

Charities Registration.

1. U3A Nelson registered as a charity in 2012 in order to qualify for a Rata Foundation grant for the purpose of rebuilding the website.
2. Registered charities also qualify for tax concessions although this is no benefit to U3A
3. Registered charities are required to make annual returns and provide accounts.
4. There is no annual charge to U3A Nelson as we are under the income threshold to pay fees.
5. U3A have not completed annual returns for the last three years, resulting in the Charities Commission advising that our registration will be cancelled unless we complete the annual returns for past years forthwith.
6. We have the following options –
 - a. Do nothing and be deregistered
 - b. Advise the Commission that we wish to be deregistered.
 - c. Complete the annual returns and maintain registration
(The annual return can be done on line in about 30 mins plus the uploading of our annual accounts)
7. U3A are not a typical charity. The only benefit to us was to qualify for a grant from Rata Foundation (and probably most other funding organisations).
The question we need to consider is – Are we likely to require a similar grant in future for a similar purpose (building a new website)?
Or are we likely to fund requirements from other sources?

I am willing to do the annual return if that is the committee's decision.

Bill Brett