

## **Chair's Report 2025-26**

It gives me pleasure to open my report by noting that a year on from the last AGM, Bridgnorth and District u3a remains in a good position with a growing membership.

Our established Greet and Meet sessions at The Crown in town, monthly Speaker Meetings at the Low Town Community Hall, where we have welcomed a range of speakers covering topics ranging from 'Antarctica', 'Passports, Assassins, Traitors and Spies', 'West Mercia Search and Rescue,' and 'Micro Artistry'. Our activities groups, which now number in excess of 40, meet at venues across the town including the Library and the Fire Station. Together we are able to offer a range of activities enjoyed by existing members and which help us attract new members.

A number of Community Boards now exist at various venues in the town including supermarkets and local eateries, and we have taken advantage of these boards to put up posters to promote u3a. This is in addition to our 'u3a promotions week' which in the last year has included a display in Tanners and a manned table at the Library. Of course, our most important tool is experience and word of mouth.

We must also remember the Annual Holiday in the Isle of Wight which a number of members took advantage of and thoroughly enjoyed.

Although we are autonomous as a group, we keep in regular contact with the Third Age Trust which has itself been re-styled in the last year and now has established a Board and Council to develop a strategy to help support the u3a movement locally, regionally and nationally.

I hope this short report has provided a reminder of just how much Bridgnorth and District u3a has achieved in the 2025-2026 year, good memories and the challenge to pick up the gauntlet for 2026-2027.

*Elaine*

Elaine de Graaff  
Chair 2025-2026