



Yorkshire and the Humber

Regional Trustee's Report for year ending April 2019

The last year has been both positive and demanding. A new U3A was started in Garforth and Kippax following an initiative from the local community. Within 6 months they have a membership of 166 and more than 15 groups. Trust Start-up Volunteers were instrumental in establishing a solid foundation for the new U3A which complemented the enthusiastic hard work of the new trustees. Another U3A is planned for Tadcaster and District.

Yorkshire and the Humber Region's Trustee is a member of, and works closely with, the YAHR Development Team that continues to run a series of developmental sessions for U3As formulated from their stated needs. This year, the well-attended programme of events aimed at U3A development and learning opportunities included workshops on Trustee Induction, Succession Planning, Sharing Good Ideas, Treasurers Workshop, and Supporting Groups. Study days have included Industrial Archaeology and Art Appreciation. In August 2019, YAHR will again host a residential summer school, using the Cabinet Office's northern conference and training centre, following the successful 2018 Summer School.

There are 3 networks operating within the region: Accord (East Riding), Westnet (West Riding) and DalesNet (North Riding). Exploratory work is being undertaken for a possible East Coast network. The networks are for mutual support of trustees and, in some cases, provide activities for members across U3As.

Many U3As continue to face the dilemma of recruiting members to stand as Trustees on their committees. Sharing concerns with members of the inevitable consequence of closure should volunteers not come forward have, so far, resulted in positive outcomes.

Since April 2018, the Trustee has supported the Accord Network, the Dales Network, Driffield and Wolds, Garforth and Kippax, Grimsby and Cleethorpes, Harrogate, Leeds, Scarborough, Settle, Sheffield and Swanland U3As.

The Regional Trustee is a member of the Third Age Trust's Board of Directors. This year I have been Chair of the Third Age Matters Working Group and am currently a member of the Raising the Profile Working Group and the Trust Development Plan Steering Committee.

Another busy but rewarding year.

Sue Stokes
15th March 2019