

**U3A Geelong Inc Reg. No. 12137 ABN: 55 284 853 825**

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**Office hours:** 9.30am – 12.30pm, Monday to Friday except school and public holidays.

**President:** Garry Kinnane **Honorary Secretary:** Loretta Winstanley  
**Office Managers** Mary Paul and Office Volunteers

## **NEWSLETTER: Term 2, 2019**

**Editor: Graeme Allen**

**AN APPEAL FOR NEWSLETTER COPY** Do you have any special things to share about your class (special activities, guest speakers, special achievements of members etc.), or anything else of interest to share with members? . Send any copy for our newsletter to Graeme Allen at [guballen@bigpond.com](mailto:guballen@bigpond.com), or through the office or at the U3A Geelong email address.

**Deadline for Newsletter 3 2019: End of Week 2 Term 3, 2019:**



**FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** The AGM held on March 28 was relatively well attended, though considering our total membership is now up over 1000, a figure of less than 50 was certainly not world shattering. It is remarkable that an organization like ours with upwards of 70 tutors, and 100 classes and a total enrolment of over 1800 in classes (equivalent to a large secondary school) is run entirely by volunteers. Not one person is paid!!!. And all those who give so much of their time and energy for we ordinary members deserve all the thanks we can give them. I think that it's something that

each one of us who doesn't already contribute outside of attending a class can give some thought to and to take the step to volunteer for something. [The sit down lunch after the AGM was a great culinary and social event and a huge credit to those who did the work in the background.]

**The Committee of Management** for this year is – President: Garry Kinnane, Vice President: Eeon Macaulay, Secretary: Loretta Winstanley, Treasurer: Irene Cannon and Ordinary Committee Members: Ann Carne, Ken Bolton, David Galloway, Kenneth Morris, Mary Tieman, Nanette Tunnicliffe.

A couple of comments from **The President's Report** –

"Finally, and most importantly, I have to thank many people for their contribution to the successful running of U3A Geelong during the past year. ...

- **Members of the Management Committee** who give their time and effort to keeping the ship on course from month to month. ... let me single out Greg Duggan who has been a conscientious and highly efficient Secretary ... Greg has decided not to stand for re-election ... I would like to give Greg special thanks for his period of service over the past 2 years....

- I want to thank **Mary Paul and Tina Colla and their staff of office volunteers** who do such a marvellous job keeping all our queries, our room problems ,our photocopying, our general flow of information, and a thousand other matters that crop up every day, so competently and cheerfully under control in the office every day. .
- And, of course, most important, **our line-up of wonderful tutors** who without financial reward, give us so generously of their time, enthusiasm and expertise across so many fields of knowledge. ... you really are the driving force of the whole University of the Third Age concept – no tutors, no courses. So thank you to every one of you.”

It would be remiss of me not the thank **Garry Kinnane** for his continuing great leadership. Garry shows enormous commitment to our cause and carries out the task of Presidency with great attention to detail and respect to all our members Thanks on everyone’s behalf, Garry.

[\* If there is anyone who would like a copy of the annual report, contact the office.].]

**Your Editor**

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**FROM THE OFFICE – CLASS INFORMATION PRESENT OR UPCOMING**

**Cryptic Crosswords:** Intermediate Level with Brian

This course aims to help members find and enjoy cryptic crossword puzzles which are suitable for their current level of expertise. If you feel that you are no longer "clueless" (or never were), we will help you find some challenging yet satisfying series of puzzles. Double-dippers from the other crossword groups are also welcome.

Wednesday's 01:30pm-03:30pm Cobbin Farm

**Music Theory for Beginners:**

This course aims to impart some basic music theory, dealing with such matters as sight-reading, scales, chords, and the three fundamentals of sound: 1. How high or low it is. 2. How long it lasts. 3. Its relation to other sounds. Learning music theory is good for your brain, and will improve your maths. How much do you need to know for this course? – best to know

nothing, or at least pretend to! You will need about a dozen sheets of music manuscript paper to start with.

Start: 17/07/2019 Cobbin Farm Library with Rosalea Greenwood

**Gardening for Novices** Exciting new course for Terms 3 and 4 (begins July)

This is a practical course in learning the basics of creating and maintaining a small garden. It will take place at a local gardening centre, under the tutelage of experienced gardener Rex Davies. This is a first for U3A Geelong - we've not had a gardening course before. But be early to enrol AS THERE ARE ONLY TEN PLACES AVAILABLE IN THE CLASS! It will run on Wednesdays from 9.30 to 11.00 am. More details on the enrolment list, or from the Office.

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### ARTICLE: WORDS, WORDS, WORDS (Or Wake up to yourself!! Ed.)

Those of you who know my literature classes are I'm sure familiar with my long-time love of words, their origins and histories. Currently I'm running an Irish Literature course, and naturally the subject of language is a constant interest, whether it is the Gaelic, or English, or what is called 'Hiberno-English', which is that peculiar form of English that we associate with the Irish character – you know, where they use terms like 'to be sure to be sure', or more commonly, the way an Irish person will rarely say a simple 'yes' or 'no' to a question, but will qualify the verb: 'Are you going to the shops?'; 'I am'. 'Is your phone charged?'; 'It is not', and so on. The reason for this usage is basically that Gaelic has no words for 'yes' and 'no', and so the absence is transferred across to the English. It is this influence of Gaelic on English usage that created the term 'Hiberno-English' (*Hibernia* is the Latin term for Ireland).

I've recently been reading the 18<sup>th</sup> century Anglo-Irish writer Maria Edgeworth, who discusses the phenomenon of the Irish *Wake*. As we all know, this Irish form of grieving for the dead most usually turns into a riotous party, in which food, drink, sex, song, tears and occasionally violence all combine to create a memorable, if quite unholy, send-off, more for the benefit of the mourners than the dead. It has long been so. But what especially interested me was Edgeworth's brief account of the 18<sup>th</sup> century practice, and indeed the meaning of the word *Wake* itself. If you look at Wikipedia or other easy sources of information, they will usually say that the 'wake' term has something to do with the actual dead person – that it is an old custom of seeing that there are no lingering signs of life in case a mistake has been made, or that it is a ritual about allowing the soul to 'awaken' and rise to its final destiny. But it seems to mean nothing of the sort. Going back centuries, old European customs were that an overnight vigil was kept by family and neighbours 'watching over' the body as a mark of respect, and that this gradually became combined with night-festivities sanctioned by the Church, which in time descended into night revels. So the term 'wake' (related to 'watch') applies to the mourners themselves, who are 'awake' through the night, ostensibly keeping watch, but in practice indulging in a midnight rave-up. Here is how Edgeworth describes the village versions in 1800:

"In Ireland a wake is a midnight meeting, held professedly for the indulgence of holy sorrow, but usually it is converted into orgies of unholy joy. When an Irish man or woman of the lower order dies, the straw which composed his bed, whether it has been contained in a bag to form a mattress, or simply spread upon the earthen floor, is immediately taken out of the house, and burned before the cabin door, the family at the same time setting up the death howl. Burning the straw upon which the sick man lay became a simple preservative against infection. At night the dead body is *waked*, that is to say, all the friends and neighbours of the deceased collect in a barn or stable, where the corpse is laid upon some boards, or an unhinged door supported upon stools, the face exposed, the rest of the body covered with a white sheet. Round the body are placed brass candlesticks... as many as the poor person can beg or borrow, observing always to have an odd number. Pipes and tobacco are first distributed, and then according to the ability (wealth) of the deceased, cakes and ale, and sometimes whisky, are dealt to the company. After a fit of universal sorrow, and the comfort

of a universal dram, the scandal of the neighbourhood, as in higher circles, occupy the company. The young lads and lasses romp with one another, and when the fathers and mothers are at last overcome with sleep and whisky, the youth become more enterprising and are frequently successful. It is said that more matches are made at wakes than at weddings.”

I just love the way curiosity about words can sometimes lead into all kinds of amusing, as well as instructive, depictions of human behaviour.

**Garry Kinnane**

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### FROM THE CLASSES

**Mandolin Group  
Entertains the Music**

#### Active Listening Group

On Monday 18 March Margaret Hughes, tutor of the Active Listening Music Group, successfully combined two U3A groups by inviting Gavin Parker and his Intermediate Mandolin Group to entertain an enthusiastic audience of music lovers. Responding to this challenging opportunity, Gavin, Celia, Giuliana, Cheryl, Marjorie and Nancy performed an impressive repertoire, taking listeners to Italy, Ireland, Scotland, Canada and Peru. Throughout the concert the audience responded with tapping hands and feet and when invited by Marjorie, sung along to an enthusiastic rendition of *You Are My Sunshine*.

When canvassed the audience responded to this committed and charming performance with *'wonderful,' 'brave'* and *'a delight.'* Perhaps in future this endeavour will be a permanent addition to the Active Listening Music Group's calendar.



#### Monday Morning Craft Group: Congratulations for prize winning members



Several members of the group entered beautiful and highly skilled craftwork in the Bellarine Agricultural Show on Sunday 10 March at Portarlington.

Maureen McGivern entered 4 pieces of work using distinctly different craft skills. She rust-

dyed and sewed a linen dress, made a lady's hat, embroidered a piece of fabric and created a pearl and bead necklace. This group of work beat all other multi-skilled competitors to win 1st prize. Julie Erwin also entered several pieces of craftwork and won 3 1st prizes, a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 2 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes and a Blue Ribbon for Best in Section for her spinning, knitting and crocheted items!

The Monday morning craft group also entered 4 different pieces of work in the Community Group section and won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize! Margaret Harry entered an embroidered doily, Maureen McGivern submitted a multi-layered lady's top, Julie Erwin made a woollen beanie with a border of red kangaroos and Kerry Smith entered a finely crocheted doily.

We have a lovely time on Monday mornings, 10am to noon, doing personal projects or knitting for charities including Geelong Mums, Cottage by the Sea and the homeless in winter. The group has room to grow in number if you'd like to join us for \$1 a week.

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### THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY A couple this month –



“Even though there are days I wish I could change some things that happened in the past, there's a reason the rear view mirror is so small and the windshield so big. Where you're headed is much more important than what you've left behind”.  
(unknown author)

and



“I just realized that I haven't done the “Hokey Pokey” in over ten years. I guess when you get older, you just forget what it's all about’. (another unknown author)

Hang onto your memories but continue to look through the windscreen. The hope is that U3A Geelong can contribute to both of these.

Till next term

**Graeme Allen (Editor)**



Barwon Community Legal Service and the Barwon Elder Abuse Primary Prevention Network  
- are hosting

**Older Wiser Know Your Rights Forum:  
Wednesday 15th May from 10am at the Grovedale Community House**

We all want to be treated with respect, no matter what stage we are in life. This may sometimes get forgotten with the day to day pressures faced by both individuals and families.

In this interactive forum, you will learn about how to protect your rights and prevent elder abuse as you age with presentations from Gerard Mansour, Seniors Rights Victoria, discussions with local experts, and a short film screening.

**RSVP for this event by 8th May 2019**

Please register directly to  
Alexandria Jones at [education@barwoncls.org.au](mailto:education@barwoncls.org.au)  
or ph: 1300 430 599  
or book online: visit: <https://olderwiser.eventbrite.com.au>



**WEDNESDAY 15th May 10 am - 12.30 pm  
at Grovedale Community Hub**

45 Heyers Rd, Grovedale VIC 3216

In this interactive forum, you will learn about how to protect your rights and prevent elder abuse as you age with presentations from Seniors Rights Victoria, local experts and a short film screening.

Free morning tea provided.

To register for this event visit: <https://olderwiser.eventbrite.com.au>  
or email Alexandria Jones at [education@barwoncls.org.au](mailto:education@barwoncls.org.au) tel: 1300 430 599

**LAWWEEK**  
13-19 MAY 2019

BARWON  
COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE

NEIGHBOURHOOD  
HOUSES BARWON

Following on from the successful **it's my life in MY hands forum** that was held this week

For those who missed out perhaps you might be interested in attending the following:

TuckersPh: 5221 4788  
www.tuckers.com.au

Talking about Funerals  
...everything you need to know about Funeral Care



Come and join Sue and Alyson as they discuss the following and more:

- *If someone dies – what do I do?*
- *Funeral costs and options*
- *Do Pre Paid Funerals expire?*
- *Legal requirements*
- *When there is no Funeral Plan – What happens?*
- *Beat the End of Financial Year price rise*
- *Why are funerals so important?*
- *How to create a memorable farewell*

For more details contact Alyson or Sue at Tuckers. Please RSVP for Catering Purposes.

### When & Where

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May**  
Tuckers Chapel,  
Barrabool Hills Centre, Highton 2.00pm

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May**  
Surf Coast Taxation Services,  
Winchelsea 10.30am  
Tuckers Chapel, Grovedale 2.00pm

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May**  
Tuckers Office, Torquay 10.30am  
Tuckers Chapel, Moolap Centre 2.00pm

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May**  
Les Cole Chapel, Geelong West 10.30am

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May**  
Leopold Community Hub 10.30am  
Tuckers Chapel, Lara 2.00pm

**The Following courses are on hold and are not running until further notice**

- Shakespeare for Pleasure
- Song Writing Workshop
- Intro to Computers using Windows 10
- Beginner's Machine Quilting 2