



AGM Special Edition June 2026 Annual Report

Dear Members

As our Milford on Sea u3a year draws to a close and another AGM is fast approaching us, I remember the very first time I walked into a monthly meeting which just happened to be the annual AGM. The hall that day was buzzing with members chatting and catching up with one another's news and the whole environment was one of business and friendship. As a newbie I was just an observer to the whole occasion but what encouraged me to stay was the sense of friendship. The saying 'the kindness of strangers' was very apparent within the hall and I knew that I could be happy amongst these people and perhaps find something to do now that retirement was on the horizon. Little did I know just how big that 'something to do' would grow!

Chairman's Report

It has been another busy year for our u3a. Our Monthly Meetings have all been well attended. A great deal of work is involved in preparing for these carefully orchestrated events. I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of those involved in setting up the meetings each month. The talks are planned and booked by Gill Scovell, our Speaker Secretary, who always provides us with interesting speakers. Angela Bunting, has compiled the emails that tell you all about the meetings. The office staff and caretakers at The Bridge work hard to give us a venue that is clean and safe. The Meeters and Greeters have welcomed you and the Tea Team have prepared that much needed cuppa after the talk. David Hodgson and Ewan McGregor have been running the sound desk to support the speakers; they come in early to set the system up and get acquainted with the speaker. Everything is in place before you, the members, come through the doors and take your seats for a busy afternoon.

The May meeting speakers were very well received. A fascinating talk.



Our groups have continued to flourish this year. I would like thank our Group Coordinators, Ewan and John and all our Group Contacts, who keep them

going. Special thanks go to Ian Fulton for organising the Theatre Group, and 12 Dinners Around the World, both of which have become very successful this year, and take a lot of time to organise.

Thanks go to all the Committee members for their hard work over the last year. I'd like to thank Hanlie Croeser, our Treasurer who keeps on top of our finances so efficiently. Others who support the Committee, as well as Gill Scovell, are Angela Bunting who has continued as Webmaster and Beacon administrator. Her support for the committee and members is invaluable. Also, last but not least, our own Jenny Whitley who is our Newsletter Editor extraordinaire. Jenny compiles news and items to go into our lovely newsletters to keep us all in the loop and share what we have been up to.

I'd particularly like to thank those members who are leaving the Committee:

Our Membership Secretary Tom Gateley, has served for three years. He will be very missed. His kindness, sense of humour and quick wit kept our meetings lively. Thank you very much Tom for everything you have done for us, you are a hard act to follow. Our thanks go to Chris Benson and Liz Christian who have been on our Committee for many years. They have both been Vice Chair and their knowledge of the u3a and how things were done in the past is invaluable. A huge thank you to them for everything they have done for our Milford on Sea u3a.

Looking to the future

As my second year of tenure as your Chairman is coming to a close and I am clearing my desk of the paperwork and duties of a chairman, I am finding new challenges within the u3a to keep me busy. We have had an even busier time than usual within the Committee with some resignations and colleagues moving sideways into new ventures. This leaves us with a different looking committee but one that I hope all you members will encourage and support this next year.

Maria Thompson, our Committee Secretary and myself have set up a new venture - a Social Subcommittee. This is to relieve our Executive Committee of the planning of more social events that our members have asked for. So, Tuesday 2nd June looks like being another busy and productive meeting in the history of Milford on Sea u3a. If you spot a newbie amongst us, smile at them and welcome them in. The kindness of strangers is a powerful thing and you never know where it will lead!

Thank you for your support over the last two years. I wish you all a happy and healthy summer.

Hilary Harris, Chairman

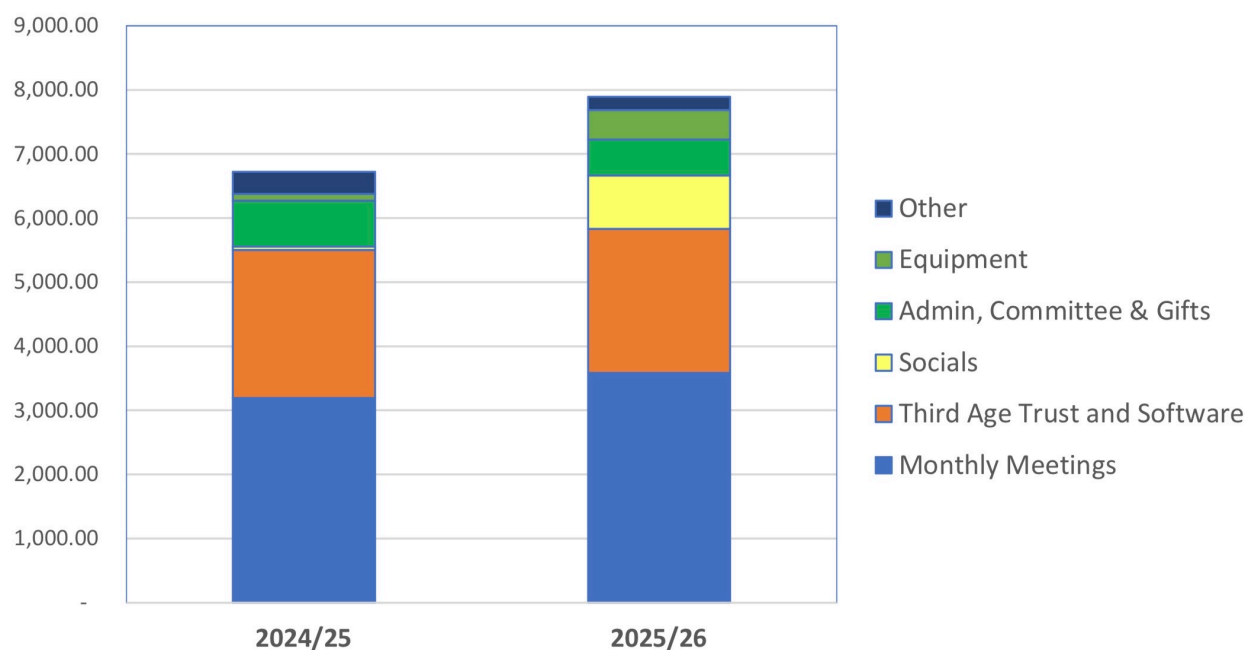
Treasurer's Report

Financial Year ended 31st March 2026

Please find attached the financial accounts for the 2025/26 financial year. Our accounts have been approved by the Trustees and examined by Roger Garlick, our External Accounts Examiner. The Committee recommends that he is re-appointed as our Accounts Examiner for the next financial year – see item 6 of the AGM agenda.

Our u3a finances remain very healthy. Over the past year, we had a surplus of £1,277. Our bank balance, after deducting payments for future events (mostly theatre tickets) amounted to £11,722 at the end of the year. This is more than our annual expenditure.

Composition of Expenditure, excluding donations



For the year as a whole, our income amounted to £9,716, which was very marginally higher than last year. This included a donation of £544 from Riviera Travel which, as last year, we re-donated to the Wellbeing Centre at Oakhaven Hospice which provides education and activities that are very much in line with those provided by our u3a groups.

Excluding the donation to Oakhaven Hospice, our total expenditures amounted to £7,895, which was 17% higher than last year. The increase was largely due to higher expenditure on social events, and the cost of our monthly meetings.

With the formation of a new Social Subcommittee, the Committee hopes to increase the number of social events available to all our members. The Committee proposes to keep the membership fee unchanged at £17 per member in 2027/28 (item 5 on the AGM Agenda).

Hanlie Croeser, Treasurer



Milford on Sea u3a - Financial Statement Year ending 31 March 2026

Receipts & Payments, 1st April - 31st March

	<u>2025/26</u>	<u>2024/25</u>
<u>Receipts</u>		
Membership	7,667	7,443
Gift Aid Claimed	1,328	1,309
Interest	120	123
Donations	557 *1	572
Groups net income	45 *2	230
Total Receipts	9,717	9,677
<u>Expenses</u>		
Admin Expenses	283 *3	258
Third Age Trust Fees	1,756	1,740
TAT Magazine	-24	72
Software	518	500
Room Hire	2,403 *4	2,363
Group Expenses	50	40
News Letter Expenses	0	0
Refreshments	351 *4	508
Speaker's Fees	1,114 *4	814
Equipment	459	109
Gifts	73	184
Socials	829 *5	56
Charity Donations	544 *1	572
PayPal Commission	84	81
Total Expenditure	8,440	7,297
Surplus / (Deficit) for year	1,277	2,380
Balance brought forward	10,445	8,065
Balance carried forward	11,722	10,445

Balance Sheet on

	<u>31 Mar 2026</u>	<u>31 Mar 2025</u>
Bank balances	12,751	10,813
Income received for future events	-1,029 *6	-368
Total	11,722	10,445

Notes re accounts

*Note 1 - Donations Received & Paid	
Riveria Travel commission	544
Other donations	13
Donation to Oakhaven Wellbeing Centre	-544
Net balance	13

* Note 2 - Groups net income	
Group balances brought forward	118
Less balance for group no longer active	-51
Net groups income for the year	45
Groups balances carried forward	112

* Note 3 - Admin Expenses	
Copyright License	69
Printing & Stationery Expenses	175
Other	39
Total Admin Expenses	283

* Note 4 - Monthly Meeting costs	
<i>(costs included in various expenditure categories)</i>	
Room rental for monthly meetings only	2,233
Speaker's fees	1,114
Refreshments for monthly meetings and AGM	236
Total Monthly Meeting Costs	3,583
<i>As % of total income excluding donations</i>	39%

* Note 5 - Social Events	
<i>(negative means net income)</i>	
Christmas Tea	99
ThankYou Lunch	383
Groups Open Day & New Members Tea	266
Other	81
Total Social Events	829

*Note 6 - Income received for future events	
Theatre Group	649
Dinner Group deposits	380
Total Income received for future events	1,029

Membership on 31 Mar 2026	
Individual without Third Age Matters Magazine	388
Individual with Third Age Matters Magazine	70
LifeTime	3
Total	461

Membership Report 2025-26

Our Membership continues to thrive, increasing slightly year on year.

Membership in 2022/3 was 422, in 2023/4 it was 435, in 2024/5 it was 443, and in 2025/6 it was 459.

The 2026/7 Membership currently (end of April) stands at 348, already at 76% of the final 2025/6 level.

Those Members who have not yet renewed (or told me that they are resigning) have recently received a reminder. Any Member who does not renew by the end of May will no longer be able to attend any Groups or meetings.

If you wish to renew your membership, you can do so by following this link:
<https://milfordonseasite.uk/2-membership-renewal/>

Tom Gateley, Membership Secretary

Groups' Coordinators Report

For most of the past year we have had around 60 active Groups covering a wide range of activities. Quite a few groups are full and have waiting lists so we have been active in establishing new groups where possible. The Group coordinators have also supported Group Contacts with education and help updating our systems. Occasional e-mail updates have been sent to keep Group Contacts up to date, and encourage contributions to the U3A newsletter.

A Groups Open Day was held at The Bridge in January. This was well supported by the Group Contacts and provided the opportunity to raise awareness and recruit new members to the groups. A large number of members attended the Open Day to see what was on offer. This event was combined with a training session for Group Contacts and a thank you lunch.

A 'walk-in' session on how to use Beacon and/or update the U3A web-site was held in April at The Bridge. This may be repeated later in the year if there is sufficient demand. An on-going review of risk assessments is in progress. Help is being given to Group Contacts with risk assessments if required.

Finally a word of thanks to all the Group Contacts for your help and support throughout the year. The interest groups are the heart of our U3A and they couldn't run without your support. **So a big thank you!**

Ewan McGregor and John Haigh. Groups' Coordinators.

Annual General Meeting

All members are invited to the AGM on Tuesday June 2nd 2026 at 2pm in the Community Centre. The AGM is usually quite brief, and will be followed by the Guest Speaker. Then there'll be cake and probably something bubbly to go with it!



MoS u3a AGM Agenda. June 2nd 2026 **2pm at The Bridge, Sea Rd.**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last AGM (on the website or on request)
3. Chairman's Report (see Newsletter)
4. Treasurer's Report (see Newsletter)
5. Membership Fee to remain at £17 for 2027/28. Recommendation of the Committee.
6. Approval of the appointment of an examiner of the accounts
7. Election of Officers and committee members
8. Consideration of any notified motions (None received)
9. Date of next AGM – June 1st 2027

Nominations: Chair: Ewan McGregor

Secretary: Kathryn Marsh

Treasurer: Hanlie Croeser.

Committee Members:

Hilary Harris, Maria Thompson, Angela Bunting, Jenny Whitley, Annette Hodgson, Don Campbell.

There are 3 vacancies. Nominations can be accepted at the AGM. Let us know if you would like to volunteer.

Monthly Meeting Speakers

Tuesday June 2nd

The talk at the AGM is The D-Day Story, 6 June 1944 -

A Personal perspective. **Speaker John Haigh.**

See the April Newsletter or the website for full details.

Tuesday July 7th 2pm The History of Southampton Docks- Andy Skinner.

Southampton is known today as the "Gateway to the World" This history talk traces the creation and evolution of Southampton's docks from their medieval origins through the engineering triumphs of the Victorian era and into the modern age that earned the City its famous epithet. Expect tales of

medieval merchants and daring pirates, sharp-witted entrepreneurs, and the soldiers who passed through the port during times of war.



Andy has worked at Southampton museums for more than a decade where he helps to deliver the education programme through workshops, tours and events. He cares passionately about sharing Southampton's incredible history. He has a History degree and PGCE from the University of Southampton and a Masters in Museum Studies.

Social Events

Coffee Mornings are held in the Youth Room at the Bridge from 10.30 - 12 on the last Thursday of the month. £1 per person. Pay on the door.

Afternoon Teas are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the main hall at the Bridge from 2.30 - 4.00. £2 per person. Pay on the door. Please let us know you are coming to these events by emailing mosu3asocial@gmail.com

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Send articles & photos to [jenny@whitleyonseas.net](mailto:jenny@whitleyonseas.net)

For information see: [www.u3asites.org.uk/milfordonseas](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/milfordonseas)

To contact us with comments please email: [milfordonseasu3a@gmail.com](mailto:milfordonseasu3a@gmail.com)

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### Diary Dates

#### Monthly Meetings

June 2nd AGM

July 7th

August 4th

#### Social Events

May 28th Coffee Morning

June 9th Afternoon Tea

June 25th Coffee Morning