

Annual General Meeting to be held at 2pm on Thursday 28th March 2024 at St Saviour's church hall, South Street, Eastbourne BN21 4UT

AGENDA

- 1 Welcome by the Chairman and to receive apologies.
- 2 Approval of the minutes from the 2023 AGM held on 23rd March 2023
- 3 Matters arising
- 4 Chairman's Annual Report
- 5 Treasurer's Report, and to seek approval for the examined accounts for 2023 and to decide the subscription level for 2024/25
- 6 Election of the branch committee for 2024/25
- 7 Election of the Principal Officers:- Chairman, Vice-chairman, Treasurer, General Secretary.
- 8 Chairman's announcement on his or her nominations for other posts.
- 9 Any issues? Any member of the branch may ask the committee to examine an aspect of the branch's activity with a view to seeking improvements.
- 10 Any other business

PLEASE NOTE – Following this meeting will be a presentation of the Michael Morley Memorial Lecture titled – Gilbert & Sullivan given by Laurence Leng.

EASTBOURNE u3a CENTRAL BRANCH

Affiliated to the Third Age Trust



Minutes of the 2023 AGM of the Eastbourne Central U3A held at 2 pm on Thursday 23 March 2023 at St Saviours church hall, South Street, Eastbourne.

1 The Chairman welcomed everyone - approximately 80 attending. Apologies were received from D Bayes, L Sampson, J Leak, J Bradley, R Whellams, J Haughan, C Douch, E Haas.

2 The minutes of the 2022 AGM held on 24 March 2022 were agreed by a show of hands as a correct record. There were no matters arising.

3 The Chairman, Mike Tribe, submitted his report. He said he would be stepping down from the Chair at this meeting and thanked his colleague committee members for their support. He was warmly thanked by members.

4 The Treasurer submitted the independently examined accounts for 2022. She commented that the branch was in reasonable health financially. She asked members to note that the year-end surplus had to meet spending commitments through to the August of the following year. She recommended that there be no increase in the annual subscription. The accounts for 2022 were approved by a show of hands. A subscription rate of £15 for 2023/24 was approved by a show of hands.

5 The Secretary said that the constitution provides for 12 committee places and twelve candidates had agreed to be nominated. Members voted by a show of hands to elect the candidates en bloc. K Adams, D Bayes, K Boak, J Bradley, K Davis, K King, D Lampert, J Leak, K Shingler, E Starkie M Tribe and A Wenham were elected.

6 The Secretary explained that the Chairman of the branch is to be elected from within the committee membership. One nomination had been received from K (Kevin) Davis who was duly elected by a show of hands.

7 The Chairman proposed E Starkie as Vice-Chairman (who will also act as Membership Secretary), K Shingler as Treasurer, Alan Wenham as general secretary –and all elected by a show of hands.

8 The Chairman referred to Jane Bradly acting as Speakers Secretary and also having a responsibility for Study Group liaison. He offered sincere thanks to his predecessor for leaving the branch in a good state of health and commented that he would be a hard act to follow. He mentioned in particular the work that had been done during the Covid lockdown to keep the U3A flame alive.

9 A question was asked as to whether teas could be served at all meetings. Similarly, whether the Lunch Club could be re-started. The response to both was positive, provided that members came forward as volunteers to do the work. The Vice-Chairman said he would refer to this in a future newsletter and ask for volunteers.

10 There being no other business, the meeting closed at 2-20 pm.

Chairman's Report 2023 -2024

It hardly seems like yesterday that we were celebrating New Year and now March and our A.G.M. is upon us. I have enjoyed my first year as your chairman and am prepared to stand again.

I knew that taking over from Mike Tribe would be a hard act to follow but am happy to report that our u3a continues to do thrive. We have 441 members, offers two talks each month and runs over 25 study groups. A lot of the smooth running is down to Erik Starkie, our Vice Chairman and Membership Secretary, who keeps up to date the membership lists and puts together the newsletters.

Talks this year have covered all sorts of things from Houdini, the Olympics to the local Wildlife Rescue Service. Good attendances have been seen each fortnight. I am grateful to Jane Bradley for putting together the talks programme and booking the speakers. Recently Christine Scotcher and a team of volunteers have enabled us to trial having teas and coffees at some talks.

I know from the two study groups that I attend how much work is done by group leaders in arranging venues, putting together programmes, preparing talks and keeping records. We met with group leaders in November to talk about insurance, risk assessment, finance and data protection, and to hear how things were going. Kath Boak has recently taken on the role of Groups Coordinator. She is keen to take on board leaders' concerns and facilitate new groups where sufficient interest has been expressed by members.

Tina Shingler has kept a firm hold on our finances. Because she balances our books so well, we can keep our membership fee at the same level as last year, while meeting rising fees for hall hire and speakers and buying a new laptop.

Four times a year, I attend meetings of East Sussex East, our local network. This has given me a chance to work with the other two u3as in Eastbourne and clubs as far north as Crowborough to the east Rye. We have been looking at issues like reciprocal membership, the new Third Age Trust constitution, publicity, speaker recommendations and a joint study.

Dilys Bayes took on the role of Beacon Coordinator this year. Beacon is the computerised record system developed by the Third Age Trust and will make administration easier. Dilys has done the difficult work of getting it all up and running for us. She is stepping down from our committee but leaving a system that is working well and easy to use.

Also stepping down are several others. Alan Wenham has been our secretary for many years after previously being our chairman. I shall miss his vast knowledge and experience. Also standing down from our committee are Kim Adams who gave us the recent talk on the Dukes of Devonshire and David Lampert, who though leaving the committee will continue to lead the Bridge group. I thank them for all their work on our behalf.

Finally, I would like to thank you to all those of you who have welcomed me as Chairman and remind you that we can all help by putting out/away chairs and talking to and welcoming new members.

Kevin Davis

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NOMINATION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Nominations are invited for the committee for 2024 – 2025 and those elected will take office from the Annual General Meeting on 28th March 2024.

Nominations must be received by the Membership Secretary by post no later than 10 days before the Annual General Meeting i.e. Monday 18th March. Please ascertain that the person nominated is prepared to stand for election and signs the Nomination Form.

Erik Starkie
Membership Secretary
24 Gaudick Close, Eastbourne BN20 7QF

NOMINATION FORM

I nominate the undermentioned member(s) to serve on the Committee of Eastbourne u3a Central Branch for 2024 - 2025. He/She has agreed to stand.

Name -----

Proposer -----

Secunder -----

I, the nominee, agree to stand for election to the Committee of Eastbourne u3a Central Branch for 2024 - 2025.

Signed -----

Print Name -----