

Shepton Mallet u3a

Chair's Report

This last year has proved difficult for many. Our last AGM was marked by hostile influences but we did manage to form a committee. Because of constitution requirements Janet Sherwin could not continue her excellent work as Chair, and in the absence of any other contenders, I took the role. I have to say that if the change appears seamless it's because Janet has very kindly taken the bulk of responsibilities, and in the light of ill health on my part, I can only express my heartfelt gratitude.

We were very fortunate to appoint Denise Bailey as Treasurer, after the sterling work of Jane Burman, and Jenny Short as our new secretary. Jenny has proved herself to be extremely efficient, despite Jim Morrison's AI suggestions! It is with great sadness that I have to tell you that Jenny received a very sudden diagnosis of cancer, and is now in Torrwood Nursing Home, very poorly.

Our thoughts are with her and also with Josh Hartley – also diagnosed with cancer and also unwell. Josh has been an efficient Membership Secretary.

I have felt very grateful to all our committee members, without whom the Shepton Mallet u3a could not function.

Our membership numbers have reached 183 and counting and our groups continue to flourish. The camaraderie and enjoyment our various activities bring is a real joy, and very important for our well being.

The Speaker Meetings continue to impress and thanks to Jane and Jim Morrison who provide a wide variety of informative and fascinating subjects.

Trips and visits have played an important part of our u3a make up, despite the very hot weather, and also under Janet Sherwin's care the newsletter has gone from strength to strength.

Collett Park Day was an undoubted success with 8 new recruits, and a lot of happy visitors.

My thanks and good wishes go to our prospective new committee, with special thanks to present committee members who are stepping down and to all those who support events, making tea and coffee and helping in so many ways.

I hope you continue to enjoy Shepton Mallet u3a and I thank you all for coming today.

Tina King, SMu3a Chair