

A Summary of our Trustees Annual Report – April 2024 – March 2025

The full report will be uploaded to the Charity Commission website. This is a brief summary of that report.

This year from April 1st 2024 to March 31st 2025 has seen our u3a continue to thrive with a record number of members by the end of the period. Our membership at the end of March 2025 was 851, which includes 58 Associate Members (those who are also members of other u3as).

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 eight new ones have been set up during this financial year.

Our Outings sub-committee has been very active this year organising eight trips to places of interest including a holiday to Norfolk. They also organised ten trips to concerts or the theatre.

The Committee organised or took part in two events that support our organisation to grow and thrive. These were a stall at the local Lions Fayre 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.

We also held two coffee mornings for new members in order to make them 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 who is working with members in the hope of forming several new groups.

In March we held a lunch for group leaders and key helpers involved in the organisation of our u3a, such as the technical team, and the Outings' and Speakers' committees. This is a networking event so that key members can share ideas and experiences to develop our organisation. The theme this time was succession planning so that we can keep our u3a running smoothly.

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 three presentations on a diverse range of subjects which were very well received, and we intend to continue with these meetings this year.

We claimed Gift Aid on our subscriptions for the membership year for the second time. This extra income enabled us to keep our subscription at the same level as last year.

During the year one Committee member resigned and three more were co-opted. We are hoping that this means that the membership of the Committee is stable at present and will continue to be so over the coming year.

I would like to thank my colleagues on the Committee for all their hard work and their enthusiasm during this year. My thanks also go to the many people who help on our various sub-committees, particularly the Technical Team who support all our events, our Outings and Visits Committee and our Speakers' Committee. Thanks are also due to all our Group Leaders and other helpers without whom our u3a would not be as successful as it is.

Sue Allan, Chair.

Knutsford & District u3a