

CHEADLE (STAFFORDSHIRE) U3A

England & Wales · Charity number 1072364

Details

Other names THE CHEADLE (STAFFS) U3A

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1998-11-09

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 21 Tarragon Drive
Meir Park
Stoke on Trent
Staffordshire
ST3 7YE

Phone 07815965426

Email c.u3atreasurer@outlook.com

Website www.theadleu3a.org

Activities

Objects: THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE EDUCATION OF OLDER PEOPLE AND THOSE WHO ARE RETIRED FROM FULL TIME WORK, BY ALL MEANS INCLUDING ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES CONDUCIVE TO LEARNING AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT.

Activities: To advance the education and the provision of opportunities for leisure time and recreational activities with the object of improving the quality of life of people no longer in full time gainful employment.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** CHEADLE, STAFFORDSHIRE AND ITS SURROUNDING AREA
- Staffordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£43,632	£38,203	-	-
2023-12-31	£38,116	£35,234	-	-
2022-12-31	£36,646	£28,176	-	-
2021-12-31	£9,168	£13,098	-	-
2020-12-31	£8,414	£14,830	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ROY PHILLIP SCOTT	Chair	2018-04-25
Dr NICHOLAS CUNNINGHAM		2025-04-30
Elaine Alison Cunningham		2025-04-30
GILLIAN BIRKS		2025-04-30
Jennifer Little		2026-04-22
Lesley Ann Martin		2026-02-22
MARGARET KEARNEY		2024-04-24
RAE JACQUELINE PARR		2023-04-19
TRACEY JEANNE JOHNSON		2025-04-30
VALERIE JOY COOKSEY		2023-04-19

CHEADLE (STAFFORDSHIRE) U3A

England & Wales - Charity number 1072364

Accounts



Wednesday April 30th, 2025, at 10.30 am at Cheadle Cricket Club, Cheadle
Refreshments available from 10.00am

Please find our pack of documents for the AGM, reports from the Chairman, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Group Coordinator are all included.

Once again, we have Committee members who will be stepping down and others will change their role, so we will have vacancies on the Committee.

Volunteering for the committee is an opportunity to become more involved in our USA. So, talk about it and please be willingly nominated to join the team.

If you would like to know more about being on the committee, please don't hesitate to ask any members of the current committee who, will be happy to talk to you about the work we do.

Please see the committee nomination page attached to this email pack for details. Completed nomination forms should be sent to the Business Secretary at the address below or by email notification by Wednesday 23rd April at 5.00pm.

There are copies already printed and available at the Guild Hall.

As a registered charity we must hold an AGM each year which serves to approve and authorise the executive committee to run the organisation on your behalf. Our constitution requires us to have 10% of the membership or a minimum of 50 members (whichever is the lesser number) present otherwise the meeting cannot go ahead. So, please make a note of the date and time of the meeting in your diary and come along to support your USA.

AGENDA

Opening of the meeting by the Chairman and welcome to members and visitors
 Apologies.

1. To receive and approve the minutes of the 26th AGM held on 24th April 2024. (previously circulated)
2. Matters arising.
3. To receive the Committee reports.
4. To consider and approve the examined Accounts Summaries 2024 and the Budget Projection for 2025.
5. To approve the membership fee of £15 per annum for 1st January to 31st December 2026.
6. To clarify arrangements for completing membership forms, for members, group leaders and honorary members.
7. Election of Committee members.
8. Presentations to the retiring Committee members and Group Leaders.
9. Any Other Business, by permission of the Chairman.
10. Concluding remarks.

Mary Povey (Business Secretary)
 36 Coopers Close, Leek, ST138JL.
 07887765455.mepovey@gmail.com

Chairman

Hello to all our members.
I have now completed my first year as Chairman of this wonderful and busy u3a. It has been an eventful year with many new people to get to know and groups to see. We have survived Covid! Now five years on since 'Lockdown' it is gratifying to note that our membership is on the increase and there are many new faces, bringing enthusiasm and new ideas for extending our activity groups.

It is sad to say that the banking facilities in Cheadle are now limited and that has caused the committee to focus on reducing our 'cash handling'. As the year has passed, the way our u3a cash is handled has changed, working within the bank and post office limits. I'm please to say we have new processes in place. We now accept card payments for your membership subscriptions, and we have some groups using card machines to pay their group fee. Our latest addition, the prepayment cards, is well on the way to being another way for members to pay group fees and the AGM will be another opportunity for members to see these cards. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the hub cashiers, group leaders and members who have run trials and worked with the committee. I have enjoyed seeing new groups emerge this year, members have supported the group leaders and there is an enthusiasm for exploring new ideas. Sadly, we have seen a few groups close, and I wish the retiring group leaders well and time to relax.

This year we have committee members standing down. I would like to thank Marian Corbishley, Marian has been treasurer for over 12 years, maintaining the books efficiently and guiding the committee with advice about the accounts. Mary Povey is also stepping down as Business Secretary after completing her term of office. Sincere thanks.

Val Cooksey has recently stepped down as the Group Coordinator, her energy and enthusiasm have supported the development of our current group programme. Val will continue on the committee as Vice-Chair.

It would seem remiss if I didn't say to all our membership, your support and help is always welcome. From ideas and suggestions, helping with tables and chairs, making refreshments and washing up, helping with our IT and equipment or joining the committee, if you can offer some time to help please speak to a committee member.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to all the members of the committee for their support and hard work over the past year and also to all the group leaders, without whom Cheadle u3a could not function.

I look forward to a good year ahead.
Roy Scott
Chairman,
Cheadle u3a.

Group Co-Ordinator's message

During my time as Group Co-Ordinator running from May 2023 to Feb 28th 2025, I have had the great pleasure of getting to know group leaders and many group members too. The ethos of kindness, encouragement to learn and have fun, along with the genuine care amongst group members for each other is truly evidential. There is no doubt that our u3a continues to play a

vital part in people's lives.
On behalf of myself and the committee I would like to express sincere thanks for the personal time and commitment given by our Group Leaders, and to all USA members who demonstrate their support to Cheadle USA by taking part in the activities on offer and proactively encouraging others to join us.
Since the April 2024 AGM we have seen some changes in our Group Leader team and groups:
We were sorry to see three groups close: Architecture led by David Slade, Ukulele led by Barry Barnett and Creative Writing led by Jan North. Our sincere thanks for their commitment, enthusiasm and the enjoyment they have brought to their group members. David, Barry and Jan, your endeavors have been greatly valued.

Six groups changed leadership:

Model Makers; Vaughan Williams has taken over from Gary Wilkinson.
Card Craft: Lynn Lawton has taken solo leadership since Stella Heritage retired from her position as GL.
A Piece of Cake; Janet Arnot has handed the reigns by Dorothy Dolphin.
Calligraphy: David Johnson is carrying on the good work after the sad passing of Barry Bevington.
Water Colours; Fran Heath has taken over the leadership after the sad loss of Ken Bradshaw.
Painting for Pleasure; Fran Heath & Pat Bradshaw have become joint leaders taking over from Ken Bradshaw.
Our sincere thanks go to all retiring group leaders and to those who have put themselves forward to carry on the good work of those groups.

Four New Groups started:

Welcome to:

Classical Music Lounge – GL Chris Washington
Strum & Sing – GLs Ann & Tim Mundy
The Songbirds – GL Tracey Callan Johnson
Conversational French – GLs John Long & Lesley Durose
We wish them every success and are grateful for their contributions to supporting our USA

Remember we are always encouraging individuals who wish to set up and lead a group.
Perhaps you have a hobby, interest or skill that you could share with others. Why not give running your own group a try? Your Group Coordinator will be happy to provide advice and guidance.

In January 2025 Joyce Burton & Audrey Harrison decided it was time to hand over the coffee morning jigsaw stall into the capable hands of Fran Castle supported by Julia Brindley.
Joyce and Audrey's jigsaw deliveries to the members' homes during the challenging days of Covid were welcomed by many. Thank you both for everything.

On March 1st, 2025, I handed over the role of Groups Coordinator to Nick Cunningham – I know Nick will do a brilliant job and I'm confident that you will give him your support.
Nicks email address: group-coordinator@cheadleusa.org.uk

Best Wishes,
Val Cooksey
Vice Chair

Membership Secretary Report.

This year has been a year of changes.
We had the transition of membership secretary from Alan to myself.
Our computer system and database has been updated to be more efficient; this has helped

tremendously with the record keeping of the membership.

There has been the introduction of a card reader, at the coffee mornings, which gives members more choice with membership payments.

On March 12th newpre-paid session cards were launched for sale at our coffee mornings. A great way to help you all overcome the dreaded finding of £2.00 when you attend your groups. It also helps to reduce the cash handling for Group Leaders and our u3a Hub cashiers.

We have new membership cards this year in cheerful u3a colours. The card also has a space to put an emergency contact name and number, please complete this, it is for your safety.

The membership on 1st March 2025 stood at 665, an increase on 2024 when it stood at 639. There were an additional 11 new members at the March coffee morning alone, giving a total of 676. I'm confident we will be well into the 700's as the number of new members continues to grow.

Rae Parr

Membership Secretary

Item 6 on the Agenda: Membership Arrangements

Working with the updated database it is appropriate to outline a clarification of arrangements which will help in future.

All members, group leaders and committee members should complete a membership renewal form each year. As many honorary members as possible should also complete a membership renewal

Members wanting to 'renew' after the February 28th deadline may be issued with a new membership number as the archiving process on the database doesn't 'carry' numbers over to the next u3a year.

Please let us know any address changes, phone or email address changes.

These arrangements make it easier to track numbers and pay the correct affiliation fees to the u3a Trust.

Membership Secretary

Treasurer's Report 2024

2024 has been another busy and good financial year for Cheadle u3a. The chief difficulties we have faced were caused by the decision by the Banks to limit the amount of cash banked through the post office. This meant that a different method of collecting and banking cash had to be implemented.

Towards the end of 2024 a system of cash hubs was introduced for the collection of the course fees. Towards the end of 2024 a system of cash hubs was introduced for the collection of the course fees which has proved to be successful, and I would like to thank everyone involved. A card reader machine was purchased in October for the payment at the coffee mornings of the annual membership fees for 2025, and another machine has now been bought for a trial collection of course fees.

The total income for course fees during 2024 was £31000 and the course expenditure of £27500 is shown on the accounts, but invoices received after the year end amount to £3000. Because we are expecting increases in the room hire fees the profits made at the monthly coffee mornings are being donated to this account to help with this cost.

Our contingency fund in Leek United Building Society now stands at £16,748.87 which would be the running costs for 6 months if no other income was received. This is a requirement of the Charity Commission. We also received interest on this account of £324.50

It has been decided by the committee to update the laptops and software for those committee members (membership secretary, business secretary and treasurer) who need to keep information for the charity commission, Third Age Trust and HMRC

In order to further reduce the amount of cash being transported we are going to offer a system of prepayment cards for course fees as from March 2025

I shall be standing down at the next AGM having been your treasurer for several years and a new Treasurer will be taking over after May 2025. I should like to thank everyone for their support over the years overcoming many changes and difficulties during that time.

Marian Corbishley

Treasurer, Cheadle u3a

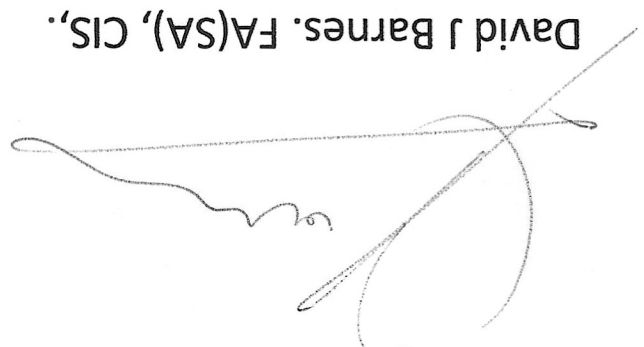
Cheadle USA Annual Accounts to 31st December 2024

	Balance Brought Forward from 2023	10228.31		
	Barclays Bank	2224.00		
	Lloyds Bank	15722.00		
	Leek Building Society	50.00		
	Float for Membership	50.00		
	Secretary	28224.98	£	
	Income	31001.45		
	Course Fees	701.70		
	Donation from Coffee Morning	31001.45		
	Membership Fees	11179.65		
	Float	00		
	Interest on Building Society	324.00		
	Grants	00		
	Donations	10.00		
	Tax rebate (Gift Aid)	323.03		
	Third Age Matters	92.00		
	Meetings	398.00		
	Group Leaders Lunch	186.13		
	AGM	584.13		
	Affiliation Fees (TATT)	2876.00		
	Third Age Matters	209.00		
	Capital Expenditure	88.97		
	Sundries	321.96		
	Total Expenditure	43632.33		
	Balance	38203.48		
	Expenditure	£ 27173.10		
	Course Expenditure	427.84		
	Teaching Aids	27173.10		
	Hire of Premises	335.90		
	Administrative Expenditure	490.67		
	Postage	00		
	Stationery	645.00		
	Photocopier	90.74		
	Printing	274.80		
	Publicity	135.72		
	Internet/phone	1972.83		
	Travel Expenses	398.00		
	Meetings	186.13		
	Group Leaders Lunch	584.13		
	AGM	2876.00		
	Affiliation Fees (TATT)	209.00		
	Third Age Matters	88.97		
	Capital Expenditure	321.96		
	Sundries	33653.83		
	Total Expenditure	38203.48		
	Balance	38203.48		
	Total	£ 38203.48		
	Balances Carried Forward to 2025	11654.94		
	Barclays Bank	9749.67		
	Lloyds Bank	16748.87		
	Leek Building Society	50.00		
	Float	38203.48		
	Secretary	28224.98		
	Membership Fees	11179.65		
	Interest on Building Society	324.00		
	Grants	00		
	Donations	10.00		
	Tax rebate (Gift Aid)	323.03		
	Third Age Matters	92.00		
	Meetings	398.00		
	Group Leaders Lunch	186.13		
	AGM	584.13		
	Affiliation Fees (TATT)	2876.00		
	Third Age Matters	209.00		
	Capital Expenditure	88.97		
	Sundries	321.96		
	Total Expenditure	43632.33		
	Balance	38203.48		
	Total	£ 38203.48		
	Balances Carried Forward	11654.94		
	Barclays Bank	9749.67		
	Lloyds Bank	16748.87		
	Leek Building Society	50.00		
	Float	38203.48		
	Secretary	28224.98		
	Membership Fees	11179.65		
	Interest on Building Society	324.00		
	Grants	00		
	Donations	10.00		
	Tax rebate (Gift Aid)	323.03		
	Third Age Matters	92.00		
	Meetings	398.00		
	Group Leaders Lunch	186.13		
	AGM	584.13		
	Affiliation Fees (TATT)	2876.00		
	Third Age Matters	209.00		
	Capital Expenditure	88.97		
	Sundries	321.96		
	Total Expenditure	43632.33		
	Balance	38203.48		
	Total	£ 38203.48		
	Balances Carried Forward	11654.94		
	Barclays Bank	9749.67		
	Lloyds Bank	16748.87		
	Leek Building Society	50.00		
	Float	38203.48		
	Secretary	28224.98		
	Membership Fees	11179.65		
	Interest on Building Society	324.00		
	Grants	00		
	Donations	10.00		
	Tax rebate (Gift Aid)	323.03		
	Third Age Matters	92.00		
	Meetings	398.00		
	Group Leaders Lunch	186.13		
	AGM	584.13		
	Affiliation Fees (TATT)	2876.00		
	Third Age Matters	209.00		
	Capital Expenditure	88.97		
	Sundries	321.96		
	Total Expenditure	43632.33		
	Balance	38203.48		
	Total	£ 38203.48		
	Balances Carried Forward	11654.94		
	Barclays Bank	9749.67		
	Lloyds Bank	16748.87		
	Leek Building Society	50.00		
	Float	38203.48		
	Secretary	28224.98		
	Membership Fees	11179.65		
	Interest on Building Society	324.00		
	Grants	00		
	Donations	10.00		
	Tax rebate (Gift Aid)	323.03		
	Third Age Matters	92.00		
	Meetings	398.00		
	Group Leaders Lunch	186.13		
	AGM	584.13		
	Affiliation Fees (TATT)	2876.00		
	Third Age Matters	209.00		
	Capital Expenditure	88.97		
	Sundries	321.96		
	Total Expenditure	43632.33		
	Balance	38203.48		
	Total	£ 38203.48		
	Balances Carried Forward	11654.94		
	Barclays Bank	9749.67		
	Lloyds Bank	16748.87		
	Leek Building Society	50.00		
	Float	38203.48		
	Secretary	28224.98		
	Membership Fees	11179.65		
	Interest on Building Society	324.00		
	Grants	00		
	Donations	10.00		
	Tax rebate (Gift Aid)	323.03		
	Third Age Matters	92.00		
	Meetings	398.00		
	Group Leaders Lunch	186.13		
	AGM	584.13		
	Affiliation Fees (TATT)	2876.00		
	Third Age Matters	209.00		
	Capital Expenditure	88.97		
	Sundries	321.96		
	Total Expenditure	43632.33		
	Balance	38203.48		
	Total	£ 38203.48		
	Balances Carried Forward	11654.94		
	Barclays Bank	9749.67		
	Lloyds Bank	16748.87		
	Leek Building Society	50.00		
	Float	38203.48		
	Secretary	28224.98		
	Membership Fees	11179.65		
	Interest on Building Society	324.00		
	Grants	00		
	Donations	10.00		
	Tax rebate (Gift Aid)	323.03		
	Third Age Matters	92.00		
	Meetings	398.00		
	Group Leaders Lunch	186.13		
	AGM	584.13		
	Affiliation Fees (TATT)	2876.00		
	Third Age Matters	209.00		
	Capital Expenditure	88.97		
	Sundries	321.96		
	Total Expenditure	43632.33		
	Balance	38203.48		
	Total	£ 38203.48		
	Balances Carried Forward	11654.94		
	Barclays Bank	9749.67		
	Lloyds Bank	16748.87		
	Leek Building Society	50.00		
	Float	38203.48		
	Secretary	28224.98		
	Membership Fees	11179.65		
	Interest on Building Society	324.00		
	Grants	00		
	Donations	10.00		
	Tax rebate (Gift Aid)	323.03		
	Third Age Matters	92.00		
	Meetings	398.00		
	Group Leaders Lunch	186.13		
	AGM	584.13		
	Affiliation Fees (TATT)	2876.00		
	Third Age Matters	209.00		
	Capital Expenditure	88.97		
	Sundries	321.96		
	Total Expenditure	43632.33		
	Balance	38203.48		
	Total	£ 38203.48		
	Balances Carried Forward	11654.94		
	Barclays Bank	9749.67		
	Lloyds Bank	16748.87		
	Leek Building Society	50.00		
	Float	38203.48		
	Secretary	28224.98		
	Membership Fees	11179.65		
	Interest on Building Society	324.00		
	Grants	00		
	Donations	10.00		
	Tax rebate (Gift Aid)	323.03		
	Third Age Matters	92.00		
	Meetings	398.00		
	Group Leaders Lunch	186.13		
	AGM	584.13		
	Affiliation Fees (TATT)	2876.00		
	Third Age Matters	209.00		
	Capital Expenditure	88.97		
	Sundries	321.96		
	Total Expenditure	43632.33		
	Balance	38203.48		
	Total	£ 38203.48		
	Balances Carried Forward	11654.94		
	Barclays Bank	9749.67		
	Lloyds Bank	16748.87		
	Leek Building Society	50.00		
	Float	38203.48		
	Secretary	28224.98		
	Membership Fees	11179.65		
	Interest on Building Society	324.00		
	Grants	00		
	Donations	10.00		
	Tax rebate (Gift Aid)	323.03		
	Third Age Matters	92.00		
	Meetings	398.00		
	Group Leaders Lunch	186.13		
	AGM	584.13		
	Affiliation Fees (TATT)	2876.00		
	Third Age Matters	209.00		
	Capital Expenditure	88.97		
	Sundries	321.96		
	Total Expenditure	43632.33		
	Balance	38203.48		
	Total	£ 38203.48		
	Balances Carried Forward	11654.94		

Cheadle USA - Projection for 2025

	2025	YTD Actual	±/£
Income			
Course Fees	31000.00		
Donation from Coffee Morning	1500.00		
Membership Fees	10400.00		
Donations	100.00		
Interest	450.00		
Third Age Matters Magazine	200.00		
Totals	44000.00		44000.00
Expenditure			
Course Expenditure			
Teaching Aids, Field trips and Materials.	500.00		
Hire of Premises	32000.00		
Cash Allocations	0.00		
Payments for publicity, fund raising, and administration:			
Postage	750.00		
Stationery	500.00		
Photocopier	360.00		
Printing	800.00		
Publicity (inc internet, Open day etc)	1000.00		
Refreshments (inc GL lunches)	400.00		
Telephone charges	300.00		
Travel expenses	40.00		
AGM	200.00		
National AGM	0.00		
Other	500.00		
Third Age Matters	250.00		
Insurance	0.00		
Affiliation Fees – Third Age Trust (TAT)	3000.00		
Hire of the Guildhall for meetings	300.00		
Licences	100.00		
Capital equipment purchases	3000.00		
Transfer to contingency fund	0.00		
Totals	44000.00		44000.00

I have examined the accounts records and Bank statements of the Cheadle USA for the financial year ended 31st December 2024. According to these and to the explanations given to me it would appear that proper records have been kept and they give an accurate picture of the financial affairs of the organisation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David J Barnes', written over a horizontal line.

David J Barnes. FA(SA), CIS.

Minutes of the 26th Annual General Meeting of Chedale (Staffs) u3a held at 10.20am on Wednesday, 24th April 2024 in the Guildhall, Chedale.

Attendance: The meeting was attended by 60 Chedale u3a members.
Apologies: Received from 8 Chedale u3a members.

Jenny Crump opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the 26th AGM. She said that it was pleasing that Chedale u3a was going from strength to strength locally and new groups were being introduced.

To receive and approve Minutes of 25th AGM held on 19th April 2023
The Minutes were confirmed to be a true record of the above AGM and were proposed by Richard Moore and seconded by Peter Walker
Carried

Matters Arising

None.

To receive the Committee Reports
Reports had been circulated with the AGM agenda and accompanying documents. The reports were accepted as a true record, proposed by Lyn Smith and seconded by Richard Moore
Carried.

To consider & approve the examined Accounts Summaries 2023 and Budget projection 2024

Marian, Treasurer, answered a number of questions and observations about the accounts, particularly the use of the bank accounts held at Barclays and Lloyds and also the necessary contingency fund.
Barclays account is for the Group money, paying for venues, and allows the paying in cards.
Lloyds account is for annual subscriptions, paying for the running of the u3a and fees to u3a central.
The £3000 surplus in the Barclays account was to cover outstanding bills due. An overdue invoice for room hire from Dilhorne has now been received, negotiated and settled (£3000, an invoice covering 3 years).
The committee had endeavoured to make cost expenses savings during the last twelve months wherever possible and quoted the distribution of the majority of the AGM papers via email attachment, rather than posting out. As with membership renewals in November 2023.
Thanks to David Barnes for auditing the accounts. David has agreed to audit our accounts next year.
The accounts were proposed for approval by Peter Brown and seconded by Roy Hedges
Carried

To approve Amendments to the Constitution
As a result of the comments made at the 2023 AGM regarding the Constitution amendments, further work had been undertaken by a working party to review the process regarding termination of Chedale u3a membership. It was felt that the revised procedure clearly detailed the process to be followed in the event of a dispute a member and the u3a.
A show of hands indicated a majority in favour of the change, and approval of the amendments was proposed by Barry Barnett and seconded by Richard Moore
Carried.

To approve the membership fee to £12-00 per annum for 1st January to 31st December 2025

Several members spoke passionately at length about their concern if the 2025 membership fee was reduced by £3-00 to £12-00. It was acknowledged the increase in fee, which became effective for 2023 membership, had been an unwelcome surprise at the 2022 AGM. However, to consider reducing this to £12-00 from 2025, did not make business sense particularly with the ever-increasing costs of room hire. The opinion given was that the majority of members had accepted the membership increase to £15-00.
It was acknowledged that smaller groups were financially supported by larger members groups, so far as room hire charges were concerned, which was very much in line with u3a ethos. (The annual subscription fee does not contribute to venue hire).
There was concern from the floor that the committee should even consider reducing the membership fee, bearing in mind the general increase in costs nationwide.
The committee pointed out that the strong emotions displayed by members at and after the 2022 AGM about the increase to £15-00, led them to feel that the proposal of reducing membership to £12-00 should be offered and seriously considered.
Marian confirmed that the contingency fund, a requirement of the Charity Commission, is restored sufficiently. After numerous passionate opinions and comments were received from the floor, those present were asked to vote in favour of reducing the membership fee from £15-00 to £12-00 for 2025.
In favour - 2
Against - 53
Therefore, the membership fee will remain at £15-00.

To approve the continuation of the Group fee to £2-00 per session

The floor generally was comfortable with the £2-00 per session payments. However, a question was raised about the cost of a cup of coffee currently £2-00 at the monthly Coffee Mornings, be reduced to £1-00 as this may possibly encourage more members to attend. It was acknowledged that the money raised from refreshments sold at the Coffee Mornings helped towards room hire costs. However, it was felt that these monthly socials were generally well supported although a lot of u3a members never attended the coffee Mornings.

To enable the Committee to get the membership's views a straw poll was held.

In favour - 2

Against reducing the charge - 56

Group leaders were advised to raise the subject at their next meeting and subsequently email Roy with the outcome.

Election of Committee Members

This was Jenny Crump's last meeting as chair of Cheadle u3a, which role she has carried out with good humour and dedication for three years. Although it is a little sad that her term of office has come to an end, the good news is that Jenny has been nominated to sit on the committee. Therefore, the proposal is that Jenny remains on the committee and a show of hands was requested. This was unanimous.

Mags Kearney has also been nominated to join the committee. Mags has been attending the meetings as an observer and has agreed to be nominated. This was also a unanimous vote.

However, the meeting was advised that more members were needed to join the committee as this brings fresh thoughts on u3a matters and also helps to spread the work of the committee. Members were encouraged to seriously consider joining the committee and have a chat with committee members if they wished to have more information on what would be involved.

Presentations to the retiring Chairman, Committee members and Group Leaders

The following members have stepped down from their group leader positions, and the committee and members' thanks are given to each of them for their energy and commitment to their leader roles.

Peter Brown, Linda Keighley, Chris Hartley, Margo Colgate, Denise Strazaker, Phil Lawton

Liz Harris, Mike Griffin, Ruth Mellor

Presentation gifts were then made to the following retiring Cheadle u3a committee members in recognition of the hard work and dedication they had continually demonstrated in their roles.

Mike Prince, Helen Wainwright, Jenny Crump, Alan Mendelson

Any Other Business

1. A member wished to make the committee aware of the distress caused to herself and husband at a recent Coffee Morning when a presentation had been made by a Cancer Research group. She suggested that advance notice should be given prior to any Coffee Morning when a guest speaker is attending as this would allow members to make their choice of attendance or absence. She was thanked for raising this matter and it was acknowledged that the potential impact on some members attending should have been anticipated. The matter will be discussed further at the next committee meeting.

2. A comment was made supporting no changes to the £15-00 membership fee and class cost of £2-00, as fees could well have to be increased in the foreseeable future. Other u3a place membership fees were discussed, including the Stone model. Roy advised that the committee were not looking to change the pay model for Cheadle u3a.

3. Several members expressed their concern about the blocked fire door in the Guildhall which groups used to carry heavy equipment into the hall. The Guildhall management have been reminded about the unsatisfactory situation and our wish for the key safe to be relocated to a more convenient site on a regular basis by the committee.

4. Mari said she had received a lengthy email from a member regarding Giff Aid. Although this item relating to 2023 is not shown on the annual accounts, a claim of £375-00 Giff Aid has been received relating to 2022 membership. The claim for 2023 membership is currently being processed. This will be shown on the accounts in future.

5. A member asked how many meetings were held by the committee and it was confirmed these totalled twelve a year (monthly). The member suggested that if fewer committee meetings took place, then this could attract more members to consider joining the committee. This comment was acknowledged by the chair.

6. The Short Walks group led by Alan Mendelson is starting up again.

7. Concern was expressed that the balcony door was left unlocked. This also coincided with the photocopier not always turned off and therefore was a potential safety risk.

8. Mary proposed that a group of volunteers' names be created of those who would be willing to help set up tables and chairs for future USA events. The intention was to have a list of willing and able volunteers whom she could email as and when rooms needed setting up. (as today's meeting)

9. PAT electrical testing was due and the committee would welcome name and contact details of any individual who could be approached to undertake this job.

10. The safety concern regarding the blocked off fire door in the Guildhall was raised again. It was stressed this was a Guildhall responsibility, but Jenny, Val and Roy have been regularly chasing them to get the matter sorted. Once again a meeting with the Guildhall would be really helpful.

Concluding Remarks

Roy Scott is the new Chair of Cheadle USA Committee.

There will be a few changes on the committee, Rae Parr is the new Membership Secretary, other roles will be clarified when the committee meet again.

Roy thanked everyone for their attendance and also for participating so enthusiastically in the AGM. He said he hoped to be an effective chair and referred to Jenny's example in the role which he had observed and learned from. It was also pleasing that Jenny would remain on the committee. His initial plan was to visit each group in order to introduce himself and also to take the opportunity of meeting as many of the various group's members as possible.

The AGM closed at 11.30am

24 04 2024

CHEADLE (STAFFORDSHIRE) U3A

England & Wales - Charity number 1072364

Accounts

26th Annual General Meeting – Reports

Chairman

Another year of u3a activities has passed. Members are at the heart of all the activities and the enthusiasm for new groups is very encouraging. New groups have started such as the pickle ball and current affairs to add to our repertoire of groups. We are fortunate in Cheadle u3a to have such a dedicated band of group leaders. It is a big commitment where you meet weekly or monthly. I thank you all, it is not an easy task, and we couldn't function without you or indeed the rank-and-file u3a members.

The u3a committee continue to do a sterling job ensuring that all the t's are crossed and the l's dotted. Committee meetings are lively affairs, and many a free and frank discussions take place. Why not think about joining? Why not come to sit in on one of our meetings, it will give you an insight as to how things work. The u3a or indeed any organisation cannot function without a committee. There are some perks like a box of fig rolls at the Chairman's expense!

This year three committee members are standing down. I would like to thank Helen Wainwright, Michael Prince, and Alan Mendelson for their hard work. Helen is a founder member of our own u3a, and Michael has been involved with matters u3a for many years and both have taken on several different roles to keep all running smoothly. Alan has been the key to keeping the membership database on track for the past three years, giving us an update at every opportunity. Sincere thanks.

We have had a committee observer, Maggs Kearney, who has seen how the u3a and committee works. We also welcome Margaret Stevenson, who supports the committee by taking the minutes at our meetings. I am sure Marj will welcome her assistance. It is good to see some new blood coming into our u3a.

It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to several group leaders. They will be missed. We will be formally acknowledging their work at the AGM. Many thanks to you all. Membership numbers are static at present, and I think we are still feeling the effects of the post Covid lull. One factor which influences membership these days is that the retirement age has been increasing over the years. We welcome members to u3a who are no longer in full-time work for whatever reason. Do bear in mind that to be a member of a u3a you can work part time but must not be in full time work. If you have time on your hands or are new to the area u3a is a great way of making friends and joining in new activities. Remember the motto of the u3a Live, Laugh, Learn.

It is now time for me to step down as Chairman. Little did I think when I joined the ukulele group that Barry Barnett would encourage me to join the committee. I have very much enjoyed my time in role. I do spend a lot of time travelling to Cheadle, which is now at least four times a week. It is a good job I do not get travelling expenses!! I do hope to continue as Coffee Morning coordinator and Almoner. Rumour has it that Roy Scott has another role with my name on it so, no cuts in the travel!

I wish Roy Scott good luck as he takes over the Chair mantle. I did talk him into being my vice chairman, I think a good choice. Just to reiterate my thanks to the membership of Cheadle u3a and long may its success continue. I have made lots of friends in the town and I think I know more people in Cheadle than I do in Stone. May Cheadle u3a go on from strength to strength.

Jenny Crump
Chairman

Group Coordinator

Since taking up the role of Group Co-ordinator on June 1st, 2023, my knowledge and understanding of our u3a has multiplied a thousand-fold. The past eleven months have proved to be both extremely interesting and enjoyable thanks to the group leaders and members I've met, who have consistently shown me a warm welcome during my drop in visits to their group sessions and been of great encouragement to me.

On my travels around the groups I have heard stories of twenty five year memberships, and group leaderships, the histories of how groups were started and what an important part they play in people's lives, met new members who have spoken of warm welcomes, support and encouragement from existing members, and witnessed the huge amount of talent, sharing of knowledge and experience by group leaders and group members alike. There is no doubt that our activity groups are strongly underpinned by an ethos of kindness and the encouragement to learn and have fun.

As you will know, all members play a part in the success of our u3a from being welcoming to others, sharing skills, talking and listening to fellow members, telling others about our u3a and encouraging new memberships.

Five new groups have opened: Pickleball, Badminton, Table Top Games, Current Affairs and Chess. Group Leaders are Jenny Crump, John Sadler, Val Cooksey, and Roger Coleman. An additional Pickleball group is opening shortly. Building the number of groups, we have available is a critical part in ensuring the ongoing success of our u3a. A huge thank you to all those members who take up the role of GL and make it possible.

We are currently on the lookout for individuals who could lead one off short courses for example, a six-week basic language course or basic computer skills course or who have a particular interest they wish to share, maybe stamp collecting, quizzes or climate change. There are far too many potential options to list here. Suffice it to say, 'the world is our oyster'. There have been some changes to group leaders in our existing groups: Mags Kearney - Drama. Roy Scott has decided to hand over the reins to Mags after his many years as the Drama group leader and to now take the time to enjoy being a member of the group whilst giving Mags the opportunity to take the lead. A huge thanks to Roy for his years of hard work and dedication as the Drama group leader and to Mags for leading the group going forwards. Cyril Colgate and Dave Burrage – Ramblers. Phil Lawton has, after many years as group leader, chosen to step back from the role and hand over to Cyril and Dave. I'm happy to say that Phil fully intends to continue as a member of the group. Thank you to Phil for everything he's done over the years for the Ramblers and for his commitment to finding new group leaders to take over his role and keep the group going. Much appreciation to Cyril and Dave for ensuring this great group continues.

Liz Harris - Flower Arranging. Denise Strazaker has decided to no longer be a group leader. Thank you for your time and efforts in starting up the group Denise. Liz has stepped forwards to take up the role and the future for the group is looking 'rosy'. Many, many thanks Liz. Lorraine Berks - Table Tennis. Mike Griffin has chosen to hang up his group leader table tennis bat. Thank you, Mike, for all of the support you have given to the group over the years. Grateful thanks to Lorraine for leading the group going forward.

Glenis Woodley -Sewing & All Sorts of Craft. Margot Colgate, after numerous years as group leader, has decided it's time to step back from the role and take up new challenges. Margot, the dedication, and commitment you have demonstrated to your group is very much appreciated. Thank you, Glenis, for stepping into the group leader role and enabling the

group to continue.

We were sorry to see Adobe Photo shop, Creative Photography, Yoga, and the Cycling group close and give our sincere thanks to Linda Keighley, Ruth Mellor, Chris Hartley and Peter Brown for their hard work and dedication to their group leadership and wish them all well.

Val Cooksey

Membership Secretary Report.

As of the 1 March 2024 when the Cheadle u3a computer database was rationalised and the names of members who have not renewed their membership were removed the total number of members stood at 639. This includes 78 Concessionary Members, i.e. Honorary Members, Group Leaders, and Committee Members.

At the end of October 2023 we had 769 members, this is the number we declare to u3a Head Quarters and on which we pay HQ subscription. Any members joining on or after 1 November was classed as a 2024 member. The reduction in numbers equates to a loss of 16.6%. There has been a noticeable trend in the reduction of members over the last couple of years and it will be difficult to get back to the numbers experienced prior to Covid.

In real terms this means a noticeable reduction of our annual income and could possibly restrict the things that Cheadle u3a can do. Members must remember that the membership fee cannot be used to finance activities, activity groups must be self-funding. The Committee is always looking at costs and you will have noticed that this year the renewal forms were not sent out by post but distributed at Coffee Mornings, by Group Leaders and at activity centres like the Cheadle Leisure Centre. This has reduced out postage cost noticeably so the process will continue. Also, AGM documentation will have gone out electronically further reducing operational costs. Only those members without internet access will receive notification by post.

Members may have noticed that their membership card for 2024 was a 2021 card hand modified to read 2024. We did this because due to Covid members did not have to renew their membership for 2021. This left around 1000 unused membership cards with a 2021 date on them. As we did not have membership cards for 2024 it was a relatively easy task to amend the cards by hand to read 2024 therefore saving the cost of purchasing new cards. New cards will have to be purchased for 2025 and following years if it is decided to continue issuing membership cards.

I am standing down as Membership Secretary at the AGM and would like to thank you for your support and understanding for the work I have done. I have been in the role for 3 years but the main reason for not continuing is over a disagreement with the Committee, following a few requests from members, regarding accepting subscription payment by BACS transfer. I believe that this will increase the amount of work for the Membership Secretary excessively and I am not prepared to take on that work. I wish my successor, Rea Parr, the best of luck.

Alan Mendelson
Membership Secretary

Treasurer's Report 2023

2023 has been a busy and good financial year for Cheadle u3a. The goal at the end of 2022 was to top up our contingency fund to the level of pre-covid, and this has now been achieved. This means that we have a surplus of £3000 to spend on capital equipment and an increase to £1000 for publicity and recruitment of new members.

The decision of the committee to increase the weekly fees to £2 has proved to be the right one. The total income from course fees was £28503 while the cost of the room hire was, £25400 with outstanding invoices for over £3000. Most of this amount was due to an invoice for two years from Dilhorne Village Hall due to their oversight.

Because of the problems and limitations of our account with Barclays Bank it was decided by the committee to open a further account with Lloyds Bank for 2024 membership fees. This additional account will enable us to make electronic payments and set up standing orders.

TAT fees and overheads will be paid from the Lloyds account. We will also be applying for a card payment machine for use at the coffee mornings after the AGM when the new committee is appointed. The Barclays account will be used for the collection of course fees (paid in by Post Office card as at present) and the payment of venue hire charges. Our contingency fund in leek United Building Society now stands at £15722.67 which would be the running costs for 6 months if no other income was received. This is a requirement of the Charity Commission.

Because of the current national financial situation, we are expecting an increase in most of the hire charges for the premises we use, which is reflected in the proposed budget for 2024 which is attached.

Thanks to all of you for continuing to support the committee and fellow members of Cheadle u3a, and we can hopefully look forward to a better financial future and an increase in membership and interest groups, which is the main aim of Cheadle u3a.

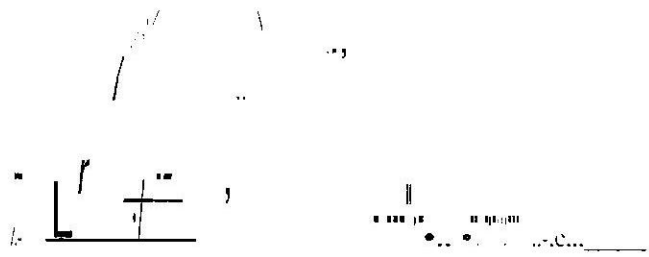
Marian Corbishley
TREASURER

CHEADLE(STAFFS)u3a
ANNUAL ACCOUNTS TO 31ST DECEMBER 2023

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 2022					
Bank	15104.61				
Building Society	10188.79				
Float for Membership Secretary	50.00				
INCOME	£	£	EXPENDITURE	£	£
Course Fees		28503.20	<i>Course Expenditure</i>		
			Teaching Aids	342.74	
			Hire of Premises	25093.15	
			Cash Allocations	240.48	
					25435.89
Membership Fees		4638.00	<i>Administration Expenditure</i>		
Membership 2024		4168.00	Postage	605.44	
Sale of Table		20.00	Stationery	317.82	
Unpaid Cheque		0.00	Photocopier	1426.44	
Interest Bank	0.00		Printing	1375.00	
Interest Building Society	33.88		Publicity(inc Open Day)	289.62	
		33.88	Internet/Telephone	342.40	
			Travel	36.10	
Donation - Social		0.00	Licence to perform	143.88	4536.70
Donations		122.00	<i>Meetings</i>		
Tax Rebate (Gift Aid)		402.71	Group Leaders	422.02	
Third Age Matters		228.00	AGM	0.00	422.02
			<i>Affiliation Fees (TAT)</i>		3140.00
			<i>Other (Gifts/Software)</i>		507.29
			<i>Third Age Matters</i>		289.85
			<i>Capital Equipment</i>		661.98
TOTAL INCOME		38115.79	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		35234.21
BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD TO 2024					
Barclays		10228.31	Accounts Examined including all ledgers, invoices, receipts, bank statements and building society book for the accounting period ending 31 st December 2023.		
Lloyds		2224.00			
Building Society		15722.67			
Float for Membership Secretary		50.00			
Signed.... <i>Marian Corbishley</i>Date... 22/2/24			Signed David J Barnes FA(SA)CIS	22/2/24	
Treasurer					

NOTE: £5500 WAS TRANSFERRED FROM BARCLAYS ACCOUNT TO CONTINGENCY FUND IN APRIL 2023

I have examined the accounts records and Bank statements of the Cheadle U3A for the financial year ended 31st December 2023. According to these and to the explanations given to me it would appear that proper records have been kept and they give an accurate picture of the financial affairs of the organisation.



David J Barnes. FA(SA), CIS,.

CHEADLE (STAFFORDSHIRE) U3A

England & Wales - Charity number 1072364

Accounts

Chairman

I'm pleased to report, in a little more detail, that with the hard work and effort of the committee, group leaders and members that we continue to move forward growing in strength with the groups and activities. Also importantly making friendships and socialising together.

A big thank you to Roy Scott for co-ordinator the 25th anniversary celebrations in November. Not an easy task but it was worth all the angst. Thanks also go to the ladies and gents who "personed" the gazebo on the High Street, I understand nobody went past without being given a leaflet about

Cheadle U3a. We were pleased to welcome Allan Walmesley, Vice Chairman of National U3a and at the time Regional Chairman for the West Midlands, he attended the performances at the Guild Hall, and said what a fantastically active and vibrant U3a we were. Give yourselves a big pat on the back.

I understand that membership numbers are picking up, Alan continues to update the database and gives regular feedback to the committee. Please encourage anyone who isn't a member to join, we always welcome new members. It is always worth checking the activities list there may be something on it you would like to try or perhaps you are an expert on something like stamp collecting and you would like to start a new group. There is support available for anyone who would like to run a group or run a short programme of sessions.

Members of the committee generously give of their time, but circumstances change, and they are no longer able to continue. During 2022 Val Palmer resigned due to family commitments. Val has held different roles on the committee and latterly was the Groups Co-ordinator, she bought skill, and enthusiasm to the role. Thank you, Val. Also, Trish Boit has stepped down as Business Secretary, a role she shared with Marj. Trish has sorted out the minutes of our committee meetings and used her tenacious skills to encourage new members to join and get involved. Thank you, Trish.

I'm looking forward to next year and additional committee members coming forward to take on the tasks which keep everything running smoothly.

Jenny Crump

Groups Co-ordinator

Due to personal reasons, Val Palmer had to relinquish the responsibilities of Groups Co-ordinator, and I temporarily took on the role again from September 2022. Thanks to Val for all she did to assist groups over a difficult period.

We have 53 groups which are now beginning to grow again after the break during lockdown. Our venues include The Guild Hall, Cheadle Cricket Club, Freehay Village Hall, Tean Church Hall, St Margarets Hall, Draycott, Dilhorne Recreation Centre, as well as Cheadle Leisure Centre.



The Flower Arranging group is working well, as is the Sugarcraft group after Dawn Maley left the area and the group was taken over by Lydia Jackson, and successfully moved to Tean Church Hall. Since the last meeting Phillip Norcop has handed over the Chess Group Leadership to Roger Coleman. The group is trying to recruit more members. Gordon Shaw is sadly unwell and unable to attend. Pat Forbes is now leading Pub Strolls after Michael Beardmore had to finish due to ill health.

Both Tai Chi groups now meet in the Guild Hall, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, under the leaderships of Malcolm and Elaine Reeves and Dinah Rushon.

Jan North has two Creative Writing Groups, one meeting at the Cheadle Cricket Club on a Monday and one at the Guild Hall on a Wednesday.

Chris Hartley has started at Yoga class on Tuesday at the Cricket Club.

I am pleased to report that Val Palmer will resume the Gardening Group on the last Friday in the month at Cheadle Cricket Club from March to October. Lesley Hall has continued Reading for Pleasure via Zoom but is looking for someone to take over the Group as she is suffering health problems. Thank you, Lesley, for your work.

We are very sorry to say that the Bird Watching group has disbanded after some 12 years. Val Williamson has reported many successful trips. Thank you.

We are pleased to welcome Pat Read, who takes over Bridge from Steven Booth, and Sue Watson, who taken on the leadership of the popular Country Dancing group. We were all sad to see that their founder leader Cedric Wilkinson, passed away recently.

Bowls and Badminton are continuing to be popular at the Leisure Centre under the leadership of Nora Collier, Richard Hopkinson, John Sadler and Joy Fowell. Trish Boit will establish a Beginners Badminton after the break.

Thanks must go to our Group Leaders who are retiring, namely Val Williamson, Martin Fox, Nora Collier, Gordon Shaw, Phillip Norcop and Michael Beardmore.

Indeed, thanks to all our current Group Leaders, we would not exist without them, and we thank them all.

Helen Wainwright

Membership

At the beginning of November 2022, the total number of paying members and concessionary members stood at 785 members. This was approximately 20% down on the figures available for pre Covid-19.

After the March Coffee Morning this year when the members who had not renewed their membership had been deleted from the computer database the number of members for 2023 stood at 676, this is 18 members down on the same point last year.

Throughout the year we always get new members so it is hopeful that we may get another 109 members by 1 November to be in the same position as last year.

Our Committee and Members will be actively working at local events to publicise Cheadle USA and its activities and benefits, in an attempt to recruit more members. More members mean greater support

for our groups and activities and results in greater security of the organisation with more opportunities for us all.

Our current level of support for our groups and activities fully justifies the increase in membership fee introduced for 2023 and particularly to maintain the increase in activity fee introduced at the EGM September 2021 that ensures the group income covers the cost of hiring halls and venues and continuing to make Cheadle USA viable.

Alan Mendelson

Treasurer

Report 2022 After the many ups and downs of 2021 it was good to get back to more normal times. Most of the old venues reopened their doors and the membership gradually increased throughout the year making a big improvement to our finances.

The decision of the committee to increase the weekly fees to £2, which was confirmed at the AGM, has proved to be the right one the total income from course fees was £24907 while the cost of the room hire was £21000 with outstanding invoices for over £3000. Without this increase we would not have been able to pay all the room hire fees and the number of venues would have had to be reduced.

The balance in the general account at the end of the year of £15104 seems high but it must be remembered that over £6000 is membership fees to pay the TAT fees and overheads for 2023 and as already mentioned a number of invoices for room hire were outstanding at the end of the year.

Our contingency fund in Leek United Building Society now stands at £10178.75 and needs to be gradually increased to about £20000, which would be the running costs for 6 months if no other income was received. This is a requirement of the Charity Commission. For this reason, we asked that the Membership Fee for 2023 be increased to £15 and this proposal was put forward and agreed at the AGM in April 2022.

Because of the current national financial situation, we are expecting an increase in most of the hire charges for the premises we use, which is reflected in the proposed budget for 2023 which is enclosed.

Thanks to all of you for continuing to support the committee and fellow members of Cheadle USA, and we can hopefully look forward to a better financial future and an increase in membership and interest groups.

Marian Corbshley

