## PLYMSTOCK & DISTRICT u3a CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2022 – 2023

## **Sue Stoker**

We have now come to the end of my term as your Chairman and we have seen many changes in our u3a during that time. When I first took on the role, we were just moving into the Covid lockdown which became a challenging time, obviously it was challenging for everyone but in order to keep our u3a running we had to modify a few things.

Firstly we had to hold our Committee meetings outside, we all brought along our garden chairs to the Staddy playing field and sat the required 2 metres away from each other in a circle so that we could carry out the regular business of the Committee! We must have looked quite strange! Also we were not able to have our monthly meetings at the Staddy but had to hold them via zoom. Although we were able to get some speakers from further afield for the zoom meetings it really didn't have the same atmosphere as our usual friendly meetings, we had face to face in the Staddy.

Fortunately that is over now and we are back to running our u3a as we always did, we still have nearly 400 members and over 30 groups, and fortunately we are able to hold our Committee meetings indoors (we missed our tea and biscuits!).

Another change has been our Monthly Newsletters which keep you up to date with all the news from the groups and a few jokes thrown in too! We also have our Annual Members Handbook which gives you the details and contact information for all the Groups and a lot more besides.

Don't forget to look at the website for all the up to the minute news and information at <a href="https://u3asites.org.uk/plymstock/home">https://u3asites.org.uk/plymstock/home</a> and at the meetings the Notice Boards are always displayed at the back of the room with lots of photos and news about the groups.

This year also sees the 10-year Anniversary of the Plymstock & District u3a and a big thank you must go to the founder members who worked so hard in getting our very successful u3a up and running.

We have to say goodbye to two members of the Committee, Roy Fairclough who has been our Business Secretary and Vice Chairman, and Chris Taylor our Membership Secretary. Fortunately both of these roles have now been filled. Our proposed Chairman is David Salmon in whose capable hands I leave the running of our u3a.

And lastly, I must thank the all the Committee for their hard work and support over the last three years...I couldn't have done it without them!