

Charity registration number: 1019563

U3A Welwyn/Hatfield

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

U3A Welwyn / Hatfield

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name:	U3A Welwyn / Hatfield
Charity registration number:	1019563
Principal Office:	1 Hitherway Welwyn Garden City AL8 7RG
Trustees:	Pam Williams (Chair) (appointed 13 March 2024) Marie Scales (Deputy Chair) (appointed 13 March 2024) Beryl Whyatt (Treasurer) (appointed 13 March 2024) William Stephen Hall (resigned 13 March 2024) Ann Davies

U3A Welwyn / Hatfield

Trustees' Report

Welwyn and Hatfield U3A was established via a Constitution in March 1993 and is registered with The Charity Commission (No. 1019563). The correspondent is the Treasurer, Beryl Whyatt, whose address is 1 Hitherway, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 7RG.

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice application to charities preparing their account in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Charity Objectives

The Objectives of Welwyn and Hatfield U3A is the advancement of education and in particular the education of older people who are retired from full time work, by all means including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development.

Charity Structure, Governance and Management

The year started well with a full programme of speakers already in place for our weekly meetings, and covering all three terms. The variety of speakers we are able to secure offer both informative and entertaining subjects, and we have regular attendances at these meetings of between 85 and 120 members.

Our 58 study groups at the start of the year, were increased by a further two as members introduced new subjects, Mixed Media and Exploring Aging. The study groups continue to be very well subscribed, but we were still able to offer places to those wishing to join a new group during the course of the year.

In addition to our normal ongoing events we also held two dances with a live band, one with a fish and chip supper and the other with afternoon tea. Our annual Garden Party featured entertainment from our Ukulele Group as well as a quiz. We also held our now annual Open Day, attended by the Mayor, which also allows potential new members to see what we offer, and a new members meeting to ensure our new members are fully aware of, and able to fully participate in all the activities on offer. The year ended with our usual Christmas events, with 'U3A form 3B' performing their nativity play at the Christmas Party with over 100 members attending. This was followed by our Annual Christmas Lunch at a local venue.

Our membership at the end of 2024 was 879 members showing a steady increase on previous years. There have been a few changes to our committee this year. Pam Williams was elected Chair at the AGM and Alison Wingfield succeeded Joan Scales as Groups Co-ordinator.

Our members are kept fully informed of our activities via our website, printed activity programme, and termly Newsletter. Our thanks go to Hazel Bell who, after 13 years as editor of our Newsletter, has decided to step down. She is succeeded by Geoffrey Hollis and we offer him a warm welcome.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed and removed by the members at the Annual General Meeting.

U3A Welwyn / Hatfield

Trustee's Report

Organisational Structure

There are currently 4 trustees and a management committee who meet once a month to administer the charity. There are currently 60 Study Groups each with a group leader. The groups requiring room hire liaise with the Groups Co-Ordinator for booking venues for their group meetings.

Trustees

Pam Williams
Marie Scales
Beryl Whyatt
Ann Davies

Committee Members

Eileen Bannister
Dave Charlwood
Steve Dringer
Sue Field
Peter Fox (Memberships)
John Gilby
Rosy Holt
Jill Longman (Speaker Bookings)
Ann Madell (New Members)
Roy Madell
Adrienne Nix (Secretary)
Colin Slade (Risk Assessment Officer)
Roger Swaine (Webmaster)
Tony Tutton
Alison Wingfield (Groups Co-ordinator)

Financial Performance

In the financial year ended 31 December 2024 the overall income came in at £53,962, principally comprising subscription from members. Included in this figure is a rebate for Gift Aid of £2,661. This meant that at the review in September it was deemed unnecessary to increase the suggested figure for subscriptions for 2025.

Additionally, £10,000 is set aside in a Savings account and this should provide an ample buffer against increased costs.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees



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Pam Williams

U3A Welwyn / Hatfield

Independent Examiners Report

I report on the accounts of U3A Welwyn / Hatfield for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- * examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- * to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- * to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - * to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
 - * to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Name: Paul O'Brien (ICPA) - Dragonfly (Accounting & Financial Management) Ltd

Address: 34 King James Close, Fordham, Ely, CB7 5ZH.

U3A Welwyn / Hatfield

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<u>Incoming resources:</u>		
Memberships	17,720	17,542
Gift Aid	2,661	11,941
Study Group Income	18,035	18,109
Trips Income	13,110	13,738
Social Events	6,934	5,264
Donations	1,064	1,376
Visitors fees	-	36
Interest Received	-	7
Total Incoming resources	59,524	68,013
<u>Resources expended</u>		
U3A Subscription/Insurance/Magazine	5,939	5,203
Rental - Committee and Member Meetings	8,829	8,855
Rental - Study Groups	16,415	20,895
Speakers	3,855	2,528
Trips Expenditure/tix/transport	12,409	13,106
Software and Licences	751	347
Printing/Postage/Stationery/Admin, etc.	1,805	1,912
Social Events	5,562	5,363
Equipment	654	-
Member Events/Refreshments	1,131	713
Professional fees	300	-
Depreciation	373	458
Miscellaneous	143	157
Total Expenditure	58,166	59,537
Net Income/(Expenditure) for the year	1,359	8,475
<u>Reconciliation of funds</u>		
Total funds brought forward	28,754	20,279
Total funds carried forward	30,113	28,754

U3A Welwyn / Hatfield

Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS		
Equipment	4,211	3,410
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank and in hand	25,901	25,344
Debtors	-	-
	<u>25,901</u>	<u>25,344</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>25,901</u>	<u>25,344</u>
NET ASSETS	<u><u>30,113</u></u>	<u><u>28,754</u></u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>30,113</u></u>	<u><u>28,754</u></u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees
and signed on their behalf by:



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Pam Williams
Trustee

Date 12th March 2025

U3A Welwyn / Hatfield

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)(effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)) Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and to the Companies Act 2006.

Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Fixed assets

Individual fixed assets are capitalised at any cost.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Equipment	25% reducing balance
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U3A Welwyn / Hatfield

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

3. Taxation

The company is a registered charity and is, therefore, exempt from taxation.

4. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £
Cost	
As at 01 January 2024	15,340
Additions	1,175
Disposal	-
As at 31 December 2024	<u>16,515</u>
Depreciation	
As at 01 January 2024	11,930
Charge for the year	373
As at 31 December 2024	<u>12,303</u>
Net book value	
As at 01 January 2024	<u>3,410</u>
As at 31 December 2024	<u>4,211</u>