

## Bu3a ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Some members will unfortunately develop conditions which will impact on their ability to attend u3a Groups. It is hoped that in such cases these members will be supported by their fellow members and Coordinators to continue participating in their preferred activities; this may require offering transport to group sessions or specific assistance, e.g. hearing loops, suitable equipment (e.g. larger cards) or preferential seating near the front.

As some members become less mobile or housebound, or move some distance away, we recognise there may be a desire for them to maintain their connection with Bu3a.

Associate Membership is a means by which those who find themselves no longer able to attend any of the groups or meetings (because of frailty of health, or relocation) can maintain their connection to friends within the organisation. This will enable members to continue to feel supported as well as socially active, albeit in a limited way, at a time when their need may be at its greatest.

### **Who qualifies to be an Associate Member?**

- They will have been a full Bu3a member for a minimum of **7 years and**
- They will have self-declared their inability to attend group activities or their decision to move away from the area.

### **What would it cost?**

- Associate membership will be free (Bu3a will cover the national capitation thus ensuring they are covered by insurance at any members-only event),

### **What access will they have to BU3A activities?**

- Facebook
- Updates via email
- 1 annual members-only event, e.g. Annual Dinner
- Buzz (If postal delivery is required this is to be paid by the Associate Member)
- Attendance at the AGM, with voting rights
- Third Age Matters Magazine at the price advised by the National u3a

### **How would their membership be monitored?**

- Simple Membership system can accommodate Associate Members.
- Annual contact from Bu3a to determine the member's wish to continue with their membership.