



Aberdeen U3A

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for

Year Ended 31 March 2023



Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements and independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Reference and Administration Information

Charity Name

Aberdeen U3A

Charity Number

SC031940

Address

Fiona Watson 25 Ramsay Gardens, Aberdeen AB10 7AE

Current Trustees

Fiona Watson	Chair (Re-elected 1 September 2022, first elected 3 June 2021)
Joyce McAdie	Vice-Chair (Re-elected 1 September 2022, first elected 3 June 2021)
Letitia Miller	Secretary (Re-elected 1 September 2022, first elected 3 June 2021)
Helen Smith	Treasurer (Re-elected 1 September 2022, first elected 3 June 2021)
Irene Freebury	Co-opted June 2022, elected 1 September 2022
Jennifer Leighton	Re-elected 1 September 2022 (First elected 3 September 2020)
Jennifer Logan	Re-elected 1 September 2022 (First elected 3 June 2021)

Structural Governance and Management

Constitution - Aberdeen U3A is an unincorporated association and a registered Scottish charity. It is governed by its constitution which was adopted on 20 June 2001 and amended on 5 June 2014, 4 June 2015, 7 June 2018, and 1 September 2022. It is affiliated to the Third Age Trust and the U3A in Scotland.

Appointment of Trustees - trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting. Under the constitution, there must be a minimum of five and not more than fifteen trustees.

Management - the trustees are responsible for the strategic direction and governance as well as the day-to-day running of Aberdeen U3A.

Objectives and Activities

Charitable Purpose - the object or charitable purpose of Aberdeen U3A is:

The advancement of education and, in particular, the education of older people and those who are retired or not in full-time work, by all means including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development in Aberdeen and the surrounding area.

Activities - our primary activity is the provision and promotion of informal learning opportunities based on the aspirations and wishes of our members. We hold monthly speaker meetings, groups are formed to reflect members' more specific interests, and these are occasionally complemented by educational excursions to places of interest.

Achievements and Performance – the year saw a continued move to a more normal way of operating, with members returning in greater numbers to our various meetings, and a steady trickle of new members joining.

Monthly speaker meetings continued in person. Tea and coffee could again be served - an important social aspect of these meetings – and a card reader was purchased as fewer people now handle cash. During the year members enjoyed talks on subjects including Aberdeen cinemas, fact and fiction in forensic pathology, the work of the River Dee Trust, and the art of photography.

The various interest groups continued in ways that best suited group members: some wholly in person, some only by Zoom, and others with a mixture of meeting types. Our Zoom Pro account was again available to groups, allowing uninterrupted learning and discussion. Several long-serving group leaders stood down in June so it was particularly pleasing that other members came forward to succeed them. We are grateful to all group leaders for their skills and continued commitment.

Aberdeen U3A normally offers learning activities which include educational, cultural, recreational and social aspects, and a modified Christmas event was held, with entertainment provided by several members. The New Year lunch was re-instated but this attracted smaller than usual numbers, possibly due to a reduction in disposable income given the increased cost of living.

Throughout the year members were sent regular updates, by email or by post, with details of our own meetings as well as online courses and talks available to U3A members through our national body, the Third Age Trust, and the U3A in Scotland. Our website continues to receive numerous monthly hits, and our annual newsletter was again printed and sent to all members.

The AGM in June had to be adjourned as it was two short of the necessary quorum. In September, at the adjourned meeting, we adopted the new constitution which had been duly approved by the Third Age Trust and by OSCR. Seven trustees were elected, including one who had previously been co-opted. Most committee meetings were conducted via Zoom.

With regard to the wider U3A, a voting delegate attended the AGM of the Third Age Trust, and we were also represented at the All-Scotland Assemblies organised by the U3A in Scotland. During the spring and summer, officers provided support and advice to the steering group that was in the process of establishing a U3A in Banchory.

Financial Review

With the balance at the end of the financial year of over £11,000, the trustees consider that we are well placed to support financially a continued return to our full range of activities. Gift Aid of over £700 was claimed on our membership fees for the past two years, and the trustees are grateful to our members for their generosity. The annual membership fee was held at £10 and group fees were re-introduced in September at the pre-pandemic level. We will continue to use the BB Halls for monthly meetings, and the Northern Arts Club and the Aberdeen Methodist Church for many of our interest groups, as these are convenient meeting places in the city centre and still provide good value.

Policy on Reserves – as we receive our main income in September, at the start of the new season, our balance is at its lowest in the summer. In the year reported on, our lowest level of reserves was just over £8,000 in August, a sum which had been boosted by receipt of funds from the recently-dissolved Turriff and District U3A. The Third Age Trust advises us to maintain reserves to cover four months of activity, so around £5,000. Even allowing for likely increases in room hire and other costs, we are exceeding that reserve and so plan to continue to subsidise the annual membership fee as this benefits all our members.

Donated Facilities and Services - the trustees give their time freely to attend meetings and fulfil their specialised roles, and group leaders also give their time freely, preparing and running group sessions. It is estimated that some 1,000 hours have been donated in this way.

Trustee Remuneration and Expenses - trustees have not charged expenses to attend committee or monthly meetings. The trustee holding our Zoom Pro account was reimbursed for her expenses.

Future Plans

Our aim is to continue to expand our range of activities, to focus on supporting existing interest groups, to foster the establishment of new groups and to encourage more members to get involved in helping run Aberdeen U3A, thus ensuring its long-term future.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

Signed *FR Watson*

Name: Fiona Watson

Position: Chair

Date: 1/5/2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Aberdeen u3a

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on page 1.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities

Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [other than disclosed below*]

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: Scott Langlands

Address: 1 Margaret Allan Grove
Sauchen
Inverurie
Aberdeenshire AB51 7JW

Signed Scott Langlands

Date: 14th May 2023

Statement of Balances: as at 31st March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank and Cash in Hand		
Opening Balances	9,955	10,993
Surplus/(Deficit)	1,279	-1038
Closing Balance	11,234	9,955

Assets at Cost	Cost	State	Current value	Last years value
Pair speakers yr 2011	£60.00		£0.00	£0.00
Portable speaker system, yr 2013	£97.00			£0.00
Projector, yr 2014	£360.00		£60	£80.00
Projector accessories, yr 2014	£56.00	included with above	£0.00	£0.00
Mah Jong Sets yr 2014	£204.00		£77	£96.00
Portable Screen yr 2014	£80.00		£26	£32.00
Laptop yr 2015	£349.00		£32	£40.00
PA System yr 2015	£189.00	to be sold	£64	£80.00
Kettle yr 2017	£25.00		£0	£0.00
Microphone yr 2018	£75.00		£32	£40.00
JVC CD player yr 2018		donated	£0	£0.00
Alba CD player yr 2018		donated	£0	£0.00
Keyfobs 23 @ £20 each	£460.00		£460	£460.00
Whiteboard yr 2019	£38.00		£24	£30.00
Floor mike stand		donated	£38	£48.00
Notice board yr 2012	£92.30		£13	£16.00
Pull up banner yr 2016	£95.40		£0	£0.00
Scottish Heritage books yr 2011	£110.00		£32	£40.00
Yamaha PA system 2020	£1,012.00		£648	£810.00
Card Reader and stand	£36.98		£24	£30.00
2 x Laptops			0	0
Total			£1,529.60	£1,802.00

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

Receipts		Unrestricted Funds	Social Fund	Total 2022/2023	Total 2021/2022
Voluntary Receipts					
Bank Interest		-	-	-	-
Gift Aid and Donations	1	£1,920.96	-	£1,920.96	£484.82
Social Events	2	-	£756.50	£756.50	£0.00
Fundraising		-			
Receipts from Charitable Activities					
Membership		£2,203.00	-	£2,203.00	£2,450.00
Group Fees		£2,515.50	-	£2,515.50	£0.00
Monthly Meeting (Door)		£1,119.60	-	£1,119.60	£0.00
Educational Events		£0.00	-	£0.00	£0.00
Miscellaneous	3	£98.00		£98.00	£30.00
Total Receipts		£7,857.06	£756.50	£8,613.56	£2,964.82
Payments					
Northern Arts Club		£2,228.00		£2,228.00	£970.00
Hall Hire (e.g.BB Hall)		£1,178.00		£1,178.00	£384.00
Printing, Postage & Stationery	4	£253.16		£253.16	£245.55
Travel, Subsistence or Accommodation		£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Speaker		£350.00		£350.00	£450.00
Catering	5	£197.38		£197.38	£24.41
Newsletter		£420.00		£420.00	£335.00
Refunds	3	£64.00		£64.00	£20.00
Assets Purchased		£0.00		£0.00	£36.98
Social Events	2		£775.50	£775.50	£0.00
Third Age Trust		£1,577.40		£1,577.40	£1,259.94
U3A in Scotland		£0.00		£0.00	£34.80
Miscellaneous	6	£40.00		£40.00	£212.94
Bank/Sumup charges		£8.58		£8.58	£0.00
Educational Events		£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Group Support				£0.00	£0.00
Governance	7	£240.00		£240.00	£30.00
		£6,556.52	£775.50	£7,332.02	£4,003.62
Surplus/(Deficit)		£1,300.54	-£19.00	£1,281.54	-£1,038.80

- Notes
1. Included in Gift Aid and donations is a gift of £10 from a member not wishing a refund of an overpayment; £711.06 from two years of gift aid, £9 gifted by members and £1,190.90 from the closing Turiff u3a
 2. Two social events this year one at Christmas with carol singing, quiz and raffle. Minimal cost for prizes is included in catering; the other event, the New Year lunch was not as well attended as in previous years and there was also a charge for use of room which meant a small loss arose.
 3. Misc income includes overpayment of fees £64 repaid during the year and £34 after end of the year
 4. This covered costs for printing and postage of membership and group forms, newsletter etc
 5. Catering at monthly meeting, the 2 AGMs and Christmas party
 - 6.. Miscellaneous includes £40 for auditor
 7. Room charge for two AGMs as committee meetings were held by Zoom.

Approved by The Trustees and signed on their behalf

Signed	<u>FR Watsc</u>	signed	<u>[Signature]</u>
	Chairperson		Treasurer
Dated	18/5/2023	dated	18/5/2023