

FORMBY UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

England & Wales · Charity number 1161157

Details

Other names	FORMBY U3A
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2015-04-02
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Formby U 3A PO Box 216 Liverpool L37 1XQ
Phone	01704577205
Email	grahamhigley@hotmail.co.uk
Website	FormbyU3A.Org.UK

Activities

Objects: 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: As an affiliated member of The Third Age Trust, Formby U3A offers its members an extensive range of educational/interest opportunities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Elderly/old People

Geography

- Sefton

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£30,137	£30,371	-	-
2024-12-31	£28,170	£28,156	-	-
2023-12-31	£20,476	£20,384	-	-
2022-12-31	£16,708	£15,542	-	-
2021-12-31	£11,774	£10,085	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew Dickinson		2022-03-09
Christine Hosie		2024-03-09
GRAHAM HIGLEY		2023-03-09
Helen Lewandowska		2022-10-03
Ian Robertson		2023-08-07
Susan Robertson		2023-08-07
Veronica Curtis		2025-04-04
William Peter Russell		2025-04-12

FORMBY UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

England & Wales - Charity number 1161157

Accounts

Formby u3a Annual Report for the year 1 Jan to 31 December 2025

Membership

The membership as of the end of December 2025 was 1078. 93 new members joined during the year.

Achievements and Performance

Formby u3a committee meetings have taken place monthly other than August when we have a summer break. The Committee has remained stable this year although we sadly lost our volunteer Newsletter Editor Dave who had completed years of loyal service. We are now paying for the Newsletter to be produced as no volunteer has come forward to take his place. We have during the year had some switching of roles on the Committee to ensure our skills are best placed. It has been difficult to recruit new Committee members, and no one has come forward to replace Helen as Chair. For this reason, we must change the constitution to allow Committee members to serve longer than the usual 3 years. The AGM will take place on the 11th of March when this matter will be addressed.

Coffee Mornings have continued monthly. These have been very successful and are regularly attended by 50+ members. At times these have included short presentations by local organisations which members appear to find interesting. Our thanks go to Kitty and her team who do a great job serving refreshments.

Speaker meetings have been held monthly; 10 events having taken place this year. Attendance at these is generally good and feedback positive. Book and Jigsaw exchange has continued as part of these meetings, thanks to Keith.

Trips have continued this year and are very popular. We went to Conwy and Bodnant Gardens on 27th May, Ambleside/Bowness in the Lake District on 15th July and Lytham Hall and Blackpool Illuminations on 15th December. Everyone reported enjoying the trips although we have been plagued by bad weather. The Lytham trip was particularly good, and people said the best yet!! We are planning a further 3 trips this year to Wollerton Old Hall Gardens and Shrewsbury, Llangollen/Betws-Y-Coed in the Summer and Haddon Hall and Bakewell for Christmas. The Theatre group has continued, and we enjoyed another trip to the Royal Court to see Scouse Christmas Carol. We would like more theatre trips and if there is anyone willing to take on leadership of this group it would be much appreciated.

We have been looking into a few events for this year including a possible meal at Himalayan Spice, another Cheese and Wine evening and possibly a 10-pin bowling afternoon. The Committee is relatively few in number and this limits the number of activities we can offer to members so new Committee members are always welcome. We currently have a vacancy for a Speakers Secretary and if anyone is interested, please come forward.

Our own u3a music groups again hosted the 2025 Christmas concert at the Holy Trinity Parish Hall Formby which was very successful. They again worked very hard to ensure this went well and feedback was positive. Refreshments were provided and our thanks go to Pam for organising these. We enjoyed a very successful Christmas meal which about 50

people attended at the Grapes in Formby on December 19th with a Michael Bubl  tribute act and bingo.

There are 70 groups presently running and members seem to be happy both with the choice of groups and access to these. We would like to remind members that new groups are always welcome either in relation to an existing subject or new and some start-up funds are available if needed.

The Chair continues to enjoy a good relationship with Southport and Meols U3as which benefits members as Southport have invited us to events, they have organised and Meols have included us in trips they have held this year. Southport again kindly arranged a discount for u3a members to the flower show this year which we are grateful for.

Newsletter and Website

The quarterly newsletter has continued and remains popular. 250 copies are printed and distributed around the local area in the library and leisure centre as well as being available at coffee mornings and speaker meetings. Four Newsletters have been produced this year which have included many interesting articles and photographs from different groups. The committee continues to encourage members to put material forward for Newsletters. The website continues and is utilised by members seeking information about Formby u3a. Group information has been kept up to date to ensure it accurately reflects the organisation and our activities.

Members have been kept up to date with activities through regular emails, thanks to Frances Taylor for all her help with these. Formby u3a continue to use the Beacon system as their electronic recording device. Beacon is an online management system designed by u3a for u3as. It provides a simple interface for managing members, groups and finances. Our thanks go to Noel who is our Data and Beacon manager despite living in Plymouth

Groups

The number of active groups at the end of December 2025 was 70. 3 new groups have started during the year and 2 have closed.

A new members meeting was held on 13th November which new members said was helpful.

Formby U3A

Charity number : 1161157

Income Statement for the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
<u>INCOME</u>		
Membership	9,446	10,257
Group income	20,453	18,206
Bank Interest	207	239
Diaries	0	0
Christmas show	0	0
Sundries	0	0
Other	30	0
	<u>30,137</u>	<u>28,703</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Capitation Fees	(4,084)	(4,052)
Membership : Beacon	(1,021)	(1,011)
New group funding	(66)	0
PO Box	(371)	(353)
Group expenses	(19,435)	(18,092)
<u>PRINTING</u>		
Newsletter	(911)	(1,127)
Membership card	(490)	(375)
ICE cards	(76)	0
Photocopying	0	0
Stationery & postage	(712)	(181)
	(2,189)	(1,683)
<u>MEETINGS</u>		
Speakers	(490)	(425)
Zoom & Audio equipment	(5)	0
St Johns Ambulance	0	0
Parish hall rental	(747)	(900)
Workshop rental	(575)	(575)
	(1,817)	(1,900)
<u>GENERAL</u>		
Diaries	0	0
Christmas show	(52)	(163)
Cash expenses	0	0
Member meetings	(170)	(568)
Open Day	0	0
Sundries	(1,166)	(838)
	<u>(1,388)</u>	<u>(1,570)</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(30,371)	(28,661)
SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)	(234)	41

Formby U3A

Charity number : 1161157

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
ASSETS		
Bank & cash balances		
Current account	3,578	5,037
Savings account	12,683	12,476
Group monies	2,133	1,600
Petty cash	4	4
	<u>18,398</u>	<u>19,117</u>
LIABILITIES		
Funds held for Theatre Group	0	(485)
	<u>18,398</u>	<u>18,632</u>
CAPITAL & RESERVES		
Retained reserves b/fwd	18,632	18,591
Surplus/ (deficit) for year	(234)	41
Retained reserves c/fwd	<u>18,398</u>	<u>18,632</u>

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

Signed

M. LEVANDOWSKA

Name

M. LEVANDOWSKA

Date

2/2/26

Grah Higley

GRAHAM HIGLEY

Independent examiner's statement

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2001 Charities Act and 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 gives me cause to believe that , in any material respect

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

Signed

DAVID POOLE

Date

6th February 2026

Name

DAVID POOLE

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

MIET

Formby U3A

Charity number : 1161157

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
ASSETS		
Bank & cash balances		
Current account	3,578	5,037
Savings account	12,683	12,476
Group monies	2,133	1,600
Petty cash	4	4
	<u>18,398</u>	<u>19,117</u>
LIABILITIES		
Funds held for Theatre Group	0	(485)
	<u>18,398</u>	<u>18,632</u>
CAPITAL & RESERVES		
Retained reserves b/fwd	18,632	18,591
Surplus/ (deficit) for year	(234)	41
Retained reserves c/fwd	<u>18,398</u>	<u>18,632</u>

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

Signed M. LEVANDOWITZ
Name M. LEVANDOWITZ
Date 2/2/26

Grah Higley
GRAHAM HIGLEY

Independent examiner's statement

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2001 Charities Act and 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 gives me cause to believe that , in any material respect

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

Signed David Poole
Name DAVID POOLE

Date 6th February 2026

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

FORMBY UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

England & Wales - Charity number 1161157

Accounts

R&P Accounts

FORMBY U3A

Charity number : 1161157

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT 2024

For the period to 31 December 2024

Month 12

	Dec-24		Variance
	Actuals	Budget	
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Membership	531	130	401
Group income	1,120	0	1,120
Bank Interest	19	0	19
Diaries	0	0	0
Christmas show	0	0	0
Sundries	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
	<u>1,670</u>	130	1,540

EXPENDITURE

Capitation Fees	0	0	0
Membership : Beacon	0	0	0
New group funding	0	0	0
PO Box	0	0	0
Group expenses	(2,523)	(200)	(2,323)

PRINTING

Newsletter	0	0	0
Membership card	0	(498)	498
ICE cards	0	0	0
Photocopying	0	0	0
Stationery & postage	(16)	0	(16)
	0	0	0
	(16)	(498)	482

MEETINGS

Speakers	0	(150)	150
Zoom & audio equip	0	0	0
St Johns Ambulance	0	0	0
Parish hall rental	(240)	(111)	(129)
Workshop rental	(250)	(61)	(189)
	(490)	(322)	(168)

GENERAL

Diaries	0	0	0
Christmas show	0	(311)	311
Cash expenses	0	(22)	22
Member meetings	(172)	0	(172)

	R&P Accounts		
Open day & conferences	0	0	0
Sundries	(8)	(6)	(2)
	(180)	(339)	159
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(3,209)	(1,359)	(1,850)
SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)	<u>(1,539)</u>	<u>(1,229)</u>	<u>(310)</u>

R&P Accounts

Dec-YTD		
Actuals	Budget	Variance
<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
10,257	9,879	378
17,674	4,840	12,834
239	102	137
0	44	(44)
0	0	0
0	0	0
0	0	0
28,170	14,865	13,305

(4,052)	(4,048)	(4)
(1,011)	(1,115)	104
0	(200)	200
(353)	(312)	(41)
(17,587)	(4,840)	(12,747)

(1,127)	(960)	(167)
(375)	(921)	546
0	0	0
0	0	0
(181)	(634)	453
0	0	0
(1,683)	(2,515)	832
0		

(425)	(1,320)	895
0	(23)	23
0	0	0
(900)	(660)	(240)
(575)	(594)	19
(1,900)	(2,597)	697

0	(40)	40
(163)	(311)	148
0	(95)	95
(569)	(600)	32

R&P Accounts

0	(610)	610
(838)	(500)	(338)
(1,570)	(2,156)	586
(28,156)	(17,783)	(10,373)
	0	
14	(2,918)	2,932

Formby U3A

Charity number : 1161157

Income Statement for the year ended 31 December 2024



	2024	2023
	£	£
<u>INCOME</u>		
Membership	10,257	9,786
Group income	18,206	10,507
Bank Interest	239	180
Diaries	0	3
Christmas show	0	0
Sundries	0	0
Other	0	0
	<u>28,703</u>	<u>20,476</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Capitation Fees	(4,052)	(4,048)
Membership : Beacon	(1,011)	(1,115)
New group funding	0	(152)
PO Box	(353)	(330)
Group expenses	(18,092)	(10,051)
<u>PRINTING</u>		
Newsletter	(1,127)	(874)
Membership card	(375)	(940)
ICE cards	0	0
Photocopying	0	0
Stationery & postage	(181)	(434)
	(1,683)	(2,248)
<u>MEETINGS</u>		
Speakers	(425)	(541)
Zoom & Audio equipment	0	(23)
St Johns Ambulance	0	0
Parish hall rental	(900)	(364)
Workshop rental	(575)	(725)
	(1,900)	(1,653)
<u>GENERAL</u>		
Diaries	0	(44)
Christmas show	(163)	0
Cash expenses	0	(7)
Member meetings	(568)	(389)
Open Day	0	0
Sundries	(838)	(347)
	(1,570)	(787)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>(28,661)</u>	<u>(20,384)</u>
SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)	<u>41</u>	<u>92</u>

Formby U3A
 Charity number : 1161157

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
ASSETS		
Bank & cash balances		
Current account	5,037	5,350
Savings account	12,476	12,237
Group monies	1,600	1,485
Petty cash	4	4
	<u>19,117</u>	<u>19,076</u>
LIABILITIES		
Funds held for Theatre group	(485)	(485)
	<u>18,632</u>	<u>18,591</u>
CAPITAL & RESERVES		
Retained reserves b/fwd	18,591	18,499
Surplus/ (deficit) for year	41	92
Retained reserves c/fwd	<u>18,632</u>	<u>18,591</u>

**Signed by one or more trustees on behalf of
 all the trustees**


Signed	<u></u>	<u></u>
Name	<u>Mark Leonard</u>	<u>E. J. BACE 3/2/25</u>
Date	<u>3/2/2025</u>	

Independent examiner's statement

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2001 Charities Act and 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 gives me cause to believe that , in any material respect

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

Signed	<u></u>	Date	<u>17/2/2025</u>
Name	<u>DAVID Pearce</u>		

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

Formby u3a Annual report for the year 1 Jan to 31 December 2024

Reference, Administration and Structure Details:

Formby u3a is an unincorporated members association and a member of the Third Age Trust on whose template our governing document (our Constitution) is based and agrees to comply with their terms of membership including the principles of the u3a Movement. On 2nd April 2015 Formby u3a registered as a charity (Charity Number 1161157) and is administered by Trustees who are also members of the Executive Committee. Our principal address is Formby u3a, PO Box 216, Liverpool, L37 1XQ.

The Trustees are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and are also accountable to the Charities Commission.

Executive Committee

2024-2025

Chairman	Helen Lewandowska
Vice Chairman	Vacant
Secretary	Evan Bale
Treasurer	Sue Robertson
Membership Secretary	Andy Dickinson
Groups Secretary	Graham Higley

Committee Members Ian Robertson, Christine Hosie (co-opted) Veronica Curtis (minute taker-co-opted), David Skelton.

In addition, the following are invited to attend Committee Meetings:

Beacon/Data Manager – Noel Blundell

Newsletter Editor – Dave Goodwill

Objectives, Activities and Achievements:

Our purpose (Object) is the advancement of education, and in particular the education of older people and those retired from full time work, by all means including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development.

Membership

The membership as of the end of December 2024 was 1069. 98 new members joined during the year.

Achievements and Performance

Formby u3a committee meetings have taken place monthly other than August when we have a summer break. Several members of the committee have resigned and are due to finish in March 2025 after several years of hard work and loyal service. Our thanks to them and welcome to some new committee members who have joined us to take their places. The AGM is to take place on 12th March 2025.

Coffee Mornings have continued on a monthly basis. These have been very successful and are regularly attended by 50+ members. At times these have included short presentations by local organisations which members appear to find interesting. Our thanks go to Kitty and her team who do a great job serving refreshments.

Speaker meetings have been held on a monthly basis; 10 events having taken place this year. Attendance at these is generally good and feedback positive. Book and Jigsaw exchange has continued as part of these meetings, thanks to Keith.

Trips have continued this year and are very popular. We went to Bridgewater Gardens on 20th May, Trentham Gardens on 16th July and Chatsworth House on 26th November. We are planning a further 3 trips this year to Conwy/Bodnant Gardens, the Lake District and Lytham Hall/Blackpool Lights. We have re-started the Theatre group and enjoyed our first trip to the Royal Court to see Scouse Red Riding Hood.

We have also held a couple of Cheese and Wine evenings and a meal for members at a local restaurant. These appear to have been welcomed by members and well attended. They have generally been successful with positive feedback but as with events of this nature we learn from each one and continually try and improve to ensure we all have a good evening. We hope to arrange further events like this throughout the forthcoming year and if people have any special requests or ideas please let us know.

Each of these events would not happen without the time and effort put in by Committee members. The Committee is relatively few in number and this limits the number of events

we are able to offer to members. We currently have a vacancy for a Speakers Secretary and would welcome anybody onto the Committee to help with current activities.

Our own u3a music groups again hosted the 2024 Christmas concert at the Holy Trinity Parish Hall Formby which was very successful. They worked very hard to ensure this went well and feedback was positive. We enjoyed a very successful Christmas meal which 70 people attended at the Grapes in Formby on December 19th and many have said how lovely the food was. In light of this we're likely to repeat the event and give the Grapes our ongoing custom.

There are 70 groups presently running and members seem to be happy both with the choice of groups and access to these. We would like to remind members that new groups are always welcome either in relation to an existing subject or new and some start up funds are available if needed.

The Chair has met with Chairs of both Southport and Meols u3a groups this year and supportive relations continue with them. Southport again kindly arranged a discount for u3a members to the flower show this year which we are very grateful for and have negotiated discounts with some businesses in Southport which we can take advantage of. These will shortly be circulated with a few new Formby discounts which we have managed to achieve.

Members have been kept up to date with activities through regular emails, thanks to Frances Taylor for all her help with these. Formby u3a continue to use the Beacon system as their electronic recording device. Beacon is an on line management system designed by u3a for u3as. It provides a simple interface for managing members, groups and finances.

Newsletter and Website

A committee decision was taken to reduce the Newsletter from monthly to quarterly. This was to ensure there was sufficient material of interest for members when it is produced. This change has been accepted well by members and 250 copies are printed and distributed to members and around the local area. Four Newsletters have been produced this year which have included many interesting articles and photographs from different groups. The committee continues to encourage members to put material forward for Newsletters as we were a little short of material in our last edition and we wouldn't wish these to have to cease due to lack of interest. The website continues and is utilised by members seeking information about Formby u3a. Group information has been kept up to date to ensure it accurately reflects the organisation and our activities. Our thanks go to Dave who does the Newsletter for us ensuring that the high quality is maintained. Also thanks to Noel our Beacon/data manager who we couldn't do without.

Groups

The number of active groups at the end of December 2024 was 70. 4 new groups have started during the year and 4 have closed.

A Group Leaders event was held on 8th May 2024 which was well attended and welcomed by group leaders.

We also held an Open day for the public on the 16th November and will aim to do a further one this year.

Policies

Policies and Procedures are in place based on the Third Age Trust recommendations. These are published on our website and will be kept under review. They have been updated and reviewed this year thanks to our Secretary Evan. No resolutions were voted on last year.

Financial Review

The accounts for the year show a surplus of £41 (2023 £92) and reserves carried forward of £18,632 (2023 £18,591). Bank and cash balances at year end are £19,117 (2022 £19,076.)

The Committee has agreed a Financial Policy which sets out how finances are controlled in Formby u3a and is on the website. The Third Age Trust has agreed that this provides adequate control and hence is content that some groups can continue to operate their own bank accounts.

The Third Age Trust recommends 12 months reserves to cover our affiliation fee which is our most significant cost. Surplus funds will be used for the benefit of the membership through consultation with them and we encourage members to make suggestions of any events/activities that you feel we could do for the benefit of all. We would like to thank David Poole who has acted as our independent verifier this year.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

Helen Lewandowska (Chairperson)

Date 3rd March 2025.