

# The Smart Age Pages

## The Mudgee District U3A Newsletter

P O Box 469, Mudgee 2850

July 2017

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Dear U3A Members,

The AGM is almost upon us and once again I urge you to consider taking a position on the U3A Committee.

Serving on the committee is definitely a rewarding experience and not overly time consuming. The most demanding role is that of Program Co-ordinator and we are very pleased to say that Sally (having served her apprenticeship with Janet) is primed for that position.

The current Committee works collaboratively and shares responsibilities. While there are some defined roles, the distribution of particular tasks is quite flexible and depends on the abilities and interests of committee members.

**President:** runs the meetings, co-ordinates the Newsletter and represents U3A in the public arena.

**Vice Presidents:** support the President and take on various roles (see below)

**Secretary:** attends to the correspondence, and deals with the paperwork (or computer files as the case may be).

**Treasurer:** attends to finances and keeps the assets register.

**Publicity Officer:** promotes events, publishes the Newsletter.

**Program Co-ordinator:** seeks presenters and venues for the various courses, keeps records of membership, compiles the program and class lists and publishes the booklets.

**Committee Members:** may take on any of these roles –  
Minuting secretary, Welfare Officer, Public Officer, U3A Online Co-ordinator, Membership Secretary, Events Co-ordinator, Risk Assessment committee member, Website committee member, Hospitality, First Aid Kit maintenance and fielding membership enquiries.

None of these roles is particularly daunting and there is always someone willing to assist.

I look forward to welcoming everyone to the AGM.

*Heather Rushton*

## **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

NOTICE is hereby given that the 2017 Annual General Meeting of the members of MUDGEE DISTRICT U3A Inc will be held at

The Stables Complex, 86 Market Street, Mudgee on

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2017

10 am to 12 noon

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of Minutes of the AGM 2016
4. President's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Determination of Membership Fee for the year of 2018.

***After consultation with the Treasurer, the Committee recommends that the annual subscription for the Year 2018 is \$25 for the full year, joining in Term 2 \$20, joining in Term 3 \$15 & joining in Term 4 \$10.***

7. Appointment of an Auditor. *Proposed: Ray Parle*

***The Committee recommends that Mudgee District U3A continues to have an annual audit of accounts and that Denis Yeo & Associates is retained for the year 2017/2018.***

8. Election of Office Bearers & Committee Members – Presiding Officer, David Price
9. General Business
10. Guest Speaker: **Julie Myer from Hammond Care**
11. Meeting Closes.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR MORNING TEA**

### **AGM General Business**

**If you wish to have an item placed on the AGM Agenda for General Business consideration, please post your request to: The Secretary, Mudgee District U3A Inc, Po Box 469, Mudgee, NSW 2850**

**by 5pm Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2017 .**

**Mudgee District U3A Inc**  
**P.O. Box 469, Mudgee 2850**  
www.mudgeedistrictu3a.org.au

**MINUTES OF 18TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held August 20 2016**

**Present:**

Jill Baggett, Thelma Beechey, Marion Bell, Kay Brown, Ann Burrows, Pamela Dove, Janet Duffy, Phillip Farmer, Wendy Fuller, Miriam Gellibrand, Nancy Chapman, Betty Cluff, Debra Cowan, Steven Cowan, Steve Csuba, Eileen Csuba, Judith Darling, Geoff Dear, Patricia Dickinson, Ray Parle, Jacqui Price, Joyce Purtle, Elly Rands, Heather Rushton, Val Ryan, Andrea Sauerbier, Trish Trent, Vera Hamm, Fran Hazell, Dave Holden, Margareta Kriks, Bruni Krzysik, Mary Lovett

**Apologies:**

Sally Colley, Chris Smith, David Price, Marianne Matthews, Doreen Matthews, Dorothy Munns, Colin Munns, Sue Makin, Eunice Marskell, Barbara Matthewson, Brian Munns, Sue Munns, Joan Harris, Clare Hayman, Martin Hazell, Jenny Browning, Ray Burrows, Carolyn Elliott, Nada Fry, David Fry, Sue Grant-Frost, Dolores Dal Pozzo, Louise Nicholson, Iris Patterson, Merrilyn Vaisey, Moira Hennessy

Issue	Discussion
1) Welcome	Fran welcomed members, our presiding officer Judith Darling and guest speaker, John Bentley.
2) Apologies	As above
3) Minutes of previous AGM	Fran moved that the minutes of the last AGM be accepted as an accurate record. Moved: Andrea Sauerbier Seconded: Judith Darling Accepted unanimously
4) President's Report	<p><b>Fran Hazell</b> began her report by stating that she would be stepping down from the position of President. She thanked the committee that has supported her during her time in office.</p> <p>Joining the 2015/16 committee were <b>Debra Cowan, Steven Cowan and Sally Colley</b>. Debra took over the important role of Publicity Officer, Steven took on the essential Secretary role and Sally became an active committee member.</p> <p><b>Heather Rushton</b> continued as Vice President, minute secretary and behind the scenes worker.</p> <p><b>Janet Duffy</b>, as Program Co-ordinator and Membership Secretary, has worked tirelessly to put together a comprehensive program made up of interesting and challenging courses. Her organization of enrolments and maintenance of databases ensured efficient communication between volunteer leaders and the members. Throughout the year Janet has engaged in negotiations with many different organisations in order to secure suitable premises, and her work in that area continues.</p> <p><b>Ray Parle</b> maintained the position of Treasurer and has ensured that Mudgee U3A is financially sound.</p> <p><b>Chris Smith</b> (Vice President) and <b>Trish Trent</b> combined to field enquiries about membership, steering those people to our website. They also provided catering for members' events. Both will be stepping down from the Committee.</p>

**Dorothy Munns** continued as Welfare officer

**Geoff Dear** took the role of Public Officer

**David Price** continued to work with the committee to maintain and expand our website, always mindful of the tools to ensure effective communication, challenging us to take on new ways of staying in touch. This year the website added a Community page and forms for both members and the committee.

Current membership is 280

46 Courses were offered this year, covering a diverse range of topics presenting lively, intelligent and interesting groups for members.

- New courses were offered in Art, History, Literature, Philosophy, Science, Technology, Well-being and Writing, further expanding our comprehensive program
- Thank you to new course leaders, Phillip Farmer, Carolyn Elliott and Richard Collins
- Courses of different lengths were popular, giving flexibility to the course leaders and members alike
- A huge thank you to all course leaders who make this U3A so successful
- Another special thank you to those volunteers who, while running their own businesses, offer their services to our association. Loretta Prowse ran a group on Relaxation and added Laughter Yoga. Scott Etherington, having successfully taken over the Gulgong Post Office, gave generously of his time to help navigate iPhones and iPads for puzzled users, and Judy Rogers continued to share her extensive experience of dealing with Vision difficulties.
- Also a big thank you to Joan Harris who looks after the Adams St hall

Publications this year have included the 2016 Course and Activities booklet, 2016 Week at a Glance brochure, Presenters' Booklet and Newsletters. The appearance of these publications has been improved with the addition of a coloured U3A logo to make them easily recognizable. Bookmarks were also printed.

Communications have been via the U3A website (including the Community Page), Newsletters (both electronic and post), the Mudgee Guardian and MWRC Community News.

Events – the end of Term 3 lunch at the TAFE was well attended and the Term 4 function, which took on a new format with a 'Quiz and Quaff', was very successful. With so many activities for end of term gatherings now being organised within member groups/classes, the Committee is reviewing the need to arrange events for all members at the conclusion of every term. Other events included the Showcase and Registration/Enrolment Day and the Presenters' Breakfast.

Community Support – U3A has had support from many different groups and individuals including Housing Plus at Adams St, Opal Aged Care, Pioneer House, Club Mudgee, TAFE, Fairview Art Space, Mudgee and Gulgong Libraries, Seniors Planning Committee, Lynx Printing, Mudgee Guardian and MWRC. Special thanks goes to St John's Anglican Church for offering their hall for use by our Line Dancers.

In reviewing the year, Fran noted that many of the goals for 2015/6 had been achieved.

- Further development of links with the community through innovations such as the Community page and association with different groups like Sport NSW
- Ongoing investigation of the operation of U3A groups in other areas to glean ideas for our own group
- Improvement of the website as a tool for education and communication (Thank

	<p>you David)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The expansion of courses that increase knowledge of and enable use of technology</li> <li>• Holding courses in venues outside of Mudgee</li> </ul> <p>Fran then spoke of the need for a Community Centre in Mudgee and how this would benefit U3A.</p> <p>She acknowledged the contribution of MWRC in providing in kind funding to U3A that has allowed the use of the Stables as a venue for courses which have larger groups or which need more space, although she noted that the amount of this type of funding has been reduced in the past year. Regretfully, as the result of a Council decision, as from next year the Stables meeting room will no longer be available for public use during business hours. This means that once again the search is on for suitable premises, at an affordable price, in which to hold courses. A Community Centre would hopefully cater for this need.</p> <p>She also commented on the lack of ‘advertising’ space for U3A, there being no public notice board or place to promote U3A activities. The Library allows notices to be displayed for a month at a time and while our Community page serves a purpose, it is not available to everyone. Again, a Community Centre would help resolve this issue.</p> <p>Many community groups need a space to call their own, including Arts and Performing groups. A Community Centre for multi-purpose use would be ideal. People choosing to move to Mudgee from elsewhere look for these types of facilities and, so such a facility would be a advantageous to the region as a whole.</p> <p>The concerns of Youth are undeniable, but older people also need to be heard and have their issues addressed in a variety of ways. The up coming Council elections are an opportunity to vote in candidates who wish to address these issues.</p> <p>U3A would love to have a home to share with others, a place to welcome new members and to display up to date information.</p> <p>Fran moved that her report be accepted. Seconded by Geoff Dear. Accepted.</p>
<p><b>5) Treasurer’s Report</b></p>	<p>Ray Parle presented the Treasurer’s report See attached files Mudgee U3A is financially secure, but the need to hire venues could eat into funds. Moved by Ray Parle. Seconded by Steve Cowan. Accepted</p>
<p><b>6) Membership Fees</b></p>	<p>Determination of Membership Fee for the year of 2017. <i>After consultation with the Treasurer, the Committee recommends that the annual subscription for the Year 2017 is \$25 for the full year, joining in Term 2 \$20, joining in Term 3 \$15 &amp; joining in Term 4 \$10</i> Moved by Ray Parle. Seconded by Thelma Beechey. Accepted</p>
<p><b>7) Appointment of Auditor</b></p>	<p>Appointment of an Auditor. <i>The Committee recommends that Mudgee District U3A continues to have an annual audit of accounts and that Denis Yeo &amp; Associates is retained for the year 2016/2017.</i> Moved by Ray Parle. Seconded by Nancy Chapman. Accepted</p>
<p><b>8) Election of Officer Bearers &amp; Committee members</b></p>	<p>Election of Office Bearers &amp; Committee Members – Presiding Officer, Judith Darling Nominations for the vacant positions had previously been received and the following people were appointed President – Treasurer- Ray Parle VP- VP –Heather Rushton Secretary- Steven Cowan</p>

	<p>Program Co-ordinator- Janet Duffy  Publicity Officer- Deborah Cowan  Committee members –Nancy Chapman, Dorothy Munns, Geoff Dear, Sally Colley, Ann Burrows</p> <p>There being no prior nominations for president, there was a call for nominations from the floor.  Fran Hazell- declined  Phillip Farmer- declined  Judith Darling- declined  Joyce Purtell – declined  Janet Duffy- declined  John Bentley – declined  Pat Dickenson- declined</p> <p>According to the constitution, the position of President becomes a Casual Vacancy</p>
<p><b>10) General Business –</b></p>	<p>A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Taffi Prior – presenter for over 8 years</p>
<p><b>11) Guest Speaker</b></p>	<p>Mudgee Health Council Presentation  Steve Cowan introduced John Bentley, member of the Mudgee Health Council. John has made this presentation to other groups in Mudgee but this the largest group he has spoken to.  A short visual presentation was given explaining the nature and function of Mudgee Health Council, the major role of which is to engage with local community on health needs.  John spoke about the proposed new Health Facility. This will be constructed on the current site. The Government has allocated \$60m for the project, \$11 m has been set aside as a starting point.  The promise is for a new, purpose building, one which caters for newer technology and current medical practice.  John answered questions from the floor, including questions about food preparation at the new facility, the contingency plans for catering for health needs while the building process is in progress, the size of the hospital, its capacity to cater for future population needs and the projected timeline for the completion of the project (it is meant to be started in the term of the current State Government).  The discussion developed into one about Community vs Economy.</p>
	<p>Meeting Closed 11.20am Invitation to morning tea.</p>

## **NOMINATION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2017-2018**

Nominations must be submitted on the **Nomination Form**, on the following pages and posted to:

**The Secretary, Mudgee District U3A Inc, PO Box 469, Mudgee NSW 2850, by 5pm,**

**Friday 4th August 2017 Late nominations will not be accepted.**

Verbal nominations will only be requested at the Annual General Meeting if there are insufficient nominations by the closing date. If, for example, there are only 3 nominations received for General Committee Members, these persons will be elected automatically and 1 additional nomination will be requested from the floor.

**Extra nomination forms can be obtained from Steven Cowan, Phone: 0435 035164**

### **THE CURRENT COMMITTEE INTENTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

<b>President (Interim)</b>	<b>Heather Rushton</b>	<b>Under 3 year rule standing down</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Janet Duffy</b>	<b>Under 3 year rule standing down</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Dorothy Munns</b>	<b>Prepared to stand for re-election</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Steven Cowan</b>	<b>Prepared to stand for re-election</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Ray Parle</b>	<b>Prepared to stand for re-election</b>
<b>Publicity Officer</b>	<b>Debra Cowan</b>	<b>Prepared to stand for re-election</b>
<b>Program Coordinator</b>	<b>Sally Colley</b>	<b>Prepared to stand for re-election</b>
<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Geoff Dear</b>	<b>Prepared to stand for re-election</b>
<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Anne Burrows</b>	<b>Prepared to stand for re-election</b>
<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Nancy Chapman</b>	<b>Prepared to stand for re-election</b>
<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Marianne Matthews</b>	<b>Standing down</b>

**Under the 3 year rule, members are required to stand down from the Committee but may be re-elected if no other nominations are received**

**MUDGEE DISTRICT U3A Inc.**

**NOMINATION FORM FOR OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2017-2018**

We the undersigned financial members of Mudgee District U3A hereby nominate,

..... for the office of .....  
(Name - Please Print)

Proposer: .....

Signature.....  
(Name - Please Print)

Seconder: ..... Signature.....  
(Name - Please Print)

I, ..... **accept this nomination.**  
(Name of Nominee - Please Print)

**Signature of nominee** ..... **Date** .....

*Any financial member of Mudgee District U3A Inc may be nominated for election by two other financial members. **Nominees are invited to submit a short statement or profile with this form in support of their nomination (maximum ½ page).***

Nominations must be submitted by post to:  
**The Secretary, Mudgee District U3A Inc, PO Box 469 Mudgee NSW 2850,**  
by 5pm, Friday August 4 2017. Late nominations cannot be accepted.

**MUDGEE DISTRICT U3A Inc.**

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..... for the office of .....  
(Name - Please Print)

Proposer: .....

Signature.....  
(Name - Please Print)

Seconder: ..... Signature.....  
.....  
(Name - Please Print)

I, ..... **accept this nomination.**  
(Name of Nominee - Please Print)

**Signature of nominee** ..... **Date** .....

*Any financial member of Mudgee District U3A Inc may be nominated for election by two other financial members. **Nominees are invited to submit a short statement or profile with this form in support of their nomination (maximum ½ page).***

Nominations must be submitted by post to:  
**The Secretary, Mudgee District U3A Inc, PO Box 469 Mudgee NSW 2850,**  
by 5pm, Friday August 4 2017. Late nominations cannot be accepted.



**FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY**

I, .....  
(Print full name)

of.....  
(Address)

being a current member of **MUDGEES DISTRICT U3A Inc**, hereby appoint,

**The Mudgee District U3A  
Secretary**

*(If you wish to nominate another  
current member complete the box on  
the right)*

.....  
(Print full name)

.....  
(Address)

being a current member of **MUDGEES DISTRICT U3A Inc**, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at  
the Annual General Meeting of the Association, to be held on the  
19<sup>th</sup> day of August 2017.

My proxy is authorised to vote for:

**1. Office Bearers and Committee Members for 2017-2018,**

this includes the following positions,

- President
- 2 Vice Presidents
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Program Co-ordinator
- Publicity Officer
- 4 Committee Members

**AND**

**2. Honorary Life Membership Nominations**

.....  
(Signature of member appointing proxy)

.....  
(Date)

***NB. No financial member may hold more than 5 proxies  
except where the Secretary has been nominated as the proxy.***

This form must be submitted by post to:  
**The Secretary, Mudgee District U3A Inc, PO Box 469 Mudgee NSW 2850,**  
**by 5 pm Friday August 4 2017.**  
**Late nominations cannot be accepted**