Annual General Meeting 2026

20th October, 2.30pm

Savoy Theatre

1. **Attendance:** 157 members present, 4 members by proxy, total = 161

   Apologies for absence: Jan Malins, David Malins, Robert Harris, Christina Foy, Chris Sullivan, Peter Holmes, Claire James, Helen Benham, Liz Macintosh, Alex Ford, Margaret Phillips, Robert Elliot, Stella Elliot, Judith Lee, Nicole Kougl, Sian Wyman, Angela Hoyle, David Hoyle, Valerie Baker, Frances Chamberlain, Michael Saunders, Louisa Stafford, Susan Eriksson, Janice Delaney, Elaine Phillips, Carol Pell, Maurice Pell, Ann Webb, Alison Mothersdale, Marina Wynne, Sue Miles, Pamela Henley, Alun Vaughan, Adrian Banford.

2. **Minutes of the previous AGM:** Agreed.

3. **Recent Chair's report:** The chair from Oct 2025-Sept 2026 (Averil Macdonald) presented her report covering the highlights of the previous 12 months. The slides used for this presentation are contained in appendix A.

4. **Treasurer's report:** The treasurer (Neil Hines) presented slides showing the status of Monmouth u3a finances as of June 30th 2026 (being the end of the previous financial year) together with an update on the status of financial reporting support now provided by the Beacon system. The slides used for this presentation are contained in appendix B.

5. **Convenor awards:** a 10 years of convenor service award was due for Helen Levy who has acted as convenor for both Table Tennis (previously) and "Parkun" (currently). Unfortunately Helen was unable to attend to receive her award.

6. **Election of officers:** The following members had been nominated and seconded to be considered for the officer positions on the committee and were duly elected as such by the meeting:

   - Secretary: Dale King
   - Treasurer: George Parker

   An appeal was made for members to step forward to fill the vacant position of chair. An assurance was made that any member doing this would receive ample support while adapting to the role.

DRAFT

7. **Election of the committee:** The following 10 members had been nominated and seconded to be considered as members of the committee and were duly elected as such by the meeting:

    - David Milledge
    - Jo Handley
    - Aidan Hodgson
    - Monica Lofgren
    - Jan McLagan
    - Philip Hewitt
    - Sally Sheen
    - Andy Raynor
    - Carole Arvanitis
    - Rebecca Meyrick-Evans

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Recent Chair's Report 2026

Averil Macdonald

It's in the numbers

2024 = 750 members

2025 = 950

2026 = 1100!

Publicity

- Magazines:
  - Activities Showcase
  - Literary Links
  - Astronomy Special

  ……more planned for this year
- Savoy Advert:
- Monstock:
  - Featured in national u3a publicity

Quote from new member

"Monmouth u3a is known everywhere for its wide range of activities."

Out and About

What's On

- Trips Abroad: *Italy, Georgia, Thessaloniki*
- Theatre Trips: *Red Shoes*, *Edward Scissorhands, The Car Man*
- Classical Concert Trips: *Cardiff, Bristol, Newport*
- Day Trips: *Stourhead, Dyffryn Gardens, The Dell Vineyard*
- Cricket and Rugby Goers
- Gig Goers: *Dr Feelgood*
- Monstock: *8 Bands in 4 venues over 8 hours with almost £1000 raised*
- Pub Club - relaunched
- Parties – and NTXP

Drybridge House / Bridges

November 2025

- Floods devastate Monmouth
- Drybridge House inundated

- Challenge for u3a to find new venues
- Drybridge House unlikely to be available before end of 2027!

Activity Groups

- 123 Groups
- 150 Convenors

Particular thanks to all Convenors who worked so hard to find new venues and deal with the financial and logistical challenges.

u3a Monmouth

Thank You!

Thanks to
Aidan, Alison, Charles, Clive, David, Frank, Jan, Jo, Linda, Monica, Neil, Phil C, Phil H.

Welcome Dale and Sally to committee
Welcome Carole, Beckie, George and Andy as Finance Team

Goodbye to Neil, Frank, Linda and Phil C.

Volunteers, Committee, Helpers

Treasurer's report: financial snapshot to Financial Year End (30 June 2026)

Overview:-

- The annual accounts for the year ending 30062025 were formally examined and submitted to the Charity Commission together with the annual report, within the required time frame.
- These accounts can be viewed on our website(htttps://monmouthu3a.com), within the administration folder located at the bottom of the front screen.
- The accounts for the year ending 30062026 are currently being examined by our external examiner.
- Summary details of these accounts are shown on the next page.
- Following the disastrous flooding experienced in Monmouth in November 2025 the Committee adopted a cautious approach to our finances as our interest groups were forced to relocate and our central on-going costs became uncertain.

Treasurer's report: Year ending 30062026 summary details

- Cash at Lloyds Bank and investment values:
  - u3a accounts (committee, membership, deposit and investments): £17.5k
  - Activities accounts (groups accounts, deposit): £14.k
- Total income/expenditure u3a (Central related) : £18.0k/ -£11.3k
  - Membership Fees £12.9k
  - Gift Aid £2.0k
  - Sponsorship Income £1.9k
  - Members meeting income £1.0K
  - Third Age Trust (TAT) fees -£5.0k (£5.00 payable to TAT for every member)
  - Meeting costs - £1.9k
  - Members meetings and party costs -£1.5k
  - Equipment purchases - £1.3k
  - Administration costs and bank charges - £0.9k
- Groups total income £36.6k, Groups total expenditure -£36.0k

Beacon financial reporting

- Following the move during the last financial year of the financial records of Monmouth u3a onto the financial recording system - BEACON, provided by the TAT, the benefits of this move have emerged during this financial year.
- It provides a secure computer based system for our record keeping which allows a number of people to input to the system.
- All applicable Group Convenors now receive bi-monthly Beacon reports in an excel format on their group's finances.
- Also reports have been provided to organisers of ad hoc trips such as for the Theatre, Classical Concert and historic gardens groups, and one-off events such as the Summer and Winter parties.
- Our examiner was able to view our book-keeping online rather that having to work through excel spreadsheets.
- We have commenced to roll out the facility for applicable Convenors to have online access to view their own groups records on Beacon, with roll out to continue in the coming months.