

Chairman Report 2023

I think it is fair to say that the past year has been a busy one for Woodley & District u3a. We began the year with 268 members and over the last 12 months our membership has grown to 305. We also had just under 50 active groups when we started the year and this has now increased to 60. This wouldn't have happened without the energy, commitment and drive of you, our members, supported by the Group Convenors and the Committee who have all worked really hard to make our u3a a success.

The Groups available to our members cover a wide range of activities, some more strenuous than others. We have taken part in Badminton, Cycling, Dancing and walking. There have been games aplenty from Rummikub and Mah-Jong to Scrabble. Members have painted, taken photos, written poetry, quizzed and crafted. Most of these meetings have taken place face to face, but a few groups find it more convenient to continue to meet over Zoom.

In addition to all these group meetings we have held a number of social events. These have included the ever-popular quiz night at Sonning Golf Club, the summer picnic at Dinton Pastures and our 4th Birthday celebration in August which was enjoyed by around 70 of our members. A big thank you must go out to all those involved in organising these social events.

Each month we have held a Speakers Meeting at Woodley Baptist Church on the first Wednesday of the month. I am sure you'll agree that we have had an interesting and enjoyable set of Speakers this year, with talks about The Dogs Trust, Period Costumes, Spanish Guitar, India, Hedgehogs, and Beer, Sausages and Marmalade to name a few. Thanks to our Speakers Secretaries for organising such a varied program.

We would very much like more members to join the committee. We meet monthly online and have some enjoyable sessions as well as getting the work done. We currently have a vacancy for a **Business Secretary** and would be very keen to hear from anyone who has a little time to help out in this role.

I would like to finish by thanking everyone who has contributed to Woodley & District u3a, particularly the Convenors and Committee, without whom Woodley & District u3a wouldn't continue to flourish. We hope you have all gained much enjoyment from your membership of Woodley & District u3a and will continue to do so throughout the coming year.

Best wishes to you all

Chris Mould
Chairman

Email – chairman@woodleyu3a.org.uk

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