Wollaton u3a Chairs Report to members 2025-2026

Since September 2025 there have been many changes at Wollaton u3a.
Firstly, there was a big change in the structure of the committee, many of the previous Trustees had to stand down as their terms of office ended. This has provided some challenge for new trustees as we have tried to maintain the high standards set by the previous committee for speakers, activities and Interest groups..

Although there are fewer Trustees and many people are doing several roles, I would like to highlight a few important developments that have taken place during the year and thank those who have contributed to these.

Therese has put a lot of time and effort into improving the website. It now has more information and photographs about the Wollaton u3a - take a look at the 'Wollaton Extra' page and 'Photo Gallery'. If you have photographs you would like to share please send them to Therese. It is also more interactive with online forms and links to interesting events. Thank you Therese.

Ann has worked on a new look monthly update that provides you with all the information you need about activities happening in the previous and coming month. She has included pictures and there is a monthly feature which focuses on an interest group each month. I hope you find it interesting and useful. Thank you Ann

Isobel has joined us as the Interest Group Coordinator. She has been very active in starting an interest group "Jazz & Blues Appreciation" and is exploring other possibilities for new groups. The interest groups are the heart of u3a so we want to have groups that interest you. If you have an idea for a new Interest group or you would like to be a convenor see Isobel who will give you all the help and support you need. Thank you Isobel and all the Convenors for your hard work. It is appreciated and we wouldn't be able to carry on without you.

If you would like to join us on the committee please come and talk to one of us. We would love to welcome you at our meetings. The more committee members we have the more things we can achieve and provide more of the things that you have asked for.

Outside to the committee Carol and Sarah have organised a programme of events for Coffee Mornings as well as a Fish and Chip night and a Pie and Mash Night which have been very enjoyable. Thank you to you both.

We have had three special events - two backstage tours of Nottingham Playhouse followed by a matinee performance of ‘The Bee Keeper of Aleppo’ and ‘Punch’. In June we hired 2 Narrowboats for the day and had a very relaxing trip down the Nottingham Canal. Both of these events were well supported and enjoyed by those who attended. There is also a visit to St Ann’s Allotments planned for September which will follow on from our speaker in August.

Next year we want to try and organise some more special events and some sport/physical activity groups that you requested in our consultation.

Finally, thank you to everyone who volunteers by supporting our monthly meetings and coffee morning. We appreciate your support.

Best wishes Jane Cooper, Chair Wollaton u3a