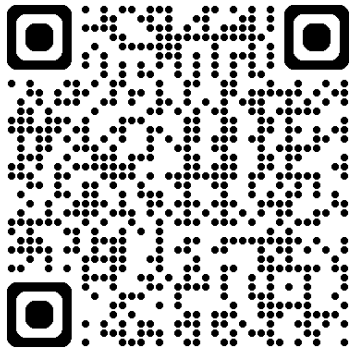


Research Culture Week

23 - 26 March 2026

Celebrating research culture through a programme of engaging events hosted by colleagues from across the university.

Everyone is welcome.....come along and be part of the conversation!



Find out more and sign up to events.





University of Warwick Press

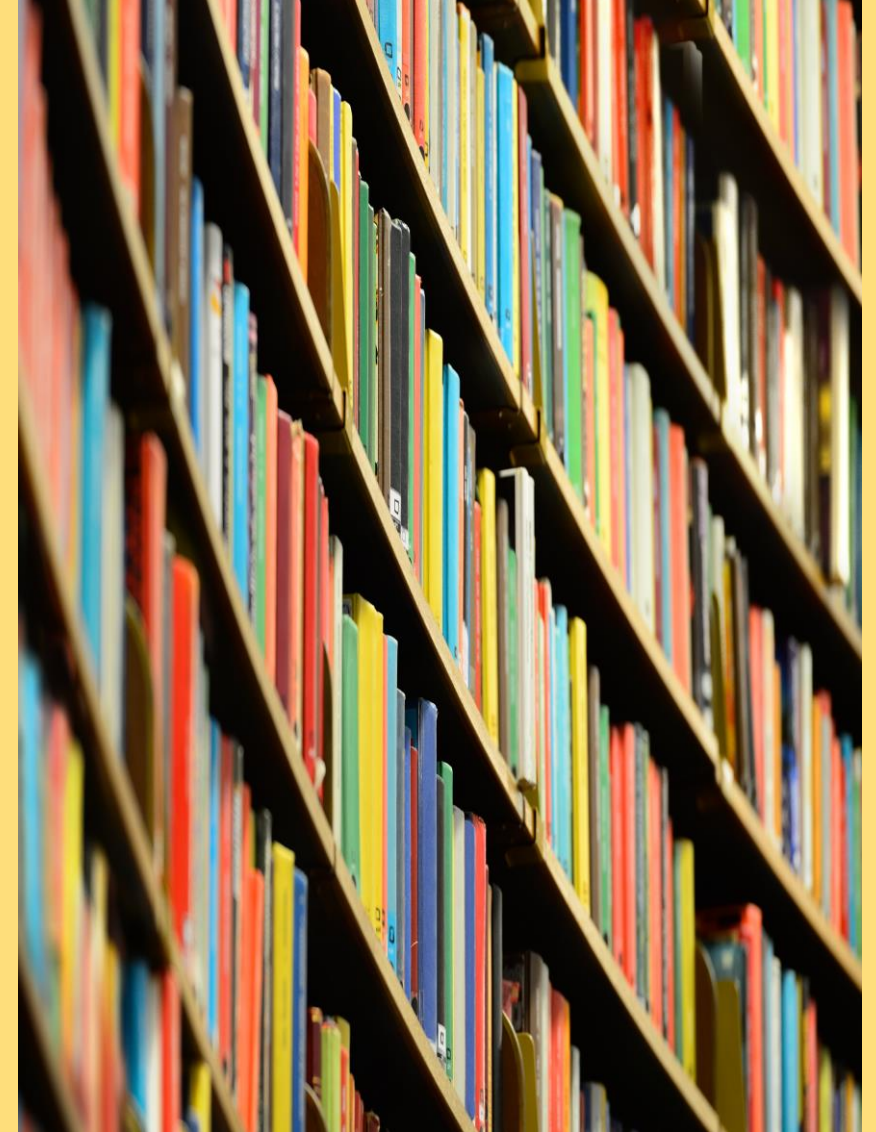
Pressing Onwards:

Evolving the University of Warwick Press

Dr Gaz (Gareth) J Johnson
Manager, University Press
25th March 2026

Bluesky: [@UoWPress](#) 
Email: gareth.johnson@warwick.ac.uk
universitypress@warwick.ac.uk

**UNIVERSITY
OF WARWICK**



Personal Context

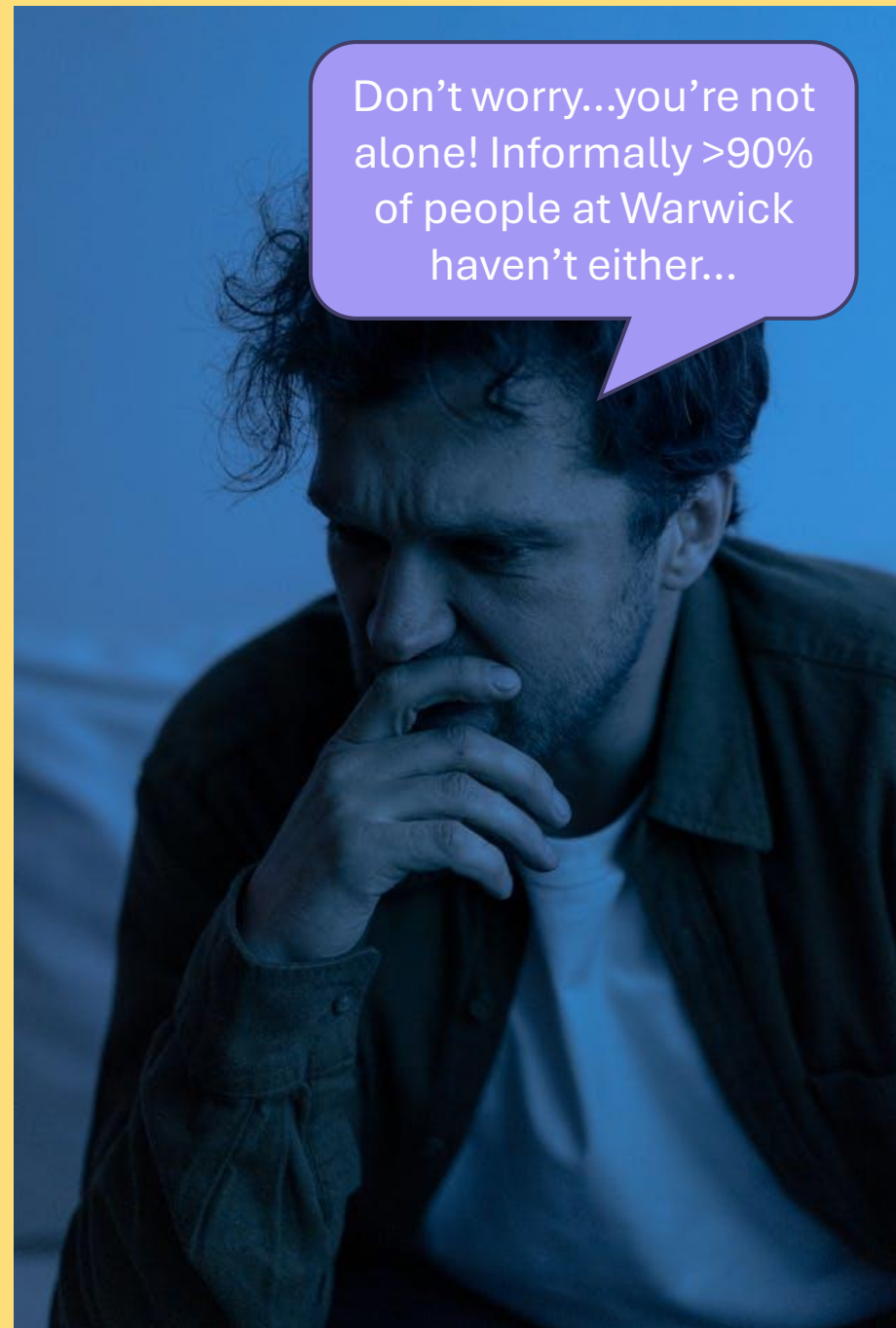
- Currently: University Press Manager
 - Head of University of Warwick Press
 - Consultative, developmental role
 - OIPA Committee Member
- Editor-in-Chief Exchanges ('18-'25)
 - Interdisciplinary research journal
 - Diamond (no-fee) open access model
 - Dissemination & early career focus
- Past lives
 - Doctorate Culture & Social Theory
 - Former Biomedical Scientist & Librarian



Have you ever heard of us...?



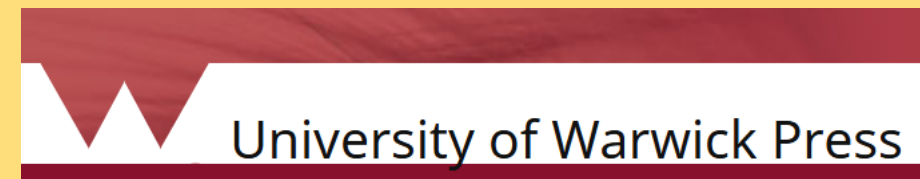
Don't worry...you're not alone! Informally >90% of people at Warwick haven't either...



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What is...University of Warwick Press?

- Established as traditional press 1964
- Re-established last decade
 - Library-led open-access (no fee) publishing project supporting digital only publishing
- Two Sites – Books & Journals
 - Hosts 10 active research journals run by depts or groups of scholars (mostly Warwick based)
 - Plus 23 ‘books’ including reports, practitioner guides, proceedings, short-form publications
- Organically created
 - Not strategically developed or curated
 - Cross disciplinary spread – stronger in SS & AH



Current Mission & Scope

Dedicated to Supporting
OA Principles & Practices

Digital global
dissemination

CC-BY standard
licence

Author rights
retention

Diamond (no fee)
OA

Aims to Ensure Quality

Regardless of
format

Encourages
rigorous peer-
review

Developing
community of
practice

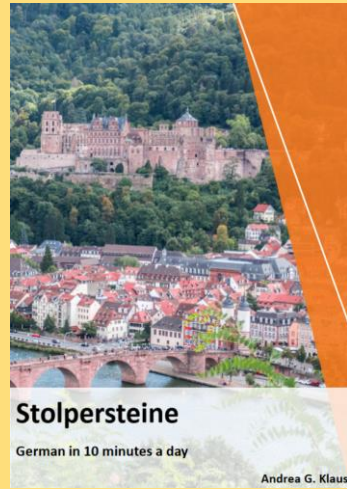
Seeks to Support
Innovation in Publishing

Enables open
review

Open to non-
traditional
projects

Node of advice,
insight & expertise

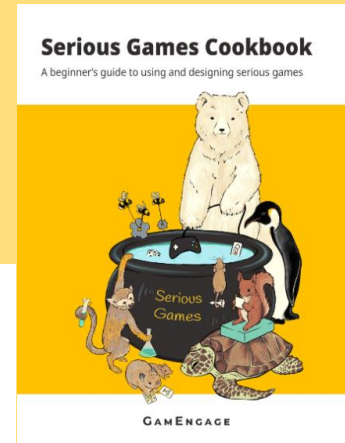
Top Books: 2025



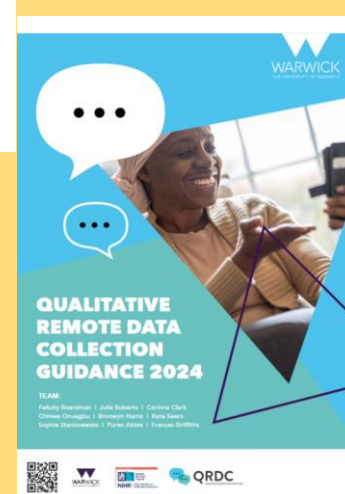
Stolpersteine
German in 10 minutes a day
Andrea G. Klaus



WARWICK
UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on Hospices (ICoH)
Senior Management Cohort and Grey Evidence Report
Authors
Dr Joanna Fleming, Senior Research Fellow, University of Warwick
Dr Aidan Grogan, Research Fellow, University of Warwick
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Shane van Lagen-Dijk, Marie Curie Policy and Public Affairs Officer
Ruth Orsini, Marie Curie Head of Policy and Public Affairs, England
Professor Ramin Orsini, Professor, University of Northampton
Professor Jeremy Dale, Professor of Primary Care, University of Warwick
Lynn Tansell, Patient and Public Involvement representative
Lesley Roberts, Patient and Public Involvement representative
Dr John Mackenzie, Marie Curie Senior Research Fellow, University of Warwick
Corresponding author: John Mackenzie jm201@warwick.ac.uk
Please use the following for the this report:
Fleming, J., Grogan, A., Grimley, C., Masson, H., Maynard, C.A., Mitchell, S., van Lagen-Dijk, S., Orsini, R., Orsini, R., Dale, J., Tansell, L., Roberts, L., Mackenzie, J. (2022) Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on Hospices (ICoH) Senior Management Cohort and Grey Evidence Report. University of Warwick Press. Coventry. doi: 10.31773/978-0-914175-05-1
<https://doi.org/10.31773/978-0-914175-05-1>
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WARWICK UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
University of Warwick
Mertonshire UH
Research Council



Serious Games Cookbook
A beginner's guide to using and designing serious games
GAMENGAGE



WARWICK
UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
QUALITATIVE
REMOTE DATA
COLLECTION
GUIDANCE 2024
TEAM
Felicity Boardman | Julia Roberts | Carolina Clark
Christine Christophel | Rosemary Morris | Sara Searcy
Sophie Strömbergsson | Parker Wilson | Professor Collins
WARWICK UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
QRDC

1. Andrea G. Klaus (2019) [Stolpersteine: German in 10 minutes a day](#)
2. Matthew Whitby et al., (2024) [Serious Games Cookbook: A beginner's guide to using and designing serious games](#)
3. Joanna Fleming et al., (2022) [Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on Hospices \(ICoH\): Senior Management Cohort and Grey Evidence Report](#)
4. Felicity Boardman (2024) [Qualitative Remote Data Collection Guidance 2024](#)
5. Karen Brandon et al., (2017) [Understanding Happiness: A CAGE Policy Report](#)

UWP Journals

- Alternatuas
- BALEAP: Journal of Research & Practice
- ELTED: English Language Teacher Education and Development*
- Exchanges: The Interdisciplinary Research Journal
- Feminist Dissent
- The Journal of Law, Social Justice & Global Development
- Journal of PGR Pedagogic Practice
- Plí: The Warwick Journal of Philosophy
- Polisemie: Rivista di poesia iper-contemporanea
- Reinvention: An International Journal of Undergraduate Research
- Transdisciplinary Journal of Children and Families***
- Warwick Journal of Education - Transforming Teaching**

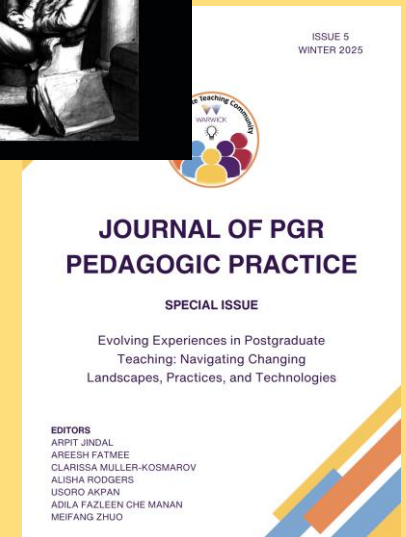
*closing

**relaunching

***launching later in '26



Yes, these skew to AHSS...again

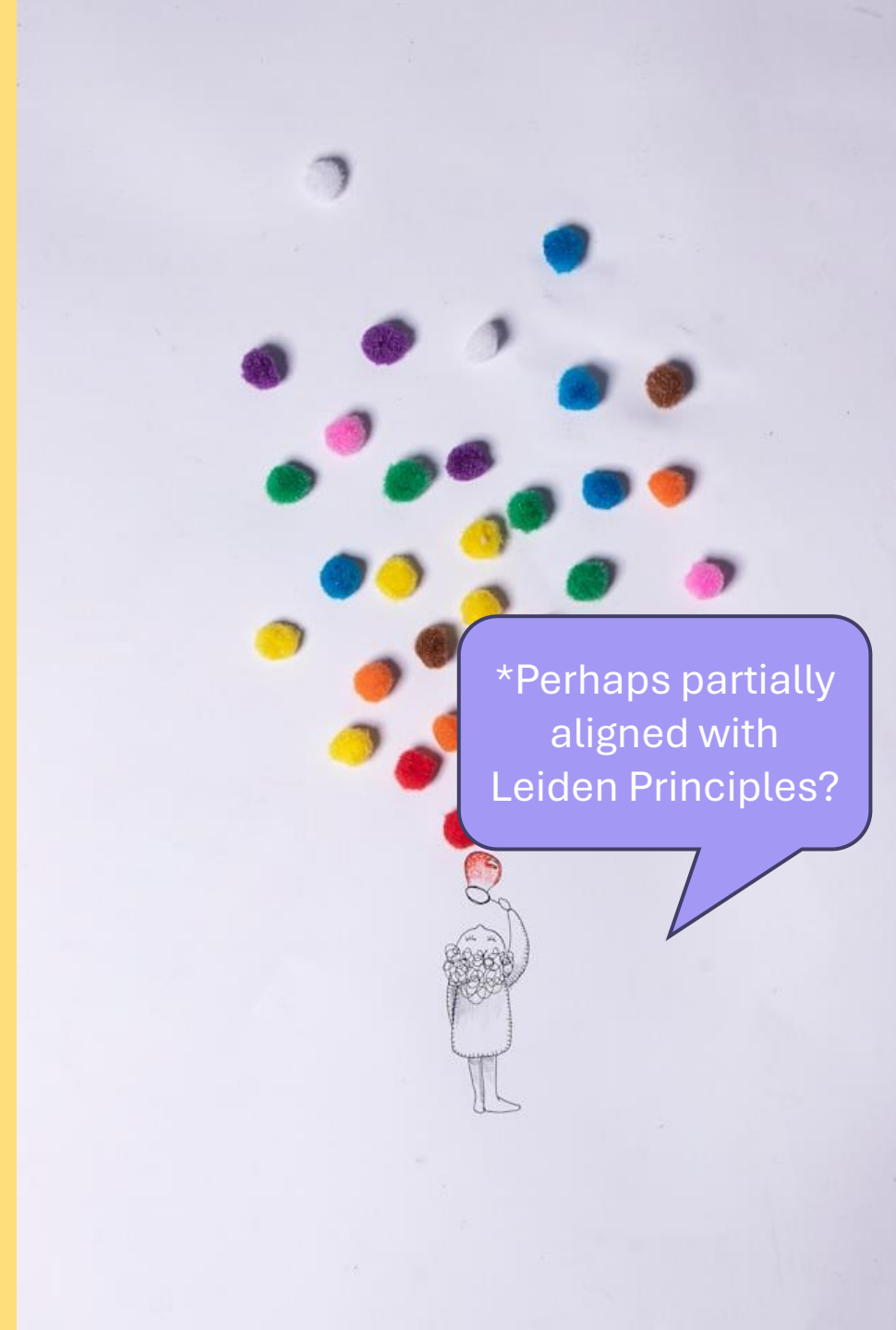


Rationale & Review



Press(es) Rationale*

- **Economic**
 - Managing subscription and book costs
 - Enabling sustainable OA models
 - Generating (potential) modest revenues
 - In-kind institution value
- **Ideological**
 - Commitment to a public good & open knowledge practices
 - Enabling diversity of voices
 - Supporting fields poorly served by commercial publishing
 - Countering commercial hegemony
- **Pragmatic**
 - Helping researchers meet funder OA requirements
 - Giving scholars trusted venues
 - Enabling flexible digital formats for contemporary research practices



The Challenging Press: Drivers

- Perceptions & concerns
 - Hosted journal concerns over support, visibility, marketing
 - Staffing, visibility, value & adoption
 - Scalability, sustainability, agility & adaptability
 - Not meeting its potential contrasted with other NUPs
- Funded scoping study '22-23
 - Explored revival of 'new university presses'
 - Made broad proposals for improvements
 - Staffing shortfall - 'make things happen'
- Active review project recommended



The Challenging Press: Action

- Community survey (Jan '25)
 - 100 respondents
 - ~2/3 in favour of NUP conceptually
 - ...some *strong* counterpoints though
- Community workshop (June '25)
 - Demonstrated enthusiasm but lack of focus
 - Myriad of potential 'ideas' although questionable feasibility
- Funding for Press Manager sought
 - Staffing approval proposal (2024)
 - Press Manager appointed (Summer '25)
- Project timescales (Sept '25-Sept '26)



Some Early Questions



Press FOR
or AT
Warwick?

Why/how did
other NUPs
fail?

Disciplinary
focus(es)?

What does
'success' look
like?

How did our
peers do it?

Who *are* our
peer
presses?

Inhouse or
outsourced?

How visible
is UWP?

Journal
creation or
flipping?

What is our
publishing
capacity?

Best book
formats?

What
resourcing
models exist?

What does
this cost?

What *could*
we publish?

Digital-only,
first &/or in-
print?

Do we have
champions?

What does
'Warwick'
think?

Lean vs
Modest vs
Aspirational?

How best to
re-establish
prestige?

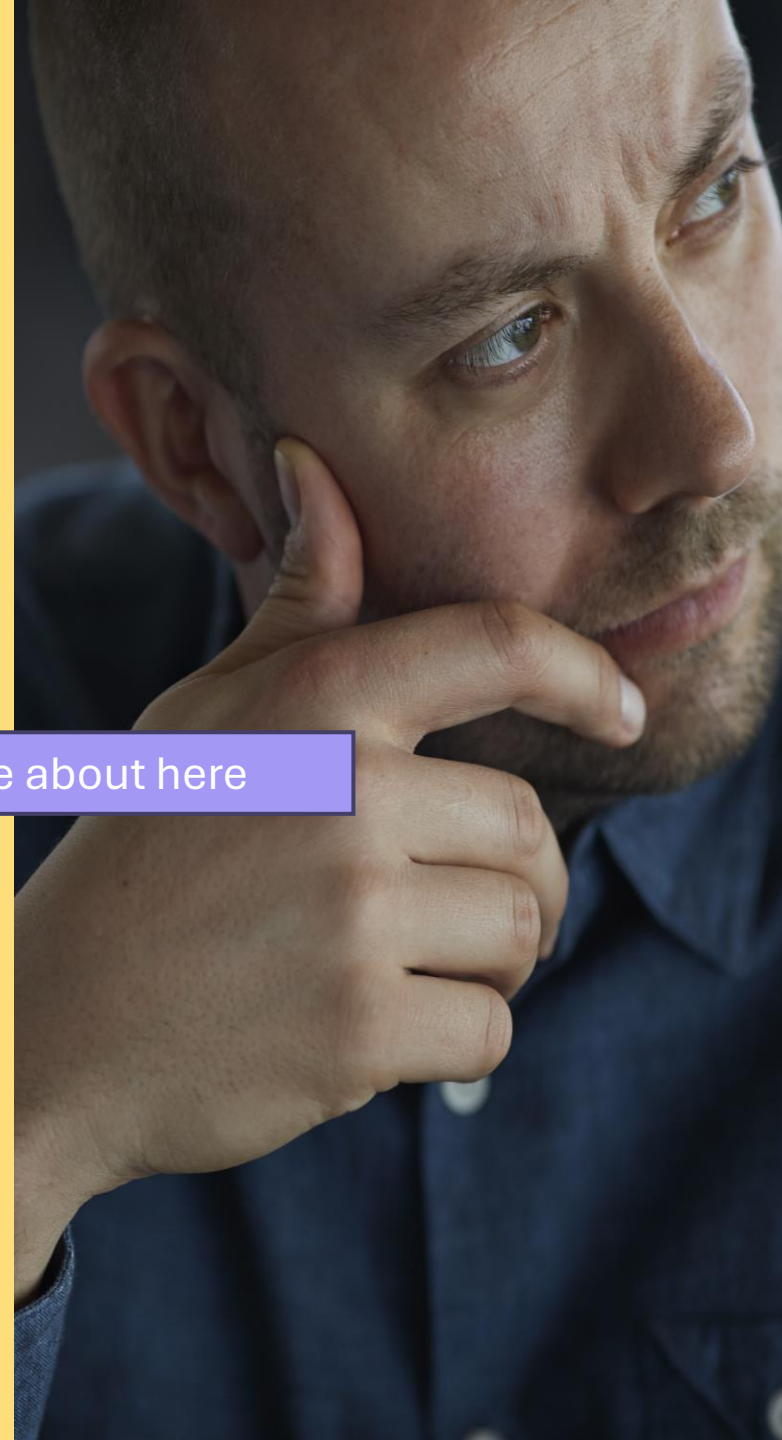
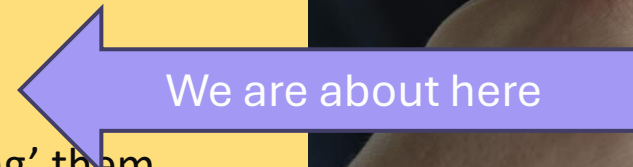
What *should*
we publish?

What staff
might we
need?

What should
we *stop*
doing?

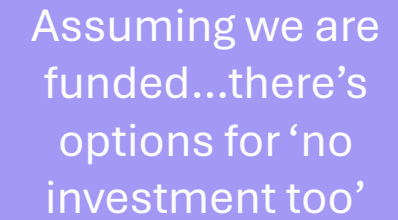
Strategic Review: Phases

- **Phase 1: Landscape**
 - Understanding how other NUPs succeed
 - 14 other presses interviewed
- **Phase 2: Stakeholders**
 - What do local academics think?
 - Where are the publishing opportunities?
 - Who are our champions?
- **Phase 3: Modelling**
 - Establishing potential models & 'stress testing' them
- **Phase 4: Governance & Refinement**
 - Establishing proto-editorial board & increasing buy-in
 - Drafting of final documentation & outputs
- **Phase 5: Close Down**
 - Reports, recommendations, next steps...



Strategic Review: Activities

- Project goals to create
 - **Business plan:** Options, resource, costs and recommendations
 - **Implementation plan:** Guide to introducing Press 2.0
 - **Project plan:** Setting operational agenda for the next 5 years
- Ethnographic data-driven methods
 - Community (stakeholder) conversations/engagement
 - Alignment, ideas, opportunities, synergies, possibilities
 - Champions & roads best not travelled...
- Fringe benefits
 - Professionalisation of processes, procedures & policies
 - Seeking better alignment to Warwick's goals
 - Raising community awareness of OA publishing alternatives



Assuming we are funded...there's options for 'no investment too'

NUP Landscape



New University Presses: Landscape

- ~30 ‘new university presses’ in the UK
 - Similar open-access, digital first, scholar/community-led
 - Global movement, contrast with long established UPs & commercial presses
- No ‘secret sauce’ for configuration
 - Staffing, funding, sales & focus vary considerably
 - Counter-commercial ethos common
 - Diamond-OA (journals) with discounted or subsidised fees (books)
- Often Library-led, initiated or adjacent
 - Developmental & researcher support
 - Author-centric publishing culture

New University Presses: Landscape

- Staff numbers range widely
 - Commonly 'lean' – but notable outliers
 - Varied library, academic & commercial publishing backgrounds
- Core focus on books and journals
 - Collected editions, series, textbooks & shortform too
 - Outsourcing of copyediting, typesetting, production & sales/physical distribution aspects common
 - POD (print on demand) usually, rather than holding extensive stock runs
- Strong collegiality & community
 - Adjacent projects exploring options for sustainability
 - Working to scale not a priority
 - Experimental publishing discussions

New University Presses: A Selection

BPC/APC – Book/Article Processing Charge (fee)

Press	Staff	Publishing	BPC/APC	Print Sales
Bristol	50+	Books, Textbooks, Journals	£5.5-8k No fee	Yes (outsourced)
LSE	7	Books, Journals	Yes*** No fee	Yes (outsourced)
Huddersfield	1	Books, Journals, Music*	Yes*** No fees	Yes (outsourced)
Scottish Universities	3	Books, Journals**	£3.5-7.5k ~£0**	Yes (outsourced)
UCL	13	Books, Textbooks, Journals	N/a or £5.5-10.5k No fees	Yes (outsourced)
University of London (UoL Press)	8	Shortform, Books, Journals	£4.5-6k No fees	Yes (outsourced)
White Rose (Leeds, Sheffield, York)	3	Books, Journals	£7k £0-750	Yes (in house)

19 *previously, discontinued

**launching in '26

***Unconfirmed, but lower than commercial

New University Presses: Some Challenges

Achieving & Reflecting
Institutional Alignment

Reaching Local &
External Visibility

Countering Subaltern
Esteem Perceptions

Encountering
Disengagement &
Limited Buy In

Maintaining
Sustainability &
Sufficient Resource

Ensuring Originality &
Quality

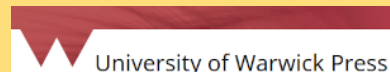
Managing Inflated
Expectations

Maintaining Content &
Publications Pipeline

Demonstrating
Institutional Value



Open Institutional Publishing Association



A community of practice for open institutional publishers in the UK, driving change in academic publishing

WHO WE ARE:

- 'New' university presses, library publishers, open journal services
- Not-for-profit open access publishing, mission-driven
- Affiliated with institutions

WHAT WE DO:

- Share information, 'best practice', training on open access publishing
- Build partnerships with others in the wider OA and scholarly comms communities
- Advocate for the expertise and value of institutional open access publishing

Find out more:

www.oipauk.org / [@oipassoc.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/oipassoc)

Community Engagement



Community Conversations



Interview (Session) Totals



■ Academics ■ Professionals

E(individual/groups approached): 123*
n (groups(individuals)): 57 (64)
(research active ~6,000)

Community Conversations: Early Perceptions

- Press awareness uniformly low
 - Considerable interest uncovered with a surprising range of opportunities & even some outline pitches & proposals
 - Keeness for greater academic engagement & involvement
- A plethora of potential formats
 - Research monographs limited local contributor appeal but short-forms more desirable.
 - Moderate interest in print, & support/collaboration desires for more experimental publishing endeavours too
- Disciplinary differences apparent
 - Press possibilities & 'buy-in' greater for some fields than others
 - Appetites for developmental opportunities (writing, editing, publishing, rights management etc.,) do exist
- Publishing excellence imperative
 - Scholars Q1/Q2 routes driver for 'REFable' content a key tension
 - Questions around facilitating what we 'can' over what we 'could or should' publish
 - Costs & poor-experiences with commercial publishing routes a concern...& Press opportunity

Where Next...

Drawing out community
comments & insights

Modelling Options &
Community Testing

Refining & Augmenting,
Business Case & Plans

Prototyping
Governance Structures

Continuing to Listen &
Learn...



Communications & News

- **Announcements**
(occasionally updated)
- **Bluesky** (weekly updates & insights)
- **Newsletter** (bi-monthly news & opportunities)

- publishing.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/uwp/announcement
- *@UoWPress*
bsky.app/profile/uowpress.bsky.social



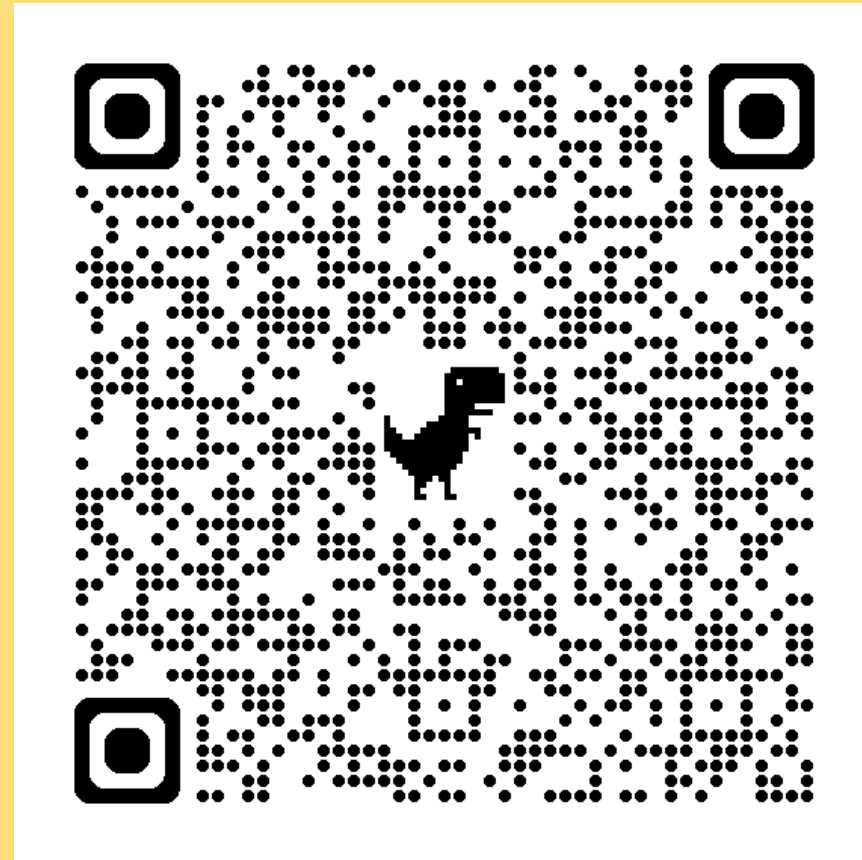
Newsletter: Subscribe & archive

Pressing Onwards: *Attendance & Feedback*



We value your feedback:

Please confirm your attendance & provide feedback by following the QR code





University of Warwick Press

Pressing Onwards:

Evolving the University of Warwick Press

Dr Gaz (Gareth) J Johnson
Manager, University Press
25th March 2026

Bluesky: [@UoWPress](#) 
Email: gareth.johnson@warwick.ac.uk
universitypress@warwick.ac.uk

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