

## **Personal Statements by Candidates for Election**

### **Frank Shaw – Nominated for the position of Chair.**

I am grateful to the U3A for enriching my own and many other lives and I am keen to help it continue to flourish in any way that I can.

My work experience as a Management Consultant, including running the UK operation of an international consultancy before running my own, has given me the opportunity to experience what can be achieved by people working together.

I also have experience of voluntary work, including chairing Scout groups and schools. I took on the role of Chair two years ago after a change in life circumstances gave me the time available to return to being more involved in the community. I have enjoyed that opportunity to support the U3A.

Should I be re-elected I shall strive to help others discover the benefits of such an involvement to enhance their own lives and to enable the u3a to continue.

### **Tim Anderson, May 2026 – Nominated as Secretary.**

I have been a member of Dunstable U3A since 2013. I am an active member of four groups, and am the coordinator of one, Philosophy 2. I have served as trustee and GLO with my wife, Elizabeth, for the last 2 years. I understand that an organisation such as U3A is heavily dependent for its ongoing activities on willing volunteers to carry out the necessary administration and governance required. I am therefore willing to help continue the operation of Dunstable U3A by volunteering my time and energies as Secretary.

### **Michael Dance - Nominated as Treasurer**

I have been a member of Dunstable u3a since 2017. I am a member of a walking group and London History group. My working life has been in the meat industry supplying the catering trade. Along with my wife, we started a couple of businesses that we sold & then retired in 2000. I am happy to serve Dunstable u3a, continuing as a Trustee and Treasurer if elected.

### **David Courtenay - Nominated as Trustee**

I retired in September 2004 and soon joined the South Woodham Ferrers U3A, in Essex. We were members there until we moved to Dunstable in 2021, to be closer to our daughter.

During my time in the SWF – u3a, I spent many years on Committee plus 3 years as Vice Chair & 3 Years as Chair. But I still don't know it all!

My working background is 37 years with The Ford Motor Co at R&E Dunton. Mainly as a Power Train Mounting Systems Engineer on I4 Petrol Engines. In the later years I spent much time on Fiesta & Ka Launch teams at various plants around the World.

I have served for the last two years as a Trustee and as Events Secretary, and am putting myself forward to be re-elected for a further two year term.

### **Sue Porter - Nominated as Trustee**

I have been a member of the u3a in Dunstable for over 4 years now and belong to the Scottish dancing and English country dancing groups.

I spent a year as minutes secretary and have spent the last 2 years as Trustee and Beacon administrator

This year, if elected, I will be happy to continue the Beacon Administrator role. I have a background in computing in various roles both in the computer industry and as a school IT technician. This has been useful when dealing with the u3a Beacon computer system.

### **Linda Lawson - Nominated as Trustee**

I have been a member of Dunstable U3A since 2000. I am a member of two Dunstable groups, Rummikub and Bridge, and also Flitwick U3A Bridge group. I have served on the Dunstable Committee before, in various capacities, but when the appeal was sent out earlier this year, I felt I should volunteer again. I am not as nimble as I was, either physically or mentally, but I hope I can give some value & help to keep everything running smoothly.

### **Martin Wild - Nominated as Trustee**

I followed my soon to be wife (she's the active one) to Dunstable - in 1984, and we've been stationed here ever since! I have spent most of my working life studying, practising, or teaching accounting – right up until I retired in 2022.

We joined U3a almost two years ago. Since then, I have helped co-ordinate the new Bedfordshire History group and have joined Quizards and Bridge for Beginners. So I am learning things and enjoying the journey.

Apart from U3a, I am a trustee of some local charities, and a school governor – so I have seen the importance of people working together for the benefit of others.

With the AGM coming up, and with our current Chair's reminders, it seems that it is now that time to answer the call – so I am putting myself forward for the role of Trustee.