

Bramhall u3a

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 20th March 2025 at 2.00pm

at Bramhall URC, Robins Lane, Bramhall

Dear Member,

Please find attached the documents for the AGM.

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the 2024 AGM
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Groups Report
7. Election of Officers
8. Any Other Business

Yours sincerely,

Alaister Macrae

Chairman

March 2025

BRAMHALL u3a MINUTES OF 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Held on Thursday, 21 March 2024 at 2.00 pm
at the United Reformed Church, Robins Lane, Bramhall**

- 1. Welcome**
Alaister Macrae chaired the meeting and welcomed all those present. In total 104 members had signed into the meeting.
- 2. Apologies for absence**
None
- 3. Minutes of the 2023 AGM**
Members had received copies of the minutes of the 2023 AGM. They were approved by members present with no matters arising.
- 4. Chairman's report**
The Chairman's report was approved by members present.
- 5. Treasurer's report**
Alistair Gardner presented the Treasurer's report.

Bramhall u3a had just completed its fourteenth year. Members had been sent a copy of the financial accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 together with the Treasurer's report by email and also made available on arrival at the meeting.

Income for the year totalled £37,488, from which we generated a surplus of £2,544. The accounts are presented on a Receipts & Payments basis rather than in the normal accounting format. Apparently, the Charity Commission thinks it makes it easier for us!

The ethos of the u3a is *Education of the Members by the Members*. Members really benefit from what they put into their membership rather than what they take out from it. All members are encouraged to get involved in running our u3a.

The Treasurer expressed his thanks to the Accommodation Officer for her assistance with venues and also to those Group Coordinators that are required to provide financial statements for their Groups.

In terms of our Constitution and our statutory requirements as a Registered Charity, we have had accounts 'Independently Examined' by Chadwick & Co, who have recently acquired the business of our previous auditor, Robert Hayden & Co, Chartered Accountants, Davenport.

The Treasurer invited questions regarding the accounts. With no questions or objections forthcoming, members present formally approved the accounts as presented.

Alistair Gardener nominated Chadwick & Co (Manchester) Ltd, Chartered Accountants as the official 'Independent Examiners' of our accounts for the next year. Seconded by Bob Dumbarton and approved by members present.

6. Groups report

The Groups report was approved by members present.

7. Election of Officers

No new nominations had been received. Members present accepted that the current Chairman and Committee would continue. We are still looking for volunteers willing to help organise Outings and Holidays.

8. Any other Business

None

With no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 2.07pm.

BRAMHALL u3a

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT For Year ending March 2025

Papers for the AGM have been circulated to all members by email and by post. Members will be able to vote at the AGM meeting on the 20th of March 2025.

This last year has seen our membership numbers keep steady. All in all, we have had a successful year.

Since we started in 2010, Bramhall u3a has acquired well over 1950 members. Although there are annual fluctuations, we average more than 650 paid-up members per year. A very satisfying figure.

Our groups have again gone from strength to strength and some existing groups having to expand, so that in some cases there may be up to three sub-groups covering the same subject. Only a very few have closed. There are around 50 individual groups available to our members.

We continue to enjoy the facilities of the United Reformed Church at Robins Lane. Our members deserve the best that we can provide for them. The numbers attending our monthly meetings have kept up well throughout the year. A great deal of credit is due to the volunteers who run the refreshments at our monthly meetings. A very important job.

Bramhall u3a's strength, of course, comes from its members and the pro-active and dedicated team of volunteers who form the Committee. It would not be the organisation that it is today without any of these individuals. All are worthy of mention and thanks for their unfailing application to the tasks that they have all voluntarily taken on. No one is paid.

The Committee work together to keep your u3a enjoyable and interesting. They meet once per month and have wide-ranging discussions. We currently have some vacancies but all members, even new ones can be involved, so do please volunteer to join in.

As Chairman, I have found it an interesting role. Our Vice-Chairman, Peter Webster and I have been ably supported by the rest of our committee. I am most appreciative of the hard work done by them. Special mention should be made of several of the committee who go beyond what might be expected of them. Peter Webster organises our monthly newsletter aided by Bob Dumbarton. Alistair Gardner, our Treasurer, continues after many years in the role, to provide the kind of essential advice and support for financial and other matters that is needed in such a large, active, organisation. Our secretary, Meg Rowell has a wealth of background knowledge of all things, at district and national level, and really did keep us up to date with all points of order, vital to the smooth and legal running of our u3a. She also acts as our committee minutes secretary. Kay Witham maintains all things to do with your membership. She has looked after membership for many years and continues to ensure that all things in that department run as smoothly as possible. Chris Stubbs, as Groups Organiser, ably supports 50 plus individual Coordinators, their groups, and all the issues associated with them. No mean task. Helen Webster, as Speaker Secretary, finds us excellent speakers to educate and entertain at our monthly meetings. Frances Bell, aided by Kay Witham, has equally successfully made the theatre group become even more popular. Jill Rickman, as our Almoner, keeps in touch with those members who are poorly or have lost a close relative. She also runs our Card Stall. Vera Moore, who also runs the dining group, adds general input. Clare Forrest, who ran communications and marketing, brought us all into the world of modern

technology. Graham Porter, our equipment manager, has also helped us keep up to date with the latest equipment needed for our monthly meetings.

I must also thank the team who work away in the background and are never seen, the Website Team, Barrie Roberts and Brian Preece. They keep our website the best u3a one around and organise all the Web and email connections associated with Bramhall u3a.

I also want to thank that other huge team of volunteers, the Group Coordinators, for taking the time and effort to arrange and make the groups educational, informative and fun.

Members voluntarily continue to support our nominated charities most generously. The Wellspring in Stockport and St. Ann's Hospice both benefit. The Wellspring is also supported by members with donations of practical things such as non-perishable food items, clothing and toiletries.

Lastly, I and the committee would like to say a big thank you, to you, the members. It's the reason we are all involved in this great organisation. Long may it continue.

Alaister Macrae
Bramhall u3a Chairman 2024 – 2025

Treasurer's Report

The financial implications of our fifteenth year are reflected in the copy of the attached accounts for the period to 31st December 2024.

Income for the year totalled £36,735 (2023: £37,488), from which we incurred a surplus of £2,325 (2023: £2,544). The only Restricted Reserves, which total £21, are funds held on behalf of the North East Cheshire Network Group of u3as.

Other points worth noting include:

1. As a registered Charity, we continue to reclaim Gift Aid under the Gift Aid Scheme. In 2024, we generated £738 (2023: £880).
2. Group Income is shown separately to Group Expenditure. With most Groups self-funding, a small surplus of £177 was generated.
3. Theatre trips have remained popular, although only one Outing was organised as we have been unable to recruit any members to coordinate such events.
4. Once again, we have had a steady flow of new members offset through the loss of existing members for a number of reasons with our membership remaining around the 700 mark. I would like to thank Kay Witham, our Membership Secretary, ably supported by Frances Bell, for their hard work in the administration of our membership database.
5. Donations to Charities: As a charity, we are not permitted to give to other charities. However, we have two chosen charities to which our members contribute, namely St Ann's Hospice and The Wellspring. These monies do not pass through our u3a's accounts but are passed direct to the charities by the members. However, for the record, in 2024, our members donated £1249.70 to The Wellspring and £560 to St Ann's Hospice.
6. The ethos of the u3a is **'Education of the Members by the Members'**. Members really benefit from what they put into their membership rather than what they take from it. On that point, I would wish to thank those Group Coordinators that are required to provide financial statements for their Groups for their cooperation in keeping an accurate account of their Group's income and expenditure. I would also wish to thank Lydia Smith, our Accommodation Officer, who liaises with the various Group Coordinators that use the facilities of the Bramhall Village Club. They make my life as Treasurer so much easier.

Finally, in terms of our Constitution and our statutory requirements as a Registered Charity, with our income in excess of a £25,000 threshold, it has been necessary to have our accounts 'Independently Examined' by Chadwick & Co, Chartered Accountants, Davenport.

Alistair W Gardner
Treasurer

Bramhall u3a

**Statement of Accounts
for the year ended
31 December 2024**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

To the trustees of Bramhall u3a

Charity number: 1138641

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bramhall u3a consisting of a receipts and payments account for the year ended 31 December 2024 and a statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Bramhall 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 Bramhall u3a's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and 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:

Claire L Taylor BA (Hons), FCCA
Chadwicks
Capital House
272 Manchester Road
Droylsden
Manchester
M43 6PW

Date: ..15 March 2025.....

BRAMHALL U3A

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 December 2024

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	31/12/24	31/12/23
Membership Fees	8,388	8,667
Monthly Receipts	2,034	2,006
Group Income	9,920	10,122
Outings/Theatres (Income)	14,965	15,206
Gift Aid	738	880
Third Age Matters (TAM)	140	128
Newsletter	176	200
Misc Income	20	0
Interest	354	279
Total Income	36,735	37,488
<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
Rent	1,920	1,935
Capitation Fees	2,464	2,576
Print/Post & Stationery	1,761	2,717
Speakers	780	749
Refreshments	451	113
Storage	1,165	931
Website & Licences	501	975
Professional Fees	570	540
Equipment	179	83
Group Expenses	9,743	9,895
Outings & Theatres Expenses	14,670	14,268
Sundry Expenses	206	162
Total Expenses	34,410	34,944
NET SURPLUS	2,325	2,544

BRAMHALL U3A

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT

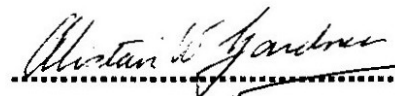
31 December 2024

	31/12/24	31/12/23
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Bank	21,576	19,432
Bank-Outings/Theatres	2,631	2,336
Petty Cash	156	153
Petty Cash Group	750	867
	<u>25,113</u>	<u>22,788</u>
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Bank	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	25,113	22,788
	<u>25,113</u>	<u>22,788</u>
<u>GENERAL RESERVES</u>		
General Reserves	22,767	20,104
NECN Funds	21	140
Additional Funds	0	0
	<u>22,788</u>	<u>20,244</u>
<u>Add Surplus/(Deficit)</u>	<u>2,325</u>	<u>2,544</u>
	<u>25,113</u>	<u>22,788</u>

Signed



Alaister Macrae
Chairman



Alistair Gardner
Treasurer

Groups Report

This year we have 47 groups listed on the newsletter and 49 on the website (includes theatre and outings) and in addition we have a Holidays Coordinator. (51 in all)

Two new groups opened this year, History 2 and Thrive 1 and a coordinator came forward to organise an annual holiday. The Thrive group is run loosely on the lines of a Duke of Edinburgh award for seniors and it is hoped other Thrive groups will be formed next year.

Unfortunately, two groups closed; Music for Pleasure and Transports of Delight. This was due to no one coming forward willing to run the group. This is an inherent problem with groups and at the moment we have three groups without coordinators; Art, Art Appreciation and Science. Luckily there are members in these groups that are willing to try to keep the group running until someone can be found.

In March we held a 'Thank you Lunch' for all the Group Coordinators and helpers; those serving refreshments, setting out rooms as well as helping in their group. This was the first lunch since Covid and was generally well received.

June was the month that the Mapping Bramhall group joined up with Sustainable Bramhall to produce maps of the old village boundaries. This was followed by narrated walks along the old, often overgrown paths. The maps were given to our members at the monthly meeting and were also available from Bramhall library.

We have raised a considerable amount of money for our charities; The Wellspring (£1,250) and St Ann's Hospice (£560). In addition, Knitting Group A donated items to St Mary's Neonatal unit and Stepping Hill Hospital.

Chris Stubbs
Groups Organiser

BRAMHALL u3a AGM 20th MARCH 2025

The Committee currently comprises the following members, who are up for reelection:

Alaister Macrae	Chairman
Peter Webster	Vice-Chairman and Newsletter
Meg Rowell	Secretary
Alistair Gardner	Treasurer
Kay Witham	Membership Secretary
Helen Webster	Speaker Secretary
Bob Dumbarton	Newsletter
Chris Stubbs	Groups Organiser
Frances Bell	Theatre
Vera Moore	Dining Group
Jill Rickman	Almoner
Graham Porter	Accommodation Officer
Barrie Roberts	Website Manager

and Co-Opted

Jennefer Richmond	Holidays
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We continue to seek volunteers to head up teams to organise Outings, Publicity and Events.

The Committee is also supported by:-

Accommodation Officer	Lydia Smith
Archivist	Carol Mayall

Please submit any nominations to the Chairman.

Email: alaistermacrae17@gmail.com

Post: 20, Southpool Close, Bramhall, Stockport, SK7 3PU

Bramhall u3a

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at Bramhall URC, Robins Lane, Bramhall

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March 2025

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8. Any other Business

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BRAMHALL u3a

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT For Year ending March 2025

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Bramhall u3a Chairman 2024 – 2025

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Alistair W Gardner
Treasurer

Bramhall u3a

**Statement of Accounts
for the year ended
31 December 2024**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

To the trustees of Bramhall u3a

Charity number: 1138641

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Claire L Taylor BA (Hons), FCCA
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BRAMHALL U3A

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BRAMHALL U3A

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT

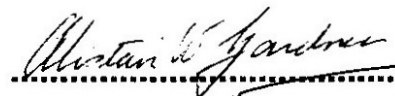
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	<u>25,113</u>	<u>22,788</u>
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Alaister Macrae
Chairman



Alistair Gardner
Treasurer

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Chris Stubbs
Groups Organiser

BRAMHALL u3a AGM 20th MARCH 2025

The Committee currently comprises the following members, who are up for reelection:

Alaister Macrae	Chairman
Peter Webster	Vice-Chairman and Newsletter
Meg Rowell	Secretary
Alistair Gardner	Treasurer
Kay Witham	Membership Secretary
Helen Webster	Speaker Secretary
Bob Dumbarton	Newsletter
Chris Stubbs	Groups Organiser
Frances Bell	Theatre
Vera Moore	Dining Group
Jill Rickman	Almoner
Graham Porter	Accommodation Officer
Barrie Roberts	Website Manager

and Co-Opted

Jennefer Richmond	Holidays
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We continue to seek volunteers to head up teams to organise Outings, Publicity and Events.

The Committee is also supported by:-

Accommodation Officer	Lydia Smith
Archivist	Carol Mayall

Please submit any nominations to the Chairman.

Email: alaistermacrae17@gmail.com

Post: 20, Southpool Close, Bramhall, Stockport, SK7 3PU

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

To the trustees of Bramhall u3a

Charity number: 1138641

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bramhall u3a consisting of a receipts and payments account for the year ended 31 December 2024 and a statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Bramhall 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 Bramhall u3a's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and 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:



Claire L Taylor BA (Hons), FCCA
Chadwicks
Capital House
272 Manchester Road
Droylsden
Manchester
M43 6PW

Date: ..15 March 2025.....