

MINUTES 2025 AGM

15th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ARNOLD u3a
1.30pm Tuesday, 4th March 2025
Arnold Methodist Church, 54 Front Street, Arnold NG5 7EL

AGENDA

The Meeting opened at 13.40.

The Chair, Hazel Ward welcomed those present.

1. Apologies for Absence

159 Members were in attendance as recorded by Membership Secretary, Cathy van Baalen. Apologies were received from Terry Pears, Jackie Daley, Denise Swain, Kathy Parfitt, Jean Heeson, John Heeson and Jean Hatch.

2. Approve as correct the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 2024

The Minutes of the 2024 AGM were circulated previously.

Proposed by Glynis Hunt Seconded by Pam Gant that the minutes be accepted as a true record. Carried unanimously.

3. Chair's Report

The Chair, Hazel Ward presented her Report.

Hi Everyone,

I am grateful to all of our retired Chairs and committee members. Their diligence and expertise have enabled Arnold u3a's current success.

Here are my impressions of my first year as your Chair. In the newsletter this month I gave a heartfelt "Thank you" to every group leader/coordinator; main meeting helper; organiser of activities; day trips and holidays; as well as to every member of the committee and behind-the-scenes volunteers. I repeat my thanks, even though in the interests of brevity I will not mention you all by name. Instead, I'm going to mention a few things that were unique to Arnold u3a this year.

- We were advised by the Third Age Trust that we needed to complete Risk Assessment forms for every u3a group and activity. I'm pleased to say that our group leaders/coordinators with the help of the committee and in particular with the guidance of Tina Pallingedge, completed that mammoth task. Many thanks to all who helped us to get there.

- With the leadership of Cynthia: Outings 4 u visited some exciting new venues this year, too numerous to mention individually, but a great time was had by all.

- In September, Notts Network held a conference, which was well attended by Arnold u3a members. What a great day it was! My thanks go to Rosie Allen for organising and to our own group leaders, Mike Wareham and Kevin Powell for leading conference activities. (Oh! and to Viv Purkiss for driving me there!)

- The holiday to Spain enabled over 30 of our members to enjoy themselves in the Spanish sunshine (and for some to practice speaking Spanish.)

- We've succeeded in collaborating with other local u3as in some joint activities, where groups from one u3a are not viable on their own, so two or more local u3as meet at the same time. It even works!

Hazel Ward

- Our fellow member, Brian Cluff, not only sounds famous, but within this year he has become famous! He was appointed as a Member of the Royal Astronomical Society – an honour shared in their time by such renowned people as Sir Stephen Hawking and Albert Einstein. Well done, Brian! To attain this meritorious award at over ninety years of age is terrific and a pointer to the world that age is no barrier to achieving extraordinary success. It's an honour for our u3a too, as Brian's ideas for his theories on Dark Matter and Dark Energy were kindled at our very own Astronomy group.

- I finish my report for this year by singing our praises yet again. We have achieved a first. Not just a first for our u3a, not just a 1st for u3as in general; not just for Nottinghamshire, not even just for the UK... It's a first in the world. We've created a new sport called Short Lawn Bowls. Arnold u3a, with help from Daybrook Bowls Club, where we meet in the summer months, has enabled this unique activity, with you in mind. It's fun; it's healthy; it's outdoors in the fresh air; it's easier than normal bowls and it's designed for those not able to bowl great distances.

We can achieve so much as members of Arnold u3a. It makes me wonder what treats we have in store for next year? I could not lead this very successful u3a without each and every one of you. Whatever you put into it, and whatever you get out of it, I'm excited about our u3a and hope every one of our members can say the same.

Hazel Ward: Arnold u3a Chair

4. Treasurer's Report and Accounts:

The Treasurer, Chris Gardner introduced her Report and Accounts.

Treasurer's Report on the Accounts for the Year ended 31st October 2024

Arnold u3a is a registered charity and an associate member of the Third Age Trust and as such it is required to comply with regulations issued by the Charity Commission and follow guidelines set by the Third Age Trust. The Finance Policy that has recently been added to Arnold u3a website sets down the policies and procedures that should be followed to enable the u3a to be run efficiently and safeguard its assets.

In order to comply with the Charity Commission regulation that the accounts of a charity with income in excess of £25,00 should be independently examined, the accounts before you have been independently examined by Barbara Eustace, a member of this u3a. Thank you, Barbara.

The General Account includes the membership income and the costs of running the u3a; the receipts and payments of the groups within the u3a are aggregated in the Education and Social Activities section of the accounts.

Arnold u3a has 2 current bank accounts, one for the general management of the u3a and a second one for transactions of the groups within the u3a. We also have a deposit account for the collection of membership income paid by bank transfer. All three accounts are with the Co-operative Bank. There is a PayPal account that members can use to pay their membership fee.

The General Account

In the year to 31st October 2024 the General Fund has increased by £1,688. Income from membership fees (£6,987) covers the cost of running the u3a (£6,847). The surplus on the Fund is generated by Gift Aid, Commission (paid by Riviera Travel) and interest paid on the deposit account held by the u3a.

Hazel Ward

Education and Social Activities Account

This account consolidates the receipts and payments of the many groups within the u3a. All groups are self-financing (fees are collected from group members to cover the expenditure of the group).

Total expenditure by the groups in the year to 31st October 2024 was £41,503. Total income in the same period was £42,824 resulting in an increase of £1,321 in the funds held on behalf of groups. Here I want to thank Pam for taking on the responsibility of banking group funds each month. Whilst most of the money to be banked is paid by cheque these all have to be listed not a five-minute job. Thank you, Pam.,

At the 31st October 2024 funds held by the groups totalled £9,258. These funds are the working balances of the groups who have to collect fees from their members in advance of any expenditure being incurred.

Conclusion

The accounts that you have before you show that the finances of Arnold u3a are in a healthy position. The General Fund stands at £18,044 whilst the "working balances" of the groups amount to £9,258.

I want to finish my report by thanking all group leaders and members within groups who have taken on the responsibility for the finances of their respective groups for their co-operation in following procedures that have been established to ensure that the information they provide is given in such a way that facilitates the consolidation of the group finances.

As I step down as treasurer, I would like to wish Glynis Hunt all the very best in her tenure as treasurer of Arnold u3a.

Chris Gardner

Treasurer Arnold u3a

March 2025

ARNOLD u3a

Registered Charity No 1153672

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2024

	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>		
	Total	General	Education and Social	Total
	£	Account	Activities	£
<u>INCOME</u>				
Subscriptions and Visitor				
Donations	21,509	6,987	16,054	23,041
Sales	9,670		12,883	12,883
Gift Aid	1,145	1,011		1,011
Commission	678	277		277
Interest	154	260		260
Holidays and Outings	9,421		13,887	13,887
Miscellaneous Income	156			0
Development Fund	0			0
TOTAL INCOME	42,733	8,535	42,824	51,359

Hazel Ward

EXPENDITURE

Room Hire	9,696	1,600	8,956	10,556
Equipment Hire	3,268		3,960	3,960
Tutor Fees	1,840		1,750	1,750
Printing, Stationery, Postages	348	457	196	653
Purchases	34			0
Membership Subscription Third Age Trust	1,964	1,696		1,696
Direct Mail	1,100	889		889
Copyright Licence	64	67		67
Speakers and Social Events	2,988	170	2,893	3,063
Committee and Catering Costs	931	562		562
Membership Expenses	120	413		413
Website	397	388		388
Beacon	471	455		455
Notts Network Membership	15	15		15
Card Printer and Scanner	0	83		83
Tickets for resale	6,847		10,704	10,704
Holidays and Outings	9,241		12,960	12,960
Sundry Expenses	20	52		52
National u3a Day	187			0
Contributions from Contingency Fund	19		54	54
Contribution from Development Fund	0		30	30
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	39,550	6,847	41,503	48,350
NET EXPENDITURE/ INCOME	3,183	1,688	1,321	3,009

BALANCE SHEET AT 31st OCTOBER 2024**CURRENT ASSETS**

<u>Current Assets</u>	General Account	Education and Social Activities	Total
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	19,244	9,258	28,502
Paid in Advance	200		200
Total Current Assets	19,444	9,258	28,702
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
Creditors			
Receipts in Advance	1,400		1,400
Total Current Liabilities	1,400		1,400
Net Current Assets	18,044	9,258	27,302
TOTAL ASSETS	18,044	9,258	27,302

Hazel Ward

FUNDS

Cumulative Surplus 31 st October 2023	16,356	7,937	24,293
Surplus YE 31/10/24	1,688	1,321	3,009
Funds held 31st October 2024	18,044	9,258	27,302

Note

Analysis of Funds

General	18,044		18,044
<u>Education and Social Activities</u>			0
Groups		6,745	6,745
Development		1,902	1,902
Contingency		611	611
Funds Held at 31st October 2024	18,044	9,258	27,302

Proposed by Rosie Allen Seconded by Helen Catchpole that the report and accounts be accepted. Carried unanimously.

5. Appointment of Auditor or Independent Examiner

It is proposed by Viv Purkiss and seconded by Ged Clarke that the Appointment of an "Independent Examiner" be left to the discretion of the Committee at a future date. Carried unanimously.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

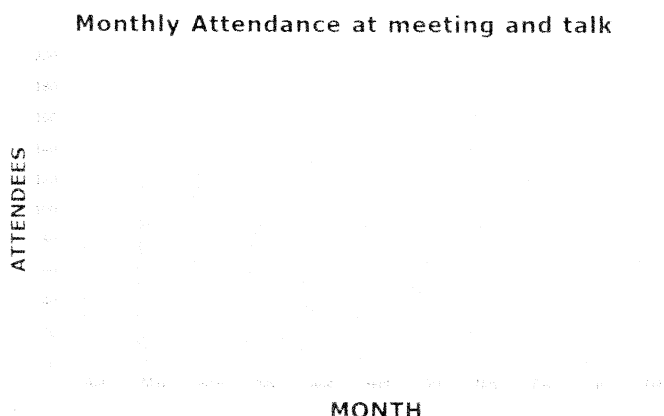
The Membership Secretary, Cathy van Baalen presented her report.

Membership numbers for 2023-24 year totalled 489 slightly down from the previous year by 10 (see Table below). The vast majority of our members are individual members as opposed to associate members. At the commencement of the current year the actual membership dropped down to 430 that is a loss of 59 (12%) members. The loss of members is due to a variety of reasons. However, over the year the recruitment of new members offsets the loss. Last year we recruited 61 new members and so far to date for the current year we have had 30 new members join the branch. The current membership is 461. I would like to acknowledge Terry Pears and Pat Jackson who run the New Members meeting at Sprinter's every month.

Total Number Members	498	489	461
Individual	465	464	432
Associate	33	25	29
New Members	62	61	30

Hazel Ward

General attendance at the Main monthly meeting is high (see graph below). The average attendance is 148 members. The month with the highest attendance was November – with membership renewal contributing to this. Attendance at the post meeting talk is relatively good with an average number of attendees over the year being 85. Last month's Theatre talk saw the highest attendance – 120, followed by the Secrets of the Family Courts 110 people and Fraud protection talk which had 108 people stay. Our thanks to Helen Catchpole who organizes our speakers.



All in all, we have a solid membership base and our monthly meetings are well supported.

7. Election of Officers and Committee Members

Gwen Whitehouse has been nominated to the Committee, in accordance with the Constitution. Proposed by MARGARET ALVEY Seconded by MARILYN COMERY Carried unanimously. There were no other nominations.

The Committee for the year 2025/26 will be:

Honorary Officers:

Chair: Hazel Ward, Vice Chair: Viv Purkiss, Business Secretary: Ged Clarke, Treasurer: Glynis Hunt.

Committee Members: Cathy Van Baalen, Sue Matthews, Pete Hewitt, Tina Pallingedge, John Heeson, Gwen Whitehouse

8. Vote of thanks to outgoing Officers and Committee Members

Hazel outlined the achievements and praised the dedication of each of the following four members of the committee who are leaving their positions this year:

Jean Heeson: Pam Gant: Helen Catchpole: Chris Gardener:

A vote of thanks was proposed by Pete Hewitt seconded by Brian Cluff, to these four retirees from the Committee Carried unanimously.

9. Resolutions or Motions received by the Committee

None have been received.

10. Close of Meeting

The Meeting closed at 14.11.

Hazel Ward.

ARNOLD u3a

Registered Charity

No 1153672

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2025

	2023/24	2024/25		
		General Account	Education and Social Activities	Total
INCOME	£	£	£	£
Subscriptions and Visitor Donations	23,041	7,073.00	10,745.94	17,818.94
Sales	12,884		12,704.00	12,704.00
Gift Aid	1,012			0.00
Grant	0			0.00
Commission	277	908.82		908.82
Interest	260	255.52		255.52
Holidays and Outings	13,887		13,477.95	13,477.95
Miscellaneous Income		280.00	769.00	1,049.00
groups paying straight to venue			3,364.00	3,364.00
Development Fund	0			0.00
TOTAL INCOME	51,360	8,517.34	41,060.89	49,578.23
EXPENDITURE				
Room Hire main meeting	10,556	1,680.00	9,571.25	11,251.25
Equipment Hire	3,960		3,004.00	3,004.00
Tutor Fees	1,750		1,845.00	1,845.00
Printing ,Stationery,Postages	653	449.90	67.00	516.90
Purchases	0	596.94	77.40	674.34
Membership Subscription Third Age Trust	1,696	1,728.00		1,728.00
Direct Mail	889	1,168.20		1,168.20
Copyright Licence	67	69.37		69.37
Speakers and Social Events	3,063	775.33	2,407.43	3,182.76
Committee and Catering Costs	562	840.93		840.93
Membership Expenses	413	226.01		226.01
Website	388	157.04		157.04
Beacon	455	652.50		652.50
Notts Network Membership	15	15.00		15.00
Card Printer and Scanner	83			0.00
Tickets for resale	10,704		8,861.50	8,861.50
transport (hols outings)	12,960		3,217.50	3,217.50
Holidays and Outings			11,880.68	11,880.68
Sundry Expenses	52	392.00		392.00
Mini Projector		0.00		0.00
National u3a Day	0	0.00		0.00
Contributions from Contingency Fund	54	0.00		0.00
Contribution from Development Fund	30	0.00		0.00
				0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	48,350	8,751.22	40,931.76	49,682.98
NET EXPENDITURE/ INCOME	3,010	-233.88	129.13	-104.75

Hazel Ward

ARNOLD u3a BALANCE SHEET AT 31st OCTOBER 2025

Registered Charity No 1153672

CURRENT ASSETS

<u>Current Assets</u>	General Account £	Education and Social Activities £	Total £
Cash at bank and in hand	787.53	9,406.99	10,194.52
pettycash	18,579.44		
	23.89		
		-19.50	
Paid in Advance			0.00
Total Current Assets	19,390.86	9,387.49	28,778.35
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
Creditors			
Receipts in Advance	1,584.00		1,584.00
Total Current Liabilities	1,584.00		1,584.00
Net Current Assets	17,806.86	9,387.49	27,194.35
TOTAL ASSETS			

FUNDS

Cumulative Surplus 31st October 2024	18,044.00	9,258.36	27,302.36
Surplus YE 31/10/25	-233.88	129.13	-104.75
Funds held 31st October 2025	17,810.12	9,387.49	27,197.61

Note

Analysis of Funds

General	17,810.12		
Education and Social Activities			
Groups	6,874.19		
Development	1,902.53		
Contingency	610.77		
Funds Held at 31st October 2023	27,197.61		

Hazel Ward