

## TREASURER'S REPORT 2024-5

My first year as Cu3a Treasurer has been a challenging but enjoyable year. Our previous treasurer, Bob Pyatt, gave much of his time showing me how to take on the role; and the committee, group leaders and many others have been very supportive throughout.

You should all have a copy of the Accounts for 2024. These have been signed off by an independent examiner, and will now be submitted to the Charities Commission. The Accounts show the income and expenditure in detail for the Central Funds, and as a single line entry for the Groups' income and expenditure.

For the Central Funds, we have total income of £17113 and expenditure of £14276. Our income has increased as the new subscription level of £15 starts to feed through. However, costs have also increased in 2024 in some areas, such as venue hire, printing and postage.

We now have total reserves of £7500 which are in a savings account with Unity Bank. These reserves are to cover any unexpected costs which we would not normally budget for.

Looking forward to 2025, the Central budget has been distributed to members. As in 2024, we are facing increasing costs in the hire of all the venues we use (this affects many groups too), and in the costs for printing and postage. The cost of producing a paper newsletter and posting it is now in excess of £17 per year per member, hence a proposal to increase the subscription fee for members who have printed newsletters has been put forward.

The 2025 budget includes £1000 for the net costs of using start-up loans for new groups. This has been used successfully by the Pickleball Group in 2024, to purchase equipment upfront when member numbers were unknown. If a group does not become viable, any start-up loan is written off. If anyone thinking of starting a new group wishes to apply for a start-up loan, then please come and talk to me.

There is also a facility for a group leader to have a 'chargecard' which can be used for expenditure – similar to a credit card. Two groups currently make use of this facility. If any group leader would like to make use of this then please come and talk to me.

We are currently trialling on-line payments by members directly into a group's account. This will provide an additional method of payment to our members by using a debit/credit card or by PayPal for their group subscription, or for an event. This will only be switched on for a group at the request of the group leader.

There is plenty of IT support to help group leaders access and use the website accounts, including an IT Helpdesk, IT groups and our Web Manager.

So, thank you for all the support I have received this past year, and I am looking forward to working with you again during this coming year.

Pam Towers, Treasurer  
treasurer@charnwoodu3a.org.uk