

The Back of the Brain Project

Why?

The project aims to learn more about how we see the world through investigating strokes which affect the back of the brain. These kind of strokes can lead to difficulty with vision, reading and recognising faces, but there is a large amount of variability in how people are affected and we want to learn more about this. To do so, we ask people with a stroke affecting the back of the brain to complete a number of tests. We need people who haven't had a stroke to complete the same tests, so that we can compare the performance of our stroke participants against the performance of people who have not had a stroke - this is where the U3A community comes in. We can reimburse participants with £50 for taking part.

What?

Complete a day of tests at Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, University College London (nearest station Russell Square). The tests will mainly be done on the computer and will measure visual function including some tests of recognising faces and reading. Some participants may be asked to have an MRI scan.

How?

The tests will mainly be done on the computer. Some participants may be asked to have an MRI and fMRI scan (done as one session).

Where?

All the tests take place at the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, 17 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3AZ (nearest station; Russell Square/ Holborn)

When?

Taking part in the study involves a one off visit to UCL. It normally takes a whole day to complete (e.g. 10:30 am until 4:30 pm but this is flexible). It is quite a long testing day; for those who think that it might be too much to do in one session, we can do the tests over two days (these do not have to be consecutive).

Who?

We are looking for people over the age of 55 years to take part. People who use glasses **are** eligible to take part in the study. We are looking for people who meet the following criteria:

- You speak English as your dominant language
- You do not have a history of dementia
- You have no history of brain injury
- You do not have a severe psychiatric disorder
- You do not have a history of drug or alcohol abuse