

Massereene U3A

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100293

Details

Status	Received
Registered	2014-08-18
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	132 Barnish Road Randalstown Antrim Bt41 2nh BT41 2NH
Phone	02894473329
Email	grahamrseymour@hotmail.co.uk
Website	http://massereene-u3a.org/

Activities

Purposes: The Objects of the U3A are: (i) to advance the education of the public and in particular the education of older people no longer in full time gainful employment in Antrim Area and its surrounding locality. (ii) the provision of facilities for leisure time and recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the above persons in the interests of their social welfare.

What the charity does: The advancement of education, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage, Other charitable purposes

How the charity works: Community development, Cultural, Education/training, Heritage/historical

Who the charity helps: General public, Men, Older people, Women

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£4,620	£4,471	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Bob Armitage		
Hilary Beckett		
John O'carroll		
Mr Alan Ashenhurst		
Mr Colin Thompson		
Mr Graham Seymour		
Mrs Barbara Lavelle		
Mrs Thomasina Ashenhurst		
Ms Anne Forgrave		
Peter Dawson		

Massereene U3A

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100293

Accounts

Massereene U3A

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Accounts

**MASSERENE U3A
FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1 SEP 2022 - 31 AUG 2023**

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		Number 20xxxx	
Bank	Opening Balance	£1,265.05	U3A Membership	chq 0095		£348.00
	Petty Cash	£251.00	U3A Magazine	chq 0093		£244.80
			U3A Beacon	chq 0092		£87.00
Membership Subscription	Cash	£1,224.00				
	Cheque	£270.00	Net Nerd (web)			
			(P Dawson by card)	chq 0091		£74.38
Bank Interest		£0.00	Library (room hire)			TBA
			Printers	cash		£78.00
			Newtownabbey & Antrim Borough Council	chq 0090		£30.15
			Sundries - Donation	cash		£10.00
			Stationery	cash		£25.60
			Speakers	cash		£200.00
Dunsilly Hotel	cash	£858.00	Dunsilly Hotel	chq 0089		£910.00
	chq	£104.00	refund (Covid)	cash		£52.00
Ballyscullion House	cash	£875.00	Ballyscullion House	cash		£875.00
			Picnic in the Park	chq 0094		£300.00
			Bank Fees			£39.19
			Bank Closing Balance			£1,367.53
			Petty Cash in hand			£205.97
TOTAL		£4,847.62	TOTAL			£4,847.62

Heister 3/10/23

Massereene U3A

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100293

Annual report

Massereene u3a

Report for year September 2023 – September 2024

From a total membership of 81, the average attendance at our Friday monthly meeting was 47, which was excellent.

As in previous years, a variety of topics were covered in the Friday morning meetings.

In September, Gary Blair (representing the Ulster Scot Agency) gave an excellent talk on the history of the Ulster Scot and how it is established across the nine counties.

In October, the artist Janice Lightowler from Moira, brought along some of her intriguing paintings and gave an excellent talk about her work and creativity.

In November, The Garden Manager Claire Woods from Hillsborough Castle, took us on a journey through the gardens at Hillsborough Castle from January until December - reminding us of the danger of Spanish bluebells!

In December, a well-attended Christmas lunch was held in the Dunsilly Arms. As usual, the food and service was excellent. Many thanks to all who helped to organize this event and provided gifts.

In January, Adrian Steel returned to our meeting to present the topic of social history through various folk songs. A very entertaining meeting!

In February, Massereene u3a celebrated its 10th anniversary. To mark the occasion, we held a dinner in The Dunadry Inn and were delighted that the previous 3 Chairpersons were able to attend, namely Linda Houston, Brian Turnbull and Hilary Beckett. We also welcomed Valerie Cobain, from the Northern Ireland Regional Executive Committee.

The planned speaker for February was unable to attend, so we were delighted to welcome John McElrea from the Air Ambulance. Via their two red helicopters, they can reach anywhere in Northern Ireland in just 20 minutes! This was a very informative talk.

Michael Fryer from the War Memorial Museum joined us in March, and outlined the formation and activities of the work of the museum.

In April, Philip Simpson from The Irish Linen Centre & Lisburn Museum gave a really interesting talk on the history of Irish linen from flax to fibre.

Our last formal meeting of the year was in May, when Colin Stark from The Ulster Orchestra, a former woodwind player, gave a talk on the formation and activities of The Ulster Orchestra – oboe and bassoonist players are in short supply!

This year's outing in June was to Killymoon Castle in Cookstown. After a conducted tour of the castle, it is fair to say that one of the best Afternoon Teas was served. An excellent way to finish the year!

The 5 main groups; Bridge, Book Club, Rang Gaeilge, Dine Out and Let's Go continued their activities during the year. Many thanks to Graham Seymour for starting an Environment Group – to date they have been involved in collecting litter in Rea's Wood, a talk on the merits or otherwise of electric cars, a very wet visit to Portmore Lough and Montiagh's Moss and a visit to Ballylagan Organic Farm.

Some of the highlights of Let's Go was: a visit to HMS Caroline, the Aviation Centre at The Maze, Antrim Omniplex, making a Christmas table decoration, a visit to Belfast Central Library, a visit to Hillsborough Castle Gardens and attendance at the Christmas Tree Festival at Muckamore Presbyterian Church.

Dine Out continues to be popular, with visits to Jaspers, Flame Restaurant, Stix and Stones, Edo's, Town Square Brasserie and Malmaison. There was also a 3 day visit to Gorey.

Thanks are due to the various facilitators, who organized the various groups and a special word of thanks to the Massereene u3a Committee, for their help and cooperation during the year. Their support is vital in the running of our u3a.

Looking forward to seeing you all during the incoming season!

Alan Ashenhurst

Massereene U3A

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100293

Annual return

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of Massereene U3A for the year ended 31st August 2024, which are set out on the attached page.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by Massereene U3A and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the accounting records.

Independent Examiner: Gordon Leinster

Address: 8 Glenavie Park
Newtownabbey
Co Antrim
BT37 0QW

Signed: _____

G Leinster

Date: _____

26/9/24

Massereene U3A

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100293

Accounts

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Annual report

Massereene u3a

Report for year September 2022-September 2023

Massereene u3a continues to move forward, albeit slowly. The number of subscribed members is not always reflected in those attending the monthly meeting or interest groups. This year there were 87 members on register but the average attendance at meetings was 44. The purpose of u3a is to learn from others so the greater the interaction, the better the outcome.

A wide variety of topics were covered at Friday meetings.

Joanne McConville began the season by recounting the day when her parachute failed to open. Her book, "My Piece of Sky" is a testament to her strength of mind and determination which inspired her recovery.

The planned Speaker for October was unable to attend, so at very short notice, a team from Lough Neagh Search and Rescue stepped into the breach and described their function in the Lough and beyond.

Similarly, in November, it was necessary to find a replacement Speaker. This time, a local historian, Ron Bishop, was able to present an interesting and informative story based on the diary of a lady who once lived in Carrickfergus.

A well attended Christmas Lunch was held in Dunsilly hotel where games and fun added to the delicious food. Thank you to all who were involved in the organisation of the day. In January, Mary Watson related many facts and features of the village of Carnlough. She drew attention to the industrial and maritime importance of the village in the past, in contrast with the modern seaside place.

A representative from PSNI visited in February with harrowing tales of Human Trafficking which is taking place closer than many realise.

Claire Ablett, curator of History at the Ulster Transport Museum took members on a virtual tour of the facility in March. The journey moved from horse and carts to the modern DeLorean car.

The Belfast Hills Partnership was explored with Jim Bradley at the April meeting.

In June, Adrian Steel from AJS Sketch Art presented his artwork. Adrian's art focused on the architecture of local buildings and their connections with social history.

The final event of the year was an Outing to Ballyscullion House and Garden. After a talk on the history of the house and a walk in the garden, afternoon tea was served.

Thanks to Alan and Tomina Ashenhurst for organising this.

Interest groups continue their activities and are always pleased to receive new members. If anyone has an interest which they feel others may share, please approach a Committee member who will be able to help with the setting up of a new interest group.

Bridge, Book club, Rang Gaeilge, Dine Out and Let's Go remain the core interest groups.

Establishments visited by Dine Out:

Cloth Ear

Fusion

Archana

Academy

Home

Scalini's

Cyprus Avenue

Let's Go activities were:

Back stage at the Grand Opera House

Viaduct Garden, Randalstown

Bird box building at Men's Shed, Randalstown

Mindfulness and Wellbeing with Nuala McKeever

Christmas Wreath making with Gillian Mairs

Enchanted Winter Garden, Antrim

Photography explained

Afternoon tea

Guided tour of PRONI

Visit to Transport Museum

Massereene u3a is fortunate to have a willing and able Committee .This is vital to the running of the Organisation. My thanks to everyone who has been on hand to help.

Membership subscriptions are due in September, so £18 will be payable at the opening meeting. If possible, our treasurer would appreciate the correct amount. For insurance purposes, it is important that subscriptions are kept up to date. If you receive communications from Massereene U3A by email you will be aware that we have policies in place on Privacy and Data Protection in compliance with EU legislation. The policies can be viewed or downloaded from our website, <http://massereene-u3a.org/>. Communicating by email is quick, convenient and saves costs but if some members do not use computers or have email accounts, they will continue to receive essential communications by post. Look forward to seeing you during the incoming season.

Hilary

Massereene U3A

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100293

Annual return

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Independent Examiner: Gordon Leinster

Address: 8 Glenavie Park
Newtownabbey
Co Antrim
BT37 0QW

Signed: _____

Date: 03/10/23