

# THE COUNTSTHORPE U3A

England & Wales · Charity number 1084302

## Details

---

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2001-01-02

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

## Contact

---

**Address** Countesthorpe Village Hall  
Station Road  
Countesthorpe  
Leicester  
LE8 5TB

**Phone** 07000000000

**Email** [info.cu3a@gmail.com](mailto:info.cu3a@gmail.com)

**Website** [www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk](http://www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk)

## 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 of the public and in particular the education of middle aged and older people who are not in fulltime gainful employment and The provision of facilities for leisure time and recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the above persons in the interests of their social welfare.

## Classification

---

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Recreation
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** COUNTTESTHORPE AND ITS SURROUNDING LOCALITY.
- Leicestershire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£57,648	£58,125	-	-
2024-03-31	£65,514	£64,962	-	-
2023-03-31	£67,381	£65,089	-	-
2022-03-31	£42,019	£44,988	-	-
2021-03-31	£7,392	£6,518	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Dorothy Ivatt</b>	Chair	2021-04-01
BARRY HILLYARD		2015-05-08
BERYL LISHMAN		2014-05-13
DAVID HETTERLEY		2021-08-10
Gillian Brown		2021-08-10
Gillian Greany		2025-05-13
JILL CLAYTON		2016-05-10
Janine Tibbles		2019-07-05
Margaret Cronin		2025-05-14
Neill Brown		2025-05-13
Rev David Hebblewhite		2019-12-06
Robert Paterson		2025-05-13

**THE COUNTSTHORPE U3A**

England & Wales - Charity number 1084302

---

# Accounts

---

---

# **COUNTESTHORPE u3a**

---

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

# COUNTSTHORPE u3a

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

**REGISTERED CHARITY NO:** 1084302

**PRINCIPAL ADDRESS:** 4 Southfield Close  
Countesthorpe  
Leicester  
LE8 5UZ

**WEBSITE:** [www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk](http://www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk)

**CONTACT TELEPHONE:** 07854 733169

<b>TRUSTEES:</b>	David Hebblewhite	Chair (stepped down 13/05/25; continued as committee member)
	Dorothy Ivatt	Chair (from 13/05/25)
	David Hetterley	Treasurer
	Janine Tibbles	Secretary
	June Hawkins	Information & Publicity, Groups Co-ordinator (stepped down 13/05/25)
	Barry Hillyard	Membership Secretary, Vice Chair
	Jill Clayton	
	Beryl Lishman	Speaker Secretary (and Groups Co-ordinator from 13/05/25)
	Gillian Brown	
	David Norris	(stepped down 13/05/25)
	Neill Brown	Webmaster (from 13/05/25)
	Gill Greany	(from 13/05/25)
	Robert Paterson	(from 13/05/25)
	Margaret Cronin	(from 13/05/25)
	Barbara Talbot	(resigned 07/02/25)

## GOVERNING DOCUMENT:

Constitution adopted on 11 November 2000 with amendments on 9 May 2017 and 8 May 2018

**BANK:** HSBC  
2-6 Gallowtree Gate  
Leicester  
LE1 1DA

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:** Peter Holdridge

# COUNTESTHORPE u3a

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF COUNTESTHORPE u3a

I report to the trustees on my examination of the Countesthorpe u3a (u3a) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the u3a, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the u3a's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the u3a as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

*Peter Holdridge*

Name: *PETER HOLDRIDGE*

Address: *25 LINDEN AVENUE  
COUNTESTHORPE  
LEICESTER  
LE8 5PG*

Date: *6 JANUARY 2026*

# COUNTESTHORPE u3a TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting policies as set out by charity law. The report includes the information given in the Reference and Administration section, see page 1.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The Countesthorpe u3a is controlled by its governing document which was adopted on 11 November 2000 with its various revisions. The latest version of the Constitution, dated 8 May 2018, which was adopted at the AGM on that date and constitutes an unincorporated charity. The elected Executive Committee Officers shall be the governing body of the u3a and its board of trustees.

## **RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES**

Trustees are recruited from the general membership to be appointed at an Annual General Meeting.

Non-Officer members retire after their period of two years to assure a degree of rotation of membership whilst providing continuity. Executive Officers retire at the end of the period specified in the constitution.

The Annual General Meeting took place on 13 May 2025. June Norris (Hawkins) and David Norris stood down from the Committee and David Hebblewhite stood down as Chair, though he continued as a committee member. Barbara Talbot stood down from the committee in February 2025. The remaining Committee Officers announced their decisions to continue and were duly re-elected by the membership present.

## **OBJECTIVES, AIMS AND ACTIVITIES**

The objectives of the u3a as stated in its constitution are:

“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.”

### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of the objectives and activities for the year to ensure they remain focused on the u3a's goals and continue to deliver benefits to the public.

Countesthorpe u3a is dedicated to providing a supportive learning and development environment for those people in the locality who are no longer in full-time employment. We are conscious of the need to do what we can to alleviate the issues faced by those living alone, who have suffered life-changing events such as loss of employment or bereavement.

We publicise the health and wellbeing benefits of u3a membership to the community by themed articles in the local newspaper (The Countesthorpe Herald). We advertise widely, having our own website ([www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk](http://www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk)), as well as an entry on the local parish website. In previous years we have undertaken an 'outreach' campaign to raise awareness of the u3a and its many benefits.

We have also approached the local Health Centre where referrals might be forthcoming for those people who could benefit from our offerings. We produce twice yearly Newsletters, and a monthly What's On bulletin, which are available to all members and the general public in the local library and charity shop.

The Trustees are satisfied that the charity's activities provide a wide public benefit.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

Membership is open to individuals who are in their "Third Age" and are interested in participating in and helping to further the work of the u3a. Membership numbers are fairly stable and many come from outside the Countesthorpe/Blaby area. However, a successful promotional event held to coincide with our Silver Anniversary brought an uplift to numbers and membership (at the time of this report) stands at 371.

The ethos of the u3a has continued to benefit from the work of those members who act as Group Leaders and are prepared to share their skills and knowledge with other members to encourage everyone to personally develop. We have a range of more than thirty-six different activity groups covering creative activities/the arts, learning, music, physical activities, games and outings - all with the focus on personal development and supportive companionship.

Monthly meetings are held in the local village hall to enable members to meet up to listen to a wide range of speakers and to access information on current activities. A monthly bulletin informs members of "What's On" and a twice-yearly newsletter gives an overall update on the Countesthorpe u3a. These are supported by a widely used website.

This year was also the 25<sup>th</sup> year of operation of the Countesthorpe u3a. A Silver Anniversary event was held at the Village Hall for our November monthly meeting. The event was widely publicised locally with the aim of attracting new members. Each of the interest groups were represented with tables at the event and demonstrations given. Twenty nine new members were signed up and the event was felt to be a huge success.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The main source of income is through membership subscriptions (set at £20 p.a. for full members and £10 for associate members) and Gift Aid. In 2024/25, this amounted to £6298 and £867 respectively.

Additionally, a grant of £250 was applied for and received from Countesthorpe Parish Council (from their discretionary fund to help local voluntary groups).

The balance held in the General bank account on 31/03/25 was £10,568 and petty cash (held by the Treasurer) was £100. The corresponding figures for the combined External Group accounts are £9,165 and £315

The General account direct income was £7513 with expenditure of £7,764 (a difference of -£251). Groups activities (both internal and external) amounted to income of £50,135 and expenditure of £50,361 (a difference of -£226).

The overall result therefore was a net loss of £477 for the year, which translates into a small reduction in the final Fund Balance from £17,186 in 2024, to £16,709 in 2025.

### **Reserves policy**

In 2019 the basis of the preparation of the accounts was changed by an agreement between the Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission. The financial activities of all Countesthorpe u3a groups are now included in the annual accounts in compliance with this requirement.

The Countesthorpe u3a require all groups to be self-financing. However, assistance from the General u3a account can be provided for specialised equipment and start-up costs if required/requested and with prior approval from the Committee. The Treasurer records and monitors each groups financial position and will recommend actions (if necessary) to correct any growing imbalances.

The u3a's policy on reserves is to maintain these at a level roughly equal to twelve months of outgoings. As stated, a small loss was recorded for the year on general activities but reserves remain at a satisfactory level. As there are no known contingent liabilities, the trustees are satisfied that the Countesthorpe u3a is in a stable financial position and can continue operating for at least twelve months from the signature date on the Balance Sheet.

The Countesthorpe u3a maintains a current bank account with HSBC. General u3a income and expenses are transacted through this account, along with those of the groups that are responsible directly to the Treasurer.

The Theatre, Travel and Outings groups have their own bank accounts. These are audited and verified by the Treasurer at the year end and incorporated into the final accounts (shown as External Groups).

An external examiner assists in the preparation of the final accounts, then reviews and signs the document ready for submission to The Charities Commission.

### **Risk Management**

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The trustees will keep this risk under review on a regular basis.

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above.

### **Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees:**

Dorothy Ivatt, Chair

Date: 9.1.26



David Hetterley, Treasurer

Date:



09/01/26

# COUNTSTHORPE u3a

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b><u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u></b>			
Direct Charitable Income:			
Membership	1	7,513	7,793
Groups Activities (all groups)	2	49,852	57,399
Miscellaneous (net cash held by Group Leaders)		283	322
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b><u>57,648</u></b>	<b><u>65,514</u></b>
 <b><u>EXPENDED RESOURCES</u></b>			
Direct charitable Expenditure:			
Groups Activities – (all groups)	3	50,361	56,979
Miscellaneous – Group a/c		0	1,029
<b>General Account:</b>			
Monthly meetings		2,597	2,626
Newsletters, printing, Stationery		710	723
Group support costs (equipment)		243	428
TAT Capitation fee		1,312	1,376
TAT Beacon Licence		346	353
TAT Magazines		745	813
TAT Network News/Miscellaneous		41	5
Website costs		225	384
Bank charges - General a/c		186	246
Miscellaneous		1,359	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b><u>58,125</u></b>	<b><u>64,962</u></b>
Net incoming resources		-477	552
Fund balance 1 April 2024		17,186	16,634
<b>Fund balance 31 March 2025</b>		<b><u>16,709</u></b>	<b><u>17,186</u></b>

# COUNTTESTHORPE u3a

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Tangible Assets</b>			
Website at cost		3,015	3,015
Depreciation to date		<u>3,010</u>	<u>3,010</u>
		<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank accounts	4	19,733	23,646
Cash	5	<u>1,970</u>	<u>1,699</u>
		<u>21,703</u>	<u>25,345</u>
<b>Debtors and prepayments</b>			
Prepayments		320	566
Group funds paid in advance		<u>2,126</u>	<u>2,890</u>
		<u>2,446</u>	<u>3,456</u>
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u><b>24,149</b></u>	<u><b>28,801</b></u>
<b>Creditors-amount falling due within one year</b>			
Accruals		654	636
Group funds received in advance		<u>6,791</u>	<u>10,984</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u><b>7,445</b></u>	<u><b>11,620</b></u>
Current assets less liabilities		<u>16,704</u>	<u>17,181</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u><b>16,709</b></u>	<u><b>17,186</b></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds		16,709	17,186
		<u><b>16,709</b></u>	<u><b>17,186</b></u>

**NOTES TO ACCOUNTS**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>1 General a/c Income</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Subscriptions	6,298	6,831
Gift Aid	867	945
Monthly Visitors	0	3
Donations	0	14
Miscellaneous	98	0
Council Grant	250	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<u><b>7,513</b></u>	<u><b>7,793</b></u>
<b>2 Groups Income</b>		
Internal Groups - Bank	12,370	12,649
Internal Groups - Cash	752	591
External Groups - Bank	34,638	42,598
External Groups - Cash	1,578	1,561
Travel Group - missed 23/24 entry	514	0
	<u><b>49,852</b></u>	<u><b>57,399</b></u>
<b>3 Groups Expenses</b>		
Internal Groups - Bank & Cash	12,780	12,575
External Groups - Bank & Cash	37,581	44,404
	<u><b>50,361</b></u>	<u><b>56,979</b></u>
<b>4 Bank</b>		
General Account (inc. Internal Groups)	10,568	10,176
External Groups	9,165	13,470
	<u><b>19,733</b></u>	<u><b>23,646</b></u>
<b>5 Cash</b>		
General Account	100	138
Internal Groups	1,555	1,272
External Groups	315	289
	<u><b>1,970</b></u>	<u><b>1,699</b></u>

# COUNTESTHORPE U3A

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### Accounting policies

- a. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are in accordance with the Charities SORP 2005 (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) and comply with the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2005 issued under the Charities Act 2011.
- b. The financial statements are prepared on an accruals basis.
- c. Tangible fixed assets are capitalised where expenditure exceeds £500 and are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Any assets over £500 are depreciated on a straight-line basis over three years.
- d. Fund accounting - unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees: restricted funds represent funds for a specific object and can only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

### Payments to trustees and related parties

Out of pocket expenses are refunded to trustees for costs incurred on behalf of the U3A which have been allocated to group support, membership and miscellaneous costs.

No remuneration was paid to any trustees.

**THE COUNTSTHORPE U3A**

England & Wales - Charity number 1084302

---

# Accounts

---



---

# COUNTESTHORPE u3a

---

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

# COUNTESTHORPE u3a

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

**REGISTERED CHARITY NO:** 1084302

**PRINCIPAL ADDRESS:** 4 Southfield Close  
Countesthorpe  
Leicester  
LE8 5UZ

**WEBSITE:** [www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk](http://www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk)

**CONTACT TELEPHONE:** 07854 799136

<b>TRUSTEES:</b>	David Hebblewhite	Chair
	David Hetterley	Treasurer
	Janine Tibbles	Secretary
	June Hawkins	Information & Publicity Officer, Groups Co-ordinator
	Barry Hillyard	Membership Secretary, Vice Chair
	Jill Clayton	
	Beryl Lishman	
	Gillian Brown	
	Dorothy Ivatt	
	David Norris	
	Barbara Talbot	

Barbara Talbot joined as a committee member. All other committee members and officers continued in post from 2022-23.

## GOVERNING DOCUMENT:

Constitution adopted on 11 November 2000 with amendments on 9 May 2017 and 8 May 2018

**BANK:** HSBC  
2-6 Gallowtree Gate  
Leicester  
LE1 1DA

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:** Peter Holdridge

# COUNTESTHORPE u3a

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF COUNTESTHORPE u3a

I report to the trustees on my examination of the Countesthorpe u3a (u3a) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Countesthorpe u3a, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Countesthorpe u3a's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the u3a as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Name: Peter Holdridge

Address: 25 Linden Avenue, Countesthorpe, Leicester, LE8 5PG

Date: 31 January 2025

# COUNTESTHORPE u3a

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting policies as set out by charity law. The report includes the information given in the Reference and Administration section, see page 1.

### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Countesthorpe u3a is controlled by its governing document which was adopted on 11 November 2000 with its various revisions. The latest version of the Constitution, dated 8 May 2018, which was adopted at the AGM on that date and constitutes an unincorporated charity. The elected Executive Committee Officers shall be the governing body of the u3a and its board of trustees.

### RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

Trustees are recruited from the general membership to be appointed at an Annual General Meeting.

Non-Officer members retire after their period of two years to assure a degree of rotation of membership whilst providing continuity. Executive Officers retire at the end of the period specified in the constitution.

The Annual General Meeting took place on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2024. The Committee Officers announced their decisions to continue and were duly re-elected by the membership present.

### OBJECTIVES, AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the u3a as stated in its constitution are:

“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.”

#### Public Benefit

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of the objectives and activities for the year to ensure they remain focused on the u3a's goals and continue to deliver benefits to the public.

Countesthorpe u3a is dedicated to providing a supportive learning and development environment for those people in the locality who are no longer in full-time employment. We are conscious of the need to do what we can to alleviate the issues faced by those living alone, who have suffered life-changing events such as loss of employment or bereavement.

We publicise the health and wellbeing benefits of u3a membership to the community by themed articles in the local newspaper (The Countesthorpe Herald). We advertise widely, having our own website ([www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk](http://www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk)), as well as an entry on the local parish website. In previous years we have undertaken an 'outreach' campaign to raise awareness of the u3a and its many benefits.

We have also approached the local Health Centre where referrals might be forthcoming for those people who could benefit from our offerings. We produce twice yearly Newsletters, and a monthly What's On bulletin, which are available to all members and the general public in the local library and charity shop.

The Trustees are satisfied that the charity's activities provide a wide public benefit.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

Membership is open to individuals who are in their "Third Age" and are interested in participating in and helping to further the work of the u3a. Membership, is still recovering slowly post pandemic with many members coming from outside the Countesthorpe/Blaby area (numbers now stand at around 340).

The ethos of the u3a has continued to benefit from the work of those members who act as Group Leaders and are prepared to share their skills and knowledge with other members to encourage everyone to personally develop. We have a range of more than thirty-six different activity groups covering creative activities/the arts, learning, music, physical activities, games and outings - all with the focus on personal development and supportive companionship.

Monthly meetings are held in the local village hall to enable members to meet up to listen to a wide range of speakers and to access information on current activities. A monthly bulletin informs members of "What's On" and a twice-yearly newsletter gives an overall update on the Countesthorpe u3a. These are supported by a widely used website.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The General account direct income was £7793 with expenditure of £7,983 giving a small loss on activity of £190. However, the Groups bank account was closed during the year and the History group ceased to operate and the balances added to the General account (see details below).

Cash held in the bank account was £10,176 and petty cash held was £137.

The main source of income is through membership subscriptions (now set at £20 p.a. for full members and £10 for associate members) and Gift Aid. In 2023/24, this amounted to £6831 and £945 respectively.

Additionally, a grant of £200 was received from Countesthorpe Parish Council to assist with the purchase of equipment for the new Pickleball group.

### **Reserves policy**

In 2019 the basis of the preparation of the accounts was changed by an agreement between the Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission. The financial activities of groups are now included in the annual accounts as their finances are all part of the u3a. The groups continue to be self-financing but with assistance from the main u3a for specialised equipment and start-up costs if required.

The u3a's policy on reserves is to maintain these at a level roughly equal to twelve months of outgoings. As stated, a small surplus was recorded for the year and the reserves remain at a satisfactory level. As there are no known contingent liabilities, the trustees are satisfied that the Countesthorpe u3a is in a stable financial position and can continue operating for at least twelve months from the signature date on the Balance Sheet.

The Countesthorpe u3a maintains a current bank account with HSBC for General income and expenditure. The second current account for the Internal Groups (those coming under the responsibility of the Treasurer) was closed on 22/08/23 and the balance of £752.62 transferred to the General account. The rationale for this decision was to reduce the effect of account charges (introduced by HSBC in December 2021), which at the time included both a monthly fee of £5 and transaction costs for both credits and cheques. This decision gave an immediate saving in costs of £60 per year. Transactions for the Internal Groups are now recorded through the General account.

The Theatre, Travel and Outings groups have their own bank accounts. Their figures are audited and verified by the Treasurer at the year end and incorporated into the final accounts (shown as External Groups).

The History group also had its own bank account but the group ceased to operate on 18/03/24 and the balance of £1785.51 was transferred to the General account, along with an additional £53.70 in cash.

Taken overall, a surplus of £552 was recorded for the year, with the total fund balance as at 31/03/24 standing at £17186.

Groups, both internal and external are self-financing and we are happy that all are operating viably.

The General account is checked by an external examiner, who also helps in the preparation of the Trial Balance, Financial Statement and Balance Sheet.

### **Risk Management**

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The trustees will keep this risk under review on a regular basis.

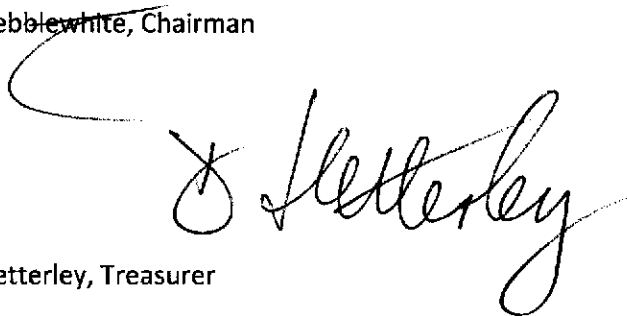
The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above.

### **Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees:**



Mr D Hebblewhite, Chairman

Date: 31/01/25



Mr D Hetterley, Treasurer

Date: 31/01/25

# COUNTSTHORPE u3a

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>			
Direct charitable income			
Membership	1	7,793	7052
Groups	2	57,399	60,329
Miscellaneous		322	60,329
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>65,514</b>	<b>67,381</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b><u>65,514</u></b>	<b><u>67,381</u></b>
 <b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>			
Direct charitable expenditure			
Groups	3	56,979	56,652
Monthly meetings		2,626	2,439
Newsletters, printing		656	573
Group support costs (equipment)		428	54
Stationery & misc costs		67	261
TAT Capitation fee		1,376	1,648
TAT Beacon Licence		353	411
TAT License		0	60
TAT Magazines		813	885
TAT Network News		5	5
Website costs		384	608
Bank charges - General a/c		246	128
Miscellaneous - Group a/c		1,029	1,365
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b><u>64,962</u></b>	<b><u>65,089</u></b>
Net incoming resources		552	2,292
Fund balance 1 April 2023		16,634	14,342
<b>Fund balance 31 March 2024</b>		<b><u>17,186</u></b>	<b><u>16,634</u></b>

# COUNTSTHORPE u3a

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Tangible Assets</b>			
Website at cost		3,015	3,015
Depreciation to date		<u>3,010</u>	<u>3,010</u>
		<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank accounts	4	23,646	17,257
Cash	5	<u>1,699</u>	<u>1,814</u>
		<u>25,345</u>	<u>19,071</u>
<b>Debtors and prepayments</b>			
Prepayments		566	610
Group funds paid in advance		<u>2,890</u>	<u>15,809</u>
		<u>3,456</u>	<u>16,419</u>
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u><u>28,801</u></u>	<u><u>35,490</u></u>
<b>Creditors-amount falling due within one year</b>			
Accruals		636	262
Group funds received in advance		<u>10,984</u>	<u>18,599</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>11,620</u>	<u>18,861</u>
		<u>17,181</u>	<u>16,629</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u><u>17,186</u></u>	<u><u>16,634</u></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>17,186</u>	<u>16,634</u>
		<u><u>17,186</u></u>	<u><u>16,634</u></u>

**NOTES TO ACCOUNTS**

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>1 General Income</b>		
Subscriptions	6,831	6,376
Gift Aid	945	347
Monthly visitors	3	17
Diaries	0	60
Donations	14	23
Amazon Smiley	0	5
Group A/C transfer in	0	203
Group A/C contra	0	22
	<u>7,793</u>	<u>7,052</u>
<b>2 Groups Income</b>		
Internal Groups Bank	12,649	10,468
Internal Groups Cash	591	203
External Groups	42,598	48,308
External Groups Cash	1,561	1,350
	<u>57,399</u>	<u>60,329</u>
<b>3 Groups Expenses</b>		
Internal Groups	12,575	11,060
	0	0
External Groups	44,404	44,293
	0	1,299
	<u>56,979</u>	<u>56,652</u>
<b>4 Bank</b>		
General Account	10,176	5,759
Internal Groups	0	962
External Groups	13,470	10,537
	<u>23,646</u>	<u>17,258</u>
<b>5 Cash</b>		
General Account	138	106
Internal Groups	1,272	1,556
External Groups	289	152
	<u>1,699</u>	<u>1,814</u>

# COUNTESTHORPE U3A

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### Accounting policies

- a. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are in accordance with the Charities SORP 2005 (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) and comply with the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2005 issued under the Charities Act 2011.
- b. The financial statements are prepared on an accruals basis.
- c. Tangible fixed assets are capitalised where expenditure exceeds £500 and are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Any assets over £500 are depreciated on a straight-line basis over three years.
- d. Fund accounting - unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees: restricted funds represent funds for a specific object and can only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

### Payments to trustees and related parties

Out of pocket expenses are refunded to trustees for costs incurred on behalf of the U3A which have been allocated to group support, membership and miscellaneous costs.

No remuneration was paid to any trustees.

**THE COUNTSTHORPE U3A**

England & Wales - Charity number 1084302

---

# Accounts

---



---

# COUNTESTHORPE u3a

---

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

# COUNTESTHORPE u3a

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

**REGISTERED CHARITY NO:** 1084302

**PRINCIPAL ADDRESS:** 4 Southfield Close  
Countesthorpe  
Leicester  
LE8 5UZ

**WEBSITE:** [www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk](http://www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk)

**CONTACT TELEPHONE:** 07854 799136

<b>TRUSTEES:</b>	David Hebblewhite	Chair
	David Hetterley	Treasurer
	Janine Tibbles	Secretary
	June Hawkins	Information & Publicity Officer, Groups Co-ordinator
	Barry Hillyard	Membership Secretary, Vice Chair
	Jill Clayton	
	Beryl Lishman	
	Gillian Brown	
	Dorothy Ivatt	
	David Norris	

David Norris joined as a committee member. All other committee members and officers continued in position from 2021-22.

## GOVERNING DOCUMENT:

Constitution adopted on 11 November 2000 with amendments on 9 May 2017 and 8 May 2018

**BANK:** HSBC  
2-6 Gallowtree Gate  
Leicester  
LE1 1DA

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:** Peter Holdridge

# COUNTESTHORPE u3a

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF COUNTESTHORPE u3a

I report to the trustees on my examination of the Countesthorpe u3a (u3a) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the u3a, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the u3a's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the u3a as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

*Peter Holdridge*

Name:

*PETER HOLDRIDGE*

Address: *25 LINDEN AVENUE, COUNTESTHORPE, LE1 CESTER, LE8 5PG*

Date: *31 MARCH 2024*

# COUNTESTHORPE u3a

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting policies as set out by charity law. The report includes the information given in the Reference and Administration section, see page 1.

### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Countesthorpe u3a is controlled by its governing document which was adopted on 11 November 2000 with its various revisions. The latest version of the Constitution, dated 8 May 2018, which was adopted at the AGM on that date and constitutes an unincorporated charity. The elected Executive Committee Officers shall be the governing body of the u3a and its board of trustees.

### RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

Trustees are recruited from the general membership to be appointed at an Annual General Meeting.

Non-Officer members retire after their period of two years to assure a degree of rotation of membership whilst providing continuity. Executive Officers retire at the end of the period specified in the constitution.

The Annual General Meeting took place on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2023. The Committee Officers announced their decisions to continue and were duly re-elected by the membership present.

### OBJECTIVES, AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the u3a as stated in its constitution are:

“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.”

#### Public Benefit

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of the objectives and activities for the year to ensure they remain focused on the u3a's goals and continue to deliver benefits to the public.

Countesthorpe u3a is dedicated to providing a supportive learning and development environment for those people in the locality who are no longer in full-time employment. We are conscious of the need to do what we can to alleviate the issues faced by those living alone, who have suffered life-changing events such as loss of employment or bereavement.

We publicise the health and wellbeing benefits of u3a membership to the community by themed articles in the local newspaper (The Countesthorpe Herald). We advertise widely, having our own website ([www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk](http://www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk)), as well as an entry on the local parish website. In previous years we have undertaken an 'outreach' campaign to raise awareness of the u3a and its many benefits.

We have also approached the local Health Centre where referrals might be forthcoming for those people who could benefit from our offerings. We produce twice yearly Newsletters, and a monthly What's On bulletin, which are available to all members and the general public in the local library and charity shop.

The Trustees are satisfied that the charity's activities provide a wide public benefit.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

Membership is open to individuals who are in their "Third Age" and are interested in participating in and helping to further the work of the u3a. Membership, is still recovering slowly post pandemic with many members coming from outside the Countesthorpe/Blaby area.

The ethos of the u3a has continued to benefit from the work of those members who act as Group Leaders and are prepared to share their skills and knowledge with other members to encourage everyone to personally develop. We have a range of more than thirty-six different activity groups covering creative activities/the arts, learning, music, physical activities, games and outings - all with the focus on personal development and supportive companionship.

Monthly meetings are held in the local village hall to enable members to meet up to listen to a wide range of speakers and to access information on current activities. A monthly bulletin informs members of "What's On" and a twice-yearly newsletter gives an overall update on the Countesthorpe u3a. These are supported by a widely used website.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Review of the year**

Overall, a surplus of £2,292 was recorded for the year, with the total fund balance as at 31/03/23 standing at £16,634. Groups, both internal and external are self-financing and we are happy that all are operating viably. The General account income was £7,052 with expenditure of £7,290, giving a small deficit of £238. Cash held in the two bank accounts was £6721.

At an EGM held in May, it was proposed that for the year 2023/24, membership fees be increased to £20 for members and £10 for associates. The proposal was put forward against a background of rising costs due to inflationary pressures in the economy. This also enabled removal of the 50p surcharge on cheque payments and the simplification of administration. It is hoped that the cost of membership can be held at this level for the foreseeable future.

Gift Aid continues to be an important source of income so we would ask all members who are tax payers, to authorise us to claim this back on your behalf when renewing your membership.

### **Reserves policy**

In 2019 the basis of the preparation of the accounts was changed by an agreement between the Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission. The financial activities of groups are now included in the annual accounts as their finances are all part of the u3a. The groups continue to be self-financing but with assistance from the main u3a for specialised equipment and start-up costs if required.

The u3a's policy on reserves is to maintain these at a level roughly equal to twelve months of outgoings. As stated, a small surplus was recorded for the year and the reserves remain at a satisfactory level. As there

are no known contingent liabilities, the trustees are satisfied that the Countesthorpe u3a is in a stable financial position and can continue operating for at least twelve months from the signature date on the Balance Sheet.

The Countesthorpe u3a maintains one current bank account for General income and expenditure and a second current account for the Internal Groups (those coming under the responsibility of the Treasurer).

The History, Theatre, Travel and Outings groups have their own bank accounts. Their figures are audited and verified by the Treasurer at the year end and incorporated into the final accounts (shown as External Groups).

In December 2021, HSBC introduced charges for charitable accounts which added further costs. It has been decided that when a suitable point arrives, the Internal Group account will be closed and the income/costs incorporated into the General account going forwards.

### **Risk Management**

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The trustees will keep this risk under review on a regular basis.

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above.

### **Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees:**

Mr D Hebblewhite, Chairman



Date: 5 April 2024

Mr D Hetterley, Treasurer



Date: 5th April '24

## COUNTSTHORPE u3a

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>			
Direct charitable income			
Membership	1	7,052	4,223
Groups	2	60,329	35,853
Blaby District Council Grant		0	0
Donations		0	16
Investment Income	3	0	0
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>67,381</b>	<b>40,092</b>
COIF account closure	3	0	1,927
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>67,381</b>	<b>42,019</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>			
Direct charitable expenditure			
Groups	4	56,652	38,622
Monthly meetings		2,439	1,496
Newsletters, printing		573	1,322
Group support costs (equipment)		54	551
Stationery & misc costs		261	609
TAT Capitation fee		1,648	1,386
TAT Beacon Licence		411	396
TAT License		60	0
TAT Magazines		885	0
TAT Network News		5	10
Website costs		608	575
Bank charges - General a/c		128	21
Miscellaneous - Group a/c		1,365	0
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b>65,089</b>	<b>44,988</b>
Net incoming resources		2,292	-2,969
Fund balance 1 April 2022		14,342	17,311
<b>Fund balance 31 March 2023</b>		<b>16,634</b>	<b>14,342</b>

## COUNTSTHORPE u3a

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Tangible Assets</b>			
Website at cost		3,015	3,015
Depreciation to date		<u>3,010</u>	<u>3,010</u>
		<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank accounts	5	17,257	14,183
Cash	6	<u>1,814</u>	<u>1,354</u>
		<u>19,071</u>	<u>15,537</u>
<b>Debtors and prepayments</b>			
Prepayments		610	1,325
Group funds paid in advance		15,809	0
Adjustment ref. 2021/22 accounts		<u>0</u>	<u>62</u>
		<u>16,419</u>	<u>1,387</u>
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u><u>35,490</u></u>	<u><u>16,924</u></u>
<b>Creditors-amount falling due within one year</b>			
Accruals		262	539
Group funds received in advance		<u>18,599</u>	<u>2,048</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>18,861</u>	<u>2,587</u>
		<u>16,629</u>	<u>14,337</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u><u>16,634</u></u>	<u><u>14,342</u></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>16,634</u>	<u>14,342</u>
		<u><u>16,634</u></u>	<u><u>14,342</u></u>

## NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

	2023	2022	
	£	£	
<b>1 General Income</b>			
Subscriptions	6,376	2,546	
Gift Aid	347	773	
Monthly visitors	17	9	
Diaries	60	91	
Donations	23	0	
Amazon Smiley	5	14	
Group A/C transfer in	203	738	
Group A/C contra	22	52	
	<u>7,052</u>	<u>4,223</u>	
<b>2 Groups Income</b>			
Internal Groups	10,468	0	
	203	0	
External Groups	48,308	0	
	1,350		
	<u>60,329</u>	<u>35,853</u>	
<b>3 COIF</b>			
COIF Investment a/c closed	0	1,927	
	<u>0</u>	<u>1,927</u>	
<b>4 Groups Expenses</b>			
Internal Groups	11,060		
	0		
External Groups	44,293		
	1,299		
	<u>56,652</u>	<u>38,622</u>	combined
<b>5 Bank</b>			
General Account	5,759	6,106	
COIF Investment Fund	0	0	
Internal Groups	962	8,077	combined
External Groups	10,537		
	<u>17,257</u>	<u>14,183</u>	
<b>6 Cash</b>			
General Account	106		
Internal Groups	1,556		
External Groups	152		
	<u>1,814</u>		

# COUNTESTHORPE U3A

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### Accounting policies

- a. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are in accordance with the Charities SORP 2005 (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) and comply with the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2005 issued under the Charities Act 2011.
- b. The financial statements are prepared on an accruals basis.
- c. Tangible fixed assets are capitalised where expenditure exceeds £500 and are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Any assets over £500 are depreciated on a straight-line basis over three years.
- d. Fund accounting - unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees: restricted funds represent funds for a specific object and can only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

### Payments to trustees and related parties

Out of pocket expenses are refunded to trustees for costs incurred on behalf of the U3A which have been allocated to group support, membership and miscellaneous costs.

No remuneration was paid to any trustees.

**THE COUNTSTHORPE U3A**

England & Wales - Charity number 1084302

---

# Accounts

---



---

# COUNTESTHORPE U3A

---

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

# COUNTESTHORPE U3A

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

**REGISTERED CHARITY NO:** 1084302

**PRINCIPAL ADDRESS:** 4 Southfield Close  
Countesthorpe  
Leicester  
LE8 5UZ

**WEBSITE:** [www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk](http://www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk)

**CONTACT TELEPHONE:** 07854 799136

<b>TRUSTEES:</b>	Barry Hillyard	Chair
	David Hetterley	Treasurer
	Janine Tibbles	Secretary
	June Hawkins	Information & Publicity Officer
	Barry Hillyard	Membership Secretary
	Jill Clayton	
	Beryl Lishman	
	David Hebblewhite	
	Gillian Brown	
	Dorothy Ivatt	

Barry Hillyard stood down as Chairman at the AGM on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022. David Hebblewhite was duly proposed and accepted the position for the year 2022/23.

Sue Wyllie stood down as Treasurer and was replaced by David Hetterley by vote of the Committee in August 2021.

## GOVERNING DOCUMENT:

Constitution adopted on 11 November 2000 with amendments on 9 May 2017 and 8 May 2018

**BANK:** HSBC  
Enderby Road  
Blaby  
Leicester  
LE8 4FZ

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:** David Norris

# COUNTESTHORPE U3A

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF COUNTESTHORPE U3A

I report to the trustees on my examination of the Countesthorpe U3A (U3A) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the U3A, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the U3A's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

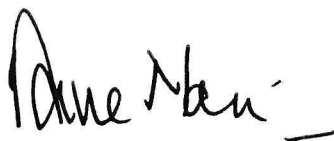
### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the U3A as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name:

DAVID NORRIS

Address:

28 Mulberry Court  
Enderby Road  
Blaby  
LE8 4BL

Date:

December 9, 2022

# COUNTESTHORPE U3A

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting policies as set out by charity law. The report includes the information given in the Reference and Administration section, see page 2.

### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Countesthorpe U3A is controlled by its governing document which was adopted on 11 November 2000 with its various revisions. The latest version of the Constitution, dated 8 May 2018, which was adopted at the AGM on that date and constitutes an unincorporated charity. The elected Executive Committee Officers shall be the governing body of the U3A and its board of trustees.

### RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

Trustees are recruited from the general membership to be appointed at an Annual General Meeting.

Non-Officer members retire after their period of two years to assure a degree of rotation of membership whilst providing continuity. Executive Officers retire at the end of the period specified in the constitution.

The Annual General Meeting took place on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2022. Barry Hillyard announced his decision to stand down as Chairman and David Hebblewhite was proposed and elected to the position. The remaining Committee Officers announced their decisions to continue and were duly re-elected by the membership present.

### OBJECTIVES, AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the U3A as stated in its constitution are:

“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.”

#### Public Benefit

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of the objectives and activities for the year to ensure they remain focused on the U3A's goals and continue to deliver benefits to the public.

Countesthorpe U3A is dedicated to providing a supportive learning and development environment for those people in the locality who are no longer in full-time employment. We are conscious of the need to do what we can to alleviate the issues faced by those living alone, who have suffered life-changing events such as loss of employment or bereavement.

We publicise the health and wellbeing benefits of U3A membership to the community by themed articles in the local newspaper (The Countesthorpe Herald). We advertise widely, having our own website ([www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk](http://www.countesthorpeu3a.co.uk)), as well as an entry on the local parish website. In previous years we have undertaken an 'outreach' campaign to raise awareness of the U3A and its many benefits.

We have also approached the local Health Centre where referrals might be forthcoming for those people who could benefit from our offerings. Our publications are also displayed in the local library and charity shop.

The Trustees are satisfied that the charity's activities provide a wide public benefit.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

Membership is open to individuals who are in their "Third Age" and are interested in participating in and helping to further the work of the U3A. Membership, which had fallen (from more than 500) through the pandemic has started to recover and is now back above 400 and growing, attracting people from a wide area.

The ethos of the U3A has continued to benefit from the work of those members who act as Group Leaders and are prepared to share their skills and knowledge with other members to encourage everyone to personally develop. We have a range of more than thirty-six different activity groups covering creative activities/the arts, learning, music, physical activities, games and outings - all with the focus on personal development and supportive companionship.

Monthly meetings are held in the local village hall to enable members to meet up to listen to a wide range of speakers and to access information on current activities. A monthly bulletin informs members of "What's On" and a twice-yearly newsletter gives an overall update on the Countesthorpe U3A. These are supported by a widely used website.

The gradual easing of coronavirus restrictions through the summer of 2021 led to a slow return of meetings and activities, although attendance was (understandably) patchy at first. However, by the time of the AGM, all groups were functioning and a full programme of events set out for the months ahead.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

### Review of the year

The decision to reduce membership fees to £5 for the year 2021/22, together with the reduced membership, resulted in a trading loss of £2969 for the year. Costs were incurred as activities resumed but no additional fee was sought from the members as the accounts were in a healthy position in accordance with the reserves policy (below).

The monthly publication of "The Chronicle" which had been introduced to keep members involved through the pandemic ended in July 2021 as activities gradually resumed. A grant from Blaby District Council provided welcome financial support for The Chronicle, which was distributed electronically where possible, and posted to members who were not online.

### Reserves policy

In 2019 the basis of the preparation of the accounts was changed by an agreement between the Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission. The financial activities of groups are now being incorporated as their finances are all part of the U3A. The groups continue to be self-financing but with assistance from the main U3A for specialised equipment and start-up costs if required.

The U3A's policy on reserves is to maintain these at a level equal to twelve months of outgoings. Although a loss has been recorded in 2022, the reserves remain at around twelve months normal expenditure and as there are no known contingent liabilities, the trustees are satisfied that the Countesthorpe U3A is in a stable financial position and can continue operating for at least twelve months from the signature date on the Balance Sheet.

The Countesthorpe U3A maintains a current bank account for general income and expenditure, with separate bank accounts for group activities. The COIF Charities Deposit Fund was closed in May 2021 and the balance of £1927.25 transferred to the General Account.

In December 2021, HSBC introduced charges for charitable accounts which has added a further cost. It has been decided that other banking options should be investigated when time allows.

### Risk Management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The trustees will keep this risk under review on a regular basis.

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees:



Mr B Hillyard, Chairman

15/12/2022

Date:



Mr D Hetterley, Treasurer

13/12/22

Date:

# COUNTESTHORPE U3A

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

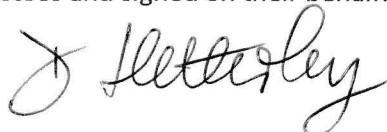
	Notes	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £ restricted
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Direct charitable income				
Membership	1	4,223	6,550	
Groups	2	35,853	6,834	
Blaby District Council Grant		0	0	1,000
Donations		16	0	
Investment Income		0	2	
COIF account closure		1,927		
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>42,019</b>	<b>13,386</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>				
Direct charitable expenditure				
Groups	3	38,622	8,035	
Capitation fee		1,386	1,575	
Monthly meetings		1,496	0	
Magazines and newsletters		1,322	1,204	
Group support costs		551	941	1,000
Stationery & misc. costs		609	0	
Beacon Licence		396	513	
Network News		10	0	
Website costs		575	0	
Bank charges		21	0	
Miscellaneous		0	382	
<b>Total Resources expended</b>		<b>44,988</b>	<b>12,650</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>		<b>-2,969</b>	<b>736</b>	
Fund balance 1 April 2020		17,311	16,575	0
<b>Fund balance 31 March 2021</b>		<b>14,342</b>	<b>17,311</b>	<b>0</b>

# COUNTTESTHORPE U3A

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Tangible Assets</b>			
Website at cost		3015	3,015
Depreciation to date		3010	3,010
		<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank accounts	4	14,183	17,015
Cash		1,354	491
		<u>15,537</u>	<u>17,506</u>
Debtors and prepayments		1,325	872
Group funds paid in advance		0	0
Adjustment		62	0
		<u>1,387</u>	<u>872</u>
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u><b>16,924</b></u>	<u><b>18,378</b></u>
<b>Creditors-amount falling due within one year</b>			
Accruals		539	142
Group funds received in advance		2048	930
		<u>2587</u>	<u>1,072</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>14,337</u>	<u>17,306</u>
		<u><b>14,342</b></u>	<u><b>17,311</b></u>
<b>Funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		14,342	17,311
		<u>14,342</u>	<u>17,311</u>

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf:



Mr D Hetterley, Treasurer

09/12/22

Date:

# COUNTTESTHORPE U3A

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

### Accounting policies

- a. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are in accordance with the Charities SORP 2005 (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) and comply with the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2005 issued under the Charities Act 2011.
- b. The financial statements are prepared on an accruals basis.
- c. Tangible fixed assets are capitalised where expenditure exceeds £500 and are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Any assets over £500 are depreciated on a straight-line basis over three years.
- d. Fund accounting - unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees: restricted funds represent funds for a specific object and can only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

### 1 Membership

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Subscriptions	2,546	5,773
Gift Aid	773	777
Monthly visitors	9	0
Diaries	91	0
Amazon Smiley	14	0
Group A/C transfer in	738	0
Group A/C contra	52	0
	<u><b>4,223</b></u>	<u><b>6,550</b></u>

### 2 Groups income

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Learning	0	487
Activity	0	442
Personal Development	0	5,905
	<u><b>35,853</b></u>	<u><b>6,834</b></u>

### 3 Groups expenses

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Learning	0	600
Activity	0	520
Personal Development	0	6,915
	<u><b>38,622</b></u>	<u><b>8,035</b></u>

#### 4 Bank Balances

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General Bank Account	6,106	6,248
COIF Investment Fund	0	1,927
Group Bank Accounts	8,077	8,840
	<u>14,183</u>	<u>17,015</u>

#### Payments to trustees and related parties

Out of pocket expenses are refunded to trustees for costs incurred on behalf of the U3A which have been allocated to group support, membership and miscellaneous costs.

No remuneration was paid to any trustees.