SiteWorks Newsletter February 2025

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This newsletter is distributed to SiteWorks Web Managers (WMs) registered with us and a second contact we call Assistant WMs. Please pass this on to all your site's WordPress users and others who contribute content.

How we contact you

We have a form where sites can register up to two contacts. The form, linked from the homepage of https://siteworks.u3a.org.uk, should also be used to keep us updated about changes. We store this information on Beacon, the Trust's membership management system for u3as that crucially supports bulk email distribution.

We use these contacts for all communication, including this newsletter and occasional operational 'be aware' notices, such as the rollout of a new release of WordPress.

Drop-in sessions – now once a fortnight

These are informal Q&A sessions aimed at anyone new to SiteWorks/WordPress or just a bit rusty. SiteWorks Admins, Editors, and Authors of your site are welcome—please pass on the invite.

We will move these sessions to once a **fortnight** starting Monday, 3rd March, 17th March, etc.

Mondays 3 pm Support Zoom Drop-In for Web Managers

Zoom link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85965821858?pwd=RkYxROwzamdkdUNwSHNJSEd4OXlpUT09

Meeting ID: 859 6582 1858   Passcode: 2iRjs5

How to tips

On the website **Web Manager > 'How to' articles** are a collection of short articles covering technical questions we are often asked. They range from how to merge blocks or resize columns to an article on pages vs posts. Do check it out.

Change Board update

A few minor bugs and features are being finalized and will be released shortly. These include the resolution of an issue relating to how events are sorted for display. The next release of WordPress itself is due on April 15, and we will publish more details when we have them.
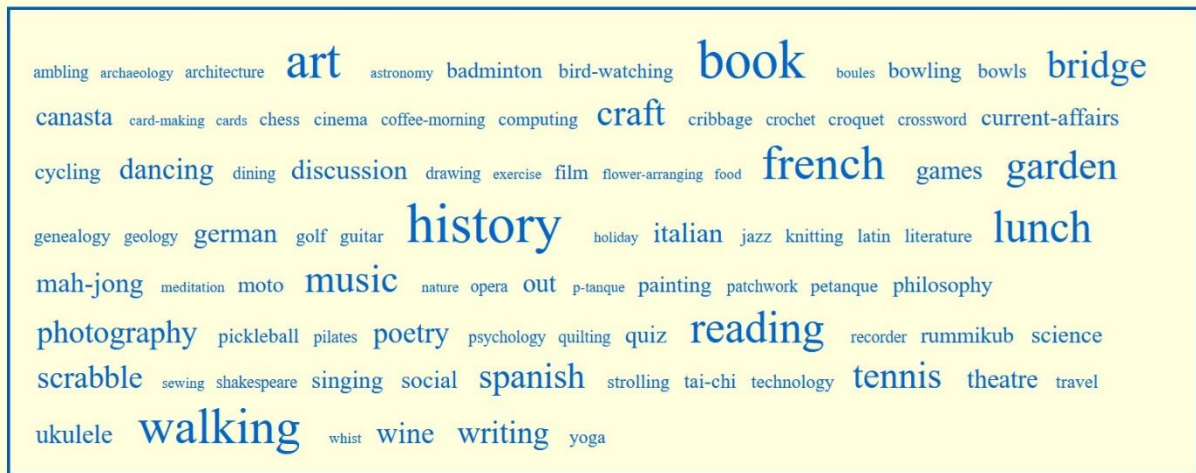
Oversights

One impressive Site Builder feature is the oversight facility to browse and search groups and events in nearby or nationwide u3as. The Trust uses it extensively to answer queries such as "Is there a Spanish group near me?"

The SiteWorks developers are in the final stages of developing a replacement. In the interim, the Site Builder team has done a great job extending their work to incorporate all SiteWorks sites. Below is the name tag cloud of all the groups across some 700 sites. You can find Oversights here https://u3asites.org.uk/oversights/groups

Group Name Tag Cloud

ambling archaeology architecture art astronomy badminton bird-watching book boules bowling bowls bridge canasta card-making cards chess cinema coffee-morning computing craft cribbage crochet croquet crossword current-affairs cycling dancing dining discussion drawing exercise film flower-arranging food french games garden genealogy geology german golf guitar history holiday italian jazz knitting latin literature lunch mah-jong meditation moto music nature opera out p-tanque painting patchwork petanque philosophy photography pickleball pilates poetry psychology quilting quiz reading recorder rummikub science scrabble sewing shakespeare singing social spanish strolling tai-chi technology tennis theatre travel ukulele walking whist wine writing yoga

Web Manager role

New on our website, we have pulled together the elements of running a website and the role of a Web Manager into a document on https://siteworks.u3a.org.uk menu **Web Manager > New Web Managers > Web Manager Role Description**

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SiteWorks Team

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