



CASTLEMAINE
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

28th Annual Report

AGM 7th October 2016

U3A Castlemaine inc

Reg. No. A0017409G

President's Report

U3A Castlemaine is a truly wonderful organisation made up of more than 530 members this year who were able to choose from some 112 courses/activities throughout the 2016 year. It has been a privilege to lead our U3A this year.



We have had an efficient Committee of Management (CoM) and I do want to commend several people for extraordinary service. The Course Coordinators Bev Orgill & Colleen Smith put in a wonderful effort to produce the 2016 Course Prospectus in such a short time between the AGM and December coffee morning. For 2017 I am glad to see the planning has already started with the new Courses Team having your course proposals in their hands already. We do appreciate the office of our Federal Member of Parliament for printing the 500 plus Course Prospectus again this year.

The Working Groups all do good work assisting the CoM by providing good hands-on work that is then offered to the CoM as actions to endorse and promote. A good example is the work of the Events Working Group, and the various activities they offer each month, such as the recent trip by 28 members to MONA in Hobart.

I thank all Conveners of Working Groups - Finance, Governance, Events and Courses for their extra work, and wish them well as they relinquish these positions often after many years of hard work.

There will be a new Executive in 2017, as all members and many CoM members are retiring at this AGM, and I thank them all for their commitment to keeping U3A Castlemaine a functioning legal identity.

The CoM endorsed two Grant applications this year, and we were successful in both the Mount Alexander Shire Council grant, and the U3A Network grant. Many of the requested items have been obtained with some final actions still to be actioned so that the Treasurer can offer an acquittal to the funding bodies.

One of many CoM continuing activities over the year has been U3A's search for a permanent home. Several members have worked hard with 'The Campus' Steering Committee to plan and develop the project for community use of the Castlemaine Secondary College (CSC) Etty Street site. It is now confirmed that the Education Department has granted a five-year lease for 'The Campus' proposal to proceed. I trust that members will enthusiastically take up this new opportunity of a real long-term home. There is a lovely unexpected coincidence for U3A Castlemaine as the Art building that we will occupy has a Photographic dark room donated to the school by one of our very active long time members, and I hope someone will take up the opportunity to offer a course in Black and White photography to put those enlargers back to good use.

The President's role requires many meetings and I have enjoyed promoting our U3A, both to other U3As, the Victorian Network, and the local community. U3A is certainly a dynamic and growing organisation throughout Victoria, Australia and indeed the world. The Goldfields Cluster (Castlemaine, Kyneton, Hepburn/Daylesford) is an example of three U3As joining forces across Network regions to share some of our activities, and I do hope this initiative will continue to grow as we share resources in our region.

I was disappointed that I needed to leave the President's position under the conditions that I did, however I have been very encouraged by the many complementary comments about the manner of my Presidency, the endorsement and understanding of the issue on which I took my principled stand. Thank you to those members who have spoken with and supported me.

I thank Dick Mack, the Immediate Past President, for taking on the pro-tem position of President for the last few weeks of this year. I wish the new Committee of Management all the best as they develop the move into the new U3A Castlemaine home at ETTY Street, and into our 2017 activities.

Max Clarke

Life Membership

Life Memberships were awarded for outstanding service to U3A Castlemaine to Sally Kaptein and Tom Comerford.

Committee of Management, 2015-2016

President: Maxwell Clarke (Oct-Aug) Dick Mack (Aug/Sep)

Vice-President: Vacant (Oct-Aug) Win Jodell (Aug/Sep)

Secretary: Rob Murdoch

Treasurer: Peter Batten

Immediate Past President: Dick Mack

Course Co-ordinators (2016): Bev Orgill & Colleen Smith

Course Co-ordinator (2017): John Waldie (Jul/Sep)

Events Co-ordinator: Joe Scoglio

Newsletter Editor: Robyn Yeoman

Office Manager: Hilary Beckett

Publicity Co-ordinator: Carol Dorman

ETTY Street representative: Russell Annear (Aug/Sep)

Minute Secretary: Diane Vits

Finance

Finance Working Group

Peter Batten (Treasurer), Anet McDonald (Assistant Treasurer),
Hazel Annear, Ann Roman, Max Clarke.

Bookkeeper: Vanessa Saunders;

Auditor: Brenda Envall.

Income & Expenditure (Profit & Loss)

Income	2015-16 (\$)	%	2014-15 (\$)	%
Membership subscriptions	24,294	61.6	21,755	61.0
Special Events/Excursions	2,937	7.4	4,002	11.2
Grants Received	6,656	16.9	2,850	8.0
Fundraising (trading table, raffles)	1,992	5.0	2,415	6.8
Class Levies	1,744	4.4	2,078	5.8
Newsletter Postage	547	1.4	382	1.0
Donations/Appeals	664	1.7	960	2.7
Bank Interest	632	1.6	1,185	3.3
Other Income	-		46	0.1
Total Income	39,466	100.0	35,673	100.0
Expenditure	2015-16 (\$)	%	2014-15 (\$)	%
Administration/photocopying	13,242	44.8	14,990	44.7
Special Events/Excursions	3,798	12.8	4,547	13.6
Rental/Room Hire	9,826	33.2	10,949	32.7
Class Expenses	2,003	6.8	2,116	6.3
Donations made	705	2.4	900	2.7
Total Expenditure	29,574	100.0	33,502	100.0
Surplus	9,892	33.4	2,171	6.5

Balance Sheet

Assets (Current/Non-current)	30 June 2016	30 June 2015
Bank account/cash	11,208	9,020
Investments (Term Deposits)	35,312	28,180
Office/Class Equipment	2,061	1,081
Prepayments/GST Recoverable	621	1,022
Total Assets	49,202	39,303
Current Liabilities (Creditors)	(7)	-
Surplus for financial year	9,892	2,171
Accumulated Funds brought forward	39,303	37,132
Members' Equity	49,195	39,304

Courses

The 2016 Courses Working Group included Colleen Smith and Beverley Orgill (CoCoordinators 2016), Russell Annear and Deidre McDougall (Course Administrators), Robyn Yeoman, Win Jodell, John Waldie, Bridget Leach, Maxwell Clarke, Dick Mack plus Philip Fletcher, Hazel Annear and Sue Tomkinson.

- 111 courses were offered, one Coursera online program, plus attendance at LaTrobe University lectures.
- 108 different course leaders/ assistant leaders.
- 49 courses were offered for the first time
- 37 members offered classes for the first time
- 3352 actual course hours;
- 1727 actual class enrolments.
- Courses were offered in Art and Design; History; Humanities and Literature; Ideas and Opinions; Languages; Lifestyle - Indoor/Outdoor Activities; Music, Dance and Film; Photography and Computers; Politics and Current Affairs; Science, Maths and Technology; Travel.
- Venues: 29 classes in the Uniting Church Manse classroom; 13 classes in 3 other Uniting Church rooms; 21 different community or outdoor venues; 32 private residences; LaTrobe University, Bendigo campus.
- The annual Prospectus was again printed by staff of the office of Lisa Chesters, MP for Bendigo, resulting in a huge saving of time, effort and money.
- The MyU3A member registration system was fully activated, allowing members to enrol online, as well as enrolling in person on Enrolment Days or at the Office.
- MyU3A provided essential information to class leaders to help with marking attendance, recording apologies, adjusting class sizes and making class leader / class member communication easier.
- A class leaders' briefing was held at the start of the year, MyU3A help sessions were held and a "Thank You Breakfast" for class leaders was offered at the end of this current year.
- The Course Co-ordination Manual was reviewed and updated to ensure smooth procedures in future.
- The 2016 Course Leaders' Handbook was updated and issued to all class leaders.
- Peter Benson undertook training of course leaders in the use of learning technologies.

Thanks to Lorna Burton, Uniting Church's Facilities Officer, for ongoing support and help.

Members of the Courses Working Group met with the Mount Alexander Shire, Castlemaine Secondary College and other community groups regarding the possible transition to the ETTY Street campus of CSC in our quest for permanent accommodation.

Membership

As at 8 September 2016:

- Total = 533 members (481 full, 14 life, 23 Honorary, 15 Associate).
- 372 female (69.8%), 161 male (30.2%).
- Age groups: 46-55 = 7 (1.3%), 56-65 = 99 (18.6%), 66-75 = 281 (52.7%), 76-85 = 110 (20.6%); 86-95 = 26 (4.9%), unknown = 10 (1.9%).
- This represents an increase of 11.4% on numbers reported in 2015.

Events

Speakers at coffee mornings:

- ❖ November: Professor Tim Entwisle, Director, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria - *Australian Seasons*
- ❖ January: Carol Waddington, Castlemaine Health - *Healthy Living in Hot Weather*
- ❖ March: Jacqueline Dinan, author 'Between the Dances' - *Australian Women in World War II*
- ❖ April: Hetty Veldman - *Australian Nurses in World War I*
- ❖ May: Marie Jones & Asha Bannon, Castlemaine Landcare - *Environmental Issues*
- ❖ June: John Tozer - *Photography*
- ❖ July: David Bannear - *Archeology*
- ❖ August: Lyn & Mike Rule - *House Sitting*
- ❖ September: Natalie McGregor, Alfred Hospital - *Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy*

Special Events:

- ❖ October: Visit to Sunnymeade garden, Kithbrook.
- ❖ November: Founders' Day celebration
- ❖ November: Australian National Academy of Music concert, Melbourne
- ❖ November: Backstage tour, Ulumbarra Theatre, Bendigo
- ❖ April: Car Trail
- ❖ May: Melbourne Golden Mile walking tour
- ❖ June: *Marilyn Monroe* Exhibit, Bendigo Art Gallery
- ❖ July: NGV Winter Masterpiece Exhibition - *Degas*
- ❖ August: Visit by members of Deepdene U3A
- ❖ August: Trip to *MONA*, Hobart
- ❖ September: Queen Victoria Market Tasting Tour

Events Working Group members - Joe Scoglio (Convenor), Prue Cole, Carol Dorman, Sally Kaptein, Beryl Leavesley, Trish McGregor, Colleen Smith, Max Clarke (ex officio)

Governance

- Recommended change to the Constitution regarding a member's inability to pay the Annual Subscription by the due date.
- Reviewed the 'Venues Health & Safety Audit Checklist' and recommended inclusions concerning the inspection of venues for safety hazards, as well as venue 'Public Liability Insurance' details.
- Reviewed the 'Critical Incident Form' and recommended the inclusion of a change to the Committee of Management regarding communicating the 'outcome of actions taken'.
- Recommended the 'Life Membership' Policy and Procedure.
- Recommended that the organisation pay the Insurance Policy premium to cover members for the current financial year, and that the payment of the Policy for 2017 -2018 be considered within the review of the 2017 Membership fee.
- Discussed the 'Code of Conduct' and the need for all members to be cognisant of appropriate behaviour when participating in U3A activities. Recommended that members be reminded via the newsletter and website.
- Developed a 'Grievance Form' to be used in the event that a member is aggrieved by another member(s) behaviour.
- Liaised with Mount Alexander Shire Council re participating in on-going discussions concerning the health and well being of seniors in the community, as well as the significant contribution that U3A makes in reducing isolation of seniors.

Governance Working Group members: Marilyn Sedgman (Convener), Max Clarke, Dick Mack, and Sylvia Phillips.

The Newsletter – *Third Thoughts*

The editor of *Third Thoughts*, Robyn Yeoman has formed a small group to support production and distribution of the newsletter this year.

Robyn Weeden is a accomplished proof reader. Pat Robbins skilfully assists with the printing, folding, enveloping and posting of the newsletters to members who have paid for postage and handling.

Phil Fletcher resolutely collects newsletters printed by Mount Alexander Shire Council staff, and delivers to the Uniting Church hall for Coffee Morning every month. He also distributes newsletters to various points around town.

We are thankful for the printing support provided by the Mount Alexander Shire Council.

Publicity

Print media (Castlemaine Mail)

November - *Founders' Day*

December - *Prospectus launch*

January - *Article re Prospectus*

September - *Article re ETTY Street Project*

Radio (94.9 Main FM)

Monthly publicity through radio interviews with Bruce Carruthers on 'Grey matters' program, including general news from the President; class leaders talking about their courses; the Quinn memorial seat installation at Castlemaine Cemetery; enrolments; excursions; management of U3A; the ETTY Street project; future events.

Support and assistance with publicity has been provided by Carol Dorman, Publicity/Communications Co-ordinator; Jeff Jones, Castlemaine Mail; Bruce Caruthers, 94.9 Main FM local radio; Max Clarke, Colleen Smith, Peter Benson, Nola McIvor, Beverley Orgill and Russell Annear.

Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.

William Butler Yeats, writer, Nobel laureate (1865-1939)

As a well spent day brings happy sleep, so life well used brings happy death.

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)

Valé

During the year the passing of these members saddened us:

#Valerie Anderson, Rae Hawkins, Paula Imray-Paas, *Ken Leversha, Doug Owen, #Graeme Quinn, and *Spencer Watson.

Life Members; * Founding Members

