

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AGM FEBRUARY 2023**

I can't believe that it has been 12 months since I was standing here giving my Chairman's Report to you all. A lot has certainly happened and the group membership has grown tremendously, which is very satisfying. The ethos of Tamworth U3A is to hopefully make it as friendly and welcoming as possible to everybody. Especially at our time of life when your circumstances have changed and you wonder how you are going to fill the days and make new friends in a safe environment. Keeping the brain working is also important and having the time to learn new skills. Meeting and talking to people and sharing experiences together can help you not feel you are on your own. The committee and I try to listen to any suggestions or criticism you may have and strive to improve things. We welcome your feedback.

We have started quite a few more groups including the Photographic Group, Pub Quiz Group, Christian History & Theology and Local History Group. I think we need more days in the week to cover them all. We certainly have a huge variety of different topics and leisure activities to offer our members. As I have said countless times before, if you have a skill you would like to share and set up a group the committee and I will support you. It is your U3A.

At the December Monthly meeting Christmas concert we were entertained by our very own choir and the new Ukulele Group. It was a lovely way to start the Christmas festivities and the U3A anthem performed by the Ukulele group was brilliant. Thank you to everybody who made it such a lovely afternoon.

We have lost quite a few members over the last year and I would like to send my condolences to the family and friends of those members. We lost two committee members during the year Brenda Griffiths and Virginia Oates and they were both dedicated and enthusiastic members of our team. We miss them very much.

We have only one committee member who has not put themselves up for re-election and that is Carole our Group Leader Co-ordinator. Unfortunately Carole is not here today but I would like to thank her for all her hard work in looking after the Group Leaders and being a valuable member of our committee. Xenia will be taking on the role of Group Leader co-ordinator from Carole and I am sure she will be making herself known to the group leaders in the next few weeks. We have one new committee member joining us this year and that is John Fulford who looks after the RAF club. I am sure he will be an asset to the team.

Our Welfare Officer, Eileen always wants to hear from any member who knows of somebody who is not well or just having a rough time. She will then send them a card, in fact I had one recently from her which helped me going through a bad patch with my granddaughter seriously ill. It certainly cheered me up and to know somebody was thinking of me. I have had an email from another member who wants me to thank Eileen. It reads "During my recent illness I was a recipient of a card from Eileen. This is a small action that helps to lift the spirit when you are feeling low. Eileen's kind words were so apt that it turned me around. Please thank her on behalf of myself and others in the same position. Diane."

The highlight of the year was definitely our Platinum Jubilee Afternoon Tea held here at the Assembly Rooms on the 1<sup>st</sup> June. A lot of hard work by the committee to make sure it was such a success. We had a beautiful singer Irina who was booked by Judy. Xenia, Sue Evans and Sue Barnden made sure the tables and the room looked beautiful. David our film buff put together a video of the life of the queen which we watched while we ate our afternoon tea provided by the catering team here. Martyn our Deputy Chairman started the meeting by giving us a talk on the coronation year 1953. We are planning with the Assembly Rooms events staff to make our May 10<sup>th</sup> Monthly Meeting a celebration of the coronation of Charles III and also just a chance to have another good time. Further details will be communicated to you when we have discussed the final arrangements. So definitely watch this space!!!

On the 12<sup>th</sup> August we had a U3A 4 day break to Wells, the smallest city in England. The trip was arranged by our holiday rep Sue Evans and was a huge success even though the weather was unbearably hot. It just meant we had to drink more wine and gin to keep cool!! What a little gem Wells is and certainly worth a visit. Think all the members enjoyed themselves.

We also had a successful Open Day in September to advertise our Group and also celebrate the U3A's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. I managed to get the Tamworth Herald to advertise the event and a follow up article plus a picture, which was of the lovely ladies manning the Art group table and Barbara our Tai Chi leader. It gave us an opportunity to showcase the different groups we have on offer and I want to thank all the group leaders who took part. Lot of hard work but well worth it if we can reach out and explain what U3A can offer people who have retired and are not sure how to fill their days. Somebody said to me that when you join U3A you don't have any spare time, and that is true!!!!

I would like to thank the staff at the Assembly Rooms for always making us feel so welcome and making sure everything is organized for us. It certainly makes my job a lot easier knowing they are there to help with any eventualities that might occur.

Before I finish my Chairman's report I would like to thank my committee for their continued support during the past 12 months. As I have said many times before I cannot do this role on my own it is a team effort. Thank you.

**Judy Emery**  
**Chairman**

## TAMWORTH U3A ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

Accounts Check: January 2023 – No. 1 Account

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1) Bank Transactions   | Sample entries checked to Bank Statements for the year and found to be correct for both payments and receipts. The Opening and Closing Balances have been checked against Bank Statement and are correct.  |
| 2) Petty Cash          | All transactions checked against cash book. Unable to check float which was unavailable.   |
| 3) Invoices/Receipts   | Spot checked carried out all in order  |
| 4) Accounts & Analysis | <p>The accounts for the year comprising of receipts and payments agree with the balance sheet and Statement of Affairs which show funds available at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. Gross funds verified to Bank Statements supplied</p> <p>The result for the year was an excess of receipts over payments of £392.05</p> <p>After deduction of the individual Group Liabilities and the addition of the £2000 float to the Social Account the funds available are £7,228.53 The Group Liabilities at December 2022 were £9,684.58.</p>   |
| 5) Review              | <p>The accounts submitted show a good review of the financial affairs of Tamworth U3A No. 1 Account with the following comments/recommendations:</p> <p>Funds available have been reduced from 2021 and should continue as such in particular History, Gardening and Art Groups as the amounts held seem excessive in particular the History group.</p> <p>Loan to No. 2 Account should be reviewed with the intention of either refunding to No. 1 Account or pay into a new Deposit Account.</p> <p>Bax payments I understand this is a new arrangement which is operating well and bank details have been checked against Authorisation Forms which agree. However some of the forms have not been signed by two signatories which is required as per the Constitution and should be the same as the signing of cheques. Authorisation Forms should be reviewed and renewed yearly. No written procedure in place at the moment but understand this is ongoing and should be completed by the AGM in February 2023.</p> |

It is noted that at the present time the only person with access to online bank accounts is the Treasurer of No. 1 Account and highly recommend that the Treasurer of no. 2 account also has access.

February 2022

Marlene Evans  
67 Normanby Road  
Worsley,  
Manchester M28 7TS

Telephone: 0161 790 9380

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