

The Haslemere U3A

Trustees' Annual Report for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

Objectives and activities

The charitable purposes are as set out in the constitution, to advance education and, in particular, the education of people not in full time gainful employment who are in their third age (being the period of time after the first age of childhood dependence and the second age of full-time employment and / or parental responsibility) residing in Haslemere and its surrounding locality.

Public benefit

The trustees consider their activities operate in the public benefit, in accordance with the duty imposed by section 4 of the 2006 Charities Act. The trustees have also had regard to the guidance on public benefit published by The Charities Commission.

Achievements

The word normal is an attractive choice to describe our activities this year with healthy numbers, flourishing groups, and well attended speaker meetings. There have also been social events including a coffee morning for new members, a Christmas party and a Group Leaders' party in the summer. We have also attended local events, keeping The Haslemere u3a in the public eye.

As described last year we have produced an updated trifold flyer which has been widely distributed. An energetic campaign has resulted in The Haslemere u3a's presence in local media being well marked. Internally the Newsletter has been a colourful and informative adjunct to our activities.

The membership has continued to grow but there is still scope for more participation by new group leaders and playing a part in running the organisation. A welcome innovation is the occasional Basic Life Support course, which is popular and potentially lifesaving.

Quizzes have been a welcome growth area with not only several of our own including at the Christmas party, but also an inaugural inter-u3a one, to be repeated shortly. We are lucky to have an energetic in-house quizmaster.

Excursions, too, have been a popular and lively area. Shortly, these will be run under a new Excursions Secretary and will continue as an important part of Haslemere u3a.

There remains scope for further expansion of Haslemere u3a in membership, groups and other activities. The best recruiter is an enthusiastic existing member.

Structure, governance and management

The Haslemere U3A is an unincorporated association. Its governing document is the constitution adopted at the annual general meeting (AGM) on 14 November 2005 as amended at the AGMs on 14 November 2016 and 8 November 2021.

New charity trustees are elected by members according to the constitution.

Administration details

Name: The Haslemere U3A
Charity registration number: 1053409
Address: Haslemere Hall, Bridge Road, Haslemere, GU27 2AS

Trustees

The Trustees in the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 (**2022/23**) were:

Kim Bergamasco	Vice Chairman
Amanda Jane Blanks	Secretary
Deborah Bowyer	Publicity Secretary
Judith Forde	Membership Secretary
William John (Jock) Reid Gardner	Chairman and Speakers Secretary
Elizabeth Nuttall	Treasurer
Diana Charmian Serman	Accommodation Secretary
Lorna Wright	Groups Co-ordinator

None of the trustees receive any remuneration for their services. There are no employees. Trustees meet regularly, around twelve times a year. Trustees incurring necessary expenses are reimbursed.

Financial review

Self-financed activities and membership fees

Most activities are carried out by self-financed interest groups and other social events.

Membership fees are used to meet the costs of belonging to the u3a movement and other overheads.

2022/23 saw a rise in membership fees received because of a higher number of members and an increased annual membership fee of £10 for 2023/24 (£6, 2022/23).

There was a cash surplus in 2022/23 of £1,864 (-£5,190, 2021/22).

Assets including reserves

The charity had assets of £31,207 at the end of the 2022/23 year (£29,074, 2021/22). None of its reserves are restricted.

Reserves have been used to finance deficits in recent years with the aim of reducing reserves to an appropriate level.

The investment policy of the trustees is to hold reserves in a mixture of a deposit account and an equity investment fund.

Going concern

The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis as:

- fees for group activities and other events are charged to break even,
- the annual membership fee can be adjusted to cover overheads, and
- reserves are sufficient to cover any cash flow deficits.

Accounting policies

The financial statement is prepared on a receipts and payments (or cash) basis.

The holding in the COIF Global Equity Income Fund is valued at the mid market price

Trustees' responsibilities for the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies above and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and the "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard" for Smaller Entities published in October 2019.

Statement of receipts and payments in the year to 31 August 2023

Receipts and payments	2022/2023	2021/2022
Receipts	£	£
Group fees	14,404	13,406
Trips	8,374	10,498
Quizzes	236	0
Annual membership fees	6,604	3,838
Investment income	717	419
Donations	0	20
Gift Aid	0	576
Total receipts	30,335	28,757
Payments		
Room hire (all activities)	12,798	11,428
Other group expenses	2,873	3,532
Trips	6,267	9,614
Speaker meetings	985	727
Quizzes	25	61
Other social events	575	742
The Third Age Trust membership subscription	2,768	2,624
The Third Age Trust licences	692	716
The Third Age Trust magazine	0	2,947
The Haslemere u3a yearbook	0	127
Printing, postage and stationery	630	215
Publicity	682	517
PayPal and Zettle charges	68	55
Web expenses	0	115
Equipment	0	381
Sundry expenses	108	146
Total payments	28,471	33,947
Surplus or deficit	1,864	-5,190
Receipt from COIF Charities Global Equities Fund sale	0	5,448
Total net receipts	1,864	258
Assets and liabilities	2022/2023	2021/2022
Assets	£	£
Main bank account	2,366	2,189
Membership fees account	2,795	1,653
PayPal account	1,960	1,158
Group cash floats	218	320
COIF Charities Deposit Fund	11,099	11,254
COIF Charities Global Equity Income Fund	12,769	12,500
Total assets	31,207	29,074
Liabilities		
Debts	0	0
Net assets	31,207	29,074

Other financial information

	2022/2023	2021/2022
	£	£
Capital gain on COIF Charities Global Equity Income Fund	269	-1,321

Reconciliation

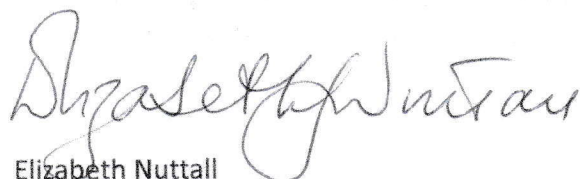
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Total net assets 31 August 2022	29,074
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Expenses related to 'Speaker meetings', 'Quizzes' and 'Other social events' are separate items in the above statement. The comparable amounts in the previous year's financial statement for 'General meeting speakers (fees)' and 'Other general meeting expenses' have been adjusted accordingly.

The above statement shows separately payments for Third Age Trust licences and the Third Age Trust membership subscription, that were combined as 'Third Age Trust fees' in the previous year's financial statement

All figures (including totals) are rounded to the nearest pound.

The holding in the COIF Global Equity Income Fund is valued at the mid market price.



Elizabeth Nuttall
Treasurer

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on

2023.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Signature



Full name William John (Jock) Reid Gardner

Position Chairman

Date 19TH OCTOBER 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 August 2023 which are set out on pages 4 and 5.

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). At the request of the Trustees, I have conducted an independent examination.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- 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 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

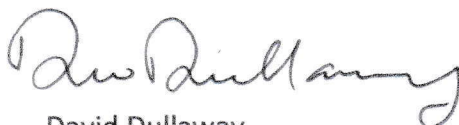
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- i. 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 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

- ii. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature



Full name

David Dullaway

Date

19th October 2023

The Haslemere u3a

Treasurer's report for year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

Receipts and payments

The financial statement is prepared on a receipts and payments (cash) basis. It shows amounts received and payments made during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. Some receipts and payments will relate to an earlier or later membership year.

Assets and liabilities

The charity's assets increased by £2,133 from £29,074 at 31 August 2022 to £31,207 at 31 August 2023.

The investment policy is to hold reserves in a mixture of a deposit account and an equity investment fund. Reserves were maintained at £23,868 (£23,754 in 2021/2022).

Self-financed activities

The Haslemere u3a's activities are mainly carried out by self-financed interest groups and through other self-financed social events. The financial statement shows fees received from group leaders and other event organisers and the relevant expenses, such as room hire, paid from these receipts.

Membership fees

Each member of The Haslemere u3a pays an annual membership fee, which was £6 for the 2022/2023 membership year (1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023). This fee goes towards the costs of belonging to the u3a movement and other overheads, including speaker meetings. Gift Aid is no longer made available on membership fees to allow benefits in excess of the limits under Gift Aid.

Since 2018 reserves have been used to meet some costs, with the aim of reducing the overall level of reserves. Instead of an anticipated deficit of around £3,500 for 2022/2023 there is a surplus of £1,864. One reason is that payment for the annual Third Age Trust magazine for 2022/2023 (£1,386.90) was made in the previous financial year. The other main reason is the receipt in August 2023 of membership fees for 2023/2024 at a higher rate and from more members. The annual membership fee for the 2023/2024 membership year is set at £10 with a view, when originally calculated, to reducing the use of reserves to about £1,000.

Summary

The surplus for 2022/2023 is £1,864 and reserves have increased by £114. A larger number of members paying a higher annual membership fee ahead of the start of the new membership year has helped avoid both the anticipated deficit and a reduction in reserves in 2022/2023.

Elizabeth Nuttall, Treasurer

19 October 2023

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Haslemere u3a AGM – Chairman's Report

In this, my first year as Chairman, we have enjoyed a full and interesting year. As well as various social events, we have seen the growth of groups, some of which are oversubscribed. This strongly suggests the formation of a second or further group. This hinges on the willingness of someone to take on leading a new group, possibly from within the membership of an existing one. Talk to a current group leader: they will probably describe it as a rewarding experience despite the effort involved. We have also seen the formation this year of new groups including Desert Island Music and Maths for Fun.

We have around 700 members, a good recovery from the early years of the 2020s.

The website has continued as a popular and important resource of Haslemere u3a. Our Webmaster, Nic Monks, is to be congratulated for the calm and authoritative way that he dealt with the outage that effected all u3a branches early in the year. Further developments are in the pipeline.

Apart from group activities, there have been a number of events, notably regular quizzes, presided over by Colin Sherlock and his team of supporters. An inter-u3a quiz has also been initiated by us.

Our speaker talks have presented a variety of informative and entertaining talks supplemented by short presentations from our own groups including books and ukulele.

The Committee, as well as Group Leaders, continue sterling work in the background, ensuring the smooth running of Haslemere u3a. A few deserve special mention: Lorna Wright is relinquishing the post of Groups Coordinator after long and excellent service; Mandy Blanks, also retiring, has been an exemplary Secretary; not on the Committee, but leaving the post of Excursions Secretary after a long stint is Don Stacey. The Treasurer, Liz Nuttall, has also resigned.

I look forward to the year ahead.

Jock Gardner