

## Sheffield u3a Shared Learning & Research Projects (SLRP) 2021 Annual Report

**Members:** Samina Aslam, Philip Long, Denise West, Martin Harvey, Helen Brown, Veronica Wigley

**Summary:** Two new members joined the team, Helen Brown and Veronica Wigley, bringing fresh views and ideas. Philip Long took a sabbatical from the group due to his other duties as Su3a Chair. A number of project meetings have been held in person, around Covid guidelines however many projects, as well as all the team meetings, have continued with online participation. The team was asked to support the EC with Su3a's environmental policy and have also prepared a questionnaire to research our members e.g. what made them join us. However the team's remit continues to be to highlight and coordinate projects from other organisations which offer Shared Learning or Research opportunities to our members. Our website continues to be reviewed to ensure it is as "user friendly" as possible with very able support again from Elaine Burtoft.

Shared Learning projects declined in 2021 as a number of projects were closed due to lack of participation, interest or projects reaching their end of life. However Su3a and HELSI agreed to a partnership going forward which was publicised locally and nationally. National Office are looking at "Push Back Ageism" project however though one meeting was attended by Denise West, nothing else has been forthcoming and the team decided on a "wait and see" policy before pursuing this any further.

Research projects have generally held steady with the South Yorkshire Heritage List (SYHL) and the national High Street Project the most prominent. Of the four u3as invited to join the SYHL project only Sheffield are participating, with members involved independently. The High Street continues to be led by Martin Harvey with close liaison with National Office. There have been fewer in person student research requests for the Drop Ins

The team have also been looking at other areas which may lead to interesting projects for our members. We were too late with "green issues" in conjunction with local schools; contacts have been with Sheffield Carers for potential research projects as well as exploring Zooniverse, Wessex Archaeology project amongst many others

The team continues to notify National Office of completed projects and no Sheffield u3a money has been spent from the historical provisional offer of £150 from the EC (note: this is not money we have received but money that we have been allocated for promotions, sponsorship etc.)

Samina Aslam will leave the team in March 2022

	Shared Learning	Research
Total investigated	11	10
Successfully Completed	1	3
On Hold	2	-
Active	2	7
Not successful (not enough time/ unsuitable etc)	6	-