



NOTICE of U3A GENERAL MEETING

Thursday September 19th
Commencing at 10.30am
McIntyre Theatre, Newcastle Museum
6 Workshop Way, Newcastle

Note the CHANGED venue!

We are very pleased to have as guest speaker:

Julie Baird, Newcastle Museum Director:

In the run-up to the 30th anniversary of the Newcastle earthquake, Julie has offered to give our members a personal tour and her insights into the **Museum's earthquake exhibition** – the only exhibition she has ever signed in her curatorial career. She will do this 'from the comfort of your chairs' in the Museum Theatre using the digital photos that form the exhibition. There will also be opportunity to explore the Museum's other current special exhibition 'Spy: espionage in Australia' after the meeting.

Other items on the agenda will be reports from the Treasurer, President, and Program Coordinator. There will also be a General Business segment to consider important changes to Newcastle U3A's Constitution to remove the current requirement to issue receipts for all payments to the organisation. This change will bring the Constitution into line with many other U3A branches and the model Constitution of Network NSW. It will also reduce waste of paper and remove an unnecessary impost on the Treasurer to hand-write over 700 receipts for membership fees. These duplicate those provided by banking institutions, and most members now do not collect and retain their receipts from NU3A. Receipts will of course still be issued to any member on request, and as required under relevant legislation.

Members are asked to come prepared.

The current financial report and draft minutes of the September 2018 General Meeting are attached.

Tea and coffee will be available from 10.00am

Meeting will be followed by lunch (your expense) on the verandah over the Harbour at Honeysuckle Hotel, 5 minutes' walk (350 metres) from the Museum. Lunch specials \$14.

Getting to the venue: There is a light rail stop at Civic next to the Museum, paid parking is available in Wright Lane car park next to the Museum, and free 4-hour parking is available at Nobbys car park. The nearest bus stop is BUS STOP 230049 (King St after Auckland St)

Proposed amendments to the Newcastle U3A Constitution.

These require support of a majority of members eligible to vote to be passed:

3. Application for Membership

That Part 3(3) of the Constitution of Newcastle U3A Inc. dated 2 October 2014 as amended on 10 October 2018, be amended by removing a comma after the word "name", removing the words "receipt number" and adding the words "of payment" after the word "date".

Part 3(3) will then read "The treasurer enters the name and date of payment in the membership list and refers the application to the secretary."

36. Funds – Source

That the Constitution of Newcastle U3A Inc. dated 2 October 2014 as amended on 10 October 2018, be amended by removing the wording of Part 36(3) and replacing that wording so that

36(3) will then read "Receipts will not be issued unless required under the relevant legislation."

Newcastle U3A Receipts and Expenditure report

Following is a summary of cash receipts and expenditures for the financial year to date (1 January to 31 July) compared with the previous corresponding period.

<i>All figures in dollars unless otherwise indicated</i>	YTD 2019	YTD 2018	Chg %
Receipts			
Membership fees	32,740	19,410	+69%
Excursion and course fees	5,130	6,120	-16%
Donations	682	700	-3%
Interest from term deposits	434	602	-28%
Sundries	0	75	
Total	38,986	26,907	+45%
Expenditure			
Membership refunds	120	410	
Excursion/course fee refunds	121	1,443	
Excursion costs	3,236	3,117	+4%
Venue rents	17,595	10,584	+66%
Equipment purchases	274	1,480	
Telecom, stationary, printing	1,783	1,785	
Insurance	858	200	
Information technology	383	189	
Sundries	1,162	1,658	
Total	25,532	20,865	+22%
Cheque account			
Opening balance	14,670	13,845	
Receipts as above	38,986	26,907	
Payments as above	-25,532	-20,865	
Capital transfers	-8,310	-5,000	
Closing balance	16,901	14,836	
Financial resources			
Cash account	16,901	14,836	
Term deposits	34,000	31,000	
Total	50,901	45,836	+11%

Note: Sundry outlays in 2018 included a \$600 donation to the Art Gallery for boats, which was matched by \$600 in donations from members.

Treasurer's comments

Membership fee receipts were up 69% for the 7 months to 31 July due firstly to an increase in paid members (688 compared with 596 at the same time last year) and secondly to the increase in fees charged per member (\$60 for the year and \$40 for S2 in 2019 compared with \$50 and \$30 in 2018).

While venue costs are also up sharply they did not increase as much as expected. This has resulted in our financial position improving still further.

**Minutes of the Newcastle U3A GM held on Thursday 20
September 2018
at the Carrington Room, Hunter Workers, 408 King Street,
Newcastle**

Attendance as per Attendance Register – 40 present

Attendance as per show of hands – 42 present

Apologies 3

Guest Speaker, Philip Ashley-Brown, ABC National Quality Manager for Regional Australia, gave a very informative and entertaining presentation on the current and developing role of ABC regional broadcasting throughout Australia, and the greater effort being made to bring regional and country issues into what has customarily been capital city focused national media. Performance – Newcastle U3A Ukelele Group. The enjoyable performance was well received.

Minutes of the General Meeting held on 12 October 2017, previously distributed, were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Margaret Flood Seconded: Brenda Carter

President's Report

The need for Newcastle NU3A to adopt online membership and enrolment facilities due to the increasing number of members, currently over 600, and the associated administrative burden. It is hoped that Google forms in conjunction with our present Access software, will be available for Semester 1 2019 membership and enrolments, whilst testing and learning continues on U3A specific software program MyU3A with possible transition to that program in time for Semester 2 enrolments. For those with limited or no computer skills Computer Pals has been suggested. People needing help with their membership and enrolment will be able to come into the meeting room on designated days in order to be assisted with these matters.

Rising venue costs were discussed along with the need to increase fees beginning 2019.

Newcastle U3A has recently been registered as a not-for-profit organisation.

Moved: Julie Newing Seconded: Pat Lane

Course Coordinators' Report

John Thacker spoke on behalf of himself and Gloria Jones as joint Program Coordinators. He spoke of their shared role and of the value of the Committee. John remembered one of our oldest members, Lance Close, who died recently, and that Lance had been a popular and long-term tutor for various subjects. John then thanked all our tutors.

The issue of venues and rising costs was raised, the bigger the group is overall the more it costs in terms of venues and their costs. Last year we catered for a class with 55 people per sessions at a cost of \$10 per session. Enrolments exceeded 55 and the class was moved to a larger capacity venue capable of holding slightly more than 90. We have outgrown that venue too and have moved to one with a

capacity for 150 which costs us \$55 per session, which demonstrates the continual change in our costs. It is always difficult to balance the difficulties between cost and benefit. If there is a proposal to increase the membership fees then John and Gloria approve of it.

Moved: John Thacker

Seconded: Pauline Boyce

Treasurer's Report

Laila Boctor discussed the extra costs that have been incurred this year due to the extra classes and enrolments. We start every year with a surplus and each year we gradually whittle it down as the year progresses because of the size of the program. The Financial Statements were provided.

Moved: Laila Boctor

Seconded: Margaret Flood

Special Resolutions

The following resolutions were read to the meeting and each resolution was separately put to the vote of members present and eligible to vote.

1. That the Constitution of Newcastle U3A Inc. be amended to add the following

Part 5 Section 45 DGR Revocation Clause:

If the organisation is wound up or its endorsement as a deductible gift recipient is revoked (whichever occurs first), any surplus of the following assets shall be transferred to another organisation with similar objects, which is charitable at law, to which income tax deductible gifts can be made:

- Gifts of money or property for the principal purpose of the organisation
- Contributions made in relation to an eligible fundraising event held for the principal purpose of the organisation
- Money received by the organisation because of such gifts and contributions.

Those in favour by show of hands – 42. Those against – 0.

Motion carried.

2. That Part 2 S3(2)(a) of the Constitution of Newcastle U3A Inc. be amended by adding the words "or online as provided by the Association."

S3(2)(a) will then read "An application for membership of the Association: (a) Must be made in writing on the form nominated and supplied by the association or online as provided by the Association."

Those in favour by show of hands – 42. Those against – 0.

Motion carried.

General Business

Jennifer Dunn has requested that Scrabble and Chess groups continue during term breaks, but not the long break at Christmas. The President asked that this be followed up at a later time.

There was a short poetry recital by Ballads and Bards Poetry group member, Daphne Roper, in memory of class member Lance Close.

Meeting closed 12.00 noon.