

## March 2022



### Important Dates & Information



- **CHANGE TO MEMBERSHIP FEES** ~ Proposal to raise the annual Membership fee for 2022-2023. See Chair's report.
- **AGM** ~ Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 10.00 for 10.30 start. Hopefully in the small hall at Glastonbury Town Hall, otherwise via Zoom. See Agenda below.
- **New CHAIR required to start at AGM** ~ see Chair's report below.
- **New GROUP COORDINATOR required to start at AGM** ~ see below.

### From the Chair



Happy New Year! Christmas and the New Year celebrations are quite a while ago now and as I write this we are (hopefully) beginning to see the end of at least some of the restrictions of the last couple of years. Obviously the last 2 years have not been easy for anyone, and Street & Glastonbury u3a has also found it extremely difficult to navigate the various regulations which, in the beginning at least, changed almost on a weekly basis. However, thanks mainly to Zoom we carried on.

This will be my last report as Chair. In accordance with our Constitution, the Chair is only allowed to stay in post for a total of 3 years, and 6 years is the maximum for a Principal Officer. I originally joined the committee in 2016 as Secretary. At the end of my 3 year tenure I was persuaded to re-join the committee as Vice Chair and after Mike's retirement at last year's AGM I became Chair. **Under the rules of our governing body, The Third Age Trust, we are not allowed to continue without a Chair, so it is imperative that we fill this post at the AGM**, which this year will be held on 28 April in the Small Hall, Glastonbury Town Hall. If the situation regarding Covid changes this may be held online via Zoom instead. A copy of the draft Agenda for the AGM can be found in this newsletter and the final version of the Agenda will be available online later.

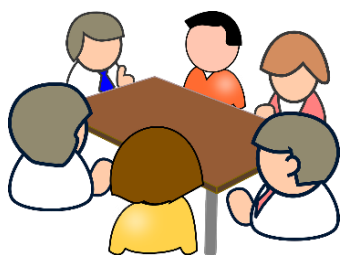
Understandably, our membership is still below pre-Covid numbers and thus our group numbers have also decreased, as has our income. The Committee have thought long and hard about this as our various costs have increased. For example, our payment for membership of the National u3a increases this year, 2022, to £4 per member; and for those that receive Third Age Matters magazine the cost is £3.35; and starting this year our bank are charging us a monthly fee plus a charge for each cheque deposited. (Internet banking is still free). The current fee of £10 has been unchanged for at least the last 10 years and an increase of the Membership fee to £12 didn't seem out of the question to the Committee. Therefore, at the AGM, I will propose **'To increase the membership fee to £12 per annum'**. This will be voted on at the AGM. So once again we need to make sure we have a quorum.

Cynthia will be stepping down as Groups Coordinator at the AGM and will take on the role of Venue Booking Secretary instead. We will, therefore, need a new Groups Coordinator as well as a new Chair. It's always good to have new committee members, as new people bring new ideas and new ways of working, so if you would like to join the committee in any capacity (or without a particular responsibility) we look forward to hearing from you. A nomination form to join the committee can be found both with the newsletter and on the website.

Finally, Best Wishes to you all for the future. I know that I leave the organisation in good hands but I hope that more committee members will be found so that the good work of Street & Glastonbury U3A can continue.

## From the Committee

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As stated in the Chairs Report above, we will propose at the AGM that the annual membership fee rises to **£12 for the year 2022-2023 (£6 for Associates)**. Group fees will remain at £6 (mostly for 6x2hour sessions). For comparison, some local u3a's charge: Somerton £18 plus Group fees of £2 or £3 per session; Wells £12 plus Group fees of up to £2 per session; Highbridge £10 plus Group fees of £2 per session.

We hope the AGM will be held in the Town Hall, but if not it will be held via Zoom as last year. Check our website for the latest information.

## From the Editor

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We intend to hold our AGM in person this year! It will be held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 10.00 for 10.30 start in the small hall at Glastonbury Town Hall. There are some important matters that need to be discussed and voted on so a quorum is essential.

### The **draft AGM Agenda:**

1. *Apologies;*
2. *Minutes of Previous AGM, 27 May, 2021;*
3. *Chairman's Report;*
4. *Financial Report;*
5. *Group Liaison's Report;*
6. *Election of Officers/Committee Members;*
7. *Proposal to increase Membership fee;*
8. *Any Other Business;*
9. *Closing Remarks*

**As Helen reported above we cannot continue without the position of Chair being filled at the AGM.**

## From the Treasurer

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This is my report for the financial year **2020-2021**.

The accounts are published with this Newsletter and also posted on the website.

Points to note:

- 1) This is my first year in this role and like last year, not a normal year!
- 2) The classes that continued were held via Zoom as were the Monthly committee meetings.
- 3) For this year there have been no coffee mornings, or visits and because of the Covid situation the decision was made to cancel the Christmas party.
- 4) We have 3 sources of income: Membership fee, Group fees and Gift Aid.
- 5) We ran at a loss this year, with the cost of the Zoom licence and the drop in membership. We did not charge members for attending groups via Zoom.
- 6) The Newsletter printing and posting out to members is very expensive, this year £787 and we would encourage more to access the Newsletter via the website.
- 7) The bank have implemented charges (from 2022), even for charity accounts like ours. They charge us for every single cheque paid in, in addition to a fixed monthly charge. Internet banking is still free, so we would encourage all members to pay the Membership fee by bank transfer and your group fees to the Group Leader in cash, (with their agreement).

<b>Treasurers Report</b>	<b>Street and Glastonbury U3A</b>	<b>Registered Charity 1076664</b>	<b>Annual Accounts for year 1Sep 2020 to 31Aug 2021</b>
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#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Income	2020-2021
Membership Fees	3,035.00
Group Attendances	331.00
Non-Core Income	8.00
Gift Aid from HMRC	265.00
	3,639.00
	3,639.00
Expenditure	
Groups Venue Hire	282.00
TAT (7mths Sep20-Mar21 members subs)	1,043.29
TAT (5mths Apr21-Aug21 members subs)	428.75
Publicity	0.00
Newsletter (S&G)	787.31
Magazine TAM (U3A Head Office)	76.88
Non-Core Expenses	0.00
ZOOM + Virtual LD during lockdowns	637.76
Equipment	38.94
Administration (Excl Zoom+VLD)	689.07
	3,984.00
	3,984.00
<b>Surplus for Year</b>	<b>-345.00</b>

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Current Assets	2020-2021
COIF Account 31Aug2021:CCLA	6,629.43
Current Account 31Aug2021: HSBC	9,330.50
Pre-Paid TAT (7mths Sep21-Mar22 members sul	600.25
<b>Assets</b>	<b>16,560.18</b>
	<b>16,560.18</b>
Current Liabilities	
Pre-payment Membership Fees 2021-2022	2,430.00

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

The Charity Commission advises that between 6 and 12 months running costs are maintained.

Existing policy is to hold sufficient funds to:

- maintain operational activities
- cover costs of future increases in room hire charges
- fund start-up costs of new groups
- replace U3A equipment which cannot be repaired

#### NON-CORE ACTIVITIES

2020/2021	Income	Expend	Surplus/Loss
donations	8.00	0.00	8.00
coffee mornings	0.00	0.00	0.00
christmas party	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Surplus/Loss</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>8.00</b>

#### COIF Charities Deposit Fund CCLA

1Sep2020 b/f	6,628.83
interest added	0.82
dep/withdr	0.00
<b>Total c/f</b>	<b>6,629.65</b>

Treasurer: Gill Donkin    Jan 2022

Examiner: Andy Pickford    Jan 2022

## Group News

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Our Spring term has started well with positive feedback from the majority of our Group Leaders.

*Yoga, Table Tennis, Line Dancing, Ta'i Chi, Ukulele, Local History and History* have all been well supported as some of our larger groups, with the *Walking* group having 58 members signed on and an average of 33 for each walk, so doing very well. Overall the numbers are down, however we are happy to support them all and hopefully numbers will rise with more confidence and the relaxing of the rules.

A few groups have discontinued for various reasons, *Racketball, Digital Photography, Upwords/Rummikub, Singing for Pleasure, Mah Jong* and one of the *Painting for Pleasure* groups.

A special mention for The *Yoga* Group led by Ursula Dunne which has carried on with some extra classes privately, doing so with no charge from the Victoria Club and asking for donations and has raised over £350 for Shelter. Well done!

Our *Chinese Brush Painting* group, led by Jeanne Bradban, is holding an exhibition in St. John's Church from Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April to Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May, so go along and see their good work.

We thank our Group Leaders who do a really good job and we look forward to a successful 2022

## Membership

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Hello u3a members. At the start of this year our membership has been growing again. So far this year, 2021-2022, our membership totals 420. This number is made up with 400 full members and 20 associate members. This time last year we had a total of 309 members. So, we are making a good recovery from last year's total as restrictions ease.

Please inform your friends and family of the benefits of joining the Street and Glastonbury u3a if they are not already a member. The online membership form and Bank Transfer method of joining is working well and is the method we would recommend.

If you have any query relating to your membership, please don't hesitate to contact me, Paul Vernoum, by using the contact details in our newsletter.

## Future Events

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Due to the ongoing pandemic we are not arranging any coffee mornings or trips for the remainder of this year. Hopefully, we can return to normal from September 2022. Our website will keep you up to date about developments.

There is the possibility of an event in June to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. Watch the website for further details.

## Useful Weblinks (Web users can click the website name)

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### ~ S&G U3A Website

Web address: <https://streetu3a.org>

### ~ S&G U3A Facebook

Web address: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/467804163409114/>

### ~ U3A Head Office








Web address: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/>

### ~ U3A Head Office YouTube Radio Podcasts

Web address: <https://youtu.be/9zGNxpUSUAc>

# S&G u3a Committee Members

For general information email: [info@streetu3a.org](mailto:info@streetu3a.org)

<b>Chair</b>	Helen Hickman		<a href="mailto:chair@streetu3a.org">chair@streetu3a.org</a>
<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>		<a href="mailto:vicechair@streetu3a.org">vicechair@streetu3a.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Martin Kennard		<a href="mailto:secretary@streetu3a.org">secretary@streetu3a.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Gill Donkin		<a href="mailto:treasurer@streetu3a.org">treasurer@streetu3a.org</a>
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Paul Vernoum		<a href="mailto:members@streetu3a.org">members@streetu3a.org</a>
<b>Venues Booking Secretary</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>		<a href="mailto:venues@streetu3a.org">venues@streetu3a.org</a>
<b>Newsletter / Web Manager</b>	Andy Pickford		<a href="mailto:info@streetu3a.org">info@streetu3a.org</a>
<b>Publicity</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>		<a href="mailto:publicity@streetu3a.org">publicity@streetu3a.org</a>
<b>Groups Coordinator</b>	Cynthia Rayes		<a href="mailto:groups@streetu3a.org">groups@streetu3a.org</a>
<b>Events Organiser</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>		<a href="mailto:events@streetu3a.org">events@streetu3a.org</a>
<b>Committee Member</b>	Linda Wilson		

Reg. Charity Number: 1076664