

## **Come to our AGM**

Come to our AGM on Tuesday 15 August at 10:00 am. We will present reports, hold a brief election, have fun with some performances from a few of our classes and then tuck into a special morning tea.

This is the annual opportunity for U3A members to meet and compare notes. We have over 120 members, most of whom are active in one or more groups or classes but who don't often come together. We are a club, a volunteer organisation which exists to provide learning and social opportunities within our community that are mainly oriented towards seniors. Almost all of our activities and services are provided by unpaid volunteers. Personal interaction is an essential ingredient in maintaining the relationships necessary to get people working for a common cause. Please make the most of this occasion.

Depending on whether more nominations are received prior to the AGM, we may call for committee nominations from the floor. Contact me on 0413 060 010 or [email](#) if you would like further information.

My annual report is at the end of this newsletter.

Roger Curran, President

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## **From the President**

### **Fees now due**

Membership fees for the 2017/18 year are now due. The annual fee is \$15. There is no joining fee but classes/activities may charge additional fees for materials and/or venue hire.

### **Annual Luncheon**

Our Annual Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, 29 August at the Brunswick Heads Bowling Club. The luncheon will be a two course meal at a cost to members of \$20 per head. The venue is bright and airy and offers plenty of space to move around and mingle. There will be a sign up sheet at Tuesday Forum or [Contact Us](#) if you would like to come. Money by 22 August, please.

## **Growing Orchids is Fun**

Our newest course, Growing Orchids, is proving to be a great success. Ken Wood is a font of knowledge as well as being an entertaining character. The sessions have a theme, the most recent being "What pot should I use for each type of orchid and do I need to vary the potting mix to suit the orchid?"

A reminder to Growing Orchid participants - the Byron Orchid Society show is Friday September 8 and Saturday 9, so we aren't having a workshop in September. Come to the show instead to find out more about orchids. There will be hundreds of orchids and plants for sale there. You don't have to be a member to enter a plant in the show, but it should be delivered to the club on Thursday between 4 and 5pm.

For those who aren't Byron Orchid Society members, the next meeting will be at the Uniting Church hall on Sunday August 20 beginning at 2pm. We will have a great display of members' orchids and some members will have them for sale. Two of the top growers will be demonstrating how to prepare orchids for showing at the upcoming show.

Many thanks to Penny Fox for coordinating the Growing Orchids group.



## **Tuesday Forum – Term 3 – 2017**

### **August 15<sup>th</sup> – AGM**

Join us for a brief meeting followed by displays from various groups, showing us the output of their activities over the year. There will be presentations from the language groups and items on display from the Men's Shed and Busy Beaders. We will finish the meeting with a special morning tea.

### **August 22<sup>nd</sup> – Jim Rankin**

Well being – looking after your body

### **August 29<sup>th</sup> – Annual luncheon**

11:30 Brunswick Heads Bowling Club

### **September 12<sup>th</sup> – Alan Maclean**

Many topics

### **September 19<sup>th</sup> – Richard Allen**

Quadriplegia

## **BVU3A President's Report - August 2017**

Once again, Brunswick Valley U3A has enjoyed a successful year. Membership is slightly lower at 123 financial members but, again, most are active in at least one of the club's activity groups or are regular attendees at Tuesday Forum. So thank you members for your continuing support and participation.

Thank you to the leaders and coordinators of our courses and activity groups and to Dot Andrews, our Speakers Coordinator. These members are the lifeblood of the club. We were very pleased to welcome a new course leader this year, Ken Wood of Ballina U3A. Thanks to Ken for coming all the way from Ballina to run the Orchid Growing Workshop and to Nareda Price for hosting the group at her home.

The club is fortunate in having members volunteer to host courses and activity groups, which keeps our costs down. We also enjoy the hospitality of some local establishments free of charge so thanks to the Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club and the Ocean Shores Tavern for their facilities. We have enjoyed the use of the Uniting Church hall for many years at a very reasonable rate and, although we have virtually a permanent booking, we only pay for the dates when we actually meet here. We also store our meeting equipment here and have the use of the kitchen, so I am pleased to acknowledge how fortunate we are to enjoy the use of this hall.

The other group of members that need to be recognised are those who occupy the volunteer roles that look after hospitality, collect fees and maintain lists and records. Particularly, I need to thank Des Wann who has taken responsibility, not only for setting up the presentation equipment at Tuesday Forum week after week, but also for maintaining these important club assets and for developing a replacement program.

Thank you to the committee members for their participation in the governance of the club and to Penny Fox, our Public Officer. Your committee has been meeting on a monthly basis and deals expeditiously with most matters because much of the administration is handled by our leaders and coordinators. There are a couple of issues that have been left for next year's committee and these include consideration of a membership building campaign and whether to attempt a more active social program. I have renominated for President and would love to be joined by a few new committee members keen to bring a different touch to the running of the club. The club really needs more members with technical and website skills to come forward as well as a budding social secretary and a club photographer, not to mention someone to help us with membership building.

In my report last year, I raised concerns about the future of Tuesday Forum given the declining attendances. I am pleased to say that we have experienced a general improvement over this last year but I do urge all members to support it more fully. Dot Andrews provided a impressive line-up guest speakers over the last year but there have been a couple of great sessions where attendance was very disappointing. Your committee decided to institute 'excursions' as a once-a-month alternative to meetings at the Hall. We have enjoyed mixed success but there is at least one more in the pipeline. Once again, this is an area where member feedback would be really appreciated. The committee put out a suggestion box this year but, frankly, we get few suggestions.

Your U3A is a volunteer-run community organisation, make the most of it and give back when you can.

Have a great year!

Roger Curran  
President  
Brunswick Valley U3A