



Inc: IA11653

45 Jackson St. Wynyard, Tas. 7325E: [u3awynyard@gmail.com](mailto:u3awynyard@gmail.com)

## President's Report ~ AGM 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017

I have great pleasure in presenting the President's report of U3A Wynyard for 2016, our second year of offering learning opportunities. Together we have all achieved so much and have built on the great success of our first year. This year already looks as if it's going to be even more amazing!

Our membership has been steadily increasing each Term and in 2016 rose from 116 in Term 1 to 135 by Term 2, and looks as if we'll be closer to 150 this year! Our Programme format of morning and afternoon sessions on 3 days a week at three different venues has also been a great success with a few people endeavouring to attend the maximum 84 learning opportunities during each Term! All of this for \$50 a year!

We have continued to attract a really diverse group of excellent Tutors ranging from experts in their field, retired lecturers to people with fantastic life experience who have never tutored before. The majority live locally and it's amazing how many have been hiding their talents until now! Several are also attending some of our other courses, demonstrating one of the founding principles of U3A that learners may be tutors and tutors are learners.

The subjects covered last year are too many to list but include Trailer reversing, Writing, Exercise, Butekyo breathing, Birds, A Rainbow Love Story, Fiery Words, E- Bikes, History of Mythology, Scottish dancing, Languages, Art, Law and Money matters. We ran a few Open Forums when non-members were invited to attend; one held during Senior's week was well attended with our very informative and entertaining mental health tutor, Ron Blume. A special session with Paul O'Halloran on the geology of Fossil Bluff was so popular we had to ask him to put on an extra session, which he generously agreed to. We also had a visit from a group of 2<sup>nd</sup> year medical students who were visiting Wynyard for a week to find out what life is like in a rural community and how seniors maintain their health. Who can forget the overzealous young man who split his trousers while trying to impress De our exercise guru?

Serendipity, coordinated and sometimes tutored by Mervyn Mitchell, remains an extremely popular series of unusual and mind stretching topics generating lots of interest, discussion and excitement. A new addition in 2016 was a panel discussion about Art versus Science which proved so successful that we have another one programmed this Term.

We celebrated the end of year with a variety of activities down on the beach at Fossil Bluff, where the Mayor joined us, and then lunch and entertainment



Inc: IA11653

45 Jackson St. Wynyard, Tas. 7325E: [u3awynyard@gmail.com](mailto:u3awynyard@gmail.com)

back at the Uniting Church Hall. A special version of Jingle Bells played and sung by our budding Ukulele players followed by some vigorous line dancing got us into the Christmas spirit!

That leads me to say a very big thank you to all of our tutors; of course U3A Wynyard would not happen without you! The feedback we get is always positive and enthusiastic and everyone appreciates the time and effort that goes into preparing for each session.

I would also like to thank The Waratah-Wynyard Council who provided us with a Grant of \$1800 that allowed us to purchase equipment: a data projector, screen, laminator and a guillotine; the Wynyard Newsagency for storing the equipment, Wynyard LINC who have continued to be very supportive and have allowed us to display our Newsletters, forms and beautiful promotional banner. Thanks also to Ray White Estate Agents who printed the Newsletter in Term 2 and Ruth Forrest, MLC for Murchison and her staff who provide support, information and a lot of our other printing throughout the year.

A new development in 2016 was an arrangement, formalised in a Memorandum of Understanding with ArtsCape, Wynyard's Community Arts Centre. A special weekly fee was negotiated and this allows U3A Wynyard to display our signage, have a postal address, hold a weekly drop in session on Friday mornings, and run classes on Mondays. This has proved very helpful and we hope that it will continue to be mutually beneficial as U3A members become familiar with ArtsCape and support its activities.

There were a few changes to the Committee during 2016 with the addition of Frank Croucher and Jo Crothers, who are also two of our very popular tutors. We are very flexible with our roles and are starting to double up on some of the positions so that if one committee member is away someone else can cover. Frank has been shadowing Mervyn, our webmaster and has also undertaken much of the enrolment process. Jo is a wizard with procedures and proof reading and as Secretary keeps us all in order! Rees Campbell as Vice President is a great help to me but also has the challenging task of organising the time table, recruiting and guiding the tutors into the ways of U3A, as well as producing the Newsletters with Mervyn! Alwyn Friedersdorff is our Treasurer and keeps the books balanced which is such an important task. Mairin is a general helper and will be looking into sponsorship activities this year. Cheryl has spent many hours maintaining and improving our database and providing course attendance information.

We have also been joined on Friday mornings by a small team of helpers and others who have volunteered to assist the tutors during their sessions.



Inc: IA11653

45 Jackson St. Wynyard, Tas. 7325E: [u3awynyard@gmail.com](mailto:u3awynyard@gmail.com)

A huge round of applause for all our dedicated Committee members and our helpers!

Jeremy Cleverley has been with the Committee since we first started but has now resigned due to other commitments, we will miss his enthusiasm and his hard work in organising and supporting courses and events, thanks Jeremy. We are still looking for his replacement so do give it some thought, quickly!

In fact 2/3 of our committee have been with U3AW since it started and would love to have a break so that they can do more tutoring or just enjoy more of the courses. To ensure the future and sustainability of U3A Wynyard we do need to recruit more people to assist with the work of the committee and we will be focusing on how to make that happen in 2017. Talk to us if you have ideas or can offer assistance.

Finally, a big thank you to all of you for becoming members and sharing our vision of cultivating community, curiosity and learning in Wynyard!

Janet Sell