

Vale of Belvoir u3a Committee Reports 2023

CHAIR'S REPORT 2024 AGM

My first year as chair of the Vale of Belvoir u3a has been fun and enjoyable with a few challenges along the way. I would like to first give a big thank you to all our committee who have been a huge support to me.

The highlights in the year for me has been our sixties summer party in July and our Christmas party in December. We have also hosted a tea and chat in march for our new members to get to know each other, which was supported extremely well.

In September our u3a hosted a coffee morning to mark the national u3a week, which our group leaders attended and were available to talk to new and present members, with demonstrations of the activities within their groups.

We continue to advertise our u3a activities, speakers and events in the Village Voice and Village Link. In addition to this Mary Marshall also places posters at different locations within the village. This is beneficial in bringing new members and visitors to these events and contributes to the costs of hall hire etc.

Our website has been further developed and improved over this last year to provide information regarding all activities and u3a news. This provides a hub for members to find out when and where events are being held and also promotes the club to potential new members.

We have continued this year to email out a monthly newsletter and hand deliver hard copies to those who don't have digital facilities. These are photocopied at our village library at a reasonable charge of which we would like to thank the library for this.

The interest groups continue to go from strength to strength, with group attendances growing at a steady rate. Table Tennis we have introduced a fourth table, which was kindly donated by Steve and Avril Goad. The Parish Council have kindly agreed to this additional table and have been very supportive of our group and continue to give us a grant for the free use of the Fuller and Parish rooms for both the Table Tennis and Whist and Board games group, for which we thank them.

We have introduced a couple of new groups this year, the Book Group and Ten Pin Bowling which have been very well supported and continue to grow. We are also planning a new group to start this January, which will be the Vale of Belvoir u3a Antiques Group. The group leader will be Peter Young and their first meeting will be on 19th January at 2pm in the Methodist Chapel; this will continue every month on the third Friday.

I would like to thank our group leaders who continue to lead their groups with enthusiasm and dedication to ensure all members learn, laugh and enjoy each session. Also a thank you to Mary Noble for running our monthly raffle, and to Linda Abraham and Barbara Holmes for ensuring all our members have refreshments at our monthly meetings and other events. Our Bric-a-Brac stall continues to contribute to our funds and I thank the members for their continued support.

Our treasurer David Jones stepped down in August last year and our committee co-opted Derek Walker into the role. Pauline Gardner our Programme Secretary stepped down also August due to her moving to Scotland, at present this position is vacant and we are actively seeking someone to take this role.

Vale of Belvoir u3a Committee Reports 2023

We have one resignation from the committee at this AGM, who is Barbara Herd. I would like to thank Barbara for her support and commitment over the years. The remaining committee are all happy to stand for re-election.

We have three vacancies on the committee for Publicity Officer, Group Liaison Officer and Programme Secretary and would welcome any member to join us. Our u3a is run by members for members and without these volunteers we would not have an u3a.

I would like to wish every member a very happy new year and look forward with enthusiasm and excitement for what 2024 brings.

Carole Noble

Membership Secretary Report 2023

This year has seen a significant increase in our numbers getting closer to the pre-pandemic total. We have welcomed 47 new members bringing our total membership this year to 174

Introduction of membership fees by BACS as well as cash and cheque has had a positive response in many cases and the introduction of reduced fees from August for the remainder of the year has benefited 14 new members.

Word of mouth has probably resulted in the best way of attracting new members but the website reaches a wider audience of people such as those moving to the neighbourhood and others looking for new pastimes on retirement or reduction in hours worked. The membership form for next year has been changed to ask where new members first hear about us to try and generate some useful data.

Table tennis has seen the introduction of the most new members followed closely by gardening and sewing, but attendance at most groups has increased and it is great to see members making use of all the groups we offer.

If you have any ideas how to publicise our u3a or u3as in general, please speak to a committee member

Heather Ansell

December 2023

TREASURER'S REPORT – 2024 AGM

VALE OF BELVOIR UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

FINANCIAL REPORT

2022 - 2023 [1st December, 2022 - 30th November, 2023)

Balances

01/12/2022 30/11/2023 Variance

Vale of Belvoir u3a Committee Reports 2023

Current A/C	2,454.44	3,999.80	1,545.36
Business Reserve A/C	4,309.48	4,359.39	49.91
Bottesford Post Office - Cash in Transit		375.00	375.00
Cash in hand	110.75	21.60	(89.15)
	6,874.67	8,755.79	1,881.12

Income

Membership Subscriptions	see Note 1	£2,561.00
Group Receipts		£3,992.26
U3A Stall		£62.22
Other income - TAM contributions		£25.20
Other income - Interest on Deposit A/C		£49.91
		£6,690.59

Expenditure

Venue Hire	see Note 2	£2,474.50
Printing		£38.88
Capitation Fees		£608.00
TAM Magazines		£43.20
Other Expenses	see Note 3	£1,134.89
Speakers Fees and Expenses		£510.00
		£4,809.47
		£1,881.12

Vale of Belvoir u3a Committee Reports 2023

Note 1

Membership renewals (127)	£1,905.00
New Members (33)	£495.00
New Members - reduced rate (14)	£105.00
Reciprocal members (2)	£22.00
Visitors (17)	£34.00
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	£2,561.00

Note 2

Bottesford VC Hall	£1,722.50
Bottesford Methodist Church Hall	£712.00
Bottesford Parish Council - Table Tennis Storage	£40.00
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	£2,474.50

Note 3

Xmas Party Expenses	£320.62
Summer Party Expenses	£403.73
Gifts for Retiring Committee members	£193.40
Gift for Auditor (21/22 Accounts)	£30.00
Gift for March Speaker (no fee)	£16.95
Postages/Stationery	£13.50
Main meeting refreshments	£19.20
U3a Open Day Banners	£132.31
Flowers for B Herd	£5.18
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	£1,134.89