

CELEBRATING
20 **YEARS**
1999 - 2019
Brunswick
Valley **USA**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY 20 AUGUST 2019
UNITING CHURCH HALL BRUNSWICK HEADS

AGENDA

1. Welcome by the President
2. Attendance and Apologies
3. Minutes of the 2018 AGM (page 3)
4. Treasurers Report (page 4)
5. President's Report (page 11)
6. Awards of Life Membership to David and Marilyn Rowlands
7. Declaration of members elected to the Committee.
8. Call for nomination of an ordinary member to Committee.
9. General Business - no notices of motion have been received.
10. AGM Close
11. Entertainment and Static Displays
12. Morning Tea

Members declared elected to the Committee

President	Roger Curran	(Spruce/Curran)
Vice President	Toni Spruce	(Curran/Curran)
Secretary	Denise Curran	(Fox/Spruce)
Treasurer	Merle Siwicki	(Curran/Curran)
Ordinary Member	Ian Gothard	(Curran/Youdan)
Ordinary Member	Penny Fox	(Curran/Curran)

Members in Positions of Responsibility for 2019/2020

Public Officer	Penny Fox
Speakers Coordinator	Denise Curran and Roger Curran
Technical Coordinator	Des Wann
Hospitality	Maggie Sorrenson, Nareda Price
Web Manager	Denise Curran
eNewsletter	Denise Curran and Roger Curran
Meet & Greet	Beth Wann, Carol Youdan
Honorary Auditor	Randall Rofe

Vacant Positions of Responsibility

Membership Secretary, Photographer, Course Coordinator

Members Retiring from the Committee

The club recognises the service of retiring Committee Members

John Youdan

Chris Fisher

Awards of Life Membership

Marjory Siegel

Dot Andrews

Des and Beth Wann

David and Marilyn Rowlands

MINUTES OF THE 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 14 AUGUST 2018

UNITING CHURCH HALL, FINGAL ST, BRUNSWICK HEADS

1. Welcome The meeting opened at 10:00 a.m. with a welcome from the President. Members present are recorded on the attendance roll.
2. Apologies Patricia Morgan, Toni Spruce, Margaret Bayliss and David Ashton
3. Minutes: Tabled in the AGM booklet. Accepted on the motion of Denise Curran, seconded Jean Elliott
4. Treasurer's Report: Tabled in the AGM booklet. Accepted on the motion of Merle Siwicki, seconded Beth Wann.
5. President's Report: Tabled in the AGM booklet and presented by Roger Curran.
6. Special Awards
 - o The President called on Pat Irvine to present a gift and a Certificate of Appreciation to Dot Andrews on the completion of fifteen years service as a committee member of Brunswick Valley U3A.
 - o The President called on Ingrid Johnston to present a gift and a Certificate of Appreciation to Bev Sweeney for her service to the Tai Chi and Qigong program at Brunswick Valley U3A.

7. Election of Office Bearers

The constitution of Brunswick Valley U3A Incorporated provides for a committee of seven consisting of a President, vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and three Ordinary Members.

The President called on retiring Ordinary Member of the Committee, Ingrid Johnston, to conduct the election of office bearers. The number of nominations in the correct form not exceeding the number of vacancies, all nominees were declared to be elected unopposed.

Ingrid then called on club volunteer officers to confirm their willingness to serve for the coming year and all did so confirm with the exception of positions which remained vacant.

Office bearers for 2018/2019 are:

- o President - Roger Curran
- o Vice President - Toni Spruce
- o Treasurer - Merle Siwicki
- o Secretary - Denise Curran
- o Ordinary Member and Membership Secretary - John Youdan
- o Ordinary Committee member - Chris Fisher
- o Ordinary Committee member - Penny Fox
- o Tuesday Forum - Denise and Roger Curran
- o Course Coordinator - vacant
- o Web Manager - Denise Curran
- o Technical Coordinator - Des Wann
- o Hospitality - Maggie Sorensen and Nareda Price
- o Meet and Greet - Beth Wann and Carol; Youdan
- o eNewsletter - Roger and Denise Curran
- o Photographer - Irene Feuz
- o Public Officer - Penny Fox
- o Honorary Auditor - Randall Rofe

The meeting welcomed the new office bearers and applauded them for their continuing service.

8. The re-elected President, Roger Curran, resumed the Chair, declared the business of the meeting to be concluded, and, urged members to stay for the performances and static displays and enjoy the morning tea.
9. Presentations were made by Shibashi, Orchid Growing and French Revisited groups. Static displays were provided by Beading, Orchid Growing and Men's Shed members.

Denise Curran

TREASURER'S REPORT

U3A Brunswick Valley Incorporated

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2019

Merle Siwicki, Treasurer

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Balance as at 1 st July 2018	\$2,668.80	Speakers' Forum	\$783.86
Members' Fees	\$567.10	Hall Rentals	\$875.00
Speakers' Forum	\$2,176.50	NSW Dept of Fair Trading Fee	\$46.00
Thursday Group	\$270.00	Thursday Group	\$101.31
Donations	\$276.70	Printing & Stationery	\$360.30
		Gifts	\$180.00
		Cruise	\$102.00
		Donations	\$296.50
		Insurance	\$127.00
		Annual Lunch	\$60.00
		Club Webmaster	305.51
		Sundry Expenses	\$69.24
		Membership	\$21.00
		Total:	\$3,327.72
		Balance as at 30 June 2018	<u>\$2,631.38</u>
Total	<u>\$5,959.10</u>	Total	<u>\$5,959.10</u>

ING Investment Account

Balance as at 1 st July 2018	\$8,968.95
Interest earned to 30 June 2019	<u>\$134.59</u>
Total as at 30 June 2019	<u>9,103.54</u>

Total Cash Assets as at 30 June 2019

CBA Account	\$2,631.38
ING Account	<u>\$9,103.54</u>
Total	<u>\$11,734.92</u>

Auditor's Statement

I have examined the accounting records of U3A Brunswick Valley Incorporated and prepared the above Financial Statement. I believe the statement to be an accurate record of the financial position as at 30 June 2018.

(signed) R. F. Rofe

Hon. Auditor

2nd August 2019









BVU3A PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT - AUGUST 2019

Once again, on behalf of the club, I extend thanks to all members, club officers, tutors and group leaders who have contributed to the performance of our club over the past year. Our activity groups were well-attended during the year, the participants were enthusiastic and your Committee has considered a couple of important issues regarding club governance and the protection of members interests.

Our club is part of an international organisation. The English-speaking world follows the Cambridge model of U3As which, unlike the earlier French U3As, requires no actual association with Universities as such. In fact, the model is one in which there is no distinction between the teacher and the taught and we can each see ourselves as both teachers and learners. U3A in Australia is based on a set of principles that precludes paid tutors and points to a self-help approach with clubs of people in the Third Age - beyond full-time work and family commitment.

This means, of course, that there are no new courses or activities unless there are members prepared to run them. It has been some time since we had new offerings and I would love to hear members' suggestions as to how we might change this situation. My personal belief is that a degree of social interaction encourages people to relate and work together on projects and committees. We have a good turnout for our Annual Luncheons but there has not been a lot of support for our once-a-term excursions with the exception of last year's Brunswick River cruise.

In preparing for this AGM and composing this Annual Report (which coincides with the twentieth anniversary of the formation of our club) I have been looking back over a lot of old minutes, newsletters and photos. There is no doubt that, in our earlier years, members enjoyed a greater number of opportunities for social interaction at lunches, dinners and backyard gatherings as well as trips and outings. It is also apparent that earlier committees paid less concern to the cost of these get-togethers than your current committee does. Should we be more adventurous? Would more frequent and more expensive outings enhance our appeal as a club?

I took your club's webmaster, Denise, to a seminar last year that was presented by the webmaster of the U3A Network NSW and, as a result, she recommended that we should avail ourselves of the NSW Network's expertise and move the hosting of our website when renewal came up. This occurred recently but the migration did not go as smoothly as planned and we are still overcoming a few issues. Nonetheless, we continue to move our archives and our club information to the internet, where possible. Cockroaches and silverfish are attacking the records that are stored in the cupboard at the church hall in Fingal Street.

I have joined the U3A Network NSW committee as representative for the Far North Coast clubs. The Network has recently determined matters relating to the copyright attaching to the U3A logo and the Network's Governance Officer has put a lot of effort into raising awareness of copyright issues generally. Our U3A has extended its subscriptions to the appropriate copyright agencies at a relatively small cost to protect members who prepare presentations using copyrighted material.

The Network has also negotiated new extended insurance covers with its brokers. Insurance, up until this financial year, had been a broad third party injury policy only. After consultation with members we now have cover for committee members and course leaders for a range of liabilities that arise from the running of a club and we have also got a form of injury cover for volunteers. The cost is significant but affordable and offers protection to committee members in the governance of the club and other volunteers running activities.

The club's policy for ten years now has been that each activity group pays its own way, so we keep annual subscriptions low to encourage members in a sound financial position. Unlike the service clubs in our community, U3A has principles that focus on the needs of members rather than a mission to respond to needs in the wider community outside the club but I believe that the 'infrastructure' that Brunswick Valley U3A offers to a regional community should be utilised to the maximum for the benefit of that community.

Roger Curran
President

TWENTY YEARS OF BRUNSWICK VALLEY U3A

Public Meeting on Tuesday 13th July 1999

Our club has been meeting continuously since a public meeting in 1999 and was incorporated as an association in early September of 1999. Our 2019 AGM and this Annual Report is our means of celebrating a birthday and honouring the founders of Brunswick Valley U3A. In these couple of pages, I want to record some of the early names and dates and follow some features of the development of the club and the activities it has offered, and ceased to offer, over the past two decades in our community.

The beginning was a public meeting held at the Brunswick Valley Community Centre near the Surf Club in Brunswick Heads. We have neat handwritten minutes of the meeting but no background as to the publicity that brought the attendees along. I always understood that the formation of Brunswick Valley represented a schism in the Ballina/Byron club but, though the minutes acknowledge that there are a number of those present who are already U3A members, Ballina/Byron U3A gets no other special mention.

A Committee was Formed

Certainly, the public meeting was preceded by lots of preparation and the meeting was successful in appointing a steering committee with a brief to pursue:

- Financial/Administration activities
- Marketing for new membership
- Speaker and course planning, and
- Venue and property management.

The meeting agreed the new U3A would be an incorporated not-for-profit association.



The next meeting was set for the following Tuesday with local identity Kevin Kirkland as Guest Speaker to talk on his several visits to South America. Further meetings with guest speakers were scheduled for the Tuesdays in July and August.

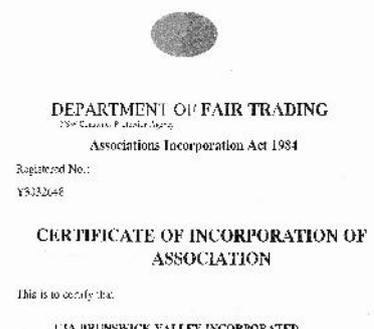
Three days later, the steering committee consisting of Kath and Les Polkinghorne, Lois Davie, Marjory Siegel, David Holmes, Clem Rapley, Marie Oliver and Jean and Ron Westrup met at the Westrup's home in Ocean Shores. These are names that appear regularly as officers of the club for the next decade.

The meeting lasted just under two and a half hours and addressed pretty much everything from sources of funding and bank accounts to guest speakers and courses. Significantly for posterity, a motion was passed that the club would not meet on the first Tuesday of the month.

The steering committee became the committee and was confirmed at an Extraordinary General Meeting on 24 August 1999 where they confirmed that all the tasks that had been set at the public meeting had been completed.

The early committee considered whether to have guest speakers every week and decided to do so. In November of 1999, the Tuesday meetings moved from the Community Centre to the Uniting Church Hall and, in early 2000, the name Forum was adopted. Options for the Christmas party and consideration of an additional outdoors do were also important matters to the early club.

Twenty years later, thanks to the diligence and enthusiasm of these wonderful people, we are still meeting for our Forum on Tuesdays at the Uniting Church Hall in Fingal Street.



TWENTY YEARS OF BRUNSWICK VALLEY U3A

Computers

Presentations need computers, newsletters and bulletins need computers but, in the early days of the club, they cost an arm and a leg. Which caused consternation. Like in 2005 when a committee meeting was called to address 'the discontent, confusion and misapprehension regarding the buying of the new laptop computer. We even had a teleconference meeting to consider computer purchase. These days we could Skype, I suppose.

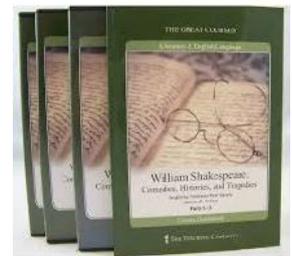


We resolved our computer issues and Bob James led the way with classes in word-processing and photo-shopping followed by Denise Curran with blogging. Our box of peripherals expands as our weekly guest speakers turn up with new challenges for our tech guru, Des Wann, in connecting their presentations to our projector.

Courses and Activities

Courses come and go. Persistent favorites are Shibashi/Tai Chi, the Thursday Group and, over the last twelve years, the Men's Shed. Our classes have included language study, play reading, Mah Jong, beading and writing for posterity. We had an art colony at Alf Fox's shed that would not have been out of place in Montmartre. There have been bush-walkers and boules players enjoying themselves outdoors but we are yet to have our own surfing group.

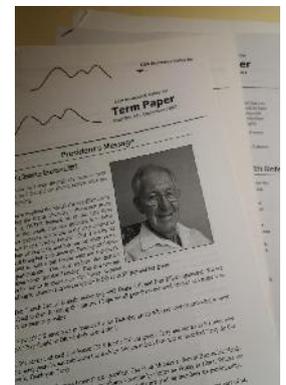
We still look for course leaders and worry about venues. Risk management at the Mens' Shed still concerns the committee but basically we have a number of small, medium and large groups enjoying their own company and pursuing common interests.



Newsletters and communications

Our newsletters developed in publishing quality over the first ten years and were issued each term. Denise and I persisted with Microsoft Publisher for several years and later the club bought an Adobe publishing software product.

More recently, however, we have switched from hard-copy to monthly electronic newsletters which has left some members disappointed. Some members do not get or read emails and you can't put an email under a magnet on the fridge. Information that used to fill up several pages of newsletter is now on the website. We supplement with a small handout at Tuesday Forum.



Publicity

We seem to have been better at getting ourselves out there in previous years. This is certainly the conclusion to be drawn from the collection of clippings from the local newspapers that are mouldering away in the cupboard at the church hall. The role of Publicity Officer seems to have fallen off the back of the truck. Any volunteers?

We now have a Facebook page. it's a low cost option and if we link our guest speakers it might generate a wider audience.

Archives

When I went to our archives, I found that our paper records are under attack. I have bought some cockroach baits but I would love to hear from a member with experience of archiving who could help us formulate a strategy to prioritise and preserve our records and memorabilia.



Brunswick Valley U3A

	President	Treasurer	Secretary
1999	Ron Westrup	Kath Polkinghorn	Jean Westrup
2000	Ron Westrup	Maureen Fanning	Jean Westrup
2001	Des Wann	Maureen Fanning	Joan Smith
2002	Lois Davie	Maureen Fanning	Margot Porter
2003	Maureen Fanning	Bill Irvine	Silvia Van Rossum
2004	Bill Price	Bill Irvine	Silvia Van Rossum
2005	Dot Andrews	Patricia Morgan	Ingrid Johnston
2006	Dot Andrews	Patricia Morgan	Ingrid Johnston
2007	Ron Westrup	Randall Rofe	Honey Huber
2008	Marie Oliver	Randall Rofe	Penny Fox
2009	Marie Oliver	Silvia Van Rossum	Vicki McKain
2010	Marie Oliver	Silvia Van Rossum	Denise Curran
2011	Marie Oliver	Merle Siwicki	Marion Trivett
2012	Marie Oliver	Merle Siwicki	Marion Trivett
2013	David Ashton	Merle Siwicki	Toni Spruce
2015	Des Wann	Merle Siwicki	Toni Spruce
2016	Roger Curran	Merle Siwicki	Toni Spruce
2017	Roger Curran	Merle Siwicki	Toni Spruce
2018	Roger Curran	Merle Siwicki	Denise Curran
2019	Roger Curran	Merle Siwicki	Denise Curran