

# **ANNUAL REPORT of the Trustees of Dorridge u3a, year ended 31 December 2025**

The Trustees of the Dorridge u3a (“the Trustees”) are pleased to present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025.

## **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:** 6 Glendon Way,  
Dorridge,  
Solihull, B93 8SY.

**Email:** [du3asecretary@gmail.com](mailto:du3asecretary@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.dorridgeu3a.co.uk](http://www.dorridgeu3a.co.uk)

### **1.3 The Trustees:**

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

Chair:	William Foster
Vice-chair & Group Activity Advisor:	David Brittin
Vice-chair & Membership Secretary:	Elizabeth Mansell
Treasurer:	David Archer
Secretary:	Pat Lawrence
Speaker Secretary:	Robert Mansell
Visits Coordinator:	Kate O’Hara
Website Coordinator:	Elizabeth Murray / Stephen Boulton
Minutes Secretary:	Elizabeth Murray
Member:	Joy Harrison
Member:	Margaret Lilley
Member:	Jenni Ord
Member:	Stephen Boulton
Member:	Stephen Cheshire

### **1.4 Independent Examiner:**

Christopher Price,  
8 Gilbury Close,  
Knowle,  
Solihull, B93 8JZ.

### **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:**

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 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025, the meeting resolved to appoint Christopher Price as Independent Examiner for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

# **3. Achievements and Performance 2024**

## **3.1 Chair's Review of the Year:**

We again held our AGM in March rather than May and the move has proved successful in encouraging more members to attend. Attendance figures have also been swelled by the committee's decision to continue to provide an activity group fair at the AGM whereby group leaders can talk to prospective new group members after the conclusion of the main business.

Dorridge u3a has a wide range of activity groups and several new groups have started this year including cycling and photography, and another has been resurrected, classical music appreciation.

Membership continues to grow and we are now approaching 600 members. One reason for this is the popularity and increasing number of outings arranged by our Outings organiser. A number of members of other local u3as have joined Dorridge in order to take advantage of priority booking.

## **ANNUAL REPORT of the Trustees of Dorridge u3a, year ended 31 December 2025**

We continue to secure excellent speakers for the twice monthly general meetings, which attract a good attendance throughout the year, sometimes reaching three figures. Once again, a small group of members performed a pantomime in November for the benefit of the rest of the membership, which was well received. This year's production was Jack and beanstalk.

Several members of the committee are approaching a decade of committee membership, and this continuity has helped to make Dorridge u3a the local success that it is. I remain grateful for their support and hard work throughout the year.

Additionally, I continued to chair the Solihull Cluster of u3as although it struggles to recruit members to its committee.

### **3.2 Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement:**

2025 concludes another successful year for Dorridge U3A.

Our General Fund (i.e. excluding Group Funds & Legacies) showed a significant increase in Income, with both subscription income increased as a result of a larger membership, and an unexpected source of income from the Riviera Travel scheme.

Expenditure was broadly as forecast with no significant capital expenditure although the Committee has allocated £700 for the purchase of a new laptop. Overall, our General Funds showed a surplus of £2,928 compared with £177 in 2024.

The various group have all been very active during the year. Worthy of comment are the Outings Group which included visits to Burghley House & Stamford, the Malvern Spring Festival, the National Memorial Arboretum and Blenheim Palace at Christmas, and, of course, the Panto Group, which put on another successful production (Jack & the Beanstalk).

#### **Net General Fund Reserves    £10,310 (compared with £7,382 in 2024)**

The budget for 2026 was based on the following assumptions:

- a) Membership as per 2025 (530 full members, 60 associate members.
- b) 5% increase in Third Age Trust subscription, Third Age Matters and Beacon Licence fee.
- c) General Meeting speakers' fees as provided by the Speaker Secretary.
- d) Modest increases in line with inflation elsewhere.    £700 allocated for the purchase of a new laptop.

To achieve a balanced budget in 2026, our forecast indicated that we did not need any increase in annual fees. The Committee considered this in October 2025 and resolved to keep 2026 subscriptions at their 2025 levels, namely £17 per full member and £11 for Associate Members. This has been implemented.

## **ANNUAL REPORT of the Trustees of Dorridge u3a, year ended 31 December 2025**

The Treasurer offers his sincere thanks to the following:

Christopher Price for his role as Independent Examiner.

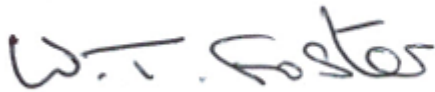
Stephen Boulton for his assistance during the year and in the preparation of the 2025 Annual Accounts.

The various Group Leaders for their punctuality in payments of their funds.

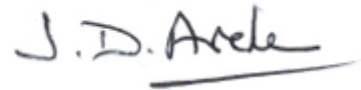
Chairman William Foster and other Members of the Dorridge u3a Executive Committee.

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

Approved by the Dorridge u3a AGM on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026, and signed on its behalf by:



William Foster  
Chair



David Archer  
Honorary Treasurer

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

	2025	2024	Budget 2025	Budget 2026	
<b>Income</b>					<b>2026 budget assumptions</b>
Members Subs	£9,772	£8,321	£8,490	£9,670	530 members @ £17 + 60 @ £11
Social events					
Interest	£422	£387	£250	£250	
Miscellaneous	£586				
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£10,780</b>	<b>£8,708</b>	<b>£8,740</b>	<b>£9,920</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Third Age Trust - membership fees, etc	£2,093	£1,980	£1,880	£2,520	< £4.75 per full member (530)
Third Age Matters	£1,521	£1,326	£1,460	£1,700	< 400 addresses @ £4.25
Beacon system costs	£552	£530	£540	£650	< 590 @ £1.1 a head
Rent	£990	£964	£1,012	£1,037	< est. based on 2025 act + 5%
Speakers	£1,392	£1,714	£1,891	£1,400	< Bob Mansell
Social events	£361	£173	£182	£400	< est. based on 2025 act + 5%
Website costs	£243	£243	£250	£250	
Miscellaneous	£43	£37			
Covid-19 costs					
Dorridge Day		£26	£100	£100	
Refreshments	£243	£328	£250	£300	
Postage and Stationery	£69	£99	£100	£150	
Paypal Fees	£107	£88	£100	£120	
Bank charges	£188	£222	£216	£220	< est. based on 2025
Equipment Purchases	£50	£801	£325	£800	< includes £700 for new laptop ap
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£7,852</b>	<b>£8,530</b>	<b>£8,306</b>	<b>£9,647</b>	
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>£2,928</b>	<b>£177</b>	<b>£434</b>	<b>£273</b>	
<b>Legacies, Groups and Outings - income and expenditure</b>					
	<b>Legacies</b>	<b>Groups</b>	<b>Outings</b>		
Income	£24,498	£8,808			
Expenditure	£25,068	£8,932			
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>£570</b>	<b>£124</b>			

	2025	2024	Budget 2025	Budget 2026
<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the end of the period</b>				
Cash at bank and in hand				
Deposit Bond	£9,000	£9,000		
Deposit Account	£5,241	£3,108		
Current Account	£1,610	£2,234		
Petty cash	£1	£46		
<b>Total cash at bank and in hand</b>	<b>£12,631</b>	<b>£14,388</b>		
Other Assets/Liabilities (2026 income received in 2025)		£3,991		
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>£12,631</b>	<b>£10,397</b>	<b>Bank balances £11,081</b>	<b>Bank balances £11,604</b>
<b>General Reserves</b>				
Balance brought forward 1st January	£7,382	£7,204	B/F £7,382	B/F £7,816
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	£2,928	£177	Surplus £434	Surplus £273
Transfer from Outings				
<b>Balance carried forward 31st December</b>	<b>£10,310</b>	<b>£7,382</b>	<b>General Reserves £7,816</b>	<b>General Reserves £8,089</b>
<b>Legacies, Groups and Outings balances</b>				
	<b>Legacies</b>	<b>Groups</b>	<b>Outings</b>	
Balance brought forward 1st Jan.	£365	£2,170	£480	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		£570	£124	
Transfer (to)/from reserves				
<b>Balance carried forward 31st Dec.</b>	<b>£365</b>	<b>£1,600</b>	<b>£356</b>	
<b>Total reserves</b>	<b>£12,631</b>	<b>£10,397</b>	<b>£11,081</b>	<b>£11,604</b>

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

And signed on their behalf by :

(Chair)

Checksum  
(0.00)

Chair's and Trustees Reports

To be presented at the AGM

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 Christopher Price

Date:

25/1/26

£0

## ACTIVITY GROUP BALANCES

	01-Jan-25	Receipts	Payments	31-Dec-25
Art Group	23.20	426.00	-450.00	-0.80
Ballroom Dancing	1.00	318.50	-319.50	
Bridge	241.57	520.00	-488.00	273.57
Choir	74.00	825.76	-1,007.89	-108.13
Film Group	122.00	945.00	-600.00	467.00
Gardening				
History Group	32.00			32.00
IT Group	399.11	196.00	-450.00	145.11
Musicals		660.00	-720.00	-60.00
Opera	214.41	240.00	-93.30	361.11
Panto Group	424.72	1,375.52	-1,801.11	-0.87
Pickleball	0.90			0.90
Racket ball	34.40	400.00	-400.00	34.40
Science	214.00	372.00	-490.00	96.00
Short Mat Bowls	-61.51	796.26	-798.50	-63.75
Table Tennis 1		1,350.00	-1,300.00	50.00
Table Tennis 2	48.00	2,452.00	-2,450.00	50.00
Table Tennis 3		1,200.00	-1,200.00	
Table Tennis 4	48.00	2,452.00	-2,500.00	
Table Tennis 5	48.00	2,402.00	-2,450.00	
Table Tennis 6		2,450.00	-2,500.00	-50.00
Table Tennis 7	96.00	2,567.00	-2,500.00	163.00
Table Tennis 8		2,550.00	-2,550.00	
New TT tables fund	210.33			210.33
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b><u>2,170.13</u></b>	<b><u>24,498.04</u></b>	<b><u>-25,068.30</u></b>	<b><u>1,599.87</u></b>
Outings	480.21	8,808.00	-8,932.05	356.16

CHARITY COMMISSION REPORTING FIGURES	2025	2024
Income	£10,780	£8,708
Legacies		
Groups	£24,498	£23,785
Outings	£8,808	£6,778
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£44,086</b>	<b>£39,271</b>
Expenditure	£7,852	£8,530
Legacies		£150
Groups	£25,068	£24,115
Outings	£8,932	£6,665
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£41,852</b>	<b>£39,461</b>