

TUGGERAH LAKES U3A INC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT THE ENTRANCE LEAGUES CLUB, BATEAU BAY

4th DECEMBER 2023

The meeting opened at 11.10am. The President, Pam McGlinn, welcomed all in attendance.

Present 27 members: Imelda Bourke, Robert Brimble, Stephanie Christin, Allan Crane, Rosalie Donnelly, Heather Elworthy, John Elworthy, Lesley Gosling, Karl Hogg, Christine Kilner, Stephen Latham, Jacqueline Loughran, Rhonda MacDiarmid, Pam McGlinn, Ted McGlinn, Sonya Oakes, Carole Pavy, Helen Rawlings, Gail Shore, Betty Siegman, Katherine Smithson, Shirley Sutherland, Jo Sutton, Joan Tanfield – Brockhoff, Sue Taylor, Gwynne Wakeham, Fay Wynd.

Apologies were received from : Jenny Dalton - Thom, John Haydon, Betty Dircks, Raylee Jones, Sue Higgins, Jean Lewis (and husband), John and Rita Richards, Gloria Watson

Minutes of the previous AGM held at The Entrance Leagues Club, Bateau Bay, on 6th December, 2022 (copies of which were provided at each table) were adopted on motion by Sonya Oakes, seconded by Gail Shore

Matters arising from the minutes:

1. Play Reading classes are back at The Entrance Neighbourhood Centre
2. Yearly membership now set at \$30 per annum
3. Regarding insurance requirements for classes held in private homes, it is noted that both John and Rita Richards' home and Betty Siegman's home have been checked and deemed safe and no hazards have been detected

Our President, Pam McGlinn, presented her report (as follows)

Good morning and welcome to you all, so pleased to see you all here for this our 24th AGM of the Tuggerah Lakes U3A. I have mixed messages for this year. We are certainly all over Covid and even though some of us have had it a second time, we do not seem to have the same problems with nearly everyone

fully vaccinated. However, we are still feeling the after effects as our numbers have been steadily declining in recent years and, as a consequence, our classes are smaller, and we find our members are older. We really need to go on a recruitment drive and we will have more on that after the election.

For now I would like to give many thanks to those of you who continue to attend our classes, and especially to our leaders who keep these classes going, despite, in some cases, their own ill health. In particular, I would like to thank John Haydon. Unfortunately, John is seriously ill and will be unable to return to his home. His entire class is here today and they hope to continue on without him in 2024. Sometime ago, John approached us and asked if he could lead a writing group and we told him there was already such a class, but he wanted to have a group which specialised in memoirs. He said he could probably extend the class to 12 months and we said it sounded like a great idea. John commenced his class in February 2017 and continued right up to the present time, a total of 7 years. The class has been highly successful and we appreciate the amount of time John put into it, even during his bouts of ill health. We all of us here at TLU3A wish John all the best with his continuing battle.

Another one of our leaders who has been having a testing time this year is Betty Siegman. Betty is here with us today, but she has been finding it increasingly difficult to attend classes and our social lunches. Even so, she has continued to produce the newsletter, and run her two classes of music and crosswords, both of which have loyal followers and are extremely popular. We do thank you so much Betty, as we realise how challenging it has been for you this year.

We also thank John and Rita Richards, who continue to show movies in their own home, despite both of them having health problems. Thanks also to our other leaders: Christine Kilner who has the Play Reading group and also assists me with the Creative Writing class; Rhonda MacDiarmid, our hardworking treasurer, who runs the Brain Ticklers class; Helen Rawlings who has been organising the Discussion group, but finds herself unable to continue. We desperately need someone to keep this invigorating discussion group going as there is so much happening all around us and we all like to have an opinion, don't we? Our Writing group at Toukley continues to thrive and are really enthusiastic about their class. Our book club meets for a coffee morning here at Tigers once a month and we would be happy to have anyone who likes reading a book to join us. We are extremely informal and all read different books which makes it far more interesting. Our talks at the RSL hall will continue next year

and we would like to see as many of you who are able to do so, join us there. After the last talk at the end of term, we always have a social lunch here at Tigers, and all members are invited to come along.

I would particularly like to thank our very hard working committee, who have not only had the actual running of the club, but have also been leaders of the various classes that we have, and in some cases more than one.

We had our Regional U3A Rep booked to act as our returning officer, but unfortunately, a last minute illness has prevented Jean from attending. Instead we have been fortunate in having John Elworthy step into this role.

I will ask our treasurer to present her report for the year to 30th September 2023

Treasurer's Annual Financial Statement

Rhonda MacDiarmid presented the Treasurer's Report for the period 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023. Our total income for this period was \$2513.80 and total expenses \$2983.52. The final balance for 2023, including value of equipment was \$6954.18.

Moved by Treasurer, Rhonda MacDiarmid and seconded by John Elworthy that the Treasurer's report be accepted. Approved

Election of Committee Members

The president vacated the chair and John Elworthy acted as Returning Officer —
-Nominations had been received and seconded for 9 positions and, there being only 1 nomination for each position, John declared the following members elected for 2024:

President – Pam McGlenn

Vice President – Helen Rawlings

Secretary – Sonya Oakes

Treasurer – Rhonda MacDiarmid

Committee Members – Betty Siegman (Newsletter) Gail Shore (Welfare)
Christine Kilner (Publicity) Robert Brimble, Jo Sutton

John asked members in attendance for a round of applause for the new committee.

Pam McGlinn gave her speech as the incoming President:-

INCOMING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well here I am again for another year, and I do hope that we are able to achieve some positive results for our club. Our emphasis this year, must be on increasing our member numbers and providing more opportunities for ongoing classes. With that thought in mind I would like to introduce you to our newly elected publicity officer, Christine Kilner. For those of you who do not know Christine she has been an extremely active member of TLU3A for almost 20 years. Christine has been the leader of the Play group for years now and has given us several presentations of her playreaders in action. She has also been co-leader, along with myself of our very active Writers Group and has always been extremely diligent in pursuing her objectives in these classes.

Christine has some ideas for promoting our club and the two of us intend to work together to try and increase our membership.

Christine Kilner's report as incoming Publicity Officer:

“AGM for Tuggerah Lakes U3A on Monday 4th December 2023

Thank you, Pam. Hello everyone

. My strengths lie in other directions, and I have never been on a committee before (so please bear with me)

. However, I am very concerned that Tuggerah Lakes U3A will not survive unless we manage to gain more members and introduce some extra interesting classes or courses. The whole idea of U3A is that we are all both learners and teachers. We have come from diverse backgrounds and have skills to offer others.

. After talking with Pam, our president, together we have formulated some ideas.

. We need to produce some flyers, similar to those of CC U3A, but with our logo. I am working on a layout and intend to have something printed through Officeworks as soon as possible. Of course, there will be a cost for this, but we will keep it as low as possible.

. Leaving pamphlets in local libraries isn't easy like it used to be, though we will ask. When I tried this last year, I found obstacles, and nowhere I could leave a pile for people to take. Some libraries allowed me to pin one on a noticeboard, with no idea how long it would stay there.

- Pam is keen to put flyers in retirement villages such as Berkeley Vale, Chain Valley Bay and Bateau Bay and is even willing to give a short talk at these places.

- Pam is making application for a stand at the Council 2024 Seniors Expo at Wyong Racecourse, which I think is in February. I will make a larger sign with our logo for that. Pam and I will hand out pamphlets there and speak to people to encourage membership. Other members are most welcome to give support on that day (though chairs will be scarce)

- We also need to contact Radio Five-O-Plus community radio and pay a subscription to enable us to have a regular message about our U3A branch to gain more members

- Last year I had a little picture and story about our Play Reading group in the local paper, Coast Community News, and gained a couple of members. This time we need to have a story written about Tuggerah Lakes U3A, which encourages people both to join and to inspire them to offer a new class or one-off presentation, discussion or talk. Ideally, the article will appear in January before classes start.

- The Seniors paper is another source of promotion

- Some new classes could be some we have lost, like the Walking group. Others could be Art or Nature Excursions, led by a new member with organisational skills. I see CC U3A is having a trip to the Archibald at NSW Art Gallery, and to see Ramses at the Museum next year.

- Other ideas include an exercise class like Yoga, a Drawing or Painting class, a chance to learn Auslan (sign language) or Italian or another language. Trivia sessions, card games, tales of migration from people with experience; all these I found on the CC U3A website.

- These ideas at present are just floating around in my head, but we must be willing to make changes to allow new members to offer their skills. And we must be willing to offer them a venue. We must get to the point where money flows both in and out. We are not here to make a monetary profit, just to keep the books balanced. Without new blood, new ideas, and the will to allow change, our future looks bleak. We have the power to change that!"

Christine Kilner

Announcements – Helen Rawlings won the door prize of the annual subscription for 2024

The meeting closed at 11.30am. A sit – down lunch was served to individual members who had a choice from several meals on the menu