

## **South Woodham Ferrers u3a Annual Report 2024 -2025**

To All Members – From the Chair

Another successful year for our u3a, all down to the enthusiasm of our members, with the support of the Group Leaders and our committee.

Our secretary, Ann, continues to get articles into the “Focus” on a regular basis which highlights our activities and groups. I’m sure that these have contributed to the continuing increase in our membership.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the committee for their hard work and support during the year, they have certainly made my job easier, (I do think that I have the easiest job on the committee, but don’t tell them that). And of course, to our many Group Leaders – we wouldn’t have the groups without you.

### **Membership**

The trend this year again, has been upwards, with 271 members (including cluster and associate), which shows a healthy, active u3a. A similar comment applies to the number of members attending our monthly meeting which is currently around the 80-100 mark.

### **Accounts**

The annual accounts are attached to this report, even with no increase in the membership fee this year, we are confident of a financially healthy future. Our treasurer, Kate, will address the AGM on July 2nd with more details. Incidentally, this will be Kate’s final presentation as she has to step down, but I know she has left the books in excellent condition for her successor, (more on that below). Thank you, Kate, your work as Treasurer is much appreciated.

### **Groups**

The activity groups continue to increase with a Beginners French, Needle-Felting and a Weekenders groups up and running. Many of our groups have a waiting list, which, while unfortunate for those waiting, I take to be a very positive sign of the participation of the members.

### **Social Activities**

As far as the social activities organised by our social secretary, we had the very successful quiz night last November which attracted many u3a members and friends. Although the table I was on didn’t win anything, I did enjoy the evening.

### **Committee**

I would like to thank Kate Smith, our Treasurer, who is standing down after many years of excellent work. I’m very pleased, (and relieved), to say that we have a member, Linden Rosam, prepared to stand for Treasurer and I know that Kate will provide an excellent handover. Linden has previous experience in being treasurer for a charity and we will introduce her to you to at the AGM where you will be asked to vote on her appointment. We also have a new, experienced, person to take on the role of auditor – another key position, (although not on the committee).

Also at the AGM, as well as the rest of the committee willing to remain in office, you will be asked to vote on the appointment of Tracey Dowling who was co-opted as Social Secretary last year, and Lynn Perham to join the committee without specific responsibilities but willing to pitch in where needed.

David Hayes, Chair SWF u3a

SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS U3A (Reg. Charity No. 1181261)

Financial Report  
1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

Expenditure		Comments
Head Office capitalation fee	£996.00	
Room/equipment hire	£881.39	payments for 9 months
Third Age Matters	£439.20	
Entertaining & catering	£201.05	
Beacon	£263.00	
Equipment	£258.98	New laptop
Printing, stationery and postage	£96.07	
Meeting expenses	£925.00	
Other expenses	£140.29	
Copyright Licence	£67.21	
TOTAL expenditure for year		£4,268.19

Balance brought forward 1 April	£5,168.21	Total expenditure	£4,268.19
Total income	£4,948.00	Closing balance 31 March 2025	£5,848.02
Total	£10,116.21	Total	£10,116.21

Main Account Carried forward to 2025-2026      £5,848.02

The group accounts have been audited. The total held in the Group Bank Account is £

2,065.72. Groups hold a total of £2,553.36 in cash

The Group Bank Account balance is made up as follows:

Gardening Group	£450.10	Find your Voice	£80	London Walks	£300.50
Local History	£309.02	Social	£726.24		
french Group	£17.01	Closed Groups	£182.85		

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records have not been met
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed N.Baker

 N.T. BAKER, A.C.I.B.  
24/4/2025

Kate Smith - Hon Treasurer

Income		Comments
Member Income	£4,127.00	
Catering	£186.25	
HMRC Gift Aid	£501.75	
Grant	£113.00	From Mr Gees Foundation for the purchase of a recycling box
Visitors	£20.00	
TOTAL income for year		£4,948.00

Total Income/Expenditure for South Woodham Ferrers

U3A

Including Groups

Income :		Expenditure :	
Main Account	£,4948	Main Account	£ 4,268.19
Group Accounts	£23,662.98	Group Accounts	£23,785.57
Total	£28,610.98	Total	£28,053.76



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

South Woodham Ferrers U3A

On accounts for the year  
ended

31/03/25

Charity no  
(if any)

1181261

Set out on pages

1 and 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2025

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [ ] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- 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.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

24-4-2025

Name:

NIEL BAKER

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

A. C. I. B.