

South Lakes u3a AGM 2025

Chair's report.

It's the middle of April – hedgerows bursting with daffodils, blossom and nesting birds; all nurtured by a wonderful clear blue sky. Rain is on the menu again, keeping farmers happy, alas not sun-lovers. But rain will never dampen our enthusiasm which keeps the sunshining in our u3a. Now that I have completed one year as chair, I look forward to the warmth from our members over this next year.

After celebrating our thirtieth anniversary since becoming a registered charity last year, we are still going strong. Membership is growing month-on-month, to 1,400. We achieved this through our innovative and dedicated group coordinators who collectively provided around 21,800 individual experiences for our members over the year. With our committee, who utilised their diverse range of skills and knowledge to uphold our constitution. And from our network of other volunteers who work tirelessly in the background. Without these volunteers, SLu3a would not survive. Added to this, were the increases in subscription fees, voted in favour by our members at last year's AGM, to £15.00 plus £2.00 meeting fees, means that we are financially viable.

We are all aware that communication is paramount in every organisation. This year we have increased the number of volunteers who reach out to our members and help promote our u3a across the south lakes area. They have provided new leaflets, posters, our Annual Handbook and liaise with other organisations by attending meetings and giving talks. Volunteers also distribute information to our members who do not have email addresses. This helps to keeps everyone in the loop and informs our external stakeholders. Our new website, designed and managed by our webmaster, is now up and running. When people access this, they will find it easy to navigate and gain the information they need. This is because it is dynamic, eye catching and user friendly, with news added as it occurs. Thanks to our webmaster, we now have a Facebook page. Here, our webmaster can download information, photographs and the activities we provide, for inclusion on our Facebook page.

During the year we have updated many documents including the coordinates' guidelines, job descriptions for committee members, and our Safeguarding policy. Other policies are currently being reviewed. We also provided first aid workshops for members.

In December I celebrated my eightieth birthday, Down Under with my extended family. When leaving Sydney, the temperature was 35 degrees, England; minus 6 degrees. A shock to the system, and a shock to accept that I'm in my *fifth age (1)*, as many of us are. We need new people to steer our u3a in the right direction.

Volunteering and helping is the key to our success. This occurs when members ask, '*what can I do for the u3a.*' (2) A culture built on sharing skills, knowledge and experience makes our journey smooth, enjoyable and enhances our social wellbeing. With enthusiasm, and perhaps a little luck around the corner, we can reach our future goals.

Around eleven percent of our members' volunteer. However, we do not have a magic wand that attracts volunteers. Instead, we were assertive, we developed succession plans, and we asked for help. We value all our volunteers, so when someone new comes forward we nurture and support them into roles they are more than capable of fulfilling but may be a little apprehensive in doing. We are never complacent, so to lighten the work of others, we still need more volunteers. Volunteers to fill vacancies on the committee, to help run/support our groups, to keep us refreshed at meetings and to help whenever possible.

I realise that we all have commitments, and that health issues and circumstances affect our life and time balance. Whatever the circumstances, it's great to see our members attending interest and activity groups, general meetings and open mornings, sometimes in poor weather. Their presence is vital in keeping these events active, enabling all of us to '*learn, laugh and live.*'

Thank you to everyone who supported our u3a during the last year. To all who help at meetings, provide refreshments, stack chairs and clear away tables. To members who attend meetings and activity and interest groups, all of whom help to positively steer our organisation, and makes these groups viable. Finally, to our coordinators and committee, who mutually support each other, who volunteer in other roles and keep our ship moving forward.

Kind regards
Samantha Ridgway, BA.

- 1) *W Shakespeare; As You Like It.*
- 2) Part of J.F. Kennedy's inaugural speech as President of the USA, 1961.

SOUTH LAKES U3A

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2025 REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1030281 RECEIPTS

	This year	Last Year
Subscriptions	20,994.00	12,955.00
Gift aid	1,926.06	1,916.78
Interest	379.24	231.47
Social activities	0.00	0.00
Monthly Meetings - Amount Recd	523.00	650.50
Groups (net of expenses)	33,641.02	25,123.24
Tea/Coffee sales at Monthly Mee	0.00	0.00
Donations / Credit Card chg refu	67.00	163.42
Pay in Debit Card AIM test	0.00	20.00
Closure of Social Account	0.00	430.83
TOTAL RECEIPTS	57,530.32	41,491.24

PAYMENTS

Subscription Refund of overpayments	227.00	186.00
Groups Group rents	30,080.27	24,994.85
Monthly M&R Rent and Speaker's fees	280.00	272.00
Social activities (Co-ord meet)	111.66	0.00
Third Age Membership fees	5,296.00	5,160.00
U3A magazine ²	559.60	900.00
Beacon	1,371.00	1,332.00
Newsletter Production & distribution	156.89	1,816.32
Administrat Administration Expe	528.30	628.69
Direct Debit Expenses	685.10	973.75
AGM & Coordinators' meeting	103.30	77.89
Renewal and Open mornings	2,212.26	540.27
Donation to NWAA (tea/coffee s&	0.00	110.00
Promotional and group start up e	0.00	85.50
Test Debit Card ¹	0.00	20.00
Provision for rents ³	4,520.03	4,119.50
Transfer to Reserves	0.00	0.00
Other	1,034.71	0.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS	47,166.12	41,216.77

BALANCE OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS¹ 10,364.20BALANCE OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPT²

For notes see next page

SOUTH LAKES U3A STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st MARCH 2025

ASSETS (ALL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS)

Cash Funds:	This year	Last year
Yorkshire Bank Current Account	23,147.43	16,263.20
Yorkshire Bank Social Account	0.00	0.00
Social Card Account	0.00	0.00
COIF Account	13,000.00	5,000.00
Cash Floats	35.00	35.00
Year End Debtors	0.00	0.00
	<u>36,182.43</u>	<u>21,298.20</u>
Less Year End Creditors	0.00	0.00
Total	36,182.43	21,298.20

LIABILITIES

Accumulated Funds:		
Brought forward:	21,298.20	17,507.68
Less Cash/Accrual adjustment to 11/4 bank	0.00	146.95
Less balance of payments over receipts	0.00	0.00
Less social account transferred	0.00	456.50
Plus balance of receipts over payments	10,364.20	274.47
Plus provision for rent	4,520.03	4,119.5
Total Funds Carried Forward	36,182.43	21,298.20

Accounts prepared by

Jeffrey Hickin

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 financial year ending 31st March 2025

Steve Parr

Independent Examiner

14/5/2025

- NOTES**
- 1 With Virgin Bank in Kendal closing, a debit card was ordered to enable paying in of cash at the Post Office. £20 was withdrawn by ATM and paid in at branch to check function.(previous accounting year).
 - 2 £900 was paid as an estimate when the TAM magazine was cancelled, extra £559.60 invoiced
 - 3 In changing from accrual to cash basis, it is necessary to adjust for rentals not yet received but covering this financial year to avoid overstating the balance of payments. See list below .

Provision for Rent

Abbot Hall	
Natland	£2,619.00
Kendal URC	£1,507.28
Table Tennis hire	£393.75
	<u>£4,520.03</u>

Table Tennis hire is per session at Natland



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

South Lakes u3a

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st March 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1030281

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/303/2025.

**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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Stephen Pur

Date:

14/5/2025

Name:

STEPHEN PUR

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address:

10 WAKEFIELD DRIVE

ENDMOOR

WENDAL LA8 0BF

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.