



Yorkshire and Humber Regional Committee

Chairman's Update October 2016

Well the dust has now settled following the successful summer Showcase Event at Askham Bryan which many of you attended. Let me start by thanking all those U3As who took part on the day and particularly those thirty U3As who were able to make a financial contribution which ensured that the event was financially viable. I trust that you were able to keep in touch with the progress towards the event with the regular monthly updates that we sent around to all our U3As. These updates were a new feature for us as we tried to balance our need to keep you informed with the need to avoid flooding your inboxes with too many emails. Whilst there were one or two learning points from the Showcase, which we have recorded for future reference, we were heartened by the overwhelmingly positive comments which we received from members who attended the event.

We can now turn our attention to what we are intending to do in the coming months. Firstly our National colleagues have offered to run a workshop aimed at new Trustees around the region. The details of this workshop, which will take place in Doncaster on **Wednesday 9th November**, have already been circulated and you should have received information by way of a 'flyer' from National Office. If for any reason you have not seen the information, there is a link on the home page of the YAHR website under 'Flyers'. [Click on 'Managing your U3A'].

Secondly we have fixed the date for our next Regional Development meeting which will take place in Doncaster on **Thursday 24th November**. We will have the pleasure of being joined by Samantha Mauger who, you may be aware, has taken over from Lin Jonas as Chief Executive at the National Office. Samantha will be giving her views about the service provided by the national office and how she feels this might develop over the coming months and years. I am sure that this will be a two way conversation which will give the chance for us all to share our thoughts about what we want from our national colleagues.

A further date for your diaries is **Thursday 16th February**, when at our first Regional Development session of 2017 we will be hosting representatives from the National Executive Committee who are consulting across the country prior to reporting on the future direction for the Third Age Trust. Again this will be a chance for U3As within our region to possibly influence this important matter.

Regional Committee members are also working on providing a study day for members at Saltaire on **Wednesday 15th March** and the details are available on the regional website.

The next big summer event for 2017 is likely to be a Summer School along the lines of the ones which have been organised successfully on previous occasions in 2013 and 2015. We will be trying another venue closer to the geographical centre of the region and at present we are looking at a range of venues and collecting optional topics which we hope to be able to explain in more detail in the coming weeks and months. So watch this space!

In the meantime, if there are subjects or topics which you would like us to cover please let us know. Thanks for your continuing support

Alan Swann