



Annual General Meeting

20th September 2016

ST NEOTS & DISTRICT U3A

A G E N D A

- 1) Chairman's Welcome**
- 2) Apologies for absence**
- 3) Approval of the Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting**
- 4) Matters arising from those Minutes**
- 5) Committee's Annual Report**
- 6) Treasurer's Report**
- 7) Approval of the Appointment of the Examiner for the Accounts**
- 8) Election of Officers**
 - a. Chairman**
 - b. Vice Chair**
 - c. Treasurer**
- 9) Election of Committee Members**
- 10) Any other business**

**To be followed by refreshments and a talk by Rodney Todman
who will present some old photographs of St Neots.**

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016

Introduction

On behalf of the St Neots & District U3A Executive Committee it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2016 Annual General Meeting and to present this Report for the year.

For some while now I have been saying that this year's AGM will herald a big change in the Executive Committee which has been in place for the four years of my Chairmanship. Five of the existing Committee will be staying on either for the remainder of their elected term or seeking re-election: the Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer positions are up for grabs and, as recorded last year, Mavis Thompson is standing for the Treasurer position. The Secretary and Membership Secretary positions will remain the same for the ensuing year. Pat Hills will continue on the Committee for her elected term but is standing down as Vice-Chair. The rest of us are escaping! However, I am delighted to say that several members stepped forward to the breach and will be seeking election today.

Dave Jarrett steps down after six years of looking after our funds which are in very good shape; Sylvia Ager retires as Speakers' Secretary after many years on the Committee; Rosemary Chapman as Groups Co-ordinator has been instrumental in the organisation of many of our groups; Iris Parr has organised many great theatre trips for us and Barbara Braybrook is hanging up her Outings Calendar after many years. Phil Brooks will continue as Website Administrator and Magazine Editor but is not seeking election to the committee. A huge thank you is extended to all for the time, worry and commitment put into our U3A over the years.

Before the elections proper, we must thank and acknowledge those unelected members for the time and work put into the smooth running of various aspects of our U3A. Carolyn Eadie for premises bookings; Joan Prentice, Maureen Schofield, Margaret Wilks, Sue Jarrett for Monthly Meeting registration together with Anne Pateman and Ray Braybrook for bookings and interest list duties; Mary Joyce for additional

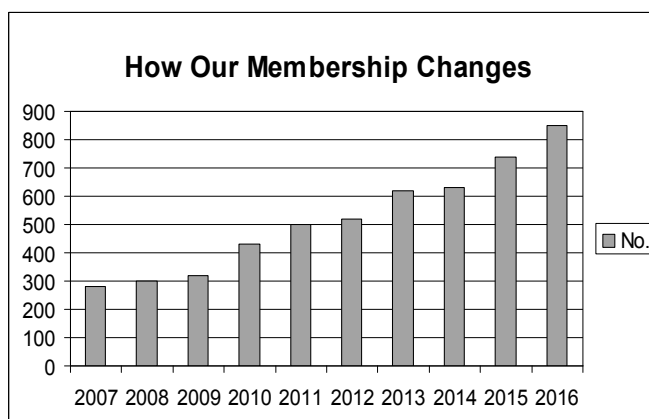
musical outings; Christine Bowskill for Cinema ticket sales and administration and, of course, to Liz Taylor, Pat Nicholls and the T-Team who took over Refreshment duties at the beginning of the year.

General

Again, I am able to say that the annual subscription remains at £15. The Monthly Meeting numbers fluctuate but are usually around the 150-mark. These meetings keep us informed of Interest Lists for trips, theatre visits or new groups, Cinema Ticket sales and, after the Speaker's presentation, provide the opportunity to meet over refreshments. The Priory Centre continues to give us great support not only for storage of much of our equipment but also for the preparation of rooms for Monthly and Group Meetings; we are very grateful to Steve Barrett and his team for all this.

Membership

The Membership now stands at around 850 with many joining us all the time. As many of you will have noticed, and used, renewals can now be done on-line through the PayPal system and it is hoped that this facility will be extended to new members joining during the year. Our Membership Secretary is working with the National Office on a new technology system to enhance all aspects of membership matters.



Outings/Trips/Theatre

The table below covers major trips, theatre visits and holidays offered during the last twelve months with two coaches going to the Legal London, Buckingham Palace, Constable Country and the Bury St Edmunds Christmas Fayre days out. The RAF Fairford trip was under-subscribed but all those who did go were well rewarded by the activities and have asked for a repeat trip next year! The Milton Keynes and London Theatre outings were well supported and Mary Joyce has again organised musical outings to Watford Colosseum for a mixture of Glen Miller, Jazz and Sibelius with two more visits coming up shortly.

TRIPS and SHOWS : 2015/2016

October:

Lincoln Castle.

November:

Legal London.

Bury St Edmunds' Christmas Fayre.

February:

Banbury and Hook Norton Brewery.

March:

The Buckinghamshire Chilterns.

'Goodnight Mr Tom' - Milton Keynes Theatre.

Vladimir Ashkenazy and the Philharmonia

Orchestra at Watford Colosseum.

April:

Westfield Shopping Centre and Queen

Elizabeth Olympic Park.

Hampton Court Palace, Richmond-upon

-Thames

'Motown the Musical' - Shaftesbury Theatre.

May:

John Constable Country - The Stour Valley and Flatford Mill.

Glen Miller Concert and the Astor Big Band at Watford Colosseum.

June:

Gardeners' World Live and Good Food Show, NEC Birmingham.

July:

The Royal International Air Tattoo, RAF Fairford.

August:

Wroxham Barns and East Ruston

Vicarage Gardens, Norfolk.

September:

Buckingham Palace, London.

HOLIDAYS : 2015/2016

October

Blackpool Weekend Break.

January

Warners Holme Lacy and the Cathedral Cities

May:

Lake District.

August:

Lancashire.

The four holidays were full and thoroughly enjoyable, from a weekend in Blackpool, to the fresh air of the Lake District and Holme Lacy and the late August visit to Lancashire – and two more holidays are lined up for 2017.

Our thanks go to Pat, Barbara, Sheila and Iris for their enthusiasm and hard work on these outings and holidays and also to those Group Leaders who took up the challenge to do their own days out during the year.

We have had some extremely good Speakers organised by Sylvia Ager over the last year: Jenny Fennell told us tales of her journeys on the waterways of France in her boat 'Misty Morning'; in April Linda Scholes provided a laugh a minute with her 'The Yanks are Coming' talk and recently Chantell Bradley presented an interactive session on the problems encountered by dementia sufferers.

Groups and Events

New groups continue to increase although there has been some difficulty in finding replacement Group Leaders, for instance the Transport Group is still leaderless. Line Dancing is ever-popular to the extent that a beginners group has been set up and we also now have new Leaders for Ballroom Dancing. Our equally popular and well-supported Bridge Group continues to flourish. Wildlife, Heritage & Culture and Thursday Gardening Groups have all organised out-of-town visits during the year to various venues.

The Photography Group organise frequent visits by car to locations and last February held a Photographic Exhibition at St Neots Church which was a huge success. Awards were presented for best pictures and winners included May Parker, Ann Thomas, Margaret Gates, Reg Roberson, Peter Hagger and John Grieg. It was a great show - and free - and I believe being repeated next year.

A new Table Tennis Group to be held at the TT venue on the Common is planned for later in the year.

Our Summer Showcase attracted over 200 visitors who came to see what we can offer and as usual our Group Leaders put on great displays of their respective activities – my thanks to you all for supporting and representing your U3A so well at this and previous Showcases.

The 2015 Christmas Party was again very popular. Our main entertainer, Leon James, was brilliant as too was the start-up routine put together by Iris Parr with an all-inclusive 'Twelve Days of Christmas' routine which got everybody singing and getting up and down table by table. This was the best show-opener ever and got you all into the party mood - both Leon and Iris will be in action again for this year's Christmas do.

Finances

The Treasurer's Report and Accounts is overleaf and you will see that we remain in a healthy financial position. We have continued to purchase items on request from Group Leaders to enhance the running of their activities and can continue to do so for the time being. No immediate expenditure is envisaged although our projector is now outside its guarantee period. There may also be set-up costs involved in the new technology systems mentioned earlier. We have been fortunate over the recent past that the venue charges have not been too onerous but provision will need to be maintained for this purpose.

The Past and the Future

Sadly throughout the year we have lost members and loved ones of members and we should reflect on this for a moment. For those left behind hopefully some comfort can be found through the company of friends and colleagues at various events the U3A has to offer.

You either love them or hate them but Committees are an essential part of any organisation as mentioned by the Vice-Chair of Cardigan U3A in the Summer *TAM* magazine: "There would be no monthly meeting as no-one would have booked or paid for the Hall and therefore no screen or projector as no-one would have booked a speaker, no refreshments; no website, news sheet or magazine so no trips, holidays or social occasions; no one would manage the finances so no insurance cover, no membership records, no study groups, no links to Regional or National Office ...". Therefore the Committee will continue to do its best for the Membership and I wish all those elected today every success in achieving this.

At the end of my four year stint I must say that for the most part it has been interesting, stimulating and fun and I've met with some lovely people along the way. My sincere thanks to you all for your support and encouragement during these four years and I extend to each and every one of you my best wishes for your good health, happiness and all the very best for the future.

Christine Elmes

Treasurer's Report 2016

My sixth and final report shows that we have again made a reasonable surplus over the year, due largely to the continuing rise in membership numbers. Thanks go to Michael Bell for once again examining the accounts, and good luck to my successor!.

Receipts and Payments Account for Year Ended 30 June 2016

	2016 £	2015 £
Receipts		
Activity Income	16364.85	13360.79
Subscriptions	14296.50	12339.00
Gift Aid	1520.06	1323.78
Interest received	6.16	1.68
Monthly Meetings	2773.20	2815.16
Surplus (Shortfall) on Social Fund	(2174.03)	440.03
	<u>32786.74</u>	<u>30280.44</u>
Payments		
Activity Room Hire	18030.26	15321.73
Activity Costs	536.86	876.61
Magazine & Distribution	3540.84	2617.25
Newssheet	194.00	216.00
MM Hall Hire	1015.00	1116.50
MM Speakers	713.60	870.40
MM Refreshments	346.79	447.29
Special Events (net)	1658.62	589.03
U3A Capitation fees	3104.50	2674.00
Committee, Network Meetings etc.	360.30	309.85
Accountancy Fees	50.00	50.00
Postage, Printing & Stationery	464.78	817.46
Equipment	0.00	758.55
Cinema (net)	(410.90)	135.14
Miscellaneous (net)	174.46	134.40
	<u>29779.11</u>	<u>26934.21</u>
Surplus (Shortfall) for the year	3007.63	3346.23
Balance brought forward	19484.64	16138.41
Balance carried forward	<u><u>22492.27</u></u>	<u><u>19484.64</u></u>

Balance Sheet at 30 June 2016

	2016 £	2015 £
Cash at bank:		
Main Account	7488.79	2313.29
Membs.Social Account	2523.22	4697.25
Business Reserve Account	12380.26	12374.10
Miscellaneous:	100.00	100.00
Total:	<u><u>22492.27</u></u>	<u><u>19484.64</u></u>


 Dave Jarrett, Treasurer
 August 2016

MICHAEL R BELL
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Accountant's Report and Certificate

St Neots and District

U3A

Acting as Accountant, but not as Auditor, I have examined the Receipts and Payments Account, and Balance Sheet, both prepared by the Treasurer, for the year ended 30th June 2016, which disclose an excess of Income over Expenditure for that year of £ 3007.63 and a total Surplus carried forward at 30th June 2016 of £ 22492.27, together with the records, vouchers and information and explanations provided to me, and I certify that the same Receipts and Payments Account, and Balance Sheet are in accordance therewith.


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Michael R Bell

1st September 2016