

Minutes of the 27th Barnsley and District AGM
held on June 5th 2023 at The Metrodome, Queens Road, Barnsley.

1. Some 125 Bu3a members attended the meeting.
2. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting including a few new members.
3. Everyone stood in a minute's silence in memory of those members who had passed away during the past twelve months.
4. 'Barnsdale Hood' played a few tunes and raised £50 for the 'Louis George medical fund'
5. There were no questions about the Minutes of the 26th AGM in 2022 so acceptance of them was proposed by Ken Audin, seconded by Chrissie White and approved unanimously by the members.
6. The Chairman summarised his Annual Report for 2022-23 which was available for everyone to read in full on page 15 of the new 'Buzz' issued before the meeting started. The Report emphasises our strength in the number of members and group activities we have. Mention was made of our upcoming appearance on BBC's The One Show when Angela Rippon spent the day with Mac McKechnie and his Walking Cricketers. It was announced that we expect to be returning to Priory Campus for our Monthly Meetings from September. The move to Simple Membership went well and thanks were expressed to Robin Northcut and Trudy Atkinson for their work setting it up. Thanks were given to all 100 or so Coordinators who 'drive forward' our Bu3a. Acceptance of The Annual Report was proposed by Gwenda Midgely, seconded by Jean Constable and approved unanimously by the members.
7. The Treasurer, Hilary Newton, retiring from Committee after the maximum six years, spoke about the Accounts for the year, emphasising how well our decision to rent a storage space at Storefirst had gone with Flutes Galore and the Executive and Events Committees using it to offset the cost of rental. Acceptance of The Accounts were proposed by Jo Kasperek, seconded by Anne Swann and approved unanimously by the members.
8. At this point the Chairman presented cards and flowers to Hilary Newton and to Margaret Saxton who were both having to stand down after six years on Committee. He thanked them for their outstanding and exemplary service as Treasurer and Social Secretary, respectively. They had also received cards and gifts from the Committee itself.
9. The Chairman spoke of his delight in receiving twelve nominations from members to be on the new 2023 Committee, a figure that would probably be much envied throughout the u3a organisation. Added to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman who were entering their second year of office, this gives us the maximum size permitted of fourteen members sitting on Committee.
10. The election of Alan Swann as our President for a second year was proposed by Mike Pease, seconded by Alan Jones and approved unanimously by the members.

11. The election of two Officers for a period of two years, Janet Elvy as Business Secretary, and Niall Clarke as Treasurer, was proposed by Andy Kasparek, seconded by Audrey Eyre and approved unanimously by the members.
12. The election of the following eight Trustees to Committee for a period of one year, Trudy Atkinson, Pauline Buttling, Helen Dew, Jean Embury, Jo Kasparek, Indu Kumar, Robin Northcut and Sue Stokes was proposed by Don Smith, seconded by Max Senior and approved unanimously by the members.
13. The co-option of two members, Fred Brookes and Carmel Seston, to the Committee for a period of one year was announced but did not require a vote.
14. Mike Pease stated that he and Steve Hyner would again audit the Accounts in March 2024. The Chairman expressed his gratitude to them.
15. No resolutions had been put forward for consideration at the meeting.
16. Vice-Chairman and Buzz Editor, Helen Simms, addressed the audience and explained how, after our upgrade move to 'Simple Membership' for our management and website, 'The Buzz' will be changing in size to reduce printing costs but that in reality, The Buzz could expand as it is now interactive and, read online, offers links to videos sent in by contributors; it opens up many more possibilities. The renowned paper 'Buzz' will remain but 40 years after the introduction of the Internet, we need to move forward in our thinking.
17. Groups Development Officer, Indu Kumar, spoke about the 10 groups that have started in her first year of office. We now have 125 active groups, an impressive figure.
18. Choir Coordinator, Sue Rowley, spoke about the Choir's move last autumn to Wombwell Methodist Church from Emmanuel Church and said that she hoped that members would support the Summer Concert on the afternoon of Tuesday 27th June at Wombwell in the way they supported the wonderful 2022 Christmas Concert.
19. Travel Secretary, Chrissie White, spoke about upcoming visits including the Christmas visit to Harewood House.
20. There being no more AGM Business, the meeting concluded with several jigs, reels and the like from members of the Bu3a Ceilidh Band in its first appearance in public under the direction of brilliant musician, Helen Simms.