

REPORT

Spring Coordinators' Meeting – 26 March 2013

In November 2012 a 'think tank' was formed to try to come up with ideas for making the Spring Coordinators Meeting more 'user friendly'. The sub-group consisted of Jim Walker, Vera Dyer, Chris Goldthorpe and John Wragg.

The sub-group came up with the idea of mixing up the groups around tables of eight, which meant that a large venue was needed but that numbers had to be limited. It was decided to add the attraction of a finger buffet which the Executive Committee kindly agreed to fund. Time was allotted for interaction and for more participative exploration of issues in a workshop setting.

Because food and refreshments had to be ordered, coordinators were invited to 'apply' so that numbers could be carefully monitored. A total of 88 applied and 30 apologies were received. The actual number who attended was 69, including 2 who had not booked. They were easily accommodated as 19 were prevented from attending by the ice and snow.

The meeting started with a big THANK YOU from Denise West, outgoing Chair of SU3A. Chris Cave, Treasurer, introduced his brief but hugely informative one-side-of-A4 notes on FINANCE and INSURANCE.. On the reverse of Chris Cave's notes is a summary of ADVICE TO COORDINATORS on matters besides finance and insurance. The last speaker, John Evans floated ideas for improving activities for PUBLICITY, both external and internal.

The Workshop Group Discussions yielded 22 issues/concerns. They are all listed on the website and will be passed to the Committee for consideration. On the day itself many of these issues were speedily dealt with at the Plenary Session, with some items raising enthusiastic debate from the floor. A synopsis of those publicly answered at the meeting is attached to each of these items on the website.

Unsought feedback indicated that the table-grouping was a pleasing strategy and the buffet received overall praise.

It is hoped that there will be space in the August issue of LINKS (No: 166) to publish the 22 issues raised. Remember, you can read them immediately on this Coordinators' Page

Even if you did not manage to attend this Coordinators' Meeting, write to or telephone me about your concerns. We will air them and they may also help our planning for March 2014.

The SINGLE SHEET with information on finance, insurance and advice is available on the website on the Coordinators' Page ["QuickView, Finance, Insurance, Advice"]

Jim Walker

General Coordinator