

# Group Coordinator's report for AGM

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May.

In May of last year our figures showed that we had 87 groups, of which, 52 had vacancies.

We peaked in late March of this year with 105 groups, of which 63 had vacancies.

As of today, we have 100 groups, only 42 of which have vacancies.

There are a lot of active groups but with only 42 having vacancies, and many of the very popular groups being full, we still very much need more new groups.

Around 32 of the groups are primarily about learning, 4 are social, 28 involve physical activity or are based outside and 36 are activities or pastimes based indoors.

We've got 7 walking groups, 12 craft groups, 7 language groups and 6 book groups.

We've got golf, tennis, table-tennis, badminton and cycling for the more energetic.

We've got Philosophy, Current Affairs, Theology, Politics, Biology, Music Appreciation, Antiques and Quizzes for the more cerebral.

We have 2 food groups and 2 wine groups for lovers of the good life and 4 IT & computing groups for the technologically inclined (or challenged!)

A Groups open Morning was quite successful in early March and perhaps another would be a good idea in the early autumn?

I met with all of the Group Organisers from the other SE Devon U3As and we exchanged ideas and experience.

We now have at least three very experienced Group Organisers who've agreed to provide mentoring to members who start up new Groups.

To conclude, being a Group Organiser can be as easy as you want to make it – and can be amazingly satisfying. If you've an idea for a group or you've been on the waiting list for a group for a while, Why not consider starting a group yourself. You'll get plenty of support and hand-holding, both from me and the rest of your U3A committee.

Nigel Day, Groups Coordinator