








Saxon Shore u3a Committee

Chair	
	<p>Val Johnson - I have lived in Herne Bay for nearly 13 years. I have been the Chair of our u3a since it first began. My job is to chair meetings and to keep our u3a running according to the principles of the organisation. I also contribute to our monthly newsletter.</p> <p>It is very satisfying to be able to help facilitate an organisation which brings fun and companionship into people's lives.</p>
Secretary	
	<p>Kim Todd - I have lived in Whitstable for the last 6 years and joined Saxon Shore u3a during its first meeting at Swalecliffe Hall. I am a member of a couple of groups which are social, educational, and better yet, great fun. I am now in a position where I have the time to help our local u3a continue to grow.</p>
Membership Secretary	
	<p>John Edwards – I have lived in Whitstable most of my life, working all over Kent until early retirement. I have enjoyed being involved with many local organisations and charities during that time and was happy to offer to take on the role of Membership secretary when our u3a was formed. I also act as Administrator of the Beacon Database system that keeps track of all our membership records and also facilitate the Computer group.</p>
Groups Co-ordinator	
	<p>Linda Griffiths - Having spent many years in education I have enjoyed bringing together u3a members to learn new skills and have fun. I was part of the team that got Saxon Shore up and running and have been the Groups Co-ordinator ever since our u3a started.</p>
Treasurer	
	<p>Glenda Smart - I have been a member of Saxon Shore u3a since it began but only took up the role of treasurer in March 2020, during the start of the pandemic. I was happy to be able to utilize the skills I have developed whilst running an international organisation. I am looking forward to taking a more active role when our circumstances improve.</p>

Other Members:	
Speakers	
	<p>Wendy Powell - I have lived in Tankerton for over 20 years and joined our Saxon Shore u3a when it was first launched. A family history group was suggested and being very interested I met with the Group leader and we agreed to get things going together. We haven't looked back but still have an interested group who meet regularly. I have joined other groups too which is what makes u3a so special, members helping members.</p> <p>I am also an active member of a local WI and served on their committee for some time including seeking out Speakers for our meetings, something I feel may assist me in my new role with this committee.</p>
	<p>David Hutchins - I have lived in Whitstable since 1984 and now consider myself almost a local! I have been a member of the Saxon Shore u3a since it started. I have enjoyed meeting new people and taking an active part in several groups. I have been the Facilitator for the drawing group since May 2021. As a member of the committee, I hope to be able support the u3a in its aim to offer opportunities for members to make new friends, pass on skills, gain knowledge, and live life to the full.</p>
	<p>Stephen Jones - Born in Chatham and brought up in the Medway towns. Moved to Herne Bay Three years ago and joined u3a.</p>
	<p>Filomena Brockwell-Prior - We came to live near the sea here in Beltinge in February 2022 and have found the air, walks and local community in the main a breath of fresh air. My paid working life has always been working with and for children, young people and/or their families including the Princes Trust, Bexley Youth Offending Team, Barnardos and Children's Services in several London Authorities.</p> <p>I love volunteering in my spare time and have in the past sat on the board of Women's Aid, Mencap to name a few – so I am really excited to have been accepted as a volunteer committee member with u3a Saxon Shore.</p>
	<p>John Wakeham - I have lived in Chestfield for 30 years and joined Saxon Shore u3a in 2023. I have worked as an engineer all my life, including 13 years at sea as an Engineer Officer in the Merchant Navy.</p> <p>Since retiring early I have had several volunteering jobs, which include serving as a trustee at the Horsebridge Arts centre, on the board at Seasalter and Whitstable Golf Club, a crew member on the Kingfisher pleasure craft belonging to the Kingfisher Medway Trust and also some time at the Whitstable Food Bank packing food parcels.</p> <p>I enjoy meeting people and helping out wherever I can and I believe the u3a is one organisation that does help its members.</p>