

Batesford Community Hub, 94 Batesford Rd, Chadstone 3148 Tel: (03) 9832 5855

Email: Membership enquiries: membership@u3awaverley.org.au,

Webpage: www.u3awaverley.org.au

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



We continue to live in challenging times, unable to meet at Batesford Hub or Notting Hill Hall. The recently released roadmap out of Covid indicates that, providing everything goes to plan and the vaccination targets are reached, we may be able to return to those facilities on or after November 5. This would give us three weeks before we are due to finish for the year. If we are able to return then, we will have the 4 sqm per person rule applying and a maximum of 150 people in the Hub or hall. This would severely limit our ability to offer some classes at that time. Your committee is looking at how best we might make use of the short period between the potential start back date. and the end of the U3A year.

We know that many of you want to return to "normal" activities as soon as possible and that you are missing the social aspects of U3A. However, the likely short notice of the ability to return and the limitations that are expected to apply at that time, may prevent that occurring soon, and we may not achieve anything like normal activities until next year. We will keep you posted!

The way out of the current restrictions has been identified as relying significantly on full vaccination rates reaching 70% and 80% targets. As an organization whose members are all considered to be in one of the most vulnerable groups, we have a significant duty of care to ensure that we do not place any member in unnecessary danger. The best way to do that is to have all those members who are able, to be fully vaccinated before we return. We encourage those members who are not yet vaccinated to do so as soon as possible.

As with many organizations similar to ourselves, the question of mandatory vaccination as a prerequisite to returning has been raised. Your committee, U3A Network Victoria, Monash City Council and the Victorian State Government are all examining this topic as I write this report. Members should be prepared for this to apply to us.

Again, watch this space!

Take care of yourselves until we can return.

Robert

TREASURER

Maree Brown, our treasurer, has advised that, after nearly three years in the job, she will not be renominating for that position at the 2022 Annual General Meeting, to be held in March 2022. This means that the committee is looking for a member to take over that role from that time. A member with a finance background would be our preference, but the computer systems we have available would assist a member who did not have that background to handle the task.

This is an important role that must be filled. Please give it your serious consideration.

I would be happy to talk to anyone who may be interested. Just send me an email on president@u3awaverley.org.au with your contact details and I will get back to you.

Thanks, **Robert Taylor, President**

He was Tired of Living in the Retirement Home

By Robyn Gray of the Creative Writing Group

One day more I cannot stay
I need to get away
My family coaxed me into this
I let them have their way

Everywhere I turn,
everywhere I see
Are people at the end of life
People just like me

Who wants to be surrounded
By the aged and infirm
I need to be with young folk
They make me feel superb

As soon as I am able
As soon as I am free
I'm shooting through
And guess where to
I'd tell you if I knew

No-one wants an oldie
A burden to mankind
They put us out to pasture
And no-one seems to mind

But I am here to tell you
I'm gonna make a run
The sooner and the better
This place is not much fun

So when you get to ninety
Be careful where you go
Nobody seems to want you
And life can be so slow

There must be something better
Than locking us away
As soon as they are all asleep
I'll be on my way

To pastures that are greener
Not pastures brown and worn
I just can't wait for freedom
And my life to be my own

"I find, these days, that most of my conversations start out with: Did I tell you this already? or What was I going to say?"



TRAVEL PLANS



Dear Lord,
Please don't let Brussel Sprouts
be a part of the cure of Covid-19 Virus.



Remember if you lose a sock in the dryer, it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.

Sixty might be the new forty, but remember 9pm is the new midnight!

When I ask for directions please don't use words like "East".

Notice: - Remember what the valet who parked your car looks like because we do not have valet parking.

All my passwords are protected by amnesia.

You know you're getting old when a recliner and a heating pad is your idea of a hot date.



Isolation: - I finished three books yesterday and believe me that's a lot of colouring.

One minute you're young and fun and next you are turning down the stereo in your car to see better.

I'm at a place in my life where errands are starting to count as going out.