

U3A SAPPHIRE COAST INC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2016

2015 has been a rewarding year for U3A Sapphire Coast as our organisation continues to develop. I was appointed Vice President on July 16th 2015, and have found this dynamic association attracts members from all walks of life, who bring new skills and concepts of learning to share with fellow members. This creates friendships and encourages growth.

Membership

At the time of this report membership stands at approximately 450 financial members.

Our New Online Management System - *myU3A*

Since the 2015 AGM, U3A Sapphire Coast has introduced *myU3A*, a complete online management system for processing all aspects of membership, accepting payment, advertising courses, taking bookings, plus much more. Although some difficulties were experienced during introduction of the new system, most frustrations have been overcome, and although some members have been hesitant with the new system, the overall transition has gone smoothly.

Grants

A grant of \$500 was received from BVSC in February 2015 for Seniors Week; the event featured Prue Acton and was held at Tathra Bowling Club. A further grant was recently received from BVSC for a similar amount to assist with 2016 Seniors Week, which will take the form of a debate entitled *Youth versus Experience* between members of U3A SC and students from Lumen Christi College. The event will be held on April 6th at Club Sapphire.

Bequests

During 2015, U3A SC was the fortunate recipient of a bequest of \$10,000 from the estate of former U3A SC member Christaan Classons who sadly passed away in South Africa during 2011. It is believed that something special should be done with this gift, and the committee invites suggestions from the membership.

Wikispace Website:

This has been ably managed for several years by Liz Sweaney, Colin Gould, Terri Prowse, and Mac users group.

U3A Centre

Rent paid for our premises at Tura Centre remains unaltered although the landlords had originally asked for an annual CPI increase. They have generously agreed to no increase at this stage. Minor improvements paid for by U3ASC include a ceiling fan, a new screen door about to be installed, and we have purchased much needed new chairs for the centre. Thanks to Pat McKay and Jennie Smith for handling this.

U3A NSW Network Conference

Held at Mittagong, and attended by U3ASC members Pat McKay, Ian Robertson and Jennie Smith., the 2015 conference was described by Pat as a catalyst for the new *myU3A* management system, which we have now instituted. Special thanks to Pat and Ian for the long hours and enormous amount of work they have put into the new system, and also to Chris Bembrick for his assistance.

The 2016 Network Conference and AGM will be hosted by Eastlakes U3A at Belmont 27th to 29th April.

Annual Information Day January 20th 2016 at Tura Centre

Formerly known as Registration Day, a tradition for ten years whereby our committee were required to register hundreds of members, accept payment write receipts and give out information in just one very busy morning, but for the last few years now more of an Information Day where member's questions are also answered. This day also gives members the opportunity to meet Course Leaders/Tutors, and hosts of *One Off* Events. In the afternoon, our Course Leaders/Tutors were invited to Afternoon Tea at Tura Beach Golf Club where a tutorial on the new system requirements was hosted by ProgramCo-ordinator Ian Robertson.

Christmas Party

A hugely successful Christmas Party was enjoyed by one hundred members and guests at the new and popular venue, *On the Perch*, a Bird Park at Evans Hill on Tathra Road., where owners Steve and Linda Sass have implemented a breeding program for the preservation of endangered Australian birdlife species. Tours of the enclosures proved popular, with guests often having to avoid tiny chicks moving among the grasses. Catering was by Lyn MacMillan, of *Cooking with Lyn*.

Bereavements

At the Christmas Party, as Vice President it was a rewarding moment for me when everybody joined me in a minute's silence. to honour the memory of members who have died and offer condolences to their families, Thankyou all for that.

To all our Committee, Sub-committees, Course Leaders/Tutors, Facilitators, Hosts of *One Off* and *Lunch with a Local Legend* events, Volunteers, and hundreds of members, thankyou for your participation in U3A Sapphire Coast.

Present Committee Members

Margaret Evans	Vice President
Patricia Hamilton	Secretary was co-opted to fill the vacant position at the AGM Patricia will not be standing again
Jennie Smith	Treasurer - has completed 4 years as treasurer and is not standing again
Pat McKay	Membership Registrar
Ian Robertson	Program Coordinator
Julie Novotny	Publicity Officer, recently resigned Julie is not standing again
Gwen Vearing	Centre Manager
Mary Brady	Committee Member
Chris Bembrik	Committee Member

Margaret Evans
Vice President
22nd February 2016