

How satisfied are you with the overall offerings at your Saxonshore u3a?
(1 = Very Dissatisfied, 5 = Very Satisfied)
23 responses

Value	Count
1	0
2	1
3	3
4	7
5	12

If you answered 1 or 2 above, please tell us why...
3 responses

Because of our demographic, I think, we shy away from learning/putting ourselves forward to learn. I think this is a shame, but I am part of the problem..ie not from a confident academic background.

Amongst the general welcoming atmosphere an absolutely excellently organised set of trips/excursions...AND I AM NOT called Butcher!!

Lots of courses to choose and plenty of information

The aspects of u3a that I enjoy are: (tick as many as apply)
23 responses

Value	Count
Learning new things	18
Meeting new people	17
Meeting my friends regularly	12
The opportunity to exercise	9
Attending culturally focused activities like films, musical, performances, exhibitions, talks	10
Continuing previous interest/activities	10

What additional groups/activities would you like to see us offer?
12 responses

Tai Chi
Tai chi/ Additional groups offered when some are full.
Craft based groups
study days/sessions.
Scrabble
There's enough for me personally
The groups seem diverse and varied , but long waiting lists!
ad hoc events on a monthly basis Opportunities to attend culturally focused activities like films, musical, performances and exhibitions.
Nordic walking
Tai Chi, Yoga, Pilates
Keep Fit
Tap dancing

Is there anything that has made it difficult for you to participate in any of the activities in our u3a?

13 responses

Value	Count
Health	3
Disability	2
Other commitments	7
Transport	1
Meeting days/times	1
Groups being full	2
currently work afternoon evenings, so unable to go on the outings	1

How many groups did you actively participate in during 2022?

23 responses

Value	Count
1	4
1 - only joined late in the year	1
3	4
4	3
5	2
8	1
Knitting group and lunches outt	1
None	1
One ... cycling group led by Mike	1
Outings , Walking group	1
Six	1
Two	1
one	1
trips	1

How often do you attend the monthly meetings with a speaker at Swalecliffe Hall?

23 responses

Never	6
Occasionally	11
Regularly	6

Is there anything you would like to see improved at these monthly meetings?

13 responses

Perhaps we could make them more sociably inclusive for new members by maybe adding tables and chairs near the refreshments area or having a few coffee mornings where new members in particular are invited.

No

It is hard to find topics that interest everyone.

microphone system. It's always difficult if speakers don't have their own so I feel we ought to have a good one available. It seems very variable. Nothing worse than not being able to hear.T

no

Attended in past but the quality of the speakers often poor and atmosphere/ comfort / social opportunities limited.

Yes - Speakers who can use the microphone

A synopsis of the content would be helpful for decision making on attendance

I used to attend but found them boring as the quality of the speakers was often poor. There was little opportunity for meeting new people and quite daunting if you knew no one there. Could there be a newbies corner where 1-2 volunteers make introductions? Could there be things to do after the speaker has finished?

Microphone system in the hall

Loop for deaf people. Clearer space around the kitchen to make it easier to have a drink.

I always feel embarrassed when asked to put away my chair after talk as I can't physically manage this.

Video of interesting speakers being available if one cannot attend or hybrid meetings.

Following the use of Zoom for our monthly meetings during Lockdown, there has been some discussion of having hybrid meetings where members could attend in person at the Swalecliffe Hall or choose to watch from home using Zoom. Would you be interested in using Zoom for this purpose?

23 responses

Yes 10

No 13

Do you read the monthly Newsletter?

23 responses

Yes 23

No 0

Please use the box below if you would like to make any comments regarding the Newsletter.
10 responses

No

The Newsletter is very well compiled. Perhaps groups could be encouraged to submit more photos/excerpt/videos or their activities for inclusion in the Newsletter.

I especially like it in the last year or so. I think there is a missed opportunity with it, in that we learn nothing about what the committee is doing- so we miss out on the " I think I could do

that,too"moments,that might lead to volunteering for the committee.What decisions were made?What money spent?What contacts with central U3A.

It doesn't need to be pumped up with all the filler! Do we really need to know the playlist of the jazz group; someone's favourite lengthy poem; a half finished creative writing project or details of outings that have been and gone? They have their place but it's creeping up to be the majority of the newsletter . The pictures (particularly the first one) are far too large on the page. I want to know what is coming up that I can be involved with - not what I've missed - so it needs to be far more responsive, succinct and informative about future events. It should be a newsletter that I use to take notes or add events to my diary from.

Always brilliant informative and interesting
It's great. It's where I find out what's going on!

I like the Newsletter in general but would like all the 'filler' material to be at the end and anything new up front.

I find it really informative as unfortunately my attendance at our monthly meetings has been sporadic for a few months. The news letter has kept me in touch with the group & activities

Enjoy the Newsletter. Find it very informative.

I find the newsletter attractive, friendly, informative and inviting

The u3a relies solely on volunteers and it needs more volunteers, particularly to join the Committee, in order to improve our service to our members. What can we do to encourage more members to volunteer and to join the Committee?
9 responses

Bribery

Keep trying! :)

As above, and attach committee minutes to the newsletter. There is no reason for it to be secret! While there was a move to have a secret brown file of the latest minutes available at monthly meetings (If you knocked 3 times and said the secret password) ,when I asked for it, it wasn't there, so I gave up. Show us what happens, so we can gain understanding and think, "maybe i could manage that bit, its not so scary".

Sorry, no idea. Every club has the same problem.

Be visible, active members. Consider the roles, responsibilities and need for a committee using technology to reduce wasted time. Possibly explain what it is that the committee has done to keep the lifeblood of the group running. What's the "value added" of the committee beyond ordinary members running an event on a weekly or monthly basis? Stop trying to attract 'shadow' committee members - just go for it and have a change of ideas and approach.

Be visible! Who are you and what groups do you lead or attend? I understand that 20% of members go to the meetings so how do you meet the other 80%? How about asking for volunteers for specific events that you run and for specific skills such as design a poster, put up bunting etc. What does the committee do that is interesting/rewarding? You try to sell it as not much work but you don't say what you get from National to read up on, or be trained in, or get involved in their projects?

Perhaps invite people who might be interested to attend a monthly committee meeting to see what it's like?

As a sole carer I am not in a position to volunteer, sorry

Just keep reminding everyone that you need the help and maybe ask a new Committee member to write up on their experience, once they settle in., for the newsletter.

I am of an age:
23 responses

60 or younger	3
61 - 70	7
71 - 80	13
81 - 90	0
Over 90	0

I have been a member of Saxonsore U3A for:
23 responses

0 - 1 year	2
1 - 2 years	3
3 - 5 years	7
Over 5 years	10
Not sure	1

Any further comments?
10 responses

I am very happy to belong to the Saxonsore U3A and have found the groups I have joined to be extremely welcoming, friendly and well-run. I would particularly like to thank all the group leaders who have stepped up to host the various groups and also all our other dedicated volunteers without whom our U3A could not exist.

I love extra comments sections, thank you! I am grateful for all the hard work undertaken. We could do more to inch into learning, and advertise ourselves to groups underrepresented in our u3a,perhaps.Has this feedback link been mentioned in the newsletter?If so, I missed it. :(

Thank you for your efforts for the group and the time that you have spent creating the platform.

I think U3A is a wonderful organisation. Thank you. I'm so pleased to be a member

I would like to see more publicity drives to attract the under 70s. All groups need new blood on a regular basis.

Since the pandemic a lot of organisations have suffered from a lack of people willing to volunteer. I feel many folk are like me in as much as their working / family life has been very busy . Now they prefer to be an Indian instead of a chief. I accept that my comment doesn't help the survival of our U3A but I wanted to shed a little light on a difficult situation.

I find the u3a very friendly, and welcoming. Pat & Mike, are particularly to be congratulated on the organisation of the many outings.

I enjoy being a part of the u3a and hope to engage with more groups in the future and get my husband to join (although he works full time at the moment)

Thank you to the whole team for all your hard work.

Thank you to everyone involved with SSu3a for making it so successful and a joy to be a member of!