



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st April 2023

To 31st March 2024

Charity name: Knutsford and District University of the Third Age

Charity registration number: 1139427

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The object of Knutsford U3A is 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 associated activities conducive to learning and personal development.
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	<p>We are a self-help learning organisation for all local retired people who wish to join activities that will develop learning, skills, personal development, enjoyment and friendship. We have three main kinds of activities.</p> <p>We normally hold monthly meetings, with speakers on a wide range of topics, followed by refreshments and social interaction. We currently have 54 Activity Groups, offering a wide range of learning experiences to suit different interests. They are led by Group Leaders, giving their time, often supported by a planning group. They are supported by the Committee through networking and training sessions.</p> <p>We have subcommittees which organise our speakers and outings, including trips to places of interest, and to concerts and theatres. We produce regular newsletters to keep our members informed of our activities, and those of our wider U3A network (such as Summer Schools).</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	All trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	

Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
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	<p>Our membership at the end of March 2024 was 760 which includes 43 Associate Members (those who are also members of other U3As).</p> <p>Over the year we have inevitably had a few groups that have run their course or could not find a new leader and have had to close. To offset this a great deal of work has been done to facilitate the setting up of new groups and 12 new ones have been set up during this financial year.</p> <p>Our Outings Committee organised 8 trips to places of interest, including a holiday in Slovenia, in the year, together with 9 theatre trips.</p> <p>The Committee organised three events that support our organisation to grow and thrive. These included a stall at the local Lions Fayre, a stand at the 'Knutsford Refresh' event and In September we held our 'Showcase event' with displays provided by many Activity groups so that both members and the wider public can get a better idea of what we do, and the groups themselves can attract new members.</p> <p>In the autumn we had a Group Leaders' coffee morning. Also invited were key members involved in the organisation of our u3a, such as the technical team, and the Outings' and Speakers' committees. This is a networking event, usually with a theme, so</p>

		<p>that key members can share ideas and experiences to develop our organisation</p> <p>We also held a coffee morning for new members. Such events had been held in the past but not for quite a while. We wanted to make new members feel welcome, to give them more information about what we do for members and to get ideas from them as to what type of activities they would be interested in taking part in or setting up. We wanted to emphasise the self-help nature of the u3a movement. This event was much appreciated by the new members and several ideas for new groups were proposed. These ideas have been followed up by our Groups Supporter and several new groups formed as a result.</p> <p>In addition to our monthly meetings where an outside speaker gives a talk, we have continued with our 'Hidden Talents' programme which involves presentations by Knutsford u3a members on a topic of their choice to the membership. During this period, we had four presentations on a diverse range of subjects which were very well received, and we intend to continue this new programme into the future.</p> <p>We claimed Gift Aid on our subscriptions for the membership year 2023/24. This was the first year of doing so and It was very successful in raising extra income which will enable us to reduce our subscriptions for the following membership year.</p>
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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	Our 'core' income and expenditure relates to the income (principally from membership subscriptions), and the running costs of the charity. This is 'unrestricted funds' in the accounts. At the end of the financial year, our income was £14,669.84, and our expenditure was £10,266.32. Our other funds are 'restricted funds', and they relate to the Activity Groups and the outings, each of which are self-funded. This income was £57,944.77, and the expenditure was £53,845.14. Our financial situation is healthy, and at the end of March 2024 we held £19,570.83 in unrestricted funds, and £12,668.89 in the restricted funds..
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Our reserves policy is to maintain a level of reserves at a figure of 6 months running costs for our 'core' organisation. This is to allow for contingencies, such as the need to replace or acquire necessary equipment, and unexpected expenses. For next year, we are planning to freeze our membership subscription and increase expenditure with a view to gradually reduce the level of our reserves.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	
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	n/a

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	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	We are governed by our Constitution, first adopted in 2010, and changed to a modified version of the u3a model constitution approved at our AGM of November 2020
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	We are an independent charity, which is a member of the Third Age Trust, as an 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	

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	We carry out induction for new trustees, using written information, discussion, and observation at Committee meetings etc.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	We are an independent charity, and are members of the national body, the Third Age Trust. We maintain relationships with other local u3as, through the South and Mid Cheshire Cluster Group, and the North West Network.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Knutsford and District U3A
Other name the charity uses	Knutsford U3A
Registered charity number	1139427
Charity's principal address	8 Bracken Way, Knutsford, Cheshire. WA16 9BU

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	Sue Allan	Chair		
2	Mark Barley	Secretary		
3	Adrian Long	Treasurer		
4	Robert Watson	Vice Chair		
5	Wendy Brooks			
6	Marian Goddard		Sept 2023 to end of year	
7	Helen Smith			
8	Roger Brown			
9	Stuart Allan			
10	Irene Hardy			
11	Anthony Axon			
12	Georgina Blackburn			
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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	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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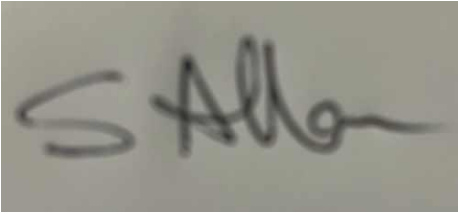
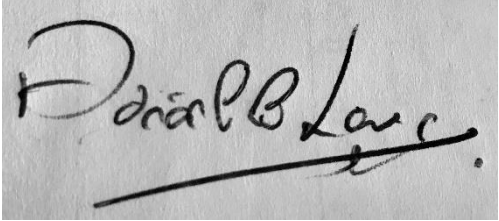
Other optional information

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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) Susan Allan	Adrian Long
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	03/11/2024	