

I have received this message via the Surrey Network website. My first thought was that this was not really for u3a members. However, it then occurred to me that many of our members have grandchildren and possibly enjoy reading to them, so I decided to pass it on to the Surrey u3's. I have confirmed that volunteers can be online as well as live.

I leave it to you to decide whether you wish to circulate your members.

“We are recruiting for volunteers aged 18+ to join our online Volunteering Programme at Bookmark Reading Charity. Our mission is to help children aged 5 - 11 discover the joy of reading through one-to-one support with our wonderful volunteers. I understand that u3a works with charities in the community based on location, so was advised to get in touch with u3a Surrey, my local organisation.

This year marks the National Year of Reading, a government initiative to inspire a love of reading across the country. According to the National Literacy Trust (2023) one in four children in England leave primary school unable to read well, and for those from disadvantaged communities, the challenge is even greater – and the consequences can last a lifetime.

Many of our volunteers are retirees who find the experience incredibly rewarding - it's flexible, we provide full training and support and volunteers can read with children online from the comfort of home.

I was wondering if we can please advertise this opportunity to your members?
<https://www.bookmarkreading.org/volunteer-vrc>

I look forward to hearing from you,

Caroline.

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Caroline Blanchard	
Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator	