

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 Coordinator, she brought skill, and enthusiasm to the role. Thank you, Val. Also, Trish Boit has stepped down as Business Secretary, a role she shared with Mary. 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 Philip 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, Philip 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 U3a 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 u3a 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 u3a, and we can hopefully look forward to a better financial future and an increase in membership and interest groups.

Marian Corbishley

**CHADLE (STAFFS) U3A
ANNUAL ACCOUNTS TO 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 2021		INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Bank	11695.03	£	£	£	£
Building Society	5178.75				
TOTAL INCOME		36645.65		28176.03	
Membership Fees	8908.70			21045.53	
Membership Float	50.00			61.13	
Refunds	38.88			20592.70	
Unpaid Cheque	10.00			391.70	
Interest Bank	0.00				
Interest Building Society	10.04				
Donation - Social	2000.00				
Donations	625.00				
Tax Rebate (Gift Aid)	0.00				
Third Age Matters	96.00				
Affiliation Fees (TAT)					
Refunds/Other					
Third Age Matters					
Capital Equipment					
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		36645.65		28176.03	
BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD TO 2023		15104.61			
Bank	15104.61				
Building Society	10188.79				
Float for Membership Secretary	50.00				
Accounts Examined including all ledgers, invoices, receipts, bank statements and building society book for the accounting period ending 31 st December 2022					
Signed					
Date	22/2/23				
NOTE: £5000 WAS TRANSFERRED FROM GENERAL ACCOUNT TO CONTINGENCY FUND IN OCTOBER 2022					

Website:

Registered Charity No. 1072364