

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

Postal address: Cobbin Farm, 231 Grove Road GROVEDALE 3216 **Phone:** 5244 5114

e-mail: mail@u3ageelong.org.au **Website:** www.u3ageelong.org.au

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

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

NEWSLETTER: Term 1, 2021

Editor: Graeme Allen

FROM THE EDITOR

The good news is that, after a year in dry dock, the good ship *SS U3A Geelong* is back on the high seas and sailing along very smoothly. Enjoy your trip everyone!!!!

And from **Mavis Pelletier** – An Appreciation

I don't know what he looks like
And probably never will
Because those pesky masks
Are with us even still.

But it seems we take for granted
The service he provides
So maybe an occasional thank you
Would be a pleasant surprise.

But it's not just the Editor,
There are lots of others too
Who spend their time and energy
Providing things for us to do.

So here's a great big thank you
To the Committee, everyone,
From all we happy members
Into whose lives we bring the sun.

Anonymous (To Shelley, Eliot and Pope my (Mavis's?) apologies)



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

We're back! We knew we would be, we said we would be, and here we are! Face-to-face classes at U3AGeelong have resumed and are buzzing along happily conforming to the requirements of the New Normal, and slowly but

surely finding our land legs again and enjoying each other's company – actual company, real presence, person-to-person, masks notwithstanding, and even able to remember who they are!

Am I the only one who feels like I'm coming out of some form of altered reality state, now that the past year is beginning to fade away behind us? So much of the recent past has been like a bad Hollywood movie, directed by Harpo Marx, starring a refashioned, orange-skinned Trumputin (brother of Vladputin) who sallied forth to rid the world of sense, and almost succeeded. He caused conspiracy theorists to pop up like mushrooms and grown men to trade their brains for smart phones. Oh, and I read a scary conspiracy story in the LRB: a man was listening to a previously intelligent old friend tell him his theory that every time in history there was an important new technological invention, it caused a pandemic. Look at radar, he said, it caused the Spanish flu after WW1. 'But,' the man said, 'the Spanish flu occurred in 1919; radar wasn't invented until 1935.' The friend stared back at him sourly. 'Well, you would say that, wouldn't you,' he said.

This is the world we have all been living through – Down the Rabbit Hole, like little Alice in Lewis Carroll's classic; any old ratbag connection between things totally unconnected is peddled as true, and any inconvenient truth is simply called 'fake'.

- "When I use a word," Humpty Dumpty said, in rather a scornful tone, "it means just what I choose it to mean – neither more nor less."
"The question is," said Alice, "whether you can make words mean so many different things."
"The question is," said Humpty Dumpty, "which is to be master – that's all."

Thank you Donald, your legacy will linger, as long as celebrity trumps fact. And then on top of all this, we are hit with the blight of Covid-19. I didn't mind lockdown too much, given that at my tender age – and 82 is a tender age let's face it; my flesh has virtually turned to jelly – at my age, I'm happy to spend most of my time in the house. Unhealthy probably, except that then of course it suddenly became the healthy option. I began to get a kind of tunnel vision, my world had shrunk down to a choice of armchairs, or whether to spend the morning in the sitting room or the family room, that the prospect of going *out there* was hugely frightening. And the term: *lockdown* made us feel we should have had guards on our front and back doors to prevent us escaping. And if we did go out, we had to wear masks, and still do, and when you bump into someone at the supermarket you can't tell if they're smiling at you, and they can't tell if you're smiling at them. I actually resorted to telling people: "I'm smiling," and they might say back "Yes, so am I", but of course we could both be lying.

But gradually we're leaving it all behind us. And now that masks are no longer mandatory, we will know when we are being smiled at. And gradually we will have more to smile about, now that we are out of lockdown, the cases of Covid are shrinking, the grown-ups are in charge in the White House, and U3AGeelong has resumed face-to-face classes. It can only get better from here, can't it?

Garry Kinnane





URGENT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS !!!!!

U3A Geelong will not run itself! It requires competent, dedicated people who want to see the organisation continue to run Courses and social activities for the Geelong community in the excellent manner it has always done. BUT, for this it needs a Management Committee, and your current Committee has served long and hard, and is getting old and in need of a rest. Several positions will need to be filled at the next **Annual General Meeting, on 21st April.**, when the incumbents step down. These are:

Secretary: position requires attending to correspondence, taking Minutes at meetings, applying for grants etc., good communication skills.

Treasurer: position requires some familiarity with accounting practices, budget preparation, banking matters.

President: position requires close familiarity across all U3A activities and ability to connect with the wider community in the interests of U3A Geelong, and communicate effectively with members.

These positions on the Executive, along with ALL other places on the Management Committee, are up for election at the upcoming AGM. PLEASE consider standing for election and making a much-needed contribution of your time and skill to the healthy administration and development of U3A Geelong. If you wish to discuss the possibility of your standing, please contact either Loretta Winstanley or Garry Kinnane, through the U3A Geelong office: mail@u3ageelong.org.au



In Memoriam: Gail Macrae and Graeme Tribe.



Gail passed away after a lengthy illness, on Saturday 27th February last. She had been a member of U3A Geelong since 2012, and was involved in many of our classes. In 2016 she became the tutor of the Politics class, and handled a difficult Course extremely competently. Gail will be sadly missed by her many friends and colleagues at U3A Geelong.

Graeme died on 9th February, peacefully at home surrounded by loving family. He had been actively involved in a wide range of Courses with us since 2006, including science, music and philosophy Courses, and was very popular amongst his classmates. He also will be sadly missed at U3A Geelong.





OUR THANKS GO TO

Katrina Henshall:

Office volunteer from 2012 until 2020 and Tutor for Cryptic Crosswords for the Clueless (2013-2020) Tuesdays just won't be the same. Thanks Katrina

John Dickenson has for over 20 years helped prepare the financial records for the auditor and undertaken the depreciation of our assets. He also was the Public Officer of the Association until the new Act was implemented in 2012. In his spare time he was a part time tutor for the Geology class and a keen cyclist. Thanks John for a job well done.

Tutors who have retired:

Richard Critchlow could always be counted on to run fascinating and brilliantly researched programs covering History of ancient Rome, Modern European history, Napoleon to Lenin, History of the Reformation, History of Scotland, Queen Victoria, The Bayeaux Tapestry and many, many more .He started tutoring in 2000 and ran two classes a week for many years in Corio and Cobbin Farm. A great effort.

Mary Fitzgerald started tutoring Art in 2006 and then ran two classes from 2015 which were very popular.

Joan Keating ran her Discussion Group in the Black Bull café with fascinating discussions and coffee from 2006 whilst **Eduardo Teijeiro** taught Spanish (all levels) from 2006 also

Gail McCrae (recently deceased) ran the Politics class for 4 years, **Lindsay Smail** 's erudite class Weather and Climate ran for 5 years and **Majorie Milligan**'s innovative class Jam sessions for Strings ran for 3 years with COVID 19 stopping her Guitar for beginners class.

A significant contribution to U3A Geelong and with this comes our thanks to all.



CLASSES, ROOMS, TIMES, VENUES AND THE TIMETABLE

Hello everyone,

It has been great to get back together, to be attending old familiar classes and venturing into some new ones. As you know, the timetable has been turned on its head and I am still working to smooth out the rough edges. This is when we all need to work together and recognise that things have changed.

A few points to consider:

- Please **check your class details** carefully. Do not assume that times will be as they were. Likewise, please check how often your class is running - weekly, fortnightly or monthly.
- **Zoom School** will return in a few weeks and will run the same format as last year. Everyone will get an email about the topic and speaker for the next session and you

will need to enrol in that class either online or through the Office. The Zoom link will be sent out a couple of days before the session.

- **Lectures and special presentations** will also be a part of our offerings this year. These are held on an ad hoc arrangement and will be publicised on the website, Face Book and around Cobbin Farm. Larger lectures will be held in the Chapel on a Friday morning. Smaller lectures will run in the Lounge on a Monday afternoon.
- **Tutors** – we intend to run sessions to help you master the tutor portal on the Website. These will be small group sessions and will run in the Lounge. We'll let you know when to sign up.
- Coming towards the end of this term, do look closely at **the timetable on the website** as there will be new classes starting for term 2.

Stay safe everyone and enjoy your time at U3A.

Nanette Tunncliffe
U3A Geelong Course Manager



FREE ZOOM SCHOOL for all post retirees in Greater Geelong and the Bellarine.

U3A Geelong Inc has been awarded a grant to develop and run a project to **ALL post- retirement Greater Geelong and Bellarine residents with free access to our ZOOM SCHOOL** to be held every Friday until the end of June and then fortnightly as long as there is a demand.

Participants will need to be able to access a computer and the internet to download the free ZOOM app. Relevant handouts and advance notice of future guest speakers will be provided.

ZOOM school will run from 9.30am to 11.00am on each occasion except APRIL 23d.

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|----------------------|--|
| April 16th | Lockdown and the Housing Commission Towers and its legality.
Dr Ian Warren, Senior Lecturer in Criminology, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Deakin University. |
| April 23d | Innovation and Barwon Water. NOTE 11.45 -12.45
Hear about the strategies to create zero waste and emissions by recycling waste and waste products for renewable products. This is our immediate future.
Shaun Cumming: General Manager: Infrastructure and Technology, Barwon Water |
| May 7 th | Things to do before you die.
Tuckers Funeral and Bereavement Services and Pro Bono Lawyer. |
| May 14th | Man's best friend. Michael Todorovic: Dog behaviourist. |
| May 21 st | TBA |
| May 28 th | What really is Autism? Ron Hedgecock |

Enrolment procedure:

Phone/ email or visit U3A Geelong Inc
231 Grove Road, Grovedale 3216
Phone: 52445114 Email: mail@u3ageelong.org.au

Funded by the City of Greater Geelong: COVID Response: Community Grants



RESUMPTION OF ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE'S MONTHLY FRENCH FILMS IN GEELONG

As some of our members are aware, Alliance Française de Geelong (the Geelong representative of the French Govt's Cultural Organization) shows a new release French film on the first weekend of each month at Village Cinemas Geelong. Those of you who have enjoyed attending these films will be pleased to know that A.F. has now resumed its monthly French film program. If you are interested in attending the films you will find details on Alliance Française de Geelong's website : www.afgeelong.com.au or on its face book page. Alternatively, you can find a link to the web site on U3A Geelong's website.

Anne Carne



INVITATION TO BE INVOLVED IN SURVEY

U3A Network Victoria requests that we forward information about a survey from RMIT University to all our members for their consideration. This is a terrific opportunity to put U3A seniors at the front of current and topical research for the benefit of all seniors.

The aim of the survey is to understand the lived experiences, practices, and perceptions of risk around ICT use, and how people use today's ICT to engage in the digital economy.

The full text of the letter with details of the survey and including a link to take you directly to the survey will be found as an addendum to this newsletter. It is open from 3 March until 31 March.



THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY A number of them today relevant to where each of us is at and the importance of U3A



Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school. – **Albert Einstein**

“The learning process continues until the day you die.” – **Kirk Douglas**

Education is a continual process, it's like a bicycle... If you don't pedal you don't go forward.” – **George Weah**

“Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young.” — **Henry Ford**

Cheers!

Graeme Allen (Editor)

***** STOP PRESS *****

A reminder that there are still places available in the upcoming lectures:

Mon 15th March 2.00pm – 3.45pm Cobbin Farm lounge
Where does the gold in your ring come from? With Dr. Martin Hughes

Fri 19th March 11:00am-12:30pm Cobbin Farm Chapel
“By Me, William Shakespeare” with Dr Alan Dilnot

ADDENDUM – DETAILS ABOUT SURVEY INVITATION

Dear U3A members

U3A Network Victoria thanks the many U3A members who have participated in the development of this survey and the vignettes that will add a rich layer to this research.

We invite all U3A members from across Victoria to participate in a research project on older adults and their use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). This survey is a collaboration between U3A Network Victoria and RMIT University. The results will have implications for the development of policies, programs, and tools that help older adults engage with ICT in ways that benefit them.

The aim of the survey is to understand the lived experiences, practices, and perceptions of risk around ICT use, and how people use today’s ICT to engage in the digital economy. Two main terms are associated with this survey and questions relate to both:

- **Information and Communication Technology (ICT)** is a broad term, which refers to all communication technologies, including the internet, wireless networks, mobile phones and tablets, computers, software, video-chatting and conferencing platforms, social networking and social media, wearables, and other media applications and services enabling you to access, retrieve, store, transmit, manipulate information, and transact in a digital form
- **The digital economy (DEC)** relates to the use of internet enabled ICT to engage, communicate, and transact with people such as family, friends, colleagues and organisations like online shops, banking services, health professionals and agencies, government support services using internet connected devices and digital tools like mobile phones, tablets, computers, apps, and digital platforms and websites.

Click this [link](#) to be taken directly to the survey:

If the embedded link does not work for you then copy this link into a browser to access the survey:

https://rmit.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0wiyMlvbiBVvrU1

We value and appreciate your involvement in the research. You do not have to be an expert or heavy user of ICT to participate. We are looking for people from a wide variety of backgrounds and with a wide range of experiences and abilities.

Your participation is entirely voluntary, and any information you provide will be treated with confidentiality. All data you provide in this survey is de-identified, meaning that any identifying details you provide such as your name and email address are separated from the answers you provide in the survey. This means that your name or any identifying details cannot be matched with the responses you provide.

Every U3A member who fully completes the entire survey will go into a draw for one of twenty \$50 WISH gift vouchers. When you opt to go in the draw for one of the prizes, you need to provide a phone number or email address, so you can be contacted if you win. This information will be kept separate from the survey data so that your details and the survey responses you provide cannot be linked. Please be assured that any details that might identify individual members are deidentified and will not be shared.

Overall, the researchers are looking for at least 1,000 people to complete the survey. This will help develop robust and useful findings and recommendations.

A copy of Participant Information Sheet / Consent Form is attached.

If you would like to know more about the research project, please contact the researchers directly via email to bernardo.figueiredo@rmit.edu.au (Dr Bernardo Figueiredo) or torgeir.aleti@rmit.edu.au (Dr Torgeir Aleti). You can find information about the research team at this site www.shapingconnections.org.

We hope you will participate in the research and we thank you in advance. We sincerely appreciate your time and your insights.

Please contact Anne Grigg via u3akingstoncourses@gmail.com or 0408 638 151 with any problems accessing the survey. Email is preferred.

Yours sincerely

Glen Wall
Vice President
Professor
U3A Network Victoria

Dr Bernardo Figueiredo
Chief Investigator and Associate
RMIT Univ



GEELONG
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

*U3A Geelong Inc
Cobbin Farm
231 Grove Road
Grovedale 3216*

Adult Education in the Community
No. A12137
ABN 55 284 853 825

10 March 2021

To all Members:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Annual General Meeting** of the above association will be held on **WEDNESDAY, 21st APRIL, 10.30am** in the Chapel at Cobbin Farm; 231 Grove Rd, Grovedale 3216

The ordinary business of the General Annual Meeting shall be:

- (a) to confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting;
- (b) to receive, from the committee, reports upon the transactions of the Association during the last financial year;
- (c) to elect officers of the Association and the ordinary members of the committee:
 - (i) President
 - (ii) Vice President
 - (iii) Secretary
 - (iv) Treasurer
 - (v) 6 Committee Members, and
- (d) Membership fees for 2022

Note 1: Nomination of candidates for election as officers of the Association or as ordinary Members of the Committee must be:

- (a) made in writing, signed by two members of the Association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of nomination) and
- (b) delivered to the Secretary of the Association not less than 7 (seven) days before the date fixed for the holding of the Annual General Meeting.

Note 2: Notice of Motion. Any Notice of Motion must be delivered to the Secretary (at the office) 28 days prior to the meeting.

Note 3: Proxy Voting Forms must be with the Secretary 24 hours prior to the meeting.

In order to stand for election for an Executive and a General committee position a separate form for each position must be completed

Yours sincerely,

Loretta Winstanley
Hon Secretary

Please Post all Mail to:

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Cobbin Farm
231 Grove Road
Grovedale 3216

Phone: 03 5244 5114

E-mail:
mail@u3ageelong.org.au

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U3A Geelong Inc
No. A12137
ABN 55 284 853 825
Adult Education in the Community

Nomination Form
(please print)

..... (Membership Number)
being a financial member of U3A Geelong Inc.
wish to nominate.....

To the position ofof the Committee of Management

Isecond this nomination

Signed-Moved (Membership Number).....

Signed - Seconded (Membership Number).....

Iagree to this nomination for the above position

Signed (Membership Number).....

Dated day of 2021

No. A12137
ABN 55 284 853 825
Adult Education in the Community
Form of Appointment by Proxy

I.....(Membership Number).....

Of.....
being a financial member of U3A Geelong Inc. hereby appoint

Name.....(Membership Number).....

Of.....
being a member of the Incorporated Association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the
Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held on the 21st of April 2021 and at any
adjournment of that meeting.

My proxy is authorised to vote in favour of/against (delete as appropriate) the resolution.

Signed

Dated the day of2021