



U3A-ACT Inc
Hughes Community Centre
2 Wisdom Street
HUGHES ACT 2605
www.u3acanberra.org.au
ABN: 35 234 986 878
12 November 2025

**UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE ACT INC.
MINUTES OF THE 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2024
Hughes Community Centre, Hughes**

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm.

1. Opening and Welcome from the President

The President, Lindsay Rae, welcomed members and thanked them for attending.

2. Confirmation of Quorum

A quorum was confirmed with 83 members in attendance.

4. Apologies

Christine Gingell, Steve Hart, Peter Stanley, Gary Davis, Kristine Riethmiller, Bill Blair, Elizabeth Clement, Edith Hackworthy, Marion Jones, Simone Clark, Anne Franklin, Shirley Gollings, Ian Gollings, Elizabeth Clement, Margaret Evans, Pam Behncke, Dorothy Zenz, Tom Walker, Jenny Burgess, Lynley Rodger, Judy Taylor, Adele Stevens, Kevin Vassarotti

5. Minutes of 2023 Annual General Meeting held on 16 November 2023

Minutes of the 2023 AGM were tabled at the meeting.

There were no changes to the 2023 Minutes. Caroline Fitzwarryne moved they be accepted. The motion was seconded by Keith Huggan.

The motion was carried by show of hands.

6. President's Report on behalf of the Committee under Rule 31(2)(b)

The President spoke briefly to his written report. He observed that there was an important shift in the recovery process of U3A Canberra since the period of decline in membership since the onset of COVID-19. The past year has seen a small but positive change in the number of members. He also noted that there was a welcome increase in the number of younger people joining U3A Canberra, the first time this has been seen in recent years. The growth in membership was paralleled by a growth in the number of courses offered, rising to 257 by early October. Walks and Tours has seen increased numbers too. The various joint activities U3A holds

with others have also increased. The Tuesday Forum series continues to show strong growth. Finally, there has been a welcome increase in the number of volunteers contributing to U3A Canberra activities across the board.

He noted our financial position remains very strong, while warning that costs are likely to increase in the next few years, with a likely corresponding decrease in the surplus. He reported the current membership is around 4,300, while observing the actual number fluctuates during the year.

The President thanked all of the volunteers who have contributed to U3A ACT's success in 2023, including volunteers, course leaders and team members, and thanked departing committee members, Simone Clark, Cissy Parker and Bob Nield. He reminded the meeting of the important role Bob Nield had played in Canberra, in the broader NSW network and nationally.

Later in the meeting, a member observed the importance of volunteers to the effective operations of U3A ACT, and encouraged members to volunteer and encourage others to do so.

7. Treasurer's Report, including the Audited Statement of Accounts and Auditor's Report Under Rule 31(2)(d)

The audited financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024 were tabled, and considered at the meeting.

The Treasurer, Graeme Swift, spoke to the Audited Statement of Accounts and the Auditor's report.

In particular, the Treasurer noted that U3A Canberra continues to operate with a healthy financial position, the financial year resulted in a net surplus of \$61,873. The Net Assets had increased to \$735,523.

The Treasurer reported the new asset management system introduced earlier in the year was working well, and assisted in allowing the annual stocktake to be quickly and efficiently completed. He is continuing to work with office managers and banking teams to ensure U3A financial processes remain robust and efficient.

The Treasurer proposed the accounts be accepted, and this was passed by show of hands.

7. Appointment of Auditor Under Rule 31(2)(e)

The treasurer advised he felt the appointment of an auditor for U3A-ACT Inc for the 2024-25 financial year should be deferred. This matter would be examined by the U3A Committee early in 2025, with a recommendation on the appointment of auditors for the 2024-25 financial year made as early as possible.

Questions to the Treasurer included:

- Current interest rates on deposits: there are generally in the range of 4.5-6.3%
- Recognition that a new auditor could not be a member of U3A ACT as members cannot receive a fee for working for the organisation

Members were invited to submit suggested individuals or firms to be considered for providing auditing services in the future.

The proposal to defer appointing an auditor for 2024-25 was agreed.

8. Special Resolution to Amend Rules 12 and 13

Following the introduction of new model rules under the Associations Act of 2024, a number of minor changes to USA ACT Objects and Rules, dealing with the details of disciplinary proceedings. These amendments only set out the procedures in more details. No discussion was sought and the changes were adopted unanimously.

9. Statutory Report from the Committee Under Rule 31(2) (d)

The statutory report for the period 19 November 2024 was tabled. Its acceptance was moved by Graeme Swift and seconded by Keith Huggan. The motion was passed by a show of hands.

10. Election of Office Holders and Ordinary Committee Members under Rule 18

Nominations for Executive and Ordinary Committee Member positions had been received by the due date. These included one nomination for each of the five office holder positions, and eight nominations for the eight Ordinary Members.

President	Alex Gosman
Vice-president	Andrea Hope
Vice-president	Lindsay Rae
Treasurer	Graeme Swift
Secretary	Maria Magro
Ordinary Members	Mary Bermingham
	Gary Davis
	Tom Flynn
	Christine King
	Paul Minougue
	Kristine Riethmiller
	Peter Sheldrake
	Brian Weir

Out-going members were Simone Clark, Bob Nield, and Cissy Parker.

11. Presentation of Outstanding Service Awards and Volunteer Long Service Recognition Awards

The President presented Outstanding Service Awards for 2024 to:

Simone Clark	Jenny Kain
Bob Nield	Enid Niven *

The President also announced the Volunteer Long Service Recognition Awards. These included:

Ten Year Long Service Awards:

Martin Bennett	Elizabeth Clement
Pam Cooke	Doug Finlayson
Ginny Graylin	Ross Howard
Ken Johnson	Louise Morauta
Mary-Jane Mountain	Marie Oakes
Barry Shaw	Howard Smith

Fifteen Year Long Service Awards:

Pam Behncke	Shirley Cramp
Ramon Contreras	Margaret Evans
Edith Hackworthy	Mike Ilchef
Marion Jones	Jocelyn MacLeod
Enid Niven *	Bobby Pinkerton

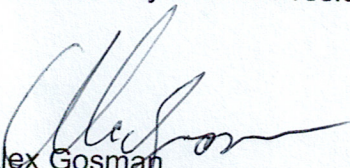
Edith Niven was awarded an OSA and a VLSRA

12. Close

The President was thanked from the floor by acclamation.
There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.53 pm.

There was a vote of appreciation for the outgoing committee, and for the retiring members in particular.

On behalf of U3A ACT Alex Gosman gave a statement of appreciation for Lindsay Rae's three years as President.


Alex Gosman
President, U3A-ACT Inc
12 November 2025