

The Old Municipal Buildings,
19, East Street,
Bromley, BRI IQE



Telephone: 020 8466 6139
website: www.u3a.org.uk
email: national.office@u3a.org.uk

29th January 2014

TO ALL BUSINESS SECRETARIES

Enclosed are the following papers :-

1. A notice about our first *Introduction to Debating* study day organised by the English-Speaking Union to be held in London on April 9th 2014. If this is successful we hope to organise days across the UK.
2. A flyer about a seminar on *Publishing your own Books* to be held on 24th April in London.
3. A questionnaire on electronic payment of membership fees which I would really appreciate you taking the time to complete. It will be so useful to have this information logged so we can help U3As in the future.
4. A flyer about new *online courses* commencing in April.
5. A newsletter from our National Subject Adviser for Humour Groups.
6. A cover note for all your 2014 insurance policies.
7. A notice of the Annual General Meeting which will be held on 10th September in Cirencester.
8. AGM 2013 minutes.
9. Your PPL licence for 2014.

U3A Nottingham Conference 2013 DVD

This is now available on request from the National Office and can be seen on the Conference 2013 page on the national website.

Clearance Sale – Calendars and Diaries

We have a few left which we will sell for £1 inclusive of postage.

New Subject Advisers

Terry Wassall – Racketball – would like to get to know about racketball groups in all U3As in the UK and would be very grateful if group leaders/convenors could email him at t.wassall@leeds.ac.uk or telephone him on 01274 617963 and provide their contact details, U3A and location, when the group started and approximate numbers.

Gill Beasley – Crafts (needle type) – davegill01@msn.com/telephone 01922 628081.

Alastair Sharp - German – alastair.sharp@chattan.plus.com/telephone 01903 856397.

Bill Sylvester – Scottish Country Dancing – bill.sylvester@sky.com/0115 9331948.

Tim Bornett – Social Sciences – timbornett@btinternet.com/01953 860388.

Reg Simmonds – Theology – reg.simmonds@virgin.net/01962 735838

Language Survey

Our national subject adviser for languages, Heather Westrup, wants to thank everybody who filled in the language survey and inform members that it has now closed.

Forthcoming events

The 50+ Show Manchester Central 28/29 March – U3A will have a stand.

Adult Learners Week – 14-20 June – find out what's going on in your local area by contacting your outreach co-ordinator - <http://www.alw.org.uk/outreach-coordinator-details>

World Poetry Day – 21st March - <http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/un/world-poetry-day>

South East Forum Summer School at Chichester 24th-27th June 2014

The subjects are: Great Houses and Gardens of West Sussex; Life Drawing: Women, Art & Society; Psychology; Jazz; Singing; The History of the Wool Industry; The Joy of Mathematics; Creative Writing; Play Reading; Medieval & Georgian Chichester; Memory; The First World War. The costs are: full board ensuite - £320; full board standard £290; non-residential with evening meal £200, without £150. Booking forms available online at <http://u3asites.org.uk/southeastu3aforum/> or by telephoning Helen Turner on 01622 817264 or Gillian Pitt on 01293 528943.

Direct Mail

Full details will be with you shortly, but I know you are anxious to find out about the new subscription rate and I can confirm it will be £2.15.

Lin Jonas SEO/Company Secretary GM/01/14

INTRODUCTION *to Debating*

at the **National Union of Journalists**,
Headland House, 308/12 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8DP
on **April 9th, 2014**

This study day has been organised for U3As by the English-Speaking Union in collaboration with the Third Age Trust.

It will be of interest to U3As which are keen to start a debating group. The aim of the day will be to send members home with enough knowledge and confidence to do so.

The maximum number of attendees will be 20 so in order to get as wide a representation as possible we will limit it to one representative per U3A.

There will be no charge to attend.

Please contact the National Office to reserve a place for your U3A.
Call **020 8466 6139** or email **national.office@u3a.org.uk**

Programme

9.30	Coffee
10.00	Introduction
10.30	Speaking and Listening <i>This section will look at how to use the way you speak to make your speech more effective, how to respond to arguments within a debate and how best to do so.</i>
12.30	Lunch
1.30	Building a Speech <i>How to construct a good speech i.e. what the outline looks like, how to prioritise your material and how to organise it to make your arguments most convincing.</i>
2.30	Creating Arguments <i>How you select arguments and build them to make your speech strong and convincing.</i>
4.00	Finish

PUBLISHING YOUR OWN BOOKS – 24th APRIL 2014

10.30am – 4.30pm.

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Venue : NUJ, Headland House, 308/312 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8DP

Speakers : Francis Beckett , Katy Scholes & Alan Slingsby

The Trust has arranged this seminar because we know there are many U3A members who have written books and want to acquire the skills and knowledge to produce them, to edit them, to make them available either in print and/or electronically and then to go out and sell them. All of these aspects will be covered.

Agenda

10.00 *Coffee*

10.30 Introduction.

The changing face of publishing and self-publishing.

Key things about writing and editing.

What U3A can do for you and what it can't do.

Talk followed by questions - **Francis Beckett**.

11.30 Digital publishing.

The technology; Kindle and its alternatives; what you should do and what you should not do. Talk followed by questions - **Alan Slingsby**.

12.15 Print. Buying print, working with printers, print on demand.

Talk followed by questions - **Alan Slingsby**.

LUNCH

2.00 Selling and marketing your book: talk followed by questions.

Katy Scholes, Marketing Manager, Biteback Publishing.

2.45 Getting media attention for your book.

Talk followed by questions - **Francis Beckett**.

3.15 *Coffee*

3.30 Social media and how to use it – **Katy Scholes**.

4.15 Last questions - **Francis Beckett, Alan Slingsby, Katy Scholes**.

4.30 Close

The cost will be £35 including lunch and refreshments

.....
If you wish to attend, please fill out this slip and enclose a cheque payable to The Third Age Trust then detach it and return it to the National Office.

Name	U3A	Please return this to : The Third Age Trust 19 East Street Bromley BR1 1QE
Address		
Email		
Telephone		

Places are limited so please apply quickly

Electronic Payment of Membership Fees Questionnaire

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A Name

Date

Recently, I have been approached by quite a few U3As which want to know whether there are U3As already offering electronic payment of membership fees. I know that some of you were considering it but am not aware whether any of you actually went ahead. So, I am asking for your help.

I would be very grateful if you could complete the relevant section of this questionnaire by **17th February** and return it to the National Office, either by post or by filling it in online via the website (it is downloadable from the Members' Area) and returning it by email to national.office@u3a.org.uk.

Sharing your experiences will be so helpful to fellow U3As considering this issue, and if you are also happy to be contacted directly, please provide details below.

Contact Name

Committee Position

Email Address

Telephone Number

Section A - for U3As which currently use electronic payments

1. What influenced your decision to introduce electronic payments of membership fees?

2. Which method(s) did you choose?

Standing Order

Direct Debit

Bank Transfer

PayPal

Other

3. Why?

4. What hurdles/problems/challenges have you faced / are you facing (if any)?

5. How did you overcome them?

6. How successful has using electronic payments been?

7. Do you still allow cash/cheque payments?

Yes No

8. What advice would you give to a U3A just beginning this process?

Section B - for U3As not currently using electronic payments

1. If you have considered electronic payment of membership fees and abandoned it, please give your reasons.

2. Are you thinking about introducing electronic payment of membership fees?

Yes No

3. If yes, which method(s)?

Standing Order Direct Debit Bank Transfer PayPal
Other

4. Would you like to be put in touch with any U3As already operating this system?

Yes No

Thank you.

Upcoming Online Courses

Spring 2014

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

At the end of March 2014, (enrolments required by **March 29 2014**), we shall be launching a number of new online courses. These will be interactive and participants will be encouraged or expected to contribute to the online discussion together with the author or tutor. They are:

Fairy Tales
All In The Mind
Gawain and the Plowman
Six Impossible Things
An Introduction to the History of the Design of Gardens.

We also hope to re-run existing courses, provided there is sufficient demand (ie at least 16 subscribers). These include **Anglo Saxon Poetry** and **First World War – the home front**.

Course Descriptions

Fairy Tales

An eight-unit study of the topic and includes material about the history of Fairy and Folk Tales, together with references to writers such as the Grimm Brothers, who collected or originated them.

All In The Mind

A long course of 17 units. It draws heavily on up to date video presentations on a wide range of material to do with the study of the mind and includes much neuroscience as well as such issues as sentience.

Gawain and the Plowman

A look, in modern and in middle English, at two great poems contemporary to, and often overshadowed by, Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. We will relate Gawain and the Green Knight, and Piers Plowman, to the people and politics of that time, laying down the basis for the Wars of the Roses. 6 units.

For more information, please visit
<http://onlinecourses.u3a.org.uk>

Six Impossible Things

The 8-week course covers Godel's Incompleteness Theorem, Turing's Halting Theorem, Transfinite Numbers, Codes and Cracking Enigma, Lorenz and Colossus, and Prime Numbers. The course aim is to present these topics in an accessible way with the minimum of technical detail.

An Introduction to the History of the Design of Gardens

This 8-unit course looks at the visual aspects of gardens through recorded history, and discusses the reasons behind the designs. It is an introduction to the story of the design of gardens, which will lead the student to further study of the relationship of the owner, the designer and the viewer of gardens.





Newsletter 3: Humour Groups

There is a lot of laughter and good humour being generated throughout U3A as more and more Humour Groups are being set up.

When I first took on the role of National Advisor for Humour Groups earlier in the year, I ascertained that there were 13 existing groups. Now there are hopefully 35. I have sent out my starter pack and corresponded with another 22 U3As, who were encouraged by my Newsletter issue 2, to think about setting up a group.

My aim to have a Humour Group in every U3A is very ambitious but at this rate who knows it may be achievable.

It is I feel a good idea to have this network in existence so that problems can be aired and solved across the board.

I find it both stimulating and satisfying to be in touch with U3As from all corners of the UK. The national spread shows that humour is universal and that we 3rd agers appreciate the fact that, whilst we experience the pangs and pains of growing old, humour can be a wonderful tonic.

These meetings allow us to put aside any health issues or anxieties and lose ourselves in good humour and laughter.

So please those of you who still haven't taken on this challenge get in touch with me if you need some guidance and support.

I will then be more than happy to respond.

A Happy New Year to you all.

Jean (Bishop)

01903 695215

Email JeanBs2@aol.com



Insurance Broking
Oval Insurance Broking Limited
Goodridge Court
Goodridge Avenue
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GL2 5EN
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Fax: 01452 529883
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Dear Sirs

The Third Age Trust & The Universities of The Third Age

Please note we are Insurance Brokers to the above and in that capacity can confirm the following insurance cover has been arranged on their behalf:

Public & Products Liability

Insurer: Aviva Insurance Limited

Policy Number: 24988677CCI

Period of Insurance: 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2014

Insured: The officers and trustees for the time being of the Third Age Trust who serve on the National Executive Committee and The officers and trustees and members for the time being of U3A's which are affiliated to the Third Age Trust

Indemnity Limits: Public Liability £5,000,000 any one event
Products Liability £5,000,000 all insured events in any one period.

Excess: £250.00 third party property damage.

Public & Products Excess Layer

Insurer: ACE European Group Ltd

Policy Number: UKCASO 09446113

Period of Insurance: 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2014

Insured: The officers and trustees for the time being of the Third Age Trust who serve on the National Executive Committee and The officers and trustees and members for the time being of U3A's which are affiliated to the Third Age Trust

Indemnity Limits: £5,000,000 in excess of £5,000,000

Excess: Not applicable

Oval Insurance Broking Limited
Registered Office: 9 South Parade,
Wakefield, WF1 1LR
Registered in England No. 01195184
Authorised and regulated by the
Financial Services Authority

Charity Trustees Management Liability

Insurer: Aviva Insurance Limited
Policy Number: 24988861CCI
Period of Insurance: 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2014
Insured: Any individual U3A affiliated to the Third Age Trust and its directors, officers or trustees.
Indemnity Limits: £250,000 and one group and £2,000,000 in the aggregate for all groups in any one year
Excess: £250.00

Assets

Insurer: Aviva Insurance Limited
Policy Number: 24988677CCI
Period of Insurance: 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2014
Insured: Any individual U3A affiliated to the Third Age Trust
Cover "All Risks"
Limit: £25,000
Excess: £100.00
Condition: Whilst at any premises other than the home of any member the equipment must be kept in a locked cupboard or room when the premises are not in use by the U3A

Home Contents

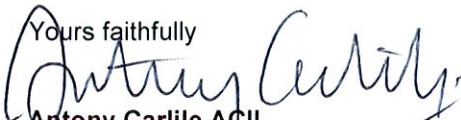
Insurer: Aviva Insurance Limited
Policy Number: 24988677CCI
Period of Insurance: 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2014
Insured: Damage to the property of any member whilst their home is being used to host a U3A event
Cover "All Risks"
Limit: £25,000
Excess: £100.00

This statement of cover extract has been prepared purely as confirmation of the insurance in force at the date of this letter which is subject to the terms and conditions of the insurance policy(ies). We accept no responsibility for any inadvertent or negligent act, error or omission on our part in preparing the statement or for any loss, damage or expense incurred by the recipient arising from reliance on the information given. We remain solely the agent of our Client and owe no legal duty or otherwise to any third party.

Should the insurance cover be cancelled assigned or changed in any way during the period of insurance neither we nor insurers accept any obligation to notify any recipient.

Cover is subject to the Insurers standard policy terms and conditions and if you require any additional information, please contact the National Office.

Yours faithfully



Antony Carlile ACII
Direct Dial: 01452 782405
Email: antony.carlile@theovalgroup.com

29th January 2014

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE THIRD AGE TRUST 2014

Notice is hereby given that the 31st Annual General Meeting of the Third Age Trust will be held at The Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester on Wednesday 10th September 2014, commencing at 11.15 am (time to be confirmed at a later date). Details of the agenda will be circulated to all U3As by the end of May.

Submission of Proposed Resolutions for the 2014 Annual General Meeting

- U3As are requested to submit proposed resolutions with supporting statements to the Company Secretary at the above address by 30th April 2014. They can only be accepted if they are proposed by one U3A and seconded by another.
- The National Executive Committee is required to determine the business of the Annual General Meeting. This implies that where there are similarities or duplications of proposed resolutions, an amalgamated resolution may be arranged after due consultation with the appropriate U3As.
- A list of the proposed resolutions received for the AGM will be circulated to all U3As by the end of May.
- Any amendments to proposed resolutions will be required by the end of June 2014. As with resolutions, amendments must be proposed and seconded by U3As. The list of amendments to the proposed resolutions will be sent to all U3As as soon as possible after the end of June. The National Executive Committee has the responsibility to examine the amendments, reject any that introduce new matter to or are a direct negation of the original resolution and to arrange amalgamations where appropriate, in consultation with the originating U3As.
- The proposer and seconder of a proposed resolution or an amendment must be prepared to be present at the Annual General Meeting and to speak in support, otherwise it will be withdrawn.

Election of Officers and Members of the National Executive Committee

- The nomination forms will be sent to you with the agenda by the end of May.
- Nominations for Officers and Members of the National Executive Committee will be required by the end of June.
- All candidates must be either nominated or seconded by their own U3A.

Officers

Barbara Lewis will have served as Chairman for two years and is eligible for re-election.

John Ellison will have served as Treasurer for two years and is eligible for re-election.

Beryl Mellish will have served as Vice Chairman for two years and is eligible for re-election.

Janet Whitehouse will have served as Vice Chairman for three years and is not eligible for re-election.

All U3As may participate in nominating candidates and voting whether it be by proxy before the AGM or at the AGM itself through their representative(s).

Regional Trustees

3 regional trustees will be retiring this year:-

Pam Jones (South East), David Morton (Yorkshire) and Gwen Wright (London).

Regional trustees can be nominated and seconded by any U3A in that region and the voting takes place by post before the AGM.

Lin Jonas SEO/Company Secretary



**MINUTES OF THE 30th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE THIRD AGE TRUST HELD AT
THE EAST MIDLANDS CONFERENCE CENTRE ON SEPTEMBER 15TH 2013**

Present

169 U3As (18.8%) were represented carrying 405 votes (24.1%).

AGM 2012 – 147 U3As carrying 342 votes.

Proxy Votes

157 U3As (17.5%) sent in 294 (17.5%) proxy votes.

AGM 2012 – 203 U3As sent in 362 votes.

In total 326 U3As out of 898 U3As (36.3%) participated in the voting process and 572 did not, which represented 991 wasted votes (58.4%).

AGM 2012- 512 U3As failed to vote which represented 879 wasted votes.

Breakdown of available votes per region/country:-

East of England – 233/East Midlands - 165/London – 78/North East – 63/ North West – 171

Northern Ireland – 33/Scotland – 53/South East – 361/South West – 221/Wales – 77/West Midlands – 135

Yorkshire & The Humber – 89.

1. To receive and approve the minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting.

Proposed by – Barbara Lewis, Chairman Third Age Trust.

Seconded by – Georgina Butcher, Harrow U3A.

Agreed nem con with 3 abstentions.

2. To appoint the tellers for the AGM

The appointment of Rosie Allen, Arnold U3A, Douglas McDonald Beeston U3A and Anne Sutton Arnold U3A was agreed nem con.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported on her first year in office and made the following comments:-

- Finances were in order and under control.
- Three successful events had been held – The Big Debate at the House of Lords, the broadcasting of our new dvd, *Life in the Third Age*, on the Community Channel and the Founders Lecture. The conference would be the fourth and a dvd was being prepared.
- The NEC with 7 new trustees and 3 new Officers had worked well together.

She had learnt that, where finances were concerned, you could always improve your forecasting, and that trying something new could have a big effect. An example of this was incorporating sub-committee meetings into the 2 day NEC meetings, which reduced the face to face meetings from 24 to 6.

She thanked the National Office for 'pulling out all the stops' for the House of Lords event and she rejoiced in the fact that Eric Midwinter's Founders lecture was available on a dvd for all to hear.

The following initiatives were highlighted:-

- A successful workshop on *e-publishing* organised by Francis Beckett with the help of Wiley publishing which would be repeated in autumn/winter.

- The development and publication of a new package of information and discussion tools about prisons and community sentencing by the Prison Reform Trust in collaboration with U3A. She thanked Pam Jones (South East Trustee) and Ursula Steiger (Chairman of Canterbury U3A).
- 2 new publicity leaflets called 'U3A & Me' based on quotations from members on what U3A has meant to them.
- The trialling of In-depth study courses, an idea from Len Street, which if successful could be extended.

The Chairman said she had also learned that you can't do everything at once, and some things take a lot longer than you think; the new website had taken longer but was now up and running.

Her aim for the next year was to work on a three year plan which had eluded previous NECs.

The Open University's FutureLearn project would hopefully prove to be a very useful and exciting resource for U3As to use. The Trust had been involved in alpha testing 2 of the courses and had been invited to the official launch.

The Chairman's final comment was that you never knew what was around the corner, so watch this space. She looked forward to the year ahead and hoped they did too.

She then thanked:-

- all the people involved in the break out groups and the displays.
- the national office for putting the conference together.
- Lin Jonas (SEO/Company Secretary) who had been a rock of support in her first year.
- Hillary Stringer who was stepping down as West Midlands trustee but who would be assisting with the 3 year plan.
- Morag Tamisari who had completed her three years as trustee for Scotland but who would be working with Ian Funnell our AIUTA representative.
- the 'other-halves' for their strength and support.

4. Annual Report and Accounts 2012/13

The Treasurer, John Ellison, presented his report.

The key points were as follows:-

- The Trust's finances for the year ending 31/3/13 were in a good state.
- The current year is looking satisfactory.
- There is no need to increase the capitation fee in the foreseeable future.
- Membership had doubled since 2005 which was a great achievement.

Capitation fees provided 60% of the total income and were used to provide services to existing U3As, to set up new U3As and to do everything which is legally required by a registered charity and limited company.

Advertising revenue and direct mail subscriptions provided 30% of the income which was used to cover the production and distribution costs of Third Age Matters.

Fees for self-funded events provided the final 10% which was used to put on the national events.

In terms of performance in 2012/13:-

- Capitation income had increased by 9% with at least a further 5% increase expected in the current year.
- Direct mail had been subsidised in the last financial year to increase participation but this had ended on 31st March 2013. In the current financial year only a modest subsidy was anticipated to cover the production and distribution of the magazine.

- Steps have been taken to improve our efficiency and thus reduce our income percentage expenditure and these will be continued, in order to achieve a further surplus in this financial year which is important to build up our reserves to the agreed level.

Finally the Treasurer thanked David Wilson, who acts as a financial consultant to The Trust, Tim Harris who looks after all the day to day bookkeeping, Lin Jonas and her staff at the National Office and his fellow trustees.

The Treasurer then asked whether there were any questions about the annual accounts.

Janet Poyner - Davyhulme U3A

Asked whether the AGM was in fact free as there had been a £40 fee to attend the day. It was explained that the East Midlands Conference Centre along with the majority of conference venues charged The Trust a significant daily rate for every visitor, but what they were paying to attend that day excluded the cost of the AGM.

This point was raised again by Hilary Wells, Long Eaton U3A.

John Lloyd - Wearside U3A

Said he was pleased that the NEC was going to work on a three year plan bearing in mind that the previous business plan was produced in the mid 1990s.

He commented on the fact that the costs of subsidising direct mail and producing Third Age Matters represented 40% of the capitation fee income and he therefore suggested the NEC has a defined policy on the magazine, which should be included in next year's Annual Report and Accounts.

He asked what the professional fees and consultancy covered – freelance accountancy and legal advice – and why staff costs had reduced - a leaver not being replaced immediately.

He felt that note 16 needed further explanation because it referred to expenses for 24 trustees whereas the NEC currently only had 16 members; he also recommended that the front page of the Annual Report & Accounts listed every trustee who had been involved in the year not just those in post at year end.

Finally he queried the budgeted increase in staff salaries – to allow for an inflationary increase and an extra member of staff.

Bridget Farrer - Cheltenham U3A

Asked whether video conferencing could be developed to reduce travel expenses. The Treasurer said that tele-conferencing worked well and was used and the Chairman asked her to put her idea in the suggestion book.

Stewart Lewis - South West Herts U3A

Further to John Lloyd's comment on trustee expenses he wanted to clarify that it was reimbursement of expenses not payment and he gave a vote of thanks to the trustees which the Treasurer extended to all volunteers. He also said that for the range and complexity of the services provided by The Trust, it was amazing it cost so little.

There were no further questions/comments so the Treasurer proposed the acceptance of the Annual Report & Accounts for 2012/13.

Dianne Fraser, Edinburgh U3A, seconded.

Accepted nem con.

5. Appointment of Knox Cropper as Auditors.

The Treasurer proposed the appointment of Knox Cropper for the current financial year, the remuneration to be agreed by the National Executive Committee.

This was seconded by Pauline Clamp, Tewkesbury U3A.
Approved nem con.

Agenda Item 6

Voting for the appointment of a Chairman, two Vice Chairmen and a Treasurer to serve for one year took place and the ballot boxes were then removed for counting.

Barbara Cox, Banstead U3A, said it would have been nice for all 4 officers to be seen on the platform. The Chairmen invited the two Vice Chairmen to come up.

Hilary Baker, Settle U3A, queried the need for a vote at all as there were no other candidates.

Lin Jonas explained that there had been a successful resolution in 2010 which required the total votes cast for a candidate to be declared.

Agenda Item 7

The votes cast and appointment of the following Regional trustees was confirmed:-

Adrian Breacker – East of England – 64 votes in favour/27.5% of the potential vote.

Jenny Carley – North West – 65 votes in favour/38% of the potential vote.

Graham Clark – Scotland – 16 votes in favour/30.2% of the potential vote

Michaela Moody – East Midlands – 48 votes in favour/29.1% of the potential vote.

Charlie Cole, Chelmsford U3A, raised a point of order that as the election of the Chairman had not yet been appointed there was in fact at this point no sitting Chairman.

Lin Jonas explained that it was normal practice for the Chairman to remain in post until the conclusion of the AGM.

Agenda Item 8

The special resolution 'to adopt the amended Articles of Association' was proposed by Michaela Moody East Midlands Trustee.

She explained that the main reason for reviewing the Articles was the situation faced by The Trust the previous year when the NEC could have been short of 4 regional trustees with the Third Age Trust only having the authority to co-opt 3 people. This then led to additional changes none of which required consent from either Companies House or the Charity Commission and some tidying up e.g. removing references to transitional arrangements inserted in 2008.

The main amendments were:-

- A change in the number of votes given to U3As with higher membership numbers
- A more flexible procedure for regional trustee elections outside the AGM.
- The Trust to have the power to appoint a trustee in the last resort and not have to use its co-options.

Pam Jones, South East Trustee, seconded the motion.

A discussion then followed which concentrated on regional trustee issues.

Jean Barnett, Wessington U3A, asked how trustees were vetted and it was explained that they were not vetted but had to be either nominated or seconded by their own U3A.

Bridget Farrer, Cheltenham U3A, asked whether the reason for insufficient regional trustee nominations was that some regions were too big and the jobs too huge and she suggested they should be split. The Chairman said this would be covered in the 3 year plan discussions.

Doreen Raine, Dorking and District U3A, agreed that the size of certain regions was the problem especially the South East with just one trustee.

Dorrie Oliver, Chinnor & District U3A, agreed.

Hilary Jones, Flintshire U3A, commented that you had to look at the geography of a region not just the numbers.

Bob Robinson, Liphook U3A, felt that the focus of the regional trustee role should not be about visiting every U3A and network but about being available to receive input and feedback.

Gina Dale, Shepway U3A, proposed that a vote be taken and this was seconded by Andrew Bowman Burton- on-Trent U3A.

Election Results

The votes cast for the Officer candidates were then declared:

Barbara Lewis – Chairman

For – 286 proxy votes/377 in the hall – total 663

Abstain – 6 proxy votes/5 in the hall – total 11.

John Ellison - Treasurer

For – 287 proxy votes/381 in the hall – total 668

Abstain – 5 proxy votes/2 in the hall – total 7.

Beryl Mellish – Vice Chairman

For – 274 proxy votes/377 in the hall – total 651

Against – 1 proxy vote/ 2 in the hall – total 3

Abstain – 13 proxy votes/3 in the hall – total 16.

Janet Whitehouse – Vice Chairman

For – 278 proxy votes/359 in the hall – total 637

Against – 1 proxy vote/2 in the hall – total 3

Abstain - 8 proxy votes/8 in the hall – total 16.

Special Resolution Voting Results

For – 271 proxy votes/395 in the hall – total 666.

Against – 2 proxy votes/3 in the hall – total 5.

Abstain - 17 proxy votes/6 in the hall – total 23.

The resolution was carried with a 96% majority.

The AGM was declared closed at 2.33pm.