



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Monday 7 April 2025
2.00 p.m.
Liphook Millennium Centre

The Chairman, Carolyn Williamson, opened the meeting and welcomed those attending members.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Angela Pointon; Ann Jack; Bill Simpson; Clifford Green; Diane Collier; Maureen Green; Sara Porter; Wendy Karban

2. Minutes of Previous AGM

The minutes of the 2024 AGM held on 5 April 2024, which had previously been circulated, were agreed as a correct record. Proposed by Clive Evenden and seconded by Anita Harkus.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the last AGM minutes.

3. Chair's Annual Report

As I finish my fourth year as Chairman, I am ready to pass the baton, but I am remaining on the committee in order to support my successor.

Although our membership numbers have not yet reached our pre-covid level, we now have over 500 once again and are still attracting new members. Our recent Open Day produced 10 on the day, and several more since who enrolled online. At the time of writing, there were only 69 members who had not renewed, and hopefully most of them will do so soon.

The Trustees agreed unanimously to increase the membership fee slightly to £15 for 2025/6.

We purchased our own projector for use by Groups and at the Monthly Meetings, as the Millennium Centre's equipment had become unreliable. We do now ideally need someone to come in a few minutes early for the Monthly Meetings to set it up.

For many years we have had an informal reciprocal arrangement with our neighbouring u3as. However, Petersfield withdrew a few years ago, and Haslemere will now followed suit, from August. We have decided not to change the arrangement for their members to come to our activities, as if they were members of Liphook, as the numbers involved are very small.

My thanks as always go to our committee, some of whom are standing down this time, and to all the Group Leaders, without whom we would have no organisation.

Following the sudden and sad loss of Neil MacCuaig during the year, Lyn Cope came forward as the new Membership Secretary and has really hit the ground running.

We currently have 32 individual groups, covering a very wide range of activities. Wendy Karban is standing down as both Speakers Coordinator and Groups Coordinator. Our thanks go to her for the varied range of Speakers over the two years she was in post, and she has already booked one for next year. It does mean, however, that we need some more volunteers for these two roles.

Gwenda Pate has stood down from her publicity role, and I am glad to report that Chris Earwaker has taken it on.

In addition to taking the Minutes, Pauline Murdoch has also opened a Facebook page for Liphook u3a, so hopefully that will attract more members.

We have welcomed new committee members, following my earlier appeals, who were initially co-opted and are nominated for election this time.

I must also mention Catherine Oldham and her band of helpers, who provide refreshments whenever they are required. They even managed to keep us fed and watered when she was laid up with a broken ankle.

Peter Ritchie, who manages our website and the generic email addresses, and produces the screen ads for the monthly meetings. He has had a particularly busy year as the Third Age Trust changed the platform for the website, leading to literally many hours of work to get everything transferred.

Finally on this topic, our Secretary, Bill Simpson, is anticipating having some health problems and is very willing to stand down if somebody else would like to take on the responsibility. The role is like a Company Secretary in that it is the main conduit to both Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission.

u3a is an organisation run for the members by the members, and the jobs that need doing 'behind the scenes' do not necessarily require the person doing them to be on the committee, so please let us know if you would like to offer some support.

There were no questions on the Chair's report

4. Treasurer's Annual Report

Treasurer's Report for the year 01/02/24 to 31/01/2025

As usual, we must acknowledge those who have helped to smooth the way through the Treasury year. Thanks to the group leaders and/or treasurers who have contributed to the reconciliation processes. Once more, Peter Ritchie, in addition to being our webmaster, provided invaluable help with the year-end procedures. A special thanks must also go to Malcolm Traviss who once again volunteered to be our independent assessor.

Bank balances

Bank balances total £12097.

Of this £8695 is funds belonging to the groups

Central funds amount to £3403.

In addition, groups hold a total of £1641

Income

Central Income was £8831

£6068 from Membership fees

£2098 Monthly Meeting door takings

£665 Gift Aid

Expenditure

Total central expenditure was £9612.

£3205 to the Third Age trust (capitation, beacon fees and newsletter)

£2489 Monthly meeting hall hire and speaker fees.

£1014 expenses (Hall and storage hire, stationery, postage, equipment)

£2904 in Venue hire grants to groups.

5. Election of Officers and Committee Members

The following officers and committee members were elected to the Committee for the next year.

Chairman	Andy Earwaker	newly elected
Vice Chairman	Carolyn Williamson	
Secretary	Bill Simpson	continuing
Treasurer	Colin Brash	continuing
Deputy Treasurer	Eric Harkus	continuing
Membership Secretary	Lyn Cope	newly elected
Minutes Secretary	Pauline Murdoch	continuing
General	Clive Evenden	continuing
General	Sarah Windibank	continuing
General	Ann Wright	continuing
General	Janet Moore	newly elected

All members were proposed by Wendy Moore and seconded by Tricia Burchard.

6. Date of next AGM

Monday 6 April 2026 2.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 2.25 p.m.