

Kapiti U3A (Inc)

Annual Committee Report

2022



This is the 30th Annual Report from the U3A committee to members.

Committee

We met on 7 occasions. It has been a difficult year to recruit committee members. Marian Cadman, Sharon McIntosh and Judy Turner volunteered to help at the start of 2022 and then when Jackie Johnson stepped down we were supported by Paula Morgan, Blanche Charles and Margaret Stevenson Wright who volunteered. We will start 2023 with a good committee.

Membership

Current membership of U3A as at 31 December is 409 which is a decrease from last year. Covid still impacts on our activities with members being hesitant about mixing with others.

Finance

U3A finances continue to be in a healthy state. Because the 2021 committee decided that for 2022, Interest Group Leaders and committee members will be exempt from paying subs. A reduction on the basic sub to \$15 was also agreed and as a result there was a \$2500 expected drop in sub income. The organisation still managed to make a \$1000 surplus. The challenge for the incoming committee is to find ways of using the members funds to benefit the members.

Kapiti U3A has moved it's banking to Kiwibank because of the poor service provided by Westpac. Ironic that when U3A started in 1993 it banked with what was then Trustbank. The wheel has turned a full circle and we are back with a NZ owned bank

The committee thanks all those members who added a little extra as a donation when renewing their sub.

Interest Groups

The committee thanks those members who have put in the time and energy to keep our Interest Group programme alive. This has been difficult with COVID restrictions changing through the year.

Kapiti U3A has maintained a programme with 20 Interest Groups meeting with varying frequencies during the year.

The committee continues to promote a flexible Interest Group programme which by use of the website and the Newsletter enables members to start a group with minimal hassle and groups can run for a few sessions or a whole year. The philosophy of U3A is "members helping members" !!

The frustrating aspect of Interest Groups for the committee is the challenge to get new groups started. Repeated suggestions of new groups met with little reaction from members.

U3A is supposed to exist to enable its members to share thoughts and skills with other members but it seems that a majority of Kapiti U3A members show little interest in making a commitment to a new Interest Group.

Kaleidoscope continues to be the flagship Interest Group. In 2022 just over 50% of U3A members enrolled for Kaleidoscope. A majority of the new members to U3A come from people who want to join Kaleidoscope. The committee owes Jane Griffith and her team for a very big “than you” for maintaining the high standard of this programme.

Website & Newsletter

These are our main methods of communicating with members. The Newsletter is a key to our communication. We owe a thank you to Maureen Knox who was followed by Marian Cadman in keeping the Newsletter alive

The website continues to be the main source of information but it fails when the members do not use it! This is no doubt a reflection on the age group – none of our members are “digital natives”, some are well aware of how to get information from a website but there is still a significant number of members who do not think “Let’s look at the website” if they want to know something. The balance will slowly shift to members being used to websites as the impact of technology advances in the community.

The Facebook Group has proved to be a failure. Less than 10% of our members joined up and nothing is posted for weeks on end.

Administration

The committee was sorry to lose Maureen Knox as our Administrator in May and we thank her for her contribution to the running of U3A both as a committee member and Administrator. The committee was pleased when Marian Cadman volunteered to take the position on.

2021 Directory

Committee:	Blanche Charles (from August)	Life Members:	
	Marian Cadman		
	Phil Glasson	Brian Mexted	2014
	Paul Goodhead	Anne Wall	2020
	Paula Morgan (from August)		
	Jackie Johnson (until March)		
	Sharon McIntosh		
	Margaret Stevenson-Wright (from August)		
	Judy Turner (from August)		
Administrator:	Maureen Knox (until June)		
	Marian Cadman (from June)		