

# STAFFORD UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (U3A)

England & Wales · Charity number 1120043

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2007-07-12

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

## Contact

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**Address** 6 St. Johns Road  
Stafford  
ST17 9AS

**Phone** 01785593039

**Email** [STAFFORDU3ABUSSECRETARY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STAFFORDU3ABUSSECRETARY@GMAIL.COM)

**Website** [www.safford.u3asite.uk](http://www.safford.u3asite.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE U3A 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.

**Activities:** 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.

## Classification

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- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Recreation
- **Who:** Elderly/old People

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** STAFFORD
- Staffordshire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-01-31	£72,081	£76,373	-	-
2024-01-31	£112,609	£107,472	-	-
2023-01-31	£95,710	£96,698	-	-
2022-01-31	£44,563	£39,828	-	-
2021-01-31	£16,936	£18,234	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alan Cowey		2026-03-09
Audrey Bright		2024-02-22
David John Bengé		2024-11-14
Geoffrey Dowzall		2026-03-09
HELEN HOOD		2013-05-01
Henryk Smialowski		2024-08-07
June Williams		2015-03-09
Linda Sparkes		2026-04-20
Raymond Braziel		2019-11-27

**STAFFORD UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (U3A)**

England & Wales - Charity number 1120043

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 1st February 2024 To: 31st December 2024

Charity name: Stafford University of the Third Age

Charity registration number: 1120043

### Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>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.</b>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<b>The activities are organised in Groups, each led by a group leader. The activities are many and varied comprising, discussion groups, craft groups, physical activity groups, creativity groups, cultural activity groups etc..</b>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<b>The trustees comprise the committee which meets to ensure effective management and governance of the charity with regard to CC guidance on public benefit.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	

Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<b>The charity has enabled elderly and retired people to take part in activities such as: discussion groups, craft groups, physical activity groups, creativity groups, cultural activity groups, day trips, theatre visits, hosteling, and monthly general meetings, which they would otherwise would not be able to take part in. In many cases it has enhanced their knowledge and physical mobility.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	

Other		
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## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<b>The charity's financial position is set out on the financial statement (submitted and uploaded as part of the annual report )</b>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<b>The charity aims to hold a reserve which would allow it to run for 4 months as a sinking fund.</b>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£11395, as on 31st December 2024</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>Registered charity</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>Unincorporated association</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more	Para 1.25	<b>As defined by constitution.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Stafford University of the Third Age.
Other name the charity uses	Stafford u3a
Registered charity number	1120043
Charity's principal address	6, St. John's Road Stafford. ST17 9AS.





Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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### Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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### Other optional information

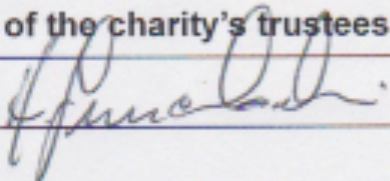
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## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Henryk Smialowski

Position (eg  
Secretary, Chair, etc)

Secretary

Date

18th September 2025

**Stafford U3A Accounts February 1st 2024 to 31st December 2024**

Expenditure	£	Receipts	£
<i>Third Age Trust Payments</i>			
Capitation Fees ,CLA licence renewal, U3A News Direct Mail, Beacon	6,919 ✓	Subscriptions	10,903 ✓
<b>Sub-total a</b>	<b>6,913 ✓</b>	Gift Aid reclaimed	1,506 ✓
<i>Asset Costs – see Note 1</i>			
New Treasurer laptop	518 ✓	Group Income	15,971 ✓
<b>Sub-total b</b>	<b>518 ✓</b>	Monthly Meeting	1,831 ✓
<i>Running Costs</i>			
Room Hire	13,420 ✓	Donations	0 ✓
Group Expenditure	2,407 ✓	Sundries (incl TAM)	- 534 ✓
Committee Costs (Print, post, meetings)	2,537 ✓	Hostelling & Trailwalking receipts	15,022 ✓
Group Leaders Lunch	888 ✓	Hostelling & Trailwalking outgoing	-17,177 ✓
Sundries (ICT support, honoraria)	692 ✓	Days Out & Theatre Visits receipts	6,314 ✓
<b>Sub-total c</b>	<b>19,944 ✓</b>	Days Out & Theatre Visits outgoing	-6,977 ✓
<i>Social events</i>			
Monthly Meeting	3,889 ✓	HF Holidays receipts	15,948 ✓
<b>Sub-total d</b>	<b>3,889 ✓</b>	HF Holidays outgoing	-18,118 ✓
<b>Total Expenditure ( a + b + c + d)</b>	<b>31,264 ✓</b>	Other Social receipts	4,052 ✓
		Other Social outgoing	-2,843 ✓
		Bank interest	312 ✓
		<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>27,277</b>
		<b>Add Deficit: Expenditure over Receipts</b>	<b>3,987</b>
			<b>31,264</b>

Liabilities	£	Assets	£
Cheques not presented (No.1)	0 ✓	<b>Balances as at 31-12-24</b>	
Cheques not presented (No.2)	110 ✓	No. 1 account	6,443 ✓
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>110 ✓</b>	No. 2 account	2,328 ✓
Funds brought forward from 2023-24	24,219	Reserve Account	1,095 ✓
Less Deficit for 2024	-3,987	Fixed Term Deposit	10,300 ✓
Funds as at 31-12-24	20,232 ✓	Cash/post in hand	177 ✓
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>20,342 ✓</b>	Credits to be paid in	
		<b>Grand total</b>	<b>20,342 ✓</b>
			0.00 ✓

**Notes to Accounts**

- 1 Costs of Equipment is charged in full in "Expenditure", and written off in full.
- No depreciation of assets is therefore required. An Asset custody book is maintained.
- 2 All figures are rounded off to the nearest pound, as per the Charities Commission accounting guidelines.



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
STAFFORD U3A

On accounts for the year  
ended

31.12.24

Charity no  
(if any)

1120043

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

**Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent  
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
 have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

31.01.2025

Name:

Robert H Adey

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

ACWA (1966)  
AIB (1967)

Address:

59 Weeping Cross

Stafford

ST17 0DQ

**STAFFORD UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (U3A)**

England & Wales - Charity number 1120043

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# Accounts

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**Stafford u3a Annual General Meeting  
held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
at Rising Brook Baptist Church Stafford**

1. **Welcome:** Geoff Rowlands welcomed members to the meeting.
2. **Apologies** were received from Susan Harris, Nancy Rae, Michael Burton, Rose Burton, Jan Palmer, Susan Jeffrey, Gwen White, Anne Marsden, Marie-Louise Duke, Stephanie Marston, Norma Jackson, Bill Jackson, Freda Greaves, Debbie Gallagher, Ray Braziel, Linda Adey, Robin Adey.
3. **Minutes of the AGM 2023:** One amendment received: Rommy Bowers. Proposed as a true record by Norman Spearman and seconded by Pauline Blackmore. Accepted unanimously.
4. **Chair's Report:** Before proceeding the Chair checked that anyone who had not voted by post or e-mail had had an opportunity to do so.

Geoff Rowlands reported thus:- In this my first report as Chair, thanks must go to Linda Adey for her hard work as Chair over a difficult previous three years, a period which started almost immediately with our going into Covid lockdown. The committee continued to meet via Zoom to ensure Stafford u3a continuing and Linda chaired us through a difficult new experience and led us out on the other side.

Your committee, this year has implemented the new constitution which was agreed at the last AGM, update and devised a number of policies and guidelines. As previously announced, we have offered members, from renewal, the opportunity of receiving the Third Age Matters magazine by post, or by internet. We are starting to discuss and respond to ideas on nationwide u3a development being put forward by the Third Age Trust.

As mentioned above, this is the second year of our recovery from covid lockdown. Our groups are now functioning again face to face. For a variety of reasons, we have lost a small number of groups, others have expanded and a number of new ones have started. We are always looking at new possibilities and especially, new leaders. If you have any ideas or can offer help please do speak to a committee member. The loss of some town centre venues has resulted in groups relocating. The Coronation was celebrated with a well-supported Coronation Tea and Monthly Meeting attendances are on the rise. We look forward to growing further in the year ahead. At this stage, before memberships are due for renewal, our numbers remain similar to those of this time last year.

I know, from editing the Monthly Bulletin, the huge effort our group leaders put into organising, planning and running the activities that clearly we enjoy. I join all members in saying a big thank you to all group leaders – we do appreciate your efforts even if we do not tell you often enough!!

I would like to personally thank all the committee for their support this year. New officers on the committee were Heather Stern taking on the role of Business Secretary and Jeanette Gillen, the role as Treasurer.

We are losing some members of the committee this year as their terms of office come to an end.

Pauline Blackmore has worked hard on displaying the activities of groups at our monthly meeting and organising coffee mornings for new members. Gerry Robinson has been our almoner and our link with other local u3as. We thank them for their service. There are many other volunteers who work in front and behind the scenes to ensure our enjoyment. To them I would like to say a big thank you for all their efforts.

5. **Financial report:** given by the Treasurer, Jeanette Gillen. The Financial statement was circulated with the AGM papers. *Text of Jeanette's explanation here.*

The Treasurer brought to the AGM a proposal by the Committee to alter the Financial year dates to 1<sup>st</sup> January to December 31<sup>st</sup>, proposed by Helen Hood and seconded by Janet Billings. Accepted unanimously.

The treasurer then invited any questions.

Norman Spearman asked why the £6000 could not be transferred to the No 1 account. Helen Hood explained that these funds were already committed to payments of expenses for the theatre trips/visits etc., it is not a surplus but a rolling balance.

As Visits Treasurer Helen Hood clarified the position as to the £2,500 paid over during the year. She explained that some reserve was required to cover late payments and pre-payments for activities.

Sue Williams asked why there was no appendix showing debtors and creditors. Jeanette Gillen had hoped to simplify the accounts for everyone. She will take this on board and provide these figures next year.

Sue Williams also felt that there should be more clarity on the losses on the Monthly Meetings: the accounts ought to show where the losses are being made in detail i.e. cost of venue/speaker fees.

The Examined accounts were then proposed for acceptance by John Loughran and seconded by Pauline Blackmore. Accepted unanimously.

6. **Appointment of Examiner of Accounts:** Robin Adey has confirmed that he is willing to be Examiner of Accounts again next year. Proposed for acceptance by John Loughran, seconded by Pauline Blackmore

7. **Officer and Committee Vacancies and Nominations:**

**Vice Chair:** Helen Hood proposed by Steven Parsons, seconded by Joyce Young

June Williams proposed by Janey Billings, seconded by Jennifer Jewell

Before the vote went ahead Geoff Williams asked for the opportunity to speak. As a member for ten years he knows both those nominated (June Williams is his wife). Both are long serving committee members and both more than qualified to take the role. He questioned the decision of the committee to choose to have an election as the Constitution allows for up to 2 Vice Chairs. He believed that to vote for just one was inconsistent with the wording of the Constitution.

He therefore wished to propose that the election was cancelled and that both nominees be voted in.

Nicola Woodhouse spoke in favour of keeping both to retain their valuable experience on the committee.

Sue Williams felt that with the u3a demographic having two people was a good idea.

Trevor Fisher proposed a job share. Kath Squire was concerned that maybe they did not want to do it as a job share.

Victoria Wood felt that many members had no idea who would be best in the role.

Geoff Rowlands explained that Stafford u3a has never had, nor felt the need for two people in this position, in fact the committee worked for the past year without anyone in place. There were other more important jobs to be done by committee members, several of whom fulfil more than one role.

The proposal to abandon the vote as put by Geoff Williams was seconded by Trevor Fisher and a vote was taken by a show of hands. Scrutineers were asked to count: 53 in favour, 24 against, 13 abstentions. The motion was therefore carried.

**Business Secretary:** Heather Stern proposed by Richard Charnah, seconded by Stephen Shippard.

Accepted unanimously.

**Committee Members:**

David Benge proposed by Peter Sparkes, seconded by Ian Newcombe

Ray Braziel proposed by Chris McDonnell, seconded by Gerry Walsh

Audrey Bright proposed by Joan Makinson, seconded by Jenny Poole

Clifford Horobin proposed by Lynda Newton, seconded by Lyndon R Farr

Graham Millington proposed by Kevin Westwood, seconded by Phil Hood

Accepted unanimously en bloc.

The meeting closed at 2.50 p.m.

**Stafford U3A Accounts February 1st 2023 to January 31st 2024**

Expenditure	£	Receipts	£
<b>Third Age Trust Payments</b>			
Capitation Fees ,CLA licence renewal, U3A News Direct Mail, Beacon	7,744 ✓	Subscriptions	11,239 ✓
<b>Sub-total a</b>	<b>7,744 ✓</b>	Gift Aid reclaimed	2,088 ✓
<b>Asset Costs – see Note 1</b>			
No new assets purchased	0	Group Income	22,085 ✓
<b>Sub-total b</b>	<b>0</b>	Monthly Meeting	1,724 ✓
<b>Running Costs</b>			
Room Hire	14,842 ✓	Donations	47 ✓
Group Expenditure	4,845 ✓	Sundries	18 ✓
Committee Costs (Print, post, meetings)	3,219 ✓	Hostelling & Trailwalking receipts	20,625 ✓
Group Leaders Lunch	0	Hostelling & Trailwalking outgoings	18,453 ✓
Sundries (ICT support, honoraria)	51 ✓	Days Out & Theatre Visits receipts	17,724 ✓
<b>Sub-total c</b>	<b>22,957 ✓</b>	Days Out & Theatre Visits outgoings	19,134 ✓
<b>Social events</b>			
Monthly Meeting	3,754 ✓	HF Holidays receipts	33,743 ✓
<b>Sub-total d</b>	<b>3,754 ✓</b>	HF Holidays outgoings	32,114 ✓
<b>Total Expenditure ( a + b + c + d)</b>			
	<b>34,455</b>	Other Social & Sundries receipts	3,316 ✓
		Other Social & Sundries outgoings	3,316 ✓
		Bank interest	26 ✓
		<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>39,619 ✓</b>
		<b>Less Surplus: Receipts over Expenditure</b>	<b>5,163</b>
			<b>34,455</b>

Liabilities	£	Assets	£
Cheques not presented (No.1)	100 ✓	<b>Balances as at 31-01-24</b>	
Cheques not presented (No.2)	23 ✓	No. 1 account	7,033 ✓
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>123 ✓</b>	No. 2 account	6,020 ✓
Funds brought forward from 2022-23	19,055 ✓	Reserve Account	1,091 ✓
Plus surplus for 2023-24	5,163 ✓	Cash/post in hand	198 ✓
Funds as at 31-01-24	24,219 ✓	Credits to be paid in	
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>24,342 ✓</b>	Fixed Term Deposit	10,000 ✓
		<b>Grand total</b>	<b>24,342</b>

**Notes to Accounts**

- 1 Costs of Equipment is charged in full in "Expenditure", and written off in full.  
No depreciation of assets is therefore required. An Asset custody book is maintained.
- 2 All figures are rounded off to the nearest pound, as per the Charities Commission accounting guidelines.



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

STAFFORD U3A

On accounts for the year  
ended

31-01-2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1120043

Set out on pages

NOT APPLICABLE

**Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent  
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
 have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

16/2/2024

Name:

Robert H Adey

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

ACWA (1966)

AIB (1967)

Address:

59 Weeping Cross

Stafford

ST17 0DQ

**STAFFORD UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (U3A)**

England & Wales - Charity number 1120043

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# Accounts

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The Third Age  
Trust 156  
Blackfriars Road  
London  
SE1 8EN

## The Third Age Trust: AGM 2023

Minutes of the 40 <sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Third Age Trust	
Chair: Liz Thackray (LT)	
Company Secretary and Chief Executive: Sam Mauger (SM)	
Date and time	Wednesday, 18 October 2023 from 11:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Venue	Hybrid meeting and online at Kents Hill Park, Training and Conference Centre, Swallow House, Timbold Drive, Kents Hill Park, Milton Keynes, MK7 6BZ
Present	490 u3as with voting delegates were present at the AGM, which equals to u3as holding 1,068 votes.
Proxy Votes	137 u3as proxying to the Company Secretary, of which 29 u3as have given specific instructions to the Company Secretary, as to how they want their vote to be placed.  One u3a has proxied their vote to another u3a.

ITEM NO	AGENDA ITEM
	<p>On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Liz Thackray welcomed everyone to the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Third Age Trust. She extended a special thank you to the members of the Milton Keynes u3a, who have been assisting at the AGM.</p> <p>Before the AGM proceedings, members were provided with a video of the 'Off the Wall' event that took place at Hadrian's Wall in May 2023. Also, Margaret Fiddes, Trustee, Yorkshire and the Humber, gave a presentation regarding the National u3a Festival, planned to take place at the York University from 18–20 July 2024</p>

	<p>Sam Mauger also extended a warm welcome to everyone attending in-person and on-line. She then outlined the voting arrangements for those members present, as well as those on-line. Sam Mauger also advised the procedure for submitting questions and advised that if any questions did not get answered at the meeting, they will be afterwards, via email.</p>
<p>1</p>	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b>  Resolution 1 – To receive and approve the minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting.</p> <p>Proposer’s Name: Ian Funnel,  Proposer’s u3a: Fetcham u3aq  Secunder’s Name: Phil Hawthorn  Secunder’s u3a: Winchcombe Area u3a</p> <p>Total Votes:  For: 553  Against: 6  Abstentions: 48</p> <p>Result: Resolution 1 carried</p>
<p>2</p>	<p><b>CHAIR’S REPORT, INCLUDING SHORT FILMS REFLECTING PROGRESS ON DIGITAL STRATEGY, FIT FOR THE FUTURE AND STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION.</b></p> <p>Liz Thackray introduced her Chair’s report, advising that there will be three videos, which will showcase the areas of activity over the 12-18 months, central to becoming fit for the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Digital Strategy’, presenters were Tony Smith (Ashby u3a) and Liz Thackray (Trust’s Chair),</li> <li>• ‘Strategy Development’, presenters were Allan Walmsley (Trust’s Vice Chair) and Sam Mauger, (CEO)</li> <li>• ‘Fit for the Future’, presenters were Margaret Fiddes (Trustee. Yorkshire and the Humber, Liz Thackray (Trust’s Chair) and John Bent (Co-opted Trustee.)</li> </ul> <p>Regarding the Pilot Council, (referred to in the last video) Liz Thackray advised that it has met three times this year and is not part of the formal structure of the Trust. However, it provides an opportunity for members to voice and discuss their concerns at these meetings. All the work cited in the videos is a snapshot of the current priorities of the Trust and their progression will be conveyed through various communication channels available to u3a members, seeking member’s views.</p>

3

**TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2023**

Derek Harwood, Treasurer, provided a presentation of key points from the published Group accounts (TAT and TATTL), under the following headings:

- Group consolidated, Income and Expenditure Account 2022/23
- Group Balance Sheet, 2022/23
- Third Age Trust Trading Ltd, 2022/23
- Group Reserves, at 31 March 2023
- Budget, 2023/24, Income and Expenditure
- Budget 2023/24
- Budget 2023/24, Services Provided
- Forecasts (with inflation)

Members were then encouraged to submit questions based on the Chair's and Treasurer's reports and the following emerged:

- a) On a question submitted by Richard Bedford, Stroud u3a, regarding what plans does the Trust have to use the healthy reserves to benefit u3as and members, Derek Harwood advised that there are current projects already in place i.e. Digital Strategy (for the benefit of u3a members and staff) and the development of Zendesk, as well as the development of networks. These projects will benefit members.
- b) On a question submitted by Adrienne Nicks, Welwyn Hatfield u3a, all presentations will be available and, loaded onto the YouTube channel.
- c) On a request submitted by Ian Funnell, Fetcham u3a, it was agreed that future statutory accounts will be available in formats that are printable. And, on an observation from the 2022 AGM minutes, Derek Harwood confirmed that the winding up calculation to the year March 2022 was £1.3m and for the year to March 2023 is £1.1m.
- d) On question submitted by a member on-line, regarding relocating the office outside London, thus saving money. The response to the question was that there had been an exercise to look at this. The results showed that there was not much of a saving, bearing in mind that the Trust will include redundancy, re-location and possible recruitment costs, along with significant disruption of moving the offices.
- e) On a question submitted regarding the recording of the AGM, it was noted that it will be available on-line after the meeting, along with all videos.
- f) On a question submitted regarding the capture of key characteristics of u3a members at recruitment stage, Liz Thackray responded, stating the capturing of this information, would be helpful. However, the local u3as have access to these details, as the Trust does not have the means to do this.
- g) On a question submitted regarding the reserves and restricted

	<p>funds, Derek Harwood responded, stating that some of the reserves, are ringfenced for specific projects, with probably two years left of spent. However, if inflation continues to rise, it may impact on the spending level, which may result in a review taking place earlier.</p> <p>h) On a question submitted by Hilary Davidson from Salisbury u3a, regarding the subscription fee of £4.00 not increasing, Derek Harwood responded stating that £4.00 per member will be in place for the next year, but it may be under review sometime in the future.</p> <p>i) On a question submitted regarding the top three hardest challenges, Liz Thackray responded, stating a) Membership/strategy – that the way we work is relevant to its members, b) Digital – catering for a diverse group of members and ensuring that all u3a members are included, c) Recruitment – encouraging new members and to take up volunteer roles within their u3a as well as at a national level.</p>
	<p>Sam Mauger advised again that those questions which were submitted but were not answered due to time restraints, a response will be provided via email.</p>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS</b></p> <p>Resolution 2 – To appoint Goodman Jones LLP as the Auditors and to authorise the Board of Directors to set their remuneration.</p> <p>Proposer’s Name: ~Tony Cheetham  Proposer’s u3a: Preston &amp; District u3a  Secunder’s Name: Marion McCrindle  Secunder’s u3a: Watford Park u3a</p> <p>Total Votes:  For: 608  Against: 0  Abstentions: 11</p> <p>Result: Resolution 2 carried</p>

<p>5</p>	<p><b>ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE APPOINTMENT OF NEW TRUSTEES</b></p> <p>The following Trustees have been appointed following an on-line ballot:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East of England – Maurice Austin (contested)</li> <li>• Northern Ireland – Valerie Cobain (un-contested)</li> <li>• Northeast – Jean Cubbin (un-contested)</li> <li>• Northwest – Tony Cheetham (un-contested)</li> <li>• Southeast – Susie Berry (un-contested)</li> <li>• Southwest – Susan Parker (un-contested)</li> <li>• Yorkshire and the Humber – Margaret Fiddes (contested)</li> </ul> <p>LT announced the following: Those u3as who are celebrating 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dunstable</li> <li>• London</li> <li>• Nottingham District</li> <li>• Oxford</li> <li>• Wakefield</li> <li>• Yeovil</li> </ul> <p>The new u3as, since the last AGM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upper Eden</li> <li>• Ipplepen and Surrounds</li> <li>• Isle of Bute</li> <li>• Glasgow Southside</li> </ul>
<p>6</p>	<p><b>VOTING ON THE ORDINARY RESOLUTION 3</b></p> <p>Liz Thackray outlined the procedure for voting, as well those proposing and seconding the Resolution. She then read the Resolution:</p> <p>‘Now that the u3a has in excess of 1000 u3a’s, with the South East Region representing around 20% of the National figure, we request that the organisational review of the Third Age Trust is mandated to consider a mechanism to give greater status and input to smaller networks/clusters.’</p> <p>Proposer: Hastings and Rother u3a      Secunder: Hailsham and District u3a.</p> <p>On behalf of proposer Hastings and Rother u3a and secunder Hailsham and District u3a, Richard Collisson read the supporting statement, via video.</p> <p>Total Votes:      For: 143      Against: 440      Abstentions: 31</p>

	<p>Result: Resolution 3 not carried.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p><b>VOTING ON THE ORDINARY RESOLUTION 4</b>  Liz Thackray read the Resolution:  'This Annual General Meeting calls on the Third Age Trust to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adopt as a key strategic priority an increase in national u3a membership to at least 500,000 by the end of 2028</li> <li>2. Implement regular and substantial national promotional activities that enable this goal to be achieved</li> <li>3. To report on the implementation and impact of promotional activities at Board meetings and in Annual Reports.'</li> </ol> <p>Proposer: Royston u3a  Secunder: Tring u3a.</p> <p>On behalf of the proposer and seconder's u3a, the following read the supporting statements via video:</p> <p>Jackie Gellert, Chair, Royston u3a  Rob Jones, Chair, Tring u3a</p> <p>Total Votes:  For: 405  Against: 187  Abstentions: 25</p> <p>Result: Resolution 4 carried.</p>
<p>8</p>	<p><b>VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING TRUSTEES</b>  On behalf of those attending the meeting, Liz Thackray thanked the following retiring Trustees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northeast – Sandi Rickerby</li> <li>• Northwest – Neil Stevenson</li> <li>• East of England – Barbara Cordina</li> </ul> <p>Liz Thackray also thanked Michaela Moody, John Bent and Jeff Carter for their service as co-opted Trustees.</p> <p>Liz Thackray also thanked the Board of Trustees, Trust staff and volunteers for their support during the year. She also thanked everyone for attending the meeting on-line and in-person.</p> <p>There being no further business, the AGM closed at 1:15 p.m.</p> <p>Following the AGM, there was a plenary session via video by Clive Grace, Chair of Third Age Trust Trading Limited Board.</p>

## Stafford U3A Accounts February 1st 2022 to January 31st 2023

Expenditure	£	Receipts	£
<i>Third Age Trust Payments</i>			
Capitation Fees, ,CLA licence renewal, U3A News Direct Mail, Beacon	8,047	Subscriptions	11,257
		Gift Aid reclaimed	0
<b>Sub-total a</b>	<b>8,047</b>	Group Income	17,239
		Monthly Meeting	1,793
<i>Asset Costs – see Note 1</i>			
Newsletter editor's laptop	399	Donations	26
<b>Sub-total b</b>	<b>399</b>	Sundries	66
		Hostelling & Trailwalking receipts	20,562
		Hostelling & Trailwalking outgoings	-21,385
		Days Out & Theatre Visits receipts	20,767
		Days Out & Theatre Visits outgoings	-18,693
		HF Holidays receipts	23,989
		HF Holidays outgoings	-24,828
		Bank interest	10
<b>Sub-total c</b>	<b>19,558</b>	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>30,803</b>
<i>Social events</i>			
Monthly Meeting	3,789		
<b>Sub-total d</b>	<b>3,789</b>	<b>Add Deficit: Expenditure over Receipts</b>	<b>989</b>
<b>Total Expenditure ( a + b + c + d)</b>	<b>31,792</b>		<b>31,792</b>

Liabilities	£	Assets	£
Cheques not presented (No.1)	60	<b>Balances as at 31-01-23</b>	
Cheques not presented (No.2)	357	No. 1 account	4,416
		No. 2 account	3,964
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>417</b>	Reserve Account	11,064
		Cash/post in hand	29
		Credits to be paid in	0
Funds brought forward from 2021-22	20,044		
Less deficit for 2022-23	989		
Funds as at 31-01-23	<b>19,055</b>		
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>19,472</b>	<b>Grand total</b>	<b>19,472</b>

### Notes to Accounts

1 Costs of Equipment is charged in full in “Expenditure”, and written off in full.

No depreciation of assets is therefore required. An Asset custody book is maintained

2 All figures are rounded off to the nearest pound, as per the Charities Commission accounting guidelines.



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

STAFFORD U3A

On accounts for the year  
ended

31-01-2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1120043

Set out on pages

NOT APPLICABLE

**Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent  
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
 have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

16/2/2024

Name:

Robert H Adey

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

ACWA (1966)

AIB (1967)

Address:

59 Weeping Cross

Stafford

ST17 0DQ

**STAFFORD UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (U3A)**

England & Wales - Charity number 1120043

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# Accounts

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## Chairs report for the AGM 2022

Again, this has been a most unusual year, when most of our Committee and Monthly meetings have been held through Zoom. Once again, thank you to June Williams for organising all the on-line meetings, and thank you, Tony Pearce, for hosting the Zoom meetings.

The Committee have worked extremely hard this year, to ensure that we provide the best service we can in the circumstances, and to enable Stafford u3a to continue to thrive. So a huge thank you goes to the Committee and Group Leaders for their wonderful work; but I would also like to extend my thanks to all of you, for your unfailing loyalty and support. This has encouraged and invigorated all of us.

This year, we have all been kept well informed through our E-News, edited by Geoff Rowland, and the Newsletter, produced by Ray Braziel.

This year Norman Spearman has again organised many varied trips, which have been a great success and a welcome break. He is planning more for this coming year.

The walking Groups, and Cycling Groups are now fully active, thanks to the Group Leaders. Most of the outdoor Groups have recommenced. Many thanks to Helen and Phil Hood, and Russell Parsons, who have organised some fabulous H.F holidays, with more in the pipeline. The Hostelling Group are totally active now.

It is with great regret that we are losing a valued member of the Committee. Jenny Jewel has held many positions on the Committee, such as Vice-Chair, Group Leader and many more important roles which she conscientiously fulfilled. Luckily, she is staying as Group Leader for a number of roles. This would signify that a Committee role has become vacant, which hopefully a new Committee member will fulfil. Please seriously consider whether you would like to become a member of our Committee.

At this point, I would like to pay tribute to the members who have passed away in the last year. They have all been valued members, some of whom contributed enormously to the success of Stafford u3a.

In this coming year, we will hopefully have all our Monthly Meetings Face-to-Face. We are assembling a Technical Team to operate the Sound System, thus giving us more freedom in use, and also saving us money. June has also found willing volunteers to look after the Refreshments.

This year, we are looking forward to making closer links to Wolverhampton University. Their site in Stafford is opposite the new Library, making it very central for us, and they are offering us a variety of resources, including the use of 3 rooms of varying size, Graphics, Printing and other facilities.

We are looking forward to more Groups having Face-to-Face meetings in the coming Year – hopefully we will be relatively Covid free.

Once again, thank you, everybody, for your continued support, making this such an active and vibrant u3a.

Linda Adey Chair Stafford u3a.



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

STAFFORD U3A

1120043

## Receipts and payments accounts

<b>For the period from</b>	1st 1st February 2021	<b>To</b>	Period end date 31st January 2022
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>				
Subscriptions	10,926	-	-	10,926
Gift Aid reclaimed	1,362	-	-	1,362
Group session fees	30,300	-	-	30,300
Monthly Meeting & social events	95	-	-	95
Bank Interest	1	-	-	1
Donations & sundries	23	-	-	23
Days out & Trips	1,660	-	-	1,660
Hostelling trips & HF holidays	27,738	-	-	27,738
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>72,105</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>72,105</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>72,105</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>72,105</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>				
Third Age Trust	6,734	-	-	6,734
Room hire	5,211	-	-	5,211
Group expenses	23,109	-	-	23,109
Monthly Meeting & social events	1,021	-	-	1,021
Admin & Committee operating costs	2,925	-	-	2,925
Honoraria	829	-	-	829
Days Out & trips	1,516	-	-	1,516
Hostelling trips & HF Holidays	26,028	-	-	26,028
	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>67,373</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,373</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>67,373</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,373</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>4,732</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,732</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>4,732</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,732</b>

# Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	No 1 Account	6,339	-
	No 2 Account	4,230	-
	Reserve Account	11,054	-
	Cash in hand	8	-
	Unpresented cheques	1,587	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>		<b>23,218</b>
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		Agreement Error	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name
H Hood	Helen Hood



**CC16a**



**Last year**

**to the nearest £**

10,437
1,680
4,143
153
4
657
100
16,089
33,263

-
-

33,263
--------

8,763
2,925
837
1,087
3,601
1,022
-
16,326
-
34,561

-

34,561
--------

- 1,298
-
15,310



**Endowment funds  
to nearest £**

-
-
-
-
-
-

OK

**Endowment funds  
to nearest £**

-
-
-
-
-
-

**Current value  
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-

**Current value  
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

**When due  
(optional)**


Date of approval

2/6/2022





# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of  
STAFFORD USA

On accounts for the year ended  
31-01-2022  
Charity no (if any)  
1120043

Set out on pages

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**  
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

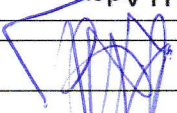
- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**  
My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**  
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below):

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:   
Name: Robert H Adey  
Date: 6/8/2022

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):  
ACWA (1966)  
AIB (1967)

Address: 59 Weeping Cross  
Stafford  
ST17 0DQ