

**U3a Talk 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**Higher Education in the Twenty-first Century**

**Professor Georgina Andrews, Vice-Chancellor, Bath Spa University**

Professor Georgina Andrews will share insights on how Bath Spa University is addressing the profound changes and challenges universities are having to address in the 21st century and will also provide an overview of the University's exciting new Strategy 2035. She will focus on technological acceleration—including the rapid rise of AI—which is reshaping how we learn, work and communicate; economic uncertainty, skills shortages and demographic shifts that are transforming expectations of higher education, sustainability imperatives and geopolitical volatility which require new forms of collaboration, resilience and civic purpose: and the increasing demand for lifelong learning and skills as a result of new industries and creative technologies. She will focus on the emerging, patterns of study, work and living that are evolving and how learners are balancing more responsibilities, seeking new forms of flexibility, and requiring stronger support to thrive.