

## 2016 Chairman's comments PRECIS

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Here I am again to give you a very quick summary of the last year in your U3A. It was a peaceful year for us, no disasters, no emergencies.

The committee gained two people but sadly we lost Joan, who died this Summer. She will be missed.

The 2 new members are Chris Boothroyd who is our publicity secretary, and Shane Ridley, she is there to support our efforts to modernise our bureaucracy.

Mentioned the following:

The West Dorset Network Meeting held in Lyme earlier this year.

We have followed through John Bartholomews idea from last year of emailing the quarterly Newsletter to simplify the process, and most likely reduce the cost.

We are on the way to joining up with "Beacon", a system set up by National U3A for the local U3As to use for administration. We expect start using it early Summer 2017.

Thank you to everyone who has worked through the year so that you can all enjoy this U3A:

The **committee**

We have had **working group leaders** - We are offering them a bottle of wine to show our appreciation.

Noted: that new groups are opening as some are closing

47 groups, 10 were language groups, many are following special interests, 8 groups take exercise and two have been set up as social groups. A wide choice of activities.

The **trips that are organised**, either by groups or by John to get us to cultural events – usually in a theatre. His best one this year was a 4 night trip to Edinburgh Festival

The **helpers at the meetings**, Angela who checks at the door and all of you who make the teas and clear up as well.

The volunteers who **have written summaries** of the monthly talks.

We must also thank all those people who **used to deliver the News Letters**

Another part of our communications is the web site in **Whatsoninlyme**

All this for £12 a year.

Infact NEXT year it will be free – because there is enough money in the kitty. Next year we will still have to pay the **capitation for each of you, and pay for the Third Age Matters Journal, and there may be a new small charge for use of Beacon..**

Our only income will be a half price charge for new members (National U3A says we can only give free year to people who have put money into the kitty) and Mary and Mike are claiming our gift aid money from the government.

In the future: We are looking to a **quiz FRI Dec 9<sup>th</sup>** – 11.00 for 11.30 -3.00pm  
TICKET ONLY – can collect them after this, no money today.... We are charging £3 to enter the quiz – pay at the door.