



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF U3A NETWORK NSW Inc.**  
**held at WEST TAMWORTH LEAGUES CLUB, WEST TAMWORTH.**  
**FRIDAY 12 APRIL 2019**

The meeting opened at 10.30AM

**Welcome:** The President. Ian Robertson, welcomed members to the meeting.

**APOLOGIES AND ATTENDANCE**

**Apologies:** Richard Coggan [Lake Macquarie]; Lyndall McKenzie [Tamworth]; Evan Coutts [Tamworth]; Patsy Bourke [Tamworth]; Robyn Fewins [Maitland].

**Voting Delegates Registering their Attendance:**

Anne Mason [SAM]; Susan Coggan [Southlakes]; Gabi Brie [Kempsey Macleay Valley]; Laura O'Brien [Clarence River]; Jean Lewis [Port Stephens]; Denise Challis [Nepean Blue Mountains]; Carolyn Kingsmill [Central Coast]; Beverley Peken [Sydney]; Lorraine Beukers [Port Macquarie Hastings]; Allan Haggarty [Griffith]; Fiona Abbey [Maitland]; Peter Gibbs [North Illawarra]; Robin Hodgins [Shellharbour City]; John Sharkey [Tamworth Regional]; Peter Wiblin [Northern Rivers]; Brian Spilsbury [Goulbourn Mulwaree]; Pamela McGlenn [Tuggerah Lakes]; Greg Harris [Cessnock City], Roger Irving [Lake Macquarie]; Charles Walker [Kiama]; Denis Simond [Shoalhaven]; William Dwyer [Liverpool]; Barry Jensen [Orange]; Robert Nield [Canberra]; Bev Tapper [U3A Online]; Brian Mussared [Tweed Coast]; Carole Cairns [Grafton]; Lina Ingram [Manning Valley]; Glenys Webber [Inverell]; Jean Pitkin [Hawkesbury]; Roger Curran [Brunswick Valley].

**Non-delegate Committee Members in Attendance**

Ian Robertson [Sapphire Coast], Laurene Mulcahy [Southlakes]; James Nichterlein [ACT]; Helen Matthews [Liverpool]; Margaret Stratton [Northern Illawarra]; Bob Birrer [Kempsey Macleay Valley] Carmen Champion [Milton/Ulladulla].

**Individual Members:** As per attendance list, there were 32 individual U3A members were also in attendance.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (Friday 13 April 2018)**

There were no changes to the Minutes as circulated.

**MOTION:** *That the Minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 30 June 2017*

**Moved:** Ian Robertson [President] **Seconded:** Laura O'Brien [Clarence River] **CARRIED**

**REPORTS**

Reports from the President, Treasurer and Regional Representatives as previously circulated were tabled.

**President's Report – Ian Robertson**

Restructure of Regions

Follow the restructure last year, Regional Representatives were assisted to serve the members in their regions by meeting three times in Sydney during the year and presentations from insurance brokers, copyright agencies, a focus on network logos issue, registering trademarks, the development of a governance subcommittee, templates for policies and procedures. and fair reimbursements costs for transport and accommodations. All these are items to provide local management committee with the assistance they request it

### Trade Marks

Using the expertise of Carmen Champion, a former barrister, the Network has the ability to protect the names "U3A" and "The University of the Third Age", along with the logo. As a result, the Network rightfully claim ownership of the intellectual property in Australia.

### Membership Services

As a service to members, one of the services that Regional Representatives to organise regular forum and training events for members in their regions.

The Network has already been negotiating Volunteer Accident and Protection/Associations Liability, which is also known as Directors' Liability, which is also important new insurance. An expended Music Licence will be available in early July.

Allan Haggarty and Carmen Champion have developed a new U3A Model Constitution, which new U3As will be required to use and current U3As would be invited to consider using in whole or in part.

The Networking is looking at developing U3A-branded such as lanyards, presentations pens, notebooks and diaries.

### Publicity and Communications

"The Senior" newspaper is sponsoring the Conference. They are looking for an opportunity to leave their newspaper on a weekly basis so that they can be distributed to all U3A members.

Our webmaster Elena Scifleet continues to do a wonderful job keeping the Website up to date as does Ainslie Lamb in publishing *Newslink*. Because of the volume of work both of them do, the Network is looking at some extra assistance to them.

### Resources for Courses

Lyn Stewart from Gloucester District U3A has taken on the Resource Librarian. Lyn is also involved in promoting Enhance TV. Eventually, the Network will move to appointment of Subject Advisers.

### Membership

There has been a small decline in numbers over the last years. There has also been the creation of Bingara (NW NSW), and the demise of Broken Hill and Warrumbungle

### The Future

The Network is at a critical time in its development because it has reached the limits of what is possible in as an all-volunteer organisation. We must strive to be more inclusive of different cultures, abilities and backgrounds. What we have got us where we are today, will not keep us here today. The Network can either meet the challenge of a changed world by increasing our professionalism support for U3As and public profile or we can stay as we are – trying our best with what we have. There is a slight increase in member fee but it will assist top help a future for the Network and its member U3a.

### Appreciation

The President thanked Allan Haggarty, who was the Murrumbidgee-Murray Representative and who spend 10 years on the Network Committee, Beverley Peken, who was Vice-President and Rowena Simone, who has Secretary, who have all stood down from the Network Committee and all who served on the Network Committee.

**MOTION:** *That the President's Report be received and noted*

**Moved:** Ian Robertson [President] **Seconded:** Laura O'Brien [Clarence River] **CARRIED**

### **Treasurer's Report**

The President, Ian Robertson tabled the report on behalf of the Treasurer [Richard Coggan].

#### **Income**

- Insurance (\$2213 shortfall)
- DVD Sales (\$1,555 gain)
- Senior Sponsorship (\$4,000)

#### **Expenses**

- Regional Representatives (\$5,000 below budget)
- Full Committee Costs (\$1500 below budget)

**Annual Financial Statements for 1 January to 31 December 2018.** In summary:

Total Income	\$ 42,219
Total Expenditure	\$ 68,109
<b>Cash Profit/(Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 25,609</b>

**Total Assets** \$71,669 (All current funds held on account at NAB) **Total Liabilities** \$ nil

**MOTION: *That the Financial Reports be received and noted***

**Moved:** Ian Robertson [President] **Seconded:** Beverley Peken [Sydney] **CARRIED**

### **Regional Representatives Reports**

The following reports were tabled

1. Central Coast/Hunter Region – Laurene Mulcahy
2. Central & Far West of NSW – Allison Aspden
3. Mid North Coast Region – Bob Birrer
4. Monaro/South Coast Region – James Nichterlein
5. Murrumbidgee/Murray Region – Allan Haggarty
6. New England/North West Region – John Sharkey
7. South Coast Region – Margaret Stratton

**MOTION: *That the remaining Reports be received and noted***

**Moved:** Susan Coggan [Southlakes] **Seconded:** John Sharkey [Tamworth] **CARRIED**

### **RETURNING OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Returning Officer, Carmen Champion, advised that no election for the Office Bearers or General Committee positions was necessary as only one nomination had been received for each position as follows:

President	Ian Robertson (Sapphire Coast)
Vice President	Laurene Mulcahy (Southlakes)
Treasurer	Richard Coggan (Eastlakes)
Secretary	Robert Birrer (Kempsey-Macleay)
General Committee	John Sharkey (Tamworth) - New England/North West Region Margaret Stratton (Nth Illawarra) – South Coast Region James Nichterlein (ACT) - Monaro/South East Region Allison Aspden (Bathurst) – Central and Far West Region Laurene Mulcahy (South Lakes) Central Coast – Hunter Region Robert Birrer (Kempsey/Macleay) – Mid North Coast Region

All the above were declared elected unopposed.

It was noted that as no nominations were received for the positions of Far North Coast and Murrumbidgee/Murray Regional Representatives: the incoming committee may co-opt people to fill them.

**PROPOSED INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP FEES**

An alternative motion was put by Lorraine Beukers [Port Macquarie Hastings] but failed to gather adequate numbers.

The original motion was then put.

**MOTION:** *That the Network Membership Fee (or capitation fee) be increased to 50 cents (from 40c) per person up to a maximum of \$600 (currently \$200) from 2020.*

**Moved:** Ian Robertson [President] **Seconded:** Peter Wiblin [Northern Rivers] **CARRIED**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no further business the President thanking members for their attendance and efforts throughout the year

The meeting was declared closed at 11.10AM

Signed as a true and correct record

President/ Chair

Dated .....2020