

March 2024 Issue

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PLEASE EMAIL ALL NEWSLETTER ITEMS AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE THE START OF THE MONTH TO:

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The beginning of every U3A year brings new challenges. The beginning of 2024 was no exception with the invoice and payment system not working properly at the time of re-enrolment.

This year, however, has been particularly challenging in respect to the unprecedented demand for some of our courses with many more members wishing to enter those courses than places were available. This resulted with many members being placed on waiting lists – much to their disappointment.

However, I am pleased to report that, with a lot of effort, most, though not all, of those challenges have been resolved. Tutors have graciously agreed to take more members into their classes, some tutors are offering extra classes and classes with many classes at various levels have been reorganised. A lot of this work has fallen on the shoulders of our membership secretary, Joanne Burns, who has worked many, many hours to achieve this. We are eternally grateful for the work she has done. Thank you, Joanne!

The experience has taught us a lot, however, and we expect that it will enable us to put a more efficient system into place for the 2025 enrolment – particularly for the music, exercise and language classes.

Just a reminder to be on the lookout for the papers for the upcoming **annual general meeting to be held on Monday March 18 at 11:00 am**. Cliff Picton, one of the founding members of U3A in Australia, will give a short presentation on the early days of U3A in Australia which is 40 years old this year. A light lunch will be provided after the meeting. See you there!

Robert

Vale - Udo Polzin

It is with great sadness we report the passing last month, of U3A tutor Udo Polzin, after a relatively short illness. Udo was the tutor of the "Write your Own Story" class for several years. He was a respected and caring leader. He was also a member of the chess class. Our condolences are sent to his wife Bev.

Dennis Atkin

OPERATIONAL DATES 2024

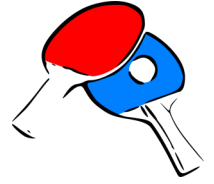
Term	Starts	Ends	Public Holidays
1	29 Jan	28 March	11 March, Labour Day
2	15 April	28 June	25 April Anzac Day 10 June, King's Birthday
3	15 July	20 Sept	
4	7 Oct	6 Dec	Melbourne Cup Holiday 4 & 5 November

NEW COURSES

Table Tennis

There is now a table tennis table in the Multipurpose Room. You can play on Tuesdays at any time from 9am until 10.45am. If you wish to play, please 'enrol' on the website. This does not commit you to playing each week, it is simply for our records and your safety.

Course – 24EXE030 Table Tennis



Yoga with Rita - Tuesdays 11am to 12.15pm Start 27 Feb

All our exercise classes are oversubscribed, but our dedicated tutor Rita has very generously offered to run a new class on Tuesdays. There may be a couple of places available by the time this Newsletter is published. The new class is on the website.

Maximum numbers – 20.

Course – 24EXE032 Yoga with Rita Tuesday

Italian for Beginners or Early-Stage Learners

A great U3A welcome to our newest tutor, Sergio. He is a native Italian speaker who comes to us with a wealth of experience in a wide range of activities. The new class will commence in **Term 2, in Room 2. Tuesdays 12 noon till 1.30pm.** Come and learn a new language or brush up your skills with Sergio. Places in this course are limited, so enrol early if you are interested. Course – 24LAN026 – Italian -Learn and Speak.



Eastern Mah-jong - Tuesdays 9.30am to 11.30am

There are now a couple of places available in Eastern Mah-jong. Course – 24GAM012 Mahjong Eastern

Reminder: - Downsizing Made Easy

A series of talks by professionals in the field to give a glimpse into what you should know and how you, one of your family, friends or relatives should go about making a move at some stage later in life. Sessions – commencing in Week 1 of Term 2, classes in Room 2 at 2pm on Friday afternoons. There are still places for you to book on our website, but if you have friends, neighbours or relatives who are not members of U3A they are very welcome to attend by booking on Eventbrite - there is no cost involved - <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/downsizing-made-easy-delivered-by-experts-in-the-field-with-guest-speakers-tickets-813659015017> Course – 24HUM030 Downsizing Made Easy

From Sue Sturman, Course Co-ordinator

Parking



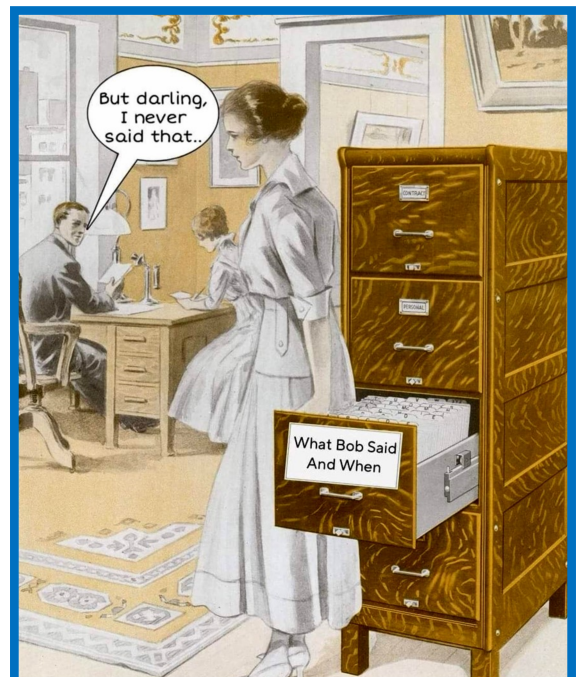
Members will have noticed already that parking in the Batesford Road car park, on some days, has become more difficult with the car park often being full. This is, at least in part, due to increased numbers

in our classes and the loss of a few parking spaces whilst work is being done on the area above the car park.

Street parking in Batesford Road is available, but so is the Power Avenue car park at the other end of the basketball complex. It is very rarely full and is an easy, flat, walk to the Hub.

Please do not park in the designated council officer's car parking spots which are clearly marked nor in the short access road behind the oval sports pavilion.

Council parking officers regularly visit the car parks and will book those incorrectly parked.



Your Committee

U3A Waverley is managed by a committee of members comprising a President; Vice President, Secretary; Treasurer and 5 other members. These people hold their positions for one year, from one annual general meeting until the next. Over the last few years membership of the committee has been stable with its members being re-elected at each AGM.

However, for the 2024-5 year I am retiring as President, Cliff Picton has advised that he will not be standing for re-election and the secretary, Geoff Fitzpatrick, has indicated his desire to step down as soon as possible. It is thus essential that other members step in to fill the vacancies.

When the papers for the AGM arrive there will be an invitation to nominate for these positions. Please seriously consider joining the committee for the coming year. U3A Waverley cannot run without a management committee.

Robert Taylor, Retiring President

Lecture Series DVD's Loan

Over the last few years, initially on a Friday and now on a Wednesday, a science-based class has run that uses courses from The Great Courses. These are a series of lectures – generally ½ hour each- on various topics in Science, Engineering, Medicine, and related topics.

Past topics have included The Science of Flight, Investigations into Human Personality, The Ageing Brain, the Physics of History, the mathematics of games and puzzles, and many others.

The DVD's for these topics, together with a course book, are now available for loan to members from the office. The loan period is a maximum of 4 weeks per loan and a member may have only one loan at a time.

Robert Taylor



Eastern Mahjong Class

The new Eastern Mahjong class has gotten off to a fantastic start, judging by the level of noise coming from within the room. Players had to be reminded that this is a *class* not a *club*! For the third session of the class, being during the Lunar New Year, we agreed to wear red. Additionally, it was suggested that the Chinese in the class bring a plate to share. Mahjong is indeed proving itself to be a social vehicle.

Linda Trikarso

English Conversation Class - Tutor Gillian Meldrum



We come to class to practice speaking English, because sometimes it's too easy to just speak in our own language. Not only do we learn about English conversation and pronunciation, but we also learn about other countries, traditions, and cultures.

At the end of last year, at our breakup we danced the Macarena, reading the words off the projector. Another time we discussed what games we played when we were young. It was fascinating to see that some of us had played the same games in different countries. The games were simple and did not involve any technology.

The teacher Gillian explains slowly what the words mean. Gillian is very patient. By coming to class we build confidence to speak to others in English. We are in a friendly and encouraging place.

We do some work on grammar and proper tenses and correct spelling. But the most important thing is we laugh and have fun. Everyone is equal in our classroom.

'Armchair Travel' - Thursday March 7

Held every 1st and 3rd Thursday at 1.35-3.30pm

We're gambling responsibly, and travelling to Las Vegas, Nevada in the US.

If any funds are left, we're then taking a mind-blowing road trip during Norway's Summer.

Now for the ultimate luxury, a trip on the Orient Express train from Paris to Istanbul.

Travelling the World, on U3A's big screen!

Brian Graham -Tutor -'Armchair Travel' class.



My teacher told me not to worry about spelling because in the future there will be autocorrect. For that I am eternally grapefruit.



They say 40 is the new 30 and 50 is the new 40, but all I know is the older I get, the more 9pm is the new midnight.



"Old people shouldn't eat healthy foods. They need all the preservatives they can get."

Robert Orben

