

# U3A BRIGHT DISTRICT

GOOD COMPANY, LIFELONG LEARNING, STAYING ACTIVE



JAN 2024



## AGM 19th January 2024, 10.00am

The AGM for U3A Bright District is to be held on Friday 19th January at 10.00am in the Main Hall of U3A, 2 Cobden St Bright.

We invite you all to attend this important event.

Agenda: Apologies, Minutes of 2023 AGM, REPORTS - President/ Treasurer/Membership/Courses & Convenors Coordinator, Election of 2024 Committee of Management

We have several retiring members this year. Kevin Hancock after many, many years of service as a committee member and Diane Mayorga after one year as Secretary. We wish them well and thank them for the dedication they have given to U3A in Bright.

Our U3A has nearly doubled in the last two years so it is necessary to increase the numbers on the committee too. We have had some wonderful nominations for the committee this year and you may be interested in nominating too.

**A nomination form is included in this newsletter.**

Please read last year's AGM minutes at the end of this newsletter - these will need to be ratified at the 2024 AGM.



### Bright U3A Contacts.

Treasurer: Robyn Cirulis...members@u3aBright.org.au.

Web Admin/Newsletter: Helen Brecknell.....media@u3abright.org.au

Secretary: Andrew Bird.....info@u3abright.org.au

Courses: Linda Hayes.....courses@u3abright.org.au.

Social Sub-Committee: Jan Smith.....social@u3abright.org.au

**Nomination Form for Committee Positions**

Return to the Secretary, Bright U3A Inc, PO Box 458, Bright 3741  
by 12th January 2024 or hand in at the AGM

**Bright District**



Bright District U3A Inc. Reg A0043327J

**Nomination for 2024 Committee**

I nominate.....(name) for the position of.....

Proposer..... Secondar.....

*Print name*

*Print name*

Signature.....Signature.....

I .....accept the nomination. Signature.....

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## **U3A Enrolment Time**

It is time to be thinking what activities we will be enjoying over the next twelve months. We have new things on offer from learning to play bridge, to Tai chi, QiGong, a new book club and card making.

Some activities will have a limited number of openings for several reasons and some will get waiting lists.

Take some time now by going to the website and checking on the activities that you may like to join. When the time comes - on January 8th at 10am - you can go online or come to the main hall at U3A where there will be someone to assist you. When you enrol you will be issued with an invoice for your membership. If you have already paid then you may ignore this. The treasurer will update your membership with ACTIVE status.

### **Enrolments will OPEN at 10am on the 8th January!**

To check for your activities log in here

**<https://u3abright.org.au/courses-activities/>**

**Your membership is now due. Please pay by Direct Deposit online, at the bank or at the enrolment day on the 8th Jan.**

**Bendigo Bank 633000 A/C no 117560979 (Bright U3A) Reference "Your Surname" and membership number.**

## **Tour of Bright Volunteers**

Over the weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> December, the Casual Cycling Group joined the 160 volunteers needed to organise this large event in Bright.

The Tour of Bright attracted 430 riders, from the elite world-class group to those representing cycling clubs from around Australia. It is the largest, club-organised road race in Australia and is therefore a prestigious event in the cycling calendar.

In total 12 members of the Casual Cycling Group covered over 14 shifts, making a significant contribution to this community event and in doing so, helped to raise funds for U3A Bright.

Special thanks to all of those who volunteered in the wet weather and to those who put in long hours to help make this event such a success. A wonderful example of our members giving back to the community.



## **U3A Book Group**

A new Book Group will commence in February for U3A members.

Books will be chosen by participants and meetings will be held on the first Friday of the month at 2:00 pm in U3A Headquarters.

The first meeting will be held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February for enrolled members. Currently there will be a limit of 15 members for the group but this will be subject to review during the year.

Each meeting will be led by the person who recommended the book and all members of the group will be encouraged to participate in discussion around the table, although this is not mandatory. The books selected by members will be fiction, as well as biography and autobiography (there is already a non-fiction group convened by Yvonne Ward).

Enrolment for the Book Group will be available from 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Helen Carlson, Convenor

2024 Courses Booklet is available on our website.  
Click on the link below or type it in to your browser

<https://u3abright.org.au/courses-activities/>



## **BRIGHT DISTRICT U3A INC**

### **2024 Courses / Activities**

January 2024



#### **BRIGHT DISTRICT U3A INC Contact Details**

2 Cobden St

Bright VIC 3741

General Email contact: [info@u3abright.org.au](mailto:info@u3abright.org.au)

Courses / Activities Email contact: [courses@u3abright.org.au](mailto:courses@u3abright.org.au)

Web: <https://u3abright.org.au/>

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# U3A DINNER

10 FEBRUARY 2024



5.30pm Saturday 10th February 2024  
Bright U3A centre (Bright Senior Citizens Centre)  
2 Cobden Street Bright  
Marianne Dredge . marianne20\_dredge@hotmail.com

## TWO COURSE ROAST BUFFET

herbed **roast chicken**

honey + rosemary **leg of lamb**

mustard crusted **beef rump**

roast **potatoes**

minted **peas**

honey + parsley **carrots**

**corn** on the cob

homemade **gravy**

fresh **dinner roll** with butter

**pavlova** topped w/ fresh cream + berries

fresh **fruit salad**



quote is for minimum of 60 guests

vegetarian + other dietary requirements can be catered for

\$25pp

David McKillop - The High Country Chef 0467 327 457412 - thehighcountrychef@hotmail.com

**BRIGHT U3A ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Bright Senior Citizens Centre**  
**Friday 27 January 2023**

Meeting opened at 10.30 am.

**Present:** 60 as per sign on sheets.

**Apologies:** R Ward, Y Ward, C Gregory, B Lambert, I Lukey, S McKinlay, F Walsh, R Kennedy, K Tucker, R Reedy.

Peter Hopper, as President of Senior Citizens, was thanked for allowing U3A to use the venue today before arrangements are finalised. Peter responded and welcomed the guests. 8 February is first meeting of Community Asset Committee.

**Minutes of last AGM:** Available for perusal. Moved that minutes be accepted: H Brecknell, seconded. R Withers.

## **REPORTS:**

### **President:**

-Remembered with respect and affection members lost during the year - Miffy Robb, Bill Brooks, Colin Armstrong, John Gilmour and Derrick Rolland.

-Member numbers have increased from 137 during Covid, to 213 at end of last year. Looks promising for the future.

-Development of Social Committee has been a great step forward. Activities of Social Committee were mentioned leading up to bowls and golf in the future. Members were asked to support these activities.

-A new development was broadband through Be Connected – introducing people to digital devices and their use. Classes were well attended, including general public, causing greater confidence in use of digital technology. Classes will be continuing into the future and members are encouraged to attend.

-Keith Ashfold started Philosophy.

-Roy Kennedy offering Irish Language course.

-Bright is forging a closer association with Myrtleford U3A – members can become associate members for \$10. Meetings have been held so that expertise can be shared, including with Mt Beauty U3A.

Members were encouraged to support the neighbouring branches to expand opportunities.

-Main event this year is joining up with Bright Senior Citizens, which has very good facilities, giving us limitless opportunities. We now have space to offer more activities. Community Asset Committee has 6 members (two from U3A, two from Senior Citizens, one from Council and a community member). First meeting on February 8 will work out responsibilities for each member group, and CAC will handle some of the finances. When details are finalised, members will be informed. Until finalisation, activities will continue at the original venue. There will be a working bee to clear out unwanted items from our old HQ, and the Senior Citizens building. Help would be appreciated.

-Marianne thanked members, convenors and committee for their work.

-Tutor Excellence Awards last year – Sue van Winden was nominated and awarded as one of only eight in Victoria. Sue was invited up and Award made and citation read out.

-Flowers were presented to Kim Robinson, retiring secretary.

-A general meeting to follow.

**Treasurer:** Account holds \$21,520.72. Income for year \$10,004.72, expenditure \$10,971.14, so Income and Expenses matched. Be Connected grant was all spent last year. Two tablets and a laptop have been bought. Moved A Borschman that treasurer's report be accepted, seconded H Carlson.

**Membership:** 115 financial members at the moment with more this week. Prospective members have until mid-February to become financial members. After this date, non-financial members will have their



# lifelong learning

details removed. Enrolment help is available. Direct debits should be clearly marked with member's name and membership number in reference section of payment.

Thanks to Bushwalkers for catering and clearing up at the AGM.

**Convenor Coordinator:** Linda has found the task quite easy. Ideas for new courses are welcome. Convenors are encouraged to use the UMAS system, and were invited to run through it with Linda after the meeting. Bridge: has been asked for – but as Myrtleford has a group and the Senior Citizens have one, Linda will need to know if a new group is needed, and a convenor will be required.

## **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE:**

Returning officer Peter Lukey took the chair. Thanked the committee during the year.

**President:** Marianne Dredge nominated by R Ward seconded M Roberts. Accepted.  
**Vice Pres:** Michael Roberts nominated by R Cirulis seconded M Dredge. Accepted  
**Treasurer:** Robyn Cirulis nominated by M Roberts seconded M Dredge  
**Secretary:**  
**Committee:** Roy Ward nominated M Dredge seconded M Roberts. Accepted  
Kevin Hancock nominated by H Brecknell seconded R Milne. Accepted  
Helen Brecknell webmaster/newsletter nominated K Robinson seconded K Hancock.  
Accepted.  
Linda Hayes nominated by R Cirulis, seconded M Roberts. Accepted  
Ron Milne nominated by K Hancock seconded H Brecknell. Accepted  
Andrew Bird nominated by M Dredge seconded M Roberts. Accepted

## **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Welcome to the new committee. It is a legal requirement that an organisation must have a Secretary within two weeks of AGM.

Meeting closed at 10.55 am.

## **General meeting:**

Roy Kennedy's proposal for **Irish language course**. Irish has no words for yes or no! Sentences start with verbs and there are 7 verbs for "to be". Beginner textbook is available. Roy is secretary of Irish Language Association in Australia. Classes on Thursdays 1 pm, starting March 3. Roy will contact enrolees in mid-February to discuss the course. Course will be on website by next week. Will start with copies of lessons so text doesn't need to be bought initially. Brett Lidbury is keen to see languages grow and will assist Roy.

Jan Smith of **Social Committee** encouraged others to join her. Called for feedback on other ideas, spoke of Lawn Bowls with BBQ, 17 Feb Friday 5 pm for 3 hours. Later on croquet. Nine Hole Golf Day for those wanting to play but not compete, fees as per golf club. Check out the web site.

Keith Ashfold invited members to join the **Philosophy** course. It is an alive subject and contemporary and we are all philosophers as it's about beliefs. Also, about acquisition of knowledge and how to utilise in our lives. It is rewarding and life changing. Unlocks understanding. All views respected. Leaflets available.

Dennis Lambert gave update on **Sustainable Upper Ovens**. There will be a meeting with NE Water re reducing carbon footprint on delivering water. Members are invited to join the meeting on 4 Feb at

Brewery. On 15 Feb and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed thereafter, community energy group meets at Anglican Hall. Discussion on community battery study. Discussion on providing low cost solar to community housing by May or June. 30 April speaker on making your home more comfortable. All on Sustainable Upper Ovens website. Community Garden is looking for volunteers and U3A could make this an activity as they are looking for new members. Plasticwise is doing great work around town. Monthly market has mug library; Sixpence coffee and Brewery support this. Any members interested in these activities? These dates will go in next U3A newsletter.

Helen and Linda waiting to provide **help with enrolments** and other questions.

Sandra More spoke on behalf of those who didn't come to the meeting. These people don't own any digital devices. Sandra recognises that these people have been long term members and need a new pathway to **permit these people to stay involved**. Marianne responded that 3 years ago the UMAS enrolment system was devised by U3A network in Victoria – so members can be responsible for their own membership.

System has had glitches which have been referred to experts. Committee wanted to take all membership with us into the new system. Previous system was very messy and disorganised, and wasn't secure or up to date. Every coffee morning, help is offered to those who need it. Info sessions have also been run. Newsletter is always left in hard copy at the Library. Members need to tell their friends that this help is available. Not a lot of private information is held for security reasons, but members still need to be contactable. U3A won't be going back to the old system, but help is always available. Suggestion that all newsletters plus other information (eg Myrtleford U3A timetable) go into the Library along with the newsletters. Information is also at noticeboard on side of IGA. Suggestion that Observer be used for disseminating info. Eg a regular column. Sandra to provide names of people in difficulties so they can be approached.

Olivia Stapleton mentioned that **Alpine Voices** starting again next Wednesday at U3A premises. Invited new members, words and music provided for a fun activity.

Marianne was thanked by Mike Smith for doing a good job.