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PLEASE EMAIL ALL NEWSLETTER ITEMS AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE THE START OF THE MONTH TO:
erenstrom@optusnet.com.au

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Who would have thought, when I wrote my last report, that we would be in the situation we are now! Whilst it is impossible to predict the outcome of the current situation, it is possible that we may be looking at a suspension of normal activities at U3A Waverley for the whole of Term2. If we are able to re-start in term 3 then we would be back at the Hub and at Notting Hill on Monday 13th July! As I wrote in my global email to you, the criteria that we are looking for – to restart – is the withdrawal of the 100 persons together rule. Once that is removed I think we will be confident to restart all of our activities.

In the meantime, a number of tutors are examining the possibility of offering at least some part of their courses by remote learning using a software app called Zoom which enables members of a group to meet together whilst sitting in front of their computers, laptops or smart phones. Vice President Dennis Atkin is heading up this project which is in its very early days at the present moment.

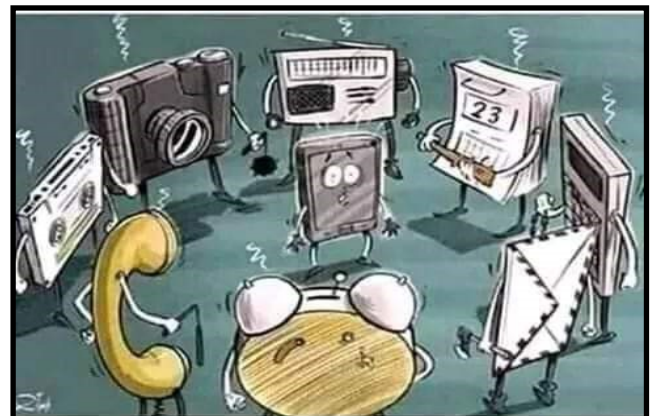
Anecdotally, I hear of many U3A members who are taking the time to phone, email, SMS or.....other members of U3A just to say "Hi" and to check on how things are going. At this time such contact is so important. Please keep it up.

Following the recognition that we had to delay the Annual General Meeting and the presentation of the financial report for 2019 we have applied to Consumer Affairs for formal permission to do so – they have indicated that it will be granted. In the meantime, Brenda Hateley has resigned as Secretary and Christine Archer has resigned as a member of the Committee of Management as they had previously indicated that they would. They have both received a vote of thanks for their tireless work on the committee over the last few years. The committee has invited Gloria Kiri and Cliff Picton to join the committee to fill the vacancies created by these resignations. Gloria and Cliff had nominated for the committee and would have been elected unopposed if we had been able to hold the AGM. We welcome both of them to committee and will value their input in the coming months. Geoff Fitzpatrick has been appointed Acting Secretary until the AGM when his position will be confirmed – he was the only nominee for that position.

In the meantime, keep well and stay safe. We will get through this and be able to return to full U3A activity in the near future. **Robert**



He's in pretty good shape considering you have been walking him backwards.



Oh so You are the one who took all our jobs!

Privacy

Over the past few weeks some members of the Committee of Management and at least one tutor have received unsolicited telephone contact from both members and non-members of U3A Waverley who should not have had their telephone numbers. The committee considers this to be a serious breach of privacy.

Members are reminded that they should not pass on private information about members – including telephone numbers and addresses - to other members or to persons outside U3A. If a class decides to share phone numbers amongst its members, then that is for use only within the context of that class.

All those who have access to UMAS – the U3A Waverley membership system – some committee members, UMAS and computer system managers and Office volunteers have been very carefully instructed as to their responsibilities in this matter. The committee is looking at ways that we can strengthen the security of the UMAS system without compromising its availability and flexibility.

Robert Taylor, President

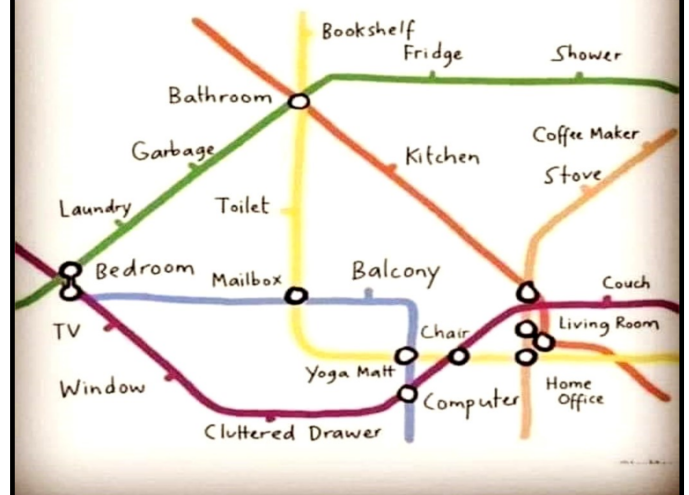
Vale - Kevin Foley



It is with much sadness that we learned of the passing of Kevin Foley on March 9th. Kevin has been a greatly valued member of the U3A community for many years. Amongst other things Kevin took over the French Beginners Conversation class following the sudden death of Pat Osborne. He continued in that role, later being assisted by Michele Rochecoste until ill health made it impossible for him to continue. To Joyce (another generous contributor to U3A Waverley) and family we extend our deepest sympathy.

Sent in by Betty Seelig.

MORE TRAVEL IDEAS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEKEND....



We can do it!

Are you keeping in touch with your friends? Some are very lonely in their isolation and would so love to hear from you. Thank goodness for social media and for our phones. They are our life lines in these troubled times. Everyone has some sadnesses and problems and we just have to get through this as best we can. We will!

At the end of each day I try to image up and write down 5 good things that have happened that day.

Sometimes it's a struggle, but just simple things like:

*a nice walk on a beautiful day,
a good chat to a friend,
a hilarious joke,
perhaps achieving a job around the house
a good book.*

Why don't you try it. Very soon you will have to choose which five things to write down.

Hi Darling,

I'm down at the Pub with the lads having a quiet drink.



Unfortunately, someone just coughed everywhere so we have been quarantined.

See you in 14 days.

Isolation

Just seen a news report about the stresses and strains of self isolation. It reported that people are going crazy from being in lock down! It was strange, actually, because I had just been talking about this with the microwave and toaster and all of us agreed that things are getting bad.



I didn't mention anything to the washing machine as she always has to put a different spin on everything, and certainly not to the fridge as he is acting cold and distant.

In the end the iron calmed me down. She said everything will be fine, which surprised me because she's usually the first one to apply unnecessary pressure and get steamed up over nothing !!! I think she might have been sneaking off to the medicine cabinet

Some of us in our Creative Writing Group have each others email addresses and have decided to write stories and send them out to each other. Maybe other classes can do something similar to keep our minds active and keep in touch. Try and think of a way to do this, it's fun. Below is a contribution from Carol Robertson.

COVID 19

Corona virus is like a nosey busybody
Causing trouble and mayhem wherever she shows
Who will she infect with her deadly woes
Will she pass us by, nobody really knows
No longer do we greet friends with a kiss
As they back away with a bit of a hiss
Only to offer an elbow to connect with mine
Let's hope this action will pass with time
We laugh it off with a bit of awkward gest
To avoid infection we know this is best
Although we don't all live in constant fear
Caution is best when 'Corona' is near
We all want to believe that groceries we can buy
But panic buyers think that the end is nigh
So like many others I queue up like sheep
At a supermarket for just one toilet roll to keep
Some say there are bigger issues
But not if you don't have toilet tissues
Such excitement as I proudly display my prize
Now I can happily be isolated before my demise
I lovingly and carefully place my roll in its slot
My delicate skin gratefully uses 3ply on my bot.

CMR

Things we can do.

Have you ever thought of going on a virtual trip to another country?

Or visiting a famous Art Gallery on YouTube?
Or a museum anywhere in the world? We might never get there in person, but we can still have a tour. If you are fortunate enough to have a computer, just type in "YouTube" and then decide what you would like to see or hear.

Almost anything you would like to see is on it and we can go to all those places without even leaving home.

Any kind of music concert, from the past or more recently, they are probably all there.

Not only all this, but we can learn to do anything we have ever wanted to learn. There are certain to be step by step "how to" instructions on YouTube

Other ideas not involving the net.

You can still phone several friends and family per day to have a chat.

You can take this time to sort out all your cupboards (I am attempting to do this).

Spend more time in the garden.

Get into jig saws.

Play all your favourite music cds.

Try some recipes you have never made before.

Knitting or quilting or different crafts.

Write poetry - give it a go

Try to go for a walk every day. This is so enjoyable.

Dig out a musical instrument that you haven't touched for years and enjoy it again.

Write letters to your grandchildren with little stick on pictures and post them.
They will love getting a letter in the mail.....

I am sure you have heaps more ideas.



June 1st, 2050: David opens the last pack of toilet paper his mother bought in 2020.

2020 - The year when our wheelie bins went out more than we did.

I should be "social distancing" from the fridge!

