

Chichester U3A Treasurer's Report for year ending 31 March 2026

I took over as Treasurer in April 24 with the finances in a healthy position and I am pleased to report that the financial position of the Chichester U3A remains strong. There has been a strong focus on growing the number and range of groups that are available and working towards more larger group events.

The accounts separate Income from Expenditure and Restricted from Unrestricted funds. The membership fees are unrestricted funds. These are donations to the Chichester U3A and are not directly related to the benefits received by the individual members. It is for this reason we can reclaim Gift Aid where members choose this option. Restricted funds are collected for a specific purpose, such as room hire for interest groups, or for social events, and can only be used for that purpose.

Our accounts are maintained on a receipts and payments basis. This is the simplest approach, is approved by the Charity Commission, and is the only option available in the U3A Beacon system that we use. There are a couple of drawbacks to this: firstly, it does not reveal any outstanding liabilities at the end of the accounting period, and secondly, it can be misleading when comparing the current year with the previous year.

Looking first at the comparison of the 2 years shown in the Financial Accounts (2026 & 2025): • Gift Aid is the claim for 2025 as it is claimed in arrears, the 2026 figure will appear in next year's accounts and is anticipated to be £3,602.

- TAM The Third Age Matter Magazine costs £4.00 per member who requests it.
- Capitation and Beacon: These are charged based on the membership on 1st April which aligns to the Membership fees of the previous year.
- The income and expenditure associated with Group and social events is markedly higher reflecting the large increase in the number of groups and associated activities.

At year-end (31/03/2026) we carried forward £34,680. Of this:

- £4,728 is required to cover existing liabilities (Capitation Fees)
- £9,016 represents membership subscriptions for the period 01/04-31/08
- £6,771 are restricted funds.

The remaining £14,165 plus the £3,602 Gift Aid credit represent our current Financial Reserves of Unrestricted Funds: £17,767. This is an increase on last year and has remained higher than anticipated due to the jump in membership during the year from 1013 to 1182, an increase of 12%

We expect costs to rise in line with inflation and are looking at new ways to provide additional events open to all members. Our reserves are healthy and will give the committee leeway to provide these additional membership services.

I am grateful to all the membership team who have to manage and log the 1100 plus membership fees and to all the group leaders who ensure the viability of their groups. I am also grateful to Barry Easton for his continuing invaluable assistance.

Finally, I propose the adoption of these Financial Accounts.

Patrick Doyle

Hon. Treasurer

Chichester U3A		01/04/2025	31/03/2026	01/04/2024	-	31/03/2025
Category	Sub-Category	in	out	in		out
Income						
Membership	Annual Membership ⁽¹⁾	£21,640.00		£18,552.00		
	Gift Aid ⁽²⁾	£3,039.58		£2,741.22		
	Donations	£400.50		£488.15		
	Other	£54.00				
Charitable Activities	Group Subscriptions	£14,356.43		£10,594.97		
	Social Events Income	£7,429.58		£4,767.00		
Total Income		£46,920.09		£37,143.34		
Expenditure						
Capitation	U3A ⁽³⁾		£3,936.00			£3,552.00
	Beacon		£0.00			£921.00
Communications	Newsletter					
	TAM		£2,377.43			£2,375.00
	Other Marcom		£374.00			
	Website		£254.00			£230.40
General Events	Speaker Fees		£1,184.00			£1,342.00
	Refreshments		£754.64			£624.65
	Hall Hire		£5,199.13			£4,052.43
	Other		£7,376.69			£1,561.27
Group Activities	Room Hire		£12,562.40			£9,510.35
	Other Group Expenses		£1,568.85			£444.84
Events, Trips & Visits	Social EVT Expenditure		£5,008.20			£5,376.00
	Xmas Lunch					
General Admin	Stationery & Postage		£41.75			£59.18
	Travel Expenses					
	General Admin/IT		£1,415.13			£442.12
	Insurance					
	PayPal Commission		£308.54			£227.74
	Mailbox					
	Storage					£317.92
	Regional					
	Miscellaneous		£0.00			£0.00
Total Expenditure			£42,360.76			£31,036.99
Brought forward		£30,121.26		£24,014.91		
Total carried forward		£34,680.59		£30,121.26		

Balance Sheet	31/03/2026	31/03/2025
Current (Membership)	£28,882.76	£25,042.05
Groups	£4,294.44	£4,117.58
PayPal	£52.65	£140.40
Petty Cash	£0.00	£0.00
Social	£1,251.81	£7.63
Treasurer	£198.93	£813.60
Total	£34,680.59	£30,121.26

Membership at Year-end	
Members	1133
Associate Members	49
Total	1182

Notes:

(1) Annual membership runs to 31/08. so £9016.60 is attributable to period 01/04-31/08 (i.e. 5/12 of membership fees)

(2) Gift Aid claim due in April: £3,625

(3) U3A Capitation Fee is collected in arrears: £4728 still due for 2025-26