

U3A COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS – AGM NOVEMBER 2020

1. Treasurer's Report

U3A General Account

Treasurer's Summary Report for financial year 2019/2020 (ending 31 Oct. 2020)

The final balance this year is €4959.01

This is €1319.41 up last year's final balance of €3639.60. Rather a marked increase but one largely due to the current coronavirus situation. New member and renewal subscriptions are somewhat reduced, most likely due to the enforced restrictions. However, the same restrictions have caused many U3A activities to be suspended for some considerable time, thus our expenditure has also been reduced (drastically). So, overall, we have an increase of €1319.41 albeit, perhaps, for the wrong reasons! Our financial position is usually relatively stable in the €3000 - €4000 range but currently in the €4500 - €5500 range.

Income: down €2538.88 to €4400.00.

Member subscriptions (our main source of income) are down by €2538.00. Perhaps not surprising, given the coronavirus restrictions as mentioned above. We appreciate these have made it difficult for many members to pay their subscriptions on time.

Expenses:

Photocopying & Printing costs down €12.50, to zero.

Your Committee has been successful in reducing this expense to zero, after making drastic savings in this area last year. This trend is expected to continue.

Stationery costs up €80.64 to € 287.36.

Slightly disappointing, but this is not considered a significant increase. However, the Committee shall endeavour to make economies, where possible, in this area.

Website costs down €810.60, to €233.53.

Again, this is another area where your Committee has been successful in making economies. We now have our own Webmaster and this has drastically reduced our Website hosting costs.

Room Hire down €960.00, to €240.00.

Until recently, we have been holding our meeting at the Hotel Ifach. However, due to the coronavirus situation, this Hotel is currently unable to offer meeting facilities. Hence we are meeting today in the Salon Blau, Casa de Cultura.

Your Committee cannot take credit for the significant saving made in this area. Once again, this is actually down to the coronavirus situation that has meant we have had far fewer meetings this year, thus saving the €120 Hotel Ifach charge per meeting.

The Salon Blau is currently free of charge. Therefore, should this venue prove popular with members, we may very likely continue to use it indefinitely for our meetings.

U3A COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS – AGM NOVEMBER 2020

Social Expenses down €361.94, to €804.15.

As U3A social activities have been so reduced during the last year, it is hardly surprising to see a considerable saving in this area.

Misc. expenses up €35.05, to €735.34.

Although a very small increase, this is a slightly disappointing result. A modest decrease had been hoped for. However, your Committee shall continue to seek economies in this area.

Outlook for 2020/21:

With a membership of nearly 800, we have potential yearly income of between €7000 and €8000. This is adequate to comfortably meet anticipated expenses during the coming year. With much reduced social events, lesser meeting room and website hosting charges, the most significant of these likely to be the third party insurance premium due in 2021 (estimated €475). However, it is impossible to predict how any future changes in the coronavirus situation might influence our financial affairs. Of course, we all hope the situation will improve, restrictions lifted and things gradually return to normal though this, at present, is very uncertain.

Your Committee shall continue to look to make economies, wherever possible, without compromising member benefits in any way.

John Stafford (Treasurer)

2. Membership Secretary's Report

Membership secretary (Jan Luxton)

What at a strange year. One minute everything is in full swing after Christmas and New Year then suddenly everything came to a halt.

In February 2000 we had 564 fully paid up members, and the numbers were rising steadily. Then wham. Everything stopped and everyone scuttled back to their homeland or were locked up indoors in Calpe and we were not able to do anything. Not even General meetings. Understandably our membership numbers have dropped dramatically as members just didn't know when they would be able to return to Calpe.

BUT thanks to the efforts of the group leaders, such as table tennis, badminton, paddle, patanq, tennis, book club, discussion group, dining out groups, Canasta, etc the numbers have slowly come up and we are now 374 fully paid up members, not including new members today.

Verity and David have both done a great job in keeping us in the news and on Facebook.

U3A COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS – AGM NOVEMBER 2020

For the next few months, as a special incentive to encourage renewals and make up for the lack of activities during the lockdown we are offering 14 months renewal, for the price of 12 all for the price of 10€. can't be bad.

We will recover I am sure. Lets think positive and look forward to a brighter future and continue to enjoy the benefits and friendships we get from being members of THE CALPE U3A.

3. Travel Co-ordinator's Report

TRAVEL REPORT – by Kerry Edwards, Travel coordinator

2020 hasn't been the best year for the travel group!!

We started very optimistically with a trip on 15th January to La Zenia Commercial centre. The coach was full and we had a great day picking up bargains and stopping off for lunch. Unfortunately due to Corona Virus everything came to a halt from then on and there came a spate of cancellations...

First to be postponed and then cancelled was the Bodega trip to the Utiel Requena Region which was planned for 21st March (just a week after we started lockdown).

Next the day trip to the Caves of San Josep which was planned for 7th April.

Finally, and we really hoped that this one would go ahead, the trip to San Antonia, Ibiza. This was planned from 7th to 13th October. Unfortunately the hotel closed down and the Travel Agent informed us that the trip was cancelled.

Refunds of all payments were scheduled in May and October. Most refunds have been made with a few outstanding.

Let's hope that 2021 will see us back on the road again! We can only hope. As soon as it's possible the travel team will start planning!

4. Group Co-ordinator's Report

GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT - PAM PHAKEY

Global panic has been unleashed by the emergence of Covid-19 virus which has produced a social and economic upheaval of a magnitude no one could have envisaged.

Naturally, many of our activities had to be suspended due to the very nature of social distancing. However, some groups managed to be creative and turned to on-line solutions.

U3A Calpe group leaders enrich the lives of our members through their dedication and commitment, sharing their experiences and expertise by organising happy

U3A COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS – AGM NOVEMBER 2020

and exciting activities to create good memories for all.

We would like to thank our group leaders for giving up their time and energy to ensure that your activities are enjoyable, engaging and extremely well-organised. All for the benefit of members.

We have approximately 19 groups, many of which have had to be suspended since the arrival of Covid-19. However, we would like to report on what has been happening over the past year, despite the ongoing difficulties:

The choir is run by Mary Anderton with such enthusiasm and vigour! And will be again, once Covid abates.

Three creative groups similarly affected are painting in watercolours with Hilary Hare, Papercraft with Liz Lodge and Flower Arranging by Tina Wallis.

It has not been all doom and gloom because our Book Group and Writing Group both run by Wendy Down, our Vice-President, have thrived using the Zoom platform.

Members have also been able to share some Lockdown experiences.

Travel Group leader Kerry Edwards has described in her report the difficulties experienced this year, which have led to the cancellation of most events. The logistics of managing cancellations and arranging refunds have kept her busy and are continuing.

Our Padel tennis has thrived immensely with group leader Bob Hodge, who tirelessly organised a competition with U3A Moraira in which we triumphed by 28 points to 8!. Bob regularly checks on times, rules and availability and now he's running a system of advanced bookings so as to abide by the regulations regarding sitting out. He also has a very efficient peg system. Padel tennis was able to become very active again as soon as the initial lockdown restrictions were eased, playing on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Canasta, with Sandra Llewellyn as group leader, has continued twice a week at her home, following all the social distancing rules. She has also been an extremely diligent group leader for tennis.

Badminton, heading by David Lodge, has been in full swing with the timings changed. It now runs from 11.00am-1.00pm and is an extremely popular and well-run activity.

Table Tennis is a prolific activity enjoyed by many and headed by John Stafford. It has continued to thrive whilst still maintaining social distancing and following the other numerous rules.

Discussion group with Peter Purvey at the helm has enjoyed challenging the "little grey cells" on a variety of topics. Not bad for a group leader of 87 years young! Please contact Peter for details of future meetings on our webpage.

U3A COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS – AGM NOVEMBER 2020

The Ladies of JUGS which stands for Just Us Girls, have been enjoying monthly convivial lunches at different restaurants with a variety of cuisines. This group is ably run by Anita Sanchez and is a very good way of meeting new friends whilst sipping a glass of wine, or two, and enjoying some good nosh! Check out the U3A Facebook Page for forthcoming venues and dates.

The Bowls group recommenced a couple of months ago. It is meeting at Paraiso Mar on Thursday afternoons between 3.00pm-5.00pm.

Not to be outdone by the ladies, the Men's Dining Group has also enjoyed a range of meals out, organised by their group leader Arthur Croasdell. Judging by recent press coverage, showing them all, glasses raised, a good time was had by all!

Speaking of which, our very able and dedicated publicity officer, David Stockton, has kept a regular flow of write-ups and photographs of U3A Calpe events going into the press, thus ensuring that the local community stays in touch and up to date with everything that our organisation has to offer.

The efforts of our hardworking group leaders are essential for the success of U3A Calpe. As a small token of our appreciation for their commitment and enthusiasm, they will be receiving gift vouchers. But I am sure that those of you here today would like to give them the traditional round of applause to thank them for their efforts on our behalf. Thank you to them all.