

## Speech from the Mayor of Boston at the Boston u3a General Meeting on 20 January 2026

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, members of the Boston and District u3a, distinguished guests and friends.

It is a great pleasure and an honour for me, as Mayor of Boston, to join you today and to celebrate the remarkable achievements of the Boston and District u3a. I am delighted to have the opportunity to recognise your outstanding contribution to our town and to the lives of so many residents.

The u3a movement is built on a simple yet powerful idea: that learning, curiosity, friendship and personal growth do not stop at retirement. Instead, they flourish. Here in Boston, you have embraced that philosophy with energy, creativity and warmth – and the results speak for themselves.

To see your membership rise to more than 300 is truly impressive. This growth reflects not only the quality and variety of activities you offer, but also the welcoming and supportive community you have created. You have become a place where people come together to learn new skills, explore new interests, share experiences and importantly, build lasting friendships.

From educational talks and discussion groups to creative pursuits, outings and social events, your programme offers something for everyone. But beyond the activities themselves, what stands out most is the spirit of enthusiasm and inclusion that defines your organisation. You are enriching lives, combatting loneliness and strengthening the social fabric of our town.

I would like to pay special tribute to your committee, volunteers, group leaders and organisers. Your dedication, time and hard work make everything possible. Running an organisation of this size is no small task, and your commitment is deeply appreciated – not only by your members, but by the wider Boston community.

Boston is proud to have such a thriving u3a at its heart. You represent the very best of community spirit: people supporting one another, staying active, staying engaged and proving that later life can be a time of discovery and enjoyment.

On behalf of the town, I congratulate you on your success, on your growing membership and on all you have achieved. I wish you every continued success in the years ahead and look forward to seeing your organisation go from strength to strength.

Thank you – and enjoy the rest of your meeting.

Barrie Pierpoint, Mayor of Boston, Lincolnshire



The Mayor of Boston,  
Barrie Pierpoint with some  
members of Boston u3a Committee  
at the general meeting on 20  
January 2026