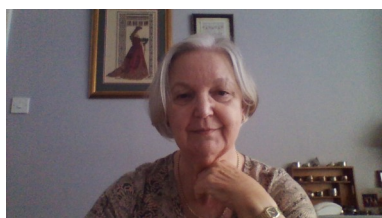


In this issue:

- Purpose of Newsletter
- Message from our Trustee
- What's happening around the Region
- Useful information
- Contact information

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide useful information to our Networks, u3as and their Members within the South West Region.



Message from Trustee for the South West

Hello Everybody,

Exciting times as we are able to start enjoying meeting face-to-face again.

My own u3a had its first Monthly meeting in September and there was a wonderful buzz in the air as friendships were renewed, and it has been the same at the various meetings that I have attended.

Several u3as have held, or are planning, Open days to show case the many and varied Interest Groups that we have to offer and new members are joining and many members who let their membership lapse during the last 18 months are returning.

Next year we celebrate our **40th Anniversary**, 40 years when people who find they have time for themselves have joined together to share their skills and expertise and to learn from others. Lots of Learning, Laughing and Living. As part of the Celebration there is the **Quilt competition**, and I know we have many skillful quilters in the South West so I hope many of you have entered.

There is also the **u3a Wood**, which gives us the possibility of creating a South West Region copse, a **Roundtable Discussion** between members who have belonged for years and some newer members and **u3a Day** on September 21st with celebrations from the Saturday before until the Saturday after, **u3a – a Week of Celebration**.

I hope to be able to meet some of you in the coming months but unfortunately not as many as I would like, fuel, finances, weather and distance all needing to be taken into account.

Take care and enjoy being together again.

Susan

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE REGION

Research & Shared Learning

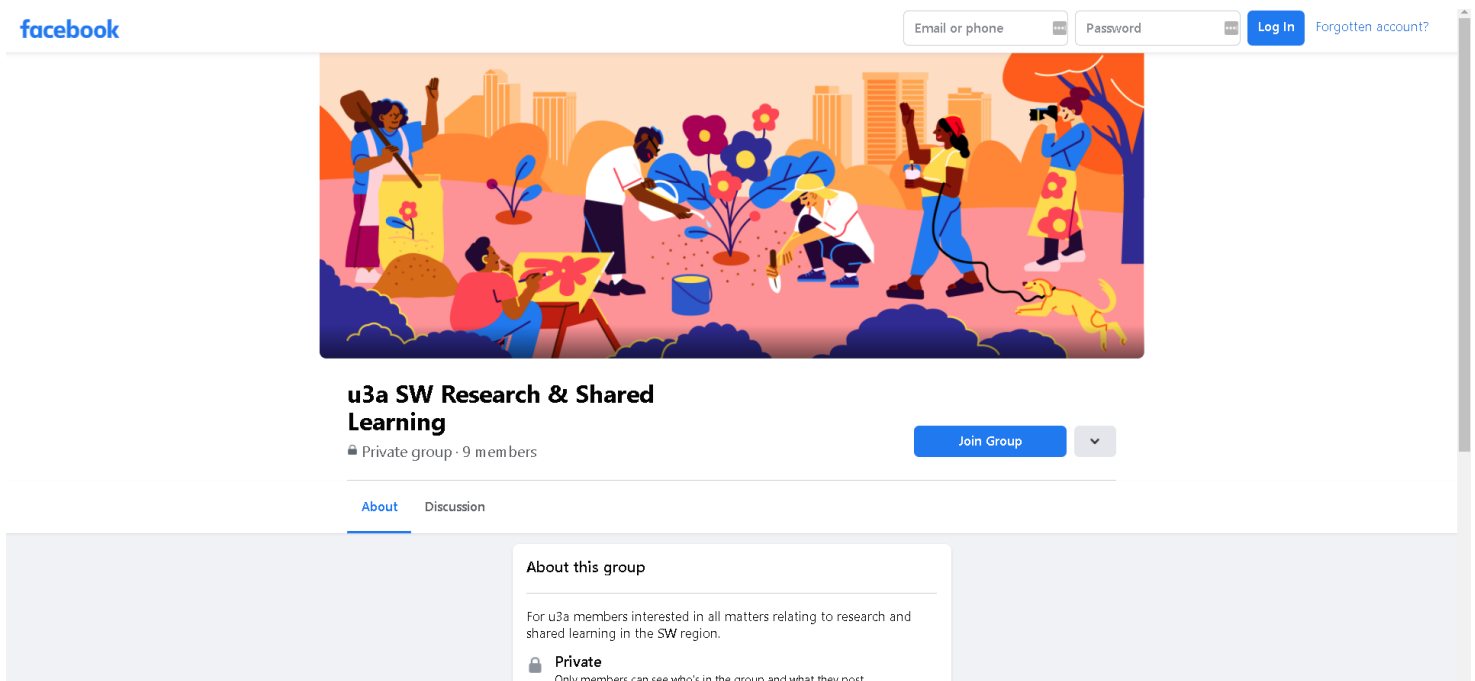
We have recently set up a new Facebook discussion group with the object of promoting all matters relating to research and shared learning in the u3a South West region. It is hoped that anyone with any interest in research or shared learning (or, alternatively, "finding out") will use this as a hub to try ideas out, discuss methods, find out how to do things and what others have done in a non-judgemental way as well as telling others what you have achieved. We are all along the path of pursuing our ideas and no-one knows all the answers! The aim will be to take an informal approach with no specific direction except to be accepting of any question and respectful of members' need to know and share.

The group is administered by Chris Knight, sole Research & Shared Learning Adviser in the SW region (at the moment!).

Please feel free to spread this information far and wide amongst u3a members.

u3a SW Research & Shared Learning: a discussion group on Facebook, click the link to join the 'Private Group'.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/400816764818327/>



The screenshot shows the Facebook interface for the group 'u3a SW Research & Shared Learning'. At the top, there are login fields for 'Email or phone' and 'Password', with 'Log In' and 'Forgotten account?' links. Below this is a colorful illustration of diverse people engaged in various activities like painting, gardening, and photography. The group name 'u3a SW Research & Shared Learning' is prominently displayed, along with the information 'Private group · 9 members' and a 'Join Group' button. Below the group name, there are tabs for 'About' and 'Discussion'. A 'About this group' section is visible, containing the following text: 'For u3a members interested in all matters relating to research and shared learning in the SW region.' and 'Private Only members can see who's in the group and what they post.'

QUILT COMPETITION

Our regional trustee Susan Parker said at a recent meeting for the Networks "what will happen to the sample squares which are not included in the official 40th anniversary quilt"?

A discussion from this included the idea that they may be used for promotional purposes by u3as and it would be a great pity if they were not used, seen and appreciated.



u3a
40th Anniversary

I know mine won't be exhibition quality, but I am happy to share it, I enjoyed designing and making it. It shows that for me u3a is a big pot of wonderful diverse things



Please pass your suggestions about what could be done with the squares which are not to be included, to Susan Parker, email: susan.parker@u3a.org.uk

Frances Berry

Devon Link

For more information on the 40th Anniversary celebrations and Quilt Competition visit: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/40th-anniversary> .

Please note: Any photos of entries for the Quilt Competition, which u3as are happy to share, can be uploaded to the website, please send to [Webmaster](#) .

USEFUL INFORMATION

Hybrid Meetings

Many of you may be aware that u3a Office along with a group of Tech skilled u3a members have been collating and developing resources and information for u3as to run Hybrid Meetings.

This will culminate in a website covering information for running hybrid meetings of different sizes and complexity, How To Guides and short videos, and details of different technology and devices to consider.

As most u3as are getting ready to restart activities before the end of 2021, the need for this information is now and the team will therefore be running drop in sessions that members can come along to via Zoom, to learn about the support that is available and to raise questions and request advice on alternative ways of running u3a meetings.

The remaining sessions will be held every Wednesday lunch time between 13.00–14.00 the link and dates until Jan 26, 2022 are shown below.

Oct 27, 2021	Nov 3, 2021	Nov 10, 2021	Nov 17, 2021
Nov 24, 2021	Dec 1, 2021	Dec 8, 2021	Dec 15, 2021
Dec 22, 2021	Dec 29, 2021	Jan 5, 2022	Jan 12, 2022
Jan 19, 2022	Jan 26, 2022		

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81993153499?
pwd=OHM5eTICS2YxaUdyRIZMcjFLU2tKQTO9](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81993153499?pwd=OHM5eTICS2YxaUdyRIZMcjFLU2tKQTO9)

Meeting ID: 819 9315 3499

Passcode: 754565



CONTACT INFORMATION

Network / Link	Name
Avalon Network	Val Warren
Bath & Wiltshire Network	Gordon Pardy
Bristol, Yate & Sodbury Link	Lindsay Gough
Cotswold Link	Jeremy Furtado
Devon Link	Frances Berry
East Devon Network	June Brown
East Dorset Network	Val Warren
Mid Cornwall	Pippa Boardman
North Devon Link	Gillian Kerr
Northern Somerset Network	Colin Tincknell
Tamar Valley Network	Amanda Smith
Two Moors Network	Malcolm Tulip
Far West Cornwall Network	Linda Wornes
West Dorset Network	Hilary Smith
West Somerset Network	Pamela Young

Contributions for inclusion in the next Newsletter would be most welcome and should be sent to the Editor by 8th December

[SOUTH WEST REGION WEBSITE](#)

Individual u3a/Network contributions are welcome for publication on the South West Region Website and should be sent to the [Webmaster](#) using the link on the contact page.

The members of the editorial team are as follows:

Editor: Malcolm Tulip

Email: malcolm.tulip@googlemail.com

Proof Reader: Marion Clements