

Minutes SDu3a Annual General Meeting – Friday 1st May 2026

The meeting was introduced by the Chair, Tricia Salt, who welcomed all present, in person and on zoom.

Quorum.

While membership is listed as 793 the delay in renewals means that several members will have lapsed, usually about 90 per year. There were 64 members present in the room, 8 on zoom with 11 proxy votes confirming 83 members, above a quorum..

Apologies

These had been received from: Judith Brun, Margo Davidson-Wood, George Dobson, Christine Henderson, Sally Melvin, Kath Moodie, Val Moore, June Mulroy, Garry Salt, Vicki Taylor, Cath Whitehead, Alan Willis.

Minutes of AGM 2025.

These had been circulated with the invitation email.

They were proposed by Rita Beckham, seconded by Marjorie Kirk and approved nem con.

Trustees Report 2025/6

TS thanked the committee for all their support in her first year as Chair.

Organisational update.

She said that this is a good time to remind ourselves that we operate as part of a much larger organisation. Although we have autonomy over how we run most areas of our own u3a, the Committee (who are all Trustees) also has the responsibility to ensure all reports, returns, and payments to our over-arching body, The Third Age Trust, and, where appropriate, The Charities Commission, are completed in a timely manner. They also ensure that any policies required by the Trust are in place and have been reviewing and updating all of these in the last year.

The committee also make sure that they keep up to date with issues and ideas from the national body and our own Regional body, Northumbria, some trustees regularly meeting with other u3as in our Region to share information and discuss any issues.

Membership

Total membership at 31st March 2026 was 848, made up of 793 members (an increase of 1 from 2025) and 55 affiliate members (an increase of 25). Affiliates are those members who are also paid up members of another u3a and can join SDu3a at a reduced fee of £5. 82 left or lapsed members have been deleted from the system.

The decision to move the membership renewal date to 1st September of every year was made by the Committee in January. This was to ease the administrative burden caused by renewals and our AGM taking place in consecutive months. It was a popular decision with our membership, especially as it gave them 5 months of free membership for this year.

Groups

Currently we have 67 groups offering 48 subjects and using 18 venues across the East Cleveland area. The number of groups remains about the same as the previous year, a couple having closed, balanced by 2 or 3 new ones starting up.

TS took this opportunity to thank all our group leaders, our key workers and all the numerous volunteers who help behind the scenes. And, of course, all our members who attend the groups – without you, there'd be no SDu3a!

As a small thank you, we held the annual Group Leaders and Key Workers lunch on 23 May last year and it will be held again in June this year.

Theatre trips/outings.

Monthly coffee mornings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Despite the ever increasing cost of tickets, these trips continue to be very popular, with 15+ having been arranged over the past year.

A lot of work goes into arranging these so our thanks to the Group Leader and other organisers.

Social Events

The Social Events Team have organised 2 more events during the year which have proved to be a great success – a Murder Mystery Afternoon and, more recently, a Singalong to the Sound of Music. Many thanks to them all for their hard work and no doubt they are already planning another one!

2 of our groups have given several performances over the last year, including the Ukulele who recently played at the Cycling event and who always have a date or two at the Bandstand during the summer.

Singing for Pleasure has also been invited twice to perform at the Women's Federation and recently held an Afternoon of Song

Involvement in other events

We have also taken part in other local events such as:

Move with Nature in Saltburn Valley Gardens in August

Art Exhibition at SCAA, also in August

The recent Book and Craft Fair at SCAA

Communication

Beacon

Our Beacon lead has completed all the training offered by the Beacon support team this year and is now able to answer the majority of questions. Training for Group Leaders has been developed and is currently being rolled out.

Website

The website is proving to be a "hit". In the last 12 months, we have had 6128 visitors and 39,711 views. The website is a primary source of information for our members and potential new members. Website training has been developed, and website training sessions have been offered.

Update Meetings

We have continued to have speakers/presentations at every Update over the past year, ranging in subjects from Flood Resilience, Lasting Power of Attorney to Morning Sax, along with two Desert Island Disc presentations. We have also introduced a collection point for the local Food Bank following a talk.

And of course, our regular Xmas entertainments which was practically standing room only, with over 120 people attending.

Newsletter

The Newsletter continues to be produced every 3 months, keeping members up to date with upcoming events, news on group activities etc. It is now sent out electronically but can also be accessed via our website.

Treasurer's Report.

PB firstly thanked Joyce Charlesworth and Judith Hudson for their assistance, particularly at update meetings, and also Sybil Waite who has sold about 30% of the 50/50 tickets sold in the last year.

He thanked the committee for their support and group leaders for submitting prompt returns.

The income and expenditure over the year were both slightly down. There was an additional £750 from the 50/50 sales, interest on investments of £1079 and gift aid of £1100.

The overall profit was slightly down on the previous year but "cash to hand" is slightly up.

Groups are expected to be self financing; however it is the practice of SDu3a that loss making groups are funded by the income from other groups.

In summary we have a running surplus and for this reason there will be no increase in group fees and no change in the £10 membership fee this year.

Indeed there will be ONE month of free attendance at all group meetings (not special events) and this will be October 2026.

The accounts have been audited and agreed by Draycott and Kirk, Chartered Accountants of Guisborough.

Approval

The accounts were proposed by Louise Moore, seconded by Pauline Tweddle and approved nem con.

The reappointment of the auditors was proposed by Pauline Tweddle, seconded by Deb Barwick and approved nem con.

Election of committee for 2026-27

The Chair thanked those leaving – Carole, Lorna, and accessibility co-ordinator (Bill Dobson)

STANDING FOR ELECTION/RE-ELECTION

NAME	PROPOSER	SECONDER
Chris Addison	June Simpson	Maggie Sheehan
Gaye Batiz	Judy Jackson	Carole Smith
Ken Bladen	Charles Sanderson	Robert Looms
Paul David Bradbury	Jill Bradbury	Anita Langham
Margo Davidson-Wood	John Davis	Linda Davis
Diane Goldby	Sue Wilson	Catherine Johnson
Fiona Hampton	Ursula Earl	Margaret Holmes
Howard Leake	Alan Cotterill	Stephen Bunker
Tricia Salt	Garry Salt	Carol Sigsworth

The Chair proposed that the nominees should be voted for as a group unless there were any objections- there were none and the group were then elected nem con.

NEXT AGM 7th MAY 2027