



NEWSLETTER No. 279

MAIDENHEAD

April 2022

(Registered Charity No. 1074907)

CHAIRMAN'S THOUGHTS

Hello All

As we approach our 2022 AGM, I reflect on the health of Maidenhead u3a. We have a dynamic committee and lots of activities planned for the summer months. We are financially stable and will refund any reasonable expenses incurred by conveners in running their groups. New members meetings will begin again with a new format designed to listen more to the input of new members.

Today I was one of 12 members of the London Explorers group that went for a guided tour round Tower Bridge. We enjoyed some early Spring sunshine and it was a really interesting visit with unique views of the London Skyline and the pool of London.

After two years of restricted activity we need to learn to be social again. If there are things you would like our u3a to do then bring forward your Ideas to any member of the committee and we will do our best to make it happen.

The Thames Valley Network (TVN), of which we are a part, also organises talks and visits. One member, Mandy Taylor, has offered to be the liaison with TVN following the sad loss of Jean Myhill, who was our TVN rep last year. I hope you will elect her at the AGM so we can continue to offer these opportunities to our members.

John Twydale

APRIL MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, 12th April 2022 at 2.30pm

From Philip Ratcliffe, Speaker Organiser

This month our meeting is primarily dedicated to the Annual General Meeting, as advised elsewhere in the newsletter. Following the AGM, the **Keble Road String Quartet** will entertain us with a short programme of light classical and popular music.

The meeting will again be held at the Desborough Bowling Club at 10 Green Lane, Maidenhead **SL6 1XZ** (Green Lane is just off Stafferton Link and Bray Lane; there is plenty of free parking). Please aim to arrive between 2.00 and 2.15pm, wearing a face covering.

Covid protection - We recognise that, while government regulations have relaxed, Covid infections continue to be high and u3a members may still be vulnerable even though the majority of our members are likely to have been double vaccinated and had a booster. As we are meeting indoors, please wear a mask as soon as you arrive to ensure the greatest level of mutual protection. **If you have not been vaccinated or cannot wear a face covering, PLEASE DO NOT COME.** Our concern is to do everything we can to protect all our members.

If you have any comments before or after the meeting, or suggestions for talks, please contact Speaker Organiser, Philip Ratcliffe, on speakers@maidenheadu3a.org.uk

Membership News

A warm welcome to:

Susan Sexton, Leila Clarke, Jane Harris and Jonathan Holder who joined us recently.

Finding New Members

Those considering joining the u3a can have two taster sessions before committing themselves - this could be a monthly meeting or joining one of the group activities.

Maggie Kearney - Membership Secretary

MAIDONIAN SUNDAY ENTERTAINMENT!

Boulton's Lock by Edward Gregory Done - a painting recently studied by the Art Appreciation group.



Some members of the Creative Cards groups on a visit to Alexandra Palace on 13th March.

GROUP NEWS

If a group in which you are interested is listed as full, or if there is a group that you would like to set up, please contact Kathy (details at end of newsletter).

DOG WALKING

Two ladies are meeting to walk their dogs together now that the weather has improved.

Please contact Kathy Bell if you would like to join them.

LUNCH CLUB

This group meets once a month for a nice lunchtime meal in a congenial location. Linda Rahmatalla, the group's convener, would like to welcome new members to the group. You will need an email address to receive menus & send your choices to Linda. Please contact her on 01628 671766 or by email at freelin@talktalk.net

CREATIVE WRITING

There has been some interest in restarting this group. If interested, please contact Kathy.

ART APPRECIATION

The group has been meeting up on the first Friday of every month since January. As my house has limited accommodation, we are pleased to announce a slight growth in numbers from 7 to 10 due to a new venue. We are trialling this on April 1st! There is a sizeable waiting list, so please don't be disappointed if you haven't yet received an invite to join.

Those whom I have called, I look forward to seeing you on the 1st. We make a contribution of £1 towards our host providing refreshments.

This month we are repeating our very successful "Tell us about a favourite"; this can be a painting, sculpture or ceramic piece. Sharing information etc. enables us all to learn something about the art and each other! (Editor: a pic considered by group is elsewhere in newsletter)

Two of us have already planned a trip to Glasgow to visit the art museums and galleries there, and later in the year, a trip to The National Gallery for the whole group.

Thank you all for making this a lively and interesting group.

Mandy Taylor

BUCKET LIST GROUP

8 members of the Bucket List group have booked to do a 6 hour trip across Weymouth Bay on a Dutch sailing barge. The trip will take place on **Thursday, 7th July**.

<https://www.moonfleetsailing.com/>

If any other Maidenhead u3a members are interested in joining, we may be able to add some members on 7th July (up to a total of 12). Or if there is significant interest, we will try to organise a second date. You do not need to be a Bucket List member to participate.

Please contact John Twydle 07786 854920 jtwydle@gmail.com if you wish to participate.



The London Explorers group on their Tower Bridge trip on 21st March



South East Region

Thames Valley Network

APRIL event

21st Century Telescopes

Prof Phil Charles will discuss the importance of the Vera Rubin and James Webb Telescopes and what they may discover in the future.

Cost for this talk is £2.00 per device.

Closing date for applications Friday, 1st April.

More info can be found at <http://u3atvnetwork.org.uk/?p=2477>



April Quiz

(Answers are further on in the newsletter)

1. What is the nickname of a) 30 St Mary Axe, London and b) 32 London Bridge Street, London?	11. Tina Turner used to appear with her husband: what was his name?
2. Why is it that the majority of spiral staircases in castles ascend clockwise?	12. What, apart from a human, is a priest?
3. What links crocodiles, marmalade & cake?	13. Change one letter to turn the make of a car into a pop star.
4. What was the hobby of tea merchant Sir Thomas Lipton?	14. In which country is the greatest amount of tea drunk per head?
5. What is the "rhubarb triangle"?	15. Who designed the London Tube map?
6. Who composed "Night on a Bare Mountain"?	16. NaCl = what popular seasoning?
7. After which towns are the following named? a) black liquorice disc-shaped sweet b) crunchy yellow toffee c) white or brown peppermint block	17. On what island was King Kong discovered?
8. What is the name of the poet Christopher Smart's cat ?	18. From what is tofu made?
9. What is a) a galanthophile b) an ailurophobe c) an arachnophobe?	19. What item of kit did FIFA make compulsory in the 90s?
10. Where might you encounter a salchow?	20. In netball, what do the letters of WA stand for?

Submissions to Newsletter

If you wish to send us photos, please ensure that they are no more than 500kB each.

Also, please do not email .pdf files for the newsletter as the open source software we use to insert these files requires considerable additional effort. Acceptable formats are: .docx, .doc, .jpeg (.jpg) & .xls or .xlsx.

Please email us anything that you would like us to consider for the **May** newsletter NO LATER than **22nd April 2022**.

Thank you.

Pat Laković & Nuala Smith

newsletter@maidenheadu3a.org.uk or newsletter.maidenheadu3a@gmail.com

April Programme

Group information below is accurate as at 27th March 2022. More group details are available on our website but make sure you are registered as a user. If you wish to join a group please ring the convener. Even if it is full, you can always be entered on a waiting list.

V = Vacancy(ies), W = Waiting list

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME		CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W
Ancient Literature	3 rd Thurs	14.30	Mick Stringer	07836 211314	Meeting by Zoom at 2.30 on 21st April . We will be reading sections from Plato's Last Days of Socrates and trying to understand why the Athenians put the philosopher to death.	
Art Appreciation	1 st Frid	10.30	Mandy Taylor	01628 298107	Please see more in Group News. mandyofart@gmail.com	
Art Untutored	1 st & 3 rd Tues	14.00	Peter Neville	01628 674097	Meets at St Joseph's Church Hall, Cookham Road, Maidenhead SL6 8AT.	V
Aviation	2 nd Thurs	14.30	Bill Teasdale	01628 672873	This month we will have a visit by the highly entertaining Brian Madge, with more anecdotes of his working days abroad with BEA.	V
Book Reading 1	3 rd Wed	14.00	Pauline Sparkes	01753 642490	Book: Zeitoun by Dave Eggers. Hostess: Irmgard. Please note that we will be meeting at the later time of 14.30.	W
Book Reading 2	2 nd Wed	13.00 to 15.00	Bobby Maunsell	01628 828279	This new group will meet in members' homes.	
Bridge C	Every Thurs	14.00	Frances Foster	07548 306782	This Bridge group continues to meet in members' houses according to current regulations, common sense & members' wishes.	
Bridge E	Every Mon	13.30	Mal Geary	07973 193439	We usually meet with 1 or 2 tables. More hosts / players would increase # of tables. Contact Mal for information.	V
Bridge F - Beginners	Every Wed	9.30	Susanna Jones	07583 447789	Meet at Susanna's house. New members welcome.	V
Bridge on Sunday	Every Sun	14.30	Susanna Jones	07583 447789	Meet at Susanna's house. New members welcome.	V
Bucket List			John Twyde	01628 621644	See information in Group News.	
Canasta	2 nd & 4 th Frid	10.00	Christine Wilkinson	07887 887579	Meet at The Shire Horse pub on the A4. Note change of venue & time.	
Carpet Bowls	Every Mon	14.00	George Bourne	07792 570353	Fifield Memorial Hall, Fifield. No vacancies in this group at present.	
Classical Music	2 nd Mon	14.15	John Noakes	01628 637399	We meet again at Mollie's. Please let her know if you will be there (01628 415821).	V

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME		CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W
Creative Cards 1	2 nd & 4 th Frid	10.00	Eileen Rogers	01628 639656		
Creative Cards 2	1 st & 3 rd Frid					V
Cribbage	2 nd & 4 th Thurs	15.00	Nigel Furneaux	07721 426768	Meet at Shire Horse pub. New members welcome.	V
Current Affairs 1	4 th Tues	13.00	Barbara Warmsley	01628 522255	Meetings are held at Spindlewood, High Road, Cookham SL6 9JT. Contact Barbara for more details..	V
Current Affairs 2	2 nd Thurs	14.15	Janice Waterman	01628 530770	Co-convenor is Pam May. Her email is pam.may508@gmail.com	
Exploring World Faiths	1 st Thurs	14.30	Michael Gammage	01628 637801 077630405699	No specialist knowledge required! Please call or email michael.gammage@outlook.com for details. New members welcome.	V
Family History	3 rd Tues	14.30	John Noakes	01628 637399	We meet at Sandra's in Cookham on 19 th . Please ensure she knows you are coming (01628 522234).	V
French Improvers	1 st and 3 rd Wed	10.30	Evelyne Withey	07939 083996	Meetings continue on Zoom. There are 3 or 4 vacancies.	V
French 2	2 nd & 4 th Wed	10.00	Margaret Scharff	01628 666218		V
French Advanced	3 rd Thurs	15.00	Ian Ross	01628 626849	Note change of day.	V
French Conversation	2 nd Mon	11.00 to 13.00	Tim Lodge	01628 627882	We meet in member's homes. Group now full.	
Fun with Flowers	3 rd Frid	14.00 to 16.00	Chris Smith	01628 663764	Meet on 8th April to avoid Good Friday. Group now full.	
Garden Visits	4 th Wed	14.00	Maura McGinley	01628 629088	27th April @ 11.00. Visit to Englefield House Garden, Englefield, Theale, Reading RG7 5EN.	
German Advanced	2 nd & 4 th Frid	10.00	Rhona Latham	01628 638740	Reluctantly we have gone back to Zoomed meetings, taking into consideration the current Covid situation and the vulnerability of our members. However we can still practise our language skills thanks to modern technology.	
German Conversation	Alternate Weds	14.00	Vreny Breadon	07900 831041		

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME		CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W
History	2 nd Frid	14.00	Chris Sayers	01628 620647	The History group continues to meet each month enjoying contributions from members on our chosen subject which at present is South America. Our members each have an area of history that interests them whether that be modern, ancient, humanity or artistic, so there are very wide areas of differing aspects on each subject which gives our meetings variety and interest. Please consider joining us; we would enjoy hearing what 'turns you on'.	V
Jazz Appreciation	2 nd Mon	14.30 to 16.30	Kath Evans	07743 572146	Meet at Norman Phillips' home (not John's); note later time . As Kath Evans is still unwell, please inform Mandy Taylor (01628 298107) if you wish to join the group or if you CANNOT attend.	V
Latin	2 nd & 4 th Mon	10.45	Mick Stringer	07836 211314	Meeting on Zoom at usual time on 11 th & 25 th April. We will be looking at more of the poetry of Ovid and Catullus and at Cicero's dialogue on the Nature of the Gods.	V
London Explorers			Janet Rose	01628 624709	There are no vacancies at the moment.	
Lunch Club	Monthly		Linda Rahmatalla	01628 671766 07740 853952	Next meeting is on Thursday, April 28 th , venue TBA. New members welcome . See more info in Group News.	V
Mahjong 麻将	1 st & 3 rd Wed	14.00	Jill Waites	01628 628993	Please contact Jill for more details.	
Maideleles (Ukulele)	Every Wed	10.30 to 12.30	Carolyn Bell	07940 333709	The group is now full. Carolyn may consider starting another group if there is sufficient interest. Her email address is carolynbell64@gmail.com .	W
Meditation	2 nd Tues	14.00	Marie Krag	01628 632683	Note change of day/time mariekrag@talktalk.net	
MOTO (Members on their own)	Mainly Sundays		Jean Gale	01628 825107	The next lunch is on 24 th April at The Spade Oak in Bourne End.	
Nature Amble	3 rd Frid		Jill Waites	01628 628993	All enjoyed the March amble, lovely weather and many plants, butterflies and birds to be seen. Our next amble will be held 1 week later than usual because of Easter on Friday, 22 nd April when we will walk around Ockwells Park and woods to see the bluebells. All are welcome; contact Jill for details.	V
Play Reading 1	1 st Thurs	14.00	Barrie Williams	01189 349525		V
Play Reading 2	2 nd Frid	14.00	Janet Rose	01628 624709	The group is now meeting in person. It has no vacancies.	
Poetry & Prose	3 rd Tues	14.00	Barrie Williams	01189 349525	Sadly, this group has been suspended for the time being. We hope to resume later.	

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME		CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W
Poetry 2	1 st Tues	14.30	Michael Gammage	01628 637801	In-person meetings are on 1 st Tuesdays, Zoom meetings on 3 rd Tuesdays. The group reads & discusses all sorts of poetry. michael.gammage@outlook.com	V
	3 rd Tues	10.30				
Popular Music	3 rd Thurs	14.30	Barrie Williams	01189 349525		
Quiz	1 st Mon	19.15 for 19.30	Derek Searle	01628 822562 07801 926246	Meet at Shire Horse pub. Derek's email address is drs05drs@gmail.com	V
Recorder	1 st & 3 rd Mon	13.30	Edwina Shelley	07708 044152		V
Rummikub	1 st & 3 rd Frid	9.30 to 11.30	Janice Walker	01753 852403	Meet at Shire Horse pub. Next meetings are on 1 st & 15 th April. New members welcome.	V
Science	3 rd Thurs	14.15	John Twyde	07786 854920	Meet at Jacqueline Turner's (Larkspur House, phone 07545 504880). Mike Bellman will guide a discussion on "Star Trek tech - Fact or Fiction"	
Scrabble	Last Mon	14.15	Hilary Brodie	01628 522331	Meeting as usual, on last Monday (28th) at Hilary's house.	V
Spanish for Holidaymakers 1	1 st & 3 rd Tues	10.00	Kathy Bell	07752 660537	Both Spanish for Holidaymakers groups are now meeting in the usual way.	
Spanish for Holidaymakers 2	2 nd & 4 th Tues	10.00				
Spanish Improvers 1	2 nd & 4 th Tues	10.00	Barrie Williams	01189 349525	Now includes conversation	
Spanish Improvers 2	1 st & 3 rd Mon	10.00				
Spanish Improvers 3	1 st and 3 rd Frid	10.00				

ACTIVITY	DAY(s) in MONTH, TIME		CONTACT	TELEPHONE	NOTES	V / W
Walks	Various	Varies	John Twydle 01628 621644 07786 854920	Leaders: Linda and Paul Main 07962 255743	Thursday, 14th April at 10 am for 10.15 start. Meet at the Blackwood Arms car park for a 3½ mile walk from Blackwood Arms (Common Lane, Littleworth Common, Slough SL1 8PP). Mainly off road, along established tracks or tarmacked paths. A couple of gentle hills. We will encounter fallen trees, tree routes and the odd patch of mud. This walk takes you through the beautiful woodlands of Burnham Beeches to Egypt village and back. Lunch at the Blackwood Arms afterwards if desired.	
				Leader: Cliff Sparkes 01753 642490 or 07594 586935	Wednesday, April 20th Meet at 11am for a 11.15am start at The Jolly Woodman pub, Littleworth Road, Littleworth Common SL1 8PF . A fairly level roughly 2 mile walk, through woods, farmland and country lanes. One easy stile. It can sometimes be muddy. Meals and snacks will be available at the pub after.	
				Leader: Maggie Kearney 07786 501299	Tuesday 26th April. Meet at Maidenhead library at 10.30 for a social coffee then a 1 hour walk around town. "Boats, Bats and Canon".	
Yoga	Every Mon	14.30 to 15.30	Barbie Bellman	01628 773653 07740 288498	Meet at St Mark's Methodist Church, Allenby Road, Maidenhead. Note: there will be no meetings in school holidays. Group is now full.	W

Answers to April quiz

Any queries, email Ann at annghay@icloud.com

1. a) The Gherkin b) The Shard	11. Ike Turner.
2. Most people were right-handed, and if defending their castles they would have their sword-arm free, whereas the attacker's right hand would be trapped against the central pillar. A very few castles have left-handed staircases because they were built by left-handed families.	12. A heavy rod for stunning a newly-caught fish.
3. Dundee.	13. Alvis to Elvis..
4. Yacht racing.	14. Turkey.
5. An area in North Yorkshire bounded by Wakefield, Morley and Rothwell where rhubarb grows in abundance.	15. Harry Beck.
6. Moussorgsky.	16. Salt.
7. (a) Pontefract (b) Harrogate (c) Kendal	17. Skull Island.
8. Jeffrey.	18. Soya beans.
9. (a) someone afraid of cats (b) someone who loves snowdrops (c) someone afraid of spiders	19. Shin pads.
10. On an ice-skating rink, a type of jump.	20. Wing attack.

Committee Members & other u3a links

Chairman	John Twydle	chairman@maidenheadu3a.org.uk	01628 621644
Treasurer	Linda Main	treasurer@maidenheadu3a.org.uk	07962 255743
Secretary	Janet Rose	secretary@maidenheadu3a.org.uk	01628 624709
Membership Secretary	Maggie Kearney	membership@maidenheadu3a.org.uk	01628 637160
Groups Coordinator	Kathy Bell	groups@maidenheadu3a.org.uk	07752 660537
Speaker Organiser	Philip Ratcliffe	speakers@maidenheadu3a.org.uk	07710 160786
Newsletter	Pat Laković	newsletter@maidenheadu3a.org.uk	01628 782038
	Nuala Smith	newsletter@maidenheadu3a.org.uk	01628 541685
Website Editor	Nigel Roper	web@maidenheadu3a.org.uk	01628 636893

Websites & Social Media

Maidenhead u3a	www.maidenheadu3a.org.uk
Twitter	twitter.com/Maidenheadu3a.org.uk
Thames Valley Network	www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk
Third Age Trust	www.u3a.org.uk



MAIDENHEAD

(Registered Charity No. 1074907)

2022 Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, 12th April 2022 @ 2.30pm

Desborough Bowling Club

AGENDA

1. Welcome by Chairman
 2. Apologies for absence
 3. Matters arising from minutes of 2021 AGM
 4. Chairman's report
 5. Treasurer's report
 6. Acceptance of Treasurer's report and accounts
 7. Appointment of Independent Examiner for accounts
 8. Election of Committee members:
 - √ John Twyde, Philip Ratcliffe, Pat Laković, Linda Main and Kathy Bell submit themselves for re-election.
 - √ Nuala Smith, Janet Rose, Maggie Kearney, Derek Searle and Mandy Taylor submit themselves for election.
 9. Any other business
 10. Date of next AGM
-

MAIDENHEAD u3a
MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD via ZOOM on 13th APRIL 2021

Committee:	Chairman	Ian Ross
	Treasurer	John Twyde
	Newsletter	Pat Laković
	Membership Secretary	Linda Main
	Groups Co-ordinator	Kathy Bell
	Speakers Organiser	Philip Ratcliffe
	TVN	Jean Myhill

Other Members: Approximately 33 participants

1. Welcome by Chairman

2. Apologies for absence

Nigel Roper, Jill Powell, Margarette Shore, Vreny Breadon, Irene Goh and Rosemary Muncie.

3. Matters arising from minutes of 2020 Annual General meeting - none.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Ian Ross

Our last AGM took place three weeks into the first lockdown and here we are, three months into the third. Unlike many u3as, we have remained open but our activities have been heavily restricted.

First and foremost, our community appears to have escaped the virus relatively lightly, thanks to the caution and understanding of our members. However, I feel deeply for those who have died before their time or, like me, have lost family or close friends from Covid or other causes.

Over recent years our membership has been stable, around 600. It normally falls at renewal time which largely reflects our ageing population and increases during the year as new members join. Following our latest renewal, we have 529 members and we expect this to increase as our activities resume and soon reach pre-pandemic levels. We thank our membership secretary, Linda Main, for her energy and persistence in optimising this result in difficult circumstances.

The annual subscription has been £16 for several years but for this year only we reduced it to £8 (about the cost of a very average bottle of wine!) because so many of our activities have not been possible. We gave members the option of leaving their subscription at £16 and 49% did so, for which we are very grateful. Even in such a quiet year we still have expenses, as John will explain, but our financial position remains strong, which will help us to support a good bounce back.

Many of our conveners soon got to grips with Zoom and the following groups have continued to meet virtually: Ancient Literature, Aviation, online Bridge, two French groups, both German groups, three Spanish groups, Latin, Book Reading 1, Play Reading 2, Poetry, Scrabble and Science. Walking groups have also met outdoors when the rules allowed. Many others are already planning their resumption and we hope all 70 will be back before long. Outings have not been possible but Maura McGinley had planned visits to Devizes, Stratford on Avon and Lymington last year and is considering rebooking these in the summer, along with further garden visits. We thank and congratulate all those conveners who have kept their groups going throughout this difficult year and our Groups Coordinator, Kathy Bell, who has supported them.

The newsletter has made a huge contribution to keeping us connected. I'm sure you will join me in thanking Pat Laković for her energy and creativity, along with our poets, photographers, quiz masters and humourists who have raised our spirits through these dark

days.

Normally 70–100 regulars attend the monthly meeting at SportsAble and enjoy the social contact as well as the speaker. Over recent months, Philip Ratcliffe has organised speakers, via Zoom, on American Presidents, the Russell-Coates Art Gallery and Aromatherapy, and as many as 150 people have logged in. We hope we will soon be able to meet again in person but this will be in a different venue as SportsAble is closing.

We are members of the Thames Valley Network (TVN), a collection of some 40 u3as, and Jean Myhill attends their quarterly meetings which are now run via Zoom. They organise a wide range of speakers, Study Days and other events which we advertise in the newsletter and all u3a members can attend. Several committee members have participated and found them to be excellent but there is very little uptake from other members. We recommend these and some of you may find Zoom is an advantage because it removes the need to travel.

Last week I received a call from the former Chairman of The Third Age Trust (that's the National Office) who was surveying a wide range of u3as and it was gratifying to receive feedback that our activity level in these restricted circumstances was ahead of the pack.

The Committee has been very stable and has continued to meet every month via Zoom but, as usual, there will be a few changes at this AGM. After a record six years on the committee, our Secretary and Publicity Officer, Mo Wright, has decided to stand down and we thank her for her tireless service to our u3a. In line with our Constitution and national u3a practice, I am also standing down today on completion of my three year term of office. I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to serve as Groups Coordinator and then Chairman over the last five years and I am confident our u3a will thrive once more as we emerge further from lockdown, hopefully in July. I would like to thank all my committee colleagues and our brilliant band of conveners for serving our u3a so well.

I am delighted to propose John Twydle, who is well known to many of you in the Walking, Science and Aviation Groups, as my successor as Chairman. Could I have a seconder please? John Morris seconded.

It remains for me only to wish you all well and hand over to John to deliver the Treasurer's report, propose the new committee and lead the rest of the meeting.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT - John Twydle

The accounts have been examined by Peter Upton Ltd. as last year, and the signed accounts are available for any member who wishes to see them. An extract was published in the April newsletter. As last year, the accounts include a more extensive report for the Charity Commission in line with current best practice. An exceptional year for our u3a which, in the circumstances, was able to keep many of its activities alive to some degree.

Firstly, the Statement of Assets, the simpler of the two pages, which simply shows how much cash we hold at the bank and equates to the surpluses which we have accumulated over the years since our inception in 1998. You will note that the cash at bank has increased by some £3,866 during the year and this represents a surplus of income over expenditure for 2020. This surplus was due to the lack of activity due to the Covid pandemic and the suspension of all face-to-face meetings for the majority of the year.

Membership was largely static with income from subscriptions and Gift Aid down slightly.

Overall income was down about £3,900 but £3,400 of this related to no income from outings.

I would draw your attention to two items, with the exception of the newsletter, nearly all normal costs dropped. Theatre costs incurred in booking visits five months ahead were eventually reimbursed but appear to show significant activity when in fact they did not take place.

These exceptional figures and the surplus made prompted me to recommend to the Committee that subs be reduced by 50% for 2021. There was some concern that those who

paid directly to the bank would have additional administrative work and hence the option of a £8 donation which about 40% of members took up. Thank you.

I would like to thank Peter Upton for examining our accounts, and unless another examiner comes forward I would propose we use his services again to review the accounts for 2021.

While this year has been a struggle in many aspects of our lives Maidenhead u3a remains in a strong financial position.

I propose the adoption of the accounts. Seconded by Maurice Skinner

**University of the Third Age, Maidenhead
Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1074907

	Year Ended 31.12.20 Total funds £	Year ended 31.12.19 Total funds £
RECEIPTS		
Receipts	14,448	18,353
Other receipts	7	15
Total receipts	<u>14,455</u>	<u>18,368</u>
PAYMENTS		
Payments	9,989	16,954
Other payments	600	600
Total Payments	<u>10,589</u>	<u>17,554</u>
NET SURPLUS	3,866	814
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS		
Total funds brought forward	<u>14,007</u>	<u>13,193</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>17,873</u>	<u>14,007</u>

6. **Appointment of Independent Examiner** John Twydle proposed Peter Upton Ltd. as our examiner. This was seconded by Bill Teasdale.

7. Election of Committee Members

Current Committee:-

Chairman	John Twydle
Treasurer	Linda Main
Membership Secretary	Linda Main
Newsletter	Pat Laković
Group Co-ordinator	Kathy Bell
Speakers	Philip Ratcliffe
TVN	Jean Myhill

John Twydle proposed the current committee for re-election; Sheila White seconded this proposal.

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER:- Secretary, Janet Rose.

John Twydle proposed Janet as the new Secretary which was seconded by Ian Ross. John thanked past and current committee members and conveners for their service.

8. Any Other Business

Bill Teasdale pointed out that you could not have a u3a member as Auditor. John replied that he hoped one member had a family member or friend who could take over as Auditor. John was also thinking of co-opting one of his family to become Auditor for 2021/2.

Philip Ratcliffe suggested it might be a good idea if the Maidenhead u3a signed the Condolences Book for the Queen with regard to the sad death of The Duke of Edinburgh. This has now been done by John Twydle.

Kath Evans asked John Twydle if she could be considered as Promotions representative. John said the Committee would discuss it at their next meeting.

A brief mention was made of the possible new venues for u3a monthly meetings. Hopefully, we would get a room at the new Braywick Centre. The alternative is The Long Barn at Norden Farm. A final suggestion was the Town Hall. It was also suggested that the Maidenhead Bowling Club has new premises. Philip will investigate and report to the committee next month.

John thanked everybody for attending.

9. Date of next AGM - 12th APRIL 2022