



The Pines Learning & Activity Centre, 2/520 Blackburn Road, Doncaster East 3109; PO Box 3288, The Pines, Doncaster East 3109; Tel: 9894 5955; manunipines@u3amanningham.org.au; www.u3amanningham.org.au

NEWSLETTER

August 2023, Vol. 33 No.3

President's Message

Welcome back to our Winter Term. I know many of our lucky members are currently spending, or planning to spend, time in warmer climes. If you are travelling, please stay well and return to us safely.

We Have Been Busy!

Your Committee of Management and its sub-committees have been hard at work researching, sourcing and costing new equipment and resources to improve the facilities and services in our organisation, such as:



- replacing our dilapidated couches.
- upgrading the backroom office computers to help streamline our enrolment process.
- trialling a new online payment system to speed up and simplify both online and in person enrolments. Initial results are encouraging, further details will be provided on its conclusion.
- considerable time has been spent looking for a satisfactory solution for sharing the teaching computers in Room 1 with the Pines Learning Centre. We have had computer access problems this year but believe we now have a mutually beneficial arrangement.

Unfortunately, we have encountered supply chain issues that have hindered the speed of our upgrade, I wish to thank the members of our committees for their persistence throughout the process and hope we will receive our orders soon.

Our U3A Manningham website

I would remind and encourage all members to regularly access our recently upgraded and continuously evolving website for the latest, important and useful information. Our Webmaster, **Neville Cook** (communications@u3amanningham.org.au), is happy to receive feedback from members that may further improve the site. One new addition that members may not have noticed is the inclusion of news from U3A Network, our coordinating body, which has many activities that all members can participate in.

Thank You, Tutors!

On behalf of all our members, I would like to thank all our tutors for your tireless work and dedication. You are, indeed, the lifeblood of our organisation!

David McNamara, President

Escape The Winter Blues; Look Forward To Summer School!

It may be cold outside but in the midst of winter, your U3AM friends are planning for Summer School and this is where you can help too!

Along with our regular popular classes in *Strength Training*, *Bridge* and *Current Affairs*, we are looking to add some exciting new summer classes. If you would like to try your hand at conducting some classes or outings, do let us know on 9855 8827 or leave a note in the Summer School pigeonhole at the U3AM office.

Remember, Summer School gives members a chance to:

- Keep up with their exercise.
- Meet up with friends.
- Try a new short course.
- Have some fun!!!



Be on the lookout for more details about Summer School in the coming weeks.

Liz Haylock and Don O’Gorman,
Summer School Coordinators

Curriculum News

New Course for Term 4 - The Pursuit of Happiness

Tutor : Marcel Saxone
Date and Time: Mondays, 3:00 - 4:20 pm
Venue: Room 13
Code: 9881-01



This course explores what makes people happy. It will include topics such as the meaning of happiness, the philosophical and psychological perspectives of happiness, the relationship between science, religion and happiness. (Further details are available on MyU3A.)

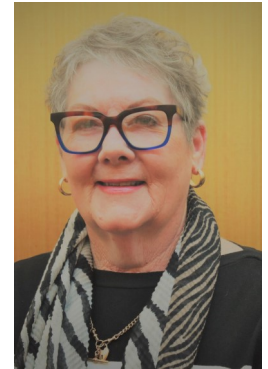
Enrol online and please, bring confirmation letter to the first class.

Milly Ching,
Curriculum Manager

Enrolment Matters

Prepayment of 2024 Membership Fees

- For members who wish to pay online, prepayment of membership fees for 2024 commences from Monday, 23 October 2023.
- For members who wish to pay in person, bookings for assistance with prepayment of membership fees for 2024 can be made at the office from 1 November, 2023. The actual prepayment of fees at the office will then commence from Monday, 13 November to Tuesday, 21 November. Cash, credit card or cheque payments will be accepted.
- Further details on Course Enrolments (online and in person) will be available in the November newsletter.



A reminder to all members

When communicating with U3AM, members need to be aware that:

For all enrolment related matters, either

Use email address: enrolments@u3amanningham.org.au which is monitored from Monday to Friday during term time by members of our data entry enrolment team (our E-team, see below).

or

Use email address: enrolmenthelp@u3amanningham.org.au which is monitored outside term times by the Enrolment Manager.

For all administration related matters, use email address: manunipines@u3amanningham.org.au monitored by the Secretary to the Committee of Management.

Meet our Enrolment Team (E-Team)



Left to right: Joan French (is on duty on Mondays), Frank Lau (Tuesdays), Tricia Gilbert (Wednesdays), Lyverne Newson (Thursdays), Pam Grehan (Fridays).

Ruth Foxwell, Enrolment Manager

U3AM 2023 Photography Competition

It's time again to get out your cameras and start snapping, or look through your photo library and select the best of your photos for our U3A Manningham 2023 Photography Competition.

Rules of the competition:

- Competition commences on 18 July and closes on 31 August 2023.
- Voting period by members will be announced shortly after competition closes. All members are allowed only one vote each for their pick for best entrant.
- It is an open theme. However, portraits or photos of children will not be allowed, but incidental people accepted.
- The location where photos are taken should be included in entrant submission.
- No photoshopping or enhancing of photos.
- All photos to be in **.jpg format**. Other formats will not be accepted.
- A maximum of 3 photos per member.

All photos will be displayed on the screen in The Pines reception area and on the U3A Manningham website.

All names will be published next to your photos unless you request otherwise.

Send all entries to triciaj47@gmail.com.



*Last year's winner, "Gullible Turtle"
by Thomas Harbottle*

Trish Gilbert

Upcoming U3AM Seminar - The Voice

Jan Aiken, who was awarded Citizen of the Year by Nillumbik Council in 2022 for her work as President of The Local Aboriginal Reconciliation Group, will give a talk on the upcoming Voice referendum.

Title:	The Voice
Speaker:	Jan Aiken
Date:	Thursday, 17 August 2023
Time:	12.00 - 1.00pm
Location:	Room 14, Pines Learning Centre
Class:	9877-01

- Please provide a gold coin donation at the seminar for a gift for our speaker.
- You will need to enrol online yourself or fill out an enrolment form at the office.

Pauline Di Natale, Seminars and Workshops Coordinator

Come Travel With Us All Over The World From The Comfort Of Your Own Home In 2024!



Madagascar by Tom Harbottle

We are the U3AM *Travellers' Tales* group where our guest presenters share their photographs, experiences and stories from locations all over the world via Zoom! If you are not familiar with Zoom, don't worry, we will help you to connect.

Last year, we were privileged to visit South Korea, Romania and Bulgaria, southwest Western Australia, Madagascar, China, the Greek Islands and the wilds of Wiltshire in England. This year, we have visited destinations around Australia such as the Kimberley, Kakadu, Fitzroy Island, Magnetic Island and Heron Island. Overseas destinations explored included Japan, Iceland, India and Antarctica. At the end of each presentation, there is an opportunity to ask questions in open discussions.

We welcome suggestions for different holiday destinations and encourage new members to share their knowledge and stories.

Travellers' Tales offers the opportunity to see the wonders of the world, often learning about the geography and geology, the history of a location, its culture, religion, traditions and customs. In addition, we also learn about new foods and cuisines, arts and crafts, lifestyle of the locals, the economy, and peoples' values and attitudes.

Course: Travellers' Tales
Code: 8810-01
Date: 6/2 - 18/6 (first and third Tuesdays of month, Terms 1 & 2 only)
Time: 2:00 - 3:30pm



*Tulips, Bell of Peace, Hiroshima, Japan
by Pamela Dry*

We invite you to join us in 2024. No passport required!

For more photos, visit U3A Manningham website at u3amanningham.org.au.

Pamela Dry,
Tutor - Travellers' Tales

New Tutor, New Course - Q & A With Brenda Wang

Congratulations, Brenda, on becoming a tutor at U3AM. We know you as this year's Tutor of *Chinese Mandarin Level 1 - Advanced*, but would you be able to tell us a bit more about yourself and your professional background?

I am from Xi'an, capital city of Shaanxi province in China. It was the capital city of thirteen dynasties throughout history and is home to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Terracotta Warriors.

I have been an English teacher for 33 years. I was an associate professor with a bachelor's degree from Xi'an Foreign Language University and a master's degree from Antwerp University, Belgium. I have retired from Xi'an Science Technology University and, before I came to Australia, attained an International Chinese Teaching Certificate.



What motivated you to become a tutor?

I attended U3AM last April and was touched by the dedication of the tutors and benefitted greatly from them. I therefore felt that with my experience, I too could contribute in the same way so decided to offer my services to teach members who are interested in learning about the Chinese language (Mandarin) and its culture.

Could you describe your course to help our members decide whether they are at a suitable level of Mandarin to join?

Students must know 'basic pinyin', have studied basic Mandarin for at least two years, and want to improve their vocabulary and conversational skills.

The aim of this course is to achieve student confidence in using Mandarin in daily conversation which would be advantageous for those who wish to travel to Mandarin-speaking countries.

The focus of your course is on Chinese conversation. What do you do in your classes to enable your students to achieve an appropriate level by the end of your course?

I shall be introducing new words and phrases, ensuring their appropriate use in conversation, giving learners the opportunity to practise and hone their skills in class and also with homework.

Will you make the course available next year as well? If so, will there be any changes to the current one?

Yes, this course will be available next year but under a new course title, *Chinese Mandarin Conversation (Medium)*.

**Shirley Fung,
New Course Coordinator**

Presenting New Tutor, Maryann Liethof

Maryann Liethof is the tutor of a new course, *Dancercise: I Like To Move It*.

Her course offers a combination of exercise and dance moves that will give participants an all-round workout. It is a fun way to maintain fitness, balance and coordination, with some games and group work thrown into the mix.

Prior to retiring in 2019, Maryann worked in the community sector for more than 30 years. Having left school early, she returned to university to study Counselling and Community Development in her early 30s. Maryann still volunteers as Board Secretary and e-zine editor for Polio Australia, the organisation she helped establish and manage in 2008. She also volunteers for U3AM in the office and sits on the Office Sub-Committee.



Maryann had dreamed of travelling and enjoying various courses at U3AM when she retired, but COVID-19 put all that on hold. When U3AM reopened, she took up *Walking for Fitness*, *Sculpture Self-help*, and *Dance to the Beat*. She quickly realised that all the activity classes filled quickly and decided that her years of participating in exercise, yoga, pilates, and various dance classes, might be put to good use.

“U3AM's activity-based classes are always so popular, I had trouble enrolling in them. So I decided to try running one myself. The constants in my course are music and movement, but expect some exciting surprises as well!”

Dancercise: I Like To Move It will run for the first time in Term 4 of this year.

Shirley Fung,
New Course Coordinator

Newsletter Contributions

Contributions to our newsletter may be sent to communications@u3amanningham.org.au. The deadline date for the next newsletter is Friday, 20 October. Please ensure that all contributions contain your name and contact details.

The Newsletter

Editorial: Liew Staras, Jillian Gange, Frances Langdon; Website Manager: Neville Cook.
Distribution: Kathleen Caffry, 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 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.



Calendar of Events 2023

Terms 3 & 4

		<i>Room</i>	<i>Time</i>
Term 3			
Mon, 10 July	TERM 3 commenced (10 weeks)		
Mon, 7 August	Committee of Management Meeting	Rm 17	1.15 - 2.50pm
Wed, 16 August	Office Volunteers' Meeting	PFR	12.15 - 2.30pm
Thurs, 17 August	Migrant English Tutors' Meeting	Rm 13	1.30 - 3.00pm
Mon, 4 September	Committee of Management Meeting	Rm 17	1.15 - 2.50pm
Thurs, 7 September	Class Representatives' Meeting	PFR	12.30 - 3.00pm
Fri, 15 September	TERM 3 finishes		
[Break - 2 weeks]			
Term 4			
Mon, 2 October	TERM 4 commences (9 weeks)		
Mon, 9 October	Committee of Management Meeting	Rm 17	1.15 - 2.50pm
Fri, 20 October	Newsletter deadline		
From Mon, 23 October	2024 membership fees pre-payment on line		
From Wed, 1 Nov to Fri, 10 Nov	Appointment bookings for 2024 membership fees pre-payment in person at office (excluding Cup Day, 7 Nov)		
Tues, 7 Nov	MELBOURNE CUP DAY HOLIDAY		
Mon, 13 Nov	Committee of Management Meeting	Rm 17	1.15 - 2.50pm
Mon, 13 Nov to Tues, 21 Nov	2024 membership fees pre-payment in person		
From Wed, 22 Nov	Level 1 Enrolments - online		
Wed, 22 Nov and Thurs, 23 Nov, then until Thurs, 30 Nov	Level 1 Enrolments - in person		
Thurs, 23 Nov	Artistic Showcase	PFR	10.00 - 3.00pm
From Fri, 24 Nov	Level 2 Enrolments - online		
Fri, 24 Nov, then until Thurs, 30 Nov	Level 2 Enrolments - in person		
From Mon, 27 Nov	Level 3 Enrolments - online		
Mon, 27 Nov, then until Thurs, 30 Nov	Level 3 Enrolments - in person		
From Wed, 29 Nov	Level 4 Enrolments - online		
Wed, 29 Nov, then until Thurs, 30 Nov	Level 4 Enrolments - in person		
Wed, 29 Nov	uniFEST2023	PFR	12.00 - 4.00pm
Thurs, 30 Nov	All other enrolments - online		
Thurs, 30 Nov	All other enrolments - in person		
Fri, 1 December	TERM 4 finishes		
Mon, 4 December	Committee of Management Meeting	Rm 17	11.30am (to be confirmed)