

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st OCTOBER 2025

Preston Park University of the Third Age (also known as Preston Park u3a)

Registered Charity No. 1162594

Principle correspondence address: 9 Lewes Mews, Arundel Place, Brighton BN2 1GR

The charity is an unincorporated association with a Constitution adopted 4th December 2014 and revised at a Special General Meeting on 2 December 2021. A copy of the Constitution and all policies and procedures can be found on the Preston Park u3a website

<https://prestonpark.u3asite.uk/>

The charity is managed by a Committee of Trustees who are appointed annually at the Annual General Meeting held in December.

The Trustees elected for 2025 were:

Liz Rugg	Chair
Carol Jenkins	Secretary
John Curwen	Treasurer
Kevin Thomas	
Charmian Hartley	
Sara Piper	
Sue Barlow	
Julie Frayne	
Christine Hooper	

Co-opted members: Heather Holford & Terry Careford

The charitable purposes 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.

Trustees Report

We are delighted to be able to report on a really positive and productive year for our u3a. We have worked hard to try and make things better for all our members. For example, Christine Hooper has been responsible for commissioning First Aid training for a number of members in case of need and we are hoping to run another training session next year. New audio visual equipment has been commissioned for our monthly meetings and we now have a much more user-friendly and up to date website thanks to the really hard work of Carol Jenkins, our secretary. This is a great resource with everything folk need to know about our u3a in one place. We now have up to 500 people looking at it each month with up to 3000 views per month. Carol is also responsible for a lively and engaging Monthly Update.

The success of our u3a rests largely on the Interest Groups that we offer and our thanks go out to all of our Group Leaders who make it all possible. Sadly but understandable after a long time, a couple of groups have come to an end this year but we have also seen a number of new groups start-up such as another French group, our Pickleball and Singing groups, Nordic Walking, another yoga group and a film discussion group to name just a few. Also a knitting and crochet group and an art group are just getting underway. We are always looking for new

ideas and for group leaders who will make things happen. A special mention for John Colman for another terrific year of Heritage Visits.

Christine Hooper has had a great year as our Speaker Secretary and arranged some fascinating speakers to talk to us. The Sound of Music talk was particularly well received.

Membership of our u3 a now stands at more than 550 up more than 13% on last year. More members mean new ideas, energy and enthusiasm and more and different Interest Groups, so more opportunities for learning and personal development. The rise in members was boosted by a really lively Open Day in September, organized very ably by our Interest Group Coordinators, Sue Barlow and Julie Frayne and supported by our secretary Carol Jenkins. The Open Day also matched many existing members with spaces in our groups so more of our existing members can now enjoy new activities. Most of our 60+ groups were represented on the day, ready to talk to prospective members, with several giving demonstrations to make it even more interesting still.

Finance Report

The finances of Preston Park U3A are split into two parts; the income and expenditure of the various 'interest groups' that are largely 'self funded'; and the services provided to the general membership, including the monthly meetings, that are funded by the annual membership subscriptions.

At the end of the financial year, we have reported a deficit (income minus expense) of £7,903. Part of this deficit (£1,691) is attributable to the Interest Groups where the timing of payments hasn't balanced with the timing of income.

But most of the deficit (£6,212) comes from the general fund where we have spent much more in the year than the our annual income. This is entirely down to the planned investment of £7390 in new audio/visual facilities at Knoyle Hall which we announced at the AGM last year. This investment was made using surpluses built up over the previous years.

We also spent money on First Aid facilities in Knoyle Hall and First Aid Training for a number of our members.

Despite this expenditure, our funds at the end of the Financial Year still remain healthy:

General Funds	£2,981
Interest Group Funds	£7,663
Total Cash at Bank	£10,644

Our membership has grown this year to 551 members and this has generated subscription fee income of £7,590 (8% more than the previous year).

However most of our reported income, 83%, came from Interest Group subscriptions and Heritage Visit fees.

Similarly, most of our expenditure is attributable to the interest groups in respect of hall hire, external visit costs and the cost of tutors.

We also paid a net sum of £3,320 (£3,301 previous year) to the Third Age Trust for the provision of central services covering publications, insurance and IT services.

We announced last year that we would introduce the option of Gift Aid to all members in respect of their annual subscriptions and we are pleased to report that 263 members have signed up for this option. The first claim will be submitted in the new financial year and fall into next years' income.

The consolidated Accounts for the Financial Year ending 31st October 2025 are detailed on the page below.

Preston Park U3A
Financial Accounts Year Ending 31st October 2025

Income	2025	2025	2024	2024
Membership Fees		£7,590		£7,022
Interest Group Subscription		£31,642		£28,867
Interest Group Visit fees		£10,826		£9,543
Meeting Fees		£928		£1,024
Other Income		£138		£314
Totals		£51,123		£46,770

Expenditure

Hall hire	£13,162		£9,651	
Speakers Fees	£419		£509	
Refreshments	£225		£223	
Postage and Printing	£608		£768	
Subscriptions	£3,230		£3,301	
Equipment	£7,858		£759	
Summer Tea Party	£284		£272	
Interest Group visits	£9,865		£9,778	
Tutors	£21,038		£17,391	
AGM Expenses	£184		£120	
U3A Day Expenses	£367			
First Aid Training	£684			
Sundry Expenses/Donations	£1,102		£1,010	
Totals		£59,025		£43,782

Surplus / Deficit		-£7,903		£2,988
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Balance Sheet		2025		2024
Funds brought forward		£18,547		£15,559
Surplus / Deficit for year		-£7,903		£2,988
Total carried forward		£10,644		£18,547

Represented by

Cash at Bank		£10,644		£18,547
Less Creditors				
Total carried forward		£10,644		£18,547

This report was approved by the Committee on 9th January 2026



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 John Curwen
 Trustee

Preston Park U3A

Independent Examiner's Report to the Council of Management

for the year ended 31 October 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity (Charity Number 1162594) for the year ended 31st October 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year and that an independent examination is needed. 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 all 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. the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
3. the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 *JM Edgell*.....

Dated *22/11/2025*.....

Name *JENNIFER EDGELL*.....