

Minutes of the 27th Annual General Meeting of U3A Takapuna,

held at the Northcote Citizens Hall

On 1st August, 2018, Chaired by President Ron Wilson.

The President welcomed about 120 members

Apologies: Doreen Brown, Toni Coombes, Barbara Evans, Stuart Kendon and Jess Stanners

Minutes of the 2017 AGM: These were distributed around the hall, and were posted on the U3A Takapuna website. President Wilson moved that the minutes be accepted as a true and correct record of the 2017 AGM. Seconded/ Tony Lewis. Passed.

President's Report 2018:

We have had another very successful year with great speakers and even more Special Interest Groups.

Membership has increased to almost 300

U3A is built on the efforts of its members and it is right that we should pause for a few moments to remember those members who have left us in the past year, as well as those in hospital, or in poor health...

Our funds are in pretty good shape but we have to watch our spending. Our biggest cost is probably the monthly newsletter and with the ever increasing costs of postage and printing we are going to look at offering an email newsletter to those members that would prefer to receive it via email.

More on this later

Our Hall has been refurbished and is a great improvement on its previous condition.

Thanks to this go to Kaipatiki Trust who are now managing this hall.

Study Groups are the reason for U3A's existence and we now have 37 Groups. There is usually something that members will find to their interest, but there is always room to have more Groups. If you have a desire to see a new group talk to me or anyone on the committee. We will work with you to setup the new group if there is sufficient demand.

Our monthly meeting is now the largest group that we run. We get around 140 people attending the monthly meeting and they get to hear some amazing speakers some from our own members (Big Thank you to all those who gave mini talks this year), and some from invited speakers.

We had a very positive new Members meeting earlier this year and I am sure that our Groups will benefit from people deciding to join after hearing from the Convenors of our groups.

Our website and Facebook site try to provide information that will help members see what is on, and what has happened. We now provide recorded talks of both mini and main speakers. Our website also keeps the last 12 months of our newsletter. It is very easy to access and whether you opt to receive the newsletter by email or post, you can always go to website to read it.

Facebook keeps those that are on Facebook up to date with each month's speakers. Be sure to like our Facebook page and it will then keep you up to date

We have many members that work behind the scenes and we need to thank them. Without this work U3A would grind to a halt.

Murray Pearson who so diligently prepares our newsletter each month and has now undertaken the email newsletter

John and Judy Hanna, for looking after the posting of the newsletters.

Our sound team of Gary Dimmock and Barry Hartley, our Video team of John C B White and Chris Dentith, and to our Hall setup team of Boyd Millar and Paul and Pauline Silver, to Marcia Roberts for getting our morning tea organised each month. To Hilary Miller who has carried on as Acting Treasurer when we could not find anyone to replace her. Actually Hilary did so many non-finance

things that we are going to have a huge hole to fill. She has an amazing understanding on what should be done and often doing it herself in many cases. An extra big thanks to Hilary. Thank you also to our convenors who put in many hours preparing and running their respective Study Group(s), without you there would be no U3A and finally to everyone that helped in anyway, Thank You.

I move that my report be received. Seconded by Elizabeth Lind-Mitchell / Passed

Treasurer's Report:

Increased subscription income reflects the increase in membership to around 300, and more members paid in advance before the end of the previous financial year.

The Term Deposit capital of \$11,000 was reinvested for a further year, with the balance transferred to the operating account.

Depreciation of our newer assets continues – the projector, and the computer for use with the projector. Most of our assets have already been fully depreciated.

The hire charge for the hall was not increased following the refurbishment and change of management, and in addition we are no longer charged for the hire of lockers to store our equipment.

The charge for printing the Newsletter has remained unchanged for many years, but postal rates are increasing steadily. The combined cost of printing and distributing the newsletter is a significant expense. We purchased several packages of post-paid envelopes before the recent price increase on July 1, which has delayed the increased cost for a few months.

Expenses associated with the Christmas function continue to rise. The \$5 part-charge, which was initiated in 2010, now falls well short of covering the costs. Rather than continuing to absorb this shortfall, the Committee intends to increase the part-charge this year so that the cost is more fairly carried by the members who are able to attend and enjoy the occasion.

Sundry Expenses included, as well as the usual charges associated with website hosting, purchase of a study course DVD and a supply of the badges produced by the Auckland U3A Network.

While there was a small deficit for the 2017-2018 financial year, U3A Takapuna remains in a strong financial position.

I move that this report be adopted Hilary Miller, Acting Treasurer / Graeme Leaming. Passed

Appointment of Auditor: Ron explained that Martin Lee had been our auditor for a number of years and is happy to continue.

Hilary thanked Martin for his help and advice while she has been Treasurer.

Ron moved that Martin Lee be our Auditor. Seconded by Hilary Millar. Passed

Election of Officers:

Ron explained that the Constitution outlined how long members could hold office for and went on to thank those committee members who were standing down.

Graham Alcock – Immediate Past President with special thanks for his helpful advice and support Hilary Millar for her wonderful work as acting treasurer in 2018

Stuart Kendon – Speakers

Helen Ritson – Membership

Three new members Jan Judson, Rowena Scarlett, and Jeanette Maddox were nominated and as there were no nominations from the floor, an election was unnecessary.

David Gibbs was nominated as Treasurer Ron/Hilary - Passed

There was no nomination for Vice President

The New Committee is President Ron Wilson

Treasurer David Gibbs

Secretary Elizabeth Lind-Mitchell

Committee Christine Ball, Sue Pearson, Marcia Roberts, Jan Judson, Rowena Scarlett, and Jeanette Maddox.

The committee has the ability to co-opt other committee members as the need arises.

General Business:

Ron explained that there was one significant item – Appointment of Life Members. This is the opportunity to honour and recognise the significant service of a member and on this occasion we honour a member who has been a founding member, a committee member, a convenor of study group and who has been prepared to give talks as required – Graeme Leaming.

Ron presented Graeme with a Certificate and a U3A Badge.

Graeme thanked the committee for this great honour which had come as a big surprise. He spoke of his friend and neighbour Peter Kivell who had encouraged him to attend the founding meeting. He had enjoyed his membership for 28 years and was looking forward to many more years with U3A.

Liz Milne raised the issue to the Vice President's position and hoped that someone would come forward over the next year.

Judy Hanna commented on the cost of the Christmas Lunch which would have been a cost to the whole group if the committee had not agreed to increase the cost to those attending. She was sad to see that the current committee had not continued to provide muffins for the AGM morning tea. Christine Ball invited new members to seriously consider joining the committee and asked anyone interested to speak with Ron.

A new member spoke about her concern at the use of polystyrene cups and wondered if consideration had been given to the use of recyclable cups. It was explained that this had been tried but members found these cups too hot to hold and consequently used more than one. It was agreed that the committee should once again look at this topic.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.15 am

Elizabeth Lind-Mitchell
Secretary