Expanded thoughts on the chairman's report 2026

In my report it says that our success is attributed to a range of people giving their time and support to Sawston Area u3a and without that support it would not be possible to do what we do. THANK YOU TO ALL.

<u>Additional support</u>

Our group leaders/coordinators do a great job in running a wide range of groups. The committee recognise this and we now have a small support team to help them if required.

<u>Finances</u>

Our running costs are increasing year on year, and this year we have not increased membership fees, even though our cost are above our income. There is a Financial Sub-committee looking at our financial position. They will make recommendations to the Trustees/committee. Next year the membership fees will go up by £10. The standard fee will be £40 and no increase of £5 for the outings group.

<u>Gift Aid</u>

May I remind you again that it helps our finances if you can sign the Gift Aid box. Our latest Gift Aid claim was successful, after supplying additional information.

<u>Changing to an online system.</u> We have implemented this for a number of reasons. Our old system is no

longer supported, and out of date. The Beacon system is widely used by u3as around the country and supported by a dedicated team.

Cash and cheques are being used less, and more & more people expect to be able to pay for all manner of goods & services with a card. Because you are registered on the system, next year's membership payment should be more straight forward. You don't need a Pay Pall account.

We are trying to reduce the administration work load.

We are all volunteers, and not paid staff.

To help keep you informed we now have a newsletter. The first couple of issues were dedicated to instructions on registration & membership payment. Going forward this will change with a new editor of David Barnes.

The success of this will be depend on YOU supplying, news, articles and information about your group to David. Please send anything that you think will be of interest to our u3a.

<u>A couple of dates for your diary.</u>

It is good to get together across the various groups occasionally, so a couple of general meetings are planned, with a speaker. Wednesday 20th January 2027,

and Wednesday 14th April 2027. More details to follow. Watch this space!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

<u>Are there any questions?</u>

		30/06/2026					
Income					Expenditure		
	class income	3101.00			u3a HQ exp		3888.20
	golf	4352.80			class expenses		13559.22
	subs	10192.00			golf		4598.76
	visit subs	690.00			general expense		731.76
	visits	30767.00			Beacon		546.00
	interest	84.87			visit expenses		13421.00
	gift aid				visits		14288.30
	other				accounts		149.46
		49187.67					51182.70
							-1995.03

I have examined the books and from the information provided have found them to be in good order

G Southgate

Gavin Southgate

Date 20/9/26

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