

ANNUAL REPORT of the Trustees of Dorridge u3a, year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees of the Dorridge u3a (“the Trustees”) are pleased to present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

1. Reference and Administrative Information

1.1 Charity Name: Dorridge University of the Third Age (“Dorridge u3a”, “the Charity”)

Charity Registration Number: 1097335

1.2 Office:	5 Bushwood Drive, Dorridge, Solihull, B93 8JL. (to 16 th October 2023)	6 Glendon Way, Dorridge, Solihull, B93 8SY. (from 16 th October 2023)
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Email: u3adorridge@gmail.com

Website: www.dorridgeu3a.co.uk

1.3 The Trustees:

The following Members, who are trustees for the purposes of charity law and who served during the year and up to the date of this report (unless indicated otherwise), are set out below:

Chair:	William Foster
Vice-chair & Group Activity Advisor:	David Brittin
Vice-chair & Membership Secretary:	Elizabeth Mansell
Treasurer:	Stephen Boulton
Secretary:	Robert Beckham (to 16 th October 2023)
Secretary:	Patricia Lawrence (from 16 th October 2023)
Speaker Secretary:	Robert Mansell
Visits Coordinator & Village Hall Liaison:	Patricia Lawrence
Website Coordinator:	Elizabeth Murray
Minutes Secretary:	Kay Ashley
Member:	Joy Harrison
Member:	Margaret Lilley
Member:	Jenni Ord (co-opted 16 th October 2023)

1.4 Independent Examiner:

Richard Savage,
388 Station Road,
Dorridge,
Solihull, B93 8ES.

1.5 Bankers:

HSBC Bank plc,
34 Poplar Road,
Solihull, B91 3AF.

1.6 Website & Crier:

Crier Editor: Peter Derrington

Webmasters: Richard Arbuthnot & David Archer

2. Dorridge u3a

u3a is a UK-wide movement of locally run interest groups that provide a wide range of opportunities to come together to learn for fun. Members explore new ideas, skills, and activities together. The u3a national body – the Third Age Trust – looks after more than one thousand u3as with nearly 400,000 members in the UK, providing educational and administrative support.

Dorridge u3a is affiliated to the national body and has over 500 members participating in over 40 interest groups.

2.1 Objectives and Activities:

The charity's object ("the object") is the advancement of education, and in particular the education of older people and those retired from full-time work, using all means including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development in Dorridge and the surrounding area.

2.2 Policies and Values:

The Policies and Values of Dorridge U3A may be viewed by visiting the Dorridge u3a website, or by following this link: [Policies and Values - Dorridge U3A](#)

2.3 Constitution:

Similarly, the Dorridge u3A Constitution may be viewed here: [Constitution - Dorridge U3A](#)

2.4 Structure and Management:

Dorridge u3a members may be either **Individual** or **Associate** members. Both styles of membership enjoy the same rights, but **Individual** members make financial contributions directly to the running of the u3A national body, whereas **Associate** members do this via their membership of another affiliated u3a club, and consequently benefit from reduced annual subscriptions to Dorridge u3a.

Dorridge u3a is managed by an elected committee of between 5 and 15 trustees who are paid-up members of the Charity and including, as a minimum, the following Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary & Treasurer. Trustees are normally elected at the Annual General Meeting, but up to 3 may be coopted during the year.

An Annual General Meeting will be called each year, within 15 months of the date of the previous AGM, for the purpose of reviewing the performance of the Charity during the previous accounting period, and for the election of Trustees and Officers of the Charity.

Special General Meetings ("Executive Committee Meetings") may be called at intervals during the year, at the prerogative of the Trustees.

Other rules & procedures governing the management of Dorridge u3a may be found in the Dorridge u3a Constitution: [Constitution - Dorridge U3A](#)

2.5 Financial, Reserves Policy & Governance:

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The trustees of Dorridge u3a are responsible for:

- Safeguarding the assets of the Dorridge u3a.
- Identifying and managing the risk of loss, waste, theft or fraud.
- Ensuring the financial reporting is robust and of sufficient quality.
- Keeping financial records in accordance with the governing document and relevant legislation (e.g. Charities Acts, Companies Acts etc).
- Preparing Annual Accounts in accordance with the governing document and relevant legislation.
- The accounts should show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Dorridge u3a.

Trustees are jointly responsible for keeping full financial records. These include those of the u3a and all the interest groups, sub-groups etc., where appropriate. To enable the trustees to carry out these responsibilities, the financial procedures detailed below will be followed. A copy of this policy will be given to all trustees on their election/appointment to the committee and made available to members on the website. The policy will be kept under review and revised as necessary.

2.6 Reserves Policy:

Dorridge u3a aims to keep a level of reserves that will cover six months of day-to-day expenses. This refers to the direct level of Expenses incurred and does include the self-funding elements of the various interest groups.

2.7 Governance:

At the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 18th May 2023, the meeting resolved to appoint Richard Savage as Independent Examiner for the year to 31st December 2023.

3. Achievements and Performance 2023

3.1 Chair's Review of the Year:

At the AGM on 7th March 2024, William Foster commented that the change of AGM date from mid-May to early March would mean that his second year as chair would be less than twelve months. Membership remains at over 500 (511), still the largest in the Solihull. This continues to provide a firm foundation and solid income, allowing good speakers to be secured for the twice monthly general meetings, which had attracted a good attendance throughout the last year.

He expressed his thanks to the Speaker Secretary, Bob Mansell, for his sterling work in providing a good balance of speaker topics and also to those who have made refreshments, metted and greeted, and helped with the chairs over the past year.

One of the big successes had been, of course, the annual pantomime. Cinderella appeared to have found great favour with everyone, despite the last-minute reservations of the cast!

Dorridge u3a has a wide range of activity groups, most of which remain popular, but with a few struggling with low membership numbers. As an experiment, group leaders had been asked to attend the AGM, so that they could talk to prospective new members after

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the main business of the AGM had been concluded. He reminded members that if there wasn't a group for a topic of their interest, they could always start one!

Representatives from all the Solihull u3a's meet three or four times a year to share ideas. To help keep Dorridge u3a to the fore William had recently volunteered to be chair of this cluster group, together with Bob Mansell on its committee.

Finally, he expressed his thanks to all the committee for all their hard work throughout the year to keep Dorridge u3a running smoothly. Obviously, the committee were on the lookout for new, enthusiastic people to replace those members who had served their nominal terms of office.

3.2 Speaker Secretary's Report:

Dorridge U3A always seeks to engage good quality speakers for our general meetings of which we have two per month, in total we usually book twenty-two speakers, with two of the dates being kept for the AGM and an in-house quiz. We regularly have an attendance of 70 to 80 members for the general meetings, which is back to where it was pre-Covid.

It has become noticeable since the Covid lockdown that speaker costs have started to rise, with a number of speakers now charging £100 plus, additionally more speakers charge travel expenses on top of their fee. Our anticipated speaker costs for the current year (2024) will be in the region of £1600, although the cost for one of the talks (21st November - £150) will be paid out of the Louisa Jakeman bequest.


3.3 Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement:

- a) The Treasurer reviewed the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2023, previously issued to all members, and attached below.
- b) The Treasurer proposed approval for the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2023; seconded by Sue Berridge and approved by those present.
- c) The Chair proposed the appointment of Chris Price as Independent Examiner for du3a for the accounting year ending 31 December 2024; seconded by Robert Beckham and approved by those present.
- d) The Treasurer proposed approval of the budget and annual subscription for the year starting 1 January 2025; seconded by Bob Mansell and approved by those present.

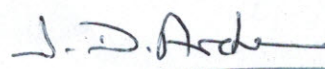
The Treasurer, Stephen Boulton, explained that he was stepping down as Treasurer at this AGM, and advised that David Archer has offered to take up the position, if elected uncontested. Stephen recorded his thanks to the Committee and to the membership during his time in office.

The Chair recorded his thanks to Stephen Boulton, David Archer, Richard Savage and Chris Price.

Approved by the Dorridge u3a Committee on 15th April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



William Foster
Chair



David Archer
Honorary Treasurer

Receipts and Payments account (excluding Activity Groups, Outings and Legacies)

	2023	2022	Budget 2024	Budget 2025	2023 v Budget
Income					2023 main variances
Members Subs	£8,447	£5,381	£8,410	£8,490	Slightly fewer members -£153
Social events					
Interest	£249	£50		£250	Much higher bank rates £249
Miscellaneous		£150			
Total Income	£8,696	£5,581	£8,410	£8,740	£96
Expenditure					
Third Age Trust - membership fees, etc	£2,032	£2,160	£2,100	£1,880	Over budgetted £331
Third Age Matters	£1,370	£1,293	£1,385	£1,480	Price increase -£285
Beacon system costs	£508	£521	£535	£540	£17
Rent	£880	£840	£1,008	£924	Over budgetted £120
Speakers	£1,715	£1,109	£1,801	£1,970	Over budgetted £285
Social events	£375	£261	£250	£394	Under budgetted -£125
Website costs	£243	£243	£250	£250	£7
Miscellaneous	£10	£150			-£10
Covid-19 costs	£144	£190		£144	Paper cups - no budget -£144
Dorridge Day		£102	£150	£100	Over budgetted £150
Refreshments	£245	£181	£150	£250	Under budgetted -£145
Postage and Stationery	£94	£168	£175	£100	£56
Paypal Fees	£94	£60	£100	£100	-£44
Bank charges	£202	£216	£216	£216	-£27
Equipment Purchases	£279	£1,264	£250	£325	Over budgetted £221
Total Expenditure	£8,191	£8,738	£8,370	£8,652	£407
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	£506	-£3,157	£40	£88	£503

Legacies, Groups and Outings - income and expenditure

	Legacies	Groups	Outings
Income	£21,850	£5,413	
Expenditure	£20,106	£5,583	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	£1,744	-£170	

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the end of the period

	2023	2022
Cash at bank and in hand		
Deposit Bond	£5,000	£5,000
Deposit Account	£5,005	£1,920
Current Account	£488	£1,496
Petty cash	£93	£91
Total cash at bank and in hand	£10,586	£8,507
Other Assets/Liabilities		
Total Assets	£10,586	£8,507
General Reserves		
Balance brought forward 1st January	£8,699	£9,856
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	£506	-£3,157
Transfer from Outings		
Balance carried forward 31st December	£7,204	£6,699
Legacies, Groups and Outings balances		
Balance brought forward 1st Jan.	£515	£650
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	£1,744	-£135
Transfer (to)/from reserves		
Balance carried forward 31st Dec.	£515	£756
Total reserves	£10,586	£8,507

These accounts were approved at a meeting of the charity's trustees on:

And signed on their behalf by:

William Foster

W.T. Foster

(Chair)

15/01/24

Public Benefit

Public benefit in the case of DU3A is to its members. The trustees will try to deal with any complaints or criticisms as quickly as possible.

Designated Monies

All monies passing through the charity's accounts are for the purpose of the charity meeting its objects. There are no designated funds included

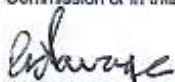
Reserves Policy

The trustees have a budget prepared for the next year showing projections of receipts and payments. This is used to project figures for the charity's liquid assets at the end of that year. This is done during the current year, prior to the AGM. With these in front of them, the trustees can decide on any action needed by way of increasing or decreasing members' subscriptions or plan the purchase of needed equipment or services during the following year.

Independent Examiners Report

I have examined the records and accounts of Dorridge U3A and find that in my opinion the accounts are in line with the underlying records and that no matters have come to my attention that should be reported to the Charity Commission or in this connection to the members in general.

Signed


Mr Richard Savage

Date: 10/01/24

ACTIVITY GROUP BALANCES

	01-Jan-23	Receipts	Payments	31-Dec-23
Art Group	46.70	510.50	-432.00	125.20
Ballroom Dancing	6.00	361.00	-324.00	43.00
Bridge	147.57	580.00	-456.00	271.57
Choir	80.00	780.00	-750.00	110.00
Film Group	60.00	554.00	-497.00	117.00
Gardening		16.00	-16.00	
History Group	48.00		-16.00	32.00
International Dance	2.00	138.00	-140.00	
IT Group	356.11	579.00	-259.00	676.11
Musicals		462.00	-504.00	-42.00
Opera	15.41	86.00	-71.00	30.41
Panto Group	52.05	1,713.95	-1,108.86	657.14
Pickleball		771.00	-770.10	0.90
Racket ball	34.40	390.00	-390.00	34.40
Science	62.00	482.00	-308.00	236.00
Short Mat Bowls	-9.00	673.00	-664.00	
Table Tennis 1	-4.80	1,124.80	-1,120.00	
Table Tennis 2		2,040.00	-2,000.00	40.00
Table Tennis 3	-88.60	1,010.00	-920.00	1.20
Table Tennis 4	34.15	1,993.00	-2,000.00	27.15
Table Tennis 5	44.00	2,036.00	-2,040.00	40.00
Table Tennis 6		2,040.00	-2,040.00	
Table Tennis 7	-150.00	2,150.00	-1,960.00	40.00
Table Tennis 8		1,360.00	-1,320.00	40.00
New TT tables fund	20.00			20.00
TOTALS	755.79	21,850.25	-20,105.96	2,500.08

Group finished in April

W.T. Foster

These accounts were approved at a meeting of the charity's trustees on : 15/01/2024.

And signed on their behalf by :

W.T. Foster

(Chair)

William Foster

Chair's and Trustees Reports

To be presented at the AGM

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Signed


Mr Richard Savage

10/1/2024.
Date: