

# **NEWSLETTER**

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#### **President's Report**

The Tutors Meeting held on 25 July once again caused us to focus on the most important aspect of any U3A class: the role of the tutor. In recent months, the Committee of Management has been giving consideration to the cost of external venues but I believe that we should always put such matters into context. Once we have a tutor willing to take a class that will attract the interest of members, then it should follow that we will arrange an appropriate venue for that class. Cost is one important factor but it shouldn't be the only one.

The Curriculum Committee is currently drawing up our courses for 2020. As is always the case, new tutors are very welcome. In fact, we must have new tutors every year to take the place of those who retire and to expand our class offerings. If you are interested in becoming a tutor in 2020, please contact our Curriculum Manager, Milly Ching (milly.ching@gmail.com or leave a note in her pigeonhole). Tutors give a lot to U3A and, in turn, they become much more involved in our organisation. Making new friends is the by-product of you becoming a tutor and importantly, these new friends will have many of the same interests as you.

Being a tutor causes one to take a deeper interest in the topic or skill required for the class. As well, being a tutor or participating in one of the many other volunteer positions that are vital to our organisation enables one to get to know a large group of members and greatly enhances the value of being a member of U3A Manningham.

David Jensz, President

#### David Victor Jensz, OAM



Congratulations to our President, **David Jensz**, for being recognized with an Order of Australia Medal in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours List. The honour was bestowed for his "service to education and the community of Manningham".

David has had 75 years in education from his first class in Portland, Victoria to the present with U3A Manningham. In between, he received a BSc and BEd from Melbourne University. He is still known as a '481 Boy'. As a country lad coming to the city, he lived in the education hostel at 481 St Kilda Road, where country

boys on teaching scholarships were housed while they studied at Melbourne University.

As a young science teacher, David was mentored by much older teachers, most of whom were returned servicemen, so he had a vigorous apprenticeship. He quickly moved up through the ranks to become one of the youngest principals in Victoria. He had many interesting years living in small country towns in the Victorian Western District before moving back to Melbourne as an experienced principal. He also spent time in the UK as a visiting exchange teacher.

#### David Victor Jensz, OAM (Cont'd)

David was the inaugural Principal of Viewbank Secondary College where today the top student award is named in his honour. He served for many years as an office bearer in the Victorian Secondary Schools Principals Association, assisting the Education Department as an advisor.

In retirement, David was convinced to help establish a new educational concept in Victoria called U3A. As a member of U3A Manningham since its inception, he was President from 2006 - 2010 and oversaw the move into the Pines facility. He is now a Life Member of U3AM. He also managed to find time to spend 5 years as Vice President of the U3A Network Victoria.

Since living in Doncaster, David has served with Rotary, been on many city council advisory committees and been actively involved with his local church. David is a unique individual who puts his community above himself, but not ahead of his multicultural family.

His honour is more than well deserved.

David McNamara, Vice President

# Ronald Kitchingman, OAM, JP Recipient of Key to the City of Manningham 2019

On 23 July, **Ron Kitchingman** was presented with the Key to the City of Manningham in recognition of his long and valued community service. Ron has resided in Doncaster for 55 years and has been actively involved in a wide range of activities for virtually all that time.

In 1966, Ron was elected as the inaugural President of the Beverley Hills Kindergarten Committee followed by a long involvement with the Beverley Hills Primary School which included 10 years as President of the School Council. He then served on the East Doncaster High School Council for 13 years including 10 as President. His community involvement has been spread over many other areas: Doncaster Jaycees, Manningham Centre Association (now MannaCare), Manningham Recreation Association, Doncare and the East Doncaster Baptist Church.



Ron Kitchingman with the Mayor, Cr Paula Piccinini

Ron served for several terms on the Council of the City of Doncaster and Templestowe and was Mayor in 1978. Later, he served on the Manningham City Council and was once again Mayor in 2007. As Mayor, he officially opened The Pines Learning and Activity Centre on 21 November 2007.

Ron was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1980 and then a Bail Justice. From 1980 to 2005, he was called out on this duty over 1000 times at all hours of the day and night.

In 2013, the Medal of the Order of Australia was awarded to him for his services to the community of Manningham. We are proud to have Ron as a valued member of U3A Manningham. He now joins **Jim Poulter** who was presented with the Key to the City of Manningham last year.

**David Jensz** 

#### **Special General Meeting – Our Financial Position**

A Special General Meeting held on 25 July unanimously approved the restatement of the 2018 accounts on an accrual accounting basis as required for not-for-profit organisations under the 2001 Corporations Act. The revised accounts have been reviewed by auditors, Anoop Chauhan and Allan Nash, who were satisfied that they represented a fair result for the year ended 31 December 2018.

There are two types of accounting that may be used: cash or accrual. Accrual accounting is more appropriate for our organisation as it matches expenses incurred in any given year with the income collected for use in that year. On an accrual basis, the revised 2018 accounts represented an \$11,173 loss, which is an improvement compared to the \$36,694 loss incurred in 2017.

The 2019 operating budget has been reduced from an initial draft position in excess of \$153,000 expenditure to a current position of \$128,000 for the year. The \$25,000 reduction excludes any allowance for equipment replacement costs which will be the subject of a separate review. The asset register, replacement valuation and remaining useful life of items will be reviewed, from which a depreciation schedule will be derived.

We are giving careful consideration to reducing our expenses. Some of the issues currently under scrutiny are:

- External venue (including the Pines Function Room) expenses are the largest cost item, representing some \$64,000 or 50% of the budget. Efforts are being made to move classes presently held at external venues to The Pines rooms or other lower cost options.
- The Pines rooms represent a total cost of \$19,000 or 15% of the budget. Currently, we do not fully utilise this lower cost room option.
- The remaining \$45,000 of budget money represents overhead costs for computers, office expenses, functions, subscriptions, GST, etc. (35% of budget). Efforts will be made in 2020 to further decrease these costs once room rental costs have been reduced.
- PayPal fees cost \$1,346 in 2018. From mid-2019 onwards, PayPal has doubled fee charges.
  As this will incur an extra cost of about \$1,400, a review of alternative options is currently
  underway.
- The approach taken to the current external venue fee (\$15 per annum) will be reviewed once the venue costs for 2020 are finalised.

Copies of the financial accounts that were tabled at the Special General Meeting are available at the office.

Ian Gorman, Treasurer

#### **Migrant English Tutors Meeting**

Thursday, 22 August 2019 Room 13, 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm. All Migrant English Tutors welcome.

(Please note change of time.)

#### Meet Lula Evangeline Black

Lula co-tutors with me, **Trish Taylor**. I want very much to tell you about this wonderful lady.

I am motivated to share some of her story through the eyes of U3A members. We will start with her latest achievement. After eight years of part-time study, Lula recently attained a Bachelor of Arts Degree, graduating with distinction. Because of family circumstances, she'd left school at fifteen. Now well into her eighties, she is a dynamo.

Many U3A members know Lula as she is a participant extraordinaire. Among her many classes, tutoring two Greek classes and The Written Word writing group, she has also enjoyed Italian, Spanish, Latin, French, Chinese (Mandarin), Greek Dancing, Belly Dancing, Line Dancing, Ballroom Dancing. Well, that figures; *life is a dance* for Lula. Lula is currently involved with Tai Chi, Poetry and Singing for Pleasure, along with her contribution as a tutor and member of our *Golden Quill* editing group.



Lula Black

She enjoys her walks at Finn's Reserve and volunteering work at Heide Gallery.

A passion that Lula and I share are the ups and downs of the Essendon Football Club. Lula inspires people to bring their best to the table or dance floor. We are blessed to know you, Lula.

Trish Taylor, Co-Tutor and Friend

# **Exploring African History**



Cathy Guinness

My course, *Congo: Rubber and Human Rights*, is being offered in Term 4. What can you expect by joining this group? I have lots to share as I have written a book about the topic, but there is much I am still discovering. This course will include lecture material as well as weekly opportunities to bring your own experience and research to the discussion.

I became curious about the Congo when delving into my grandfather's life story. He was active in the Congo Reform Movement in London back in 1904, and as I am an activist in human rights, this continuity fascinated me. To understand his role in curtailing the atrocities being suffered by Congolese rubber collectors, I started delving into the stories of all those British and American missionaries and humanitarians who spoke out against King Leopold's cruel and rapacious rule in the Congo.

It was more difficult to find records of the Congolese experience in their own words. To begin to understand their world, I found myself returning to the time when the Bantu first settled the Congo. Then in the 15th century, the first European encounter between people of the Kingdom of Kongo and Portuguese traders took place, leading to the tragedy of the Atlantic slave trade. "What effect did this trade have on Congolese society?", I asked myself.

Humanitarians pushed for an end to the slave trade but in 1890, a new humanitarian catastrophe was evolving. The course will cover the Berlin Conference, the 'scramble for Africa', and the colonisation of the Congo by the Belgian King Leopold II. This brings us to the regime of forced labour which resulted in the death of 10 million Congolese, unbelievable as this may be. It also brings us to the experience of those who tried to stop the atrocities.

# **Exploring African History (Cont'd)**

It was only when my book, *Rubber Justice*, was launched that I met members of the Melbourne Congolese community, and it was their passion in sharing the story of their country that made me realise this history is relevant to the current situation in the Congo. The course will end with discussion of the Democratic Republic of Congo since independence. We will consider the role of international mining interests and political interference in the ongoing corruption and violence that continue to cripple this emerging nation.

My academic background includes a Masters of Social Science, and my work has been community development and lecturing, with a focus on understanding and celebrating ethnic diversity. I am looking forward to sharing the Congo course with a new group of interested people.

**Cathy Guinness** 

# **Remembering Audrey Killey**

**Audrey Killey** passed away on 20 May 2019 and it is not surprising that a great many U3A Manningham members attended her funeral.



I wrote the following in the 2007 Annual Report of U3A Manningham: "We rely on some members who put in incredibly long hours of work to support our organisation in various administrative functions. Much of this work goes unnoticed by most of us but we realise that someone, somewhere must be handling enrolments, organising and running the office, and catering for our special functions. Audrey Killey is one such person. Over the December / January holiday period, Audrey dealt with 70 U3A telephone messages and 50 application forms, collected the mail every week and prepared for our 20 January 2007 Committee of Management Meeting."

Audrey joined U3A Manningham in the 1990s and was a Tutor of Walking for Pleasure from 2004 to 2014. She was Secretary of the Committee of Management from 2005 to 2010 and a member of the Office Management Committee from 2011 to 2019. Audrey opened our building on Wednesday mornings for many years. She was always

available and willing to help when there was work to be done and she carried out many administrative tasks behind the scenes. Audrey organised the move of our office from the Templestowe Leisure Centre in 2007/2008 and was instrumental in setting up our current office.

Audrey received a Recognition Award from Minister Kevin Andrews at the 2007 National Day for Older Australians for her significant contribution to the Manningham Community. She also received a Manningham Community Service Award on Australia Day 2011.

Audrey never sought the limelight. She was intelligent, knowledgeable, hard working and worked extremely well in a group or committee. Audrey could always be relied upon to support U3A Manningham and its members in a quiet and unassuming way.

**David Jensz** 

# Golden Quill – Launch of Volume 6 30 October at 3pm

October 2019 will see the launch of yet another volume of the *Golden Quill*. This will be the sixth book published by the U3A Manningham writing groups.

We are especially delighted that **Lisbeth Wilks**, one of our own U3A members, will launch this latest edition. Liz first came to our attention through her first novel: *Sara Webb, Disaster Area*. After reading the book, we were compelled to contact Liz. We wondered about this woman who had obviously written from her experiences of living in a family with two disabled children. Her telling was simply a delight. The fast-paced story contained a powerful message and, at the same time, was entertaining and humorous. The theme of the novel is essentially to give the reader an insight into the difficulties experienced by Sara who has to live her life with two special-needs siblings.



Liz's true love is art which has led her to illustrate a number of inspirational children's books based on fact.

We'd love to see you at 3pm on Wednesday, 30 October at U3A Manningham to enjoy hearing more from Liz and to learn about our wonderful writing groups: The Written Word, Creative Writing and Writing Poetry.

Lula Black & Trish Taylor, Tutors

#### A Tribute to John Corcoran

Upon my retirement, I joined U3A Manningham and had the good fortune to enrol in the class, Understand the Stockmarket. The class tutor was a gentleman by the name of **John Corcoran** who had been a Senior Financial Controller at Ansett Airways before that company's demise and, as a consequence, John was out of a job. Needing an income, what had previously been an interest, became more important. He then involved himself more fully in the stockmarket which proved a successful venture for him.

Using the information he had gathered and the notes he had taken, John explained all the fundamentals and terms used in the stockmarket, such as dividend franking, options, stop loss strategies, etc. In addition, he would spend many hours producing large charts (on white butchers paper) of movements of the ASX 200 and 500 over periods of a week, a month and a year, which very graphically illustrated the volatility of the stockmarket.

The Australian Financial Review was John's bible. He would cut out articles which often formed the basis of a class discussion on a particular stock or current events in the stockmarket.

Unfortunately, due to ill health, John retired as a full-time tutor about 8 years ago. When health would permit though, he gave sessions, in particular on the GFC and its cause and effect. No one person could replace the time, energy and attention to detail that John put into his classes. As a consequence, a committee was formed to continue the class as it is still very popular with about 70-80 attendees each week.

John passed away earlier this year and on behalf of all former class members, I acknowledge his knowledge and wisdom in helping us to better understand the stockmarket.

Ray Cross

#### **Tutors Luncheon – 25 July 2019**

At the recent Tutors Luncheon, awards were presented to some of our awesome tutors acknowledging their years of service as follows:

25 years: **Heather Ambrose** and **Moira Axtens** 

20 years: **Des Thornton** and **Desiree Higgins** 

15 years: Kirtida Baxi, Doug Brewer, John Driver, Monique Plantier, Saroja Swami and

**Barry Wilkins** 

10 years: Lynne Deans, Carol Henderson, Marie Klein, Gloria Matison,

Josephine McDermott, Arthur Michie, Sandra Dean and Edwin Goodieson

5 years: Wilmore Bajada, Liya Fairless, Peter Cook, Carolyn Francis, John Hassed,

Sandra Marshall, Jackie Robinson and Cheryl Walsh.

Not all who received awards were able to attend. Below is a photo of some of the recipients.



Congratulations and thank you again to all the tutors for the wonderful work that you do.

Barbara Spagnolo, Tutor Coordinator

# Office Report

We are now well into Term 3 and enjoying another successful year at U3A Manningham.

Those of you who are office volunteers, please make sure you read the current notices folder during every shift so you are up-to-date. There is a lot of reference material so please use it.

I look forward to seeing all the volunteers at the Office Volunteers Luncheon on 10 October. Your personal invitation will be available to pick up with Term 4

rosters from 9 September.

See you all soon.

Robyn Buttling, Office Manager

# **U3A Manningham 2019 Photograph Competition**

Another successful photograph competition, this year on Australian streetscapes.

I would like to thank all the entrants for taking the time and effort to join in; without you, there would be no competition.

See below the winning photograph taken by **Peter Furlong** entitled *Caledonian Lane*.



All photos entered are brilliant. They go from artistic, beautiful, quirky, stunning and just out there. Take the time to look at the entries on the office screen.

Hope you all enjoyed entering and please do so again next year. Keep carrying your camera with you and good luck.

**Trish Gilbert** 

#### **Curriculum Report**



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all tutors who submitted their 2020 tutor form by the due date.

There are a number of tutors retiring at the end of this year and on behalf of the Curriculum team, thank you for your contribution in teaching the courses which you are passionate about. We are also lucky to have new tutors who are willing to continue offering the same courses to our members. If you have new ideas or know any person who loves teaching a course, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Two seminars will be held in September offered by Equip4Life, *Wellness Seminar* and *Nutrition Masterclass*. Registration will open in August and members will be notified of the date and time.

Congo - Rubber and Human Rights, a six week course will be offered in Term 4. Please see the article written by the tutor, **Cathy Guinness**, in this newsletter. Check details on MyU3A and enrol online. Places are limited!

Milly Ching, Curriculum Manager

#### A Snapshot of U3A in Victoria

U3A Network has just finished loading data into the Network Member Database.

As a result, we know that there are now over 39,000 members in 108 U3As located across Victoria, from Mallacoota in the south west to Sunraysia in the north east. This includes 565 members who are over 91 - some of whom are still tutors.

Victoria's smallest U3A has 24 members and the largest has 2052. Interestingly, there are two U3As with membership exceeding 1500 - Nunawading and Manningham. It certainly seems that U3A is extremely popular in this part of Melbourne!

This gives us much to be proud of as a movement - we continue to grow, we provide opportunities in multiple locations across the State, and we are made up of seniors who remain active and engaged into our 90s and beyond.

The link below provides more detail on some of this data:

http://u3amanningham.org.au/docs/OverviewOfU3aMembershipInVictoriaJune2019.pdf

Jillian Gange

# Accessing the U3A Manningham Website on your iPad

You can easily access all the information available on the U3A Manningham website with one click if you install a shortcut to our website on your iPad. Doing this means that you won't have to search for the website but just click on the icon on your iPad's home screen.

So if you want to find out what classes are available and to enrol, read the newsletter and keep up to date with all the U3A happenings, just follow these simple steps:

- 1. Go to Safari.
- 2. Type in u3amanningham.org.au.
- 3. The homepage of U3A MANNINGHAM will appear
- 4. Select the square with the arrow pointing upwards (top right hand corner).
- 5. A selection menu will appear.
- 6. Select **Add to screen**. Tap **Add** (Top right hand corner).

Congratulations - you now have a shortcut to the U3A Manningham website on your home screen. Anytime you want to access it, just click on the icon.

By the way, you can use these instructions to put a shortcut on your iPad to all those websites you regularly access.

Ken Hosking, Mobile Phone Tutor

#### **Newsletter Contributions**

We are always pleased to receive your contributions to our newsletter which may be sent to me at <a href="mailto:jillian.gange@optusnet.com.au">jillian.gange@optusnet.com.au</a> or put into my pigeonhole. The deadline date for the November 2019 newsletter is 18 October. Please ensure that all contributions contain your name and contact details.

Jillian Gange, Editor

#### Calendar of Events

#### Terms 3 & 4, 2019

(The calendar for the full year is available on our website.)

#### **TERM 3, 2019**

Monday, 22 July **TERM 3 commenced (9 weeks)** 

Monday, 19 August Committee of Management meeting (Rm 8) 1.30pm

Wednesday, 22 August Migrant English Tutors meeting (Rm 13) 1.30pm - 3.30pm

(Note change from previous time)

Wednesday, 11 September Class Representatives luncheon (PFR) 12.15pm - 2.30pm

Monday, 16 September Committee of Management meeting (Rm 8) 1.30pm

Friday, 20 September **TERM 3 finishes** 

(Term Break - 2 weeks)

#### **TERM 4, 2019**

Monday, 7 October TERM 4 commences (8 weeks)

October 2 to October 9 Summer School appointment bookings at the office

Thursday, 10 October Summer School Enrolments

Online from 6.30am
In person 9.00am - 3.00pm

Thursday, 10 October Office Workers Luncheon (PFR) 12.15pm - 2.30pm

Friday, 18 October Newsletter Deadline

Monday, 21 October Committee of Management meeting (Rm 8) 1.30pm

Tuesday, 5 November MELBOURNE CUP DAY

Monday, 18 November Committee of Management meeting (Rm 8) 1.30pm

Wednesday, 20 November Artistic Showcase 10.00am - 3.00pm
Thursday, 28 November uniFEST 2019 12.00 noon - 3.30pm

Friday, 29 November **TERM 4 finishes** 

#### **PFR - Pines Function Room**

#### The Newsletter

Editorial: Jillian Gange, Liew Staras, Frances Langdon; Website Manager: Kevin Chan;

Distribution: Warren Trompf, Kathleen Caffry and Robyn Lamprecht.

Information contained in this newsletter was correct at the time of publication. U3A Manningham makes no guarantee that the information contained in the newsletter is always accurate.



#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Our mission is to provide accessible and affordable educational, cultural, physical and social opportunities appropriate to the needs of retired and semi-retired people.



