



Registered Charity No. 1145937

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2023-24

University of the Third Age Todmorden was established in April 2008 and became a registered charity in February 2012. Its governing document is the Constitution adopted on 19 July 2018 as amended on 21 October 2021.

The purpose of the charity is 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, in the Upper Calder Valley and surrounding areas.

Trustees

The trustees are appointed by the membership at the AGM. Officers are appointed for a period of 2 years and other committee members for 3 years. The constitution provides that the committee may appoint 2 co-opted members for the period of the current year.

The trustees during the year to 30 April 2024 were:

David Tyas	Chair
Michael Astrop	Vice Chair
Fiona Ryland	Secretary
Emily Watnick	Treasurer
Gail Allaby	
Nigel Plant	to October 2023
Brenda Botten	
Gillian Radford	to October 2023
Colin Sanson	to October 2023
Stephanie Haworth	to June 2023
Peter Carrigan	to June 2023
Peter Gibson	from October 2023
Barbara Wigley	from May 2023
Elisabeth Furlong	from October 2023
Tristan Molloy	from October 2023 to February 2024
William Black	from November 2023

Membership

Our membership numbers have risen to 521, including 7 Affiliates, at 30 April 2024. The introduction of online joining via PayPal, accessed through our improved website, has simplified the signing up process and led to an increase in new memberships. Meetings with new members have helped the Committee to gain insight into their experience of our organisation, to make changes, and to introduce some new Groups. We continue to encourage participation by Members, for example job-sharing the Convenor's role, where appropriate, and providing refreshments at the Monthly Members Meeting. The move to Todmorden College for monthly meetings has also been positively received – improved access and space is much appreciated.

Membership is open to all people who are retired from full time work in the Upper Calder Valley and surrounding areas.

Activities – Report from the Chair

This has been a year when our membership has increased. Not only have we regained members who left during Covid, we now have many more members than previously.

We now hold our monthly members' meetings at Todmorden Learning Centre and Community Hub (TLCCCH) where the facilities in general and particularly those for disabled members, are much more satisfactory. We still use ground floor rooms at our previous venue, the Central Methodists Church, for committee meetings and some other group meetings.

Monthly meetings have been well attended, often with over 100 members present. They have been entertained by some excellent speakers on a wide range of topics - everything from Victorian Antiques to Colour Science! Thanks go to our Speaker Finder for seeking out excellent speakers each month. All members have been kept informed of these events whether present or not. Those members without access to email have been kept informed of monthly members meetings by ordinary mail.

Group Convenors have continued their activities, maintaining group participation. They are to be congratulated for their continued efforts. Some 42 groups are now meeting regularly. Walking Cricket remains a very popular option, with our team winning several games against other u3a groups. New groups this year include Local History, Thursday Cinema and Alfresco History and Archaeology.

During the year in question two previous Chairs of our u3a have sadly died. Jean Pearson and Peter Carrigan both gave a most valuable contribution to our organisation in several different roles.

We have been pleased to welcome new members to the Committee and these are adding great strength and vitality to our activities. However, there is an urgent need for more members come forward to join the committee. We particularly need volunteers to undertake the roles of Business Secretary and Treasurer.

Finance

The financial position remains healthy with general reserves standing at £19,362 and total charitable funds at £23,974. Although costs increased during the year, particularly for hall and room hire charges, financial results were better than anticipated, with a surplus on the General Fund of £3047. This was caused primarily by a much larger than usual number of new members joining – 88 in the year – as well as more members than expected renewing in advance of the 1 May 2024 due date. The subscription rate has increased to £20 for 2024/25, as agreed at the 2022 AGM, and given the current position the committee is not planning another increase for several years at least.

Equipment costs in the year included the purchase of two portable credit/debit card terminals, which allow us to take card payments at our monthly meetings for both subscriptions and Let's Go bookings. Given the difficulties now experienced in handling cash due to the withdrawal of local banking facilities, this has been much appreciated by both members and the Treasurer.

Designated funds hold monies from members in respect of Let's Go trips, and hall hire/expenses incurred by special interest groups. £2500 was transferred in the year from the Let's Go fund to general reserves.

Bankers

Virgin Money
25 Manchester Rd,
Burnley
BB11 1HX

Principal Address

Fielden Hall
Ewood Lane
Todmorden
OL14 7DD

Reserves Policy

The reserves policy is to maintain a level of general unrestricted funds sufficient to cover around 6 months of an ordinary year's running costs to ensure that activities can be maintained whilst seeking alternative funding. Reserves are more than adequate for this purpose, and it is therefore intended to retain the £20 membership fee for several years at least, while expanding activities and dealing with increasing costs. The policy is reviewed annually by the Trustees.

Accounts

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the relevant requirements of the Charity Commission and have been reviewed and agreed by the Committee. An independent examination of the accounts was undertaken by Paul Fisher, Treasurer of Clitheroe U3A. His report is set out below.

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees of The University of the Third Age Todmorden, charity no. 1145937, on accounts for the year ended 30 April 2024, set out on pages 4-5.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 30 April 2024.

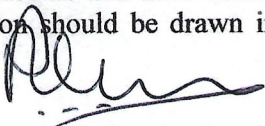
As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("The Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity'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.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Paul Fisher
Treasurer, Clitheroe u3a
9 August 2024

University of the Third Age Todmorden
Receipts and Payments Account
1 May 2023 - 30 April 2024

	General Funds	Social Account	Total Charitable Funds	2022/23
	£	£	£	£
Receipts:				
Membership Fees and Donations	9336.71		9336.71	8234.21
Gift Aid Received	703.75		703.75	692.50
Special Interest Groups	9560.92		9560.92	8132.03
Let's Go Bookings		5846.00	5846.00	3789.00
Refreshments	332.13		332.13	247.71
Interest earned	649.73	182.62	832.35	380.02
Miscellaneous			0.00	44.60
TOTAL RECEIPTS	20583.24	6028.62	26611.86	21520.07

	£	£	£	£
Payments:				
Committee Meetings	385.90		385.90	325.00
General Meetings expenses	1268.28		1268.28	987.06
Zoom subscription - committee and general meetings	0.00		0.00	115.12
Speakers expenses	784.80		784.80	725.00
Third Age Trust - Membership Fee	1960.00		1960.00	1724.00
Third Age Trust - Direct Mailing	1317.11		1317.11	1057.13
Special Interest Groups expenses	9206.17		9206.17	8464.01
Let's Go Coach Hire		2945.00	2945.00	1795.00
Let's Go Entrance Fees/Refreshments		1151.90	1151.90	1100.24
Stationery/Printing/Postage				1431.71
Equipment purchases/maintenance		166.80	166.80	1433.49
IT expenses	927.29		927.29	436.00
Other Meetings and Events	372.05			623.66
Bank and payment card charges	417.20		417.20	12.13
Miscellaneous	52.26	17.10	69.36	
	118.00		118.00	190.17
TOTAL PAYMENTS	17536.43	4280.80	21817.23	20419.72

TOTAL RECEIPTS LESS PAYMENTS	3046.81	1747.82	4794.63	1100.35
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TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS	2500.00	-2500.00	0.00	0.00
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Bank Balance Brought Forward	15157.17	3676.08	18833.25	17805.29
Cash and cheques in hand Brought Forward	346.08	0.00	346.08	273.69
Total Brought Forward	15503.25	3676.08	19179.33	18078.98
Receipts	20583.24	6028.62	26611.86	21520.07
Payments	17536.43	4280.80	21817.23	20419.72
Transfers	2500.00	-2500.00	0.00	0.00
Total Carried Forward	21050.06	2923.90	23973.96	19179.33

Bank Balances at 30 April 2024	20807.56	2923.90	23731.46
Cash and cheques in hand at 30 April 2024	242.50		242.50
TOTAL AT 30 APRIL 2024	21050.06	2923.90	23973.96

Analysis of Cash Funds:			
General funds	19362.13	14170.07	
Let's Go designated fund	2923.90	3676.08	
Special Interest Groups designated fund	1687.93	1333.18	
TOTAL FUNDS	23973.96	19179.33	

Assets: Equipment

£2,428.39

Approval of Accounts:

The accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on 16 July 2024

Signed: _____ on behalf of the Trustees

David Tyas

Fiona Ryland

Name: David Tyas

Fiona Ryland