

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 3, 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, or through the office or at the U3A Geelong email address.



OPERATIONAL MATTERS

NEW APPOINTMENT Please note that we have a new Classes, Accommodation and Timetabling Co-ordinator taking over from Gary Kinnane. Tutors especially note that **Nanette Tunncliffe** is now looking after this vital role and she announces that, while she is still on a steep learning curve, she intimates that she will expeditiously handle all organizational troubles and other matters and concerns you may have in this area. Small day to day operational concerns can still be best handled through the office. In welcoming Nanette, we thank Gary for his conscientious organizational work during his time in the job.

Nanette recently ran a working lunch meeting with tutors when some very important concerns of an organizational nature were discussed. And that was appreciated greatly by those present.

***FOR TUTORS** Nanette recently asked tutors to do the following –

- Check your **Tutor details** – especially your address, phone number and email address.
- Check your **current timetable arrangements and course details** as listed in the Synopsis on the website– day, time, frequency (weekly, fortnightly), terms (1,2,3,4) and any techno needs required. If you have .any problems with the current timetable arrangements, or any changes required please contact Nanette through the office
- Give attention to **the rooms you are using**. We are aware that some classes have quite high numbers on the Wait List. If your class has decreased in number, perhaps you could consider one of the smaller rooms. This might mean that people on the Wait List could be included in classes.

- Nanette has recently visited the **Leopold Community Hub** and it is an exceptional facility. If you are looking to offer a new class or expand your numbers in a current class, you might consider this option.

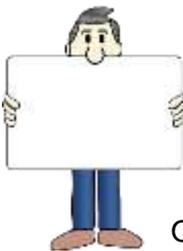
Responses requested by Friday the 9th of August Feel free to email Nanette on tunn@ozemail.com.au or contact the U3A Office by telephone.

IMPORTANT STUFF ABOUT PARKING AT COBBIN FARM

- Council has recently removed the old silo and the concrete slab on the reserve and the area has been top-dressed. It is best to avoid parking on this area.
- DUE TO CURRENT WEATHER CONDITIONS we don't know at this stage what the car park will be like or whether there will be enough parking (without getting bogged) in the next few weeks Please be aware that SAFETY IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE.
- We're asking that members on approach and departure take extra care when driving up (or down) Grove Road as there may be more cars parked on BOTH sides of the road. We remind you also that you need to be aware of and courteous to our neighbours.
- We would also like to point out that some of our members' driving habits are being reported (negatively) to the office and committee. Please always treat your approach to Cobbin Farm as you would a school zone and travel at a low speed (taking into account there are often residential cars parked on a curved road)

Our apologies for any inconvenience, it is something that is beyond our control.

- Also Council have replaced carpet at Cobbin Farm and have requested that our members try NOT to track mud throughout the building



NOTICES OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Advance notice is given of two important events for your diaries or to share with non-members you think might be interested.

1. Open Day As part of the Geelong Seniors Festival we'll be having an Open Day

- Date – Friday October 18
- Time – 10.15 am -12.15 pm
- At – Cobbin Farm

Tutors available to discuss courses etc, Morning tea available. Encourage your friends to come along and consider joining us. An opportunity for current members to speak with tutors of classes that you might be interested in joining.

2. Summer School 2020 Full details later but the dates for the 2020 Summer School are as follows – 13-16th January, 2020. The 2018 Summer School was a greatly successful event and this should be no exception. Note the dates and if any members not wishing to do the courses or other activities on the program are willing

to help with running the program their help would be most appreciated. Contact Loretta Winstanley through the office if you can help out.

3. **Let's Do Lunch** Let's Do Lunch! will return in August on Friday the 23rd. More details a little closer to the time but you know that you MUST book in and that NUMBERS are limited. (for members only)
4. **Melbourne Cup Lunch** From Nanette – I am pleased to say that this will be held again this year on Tuesday the 5th of November. You will all need to get those glad rags out again, spruce them up and get all dolled up (and that's just the men!). It was great to see everyone get into the spirit of the occasion last year and I'm looking forward to getting it organised, even bigger and better. (for members only)
5. **DEAKIN Lecture**

Friday 23rd August 12pm – 1pm Chapel at Cobbin Farm.

Dr. Mazher Mohammed

(Research Fellow School of Engineering at Deakin University will be discussing Plastic problems for us and the third world, and what we can do with the resources we already have.

Bookings can be made online or through the office.

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FROM THE PEN OF OUR PRESIDENT DR GARY KINNANE

For those of us trapped in the depths of a Geelong winter with all the trials that ensue, this month Gary tells of his experience of getting away to warmer climes, to whet our appetites for something different..

When you read this I'll still be up in the tropics of Northern Queensland, taking part of the winter break in and around the buzzing city of Cairns. Every now and then I take the trouble to check on the Geelong weather, and today I see it has reached the dizzy heights of 12 degrees. Cairns, in contrast will be 26 today, and has been all week, of which I will say no more and spare your feelings.

I was last in Cairns, would you believe, in 1963, travelling the country in my little blue Beetle, an unattached nomad looking for adventure. In 56 years the town has changed beyond recognition. Back then it was a couple of streets of small shops and a few government buildings, surrounded by cane farms and jungly hills, though it had the most cosmopolitan population in Australia (and possibly still has). I saw my first turbaned Sikh in Cairns. Now of course it is a thriving modern tourist destination with an international airport.

But Jo and I have been eschewing the tourist conveyor belt since we arrived, because we signed up for an extraordinary outback experience, which finished only a few days ago. We've been staying at a very remote property called Kinrara Station, about 280 kms. south-

west of Cairns, beyond the Atherton Tablelands. The scrubby treed and grassed Station is run by brothers Shane and Callum O'Brien, who are combining cattle breeding with a bold scheme of taking in guests and giving them a taste of bush life but without the ants, boredom and fires-that-won't-light. The personable Callum is in charge of Kinrara Expeditions, and together with his feisty Mum, Sheena, and a small staff of young part-timers, provides great food, comfortable huts, and organised adventures that include 4-wheel drive tours of the region, visits to waterfalls and local volcanic rock formations, swimming, kayaking and bird-watching in a very relaxed and personalised atmosphere.

As much as enjoying the expeditions themselves, Jo and I found the company of fellow campers to be the unexpected triumph of our week's stay. They were all refugees from the city rat-race, professional types, younger than us, some with small children, so that we ranged in age from around seven through the forties to us oldies – twenty of us altogether (though the groups are usually no more than twelve). What was wonderful was sitting around the campfire in an atmosphere of intelligent interest in each other's lives and opinions – the remoteness somehow contributing to the spirit of generosity we all enjoyed. The children would be happily playing amongst themselves, we would listen to the problems of parenting and promotion, they would show respect for our reminiscences of earlier times. And around all this calm decency was the busy unobtrusiveness of Callum and his staff, organising the meals, answering to needs, keeping us all happy. It was all an easy but very rewarding engagement with the essentials of life: good food and drink, good company, and closeness to Nature. What more could you want?

If you're interested in having a go, contact Callum O'Brien by Googling:
kinraraexpeditions.com.au

Garry Kinnane



IN MEMORIAM

VALE: Tibor Korn

Tibor , a beloved tutor and member of the U3A community, died on the May 19th, 2019. He will be sadly missed by all his friends and former students at U3A.

He was a tutor for over 10 years, teaching classes in Drawing and Life Drawing. As a student, Tibor was still enjoying classes in Philosophy and the Solar System up until his death.

Tibor was born in Hungary in 1926. After World War 2 he went to Italy and started working for Olivetti, training staff on the use their office machines. Olivetti sent Tibor out to Australia in 1950, where he had to learn English as well as make a home in a new country. For the Melbourne Olympics Tibor made souvenir ashtrays!

Tibor became a teacher, teaching various art subjects at Shepparton Tech and eventually Geelong Grammar. At Geelong Grammar, Tibor taught ceramics and sculpting until his retirement in 1988. Following retirement, Tibor did not sit still. He took pottery classes and taught sculpture at Geelong Tech. He joined a Field Naturalist club. And then he joined U3A.

Tibor is remembered as a wonderful teacher, a great debater and master of the socratic method.



A Tribute to Dorothy Cook

Nearly 28 years ago, with five other women, Dorothy began the Poetry Appreciation Group in Ocean Grove. Each man and woman who joined after that was welcomed by a group who was passionate about their poetry and about life in general. There was a palpable warmth and care for each other. That warmth and enthusiasm has lasted through all these years.

Dorothy presented many programs---poetry from all over the world and from different eras. One of her recent programs was about contemporary Japanese women's poetry. Think of the research that went into that! Dorothy was 96 when she presented those gems!

She shared with us her wide knowledge and delighted us with her sense of humour. Her sharp memory was astounding.

Dorothy was our friend, interested in us, sharing our concerns, imparting her wisdom. She bore her own grief with quiet courage. In ill-health, she was uncomplaining and resilient. She was a gracious lady with that admirable mixture of gentleness and strength.



SO WHAT HAVE OUR TUTORS BEEN UP TO?

Seminar presented by Victorian Active Aging Partnership

This Seminar was a great opportunity for people to network and share information about programs, resources etc. It is important for us to appreciate this keen interest shown by our tutors in seeking to improve and learn that little bit more in order to deliver the best programs possible.

On Wednesday the 15th of May four of our tutors attended a Seminar presented by Victorian Active Ageing Partnership incorporating Fitness Australia, Move (the new voice of Arthritis Foundation of Victoria), Monash University and the Victoria State Government. Many thanks to Rita Poel for the following report:

Recently four Tutors from U3A Geelong attended a Seminar presented by the Victorian Active Partnerships. This was held in Camperdown to represent this Region. Its focus was to promote and engage older Australians to participate in Physical activity in a formal setting. Engagement in physical activity is known to impart physical, mental and social benefits and supports healthy independent living. Community based physical Education programs such as the classes provided by U3A Geelong have a valuable role to play in addressing these factors.

Ongoing participation is the key to fostering a feeling of belonging, support and added value to our sense of well-being. In this regard we're encouraged to spread the word about the benefits of joining in one of the many "Active Classes" at U3A to our own network of friends and the wider community.

All of us who attended are U3A members, and are actively engaged in the many “Active Classes “. We can be proud that we are on the right track to stay cognitively and physically healthy.

It really is a case of ‘Use it or Lose it’.

Rita Poel



From the Office

We are heading towards a busy time and as we rely heavily on the good will and skills of our wonderful dynamic office staff {Greg, Katrina, Jackie, Jenny, Lee, MaryAnn, Mary and Tina} we also need to look towards the future.

We would love to hear from some of our u3a members who have the time and skills and who would be prepared to volunteer a few hours in the office on a regular basis.

Thanks



COMEDY CORNER A couple of droll anonymous quips –

I was always taught to respect my elders, but it keeps getting harder to find one. (Especially for we U3A members!!)

The irony of life is that by the time you’re old enough to know your way around, you’re not going anywhere.

Keep smiling through the cold winters months and we’ll catch up again in the spring!!

Graeme Allen (Editor)