

Minutes of the U3A Takapuna 28th A.G.M.,
held at the Northcote Citizens Hall
on 7th August, 2019 Chaired by President Ron Wilson.

The President welcomed about 120 members.

Apologies: Brucilla Wright, David Gibbs, Hilary and Boyd Miller, Jeanette Maddox and Denise Vaughan

Minutes of the 2018 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 2018 AGM. Seconded by Elizabeth Lind-Mitchell. Passed

President's Report 2019

We have had another very successful year with great speakers and our Groups have had several new additions. I encourage all members to look at our groups often, as there maybe a new Group that you would like to try. You can find a list of current Groups in our Newsletter each month or on our website at any time.

Membership had increased to a little over 300.

U3A is built on the efforts of its members and it is right to 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 you will hear more in the Treasurer's Report.

Our website and Facebook sites 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 the 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.

Thank you also to our convenors who put in many hours preparing and running their respective Study Groups, without you there would be no U3A and finally to everyone that helped in any way, Thank You.

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

Treasurer's Report

In accordance with our constitution the annual accounts for U3A Takapuna Incorporated for the year to 30th June 2019 have been audited and approved by our long standing auditor and member, Martin Lee. I take this opportunity to thank Martin for his many years of service in doing this job.

I am pleased to advise that after several years of small losses we made a surplus this year of \$1,353.44. This is attributable to an increase in income and a small reduction in expenditure on last year. Income increased due to a small subscriptions total increase as members went up from 300 to 307 and also to increasing the charge for our Christmas lunch from \$5 to \$10. This increase did not fully cover the cost of the lunch but helped with the bottom line annual accounts surplus.

Our largest on-going expense by a significant margin is the mailing out of our monthly newsletter. The next largest expense is the printing of the newsletter. Together these two items comprise 52% of our total expenditure. This cost will rise with postage increases. Members may want to consider voluntarily removing themselves from the mailing list and receiving the email version only, if this is something that they feel comfortable with.

As a result of our surplus this year, \$2,000 was removed from our operating account to our term deposit account bring our cash reserves on deposit up to about \$13,000. This is now on a 6 month term at the best possible rate. This amount of reserve is in line with our auditor's recommendation to hold the equivalent of about 1 year's expenses in cash reserves. We should, however, consider appropriate uses of surplus funds in the coming year.

I am pleased to say the U3A Takapuna is in a strong financial position and the committee has decided that subscriptions be held unchanged at this point in time.

Finally, I took over the role of Treasurer at the start of this year from Hilary Miller and I thank her for her excellent past work and assistance in the changeover.

The report was written by David Gibbs (Treasurer) and presented by Ron Wilson (President) in David's absence.

It was moved that this report be adopted Ron Wilson. Seconded /Jan Judson. Passed

There was a request for clarification about the catering costs for the Christmas function. Major cost was payment to the catering company. Additional costs were incurred for the fruit platters and other incidentals which were reimbursed to committee members.

Another member expressed concern the increase in accumulated funds. It was explained that the committee would be reviewing this in the next few months.

It was recommended that Martin Lees be reappointed as auditor. This was carried by acclamation.

Special Motion: Proposed Ron Wilson Seconded Tony Lewis

That owing to our constitutional need for Presidents to serve no longer than two years and to ensure the continuity of our Committee, that this Annual General Meeting approves the current President of U3A Takapuna's term be extended for one extra year and such term will expire at end of Annual General Meeting in August 2020.

This motion will need to gain 2/3 majority at our Annual General Meeting in August 2019 to pass.

Background: Ron explained that he was proposing such a motion because Stephen Warnes had other commitments that prevented him from taking on the role of President in 2019/2020. He would however come on to the committee as Vice President. As a consequence Ron had agreed to continue for a further year as President if the members agreed.

Christine Ball thanked Ron for his willingness act as President for a further year and Stephen for being prepared to come onto the committee in the role of Vice President with a view to being President in 2020.

Norman Lodge expressed concern that this would become the norm as in previous years there had been difficulty in getting members to step forward to take up the role of President. Ron pointed out that this was why the proviso that this situation would expire at the 2020 AGM had been included in the motion.

There was no further discussion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Election of Committee and Officers

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

Marcia Roberts – Catering Convenor

Elizabeth Lind-Mitchell – Secretary

Leonie Kho – Study Group Convenor

Three new members had been nominated Erica Brash (Secretary), Stephen Warnes (Vice President) and Brucilla Wright and as there were no nominations from the floor, an election was not necessary. Other members of the current committee will continue:

Ron Wilson – President

David Gibbs – Treasurer

Jan Judson - Membership

Jeanette Maddox

Christine Ball - Speakers Convenor

Rowena Scaletti - Groups Convenor

General Business:

Ron went on to say U3A has many members who go the extra mile. People who work behind the scenes to make U3A run smoothly and it is appropriate that we honour these workers. I would like to bring to your attention the following people.

Gary Dimmock and Barry Hartley who every month are here working the sound system. Boyd Miller and Chris Dentith who make sure that the projection system works. Murray Pearson who every month puts together our newsletter and who has also enabled an email version of the newsletter. The Silvers, Pauline and Phil who every month set out the hall furniture and also make sure all is stacked away afterwards, and the Hanna's who every month make sure you get your posted copy of the Newsletter.

These members together with your committee members, the following who are stepping down this month because their term has expired. Elizabeth Lind-Mitchell who has served more than one term on the U3A committee and who steps down this year after serving as secretary. Marcia Roberts completes her period as Catering Convenor where she made sure we got our cup of tea and biscuits every month and Sue Pearson who greets us all as we arrive out front and looked after Reception. In many cases people are happy to continue on the committee but those with specific appointments have to cease at the expiry of the role. Of course many in the past have stepped up to fill other positions and in this way they may serve much longer.

I would like to thank all the people I have mentioned and all the committee members, those retiring and those remaining and especially those that work outside the committee but without whom we would not be able to function as efficiently as we do.

Please show your appreciation to all these people.

Warwick Elley and Tony Lewis please come up onto the stage.

Our constitution also has a way of honouring people that have not just served on the committee but also served in other areas of U3A. This is the Life Member and from time to time we identify these people and honour them with Life Membership. These people in the words of a previous President have distinguished themselves in an outstanding way.

On behalf of all of us at U3A I would like to thank you both — Warwick and Tony, for outstanding service over all the years and now present you with Life Membership of U3A Takapuna. As I said earlier you have both well-earned this by your long service to U3A.

Ron then presented Warwick and Tony with a Certificate and updated membership badge.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.31am

Elizabeth Lind-Mitchell

Secretary