

Trustees' Progress Report as at 31st December 2025

Covers period from the 5th October Progress Report to 31st December

Key

References to dates of future u3a meetings and other events in bold purple

Policy and other key documents underlined and in black

Website pages underlined and in blue

The initials of the Trustee or support role reporting on each item are placed after the heading for each item. *Using names rather than Trustee positions to reduce confusion between old and new Trustees.*

Tasks to be completed by retiring Trustees highlighted in yellow

Items to be discussed by the New Board of Trustees on 8th January highlighted in blue

Section 1: Strategy & 2025 Aims (paragraph numbers relate to relevant Aim for 2025)

Only those 2025 Aims for which work is still ongoing are included

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| 3. | <p>Progress towards Crawley u3a Office (ML)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A reconditioned Xerox Versalink C405 Colour Multifunction Printer was purchased and installed on 17th November, at a total cost of £1,002. Simple instructions have been drafted and the printer works well, producing high quality colour images.2. The office security problem was resolved by purchasing a key safe which has been attached to the outside of the office. The code to this is granted only to authorised users. All Group Leaders and Support Role holders have been asked if they wish to use the Office, so far four have requested and been awarded access though only one (to my knowledge) has used the Office. A document <u>Guidance for Authorised Office Users</u> has been written and is on the website under <u>Admin>General Admin</u>. A logbook has been set up for users to sign in, and out, to record their use of the printer and to state which, if any, of the Events Equipment stored there they have borrowed or returned.3. Almost all the Events Equipment is now stored at the Office. Margaret Lloyd is preparing an updated Events Equipment document listing all items, with accompanying photos.4. A couple of racks on which the larger equipment items can be stored safely have been purchased for a total cost of £85, and have now been assembled, taken to the Office, and the larger equipment items either placed upon them or secured behind them.5. Some cheap magazine holders have been purchased in which to store both the various Governance documents stored there, and the historic archives. Many recent governance documents and Crawley u3a Newsletters are now filed in these magazine holders. A list <u>Document Archive at the Crawley u3a Office</u> is being compiled and this will be placed on the website and regularly updated. |
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Section 2: Strategy & 2026 Aims (Provisional – needs to be approved by new Committee)

As included in Section 4 of the Annual Report and Accounts for year ended 31st August 2025.

For Trustees

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| 1. | <p>Embed the new organisation structure, with operational decisions being undertaken by Support Roles and Working Groups, not the Trustees.</p> |
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| <p>2.</p> | <p>To engage more with Crawley Council and Crawley voluntary organisations to market the values and benefits of membership of Crawley u3a.</p> <p>1. Participating in Crawley Writer's Circle (CWC) Summer 2026 Exhibition (GC)</p> <p>CWC is planning an exhibition at the Museum from 18th June to 1st August 2026 to celebrate their 70th anniversary, and Heather Eves, who is an organiser of CWC, is looking for other groups to add to the space. She has agreed that Crawley u3a can include a short piece of writing (c250 words) about its history of the and perhaps any particular challenges it has faced in the last 40 years, giving any past Crawley u3a creative writing groups a special mention. There won't be a huge amount of space for individual writing groups, probably around 1m by 50cm in total.</p> <p>2. Social Prescribing (JMcG)</p> <p>The Chair met with Luke Boucher, Social Prescribing Crawley Community Action, in September, and Luke has informed him that in 2025 the unit received around 650 referrals, of which around 44% were for people aged over 55. The unit also provided advice to a further 200 or so people who didn't formally register with the service. They do not record information about these individuals, but the age breakdown would be expected to be similar for the referred clients.</p> <p>3. Support on finding Volunteers (JMcG)</p> <p>The Crawley u3a Trustee Secretary role was advertised in the CCA fortnightly newsletter for the week commencing 13th October: https://volunteer.crawleycommunityaction.org/opportunity/secretary-413</p> <p>This yielded only one response who did not realise that the position carried no remuneration. On 3rd Jan Jim McGough e-mailed Emily Thorpe, the CCA Crawley Volunteers Manager, to readvertise the vacancy, making it clear that that we are looking for an unpaid volunteer, preferably a recent retiree who would bring recent experience to the role and be attracted by the social and educational ethos of the u3a.</p> <p>4. CCA AGM 26th November (KR)</p> <p>Kim Robinson attended this, the 66th CCA AGM. About 30 people attended, of which at least five were CCA staff members. The CCA purpose is to directly and indirectly help people with their mental and physical wellbeing, partly through volunteering. It also helps organisations recruit volunteers. CCA is linked to a number of local groups including Crawley u3a.</p> <p>In the past year it has concluded its 3-year project to create a stronger diverse and inclusive voluntary sector. Support given to 300 individuals looking to volunteer. Crawley Growing Together has created a community garden in West Green, this is ongoing, approx 35 people are involved with this.</p> <p>Crawley Social Prescribing receive referrals from GP's, other NHS Services, local authority and local and community organisations. They will help with among other things, financial strain, income maximisation and other practical challenges.</p> <p>CCA received grants and donations for the year of £277k which has been used to support Social Prescribing, Development Support, Crawley Volunteers, Community Research Project, Community Gardens, West Sussex Link and Chagossian Support Fund.</p> |
| <p>3.</p> | <p>To adopt a Risk Management Policy and Risk Register, including a Contingency Policy to limit any disruption should a Trustee suddenly need to step down.</p> |
| <p>4.</p> | <p>Develop and implement a strategy to minimise the long-term financial impact of the forthcoming new Bank Charges, that come into effect from November 2025.</p> |

| For Coordinating Teams | |
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| 5. | Given the success of the Ruby Celebration event, to develop and deliver a similar event that showcases the Activities being undertaken across Crawley u3a. |
| 6. | To simplify both the annual membership renewal process and new member registration process |

| Section 3: Crawley u3a Operations | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------|----------|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---|--|--------|--------|------------|--|---------|-----|-----|-------|---------|----------|---------|--------|-------|---|---------|-----|---------|--------|--------|-----|---------|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|-------|---------|--------------------------------|---------|--------|-------|---|---------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | <p>2025 AGM on 14th November</p> <p>106 members attended (vs 91 in 2024). The retiring Secretary drafted the minutes and, following amendments submitted by other Trustees and those who asked questions, they have been placed on the website page Admin>For Trustees>2025 AGM, along with the list of Trustees Elected.</p> <p>Margaret Lloyd has also completed a Report on the 2025 AGM & Recommendations for the Future.</p> <p>Annual Return to Charity Commission</p> <p>This was completed and submitted online, on 15th Dec, along with the Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25. A copy is now on the website page Admin>For Trustees>2025 AGM</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. | <p>Budgets, Financial Reporting & Financial Compliance (GF)</p> <p>1. Gift Aid HRMC Registration (GF)</p> <p>The Treasurer has not yet had time to progress this issue. Three years of claims are outstanding.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Fin Year</th> <th>Fee (1)</th> <th>Total Fees</th> <th>Gift Aid</th> <th>Fee year GA</th> <th>Status of claim</th> </tr> <tr> <th>£</th> <th></th> <th>in I&E</th> <th>in I&E</th> <th>relates to</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2020-21</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>159</td> <td>1,194</td> <td>2019-20</td> <td>Received</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021-22</td> <td>£10.00</td> <td>5,522</td> <td>0</td> <td>2020-21</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022-23</td> <td>£20.30</td> <td>10,448</td> <td>711</td> <td>2021-22</td> <td>Lodged with HRMC awaiting settlement</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023-24</td> <td>£16.00</td> <td>10,855</td> <td>1,295</td> <td>2022-23</td> <td>Prepared but not yet submitted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024-25</td> <td>£14.00</td> <td>9,223</td> <td>0</td> <td>2023-24</td> <td>Prepared but not yet submitted (2)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(1) Per Individual Member. Up to 2022/23 inclusive couples received a discount on their fees (2) Claim estimated to be £1,332 but not accrued into 2024/25 accounts</p> <p>These outstanding claims were the subject of a question submitted to the recent AGM. The Treasurer’s full explanation is included in the AGM 2025 Draft Minutes minute 5a) (ii), to be found on the website page Admin>For Trustees>2025 AGM,</p> <p>2. Charity Commission Accounting Framework</p> <p>On 20th December the Charity Commission published its new SORP (Statement of Recognised Practice), to apply to those charities which prepare their accounts on an accruals basis for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2026. The changes relate to how the treatment of finance leases and the recognition of revenue from exchange contracts. Neither of these are relevant for Crawley u3a. The only implication of this change for Crawley u3a is that, in the published accounts for the year ending 31st August 2027 and beyond, in Note 1 Accounting Convention the words <i>Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102)</i> will be replaced with <i>Statement of Recommended Practice 2026</i>.</p> | Fin Year | Fee (1) | Total Fees | Gift Aid | Fee year GA | Status of claim | £ | | in I&E | in I&E | relates to | | 2020-21 | Nil | 159 | 1,194 | 2019-20 | Received | 2021-22 | £10.00 | 5,522 | 0 | 2020-21 | n/a | 2022-23 | £20.30 | 10,448 | 711 | 2021-22 | Lodged with HRMC awaiting settlement | 2023-24 | £16.00 | 10,855 | 1,295 | 2022-23 | Prepared but not yet submitted | 2024-25 | £14.00 | 9,223 | 0 | 2023-24 | Prepared but not yet submitted (2) |
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| | <p>3. Term 1 Financial Reports</p> <p>Graham Friday issued the report for Term 1, 1st Sept – 31st Dec, to Trustees on 2nd January. He also included the draft Group Activity Report.</p> |
| <p>3.</p> | <p>Incidents Reported</p> <p>1. Art Appreciation 2: October 14th</p> <p>A member collapsed at the meeting on 14th October, held at St Pauls. An ambulance was called which came almost immediately and took her to East Surrey Hospital. She was back at home by 17th October. Welfare Support was notified.</p> <p>2. AGM 14th November</p> <p>A member was riding his large motorised invalid scooter rather fast down the hall during the interval and bumped into the back of another member’s legs with his scooter. This member, who is not steady on his legs, fell towards a table at the back of the hall, fortunately he did not fall completely but was left very shaken.</p> <p>It was agreed that members should not be permitted to drive such invalid scooters across spaces where many members are congregating. When attending meetings at the Friary they should be placed at the left-hand side of the rows of chairs facing the stage (something for EDI & Accessibility Policy?). Jim McGough intends to discuss this with the member riding his scooter.</p> |
| <p>4.</p> | <p>2025-26 Membership Renewal and Update (ML)</p> <p>Membership Numbers</p> <p>The membership renewal process was completed earlier this year than was the case last year, and the Treasurer completed his final reconciliation in early December.</p> <p>A summary of the movements for this year’s renewal is shown below compared with that for the previous year. Two encouraging elements emerge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The number of resignations is 25% lower than in the previous renewal round, and some of this is due to a fall in members not renewing after less than one year of membership. (ii) The increase in new members and re-joiners recruited during the period August to December, the busiest time of year for attracting new members. 27 new members and re-joiners in 2025 were recruited as a result of the Ruby Celebration day. <p>Membership is currently higher than it has ever been.</p> <p>Renewal Process</p> <p>The process went more smoothly than it did last year, particularly at the later stages, though it was not without problems, mainly due to the Membership Assistant losing a large number of emails at the start of the process. A more detailed report will be produced shortly.</p> <p>Guest Member</p> <p>For the first time we have a Guest Member, a member of another u3a (Horsham u3a) but paying no membership fees - just group fees to the relevant group, Air Rifles in this case. Such members, unlike Associate members, are not entitled to attend any non-Group events. Guest Members are NOT included in the membership number quoted below, but they do show up on Beacon as Members (albeit Guest Members) so the current number shown on Beacon is 660.</p> |

| | 2024/25 | 2025/26 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Total Members end July | 642 | 646 |
| Members Lost 1st Aug - 23rd Dec | | |
| Resignations: | | |
| Joined in previous 12 months | (31) | (21) |
| Others | (50) | (40) |
| Total Resignations | (81) | (61) |
| Lapsed | (6) | (3) |
| Deaths | (5) | (4) |
| Renewing Members | 550 | 578 |
| Additional Members 1st Aug - 23rd Dec | | |
| New Members | 48 | 70 |
| Rejoiners | 7 | 11 |
| As at 23rd December | 605 | 659 |
| 23rd Dec 2024 - 31st July 2025 | | |
| New Members | 39 | |
| Rejoiners | 5 | |
| Deaths | (3) | |
| At 31st July 2025 | 646 | |

u3a Matters November Edition

The submission for the November edition of u3a Matters was input on 13th October: 197 Crawley u3a members received 168 copies of the magazine compared to 225 and 190 respectively for the September edition. The number of recipients always slips between the September & November editions as many of the members joining in the membership year just ended, and thus granted copies free of charge by Crawley u3a, elect to no longer receive it once they are required to pay for it.

The submission window for the **February edition** is **2nd – 12th January 2026**.

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| 5. | <p>Communications for All Members (SP/JMcG)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The October newsletter was issued on Monday 7th October. A Chair's Autumnal Slice was issued on Friday 25th October, seeking a volunteer to stand as a Secretary in the forthcoming AGM. The November Newsletter was published on Monday 3rd November. The December Newsletter was published on Monday 1st December. The January Newsletter was published on Monday 5th January. There will be a Joint Retiring & New Chairs Slice issued at the start of January. |
| 6. | <p>Activity Groups: Existing & New Groups (from Peter Beckley unless stated otherwise)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Communication to Group Leaders (GLs) (ML) The then Secretary e-mailed GLs (all those involved in organising Groups) on 15th October to advise them that there would be no GLs meeting this term, as there did not seem to be |

anything GLs wished to discuss and it was better to wait to meet in early 2026, once the new Trustees have taken over.

GLs were advised to encourage any of their members showing on the Group Member lists as having not yet renewed to do so as soon as possible. Some GLs were very helpful in this respect.

The GLs were also asked, following discussion on the 27th August, to include the impact of high temperatures into their risk assessments for outdoors activities and physical indoor activities.

2. Short Mat Bowls (SMB) (SP)

As the group has recently picked up some new member it was agreed by the Trustees that it could commit to hiring the St Pauls Hall for the three meetings during the Spring term. But it was made clear that, unless the group has achieved by March 2026 a breakeven position in which the costs the session are being covered by the fee income, it will have to close. As closure will potentially generate be a lot of additional cost in disposing of the speciality equipment, the Treasurer has asked the group to use the time up until March to work up a disposal plan. As at end December, it is too early as yet to say whether breakeven can be achieved. If most of the group come to the three Spring term meetings, then it should be possible. There will be a clearer idea of the group's future after the January meeting.

3. Painting & Drawing: Change of Joint Leader

Karen Darling stood down as joint group leader of Painting & Drawing, partly due to the problems she experienced with the St Mary's Southgate Church Warden John Hales during the period in October when renovation works were taking place at the group's normal venue, Holy Trinity (see also [Item 7.2](#) below). Peter Campbell has replaced her as Joint GL with Ana Achucarro.

4. Storytelling 1

Jo Slack has now stood down as Joint GL of Storytelling 1. Jean Austin will lead the group. Meetings will be held at Jean's house on the 4th Wednesday (rather than 4th Thursday) of each month wef January 2026.

5. Air Rifles: Move to Two Groups

From Jan 26 there will be a move from one group to two as a result of increasing numbers. The time of the existing group (to become Air Rifles 1) will change from 10am to midday to 9.30am to 11am, on the 2nd Wednesday of the month as at present. The new group, Air Rifles 2, will meet on the same day but at 11.30am to 1pm. Craig has divided up the existing members as appropriate. The group has recruited the first Guest member to join Crawley u3a (see [Item 4](#) above).

6. Air Rifles: GL Contravening u3a Procedures on Group Related Costs (GF)

Craig Edwards is now paying his annual NSRA registration fee personally, and asking group members to reimburse him by paying £5 on a voluntary basis. This goes against the Financial Policy.

7. Walkers Extra

Clive Morris has taken over from Steve Welch as Group Leader of Walkers Extra, with Phil Light as Deputy.

8. Update of Group Web pages (JN)

The Web Editor emailed GLs on 15th Dec inviting them to send a 2025 news round up of their Groups' activities for 2025, and also stating that any updates to the group description or additional/replacement photos on their individual Group pages ([Groups - Crawley](#)) would also be welcome. Sixteen GLs responded in some way.

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| | <p>9. List of O&A Trips The Assistant Groups Coordinator is currently updating the <u>Out and About List of Trips from 20213 to May 2025 (on Admin>For Groups>Group Reports)</u> to end Dec 2025.</p> <p>10. Unavailability of Assistant Groups' Coordinator Peter Beckley, the Assistant Groups' Coordinator, is on holiday 15th – 22nd January.</p> |
| <p>7.</p> | <p>Venues</p> <p>1. Friary Hire Contract (JMcG) To date, no invoices have yet been issued by the Friary. Jim McGough will be contacting Victoria Ashley, who deals with Friary bookings, on 5th January to arrange a meeting with her in the w/c 12th January to confirm all monthly meeting bookings for 2026 and to ensure that invoices are issued. He has briefed Tricia Newell on the issue. The new contract with the Friary needs, as is the case with all new contracts, to be approved by the Trustees. As well as covering the invoicing issue, it needs to be specific about responsibility for clearing tables and chairs after meetings, access for parking (including disability parking) and the operation of the car park barrier.</p> <p>2. Holy Trinity Church Following the use of the Holy Trinity Lounge for the RUGS Party on 19th December (see xxx below) Margaret Lloyd, who had made the booking, received an e-mail from Janet Kersey, the Parish Administrator, saying that she had received a report from the Church Warden (a Mr Mark Hale) stating that we had left rubbish at the location and not cleaned and sanitised the tables properly (against no. 10 and 9 respectively of the Terms and Conditions of Hire). Whilst we accept these complaints are justified we do not accept that we used the mince pies they had set aside for the carol service, nor that we entered or used parts of the premises beyond those specified on the application form. Margaret Lloyd has asked Janet Kersey which parts of the premises these were and received a response on 6th January: <i>"I understand that it appeared someone accessed the hall and hall kitchen from the lounge during the period the only scheduled users were the U3A group. However, it is also possible that one of the church key-holders popped into the building and left the connecting door unlocked. My apologies if this was not your group, I believe the warden was not aware of anyone else on the premises during the same time and thought it may have been."</i> The Church is charging us an additional £17 to the £37.50 hire charge: £6.00 for the additional cleaning and £11.00 for the additional cleaning and rubbish disposal.</p> <p>3. Cupboard at St Pauls (GF) The Cupboard in the main hall at St Pauls was provided by St Paul's on the understanding that the u3a would be responsible for its upkeep. It is mainly used to store Short Mat Bowls (SMT) equipment. The cupboard is now in a very bad state and beyond repaired, posing safety risks. A new cupboard will need to be purchased, once a final decision on the future of the SMB group has been taken (in March 2026) (see item 6.2 above).</p> <p>4. Use of room at Ifield Park Care Home (JMcG) In November, Jim McGough asked Roger Combes, who prepared the Venues for Hire document (Admin>General Admin) to investigate the offer from Ernest Joseph, Ifield Park Care Home, that u3a Groups could use a room there free of charge. Roger Combes responded with a brief report on 18th November confirming that the offer needed some further review. Jim McGough intends to use a session of his Poetry Group to test it out.</p> |

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| <p>8.</p> | <p>Events since last Progress Report (ML unless otherwise indicated)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Friday 10th October Monthly Meeting Peter Allen gave a talk on “Watching the Detectives”. There was no bookstall but Monique Tovey-Mansfield organised a craft stall which raised £85 for MacMillan Cancer Support. 90 members attended the meeting. A renewal clinic was held beforehand. 2. Thursday 16th October Winter Warm Up at K2 (SP) Jim McGough (as Chair), and Sue Parker (as Communications Coordinator Trustee) represented Crawley u3a at this event. The u3a table attracted a lot of visitors and Jim and Sue handed out a lot of material genuinely to people who seemed genuinely interested. The event lasted over 5 hours. Michael Jones, Leader of Crawley Borough Council (CBC) asked to be pointed in the direction of the u3a table and he and Chris Mullins (Cabinet Member for Leisure and Wellbeing) stopped to chat to Jim 3. Friday 24th October 2025 Coffee Morning and New Members Table Around 80 people attended this, of which about five were prospective members invited at the winter Warm-Up. The book stall took £26. Invitations for the New Members Tables had been sent to 65 New and ten Rejoining Members, 21 of which responded accepting the invitation and another seven sent their apologies. On the day fifteen turned up. The Report on this event with Recommendations for future events can be found on the website (Admin > For Events Planning) 4. Friday 14th November AGM 2025 See Item 1 in this Section above. 5. Friday 12th December Christmas Party At the urging of Liz Tennant, it was decided at the Trustees’ meeting of 7th October that one more attempt should be made to recruit volunteers to organise a Christmas Party before concluding it should be replaced by a festive monthly meeting. The Chair made a plea at the 10th October monthly meeting. Carol Allen came forward to lead a working group, comprising herself, Magda Ersoz, Sue Mearns and Jenny Ramsay. Sue Parker briefed Carol on the steps to take. Invitations were sent out on 19th November. On the day the party went very well, with the members attending saying how efficiently it had been organised, with the hired Harlequins Ukulele band proving a great success. There were some very favourable mentions on the Crawley u3a Facebook page. Carol Allen has prepared a 2025 Christmas Party Report which will be placed on the website under Admin> For Event Planning 6. Friday 19th December RUGS Party 16 RUGS members attended this event, along with five retiring and new Trustees, one Trustee partner member, and the Assistant Groups Coordinator Peter Beckley, and took place at the smaller hall at Holy Trinity Church, Tilgate. Peter Beckley provided a challenging quiz, and Jim McGough procured the food which cost considerably less than the £100 budget. Thanks to the Graham Friday and Olivia for serving the hot drinks and doing the washing up. All arrangements went well, until the e-mail received by Margaret Lloyd on 30th December (see Item 7.2 above in this section). |
| <p>9.</p> | <p>Tuesday 7th October Trustee Working Meeting</p> <p>The Trustees held a working meeting on 7th October at the Charis Centre, with Tricia Newell, standing for Chair at the AGM 2025, also attending. The end 31st August 2025 Outturn Report and Financial Accounts were approved. It was agreed at that meeting that it was better to defer the planned handover Committee meeting, attended by members of both the outgoing and the incoming Committee, from the 26h November to early January (arranged for Thursday 8th January). This would give time to conduct basic induction for the new Trustees and also make it easier to find a date and time which suited all attendees.</p> |

| Section 4: The Third Age Trust & Other u3a Bodies | |
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| 1. | <p>Third Age Trust (TAT) Updates (ML)</p> <p>Website update Following on from feedback from members, the TAT has removed the log in to the Members' Area of the u3a website, with the content now accessible to all.</p> <p>2026 u3a Council Elections Elections for Council Representatives (including one out of the two for the South East Region) will be held shortly, with the successful candidates joining the Council from 1st April 2026. Nominations will open on 8th Jan, and close on 3rd Feb. Further information, including the Role Description, can be found on https://www.u3a.org.uk/what-we-do/events/u3a-elections</p> |
| 2. | <p>Chairs Forum (Independent to the Third Age Trust) (JMcG)</p> <p>The presentation and notes from the 20th October Chairs Forum “do we expect too much of Volunteers?” have been made available to all Forum members.</p> <p>The 27th November meeting focused on “Maximising the Power of Websites”. No notes from this meeting have yet been shared.</p> |
| 3. | <p>West Sussex Network (WSN) (JMcG)</p> <p>Minutes from the 3rd Oct meeting were received, summarising the comments made to the meeting by Sue Russell, Chair of the u3a Council, on how the dual structure of Board and Council (which came into force on 1st April 2025).</p> <p>Pam Davidoff, who has been chairing the WSN, is stepping back due to serious illness. Sally Ingledew, the South East Council Representative, will now be running these meetings.</p> <p>At the 5th December meeting Sally Ingledew reported that the u3a Council was now functioning well and that it had recently covered topics such as: the complexity of TAT “Office Speak”, problems with Document Availability and IT functionality, the Digital Review currently in progress, the developing cordial relationship between the office and the Council, the urgent need for another u3a Council representative in the vast South East area, and the possibility of the South East holding the u3a Festival in the future. No minutes have been received yet.</p> <p>The next meeting takes place on the Friday 13th February at 10:00</p> |
| 4. | <p>Network Link Team Autumn Event October 9th</p> <p>This covered items on the 500K resolution, Strategy, the 2026 Festival, and network involvement in the u3a Jamboree in Scotland. Council Chair Sue Russell’s remarks can be found on the TAT website.</p> |
| 5. | <p>South-East Region Welfare</p> <p>The South East region has set up a Welfare Group. The first meeting was held by Zoom on 1st December. Nobody attended from Crawley u3a, but our Welfare Officer, Christine Willows, is now on the mailing list for this Group and will attend future sessions.</p> |

Margaret Lloyd, Retiring Secretary 6th January 2026