



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 April 2023
Period end date

Period start date To

31 March 2024

Charity name: Bracknell Forest University of the Third Age

Charity registration number: 1153789

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	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, residing in Bracknell Forest and the surrounding locality.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open meetings addressed by an outside speaker are held every six weeks, followed by a period for refreshments and social interaction. Special provision is made to welcome new members. Hybrid meetings are held so• that members who are able to get out and about are able to meet socially face to face, whilst members who are unable to attend are able to watch in the safety and comfort of their home on Zoom.• Over seventy Interest Groups have been established. Here members pursue a wide variety of subjects on a self-teaching basis ie: all members are both teachers and learners. Such Groups are of benefit not only in an educational sense, but socially too. Members are actively encouraged to start up new Interest Groups. Many of our Group Co-ordinators keep in contact with their members by email, phone calls and Zoom.• We normally offer a range of outings and social events designed to promote both educational and social benefits.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taken together these activities help to combat loneliness and isolation for older members of the public. In particular we have 3 very popular MOTO Groups for Members On Their Own to specifically address this problem.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	These provisions show how the trustees have had regard to the requirement to provide a Public Benefit, as all activities are available to any person who chooses to become a member, provided they are no longer in full time employment.

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	
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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	<p>Over the past year we have seen a further increase in membership to over 700 who are able to enjoy a wide range of activities including holiday breaks and many outings ranging from places of interest to shows in the West End. Our interest groups now total 74 with 100 leaders. We have a CAMEO interest group, (Come And Meet Each Other) which is a Noticeboard via WhatsApp Communities where our members can post an event that they prefer not to attend alone. It is intended to cover small numbers within a short timeframe. This is proving extremely popular with over 60 members.</p> <p>We have also offered talks at our Open Meetings on a variety of topics.</p> <p>We have a New Members Secretary who encourages new members to participate in our activities such that they may introduce new ideas and hopefully new groups. The Secretary shows our new members the full benefits that BFu3a offers to our lives.</p> <p>We maintain a close relationship with the local council, especially with the Public Health Directorate, Social Prescription and INVOLVE. We took part in The Great Wellness Exchange which was an event that aimed to reduce social isolation by connecting residents with local groups and organisations, sharing community activities that promote wellbeing. We also are involved with a pilot initiative with our Social Prescribing team. We hope to develop this work over the coming year.</p>
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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		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Our finances continue to be strong as a result of the increase in membership
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>We hold reserves to cover</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three months cover for venue hire costs • Cash flow for five months before membership income is received • Possible need to purchase or renew equipment • Provision for set-up costs for new Interest Groups • Other contingencies
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£5000
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

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	<p>Principal sources of funds arise from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership subscriptions and Gift Aid arising from these • Charges to members for participating in social events and outings • Charges to members for participating in their chosen Interest Groups to cover for example, hire of suitable venues
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	We make no investments
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Our main risk relates to falling membership numbers
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated members association, and a member of the Third Age Trust
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 trustees	Para 1.25	Elected by the membership at the AGM

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	We have a Policies and Procedures document held on our website and reviewed annually. We follow the recommendations of The Third Age Trust on trustee selection and induction.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	We liaise with other u3as in the Region through the Thames Valley u3a network.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	n/a
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Bracknell Forest u3a
Other name the charity uses	Bracknell Forest University of the Third Age
Registered charity number	1153789
Charity's principal address	5 Bloomfield Drive Wick Hill Bracknell Berkshire RG12 2JW

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Robert Goddard	Chair		
2	Bruce Collins	Vice Chair		
3	Janet Russell	Admin Secretary		
4	Graham Clark	Treasurer		
5	Anthony Bolt	Membership Secretary		
6	Carol Clark	Groups Support Officer		
7	Carol Morgan	Speakers Secretary		
8	Diane Jones	Events and Trips Organiser		
9	Shelagh Richards	Minutes Secretary		
10	Stephen Richards	New Members Secretary	20 July 2023	Membership at AGM
11	Vacant	Publicity Officer		
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

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	none
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	none
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	none

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

Not applicable

Other optional information

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Declarations

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


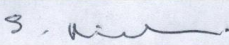
Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature(s)	See separate page	
Full name(s)	Robert William Goddard	Shelagh Mary Richards
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Admin Secretary
Date	25 October 2024	25 October 2024

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)	Robert William Goddard	Shelagh Mary Richards
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Admin Secretary
Date	25 October 2024	25 October 2024

Bracknell Forest U3A Income and Expenditure Account for year ending 31 March 2024

Charity Reg. No. = 1153789

All figures in £, (brackets indicate negative)

Category	2023-24		2022-23	
	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure
Membership subscriptions	7,992.00		7,397.50	
PayPal commission on online memberships		167.08		162.14
Gift Aid	1,363.03		1,164.25	
Bank Interest	108.11		15.67	
Donations	23.50		9.00	
Membership Support		513.35		683.21
National Office Capitation Fee		2,420.00		2,200.00
"Third Age Matters" Magazine		1,692.72		1,452.89
Ad-Hoc Meetings		131.16		272.35
Licences, Website & Beacon Support		1,001.94		864.73
Thames Valley Network (TVN)		87.75		56.70
Committee Expenses		108.30		90.00
Training, Education				
Post, stationery, printing (ex. newsletter)		5.00		15.94
Publicity		181.25		0.00
Newsletter	239.00	538.67	235.50	576.97
AGM		33.06		27.27
Miscellaneous		45.84		37.76
Purchase of Equipment		10.80		538.02
Open Meetings		1,370.94		1,070.26
Christmas Social		379.69		110.94
Group Start-up Grants		55.99		69.99
Events, Outings	3,248.00	3,343.08	2,608.80	2,375.80
Anniversary Celebration	0.00	0.00	1,211.00	928.68
Sub-totals	12,973.64	12,086.62	12,641.72	11,533.65
Surplus for the year	887.02		1,108.07	
Brought forward	11,804.27		10,696.20	
Year-end Total	12,691.29		11,804.27	
Less transfer to Reserves	(5,000.00)		(5,000.00)	
Funds Available for General Use	7,691.29		6,804.27	

Balance Sheet	2023-24	2022-23
Current Account	2,095.47	5,267.44
Deposit Account	12,400.67	9,792.56
PayPal	348.57	100.00
Locally Held Group Cash-in-hand	2,985.81	1,960.16
Total Funds	17,830.52	17,120.16
Accruals and Deferrals	(1,916.94)	(2,483.70)
Group Funds in Bank	(236.48)	(872.03)
Locally Held Group Cash-in-hand	(2,985.81)	(1,960.16)
Reserves	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
Funds Available for General Use	7,691.29	6,804.27

For the purposes of these accounts, subscriptions paid for the year to 30 September have been treated as coterminous with the year to 31 March.

2. Movement of group funds

Balances at year beginning	2,832.19	2,276.75
Income	41,056.82	26,329.22
Less expenditure	(40,666.72)	(25,773.78)
Balances at year end	3,222.29	2,832.19

3. Gross Income

Group	41,056.82	26,329.22
Non-group	12,973.64	12,641.72
Total	54,030.46	38,970.94

Graham Clark
08 July 2024

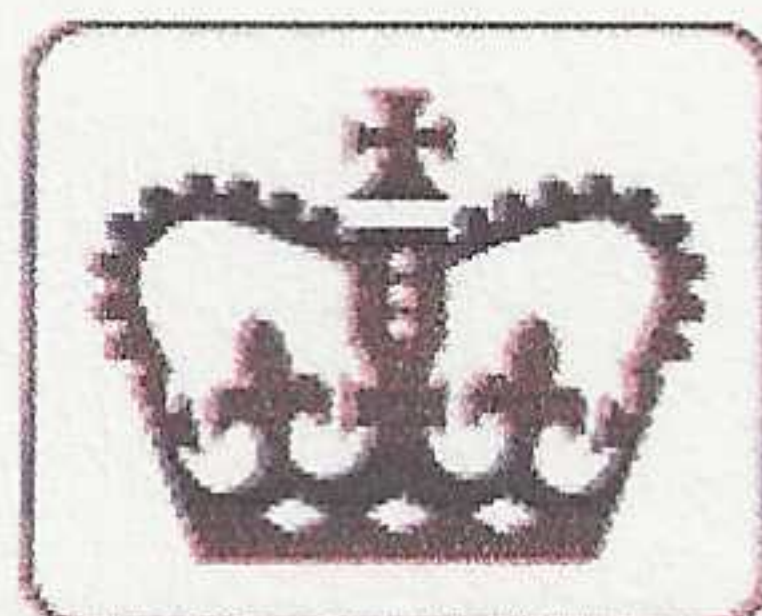


Report of the independent examiner

I have examined the above income and expenditure account and balance sheet and confirm that they are in agreement with the books of account and explanations given to me.

Steve Edwards
08 July 2024





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Bracknell Forest U3A

On accounts for the year
ended

31 March 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1153789

Set out on page

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2024

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust'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:

- 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.

Signed: *S R Edwards*

Date: *8/7/2024*

Name: S R Edwards

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

Address: 62 Culver Lane

Reading

RG6 1DY