

*Association of East
Midlands U3As*

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31st March 2014

The basis of our accounting procedures for the year ended 31st March 2014 became significantly different from the pattern of previous years. The level of transactions has been reduced as the majority of The Regional Representative Council's expenditure, traditionally funded by basic and special contributions from The Third Age Trust, has been superseded by direct payments from The Trust upon authorisation from the Regional Trustee. This new system works admirably.

During the year ended 31st March 2014 the three main sources of INCOME were (1) the member's contributions to the year 2013 Conference and AGM, (2) Annual contributions from Regional U3As and (3) Re-imburement from The Trust during transition to the new system.

Last July an amended approach to the collecting of Annual Contributions from Regional U3As (formerly known as Regional Affiliation Fees) was approved as follows: "This AGM agrees to invite all U3As in the region to contribute towards the funding of the Association of East Midlands U3As for 2013/14 on the basis of £10 for U3As with up to 250 members and £20 for U3As with more than 250 members". The two membership bands are determined by figures disclosed on the latest U3A Annual Returns to The Third Age Trust. It was confirmed that the Treasurer's invitation to U3As to contribute towards the funding would be by a simple request – to be despatched in the autumn - and not a formal demand.

The total amount finally received from U3As in response to the invitations (£1,160.00) was £110.00 higher than the previous year but the route to this achievement became an extremely protracted and highly problematic exercise taking up a great deal of Regional Officer's time. The total of the contributions disclosed in the Annual Accounts reflects the involvement of 70 U3As. Our sincere thanks go to those U3As and Regional Officers and Representatives who helped to achieve this. The Regional Representative Committee remain disappointed about the 18 U3As who failed to respond with their cheques either by resolution, default. or a breakdown in communications. Whilst maintaining the softer approach to U3As by means of an invitation to contribute we are aware that the vast majority of Treasurers require a document resembling an invoice to validate payment. This matter will be addressed during the coming weeks.

EXPENDITURE during the year was conventional.

THE BALANCE carried forward reflects the RRC's decision to establish sufficient funds to enable us to progress the efficient planning of future events and activities across the East Midlands Region.

The Regional Representative Committee will continue to keep the whole matter of Regional Finances under regular review.

David j Kyle, Treasurer, May 2014