

West Wolds U3A
AGM November 2017
Chairman's Report

My first year as chairman has been a steep learning curve and during that time I'm sure I've made mistakes and said the wrong thing but that's how we learn to be better.

My aim continues to protect what we have and to extend what we offer. Sometimes people don't know what they want until they are offered an opportunity. Henry Ford once said that if he'd listened to the public he would have bred faster horses and we all know how that turned out.

Some of us are enjoying a journey and some have arrived and are happy to stay where they are. West Wolds U3A is attempting to satisfy the travellers and those who have arrived.

As chairman and the committee - how have we fared?

Our numbers continue to grow as does our reputation with our members and other U3As in the area. We are seen as being innovative and successful.

What we offer you, our membership, is broad and deep. Our group co-ordinators are committed to their groups and the longevity of the groups proves their worth.

The visits organised so well by Brian Ward and the one-off special events delivered by Sharon Rupp are well attended but we could always use more support. We would be a poorer organisation without their stalwart efforts.

Our links to the University of Lincoln are slowly building and I look forward to future developments in the coming year with even more members getting involved.

Our finances are sufficient for the coming year however to maintain our viability we need to manage our budget carefully. We now have a projection of income and expenditure into 2019 which will help us plan for the future.

Here we get into the part where it becomes a bit like the Oscars. I want to thank all those who have supported the organisation over the past 12 months.

Our Greeters for assisting new members and making them feel welcome - thanks go to Sharon for taking this on and for Linda Brighton for managing it through the year.

Margaret for organising the catering so efficiently.

Sharon Rupp for arranging our speakers and for filling the programme in 2018.

Brian Ward and Terry Frances for their role in editing and producing our quarterly newsletter.

Shelley Franklin for taking on the role of membership secretary towards the end of our subscription year.

Thanks to Lyn and Eunice who are stepping down from the committee after many years of involvement.

The committee - who have committed time and energy to maintain the organisation with special thanks to David Oliver who has managed the committee arrangements so well and kept me on the straight and narrow.

And finally - a thank you to the membership for being here; for turning up at the groups and monthly meetings.

Many thanks...