

# Annual General Meeting 2020



Moto: "SHARING OF SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE & FRIENDSHIP"

## Annual Report 2019 / 2020

**Agenda of Annual General Meeting No. 18  
Held August 27<sup>th</sup> 2020  
Online via ZOOM  
Commencing at 2:00pm**

**Welcome to Members and Guests.**

**Members Present / Apologies.**

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting No. 17**

**Business arising from the minutes of Annual General Meeting No. 17**

**Reports**

President

Financial Report – Treasurer

U3A Network Representative

**Resolutions**

1. Setting annual subscriptions

Recommended by the Committee that:

- A fee structure to be set for 2021 as follows:

Full membership \$50 year

Associate member \$30 year

Full membership \$30 half year

Associate member \$20 half year

Full membership \$10 last term

Associate member \$10 last term

2. Setting Committee of Management size.

Recommended by the Committee that:

The committee for 2020/2021 will consist of 10 members.

4 executive and 6 general committee members.

**Appointment of Committee for 2020/2021**

**Appointment of Auditor**

Confirm the Appointment of

Mr Raj Vytilingam B.Com. F.C.A.C.F. as Honorary Auditor for 2020/2021.

**General Business**

Enrolling for 2021 calendar year – Use of your phone

**Close**

Minutes of Annual General Meeting No.17  
Held August 22<sup>th</sup> 2019  
At Thomastown and Lalor Elderly Citizens Centre  
May Road Lalor

**Welcome to Members and Guests:**

The President, Glen Wall welcomed members and guests and recognised the Indigenous owners of the land and Elders past and present. Glen also welcomed the Mayor of Whittlesea, Cr Laurie Cox, Sally Delaney on behalf of Andrew Giles MP, Mary Salucci on behalf of Lily D'Ambrosio MP and Cr Kris Pavlidis. Acknowledged past Presidents Brenda Gorely and Beryl Clarke and life members Kathy Lizio, Brenda Gorely, Beryl Clarke, Mary Renshaw and Helen Campbell.

**Members Present / Apologies:**

Members present and apologies were recorded.

Glen acknowledged the following members who had recently passed away.

**Bill Palmer, Danny Knaflec and John Crowe**

**Minutes of 2018 Annual General Meeting:**

Minutes of Annual General Meeting No.16 were circulated and approved.

**Moved by:** Elaine Bateman

**Seconded by:** Jodie Lang

**Carried**

**Reports:**

**President's Report:** handed out to attendees. Glen Wall spoke to the report.

Antonio Pantoglio asked why we have members under the age of 55.

Glen advised that there is no clear definition of a 'senior', therefore we welcome members over the age of 50 providing they are either retired or semi-retired.

**Moved by:** Don Clarke

**Seconded by:** Tom Navov

**Carried**

**Treasurer's Report:** handed out to attendees. Peter Rodaughan spoke to the report.

David Ross asked what the major cost of the Telstra bill was.

Peter advised that the major cost was due to the purchase of telecommunications hardware.

**Moved by;** Tom Nanov

**Seconded by;** Ken Lal

**Carried**

**Resolutions:**

1. New membership fees for 2019/2020 to be set as follows;
  - A new fee of \$10 be introduced for the last term of 2019.
  - A new fee structure to be set for 2020 as follows:

Full membership \$50 year

Associate member \$30 year

Full membership \$30 half year

Associate member \$20 half year

Full membership \$10 last term

Associate member \$10 last term

**Moved by:** Peter Rodaughan

**Seconded by:** Kevin Whelan

**Carried**

2. The Committee of Management to comprise of 8 members, 4 executive and 4 general committee members.

**Moved by:** Elaine Bateman

**Seconded by:** Judy Cleary

**Carried**

Glen advised that Peter Cleary and Anne Heafield would not be re-standing for their positions on the committee and thanked them for their contribution over the past few years.

Glen also advised that Lilian K had resigned from her role as the website and newsletter editor and thanked Lilian for her contribution over the past few years.

Glen directed all current committee members to stand down and called on past President, Beryl Clarke to appoint the new Committee of Management for 2019/2020.

Beryl stated that according to the rules, the following nominations had been received by the Secretary for the 2019/2020 year before 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

**Glen Wall – President**

**Kathy Lizio – Vice President**

**Elaine Bateman – Secretary**

**Peter Rodaughan – Treasurer**

**Kevin Whelan, Afroditi Toso, Bev Moore, Michael Murray – general committee**

As there were no other nominations, Beryl advised that the above nominees were accepted as the 2019/2020 Committee of Management and welcomed Glen Wall as the President for 2019/2020.

Glen thanked Beryl and acknowledged the nominations for 2019/2020 and asked the members to welcome and acknowledge the new Committee of Management for 2019/2020.

### **Election of Honorary Auditor for the forthcoming year 2019/2020**

A motion was tabled that Raj Vytilingam B Com. F.C.A.C.F be appointed Honorary Auditor for the year 2019/2020.

**Moved by:** Peter Rodaughan

**Seconded by:** Margaret Mitten

**Carried**

### **General Business**

- **VENUES – Peter Rodaughan acknowledged the positive relationship WU3A has with the Whittlesea council accommodation staff and the great service they provide us.**
- **Val Marlow requested Glen to remind members about the Open day to be held on 31<sup>st</sup> August at Peter Lalor College and invited all to attend.**
- **Car Park at Peter Lalor College**

Frank Ciechowski stated that we are being discriminated against and is seriously thinking about doing something about it. Several members agreed.

Glen advised that we are facing several challenges to share space with other organisations. The School Council has control of the school grounds and we are currently working with the Department of Education to resolve this issue.

Frank stated that there are always several cars parked in the car park and why shouldn't we be able to park there also.

Glen advised that the Everest group have permission to park in the car park as part of their lease agreement.

A Motion was put forward from members of WU3A to request the committee to raise the issue of discrimination regarding the use of the car park with the appropriate Government Department.

**Moved by:** Frank Ciechowski

**Seconded:** Klaus Hendrich

**Carried**

A request was put forward to have the WU3A sign removed from the car park until the issue is resolved. The Secretary will Action this request.

- **Toilets at Peter Lalor College**

Tom raised the current toilet situation and stated that members have to wait in line to use the toilet as there is only one. Frank advised that several women had been embarrassed using the male toilet, as some men leave the main door open when they are using the facility.

Glen advised that the issue is expected to be resolved as part of the discussions with the Department of Education, along with the car park issue.

Before closing the meeting, Glen invited Cr Kris Pavlidis to say a few words. In her capacity as the Ethnic community Council of Victoria, Cr Pavlidis welcomed members to the meeting and thanked the other councillors for their attendance. She also thanked the owners of the land and the elders past and present. Cr Pavlidis then congratulated the newly elected members of the 2019/2020 Committee of Management and agreed that Community groups need to work together to resolve their issues such as the car park and toilet situation. Cr Pavlidis advised that part of her role across Victoria is to promote multi-culturalism within the Whittlesea area and congratulated WU3A for having such a diverse member base.

Glen again thanked the invited guests for their attendance.

**Meeting closed at 3.20pm.**

Provisional Date for Annual General Meeting No.18 Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 200pm.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It is pleasing to report to this 2020 Annual General Meeting of members of Whittlesea U3A that we have been able to meet the challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic and resulting restrictions by transitioning a range of classes and activities to access from home. There are now more than 45 access from home classes and activities being enjoyed by members. The number of these classes and activities is increasing.

Whittlesea U3A within the U3A movement and our local community, has been recognised as a leader in supporting seniors accessing classes and activities during the COVID-19 restrictions. So, we can say that **WHITTLESEA U3A IS ACTIVELY PROVIDING MEMBERS WITH CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES** through this period of restrictions and isolation.

During March and April in response to COVID-19 restrictions, all face to face classes and activities were suspended. This had an adverse effect on membership commencing the 2020 calendar with 776 (end 2019 856 members).

Our technology tutors lead by Peter Cleary, Janice Boswell, Kathy Lizio and Peter Rodaughan with the support of U3A Network Victoria, implemented a program to support members in the use of the ZOOM application to access classes and activities from home. Commencing with small "chat from home" meetings and the Social Seniors programs.

Other Tutors including Ron Harvey and Silvana Di Battista (Choir), Kevin Whelan (Help with Windows), Janice Boswell (iPAD & iPHONE), Bryan McNally (Creative Writing), Jan Marshal, (ePublishing & African Violet Propagation), Kathy Lizio (Computer classes), Peter Rodaughan (Computer class), Peter Cleary (Photography & Genealogy), Wilma Mason (Self Help Italian), Ida Tipping (Exercise) and Bolton Clark Health & Wellbeing sessions (arranged by Peter Cleary) responded to the challenge and delivered their classes and activities as ZOOM access classes.

I would like to acknowledge these committee members and tutors and thank them for taking up the challenge and for their achievements. Their efforts have meant a lot to a significant number of our members.

It is now recognised that "Normal" in the past will not be the future "Normal". The COVID-19 pandemic has provided us with an unbelievable opportunity to support our members to learn to use technology to participate in Whittlesea U3A classes and activities, as well as connect with family and friends. After restrictions are lifted our future "Normal" for Whittlesea U3A will be a mix of "Access from Home" and "Face to Face" classes and activities.

### **Resumption of Whittlesea U3A "Face to Face" Classes**

We understand that "access from home classes and activities" will not replace "face to face classes" but they will remain on our class and activities calendar post COVID-19 restrictions.

Whittlesea U3A will be recommencing face to face classes and activities when the Victorian State Government and City of Whittlesea regulations permit. Peter Rodaughan, Gerry Fay, Michael Murray, and I have worked closely with the City of Whittlesea council officers and venue managers to reach an agreement on the process to be followed to recommence face to face classes in venues.

It is expected that the current levels of restrictions on the use of venues will progressively be lifted initially permitting small groups to meet in a room. It may take until well into the 2021 calendar year for larger groups to meet in rooms. To meet this challenge, we plan to schedule classes complemented with ZOOM access from home to provide members with the best opportunity to participate in classes of their choice. Updates on availability of classes and activities will be posted to the Whittlesea U3A website and promoted in the monthly newsheet.

## **Resolution of issues regarding occupancy of the Peter Lalor College Campus.**

The Department of Education and Training (DET) has taken control of the mediation process to identify and implement solutions regarding toilet facilities, parking and access to the PLC campus administration offices and classrooms. Prior to the COVID-19 lock down restrictions the Assistant Director of DET for this region facilitated a meeting between Whittlesea U3A, Lalor and Thomastown Men's Shed and the School principal to put in place a process to resolve the issues.

It was agreed that DET would arrange for a mediator to put in place processes to resolve the issues.

A meeting was held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020 between the DET, Whittlesea U3A, the Men's Shed and Peter Lalor Secondary College.

The following statement was issued by DET on behalf of the parties.

"It is acknowledged that each party is committed to supporting the local community and that there is broad alignment with the intentions of each party to resolve present issues. It was agreed that a process of professional mediation will occur between the school, Whittlesea U3A and the Men's Shed to assist with the issues of concern. An independent mediator will support the repair of the relationships and the resolution of issues relating to access, parking and toilet facilities, taking into account relevant Department of Education's compliance with policy, legislation and the requests of the WU3A and the Men's Shed. The Department will support the school to commence the process, with advice on next steps to be provided soon."

COVID-19 restrictions on face to face meetings has delayed this process but it has now been agreed with DET to continue the mediation process using video conferencing and it is expected that solutions will be in place prior to the introduction of "face to face" classes.

I would like to acknowledge the support provided by Bronwyn Halfpenny MP, Andrew Giles MP, and former City of Whittlesea Councillors for their support with the negotiations with DET to put in place a resolution process. A speech made by Andrew Giles MP in parliament can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/AndrewGilesMP/videos/235605167469121/>

## **Grant Funding Support**

During the year Whittlesea U3A has received funding support of \$46,983 from a number of funders including DPCD (Vic Government) Special Grant \$4,000, U3A Network Victoria Grant to assist with Inclusiveness Project \$6,000, BSL support for Building Community Engagement project \$6,000, Be Connected (Federal Government) Internet connecting support \$1,650, Digital Literacy programs in the City of Whittlesea \$15,000, City of Whittlesea Seniors Support Grant \$13,833, Be Connected (Federal government) \$15,000, U3A Network Victoria Grant Building Community Engagement program \$500. Telstra have adjusted the Whittlesea U3A communications costs to compensate for non-use of data services due to COVID-19 restrictions. We thank those organisations for their financial support.

## **City of Whittlesea Collaboration with Whittlesea U3A**

The collaboration between Whittlesea U3A and City of Whittlesea "Ageing Well Team" is continuing to strengthen. The second stage of the "Whittlesea Seniors Linkup" will commence in August. The project is focused on providing members of senior's clubs and the broader community with access to and enrol in activities and classes provided by the Council's LEAP program, Whittlesea U3A, Yarra Plenty Regional Library and YMCA. The project is being funded by the City of Whittlesea and the hosting of the application managed by Whittlesea U3A.

In response to COVID-19 restrictions the team leader Ageing Well team has invited Whittlesea U3A to utilise our teaching capacity to take a lead role in implementing a 'Learn from Home' program. The program will include support for the delivery to members of senior's clubs the 'Be Connected' digital literacy program and other classes and activities offered by Whittlesea U3A that can be accessed by seniors from home.

I would like to share with members the following email from Lydia Wilson, Administrator City of Whittlesea in recognition of the value of U3A to the community and the good work of our volunteer leaders and tutors.

"Good morning Glen

Thank you so much for your email and further background about the work of Whittlesea U3A.

I am forever in awe of the enormous contribution of the many volunteers associated with U3A and was so impressed with the huge amount of work you have undertaken locally to ensure the most positive ways of continuing your work despite COVID-19.

To that end I have already contacted our Communications Manager this morning to see if we can arrange a visit in due course and to further showcase your work. I have copied her into this email.

Hope to meet you in person soon and best wishes

Lydia

Administrator City of Whittlesea"

## **Building Community Engagement (BCE) Initiative**

Whittlesea U3A will continue to take a lead role in the U3A Network Victoria "Building Community Engagement" program. The initiative is focused on U3As working together to better connect with their local communities and where opportunities arise, share classes and activities. Successes to date have been Walking Football (U3A Darebin, U3A Knox U3A Croydon, U3A Bendigo), Social Seniors (Sunbury U3A, Casey U3A, U3A Darebin all supported by Public Libraries Victoria) and Line dancing (U3A Banyule, U3A Nillumbik). The program has enabled Whittlesea U3A to build capacity to widen the classes and activities it offers to members.

## **Awards and Publicity.**

**The Whittlesea Seniors Link Up Project** was a finalist in the '2019 LGPro Active Ageing & Wellbeing Awards' in the Outstanding Program/Project (grant based) category. The project was a partnering initiative of City of Whittlesea Council, Whittlesea U3A, Brotherhood of St Laurence, Whittlesea Community Leadership Network, and Northern Mauritian Seniors Club.

**The 2019 Seniors Card Magazine** an article titled "Celebrating Extraordinary Seniors" featuring the Whittlesea U3A Walking Football program was featured in the September issue of the "Seniors Card Magazine. The article covered the development of the initiative by the City of Whittlesea Positive Ageing Team and the transfer of the program to Whittlesea U3A who turned it into a sustainable ongoing program.

### **Seniors Week Celebration at Federation Square Melbourne - October 2019**

Whittlesea U3A manned a display to promote its classes and activities at Federation Square. The Commissioner for Senior Victorians commented on our display and posted a photo of the 3D Origami class's work on his Face Book page.

The Whittlesea U3A Choir performed in the choir program which is an annual feature of the event.

I would particularly like to note the efforts of Gordon Dennis, Bev Moore supported by Elaine Bateman in representing Whittlesea U3A at the stall and Ron Harvey and Silvana Di Battista for leading the Choir.

Whittlesea U3A activities were included in the local Senior Week program of activities.

### **Whittlesea Town Crier Articles**

Whittlesea U3A has continued to have a monthly article published in the Town Crier.

**Local Expo displays.** The activities of Whittlesea U3A were displayed at a number of local expos including City of Whittlesea Age Care Support Expo, City of Whittlesea Welcome Expo, Whittlesea Township November Cruiser Night – Classic car parade, Whittlesea Chinese Association New Year celebration and Bhutanese Light Festival.

### **Seniors Walking Football 2020 “WORLD CUP”**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual “World Cup of Walking Football” was hosted by Whittlesea U3A on 28<sup>th</sup> November. 20 men’s, ladies and mixed teams competed. Participating U3As were Whittlesea U3A (host), U3A Knox, U3A Croydon, U3A Bendigo, U3A Darebin. There were over 100 attendees including Managers of our partnering organisations – City of Whittlesea, Melbourne City Football Club, Football Victoria, RMIT University, Melbourne University and LGA Resilience Northern Western Collaboration.

## **RMIT University Pathways to Healthy Ageing – Integrating Allied Health Disciplines**

Whittlesea U3A is a participating network partner in the RMIT University School of Health and Biomedical Sciences “Pathways to Healthy Ageing” program. Our participation in the program has sourced additional support for the Walking Football program, a voice in the research on Healthy Ageing and the production of a series of podcasts on topics relating to Healthy Ageing.

## **RMIT Shaping Connection Project**

Shaping Connections is a research program co-created by RMIT University’s School of Economics, Finance and Marketing, and University of Third Age (U3A). The program seeks to understand better how technology use supports senior’s connectedness and enhances social inclusion and participation. Details of the project and video interviews of members participating in the project can be viewed at [www.shapingconnections.org](http://www.shapingconnections.org). The findings of this research project have been a valuable input into the approach adopted by Whittlesea U3A to successfully introduce access from home classes and activities for members during COVID-19 restrictions. The RMIT project leaders submitted an article on the project to the online news publication “Conversation” and had in the first 24 hour over 1,700 views. The project will be an ongoing project.

## **Social Seniors Program**

U3A Network Vic has completed a partnering arrangement with Public Libraries Victoria to deliver the Social Seniors program on the ZOOM platform. The program enables members while socially isolated, with the opportunity to extend their digital skills, broaden their social networks, share their stories creatively, and connect with people on social media. Whittlesea U3A has been allocated the project as part of the “Building Community Engagement:” program.

The program provides an opportunity for U3A to partner with local libraries to link ‘senior’ library members to both the program and U3A which will have benefits beyond COVID-19. The program is being led by Glen Wall, Janice Boswell, Peter Cleary, Bryan McNally, Jan Marshall and Gavin Trigg.

## Developing Collaborative Partnering Arrangements

The Committee has continued to strengthen collaborative partnering arrangements with other organisations to source support and build capacity to offer members a wider range of classes and activities. The support of these organisations has enabled Whittlesea U3A to positively respond to the challenges of COVID-19 restrictions and transition classes and activities to access from home classes. I would like to acknowledge and thank the contribution of Michael Murray, Gerry Fay, Peter Cleary, Peter Rodaughan, Janice Boswell, and Elaine Bateman and thank them for their contribution.

Musculoskeletal Australia (VAAP) produced a video of Michael Murray describing Whittlesea U3A's commitment to partnering which features Elaine Bateman's Whittlesea U3A line dancing class.

The video can be viewed at:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zC\\_UYKUH6yo&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zC_UYKUH6yo&feature=youtu.be)

### Our valued collaborative partners include:

**Bolton Clarke** Health & Wellbeing sessions, **ESTIA HEALTH** Use of activity rooms in the restored original South Morang Primary School building, **Brotherhood of St Laurence** assisting WU3A Community Connector Hub develop program in Community Activity Centres, **Walking Football program Collaboration partners** City of Whittlesea Ageing Well Team, Melbourne City Football Club, RMIT School of Health and Biomedical Sciences and Epping Physiotherapy, **Whittlesea Community Connection** Mernda Community House to deliver Be Connected sessions, **Community Radio 88.6 Plenty Valley FM** support to deliver a program for seniors on air, develop podcasts and promote Whittlesea U3A classes and activities, **Lalor Link Community Garden** assistance with the development of a new Whittlesea U3A Gardening Interest Group.

**Lalor Living and Learning Centre (French St)** support delivery of health and wellbeing classes. **Australian Unity retirement villages** piloting special interest group access from home classes, activities, and discussion groups and **U3A Sunbury** with Sunbury Community Health participation in a COVID-19 support project for seniors as a Building Community Engagement initiative.

## Thank you to Tutors, Office and Support Volunteers

Through our dedicated group of Volunteer Tutors, Whittlesea U3A continued to provide a friendly environment for the sharing with members their knowledge, skills, and expertise. I would like to thank all Tutors for their valuable contribution during these challenging times. A thank you to those Tutors mentioned elsewhere in this report for their dedication to meet the challenges of COVID-19 restrictions which has enabled classes and activities to continue in new forms. None of this would have been possible without the dedication and support of our office and support volunteers. On behalf of the members I thank you all.

## Committee of Management 2019-20

I would like to note my thank you to the 2019/20 Committee of Management for their good work during the year in particularly challenging circumstances. Their support and dedication are the reason Whittlesea U3A has been able to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 restrictions and continue to provide classes and activities for members in a new format.

I would like to recognise Bev Moore who resigned as a committee member in March due to time and travel constraints. During her time on the committee Bev promoted Whittlesea U3A in the Township of Whittlesea and assisted with our promotion activities. Bev continues to be a member and an important contact with the Whittlesea Township community.

The outgoing committee of management has approved the formation of a number of working groups which will have the responsibility for the important functions of: Communications, Membership Support and Partnerships. Each of these working groups will report to a member of the 2020/21 committee. This further development in the operating structure of Whittlesea U3A will support meeting the challenges of recovery from the COVID-19 restrictions and is an important step in the process of implementing a Leadership Succession Plan.

### **Support from Members of Parliament**

On behalf of the members, I would like to acknowledge the support Whittlesea U3A has received from our State Members of Parliament: Bronwyn Halfpenny MP, Lily Di Ambrosio MP, and Craig Ondarchie MP. I would also like to acknowledge the support Whittlesea U3A has received from our Federal Members of Parliament: Andrew Giles MP and Rob Mitchell MP as well as the former Councillors of the City of Whittlesea.

### **Conclusion**

We are committed to provide Whittlesea U3A classes and activities as ZOOM access from home activities until we are able to hold face to face classes when COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Post COVID-19 we will offer both face to face and ZOOM access from home classes. We are also committed to continue to widen Whittlesea U3A classes and activities for seniors across the whole City of Whittlesea.

In conclusion, as the 2019/20 President of Whittlesea U3A I believe the 2019/20 Whittlesea U3A committee has met its challenges for the year and continued to provide opportunities for Seniors in the City of Whittlesea to learn, teach, share, socialise, communicate and to give mutual support to each other in a friendly, fun environment regardless of ethnicity, religion, political persuasion, ability or disability.

Thank you, the members for your support and I am proud to lead this wonderful organisation.



**Glen Wall**

**President-Whittlesea U3A Inc.**

**Financial Report 2019/20 Treasurer**

<b>MANAGEMENT REPORT</b>		
<b>Profit &amp; Loss Statement</b>		
<b>July 2019 To June 2020</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Membership	\$35,921.00	
Participation Donations	\$142.00	
Merchandise Sales	\$300.47	
Grants	\$58,249.38	
Functions	\$22,883.50	
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>\$117,496.35</u>
<b>Direct Expenses</b>		
U3A Network Victoria	\$1,336.00	
Fund Raising Expenses	\$300.28	
<b>Less Direct Expenses</b>		<u>\$1,636.28</u>
<b>Total Gross Profit</b>		\$115,860.07
<b>Expenses</b>		
General Expenses	\$68.85	
Merchandise	\$1,336.64	
Financial Institution fees	\$26.50	
Paypal Commission	\$428.14	
Licences to Operate	\$1603.67	
Class/Course Costs	\$1,728.69	
Promotions	\$804.09	
Travel & Parking	\$869.87	
Volunteers Support Expenses	\$2,155.62	
Catering	\$2,571.80	
Inclusiveness Project	\$269.65	
Computer Expenses	\$2,119.44	
Computer Equipment	\$2,198.10	
Computer Software	\$1,460.96	
Telstra & Optus WiFi Data	\$39,068.53	
Supplies – P.L.C. Campus	\$4,612.60	
Supplies - May Rd. Campus	\$346.15	
Postage	\$2,246.46	
Stationery	\$1,797.62	
Executive Stationery	\$1,384.98	
Trainer Resources	\$628.15	
BeConnected Program: BSL, RMIT	\$2,720.00	
Rent	\$25,252.54	
Multicultural Activities	\$1,500.00	
Functions	\$13,194.10	
Bus Trips	\$8,808.45	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<u>\$119,191.60</u>
<b>Operating Profit</b>		(\$3,331.53)
<b>Other Income</b>		
Bank Interest	\$21.69	
<b>Total Other Income</b>		<u>\$21.69</u>
<b>Net Profit/(Loss)</b>		<u>(\$3,319.84)</u>

<b>Whittlesea U3A Inc.</b>		
<b>Balance Sheet</b>		
<b>As of June 2020</b>		
Assets		
Current Assets		
Westpac Cheque Account	\$1,507.25	
Bendigo Bank Cheque Account	\$20.00	
Bendigo Bank Saving Account	\$5,138.98	
Bendigo Bank Debit Card	\$20.00	
Petty Cash	\$495.35	
PayPal	\$0.00	
.....Merchandise	\$2,108.98	
Internet Product Sales	\$146.77	
Bonds Venues	\$950.00	
Total Current Assets		\$10,387.33
Non-Current Assets		
P.L.C Relocation	\$27,183.87	
Less Amortization of P.L.C. Relocation	(\$2,181.00)	
Total Non-Current Assets		\$25,002.87
Total Assets		\$35,390.20
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Grant - North East Region Meetings	\$1,727.87	
Total Current Liabilities		\$1,727.87
Total Liabilities		
Net Assets		\$33,662.33
Equity		
Retained Earnings		\$36,982.17
Current Year Surplus/Deficit		(\$3,319.84)
Historical Balancing		\$0.00
Total Equity		\$33,662.33

### AUDITORS REPORT

Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Treasurer was unable to meet as normal with the Auditor. The Financial Statements representing the Profit & Loss Account and Balance Sheet of Whittlesea U3A for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 were reviewed by the finance committee and in their view, give a true and fair view of the results for the year and the state of affairs of Whittlesea U3A Inc. as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020. The Auditor has agreed to verify these reports when COVID-19 restrictions are eased and allow a meeting to occur.

Peter Rodaughan  
Treasurer



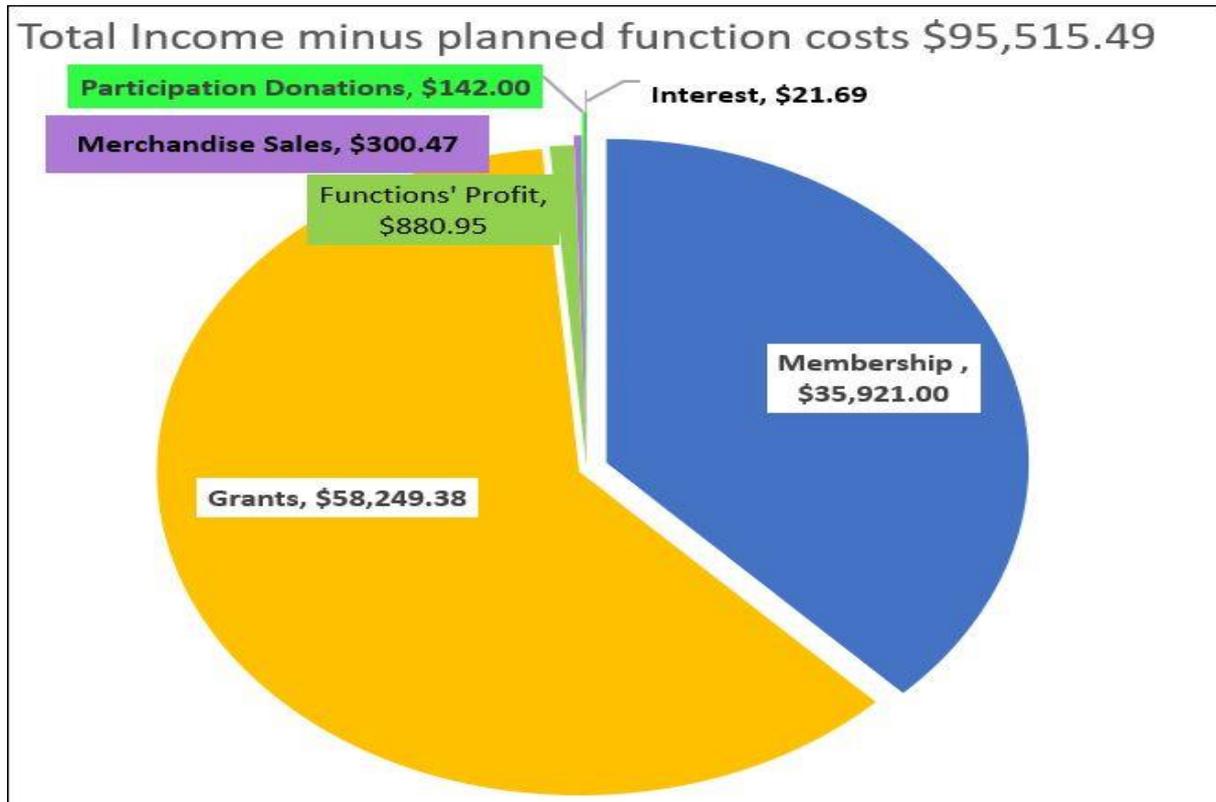
Date: 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Glen Wall  
President

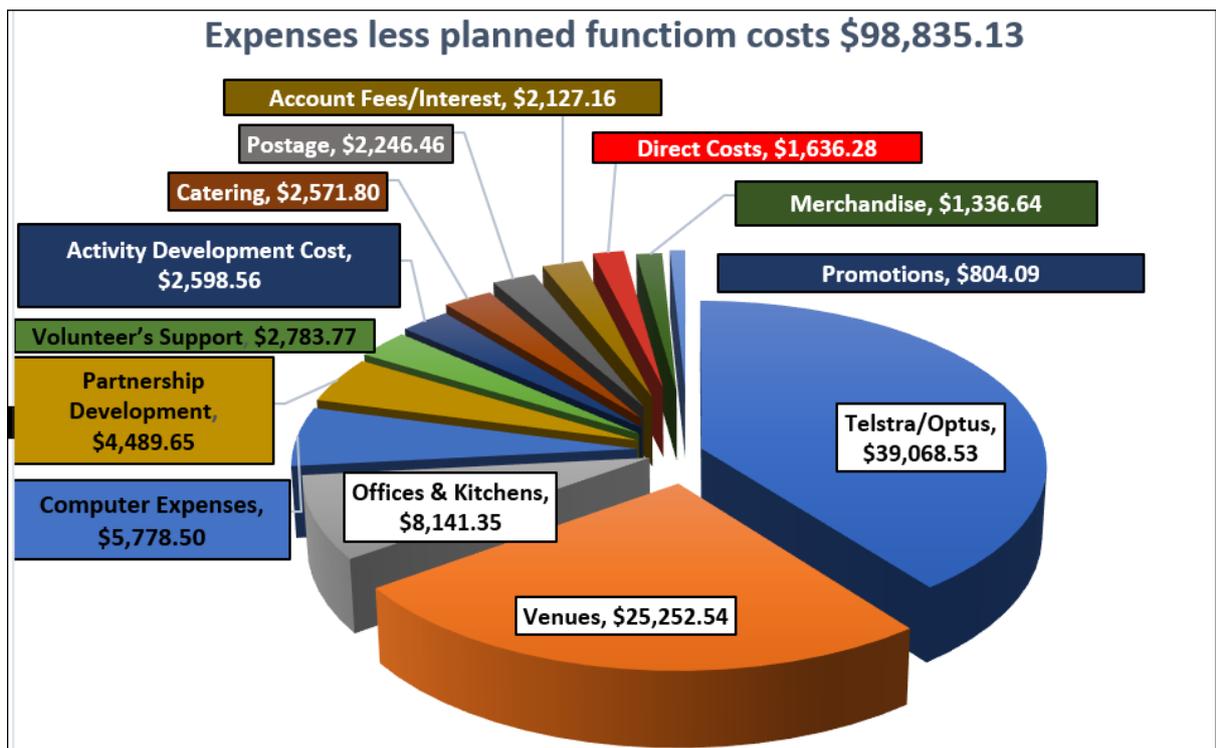


Date: 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020

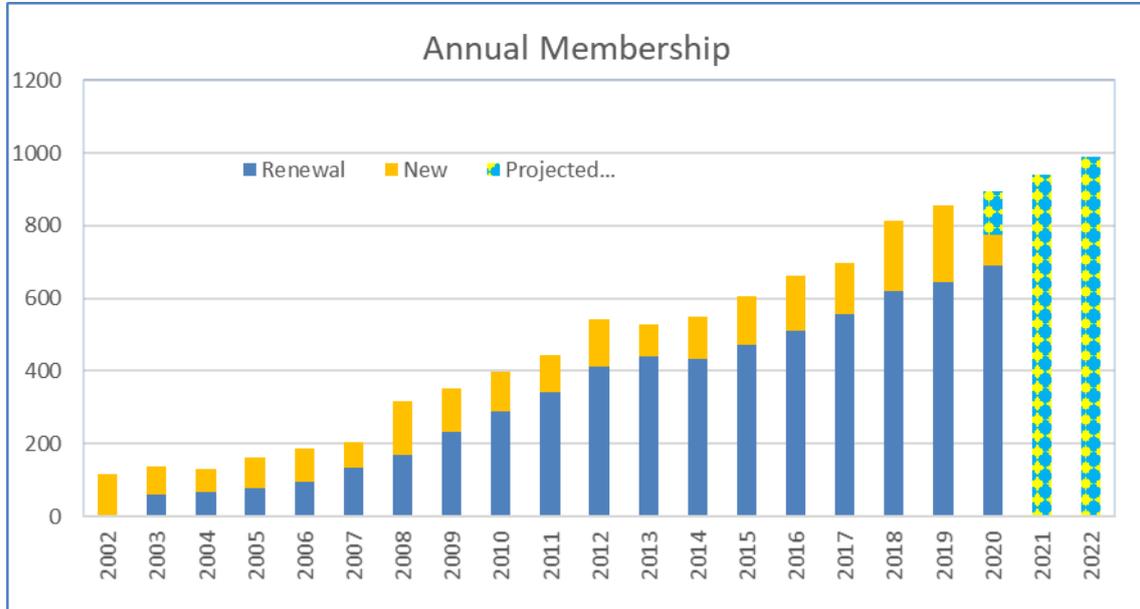
The Whittlesea U3A Income for Operations 2019/2020 was \$95,515.49 from the sources shown in the following diagram.



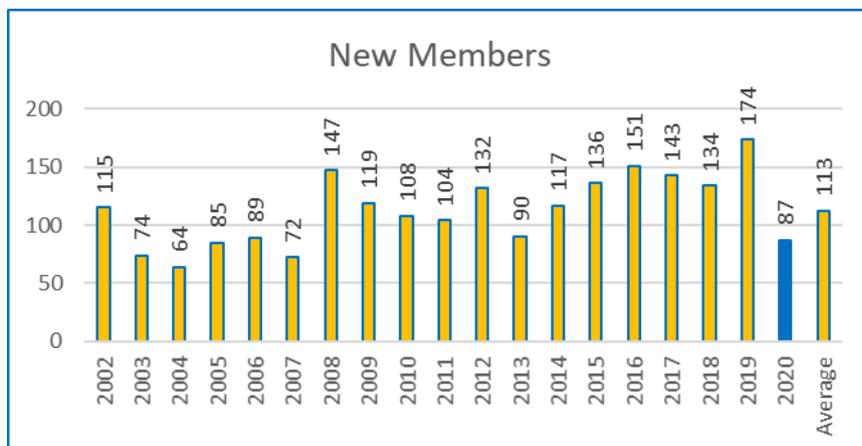
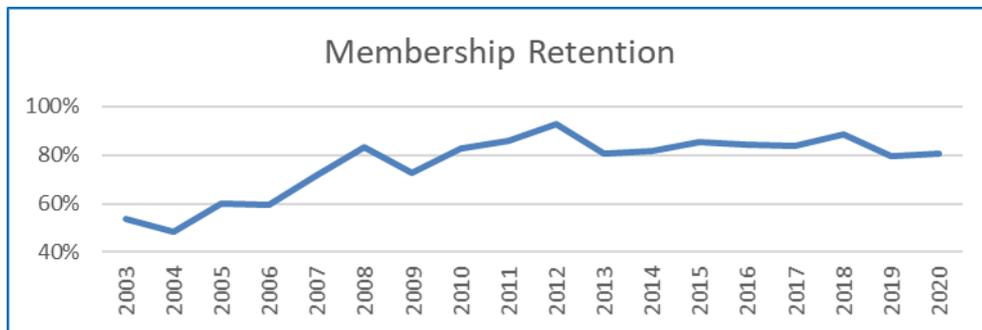
The operating expenses were \$98,835.13 as shown in the following diagram which represented an amount of over \$125.00 per member



With a conservative growth of just 5%, we will have 1,000 active members in Whittlesea U3A by 2022.



Our annual membership retention rate is currently at 80%.  
 Since 2012, with the best rate of 93%, we have attained a rate of around 83%.



## U3A Network Representative - Northern Metropolitan

As Whittlesea U3A's U3A Network Victoria representative, a role I was appointed in March 2020 I am pleased to present this report.

The peak body for the movement in Victoria is U3A Network Victoria which represents 106 Member U3As which collectively have over 39,000 members. Whittlesea U3A is in the Northern Metropolitan region with U3A Banyule, Chinese in Yarra U3A, U3A Darebin, Hume U3A, U3A Moreland, Nillumbik U3A, U3A Sunbury, U3A Wallan and Districts, Whittlesea U3A and U3A Yarra City.

It behoves me to report on the most critically disruptive period the world has endured in one-hundred years and indeed during our lifetimes - COVID 19. A period that will affect us long into the future.

The effect of the COVID-19 restrictions on U3As in our region has caused face to face classes to be suspended with approximately 25% of classes being replaced by ZOOM access from home classes. The following Table provides key statistics at the close of the 2020 Financial Year.

### Membership and Classes

U3A	Members	Classes		
		Zoom	Non-Zoom(suspended)	Total
U3A Banyule	703	12	108	120
Chinese in Yarra U3A	50	0	10	10
U3A Darebin	300	14	32	46
Hume U3A	250	2	28	30
U3A Moreland	222	17	17	35
Nillumbik U3A	630	34	37	71
U3A Sunbury	180	6	23	29
U3A Wallan and Districts	75	0	20	20
Whittlesea U3A	776	44	118	162
U3A Yarra City	351	25	11	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>3537</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>558</b>

The impact of this on members' numbers must be detrimental. But we won't know how much impact it has had until we get to the enrolment period for 2021. Suffice it to say, all U3As will need to change their approach to membership drives and marketing as a result.

### Activities within the Region during COVID

#### Class Formats

Our regional U3As, and all other regions for that matter, continue to expand the number of offerings for classes on Zoom. Whittlesea is at 44 classes at time of reporting. A total of 154 zoom/online/email sessions have been established throughout the region. Some traditional classes suited to Zoom, some coffee and chat classes for activities that otherwise would not lend themselves to online sessions, e.g. walking groups, outings such as Melbourne by Train etc.

Where members do not have internet and/or do not have the digital capability or desire to do a remotely run class most U3As within the region keep in contact by phone and/or postal communications; newsletters, bulletins, get well/friendship cards. All in all, anecdotally very few of our region's members are isolated from their U3A contact.

The feedback I am receiving from the region and from Whittlesea classes in which I am involved, would suggest that Zoom is an excellent stop-gap for countering social isolation and continuance of the classes. Having said that, after almost six months of varying stages of isolation, members of the remote classes seem to be yearning for that personal, three dimensional contact that has been missing.

A number of U3As in the Northern Metro Region have seen the following benefits of ZOOM:

- Reduced need to travel to classes
- Improves digital literacy and comfort levels with a range of applications
- Improves efficiency of running of some classes

It is felt that the benefits of some Zoom classes would be transferrable to the new environment we will be operating in under what is called "Post COVID Normal". We would also imagine that the new mix of classes would potentially continue post-vaccine introduction which could lead us back to what might be described as "new normal"

Going forward it is the general belief that hybrid or blended classes will be pursued. Zoom has a lot of benefits in terms of a learning medium for certain classes, without the personal networking so critical to inclusion for seniors. A mix of Zoom and face to face would provide variety and some classes are looking to do perhaps combine the two where members can't travel to venues for whatever reason. This is likely to be a necessity rather than an enhancement as we head towards the new *COVID Normal* from 2021.

With the unknowns in relation to membership and the flow-on financial impact to each U3A. Grants become all the more important and from regional feedback more work is being done to increase partnering with organisations within the not-for-profit seniors' sector. This activity will be a focus for all U3As in the region.

### **Upcoming Projects**

As Regional Representative and Chairperson of Regional Reps. My involvement in the following will ultimately benefit Whittlesea and its members.

Building Community Engagement - A program that will enhance potential increase in memberships and includes the following key modules/activities:

- Principles of Inclusion
- Social Seniors (with Libraries Victoria) - improve digital literacy and safe use of social networking e.g. Facebook
- Community Connector Hubs - Whittlesea future plans with new development at Mernda

Regional Restructure - Aim is to provide a more efficient and accessible U3A throughout Victoria, with greater support to smaller U3As.

Bryan McNally  
Whittlesea U3A Regional Representative