

## Vacancies for 2018

Do you feel passionate about our U3A? Do you want to become more involved, meet new people who feel equally passionate about our organisation? Sheffield U3A Executive Committee (EC) has several vacancies next year, so why not come and join us or at least pick up the phone and give us a call? Your involvement really matters; you bring new ideas and different perspectives to our organisation without which SU3A would become stale and stagnant

All applicants will be taken through the roles on a one-to-one basis and can shadow existing members for several months, no-one gets thrown in at the deep end!

### Vacancy - Chair of Sheffield U3A

#### Who and What is the Chair of SU3A?

I'm Samina and I joined the Executive Committee a year after joining SU3A, becoming the Chair in 2015 and have never regretted either decision.

The Chair is not an all-powerful figure sitting above the membership making very important decisions on a daily or weekly basis ... delusions of grandeur or what! The Chair is an officer of SU3A who, along with the other officers and EC members, helps to support the running of our organisation. Why did I join? I felt that I could offer something back to this great organisation of ours. I get a lot out of SU3A and wanted to give a little something back and the role didn't appear to be difficult or time-consuming, so I thought why not give it a try.

**What do I do?** I lead a meeting of the EC every two months at which any matters raised by the membership or the National and Regional Offices are discussed and collective decisions are taken ... I don't make a decision on my own! Occasionally, matters raised can be time sensitive so these are discussed via email. Many matters raised are passed onto non-EC Officers/teams, e.g. General Coordinators if it is a group query. The EC has a rota to attend the monthly Drop-Ins, though I do like to go more frequently. I represent SU3A once a year at the National AGM and our Regional AGM and get to meet other Chairs and compare ideas.

**Who Supports me?** My fellow EC Officers. I have also called upon previous Chairs and EC members to share their expertise to address certain questions. All EC members are supported by National and Regional Offices.

**How much time does it take?** Approximately 2-4 hours per week, subject to any forthcoming meetings or events. I spend more time on my voluntary work outside of SU3A!

**What have I got out of it?** I still feel useful, I've met loads of new people and made many new friends, learned new things and the marvellous opportunity to speak to other U3As and see how they work.

**Skills required?** Common sense, ability to listen to people, be comfortable using internet, email and word documents.

So where's the difficult bit you may ask? Well, when you find it do let me know! If you are interested or want more details please give me a call or drop me an email.

Samina Aslam

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