

U3A in Bury St Edmunds

Chair's Report to the AGM October 2020

The past year has been a very strange one for all of us, as individuals and as an organisation. It started conventionally enough. A varied lecture programme began in September 2019, and our many Study Groups met to plan their activities for the year ahead.

We had a very successful Christmas social event on December 17th, and members had some useful suggestions for how we could better combine appreciation for the choir's performance with the benefits of social interaction.

On January 29th 2020, several of us enjoyed a lunch at Edmunds, the restaurant on the West Suffolk campus staffed by hospitality students at the college. This restaurant has been recognised nationally as a centre of excellence, and always takes good care of us.

On March 6th, the Study Group Leaders and members of the Committee met together so that the Committee could express appreciation for all that the Study Group leaders do, and the Study Group leaders could talk about ways to encourage and support the creation of new study groups. We understand that groups will close to new members when they feel that to take on more would be to damage the group, and we want to try to encourage new groups to form to allow everyone the opportunity to follow their interests.

We had big plans for Summer 2020. We wanted to resume educational trips for members, with a visit to Glemham Hall the first scheduled trip. We wanted to join with other U3A groups nationally in celebrating the first national U3A day. But then a new coronavirus began circulating, one with potentially devastating effects, and lock-down was introduced.

The lecture programme, educational trips, and Study Group activities had to be put on hold. Many groups found ways to use technology to keep in touch and to maintain their learning. As restrictions eased, more groups found ways to keep going, showing that we are a resilient and resourceful organisation.

Unfortunately, it looks likely that we will have to get used to limits to our activities for some time to come. We want to develop the website as a resource for members, with virtual museum tours, lectures and other experiences recommended by members for members. I'm sorry that people who do not use the internet will not be

able to benefit from these ideas, and I hope that Study Groups are finding ways to include and support members who would otherwise be unable to participate in U3A activities.

I must also apologise to those of you who experienced delays in renewing your membership at the end of 2019. Our then Membership Secretary was having problems, and the Committee was slow to address the backlog. I hope that the process will be quicker and easier for everyone this year.

I have now served four years on the Committee, two as Secretary and two as Chair, and I want to thank everyone who has made that time such a rewarding experience. Everyone who has served on the Committee during those years was a reliable source of support and friendship, and all the U3A members that I met during the time have been welcoming and appreciative of all that the Committee does.

This U3A plans to relaunch activities with a flourish once we can meet freely again, with a big event to celebrate the U3A nationally as well as the many activities undertaken by our members, both within and outside of the U3A. Others will have to take on these events now, and I look forward to being able to support the new committee as an active member and volunteer.

This year I must especially thank Trudy Roberts, Peter Rose and Cliff Hind, who are also standing down after serving their terms. I also want to thank those people who are continuing to support the organisation as Committee members, and the new volunteers who have put themselves forward for election. All the Study Group leaders, the volunteers who staff the office when it is open, and those who support the lectures at the Apex as fire stewards and as technicians in charge of the sound and lighting are also much appreciated. This organisation only works because so many individual people give their time and enthusiasm to making things happen, and I am grateful to you all.

University of the Third Age in Bury St Edmunds
Charity Registration Number 803112
Section A - Receipts and Payments Account - for the year ended 31st July 2020

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>2018/19</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Events &</u>	<u>Study</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Groups</u>		
<u>Receipts</u>					
Membership Subscriptions	18763			18763	20319
Gift Aid Tax Received	2057			2057	1985
Sale of Fixed Assets	0			0	0
Bank Interest Received	50			50	60
Sundry Receipts	144			144	21
Events, Visits and Study Day Receipts		1199		1199	2292
Travel Group Receipts			1000	1000	2204
Theatre Group Receipts			17627	17627	18933
Other Study Group Receipts			7419	7419	7067
<u>Total Receipts 2019/20</u>	21014	1199	26046	48259	52881
<u>Payments</u>					
Third Age Trust Membership Fees	3384			3384	3462
Equipment Purchase and Website Up-Keep	2559			2559	3040
Cost of Lecture Meetings	3634			3634	5297
Publication - Third Age Matters Magazine	2028			2028	1619
Suffolk District Network	25			25	25
Office Rent and Room Hire	3126			3126	3314
Telephone and Broadband	863			863	890
Postage, Stationery and Photocopying	749			749	730
Membership Cards/Programmes	500			500	628
Accounting Software and Support	522			522	668
External Examination Fee	390			390	390
Committee and AGM Costs	14			14	451
Miscellaneous Costs	222			222	157
Study Group Leader Meetings	292			292	261
Events, Visits and Study Day Payments		1154		1154	3142
Travel Group Payments			1983	1983	3548
Theatre Group Payments			16923	16923	17605
Other Study Group Payments			7408	7408	7713
<u>Total Payments 2019/20</u>	18308	1154	26314	45776	52940
<u>Net Receipts/(Payments) 2019/20</u>	2706	45	-268	2483	-59
<u>Transfer Between Funds 2019/20</u>				0	0
<u>Cash Funds as at 31st July 2019 Brought Forward</u>	15449	0	8177	23626	23685
<u>Cash Funds as at 31st July 2020 Carried Forward</u>	18155	45	7909	26109	23626

University of the Third Age in Bury St Edmunds
Charity Registration Number 803112
Section B - Statement of Assets and Liabilities - for the year ended 31st July 2020

B1 Cash Funds

	<u>Fair FX</u>	<u>Lloyds</u>	<u>COIF</u>	<u>Lloyds</u>	<u>Lloyds</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Accounts</u>	<u>Main</u>	<u>Deposit</u>	<u>Theatre</u>	<u>Travel</u>	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>2018/19</u>
<u>Unrestricted Funds:</u>							
General Fund		8013	10142			18155	15449
Events & Visits	270	-225				45	0
<u>Restricted Funds:</u>							
Theatre Group	374			3864		4238	3535
Travel Group	918				1688	2606	3589
Other Groups (note C1)	346	719				1065	1053
<u>Total Cash Funds</u>	1908	8507	10142	3864	1688	26109	23626

B2 - Assets retained for the charity's own use:

The following assets are held for member's use and relate to the General Fund;

Digital projector and computer	Laptop and Printer	CD Player
PA system and audio equipment	2 x HP Pavilion Notebooks	2 x iZettle Card Readers
Projector	Epson Projector	Filing Cabinet
Laptop (Treasurer's use only)	Microphone Audio System	Website
		Vacuum Cleaner

Section C - Notes to the Accounts - for the year ended 31st July 2020

C1 - Restricted funds were held during the course of the year on behalf of the following Study Groups;

Theatre, Travel, Choir, Art Painting & Drawing, British Social History, Music Matters, Garden, Wine Appreciation, Badminton, Tai Chi, Current Affairs, Philosophy, Eliot, Churches and Villages, Government and Politics, History, Art History, Antiques, Book 2, Book 4, Shakespeare and Philosophy Matters 2.

C2 - The balance on the main Lloyds bank account (General Fund) has been adjusted to exclude £60 of membership subscriptions collected and banked relating to the 2020/2021 year.

C3 - Office rent (General Fund) has been prepaid in an amount of £380 as at 31st July 2020.

C4 - Room Hire (General Fund) has been prepaid in an amount of £300 as at 31st July 2020.

C5 - Room Hire has been prepaid in relation to Restricted Funds as at 31st July 2020 for the following;

Theatre Group - £32 Travel Group - £40 Other Groups - £645

C6 - Theatre Group costs totalling £929 have been paid in advance as at 31st July 2020 for a future event.

C7 - Theatre Group receipts include £1695 received from members relating to a cancelled event. These were refunded to members in August 2020.

C8 - Due to Covid-19 certain activities have been cancelled and, as such, income collected has been included in Receipts' and, where refunds have had to be made, these are shown in 'Payments'.

Agreed by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 10 September 2020 by;

..... Alan Pearson (Treasurer)  Kathryn King (Chairman)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of
The University of the Third Age in Bury St Edmunds
Charity Number 803112

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The University of the Third Age in Bury St Edmunds (the Trust) for the year ended 31st July 2020 which are set out on pages 1 and 2.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of 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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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: 

Dated: 11h September 2020

Michael C Miller

JE Miller Accountancy and Taxation Services Limited
The Gatehouse
33 St Andrews Street South
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 3PH

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