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From u3a creative writing competition to writing contract

As the u3a creative writing competition opens for a third year, u3a member Lynne shares her story of success.

For Crediton u3a member Lynne, winning the u3a Creative Writing Competition was the beginning of a new part-time writing career.

Lynne was shortlisted in the 2020 competition before winning in 2021, both of which boosted her confidence to pursue other writing opportunities. Lynne says, "I would urge anyone thinking about entering to go for it. As long as you like what you've written, and you're proud of it, that's all that counts.

"It may be that the judges love it, maybe they don't, but even sending your own story off is really quite thrilling. It was a wonderful experience for me and has opened so many doors."

Lynne's story was published in members' magazine, *Third Age Matters*, which encouraged her to submit her stories to other magazines. She now has a writing contract to have stories regularly published in *The People's Friend*.

The u3a creative writing competition is in partnership with Bloomsbury and searches for the best short story written by a u3a member. The theme for 2022 is "Opening(s)" and submissions close on 16 June 2022. Find out more and enter now on [our learning pages](#).

You can also sign up for u3a's special event [How to Get Published: Some Practical Advice](#) with Alysoun Owen, Editor of bestseller *Writers' & Artists' Yearbook*

There's a world of new experiences waiting for you at u3a - [join us now](#).