



Message from the Chair—Lynda Brettell

Your u3a needs you!

There are a number of vacancies in our committee, Vice-Chair, Membership Secretary, Beacon Administrator, and of course the role of Chair will become vacant in April 2027. We are experiencing some difficulty filling these roles, so I ask you to question what you can do for your u3a. JFK once said '**Don't ask what your country can do for you, rather ask what you can do for your country**'.

APPEAL—Please can you help to clear away tables and chairs when you leave. Moving heavy tables to the adjacent store room is a challenge, for some of us, so those who are more able bodied, we appeal to you to help.

Dates for your diary

Speaker meetings from 10am, speaker at 11am

16th October—Gunpowder, Treason and Plot by Peter Bates

20th November—The Four Napoleons by Alan Wesley

****There is no speaker meeting in December.**

Coffee mornings from 10am to 12 noon

Friday 23rd October

Friday 27th November

****There is no coffee morning in December**

Day Trips

No trips have been finalised for October to December 2026.

See website for updates

Social events

16th October—**Debbie Miles** sings songs from the decades. Tickets £4

11th November 1.30–4pm—**Skittles** afternoon at Ashwoods Social Club. Tickets £3

4th December—We welcome back **Mike Prince** to sing us into the Christmas spirit. Buffet included. Ticket price tbc.

17th December—Celebrate Christmas with a visit to Symphony Hall for the **CBSO Christmas party** with various choirs and soloists. Tickets including coach from KCC—FULLY BOOKED

25th anniversary celebrations

Our celebratory afternoon with singer **Becky Roc** was a success with members dancing to songs from the 60s and 70s.



We received a certificate from the u3a Trust to officially recognise our 25 years and names of those with membership of more than 15 years were read out at the start of the event.



Quiz Question (Answer page 2)

What is the collective noun for porcupines?



Next issue for **January—March 2027** comes out in early January Items to **Newsletter** by **15th December 2026** via Contacts on the website

Please keep sending in items and photos for inclusion. This is YOUR newsletter for you as members.

**Limited Special Offer for all u3a members expires
Dec 2026**

Stourbridge Glass Museum is offering all u3a members a special 50% discount for 12 months membership. **Get this special offer until December 2026 and this will allow you 12 months free entry from your date of registration.**

Falls Prevention talk An information session was held on 24th September with Amanda Bowdler from the Falls Prevention team from Dudley MBC.

Christmas Tree Festival, 4th—6th December 2026 at Wordsley Church. Our u3a will be having a decorated tree there so if you would like to help please come forward. Thanks to Suzanne Bithell for arranging.



Website administrator—many thanks to Ian Campbell and Ian Scott who have supported the website. Sue Helm will be taking on the role from October.

Day trip to Port Sunlight (Christine Thompson)

On the hottest day of the year 36 members went to Birkenhead to visit Port Sunlight, an historic model village founded in 1888 by Industrialist William Lever to house his workers at the Lever Brothers Soap Factory. We had a guided tour around the village which has 900 Grade 2 listed Arts and Crafts buildings. Lord Lever was very enlightened and included communal gems such as the Lady Lever Art Gallery, War Memorial, school, boating pond and church. A most enjoyable day!

We are pleased to inform members that the defibrillator is now in fully working order following the purchase of new batteries and pads and making it accessible to all in the community 24/7.

The **Book Group** welcomes new members and meets on the 4th Friday morning of the month. They have a varied reading list for 2026 and this can be found on the web-site by clicking on **Book Group**. The books for **October to November** are **The Children of Men by P.D.James** and **The Path of Peace by Anthony Seldon**. **There is no meeting in December.**



Poetry Writing—in addition to the already popular Poetry Reading group there is a new Poetry Writing group that started in September. Meetings will be on the 3rd Wednesday morning in the month. Budding poets should contact **Don Sergison on 07887 863684**

New contact details- John Hunt (Latin) 07434 125854

Walking—Jane Artist has stepped down as group leader. **Contact Robin Jeavons 07773 171408**

Ballroom dancing group

Shout out for new members—release your inner ‘Strictly’ and join the dancing group, full instruction given. So why not give it a whirl on the dancefloor. **Contact Group Leaders Jim and Chris Brookes 01384 288920**



Do you need help with technology?

At the September coffee morning Jim from Digi Dudley held a tech help session for us. He can provide training and help with problems free of charge. Several members received help and booked further sessions with him. Google ‘Digi Dudley’ for more details. If there is sufficient demand we can book him to return. **Contact - Adrian Barrett 07905 302813**

On one of the hottest days of the year the Gardening group rolled up their sleeves and cleared the area next to the KCC. Well done to all!



Before



After



Answer to Quiz Question : A Prickle

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