



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

May 2023, Vol. 32 No. 2

From the President

I know time flies when one is having fun but where did Term 1 go? It seems as if we just started and here we are already into Term 2.

New Courses

Exciting things have occurred with many new courses being offered and, in some cases, filled within a day! This indicates members are game to try new 'adventures', but it also says that we need more programs to fill this 'hunger'. This is an opportunity for anyone with an interest, idea or hobby that they would like to share, to contact the New Course Coordinator, **Shirley Fung**, or any member of COM, by leaving their details at the office, and they will help you devise a program to share that interest. Remember that not all of our courses have to be long term ones. Our regular stand-alone talks, featuring a whole host of different speakers ably organised by **Pauline Di Natale**, have been most successful.



U3AM website, get familiar with it!

Please note that our U3AM website: www.u3amanningham.org.au is updated regularly and it's the place to find the latest information on the goings-on in our organisation. It is wonderful to see that many members who have not been able to attend classes for personal reasons can still use our website to keep in touch.

Annual General Meeting

The recent AGM was an exciting one where 3 newly elected members were welcomed to the Committee of Management. Also, awards to 3 of our distinguished and long-serving members were made. Congratulations to all. A report on the meeting is featured in this newsletter.

Health Reminder

An important reminder that with winter approaching, let us continue to be aware of our own health and the impact it may have on our U3AM community and not attend classes if we are feeling unwell. We are all still vulnerable.

I look forward to Term 2 activities with great optimism.

David McNamara

U3AM's 2023 Annual General Meeting

A record 117 members and guests were welcomed to our AGM on 15 March 2023. Guests included **Cr Anna Chen**, Manningham Council, **Mark Chang**, Community Venues Officer for Manningham Council and **Sally Brennan**, General Manager of Pines Learning Centre.



The meeting formally endorsed the Annual Report and Audited Financial Statement, copies of which are still available on request from the office.

As well, the expansion of the Committee of Management to include the executive members plus 8 members was endorsed. This means that the COM now has three newly elected members, **Douglas Wallace**, **Neville Cook** and **Quintin Coutinho**. The new members were warmly welcomed and congratulated and we look forward to their bringing new life and ideas to our organisation.

Bryce Normoyle is back on the Committee as Treasurer. He served on COM from 2006 to 2016, being President (2010 - 2015) and Treasurer (2006 - 2010, then 2012 - 2016). Welcome back, Bryce!

Our 2023 Committee of Management:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| President: | David McNamara |
| Vice President: | Shirley Fung |
| Treasurer: | Bryce Normoyle |
| Secretary: | Lyn Davies |
| Ordinary Members: | Robyn Buttling, Milly Ching, Ruth Foxwell, Terry Smith, Warwick Wright, Douglas Wallace, Neville Cook and Quintin Coutinho |



L to R, back row: Neville Cook, Douglas Wallace, Terry Smith, Robyn Buttling, Shirley Fung, David McNamara, Bryce Normoyle
L to R, front row: Warwick Wright, Quintin Coutinho, Ruth Foxwell, Milly Ching, Lyn Davies

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U3AM's 2023 Annual General Meeting (Cont'd)

The highlight of the AGM was the presentation of awards. U3A Manningham now has another three new Life Members. They are:

- **Noel Wright** for significant contribution as a past Treasurer, past Auditor and long-term Dance tutor.
- **Geoff Sheldon**, past President, who took us into the technology age that has enabled us to streamline so many of our processes. As well, his work throughout the broader U3AM community was acknowledged. Geoff is also a highly regarded French tutor.
- **Tanya Gogorosis**, has been a stalwart of our organisation since 2006 as Curriculum Coordinator, acting as Curriculum Manager when **Milly Ching** had to stand aside for personal reasons, and with a continuing role on the Curriculum Committee. Tanya is also our representative on the Manningham City Council's Advisory Committee on Dementia and is a co-opted COM member.

A standing ovation was given to these highly deserving members. Congratulations to all.

The Newsletter team of **Liew Staras**, **Frances Langdon** and **Jillian Gange** was recognised for the communication process and newsletters that keep us informed, which was particularly important during the Covid lockdowns. **Neville Cook**, our new Webmaster, was also recognised for his work in establishing the new look newsletter.

At the conclusion of the meeting, a light luncheon was served by our Catering and Functions team, a great social afternoon was had by all.

Thank you for your support and continued participation.

David McNamara, President

U3A Manningham Email Addresses

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

For all U3AM administration related matters,

Use email address: manunipines@u3amanningham.org.au which is regularly monitored by the Secretary to the Committee of Management at U3AM.

For all enrolment related matters, either

- use email address: enrolments@u3amanningham.org.au which is monitored Monday to Friday during term time by members of our data entry team
- or
- use email address: enrolmenthelp@u3amanningham.org.au which is monitored by the Enrolment Manager.

Also, please note that the Enrolment team DOES NOT enrol members in classes via these emails. If a member wishes to either enrol or withdraw from a class, they must do so by logging into their profile with their ID number and password or complete the appropriate form at the office.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Ruth Foxwell, Enrolment Manager

A Visit to Remember - The Australian Synchrotron



Tony Heyes (left) and class members reviewing the Synchrotron model.

On Monday 27 March, 25 members of the *Astronomy, Physics and Cosmology* class, led by Physics tutor, **Tony Heyes**, made a group visit to the Australian Synchrotron which is situated in Clayton.

The Synchrotron is one of Australia's largest science facilities and is one of only two synchrotrons in the southern hemisphere. Operating 24 hours a day, it provides an invaluable facility for scientists across many disciplines and hosts researchers from around Australia and internationally.

Operating since 2007, the Synchrotron accelerates bunches of electrons to move in a circle at an extraordinary speed, sometimes approaching the speed of light. Strong magnetic fields keep the electrons circulating in a prescribed path. Generating a wide variety of light wavelengths, the Synchrotron enables scientists to examine the molecular and atomic structure of complex molecules such as proteins, drugs, and materials.

Its capabilities offer many advantages over conventional research techniques, providing greater accuracy, quality, robustness and enhanced level of detail, as well as being much faster than traditional methods.

Its advanced techniques are being applied to research in health and medicine, food technology, environment, biotechnology, nanotechnology, energy, mining, agriculture, advanced materials and cultural heritage.

Liz Haylock, Astronomy, Cosmology and Physics

Nena Reid - Manningham Service Award



U3AM Bridge tutor, **Nena Reid**, recently received an award from **Mayor Deirdre Diamante** acknowledging her 20 years with the Manningham City Council's Aged & Disability Service. Nena's nursing background enabled her to support aged and disabled people with exercise, post surgical and personal care, assisting in making decisions for their future care, etc.

Congratulations, Nena!

Patricia Liew Shares Her Tutoring Experience



I have been a U3AM Migrant English tutor for more than six years.

While I really enjoy helping my learners to improve their English, a real eye-opener for me is what I have learnt from the migrants in regard to their culture and the challenges they face in settling into Australia.

It is such a joy that I have been able to empower my Chinese learners with better English skills to help them assimilate into the Australian way of life. In return, it has inspired me to learn to speak their native Chinese dialect, Mandarin, in order to establish a better rapport with them.

A significant event involving one of my learners occurred during his stay in a hospital. He had undergone surgery following which he had some medical issues. As the doctors did not speak Mandarin and there was no interpreter available, he had difficulty seeking clarification on his condition. Through my encouragement and support, he was able to feel more confident making his enquiries in English. This incident highlights one important reason for migrants to be able to speak and understand English.

Through my tutoring experience, I have discovered that understanding a learner's mother tongue helps me to appreciate their difficulties in learning English. For example, it is not possible to translate word-for-word from English to Mandarin as many expressions in the Chinese language are in a reverse order to that of English. A translation of this English sentence, "I am going shopping at Doncaster Shoppingtown today" into Mandarin would be, "Today Doncaster Shoppingtown I go shopping". In a Mandarin sentence, time comes before place which is then followed by the action. This sentence structure makes it unnecessary to have tenses in Mandarin since the beginning of the sentence already makes it clear when the action is taking place.

Another common mistake for Chinese learners is a gender mix-up because all gender in Mandarin has the same sound 'ta' in *pinyin* (romanised Chinese based on pronunciation). So, it is not uncommon for Chinese learners to often refer to 'he' in English for both males and females.

If you would like to join the Migrant English Program as a tutor, you will need to enrol in the training course, *Workshop for Migrant English Tutor Training*, listed under the category Special Project. The course runs over the 1st six Thursday afternoons (1.30 - 4.20pm) in Term 3, from 13 July to 17 August. At the completion of the training course, you are expected to make yourself available to take on a learner. Information about the Migrant English Program can be found on our U3AM website - <https://u3amanningham.org.au/migrant-english-program/>. Enquiries can be emailed to the Migrant English Program mailbox at manunipines@gmail.com.

Doncare

During Term 2, we are once again collecting non-perishable food for Doncare. This organisation does a wonderful job helping families in the Manningham area who are having a difficult time and need some extra help and kindness.

During your next supermarket shop, throw a couple of extra packets and cans into your trolley, and leave these goods at the U3AM office. We will deliver this food to the Doncare office where it will be distributed to those who need it most.

Thank you all for your generosity.

Robyn Buttlng, Office Manager

A Reminder About Your \$250 Power Saving Bonus

From 24 March 2023, Victorian households can access another \$250 payment under a new round of the energy bonus program to help us with our energy bills so don't forget to claim it.

Visit www.compare.energy.vic.gov.au for eligibility requirements and submission of your application

Calendar of Events 2023 Terms 2 & 3

Term 2

Monday, 24 April	TERM 2 commenced (8 weeks)		
Monday, 1 May	Committee of Management Meeting	R 13	1.30 - 3.00pm
Thursday, 25 May	COM Volunteers' Meeting	PFR	12.30 - 3.00pm
Monday, 5 June	Committee of Management Meeting	R13	1.30 - 3.00pm
Monday, 12 June	KING'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY		
Friday, 16 June	TERM 2 finishes		

[Break - 3 weeks]

Term 3

Monday, 10 July	TERM 3 commences (10 weeks)		
Thursdays 13 July - 17 August	Workshops for Migrant English Tutor Training (Thursdays only for 6 weeks)	R13	1.30 - 4.20pm
Monday, 17 July	Committee of Management Meeting	R17	1.15 - 2.50pm
Friday, 21 July	Newsletter deadline		
Wednesday, 26 July	Tutors' Meeting	PFR	12.30 - 3.00pm
Monday, 7 August	Committee of Management Meeting	R17	1.15 - 2.50pm
Wednesday, 16 August	Office Volunteers' Meeting	PFR	12.15 - 2.30pm
Monday, 4 September	Committee of Management Meeting	R17	1.15 - 2.50pm
Thursday, 7 September	Class Representatives' Meeting	PFR	12.30 - 3.00pm
Friday, 15 September	TERM 3 finishes		

[Break - 2 weeks]

PFR - Pines Function Room

Newsletter Contributions

Contributions to our newsletter may be sent to Liew Staras at anagno1@bigpond.com. The deadline date for the next newsletter is Friday, 21 July 2023. Please ensure that all contributions contain your name and contact details.

The Newsletter

Editorial: Liew Staras, Frances Langdon, Jillian Gange; 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.

