



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 u3a. 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 u3a.

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.
mepovey@gmail.com 07887765455

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's 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 u3a members who demonstrate their support to Cheadle u3a 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 Arnott has been handed the reins 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 u3a

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@cheadleu3a.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. 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 u3a Annual Accounts to 31st December 2024

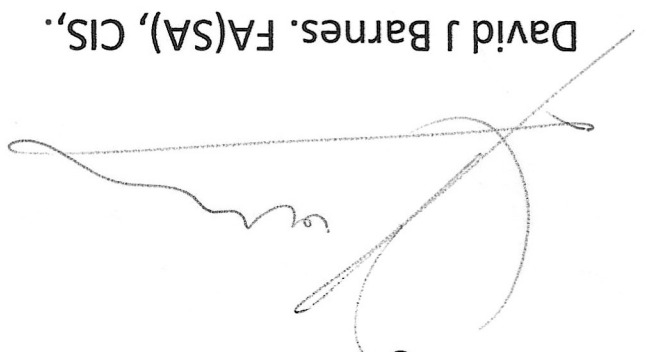
Balance Brought Forward from 2023		10228.31			
Barclays Bank		2224.00			
Lloyds Bank		15722.00			
Leek Building Society		50.00			
Float for Membership					
Secretary					
Total		28224.98			
Income		£			
Course Fees	31001.45				
Donation from Coffee Morning	701.70				
Hire of Premises					
Administrative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

Signed: M. Corbishley
Marian Corbishley Treasurer
10.03.2025

Cheadle u3a - Projection for 2025

2025	YTD Actual	+/-
£	£	£
Income		
31000.00		
1500.00		
Course Fees		
Donation from Coffee Morning		
10400.00		
Membership Fees		
100.00		
Donations		
Interest		
450.00		
200.00		
350.00		
44000.00		
Totals		
44000.00		44000.00
Expenditure		
Course Expenditure		
Teaching Aids, Field trips and Materials.		
500.00		
32000.00		
Hire of Premises		
Cash Allocations		
0.00		
Payments for publicity, fund raising, and administration:		
Postage		
750.00		
Stationery		
500.00		
Photocopier		
Printing		
Publicity (inc Internet, Openday etc)		
1000.00		
400.00		
Refreshments (inc GL lunches)		
300.00		
Telephone charges		
Travel expenses		
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		
44000.00		
Totals		
44000.00		44000.00

I have examined the accounts records and Bank statements of the Chedale U3A 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', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

David J Barnes. FA(SA), CIS.

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

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

Jenny Crump opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the 26th AGM. She said that it was pleasing that Cheadle u3a was going from 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 Cheadle 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. The matter would be raised at the next Committee meeting for further consideration. 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 Gift Aid. Although this item relating to 2023 is not shown on the annual accounts, a claim of £375-00 Gift 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 u3a 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 u3a 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