywood						0		0	0	0
Barnet	5	7		1		13	4	7	8	32
Beckenham			1			1		1	0	2
Bexley	1		1	1		3		0	2	5
Brent						0		0	0	0
Bromley	2		2	1		5	2	9	11	27
Crouch end						0	2	0	1	3
Croydon		1	1			2	1	7	11	21
Dagenham						0		0	0	0
Dulwich			3	1		4	2	3	5	14
Ealing			1			1		2	2	5
Enfield			1	1	1	3		0	0	3
Hackney	3					3		7	5	15
Hammersmith						0		3	0	3
HGS						0		0	1	1
Harrow	1	1	2	3	4	11	2	3	4	20
Havering						0		0	0	0
Hillingdon			1	3		4	1	1	1	7
Hillingdon South						0		0	0	0
Hounslow				1		1		2	3	6
Islington	2	1				3	1	8	5	17
Kenton				1	1	2		0	0	2
Kingston		1			1	2		6	3	11
Merton	2		1	3	1	7	2	4	6	19
Mill Hill	2	2	1			5		1	0	6
North London		2	1			3		1	2	6
Northwood	2	7	4	1		14		1	0	15

Norwood						0		1	1	2
Orpington				1		1		2	3	6
PGS	1	1	2	1	2	7	10	0	2	19
Redbridge				2	2	4	1	7	4	16
Richmond		1			1	2		9	7	18
Sidcup						0		0	1	1
SEL				3	2	5	2	1	12	20
Stanmore						0		0	0	0
Sutton					1	1		0	2	3
Tower Hamlets						0		1	0	1
u3a in London					1	1		2	1	4
Upminster	1		2			3		0	0	3
Waltham Forest					1	1		1	2	4
Wandsworth	2			1		3	2	1	1	7
Wanstead and Woodford						0		0	0	0
Welling	1		1			2		1	11	14
	25	24	25	25	18	149	32	92	115	388
Basingstoke								3		3
Chalfonts									2	2
Chorley Wood		1				1				1
Colcehster								2		2
Farnham									1	1
Guildford									1	1
Lowerstoft								2		2
Norwich	1		1			2			1	3
petersfird								1		1
Potters Bar								1		1
Shrewsbury									2	2
Tunbridge Wells									1	1
West Oxford									1	1
Wellingore								1		1
Wheathampstead								3		3
	1	1	1					13	9	25

GRAND TOTAL	26	25	26	25	18	152	32	105	124	413
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UPDATE ON THE ENTIRE PROGRAMME FROM MAY TO DECEMBER

From the first walk in May to the Concert in December there were 498 individual members registered over a wide range of inclusive and diverse activities. The summer school 2023 had 246 registered.

Surplus for the autumn walks **£400** this was due to Paul Baker being a u3a member so couldn't charge, surplus from his walk was £270

Surplus from Wellness day was just over **£200**

Surplus from Wallace collection **£130**

Surplus from Concert **£170** approx

Surplus for the May-Aug walks/visits and NHM events **£1170**

Total surplus May-December **£2070**

This surplus is used to pay for our tools Wuffo, zoom and face to face AGM and Chairs Network Day

PLANS FOR 2025

7TH March Gilbert and Sullivan Music day-being organised by Catherine Ware

March Women's History Month- several walks and gallery visits in the pipeline to focus on the topic. Mike Marriott putting this together with Rikki and Vivek

April 26th AI study Day, organised by Catherine Ware

April-September, many walks and gallery visits being instigated, plans in progress. Mike, Rikki and Vivek

October

Wellness Day Peter Chung, Carriss Smith TBC

Natural History Museum Sue Leigh and a couple of others that have said they would help TBC

Black History Month walk/visits Mike Rikki Vivek

No discussion yet regarding repeating Wallace Collection or the Brandenburg Christmas concert with Philippa Bassett

These events are being organised by small teams, so that not one person is responsible for overseeing it all.

Patricia Gregory keeps the events team diary to ensure we do not overlap with events

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT FOR DELEGATES MEETING JAN 25

Mailshots have been going out to Chairs and Delegates of London region, usually twice a month.

These mostly contain information to be cascaded to the membership of each LR u3a.

It is therefore important that all secretaries/chairs inform the London Region membership secretary (Rikki Wallman) mailchimpadvisor.lru3a@gmail.com as soon as there are changes to the committee, whether it be at the AGM or any time throughout the year. It is appreciated that after AGMs the information about committee is sent through the portal to the Trust, However as their database and that used by London Region is different, we cannot be passed these details due to GDPR. Hence the request for LR u3as to submit these details again. Please ensure that secretaries are aware of this and that they don't respond due to thinking its a scam.

Mailshots also go out regarding LR events to members who have registered for online talks, and also participated in the events organised throughout 2024. This should ensure that members are notified through their own u3a's newsletter/monthly meetings etc and directly if they have previously registered for an event in 2024.

London Region continues to use a 500 capacity zoom license as the online talks attract well over 150 members at most of the sessions.

Mailchimp is our communications platform and Wufoo our registration one. Although these, as indicated previously, are not perfect, we have yet to find alternatives that suit our criteria.

WE do have a new member of the communications team being trained as cover on Mailchimp. We are always on the lookout for help with communications. Please let me know if you would like any further information

Rikki Wallman

WEBMASTERS PSG (Derek Harwood):

This PSG continues with regular meetings, the last one being held in November with reps from 10 London u3as attending. The main agenda items for that meeting included:

- Status of SiteWorks
- IT Skills Training
- Open discussion

There were 22 London u3as that were going through migration process from Sitebuilder to the new SiteWorks website software, including the LRU3A regional network site. Most of the support for this effort came from the national volunteer team but this PSG offered support to the London web managers. All completed the task before the shutdown of Sitebuilder on 13th December.

LRU3A had arranged a further IT training programme in conjunction with AbilityNet. This had been oversubscribed with an average of 22 members attending each of the 4 sessions. A wide range of topics was covered in the programme and each gave time for one to one coaching. A further training programme is hoped to be offered in February.

The popularity of this PSG is due to the opportunity for web managers to raise and discuss topics which they might be struggling with or considering.

TREASURERS PSG (Derek Harwood):

This PSG continues with regular meetings, the last one being held in October with reps from 8 London u3as attending. The main agenda items for that meeting included:

- Gift Aid update
- National Treasurers forum
- Anything else, open discussion

While none of the London u3a's had had their gift aid claim rejected by HMRC (yet), over 12 have had problems nationally. The national Trust has raised the issue with HMRC and there is general interest on progress. An update was provided to the PSG – a letter has been submitted to HMRC to raise the issue and state the Trust's views on why the submitted claims were valid.

A recent development is the forming of a Treasurers forum nationally to provide a means of support for u3a Treasurers. It has taken the form of a Facebook account (where Treasurers could submit queries) and a 3 monthly Zoom session (where key topics are presented – the last one being on the update to the Beacon Finance module).

Specific issues are also raised and shared at this PSG.

OTHER LRU3A GENERAL NEWS:

The new SiteWorks LRU3A regional website is now operational at: <https://lru3a.u3asite.uk/>

NATIONAL GENERAL NEWS (Derek Harwood and John Bent):

Following the national AGM and u3as voting in the forming of a Council, work has been progressing to find two reps for each national region. London has two nominations (Jenny Wilson and Chris Bulford). Voting for these will open on Monday 13 January 2025.

The national programme of workshops and talks continues. See details here: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events>

The new Trust's CEO, Ian Cassidy has been visiting various u3as around the country and getting to

know how the u3a movement operates. He will be visiting London region and attending the LRU3A Chairs forum in February.

NETWORK LINK (Derek Harwood):

This forum offers a common discussion and support platform for all u3a networks, such as LRU3A. The last Zoom meeting was held in October with over a hundred attending. There were two main topics: Running an event in your network: Pat Collard (Yorkshire and Humberside region) and David Ashton (South East region) shared their experience of organising events such as Summer Schools and the recent Festival. They presented a talk, explaining all the pitfalls, the requirements, and the excitement in setting up an event, large or small. Other networks shared their experiences.

Artificial Intelligence for networks: Barry Claydon, AI Subject Advisor, discussed AI tools and how networks can utilise them.

Then as usual the meeting ended with a chance for networks to "Air and Share" and issues.