



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Charity name: Bristol u3a

Charity registration number: 291783

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>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 all associated activities conducive to learning and personal development in Bristol and its surrounding locality.</b>
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	Creation of Interest Groups for our members to facilitate learning via a wide range of activities These will be at a much lesser cost than equivalent educational bodies. Membership of Bristol U3A is open to all individuals who are interested in furthering the work of the U3A and who have paid the annual subscription.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Bristol U3A confirms that it continues to carry out its activities for the public benefit and that, in doing so, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance where relevant.

## Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not applicable. All funds are used to support members participation e.g. venue hire etc. and Bristol u3a's operating costs.

Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The organisation has no paid staff so survives by the active participation of a range of members. Trustees and postholders are all volunteers. Over 150 interest groups for members are run by volunteers.
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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	2022/23 has generally been a positive and optimistic year as we have started to emerge from the worst of the Covid pandemic. Our membership numbers have continued to recover really well, and we now have around 1400 in Bristol u3a. Last year we also celebrated in different ways the 40th Anniversary of the u3a movement. New groups have also been popping up at regular intervals such as Tap Dancing, Daytime Disco, Days Out, and another Social Group in South Gloucestershire to the north of

		<p>Bristol called The Stokes.</p> <p>An annual Social for Group Leaders commenced in November 2022, and we have introduced a new and concise <i>Group Leaders eUpdate</i>. The Executive Committee has met monthly, considering many and varied issues, and overseeing the work of our four Teams - Organisational Effectiveness, Strategy and Groups, Publicity and Communications, and Diversity and Inclusion. We have again been keen to publicise ourselves more widely in Bristol and beyond, working in partnership with other groups and organisations, particularly those that have similar aims and ambitions, together with improving on our working practices, such as in relation to IT, financial management, and succession planning. Importantly, we have also been looking at ways to increase our diversity and geographical spread through the Diversity and Inclusion Team, and have also successfully introduced a new system for supporting groups with their venue costs. Our monthly meetings, now back in person, but with some hybrid using Zoom, which attract an audience of 70-100. We have had many excellent speakers at our monthly general meetings on a variety of eclectic topics.</p> <p>A Government Report in 2022 showed that loneliness is associated with negative physical health outcomes, including earlier deaths, an increased risk of dementia, Alzheimer's, heart disease and stroke. Loneliness is also known to have an association with mental health conditions. By</p>
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		encouraging those no longer in full time work to participate in regular social and educational activities Bristol u3a is helping to combat this and unlock the potential of all of its members for an active and fulfilling third stage of their lives.
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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	<p>During the current year there was a small excess of income over expenditure of £2689.</p> <p>Bristol U3A has £22.3k in hand at the year-end counting a £5k reduction in the Deposit Account in accordance with the Executive Committee's decision to maintain £10.5k Reserves.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Bristol U3A aims to maintain a level of reserves of about six months expenditure. This is in line with Charity Commission guidance
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£10.5k</b>
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	No particular concerns

### 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	In the year £27,611 was received from membership subscriptions, £2067 was received in grants from other charities, and £140 was received in donations.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy		A deposit account is maintained with a High Street bank within the Financial Services Compensation scheme and is used for the Reserves.

adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Previously reported was the disruption to socialisation and drop in membership numbers due to the Covid pandemic. The committee decided to keep subscription rate rise to a minimum 22-23 and membership now is slowly growing back. We are mindful that many venues are passing rising costs of electricity and heating on to groups by raising venue charges, but this is being monitored. Similarly, because of the cost of living crisis, future subscriptions will have to be carefully considered to maintain affordability and keep members.
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution, as amended 17th April 2018
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
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	Annual election or re-election by membership at AGM (except for Treasurer who is elected for a three year term of office)

### 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	Incoming trustees normally participate on a half-day induction meeting introducing adopted policies and procedures and are provided with a copy of the Third Age Trust document. "Trustee Code of Conduct (England & Wales)"
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity is affiliated to the Third Age Trust, the national umbrella body for Universities of the Third Age. It is also a member of the South West Region
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Annual subscription of £6810 paid to use u3a UK Head office infrastructure including paid staff, policies and procedures, resources and group wide purchased insurance and copyright licences.
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Bristol u3a
Other name the charity uses	Bristol University of the Third Age
Registered charity number	291783
Charity's principal address	11, Alexandra Park, Redland, Bristol BS6 6QB





### 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	Ian Bickerton	Chair		
	2	Kristin Payne	Vice Chair		
	3	Martin Bromberg	Treasurer		
	4	David Wilson	Secretary		
	5	Lindsay Gough			
	6	Peter Loy-Hancocks			
	7	Linda Soutter			
	8	Simon Hebditch		June-July 2022	
	9				
	10				
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	12				
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	15				
	16				
	17				
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	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	
N/A		

## 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	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

### 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)		
	N/A		

## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

No paid staff

## 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)		
	Full name(s)	David Martin Wilson	
	Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	
	Date		

**BRISTOL u3a**  
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

Year to 31 March 23

Year to 31 March 22

**CASH AT BANKS**

Brought forward	29281	34513
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**INCOME**

Membership Subscriptions	27611	14961
Members' Contributions to Newsletters	1380	in subscriptions
Group contributions to Venue Hire	1255	53
Gift Aid Tax repayment	2497	1586
Grants (Age UK, CAF & RWS)	2067	0
Donations from members	140	0
Social	88	0
Interest	22	1
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>35060</b>	<b>16601</b>

**EXPENDITURE**

Printing Postage and Delivery		
of Annual Bulletin and Newsletters	6266	6374
Third Age Matters	3987	2599
Stationery	86	173
Promotions	1069	254
Third Age Trust Membership	5432	4053
Beacon and other licences	1378	1291
Zoom costs	394	1408
Account Charges	724	268
Social (incl Speaker's Fees)	830	875
Venue Hire	12205	3745
Equipment	0	793
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>32371</b>	<b>21833</b>
<b>Surplus of Income over Expenditure</b>	2689	-5232
<b>Total Resources</b>	<b>31970</b>	<b>29281</b>

**Comprising**

Cash at HSBC	25972	29281
Cash at PayPal	6908	0
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>32880</b>	<b>29281</b>
less liabilities for Venue Hire	909	0
	<b>31971</b>	<b>29281</b>

**Notes:**

- 1 The increase in subscriptions is due to doubling of the subscription since last year.
- 2 The grants from various bodies are due to the fact that we have sought funds from them.
3. There is £347 due from Groups for venue hire.
4. u3a has a number of assets eg laptops, projectors and audio equipment.

**External Examiner's Report**

I have not performed an audit but following my limited examination of the accounts, I confirm that they are in accordance with the accounting records and explanations provided. Proper accounting records have been kept.

**BRISTOL u3a**  
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