

U3A South Lakes Chair Report May 2023

It is my pleasure to report a generally successful year for our U3A. It has been a more normal one than in recent times and I am heartened that after the travails of COVID nearly all of our groups are properly up and running and it seems like attendance numbers are very similar to pre COVID times.

Our membership has grown slightly to around 1250 and this year we have gained over 100 new members and still we are running around 100 different activity groups. Our 'outdoor' groups are particularly thriving and a number of them have waiting lists for members- don't let that put you off though as if you are flexible there is still plenty to do.

Financially we remain solvent and have adequate reserves, though our operational activities are running at a small deficit that we need to close, rather than store up trouble for the future. There is a motion for approval at this year's AGM to stop the automatic subscription to Third Age Matters, and this alone should close our deficit for the short term without the need to increase meeting contributions or annual subscription. I would urge you to support this motion.

Less positively, I need to report what I see as our most immediate challenge. Two of our essential roles on our organising committee that of Treasurer and Secretary become vacant this time as both Ian Powell and Cath Williams step down after valuable years' service. Peter Bunny also reports that he would like to step aside as our webmaster. As well as thanking Ian, Cath and Peter we need to understand that we lose very valuable experience and that continuity in these roles is really important. As I write, in late April, it appears that we have no one stepping forward to volunteer and this will be a major challenge for us.

In general, it is disappointing that our younger members don't generally seem willing to step up to organisational roles. Several of our previously thriving groups are currently either suspended or closed down because group members can't find individuals to coordinate them. At risk of hectoring, I would urge that members ask themselves whether they might consider these generally lowly rewarded but essential tasks. I think those of us that are prepared to help generally do so in the spirit of "making a voluntary contribution" and this is probably the best perspective.

I would, therefore, like to take this opportunity of thanking those folk who DO give up their time and expertise in keeping our show on the road, particularly those committee members and coordinators who are stepping down.

My final observation as Chair, and this is a subjective one, is that we should encourage, welcome and invite a more diverse membership than we currently have. In order to continue to thrive recently retired people from all backgrounds in the south lakes should feel that our U3A is for them.

Thank you for making my first term of office a generally pleasurable one, and as I put my name forward for a second year as Chair I hope to meet and befriend more of you in the next few months.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Douglas OBE.

SOUTH LAKES U3A
RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2023

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1030281

RECEIPTS	This year	Last Year
Subscriptions	12,465.00	12,366.50
Gift aid	1,876.62	1,822.87
Interest	182.05	5.61
Social activities	962.00	0.00
Monthly Meetings - Amount Received	681.65	479.05
Groups (net of expenses)	19,724.25	12,907.14
Tea/Coffee sales at Monthly Meetings	198.69	119.29
TOTAL RECEIPTS	36,090.26	27,700.46
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PAYMENTS		
Subscriptions	Refund of overpayments	189.00
Groups	Group rents	22,089.90
Monthly Meetings	Rent and Speaker's fees	584.28
	Social activities and card fees	1,017.00
Third Age Trust	Membership fees	5,096.00
	U3A magazine	3,481.95
	Beacon	1,311.00
Newsletter / Book	Production & distribution	2,261.81
Administration	Administration Expenses	622.06
	Direct Debit Expenses	935.45
	AGM & Coordinators' meeting	332.97
	Renewal and Open mornings	278.82
	Donation to NWAA (tea/coffee sales)	110.00
	Promotional and group start up exps	415.18
TOTAL PAYMENTS	38,725.42	28,995.26

BALANCE OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS **2635.16** **1,294.80**
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SOUTH LAKES U3A
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st MARCH 2023

ASSETS (ALL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS)

Cash Funds:	This year	Last year
Yorkshire Bank Current Account	6,726.18	4,367.44
Yorkshire Bank Social Account	456.50	487.68
Social Card Account	0	23.82
COIF Account	10,000.00	15,000.00
Cash Floats	35.00	35.00
Year End Debtors	755.00	728.90
	17,972.68	20,642.84

Less Year End Creditors 465.00 500.00

Total 17,507.68 20,142.84
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LIABILITIES

Accumulated Funds:		
Brought forward:	20,142.84	21,437.64
Less balance of payments over receipts for the year	2,635.16	1,294.80

Plus balance of receipts over payments for the year

Total Funds Carried Forward 17,507.68 20,142.84
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Accounts prepared by

I. Powell

Ian Powell
Treasurer

I have examined the above statement together with the supporting books of account and bank statements.

In my view they present a true and fair picture of the finances of South Lakes U3A during the year ending 31st March 2023

Ian Fishwick

Ian Fishwick
Independent Examiner

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of South Lakes U3A

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of South Lakes U3A (the Trust) for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination.

I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Ian Fishwick

Address: Howe Knowe

Cow Brow

Lupton

LA6 1PG

Date: 20th April 2023