

LLANDRINDOD WELLS U3A ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held on Monday 10th March 2020 at the Metropole Hotel

Attendance as per signed register.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the last AGM held on 11th March 2019 had been published on the website and were available on the notice board. It was proposed by Wynne Evans and seconded by Fay Ramsden that the minutes be approved and this was unanimously agreed.

2. There were no matters arising.

3. Chairman's Report 2019/2020

The Chairman, Roger Malvern, reported as follows (verbatim):-

For me, the last year has been interesting, exciting, challenging, and last but not least, most enjoyable. Although I have been a member for several years, I had not appreciated the importance of our U3A to its members, and how it has become a central focus for many of our lives. We are a very successful U3A, as is shown by our continuing growth figures month by month. In the last year our membership has increased by over 10 per cent. I would like to thank Alun Thomas, treasurer, and his wife Chris, Membership Secretary, who managed the growth, and made sure we remained within the rulebook of U3A, keeping a secure control of our finances. You will hear from Alun shortly that our U3A does command quite a big financial turnover.

I would also like to thank the "Welcome Committee" who are the first faces seen when a potential new member hesitantly comes into our meeting reception area. Fay Ramsden has the job of welcoming any new member at the door, and Helen Wyton ensures they do not feel too lost surrounded by all our members. No organisation runs well without a good secretary, and I would also like to thank our secretary, Kathie Richards Jones for her excellent and detailed management of all the necessary U3A documentation, and for being a "star" minute-taker

By far the highlight of the past year was our "May Medley" event, which our U3A managed and hosted. We filled the Pavilion (which is no mean feat), with a hugely successful line-up of guest speakers. A lasting memory of this event is Iolo Williams' demonstration on how to tickle a trout, taught him by his grandfather in Powys rivers. We also learnt that he is a "local boy" born in Builth and still living in Powys. Iolo's presentation was supported by an excellent "behind-the-scenes" picture of the

Royal Welsh show, given by Steve Hughson, and a performance by the Swansea U3A Ukulele group. I had no idea that ukuleles could sound so good in a big band. The main prize of the raffle was a superb quilt which represented many hours of effort by our "Unfinished Objects" group and raised over £200 for Air Ambulance. I would like to thank Penny Everett and Sue Turner who organised the event and ensured the excellent quality of speakers and performers.

We have also had a wonderful variety of talks this year, ranging from one speaker who tangled with a poisonous snake and a pride of lions while crossing Africa, to another whose great-grandfather built a whole mill town in Yorkshire. Jan Willsher has managed to ensure that the quality of speakers continued at a high level and has spent a lot of time searching for new speakers and finding last-minute replacements when a speaker cancels for any reason. I would also like to thank Nick Talbott whose technology expertise has kept the Metropole on their toes and ensured that you can all hear what speakers are saying and see their presentations. Thanks also to Bob Shorter who kept the noticeboard up-to-date and brought his professional background to give a memorable eulogy at the end of our two minutes' silence on 11 November. I would also like to thank Mary Davies for providing the microphone support for the many questions that have been asked of our speakers over the year.

This year's December meeting, as always, preceded the Christmas Lunch. Before lunch our members were entertained with a feast of special treats, including some very appropriate music from our Recorder group, led by Berwyn Woolnough, an excellent monologue "the 'ole in the Ark" given by Patrick Derwent, a really good selection of Christmas carols from our Singing for Fun Group led by Jane Stevens, and last, but no means least, a "Sketch" written and produced by Jan Swindale. The talent and versatility of all our groups show that being retired can be great fun, and very educational.

I know many of you have joined U3A because of the variety of the interest groups. It is amazing how many group leaders we have who can bring to us a knowledge and expertise gained from a previous working life. The last year saw the publication of an anthology of illustrated short stories, which was produced by the creative writing group and the art group together. The sale of these anthologies have made a profit, which was donated to Wales Air Ambulance. We have a new Scrabble group, a new Landscape History group, and a re-vitalised French Conversation group. In addition, members have been invited on a bus trips to Cardiff, and a theatre visit to Stratford upon Avon. I know from personal experience that running a group can be quite time-consuming, and hard work, but it is also very, very rewarding. Stephen Ashley has co-ordinated these groups, and my thanks go to him, and to all the group leaders who give up their time and energy to make it so successful. Finally, you may wonder why there are regular reports of our U3A in the local papers: that's because Clive Barrett sends in a press report every month. For our internal members' publicity, Margaret Mason supported by Kathie Richards-Jones produces "Borderlines" always on-time, and always with very readable items.

I have had a very enjoyable and fulfilling time as Chairman. We all work as a team, not just the committee, not just the group leaders, but the whole of U3A when it comes down to supporting each other and making a success of our U3A. My final message is: "You are never too young to learn".

Thank you all for putting up with me for the last year.

4. Treasurer's Report

Llandrindod Wells & District U3A Receipts and Payments Account Year Ending 31st January 2020

	RECEIPTS	£
6696.50	Members' Subscriptions	6899.00
27.00	Day Visitors' Fees	30.00
843.75	Gift Aid Recovered	809.38
24.86	Interest	25.12
62.50	Sale of merchandise	76.95
2221.00	Christmas Lunch	2640.00
103.20	Miscellaneous air Amb	95.00
200.00	Open Day	0.00
-1355.58	Events and Special Interest Groups (Net Receipts)	-76.11
 8823.23	 Total Income	 10499.34
	 PAYMENTS	
	Lectures	
2920.00	Hire of Rooms	3939.00
569.50	Lecturers' Fees	772.00
723.10	Hospitality	180.50
 2349.00	 Christmas Lunch	 2705.74
 917.00	 U3A Trust Capitation	 987.00
527.20	"Third Age Matters" Periodical	686.00
509.00	"Borderlines" Newsletter Printing	575.00
249.20	other U3A/sponsorship	0.00
280.00	Open Day	0.00

PAYMENTS continued

62.50	Purchase of merchandise	82.50
250.00	May Day Medley	2701.90
93.60	Other Printing Costs	149.60
	Administration	
51.90	Secretary's Expenses	0.00
55.50	Treasurer's Expenses (incl audit fee)	50.00
23.68	Postage	21.60
	Website	33.10
43.52	Computer Services	0.00
124.62	Miscellaneous	510.38
9749.32	Total Expenditure	13394.32
-926.09	Net +Receipts/-Payments	-2894.98
10498.20	Opening Balance 1st February	9572.11
9572.11	Closing Balance	<u>6677.13</u>
	Balances held as	
3154.93	HSBC Lecture Account	310.94
918.51	HSBC Events Account	842.40
5498.67	COIF Deposit Account	5523.79
0.00	Petty Cash in Hand	
###		<u>6677.13</u>

Other Assets and Liabilities

laptop
digital projector
laminator
sound system
earphones
merchandise stock
botany group stock

5. Election of Officers and Committee members for 2020/2021:

- Chairman Karen Latham
- Vice Chairman Dr. Karyn Evans
- Treasurer Jan Willsher
- Committee Secretary Kathie Richards-Jones
- Programme Secretary Nick Talbott
- Membership Secretary Janice Horne
- Committee Members Cheryl Davies and Will Francis
- Co-opted Member Mary Davies

These being the only nominations received, no formal election process was required and the new committee members were proposed by Robert Bevan and seconded by Ann Wheatley, elected en bloc and warmly welcomed to their term of office.

6. Appointment of Auditor

Martin Nosworthy was re-appointed as Auditor.

7. Any Other Business

The Chairman made a presentation of gifts and flowers saying "Before I end the AGM I would like to recognise the work done by a very special couple. Alun Thomas has been our Treasurer for three years, and his wife Chris has been Assistant Treasurer for 2 years and then Membership Secretary for one year. I know from personal experience that both jobs are time-consuming and involve a lot of concentration each month when managing the finances and the ever-growing membership."

The formal business of the AGM having been completed the Chairman then introduced the speaker Dr Geraint Evans who gave a very interesting lecture regarding crime novels.

The Chairman then handed over the chairmanship to Karen Latham who thanked Roger Malvern for his term in office and said she looked forward to working with the new Committee for 2020/2021.

She additionally introduced the new Vice Chairman, Dr. Karyn Edwards, who reiterated the present thinking on the progress of the Coronavirus, stressing the Government's advice regarding thoroughly washing hands and not going out if feeling at all unwell. Each member is responsible and must decision-make according to their circumstance, Government and medical advice.

Footnote: It is entirely possible that a meeting/meetings may have to be cancelled at short notice during the next few months. Because of the Data Protection Act general emails to all of our members are not permitted, so in the event interest

group leaders are asked to contact all their members and others are requested to keep checking the website and mentioning any cancellation as much as possible to anyone they know. An advance apology is made to anyone who does not get to know of any cancellation.