



East Renfrewshire u3a
Scottish Charity No SC044004

Annual Report and Accounts

For Financial Year ended 31 March 2026

East Renfrewshire u3a – Annual Report and Accounts for Financial Year ended 31 March 2026.

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Charity Name

Our name was changed by special resolution of members held on 18th February 2026 (SGM). We are now officially known as “East Renfrewshire u3a.” This has also been updated on the Scottish Charity Register (OSCR).

Charity Number

SC044004

Contact Address

c/o Treasurer, Alison Gordon, 2 Deaconsbrook Road, Glasgow, G46 7UX

Trustees at the date of agreement of the Annual Report

Mary Fyfe	Chair, Publicity	Elected 2022
Annie Wills	Vice Chair, Membership Secretary	Elected 2025
Alison Gordon	Treasurer	Elected 2025
Hazel Dunnachie	Secretary	Elected 2026
Allison Kershaw	Groups Coordinator, Beacon Coordinator, Webmaster	Elected 2021
Shirley Thorogood	Hospitality Coordinator	Elected 2022
Leslie Rigg	Minute Secretary	Elected 2025
Jacquelynne Shore	Accessibility Officer	Elected 2026

Structure, Governance & Management

East Renfrewshire u3a is an unincorporated association, formed in 2008, which was granted charitable status by the Office of the Scottish Charities Register in May 2013. It is governed by our constitution which was adopted on 18 February 2026. It controls the affairs and resources of East Renfrewshire u3a. Membership of the Committee is open to all members of East Renfrewshire u3a. The u3a is affiliated to the Third Age Trust which provides guidance and support, training, and common services.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility to keep proper accounting records and prepare and submit accounts to members and the regulator OSCR and safeguard assets, act in the interest of the Trust, avoid and declare conflicts of interest and manage risk by close control.

Trustee Recruitment and Appointment

Committee members serve a term of one year and can offer themselves for re-election up to a maximum of 9 years. New Committee members are elected at the Annual General Meeting each year and the Committee may co-opt up to a further three members during the year to meet any identified needs. Committee members have collective responsibility for all decisions and meet formally at least ten times per year. All members of the Committee are Trustees of the charity.

Aims and Objectives

The stated aims and objectives are the advancement of education, and in particular the education of older people who have retired from full-time employment, residing in East Renfrewshire and its surrounding area. Keeping active mentally, physically, and socially is recognised as being of great importance post-employment. This is achieved through the operation of a range of interest and activity groups where members share the teaching and learning. All our activities are regarded as charitable for the purposes of the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

Summary of the Main Achievements and Performance

Membership

Membership of East Renfrewshire u3a is open to anyone no longer in full-time employment, on payment of an annual membership subscription. At the end of March 2026 there were 674 members. This compares with 612 in March 2025.

Interest Groups

East Renfrewshire u3a currently has 90 groups. Three groups ceased for various reasons – Social Saturdays, Fashion Through the Ages, Genealogy & Family History and the Rummikub and Scrabble groups have now merged. We would like to thank the facilitators for all they did towards the success of these groups.

Eleven new groups have started this year: Aperitif, Comealong and Singalong, Spanish Chat, Cribbage, Travel, Miniaturists, Poetry Writing, My Tunes, My Life Stories, Crime Book Thursday, and Crime Book Friday Groups.

Most groups have been well attended, and, in a few groups, there are waiting lists.

We have also had several short 'pop up' groups which have been extremely popular; Card Making, Stained Glass the Easy Way and Upholstery.

Events

A Facilitators Lunch was held in October. Sandwiches and cakes were served, and Facilitators were thanked for their commitment which has resulted in another successful year.

The guest speakers were Liz Ervine one of the Trust Council Representatives for Scotland and Gail Donaldson, Chair of u3a Scotland.

Liz gave an interesting talk describing her new role and a report of the recent highly successful Jamboree, held in Craiglockhart Campus, Edinburgh. Three East Renfrewshire u3a members held workshops at the Jamboree and the feedback was excellent.

Gail then described the function of u3a Scotland and their exciting plans for a Spring Meeting to be held at Pitlochry Festival Theatre and another Summer School in Stirling.

The lunch was a huge success.

East Renfrewshire u3a held two Headstart CPR and Defibrillator courses in September and over forty members received their Certificates.

A New Members Fair was held in March to let members know what East Renfrewshire u3a has on offer. Over twenty facilitators supported this initiative and set up display stands to encourage new members to join their group(s). A café with home baking was extremely popular.

Monthly Meetings

We have had a good variety of speakers over the year. The Christmas party was well attended and the entertainment, provided by a local Choir, and the catering were well received by members. Those attending were invited to donate to Prostate Cancer and a total of £235 was raised.

External Relations

The Chair, Group Coordinator and Treasurer have attended the Greater Glasgow Network meetings regularly along with representatives from Bearsden & Milngavie, Glasgow Westend, Glasgow Southside, Lenzie, Paisley, Helensburgh u3as, the Council Representative for Scotland and the Chair of u3a Scotland. They have also attended the Central Belt Network Zoom meetings.

Over 200 people enjoyed the Glasgow Network BBQ event which was held in June at the 1051 GWR and organised by the Chair of Glasgow West End and East Renfrewshire u3a's Group Coordinator.

A team from East Renfrewshire u3a take part in the monthly Interu3a Quiz, against teams from all over the United Kingdom. The Quiz group also enter a team into Glasgow West End u3a's annual Quiz.

The Chair and Group Coordinator attended the Best Practice Workshop led by two members of the Third Age Trust, held in The Barracks, Stirling at the start of November. This was an excellent opportunity to network with other Scottish u3a trustees.

Eleven East Renfrewshire u3a members attended a session, arranged by u3a Scotland in the Clarice Pears Building to find out more about becoming a Childline Volunteer Councillor.

Several members also joined the u3a Scotland Zoom Travel Event which resulted in a new Travel group being set with their first bus tour due to explore the North Coast 500 route in July.

Publications and Website

We produced twelve editions of our monthly newsletter, Chit-Chat, which is available on our website. This gives information about current groups, proposed groups, and various other items of information and news about our u3a. Some members also post on our Facebook page which is a private group page. The TAT magazine is available online or hard copy in the

post. Potential members can see our extensive list of groups and forthcoming events on our webpage.

All our policies are available on our website, and the Committee minutes are available on the site once approved. It is now easy to join online via our webpage.

We continue to use the secure Beacon System, which is managed by the Third Age Trust to hold our members information and for internal communications by our facilitators with their groups and for committee communications.

Acknowledgement

The Trustees want to thank all our Facilitators for their commitment and unstinting efforts without which East Renfrewshire u3a would not exist. We also acknowledge the help of volunteers who help in Hospitality roles, making new members feel welcomed and serving tea and coffee at our monthly meetings, the Speaker Organiser who comperes the monthly meeting and the Chitchat Editor. Their efforts are indispensable.

Financial Review

Subscriptions and Gift Aid are the main sources of income.

From the subscription of £24, £8.63 is paid to Third Age Trust leaving £15.37 to cover all other expenses.

Gift Aid of £1,057 received in the current year relates to 2024-25. From the subscription of £24 Gift Aid is claimed on £15 per enrolled member.

£757 was received from Riviera Travel which has an affinity arrangement with u3a pledging up to 10% of the total basic holiday cost as a charitable donation.

Groups requiring indoor accommodation continues to increase resulting in room hire costs for the current year being £13,193, an increase of £2,469.

Operational Funds and Reserves

The closing bank balance is £18,167. The recommended reserve level should be equivalent to 3 – 6 months expenditure, estimated as £5.7K to £11.5K. The reserves balance has reduced this year mostly due to increased room hire costs.

East Renfrewshire u3a

Receipts & Payments for the Year Ended 31st March 2026

Income	2026	2025
	£	£
Members' Subscriptions	16,676	14,870
Gift Aid	1,057	1,092
Other Income	2,195	587
Adj to subs/contras	1,006	-
Activity Account	8,177	10,185
Community Account	4,249	-
Bank Interest	204	130
Total	33,564	26,864

Expenditure

Room Hire	13,193	10,724
Speakers' Expenses	250	325
Sundries	767	534
Other Subs/Licences	433	356
Third Age Subscription	2,432	2,384
Magazine Delivery	2,036	1,927
Beacon	612	597
Catering Costs	816	499
Group Expenses	518	1,697
Marketing	378	-
Equipment	599	-
Adj to subs/contras	1,009	-
Activity Account	8,478	8,105
Community Account	4,061	-
Total	35,581	27,148

Surplus (Deficit)	(2,017)	(284)
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Opening Balance as at 1st April 2025	21,009	21,293
Surplus (Deficit)	(2,017)	(284)
Closing Balance at 31st March 2026	18,992	21,009

Bank Balances	18,167	20,068
Floats	-	3
Activity Account	637	938
Community Account	188	-
Total	18,992	21,009

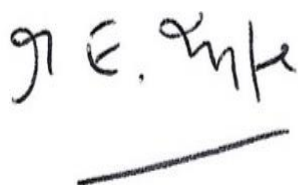
Notes

1. Assets are purchased but not capitalised. A list of owned assets is maintained and reviewed on an annual basis. Redundant assets are sold or written off.
2. £204 received was in respect of interest on the 32-day notice deposit account.
3. No Trustee received payments or expenses of a personal nature.
4. The balance left in the Activity account at year end is reserved to pay for future bookings and any sundry items.
5. The balance left in the Community account at year end is reserved to pay for tutor fees, room hire costs and sundry items.
6. Accounts are prepared on a cash basis.

The Annual report and Financial Statement were approved by the Trustees on 11 May 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Mary Fyfe

Chair



Handwritten signature of Mary Fyfe, consisting of stylized initials 'MF' followed by a horizontal line.

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Alison Gordon

Treasurer



Handwritten signature of Alison Gordon, written in a cursive style.

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Independent Examiner's Statement:

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

1. To keep accounting records in accordance with 44 (1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be rendered.

(Signed) Colin R Botfield Date 11.5.2026

Address supplied