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# **COUNTESTHORPE u3a**

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**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 Noldridge*

Name:

*PETER NOLDRIDGE*

Address:

*25 LINDEN AVENUE  
COUNTSTHORPE  
LEICESTER  
LE8 5PG*

Date:

*1 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

# COUNTTESTHORPE 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>
		<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank accounts	4	19,733	23,646
Cash	5	<u>1,970</u>	<u>1,699</u>
		<b>21,703</b>	<b>25,345</b>
<b>Debtors and prepayments</b>			
Prepayments		320	566
Group funds paid in advance		<u>2,126</u>	<u>2,890</u>
		<b>2,446</b>	<b>3,456</b>
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>24,149</b>	<b>28,801</b>
<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>		<b>7,445</b>	<b>11,620</b>
Current assets less liabilities		<u>16,704</u>	<u>17,181</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>16,709</b>	<b>17,186</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds		16,709	17,186
		<b>16,709</b>	<b>17,186</b>



## NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

	2025	2024
<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>	<b><u>7,513</u></b>	<b><u>7,793</u></b>
 <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
	<b><u>49,852</u></b>	<b><u>57,399</u></b>
 <b>3 Groups Expenses</b>		
Internal Groups - Bank & Cash	12,780	12,575
External Groups - Bank & Cash	37,581	44,404
	<b><u>50,361</u></b>	<b><u>56,979</u></b>
 <b>4 Bank</b>		
General Account (inc. Internal Groups)	10,568	10,176
External Groups	9,165	13,470
	<b><u>19,733</u></b>	<b><u>23,646</u></b>
 <b>5 Cash</b>		
General Account	100	138
Internal Groups	1,555	1,272
External Groups	315	289
	<b><u>1,970</u></b>	<b><u>1,699</u></b>

# COUNTTESTHORPE 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.