

# Together We Are Better:

## User Group why and how

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### Why and who?

#### Why do I need others?

- It can get lonely when you're the sole champion.
- A different perspective is helpful.
- Crowd-sourcing knowledge/pool resources.
- Work collaboratively on shared projects.

**MUGSE** (aka Mahara User Group for Southern England)

- Formed after 2014 Mahara UK Conf.
- 3 meetings (so far).
- Display & discuss format.

@mugseUK

#### Mahara User Groups (MUG)



### Starting a User Group

#### Step 1:

- Find others interested in a user group.
- Decide how you want the group to work.

#### Step 2:

- Utilise existing groups (e.g. VLE).
- Post on message boards, mailing lists, Facebook and Twitter.
- Advertise in relevant newsletters.

#### Step 3:

- Find a suitable space.
- Have initial meeting.
- Take notes (see step 4).
- Discuss future of the group. (The aim here is not to run a dictatorship! See what works best for others and collaborate).

#### Step 4: (aka use your notes!!!)

- Blog about meetings.
- Present at conferences.

**Warning!** Be prepared to start small and grow.