

## **Chairman's Report, AGM 2019**

This AGM will mark the end of my first year as your Chair, and it has been quite an adventure. I knew Lynette had put in a great deal of hard work as the previous Chair; I am very grateful that she was willing to continue for this year as Vice Chair to support me. I would definitely have floundered and probably sunk, without her advice and help.

I was impressed with the way everyone pulled together to make the Festival Open meeting in October such a success: for detailed floor plans, for the convenors and others who set up and looked after their stands, for the team doing refreshments, and for the welcome that was given to visitors by you all. I enjoyed looking at the various groups, and I wish there were enough hours in the week to belong to more of them. It was a very impressive morning, and the Deputy Mayor saw the Craft Group's tapestry and suggested having a formal, mayoral unveiling ceremony once it is framed.

The Christmas entertainment was provided by the singing groups, well-coached in some quite complicated pieces by Lynette and Ann, and led by Ann on the day; and with a mix of serious and amusing poems and readings from the play-reading group, suggested by Quills, the book club and the play readers, and a Christmas version of Old Macdonald, written by Cath and led by Cath and Jackie, with impressive echoes from the audience. The afternoon finished with rousing community singing, hot drinks and mince pies.

In September, we held a Music Appreciation Study Day, with Terry Barfoot on 'British Composers and the Great War.' This was an interesting and moving day, with well-known and less familiar music, while viewing images of the war. Currently no-one has volunteered to co-ordinate Study Days, so this may have been the last one for now.

Our general meetings as always have given us a wide range of topics with knowledgeable and interesting speakers. Bob Wetten has continued to do an amazing job selecting and booking speakers and is already booking for 2020. Dot Wetten joined us on the Executive committee last year, organising the Handybus for the general meetings, which makes so much difference to members who would not be able to come otherwise.

The Travel Group has had a busy year again, very ably organised by Ann Allen. They enjoyed day trips to Swanage, Denbies Wine Estate, Woburn Abbey, St Albans, and Penshurst Place, and a successful five-day trip to Cheshire, taking in Warwick and Stratford-upon-Avon on the journey. Ann is standing down from organising the Travel Group this year, and I am sure you will want to join me in thanking her for the hard work and commitment that she has put into organising great days out and short breaks for so many of us over several years. She will be a hard act to follow.

For the first time this year, we were invited to have a stand at Highclere Country Show over the late May Bank Holiday, in the 'Local Charities Tent'. I am very grateful to all our members who came along to talk to visitors and hand out information, although because the show attracts people from a wide area, we may have benefitted other U3As more than our own in terms of potential new members.

Our convenors continue to do a great job, organising a good range of interest groups. It is easy to take them for granted, and only appreciate how much they do when they want to stop for whatever reason! We all need to share the load, help our convenors in any way we can and if possible, have some form of succession planning in place.

You will find a couple of new links on the Welcome Page on the website. One is to a 'Discounts for Thatcham U3A Members' page, which I will update as we get new deals. The other is to a Notices

page, so that if you miss the general meeting, or you were there but want to check what was said in the notices, you can read a summary there.

Jane Head continues to run our Coffee mornings and Luncheons with her team of volunteers. Jane does an impressive amount of work to get this all together. However, after thirteen years, she has decided to hand over the running of the Luncheons after this summer. If a new organiser comes forward, he or she has the opportunity to work alongside Jane this time, to have a good idea of the work involved, and what additional help will be needed from other people. If no-one comes forward, sadly the Luncheons will stop.

In the past year we have had a fairly steady number of members at around 350, although there have been leavers and joiners in that number. In May there were 25 renewals outstanding, 329 paid up members, and during the year 17 members resigned and sadly 7 died. We have had 43 new members since September.

I have greatly appreciated the hard work and support of the Exec over the past year. Lynette, as Vice-chair who has taught me so much; Stuart, our Treasurer, who has been updating the finance systems and rules to comply with guidance from the U3A Trust, and explained it to the rest of us, ably assisted by Roy; Ann-marie, who deals quietly and efficiently with all the membership issues that arise. Bob and Dot, organising speakers for the meetings and booking the Handybus respectively; Jen, our Study day co-ordinator, who has arranged each Study Day efficiently; Brian, who looks after the equipment, has also had the lead responsibility in converting our membership system to Beacon and training the Exec, and is now getting to grips with the planning for Beacon2; he is also currently our Convenor contact but in view of the growing work with Beacon, we need a new convenor contact; and finally Christine, who was co-opted onto the Exec during the year, and I am delighted that she agreed to become our Secretary, which took a lot of pressure off me.

As you know, Paul Shave edits our Newsletters and produces the audio newsletters with the Play-reading group. He has chosen not to be nominated for the committee, but I am delighted to say that he has agreed to manage our website, to follow on from Lynette's good work.

We have vacancies which need to be filled, or Thatcham U3A will at worst not continue, and at best be less efficient and attractive to new members. We need a vice chair and a convenor contact, and general committee members. If you enjoy the benefits of our U3A please make a contribution to running it. Please talk to any member of the Committee if you think you could help. You are welcome to come to one of our meetings to see what we do, and we can co-opt people during the year, so you do not have to wait until the next AGM!

Thank you to everyone who has worked to make Thatcham U3A successful, whether in obvious ways, or quietly behind the scenes.

Wishing us all another good year!

Maureen Prince, Chair

June 2019

## **TREASURER'S REPORT 2018/19**

This year saw a shortfall, and hence a reduction in reserves, of **£1,054**, leaving us with reserves at 31 March 2019 of **£7,999**. Charity Commission rules discourage the retention of large reserve balances and with this in mind we have this year achieved a further reduction in ways consistent with the furtherance of our charitable objects. The Executive Committee will keep this process under review to ensure that our reserves remain at a sufficient level to meet potential liabilities.

### **RECEIPTS**

- Membership subscriptions were down by **4.3 %** on last year.

### **PAYMENTS**

- We subsidised our Summer Luncheon and Beat the Blues socials by **£360**.
- Hall and room hire costs increased by **50%** partly due to increased rental rates and partly because we now pay the Baptist Church for our monthly coffee morning, any surplus from which is accordingly paid into central funds.
- Expenditure on newsletters, membership and programme card preparation and distribution was up by just over **40%** due to increased postage and printing costs.
- Speakers' fees were up by about **25%** on last year to **£840**, which reflects the continuing need for us to look further afield to find suitable candidates.
- Following a restart last year the study day programme this year continued at a net cost of **£320**.

Stuart J Armstrong

Treasurer

June 2019

# THATCHAM UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE - EXECUTIVE ACCOUNT

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

	2018/19 £	2017/18 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Membership subscriptions	4,407	4,607
Raffle proceeds (net of prizes)	276	382
Socials	690	809
Donations	0	54
Gift Aid Claim	563	530
Study days	90	323
Members' trips	0	260
Sundry receipts	182	25
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>6,208</b>	<b>6,988</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
Third Age Trust fees	1,866	1,729
Hall and room hire	1,188	792
Speakers' fees/expenses	840	670
Socials	1,050	1,328
Administration	531	661
Membership, newsletters and programme cards	1,268	903
Study days	410	942
Members' trips	0	1,491
Sundry payments	110	191
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>7,262</b>	<b>8,706</b>
<b>Surplus/(-)shortfall</b>	<b>-1,054</b>	<b>-1,717</b>
<b>STATEMENT OF FUNDS</b>		
Balance brought forward	9,054	10,771
Surplus/(-)shortfall for the year	-1,054	-1,717
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>7,999</b>	<b>9,054</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Lloyds Bank current account	12,475	11,512
Petty cash	3	42
Less: Net receipts from groups	-50	
Provision for capitation fee	-1,092	-1,204
Subscriptions paid in advance	-3,337	-1,296
	<b>7,999</b>	<b>9,054</b>

Chairman:                   Maureen Prince

Treasurer:               Stuart Armstrong

Independent Examiner: Simon Witcomb FCA

Signed.....Date.....

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# THATCHAM UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE - TRAVEL GROUP

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

	2018/19 £	2017/18 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Exbury Gardens - 8 May 2018	1,403.00	
Swanage/Railway - 12 June 2018	1,276.00	
Denbies Wine Estate - 17 July 2018	1,250.00	
Woburn - 11 September 2018	1,575.00	
Alvaston - 1 to 5 October 2018	18,228.00	
St Albans - 26 March 2019	660.00	
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>24,392.00</b>	<b>24,682.00</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
Exbury Gardens - 8 May 2018	1,390.00	
Swanage/Railway - 12 June 2018	1,265.50	
Denbies Wine Estate - 17 July 2018	1,315.00	
Woburn - 11 September 2018	1,490.50	
Alvaston - 1 to 5 October 2018	18,235.00	
St Albans - 26 March 2019	625.00	
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>24,321.00</b>	<b>24,851.85</b>
<b>Surplus/(-)shortfall</b>	<b>71.00</b>	<b>-169.85</b>

## STATEMENT OF FUNDS

Opening bank balance	3,182.07	2,431.92
Net accruals/prepayments re following year	-2,450.00	-765.00
Cheques not presented	-580.00	-1,345.00
<b>Balance brought forward</b>	<b>152.07</b>	<b>321.92</b>
Surplus/(-)shortfall for the year	71.00	-169.85
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>223.07</b>	<b>152.07</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Closing bank balance	1,218.07	3,182.07
Net accruals/prepayments re following year	-400.00	-2,450.00
Cheques not presented	-595.00	-580.00
	<b>223.07</b>	<b>152.07</b>

Chairman: Maureen Prince

Signed.....Date.....

Treasurer: Stuart Armstrong

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**THATCHAM UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE - THEATRE GROUP****RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2017/18</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Rainman - 30 August 2018	2,196.00	
The Verdict - 20 March 2019	1,525.00	
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>3,721.00</b>	<b>735.00</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
Rainman - 30 August 2018	2,336.00	
The Verdict - 20 March 2019	1,430.00	
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>3,766.00</b>	<b>1,118.50</b>
<b>Surplus/(-)shortfall</b>	<b>-45.00</b>	<b>-383.50</b>

**STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

Opening bank balance	2,301.66	2,685.16
Net accruals/prepayments re following year	0.00	0.00
<b>Balance brought forward</b>	<b>2,301.66</b>	<b>2,685.16</b>
Surplus/(-)shortfall for the year	-45.00	-383.50
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>2,256.66</b>	<b>2,301.66</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Closing bank balance	2,771.66	2,301.66
Net accruals/prepayments re following year	-515.00	0.00
	<b>2,256.66</b>	<b>2,301.66</b>

Chairman: Maureen Prince

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Independent Examiner: Simon Witcomb FCA

Signed.....Date.....

# THATCHAM UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE - GARDENING GROUP

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

	2018/19	2017/18
	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Membership subscriptions	551.00	977.00
Visitors	14.00	2.00
Donations	69.21	19.81
Coach to RHS Wisley	480.00	435.00
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>1,114.21</b>	<b>1,433.81</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
Hire of hall	140.00	308.14
Speakers' fees	75.00	411.50
Refreshments	15.93	19.32
Coach to RHS Wisley inc tip	360.00	400.00
RHS affiliation	35.00	70.00
Sundry payments	69.00	8.50
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>694.93</b>	<b>1,217.46</b>
<b>Surplus/(-)shortfall</b>	<b>419.28</b>	<b>216.35</b>
<b>STATEMENT OF FUNDS</b>		
<b>Balance brought forward</b>	421.34	204.99
Surplus/(-)shortfall for the year	419.28	216.35
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>840.62</b>	<b>421.34</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Closing bank balance	806.98	566.48
Less: post y/e adjustments	-5.00	-171.50
Petty cash	38.64	26.36
	<b>840.62</b>	<b>421.34</b>

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