# SiteWorks update
# Agenda

- Progress to date, a look a some live sites
- The process for getting a SiteWorks site
- Support arrangements
- Choosing a “Starter” or “Migrated” site, demo migration
- Using additional WordPress plugins
- Future development
- User feedback - Frances Kilburn, Evesham u3a

# Progress to date

(As of 1st February 2024)

- 28 sites live on SiteWorks project hosting
  12 independently hosted (that we know about)
- just under 600 u3as have registered interest
- still too early to predict speed of rollout
- Site Builder will be supported until at least
  the end of 2024

# Progress to date

Live demo

- Site Builder migrated sites list
- map of live hosted sites (SiteWorks website)
- the roll-out queue (SiteWorks website)
- a look at a few live sites

# The process
# SiteWorks hosting

- Register interest - join the queue
- Accept Terms and Conditions
- Zoom introductory workshop
- Familiarisation with WordPress using ‘Local’
- Migration team assist with site preparation
- Go Live

# The process
# Self hosting

- Choose your hosting service
- Install WordPress
- Install and activate the u3a SiteWorks theme plus plugins to meet your needs *(covered in detail on the u3aWPdev forum and on the project's GitHub pages)*

Note: A service to migrate a site from Site Builder is not provided for self-hosted sites

# Support arrangements

- the main SiteWorks website has
  - FAQ
  - comprehensive User Guide
  - recommended learning resources
- the u3aWPdev forum
- the SiteWorks helpdesk for u3as using SiteWorks project hosting

# “Starter” site
# or “Migrated” site?

- A migrated site takes the majority of your content from a Site Builder site
- A starter site provides a small set of sample pages
- In either case, there will be redirection from sites formerly hosted on Site Builder

# Migration process

## 1 - Export site from Site Builder

# Migration process

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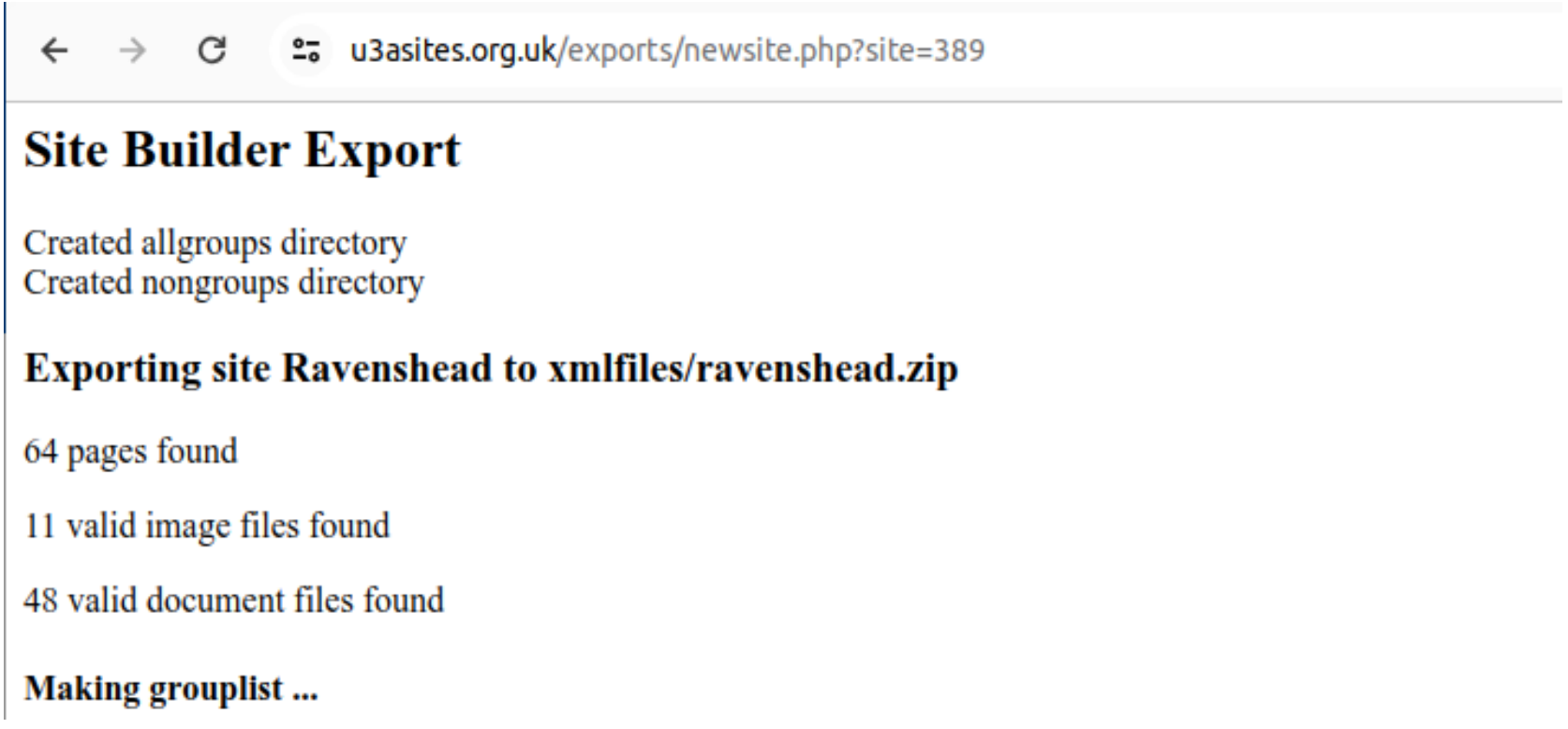
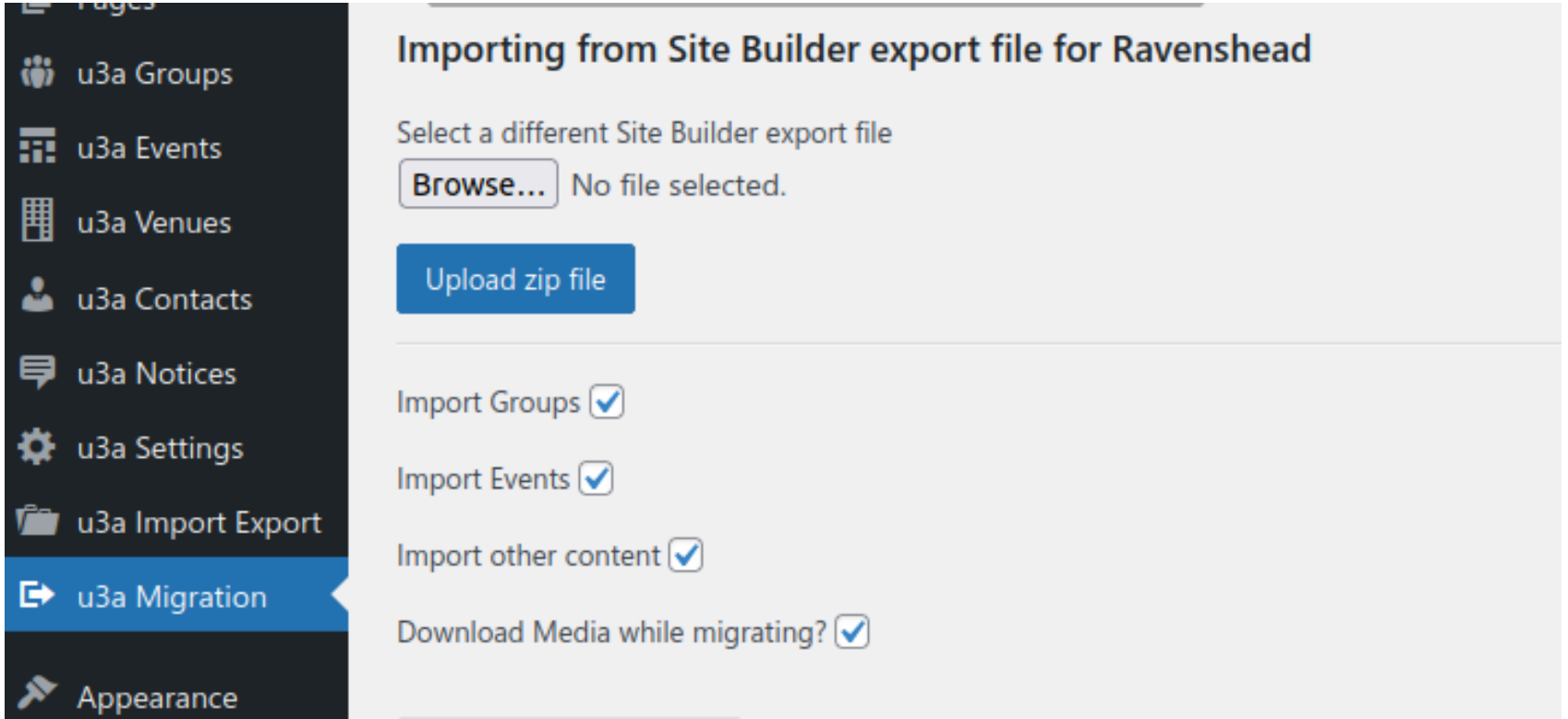


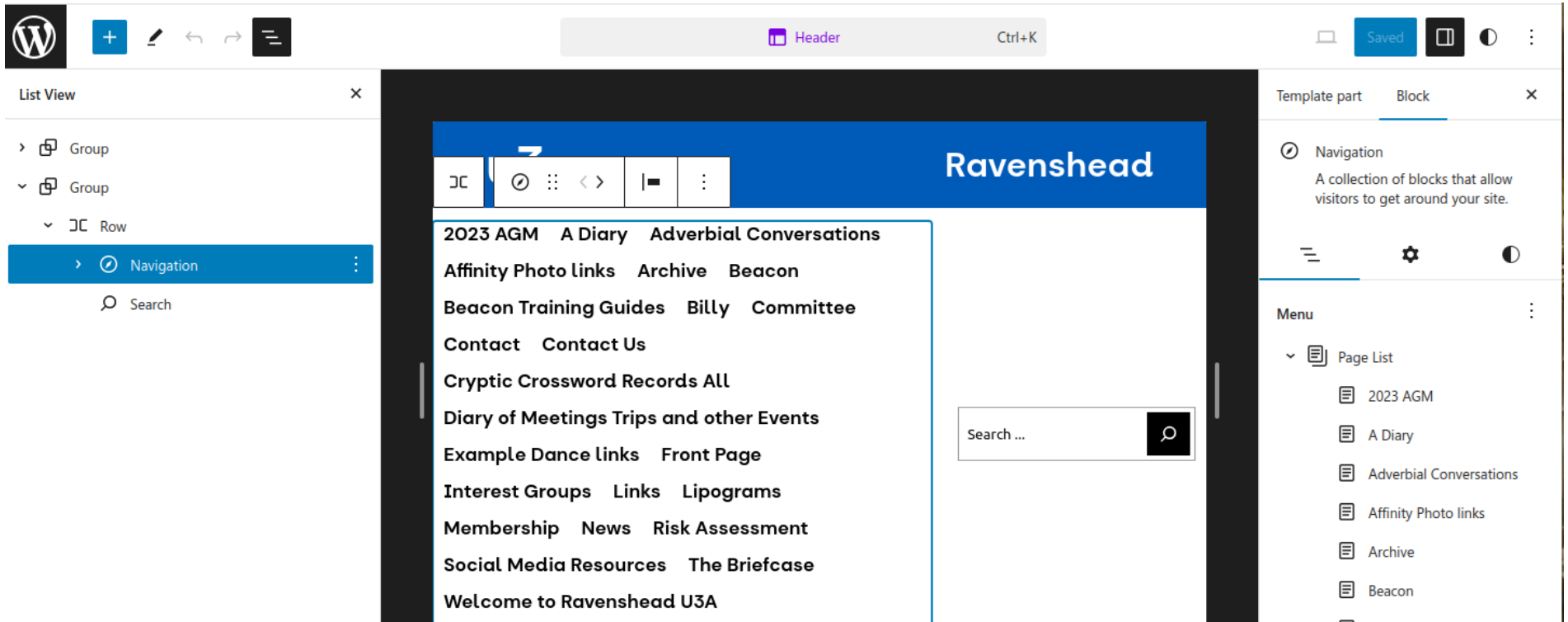
# Migration process

## 2 - Import site into WordPress



# Migration process

## 3 - Set Site Builder menu, adjust as required



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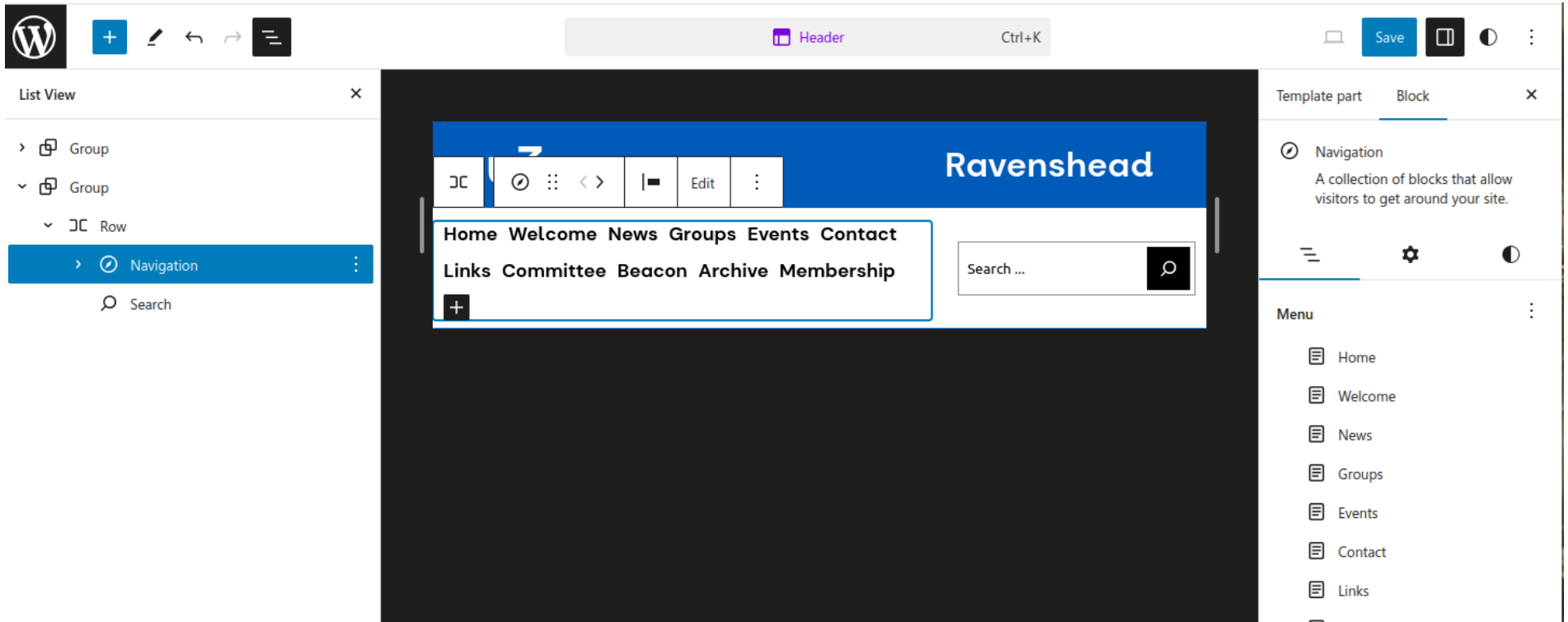

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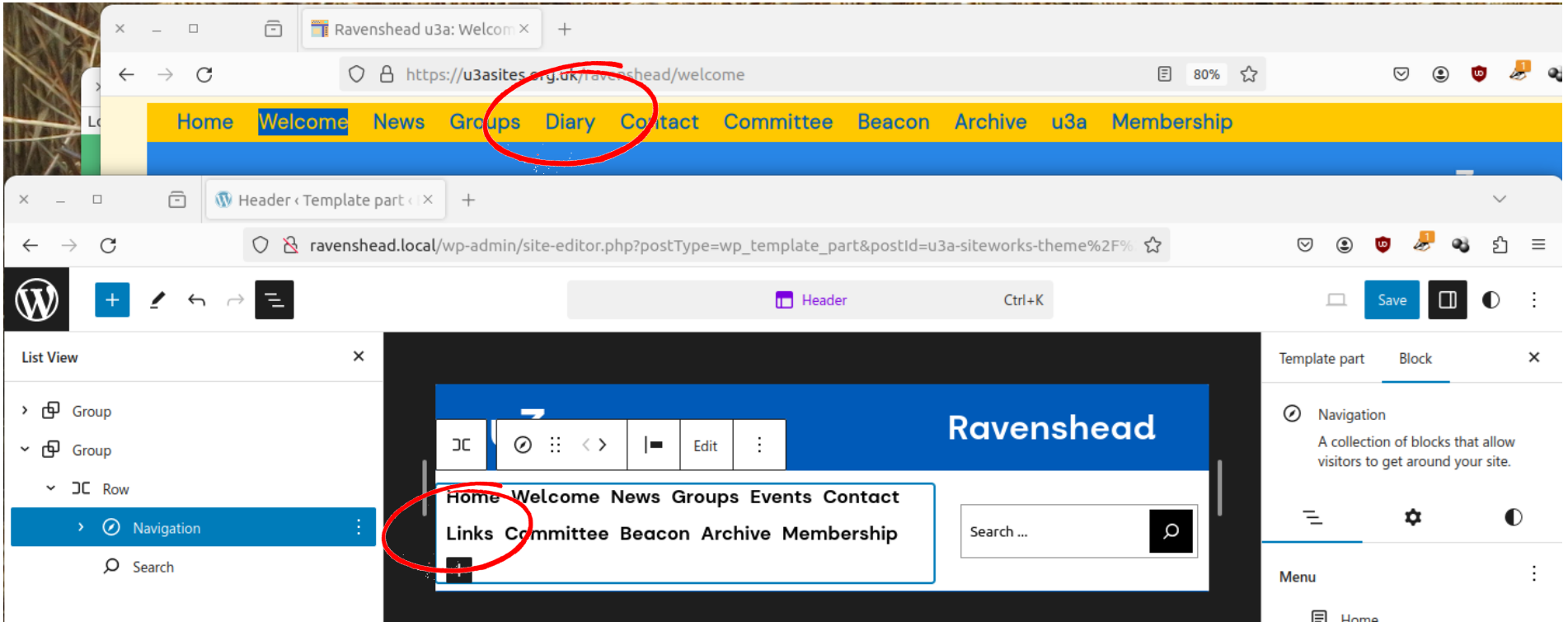
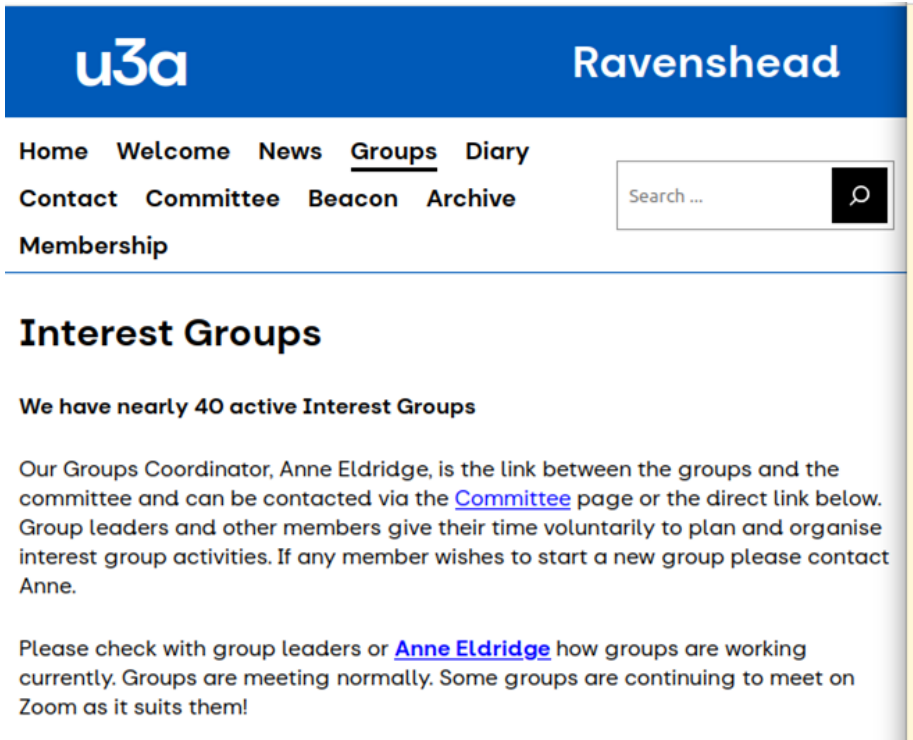
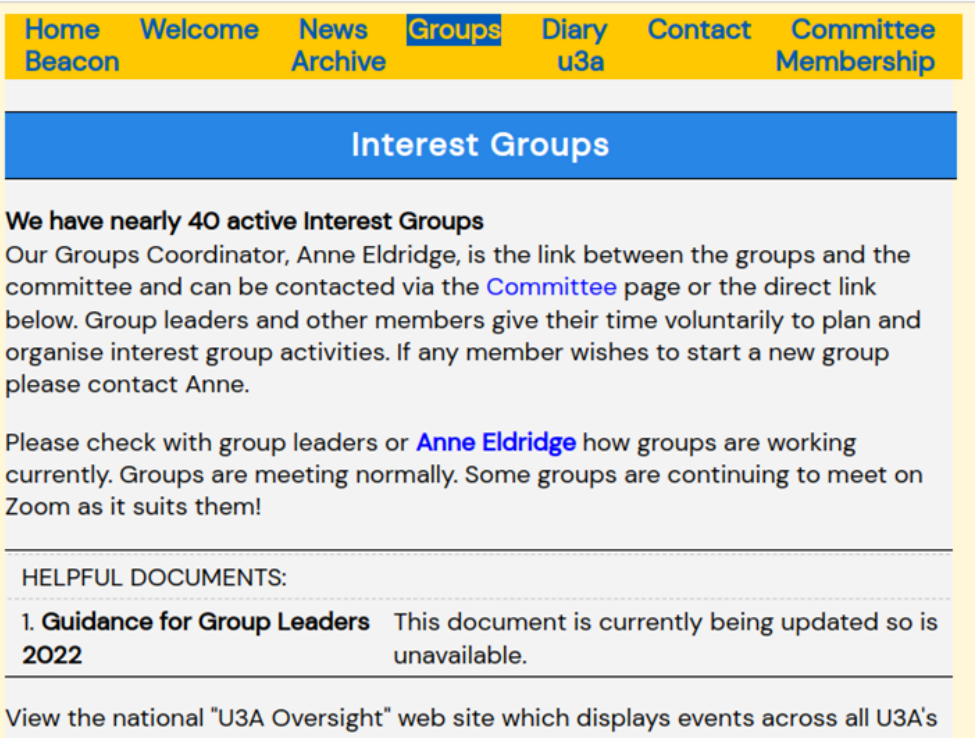


# Migration process

## 4 - Set WordPress “home” page and test



# Migration process

Live demo of migrated site

- Ravenshead u3a Site Builder site
- Ravenshead site on ‘Local’ after standard migration process

# Using additional plugins

- Plugins are perhaps the main reason WordPress is so widely used.  Several are included in the standard SiteWorks build.
- Non standard plugins are not supported by the SiteWorks project team or helpdesk
- Must be tested by web manager before installing.
- In the event of problems the SiteWorks helpdesk can arrange restore from backup, or a fresh “Starter” site.

# Using additional plugins

- Plugins which store backups on the server are not permitted under the T&Cs, but those that create off-site backups are fine
- Plugins may set additional cookies or facilitate tracking. Web managers are responsible for ensuring GDPR compliance.
- The project may in future identify a small number of “recommended” plugins which would not be installed as standard but which would be supported to some degree.

# Future development

- Some enhancements to the SiteWorks plugins is under way as a result of feedback from Pioneer users.
- Next “feature release” likely April 2024, to follow the WordPress 6.5 update.
- bug fixes and “behind the scenes” changes deployed via the WordPress update service as need arises.

# Future development

Principles:

- keep to a minimum any bespoke development so as to avoid problems with maintenance in the longer term
- always use WordPress core features and readily available, well-supported plugins where these can meet needs

# Future development

SiteWorks and Beacon

- no significant changes likely until Site Builder migration complete
- work to identify options is under way
- Beacon and SiteWorks committee, chaired by Chris Winner, began meeting in October 2023

# Future development

Contributions and suggestions

- the u3aWPdev forum
- u3a Siteworks Development on GitHub
- SiteWorksDev on Slack
- email the SiteWorks team

# User Feedback

Over to Frances Kilburn, Evesham u3a ...

# Users

SiteWorks project hosting

- Berwick-upon-Tweed u3a - custom header https://berwick-upon-tweed.u3asite.uk/
- Carlton & Gedling u3a - full home page https://carlton.u3asite.uk/
- Cupar u3a - button navigation https://cupar.u3asite.uk/welcome/
- Great Yarmouth u3a - members page https://gtyarmouth.u3asite.uk/members/
- Halesworth u3a - menu changes https://halesworth.u3asite.uk/
- High Wycombe u3a - straightforward example https://highwycombe.u3asite.uk/
- Odiham u3a - use of images, buttons https://odiham.u3asite.uk/
- West Bridgford - committee page gallery https://westbridgford.u3asite.uk/
- White Cliffs Country - member content plugin https://wcc.u3asite.uk/

Self-hosted

- Gilwern u3a - drop-down menus https://gilwernu3a.org.uk/
- Mapperley u3a - maps on Welcome page https://madu3a.org/
- Sheffield u3a - large site, many plugins https://su3a.org.uk/
- Winchester u3a - menu organisation https://www.winchesteru3a.co.uk/
- Oliva U3A - Spain https://u3aoliva.org/