



## Souvenir Edition July 2023

### 10th Anniversary Celebration



June was a busy month for our u3a. First we had our 10th AGM, when we celebrated the contribution to the organisation of stalwarts who have been running our u3a for the past 3 years and many more. Members who joined in our first year gathered together, along with Committee members, past and present, and Group Coordinators. Lynn Atkins cut the ribbon on our Anniversary bench, in memory of her husband, Chris Atkins, who became Chair at our first AGM, ten years ago. Lynn was joined by her family and surrounded by friends for this joyful, but very emotional event.



John and Sonia Sewell also joined us. John was Chair for two years and Newsletter editor for over 8 years, and Sonia ran many groups.



Three Chairs on a bench! John Sewell and Jenny Whitley, two previous Chairs, and John Whitley, our current Chair.

These three lovely ladies have made a major contribution to our u3a. They all served on the Committee and went above and beyond in all they did!



Jenny with Linda, Chair of the Trustees of the Centre

The Community Centre (recently renamed The Bridge) has been home to our u3a from our very first meeting and have been wonderfully supportive of us over the years. We would like to thank the Trustees and volunteers and Clara and Judy in the office, for all their help. A special thanks goes to Matt the Caretaker who has always been so helpful and kind to us all.



Lynn's family and u3a friends enjoyed the cream tea.



The display of past events brought back many wonderful memories. 2



Members enjoyed catching up with old friends and reminiscing about the early days.



As ever, we couldn't have done it without volunteers!  
Maggie, Sue and Hilary

## The 2023 AGM

The AGM gave us another opportunity to celebrate in style in our 10th year, with another cream tea and Prosecco!

John Whitley, our Chair, first thanked those Committee members who were standing down.



John paid tribute to June Cooper who served for 6 years as Treasurer. She has managed the finances and developed our accounting into a smooth operation. She leaves us in a sound financial position and she has done it all with a smile on her face!

Jenny congratulated June on becoming a grandma. A job that will probably keep her busier than being treasurer!





Liz Miller was Groups' Coordinator for three years and she was a major force in enabling groups to meet safely again.

John Turner has been our quietly reliable secretary for the last three years.



Maggie Buchi has been a great 'doer' in coordinating social activities and the very successful Xmas party in 2022. She's promised to carry on behind the scenes, so we are already looking forward to next Christmas!



Vic Foote wasn't able to join us for the AGM, so the presentation was made to him by Lynn Peck and John Turner at the How things Work Group, of which he is a leading light.

At the AGM John Whitley thanked Vic for his enthusiasm and geniality as Chair, and the significant contribution that he made as Membership Secretary, and as Vice Chair.

## New Committee 23/24

Chair: John Whitley, Vice Chair: Liz Christian, Secretary: Gill May, Treasurer: Hanlie Croeser.

Committee Members: Groups Support Team Leader: Lynn Peck, Membership Secretary: Tom Gateley, Newsletter Editor: Jenny Whitley.

Hilary Harris and Chris Benson providing support in several ways.

We have a prospective Committee Member visiting our next meeting, but that still leaves us with one vacancy, if you'd like to join.



Lynn Peck and husband Stephen went to a very special celebration. They were invited to the Royal Garden party where they met royalty, including the Duke of Edinburgh.

Here they are looking wonderful outside Buckingham Palace.

**Many thanks to Jim Bunting who took the photos for us at both events. I'm sure you'll agree that they are excellent!**

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Send articles for the Newsletter to [jenny@whitleyonseasite.net](mailto:jenny@whitleyonseasite.net)

**The next Edition will be the Groups' Special. Please send in a few sentences and a photo, if you can, to tell us what your group is up to.**

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