

2011 MEMBER RE-ENROLMENTS

Changes to Re-enrolment Procedure

Following a Committee decision in September, we will no longer hold member re-enrolments at the AGM. Instead, we are asking members to re-enrol by the end of November, when classes close for the year.

This new system will allow you to consider your class choices and complete the Renewal of Membership form at your leisure, rather than rushing to complete it at the AGM.

The registration of your data on the computer and the preparation of class sheets is a huge task. The volunteers who work on them during the holiday period have said that they would prefer to get the bulk of it done in December, so they can then enjoy the holiday break like everyone else. In the past, enrolment days were held as late as mid-January, and the volunteers struggled to get class acceptances out to you all for the commencement of classes at the beginning of February.

This new arrangement should work much better for these volunteers - and for all of us.

We are enclosing a separate **Members Re-enrolment Supplement** with full details regarding the new procedure and a Renewal of Membership form, which includes Class Applications. In order to help you with your choices, the supplement also contains all Course Descriptions, Venue Information and the new Timetable for 2011.

There are three ways to re-enrol: you may mail your Renewal of Membership form, or deliver it in person to the office, or hand it to your class representative. Please read the supplement carefully for details and make sure you re-enrol by 30 November.

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Don't miss the AGM

**Tuesday 7 December 2010
 1 pm at Fairfield RSL**

- * Door prize – win a Christmas hamper!
- * Celebrate our achievements
- * Choir and Yoga presentations
- * Elect and welcome new Committee
- * Scrumptious afternoon tea

Full details inside: Agenda p. 7

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: darebinu3a1@optusnet.com.au

Post: PO Box 44, FAIRFIELD VIC 3078

Phone: 96 102 102

Fax: 96 102 101



Visit the office* at ...

Fairfield Railway Station
26 Railway Place, Fairfield 3078

Or go to our new website at ...

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~darebinu3a/home.html>

Holiday Office Hours

During the first two weeks of December and the last two weeks of January, there will be someone in the office at the following times:

Tuesday and Wednesday 10.00 am-3:00 pm

*Before visiting the office, please phone to check that somebody is in attendance.

2010 Committee Members

President.....Audrey Grace
Vice-President.....Don Stewart
SecretaryFrances Hennessy
TreasurerDianne Beaumont
Assistant Secretary.....Elva Armstrong
Office Co-ordinator.....Pat Oswald
Property Officer.....Jean Garita
Newsletter Editor.....Jill Craig
Tutor Co-ordinatorCarmel Lee
Membership/Class Records..Tony Wild
Committee Member.....Lorraine Carr
Committee Member.....Jim Logan
Committee Member.....Judith Prosser

Other Positions

Honorary Accountant.....Basil Conquo
Class Enrolments.....Claudia Sanzin
Archives.....Luciano Sanzin
U3A Network Delegate.....Odette Stuckey
Computer Consultant.....Russell Lennox
Assistant Editor.....Teresa Pitt

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a continuous festival since the U3A event in Federation Square on 3 October for the opening of the Victorian Seniors Festival. Our booth was resplendent with exhibits and demonstrations of needlecraft. The yoga group demonstrated their standing poses, the line dancers had a ball, the choir sang beautifully and the sun shone.

During the following fortnight the Tai-chi, Singing, Line Dancing and Trivia classes held open days as part of the Darebin Seniors Festival, which culminated with the Festival of Light and Friendship at Edwardes Lake in Reservoir. Our booth there was bright with photographs of our classes, and the line dancers performed on the stage, inviting the audience to join in. Another happy, sunny day - and we gained two new tutors, which was very exciting indeed. If we have any energy left, we will set up our booth again at the Carols evening on Saturday 18 December at All Nations Park beside the Northcote Plaza.

Our Needlecraft group has also been busy, with displays of their work in the windows of the Fairfield library for four weeks, and a workshop in the library itself during the Seniors Festival. Now they are off to Fairfield Primary School to teach the sixth graders to knit. If anyone else can knit and would like to join a team in other schools, please let us know - we would love to hear from you.

This is our last newsletter for the year, and on behalf of all our members I want to thank Jill and Teresa for the fantastic job they do with its preparation.

Happy Christmas to you all!

Audrey Grace

FROM THE COMMITTEE

Membership fees

The State Government has subsidised our office costs and purchasing of equipment for the last four years, so we have been able to

keep our membership fees low. However the next funding allocation is targeted to growth. Grants are to be targeted to assist in establishing new venues, to increase the number of tutors and classes, and to help us increase our membership with programs inclusive of people of diverse cultural and language backgrounds, the disadvantaged and those with disabilities. We are already working steadily in these directions and believe we will continue to be successful with our grant applications. We can be very proud of our record. However, because of this change in our funding, we now need to increase our membership fees by an additional \$5 for each membership type.

Help from local MPs

You all received the Seniors Information Booklet from the office of Fiona Richardson, which provided us with a useful list of services and contacts. Did you see, on page 21 under the heading of 'Senior Citizens Groups', the item about Darebin U3A with our contact details? We have had a number of enquiries as a result of this. Her office also prints our brochures at no cost. We thank Fiona and her staff for their support – it is a great help and very much appreciated.

The staff at the offices of Martin Ferguson AM, Federal member for Batman, and Nathan Murphy, Victorian upper house member for the Northern Metropolitan Region, always find time to print our information kits and the *Flyer*. They are unfailingly helpful and encouraging, and we thank them most sincerely for their assistance.

Constitutional Amendments

You will have already received the document **Constitutional Amendments**. Please read it carefully. Alison Laird has spent many hours researching and preparing this document, which will be presented for your approval at the Special General Meeting following the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 7 December. Alison will attend to answer your

questions. The Committee sincerely thanks Alison, and also Elva Armstrong for typing up the document.

Holiday office hours

The office will be open and volunteers will answer calls on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 10.00 am and 3.00 pm for the first two weeks of December and the last two weeks in January. If you are planning to visit the office, please phone first to make sure that someone is in attendance.

AGM

We have a wonderful Christmas hamper as a door prize for the AGM. You will get your ticket when you register at the door. There are also 50 gifts for the early birds. We will have short performances by the choir and the Yoga group. Join us as we celebrate our 19th year.

Walking Tour of South Preston

South Preston was one of the earliest settled areas of Preston. Join local historian Paul Michell, who will give his unique insights into the area. From grand mansions to small cottages, from farming to brick-making, South Preston has a special history, with many original buildings still remaining.

Date: Saturday 27 November, 1.30 pm. Meet in Hotham Street at South Preston Primary School street crossing (Melway Map 30 H2). The tour will take approximately 90 minutes. On-street parking is available in Hotham Street for 2 hours. If the weather is hot please bring water and a hat. (Unfortunately there are no shops or public conveniences en route.)

Note: In case of wet weather the tour will run the following Saturday, 4 December, starting from the same location. This is a joint event between Darebin Libraries and Darebin U3A. Places are limited – please register early by ringing Darebin Libraries on 1300 655 355.

COURSE INFORMATION

Workshops for Tutors and Class Reps – Use of Projectors in Class Presentations.

Russell Lennox has kindly offered to conduct two small group workshops with only five participants in each. He will demonstrate, then take you each through the steps required to successfully operate our two projectors.

Dates: Tues 14 December and Thursday 27 January. Time: 10.00 am – 12.00 noon. Please contact the office to book, stating which class you wish to attend.

2011 Course Information

First term commences on Tuesday 1 February. Most classes will re-commence at the beginning of February, but there are exceptions (for example the new Computer and French classes, see below). The accompanying **Members Re-enrolment Supplement** contains the timetable for First Term 2011 as well as Course Descriptions for all classes. Thank you to all the tutors who took the time to update their course information. We cannot reproduce them here in full, but here are a couple of little titbits:

- **Book Discussion 2** will start the new year with the Tim Winton classic, *Cloudstreet*. See Course Descriptions for the full booklist, which also includes *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee.
- **Cinema Studies: Contemporary American Classics.** In first semester Paul Michell will be presenting some outstanding American films of the last thirty years.

New Tutor for Singing for Pleasure

Jim Logan is delighted to introduce Jo Laurance as our new musical director. Jo is experienced in choral direction, speech and vocal therapy and the private tuition of singers. She has had a long and varied career as a professional singer with ABC radio and television and jingles for commercials. She can sing in 9-10 languages. Jo has sung with visiting performers and as a solo artist in the USA and Canada in many music

styles. Jo invites you to come and join this happy group. You don't have to be a Pavarotti, and you will enjoy the warm and friendly atmosphere.

NEW COURSES FOR 2011

Computers for All

We welcome Associate Professor Nalin Sharda to Darebin U3A as a new tutor in computers.

Nalin is based at the Victoria University. He is also Vice-President of the Northern Region Indian Seniors Association and runs classes for their members, so he has vast experience. His first class for us, **Computers for All**, will initially meet the needs of our members who wish to do simple computer tasks with confidence. During Semester 1 Nalin will take you through basic computer operations including use of the internet and sending and receiving emails. The fee for members is \$40 for the 16-week course.

Nalin is happy to design a course for members who already have these basic skills and want to explore other areas such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint or Outlook Express. Please let us know what your interests are.

Details: Saturday mornings 10:00 am – 12.00 noon, commencing Saturday 12 March, at Merrilands Community Centre.

Dinner Dancing

We welcome our new tutor, Ethel Fredericks, who has recently moved to Preston. For the past 16 years she has been conducting U3A classes in various styles of ballroom dancing. Ethel will focus on dances suitable for the many dinner functions such as weddings and club events where there is a band and only a small dance floor. This class is also an enjoyable way to learn the basic steps of Latin and Ballroom dancing.

Details: Mondays 12.30 – 1.30 pm, commencing 7 February, at East Preston Senior Citizens Centre, Donald Street East Preston.

French Language and Culture

We welcome our new tutor, Clement Nanbu. The focus of the class will be on modern French language, conversation and pronunciation. Clement will also cover the history of France and its rich culture.

Details: Fridays 2:30 – 4:00 pm, commencing 4 March, at Northcote Senior Citizens Centre.

Scrabble Club

Scrabble is starting up again in 2011, this time in our cosy new venue at East Preston Senior Citizens Centre, meeting every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

The tutor, Dorothy Hunt, has decided to create two groups of players to cater for different levels of interest and experience:

- **Social Scrabble**, where the rules can be decided by the group members.
- **Competitive Scrabble**, where we will learn and abide by the rules of the Australian Scrabble Players Association. (Dorothy provides copies of the official APSA Dictionary and also very handy lists of two and three letter words).

Everyone is welcome to join in, whether you are a complete beginner, very 'rusty' or an avid player. Scrabble is a lot of fun and it really gets the brain working!

Attenzione! Attention!

Have I got your attention? Good, because I have an idea for next year, both for our Italian members and for anyone else who would like to get in touch with the Italian language. What about if, once a month, we show a video of an Italian film, with plenty of popcorn and lemonade, and enjoy two or three hours together. A voluntary donation of a gold coin would be appreciated, just to cover the cost of hiring the video or DVD. I would very much like to hear your opinion. Please talk to me in person or leave a message at the office.

Claudia Sanzin

FROM THE CLASSROOM

Canasta

What a stroke of luck I had one day last year when I first met Nancy Keele. During our conversation she spoke so highly of Darebin U3A, of which she is a long-time member and tutor. She was so enthusiastic that the following Tuesday I enrolled and joined Barry Watson's wonderful world of **Tai Chi**, which I still attend.

This year when looking at the 2010 program, I saw **Canasta** and **Mah Jong** advertised, and wondered what they were. I phoned the office to find out and was encouraged to join both courses, which I did. On discovering Canasta was a card game, I said I didn't like card games, but was told not to worry, just come along and try it.

Canasta is very different from what I'd imagined and I'm enjoying it. It's good fun and fairly easy to learn, and everyone is patient and helpful. There are very experienced players, newcomers like myself, and players in between. We play individually or with partners. There's even time for a cuppa and biscuit or cake. It's a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon in pleasant company. The atmosphere is good – relaxed, no stress, and plenty of talk and laughter.

So why not join us? I'm sure there's room for one or two more players on the list.

Julia Beaty

Let's Talk Together – Learning Aussie Lingo

How many years have I been in the **Improving Your English** class? On and off nearly from the beginning. In such a long period of time, many people have come and gone, but the original four or five faces are always there, week in and week out. Over that time the structure of the class has changed so much that we have thought, many times, of changing the name of the class to something more appropriate, like 'English Conversation', or 'The Team of the Day', or 'The Club', because that sounds like

exactly what it is. It's a weekly get-together, every Wednesday, for a group of people to chat about everyday events. But make no mistake; under the direction of our teacher Christina we learn many interesting things. For example, this semester we read about the Indigenous Australians and I found it very interesting and illuminating. After that, we had something very interesting for us 'New Australians': two books on the Australian 'lingo'*that many Australians would like to read. We are so very proud of our teacher Christina, who is always searching for new material to interest us.

Claudia Sanzin

Editor's Note: This class has now decided to change its name to **Let's Talk Together**.

* Christina used two books from Darebin Libraries: *The Lingo: Listening to Australian English* by Graham Seal, and *A Dictionary of Australian Slang* by Sidney J. Baker.

Shakespeare

The Shakespeare class read and watched on DVD several plays, including *King Lear* and, most recently, *The Taming of the Shrew*. Most class participants saw the Bell Shakespeare Company's matinee performances of these two plays. The Bell Shakespeare Company will be performing *Julius Caesar* next year (2011), so we will read and view this play prior to its Melbourne production. Other plays will be chosen as the class decides.

Albert Stuckey

FROM THE EDITOR

New Website Address

Thanks to Dianne Beaumont and Russell Lennox, we now have a new (free!) website address through the Government vicnet site - see Contact panel on Page 2. The full address is rather daunting in length but the simplest way to access it is through the U3A Network Vic website which provides a link to the Darebin U3A website. (Then add it to your favourites!) Russell is working very hard on revamping our website to make it more user-friendly.

January Newsletter

The January newsletter will contain the latest course information and we welcome items from members, especially reports from the classroom. Please send contributions to the Editor, Jill Craig by Tuesday, 14 December.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed items this year and to Carmel Lee for cajoling them from you! My very special thanks go to Teresa Pitt for her awesome editing skills and calm professionalism.

OUT AND ABOUT

Members' Morning Tea – A Trans-Siberian Journey

On Monday 27 September we had a pleasant morning tea with a difference. There was convivial company, good friends from different U3A activities, and new friends - a wonderful mix for a good day. Add to that a come-look-see tour of China, Mongolia and Russia.

Highlights included Beijing's majestic Tiananmen Square with its artistic and decorative public art that traces national history and community achievements with a delicacy that is amazing; Mongolia with its animals and Wildlife National Parks that cater for family fun days out and walking tours that have plush cabins for overnight stays; Moscow's Red Square with the stunning St Basil's multi-domed cathedral at one end and Assumption Cathedral at the other, and the lavish, spotless, chandeliered underground network which is the pride of Moscow.

Thanks to Audrey for organising this opportunity to meet other U3A friends; to Frances Hennessy for the beautifully presented scenic tour that awakened us to the grandeur of other countries' heritages; to Russell Lennox for his technical assistance; and to the good people who provided plates of goodies.

We are hoping to have more of these enjoyable events in the future. Count me in!

Kevin Williams

U3A DAREBIN INC.

Reg.No. A0028861A

You are invited to attend our

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CELEBRATION

at FAIRFIELD & ALPHINGTON RSL, 9 Railway Place, Fairfield,
on Tuesday 7 December 2010 at 1 pm

12:45 to 1pm: Please register at entry table and receive your door prize ticket for the Christmas hamper. The first 50 members to register will also receive a gift.

1:00 pm: Welcome from the President.

1.10 pm: Choir performance

1.20 pm: Keynote Speaker: Councillor Trent McCarthy

1.30 pm: Annual General Meeting

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of the minutes of previous AGM, 4 December 2009
3. President's Report for 2010
4. Financial Report for 2010
5. Auditor's Report for 2010
6. Appointment of Auditor for 2011
7. Thank-you to retiring members of the Committee of Management
8. Election of Committee of Management for 2011
9. Other Business – notice having been received in writing by the Secretary at least 14 days before this General Meeting

2.30 pm: Yoga Demonstration: standing exercises

2.40 pm: Speaker: Nicola Johnson, Darebin Ageing Communities Unit

2.50 pm: Speaker: Fiona van Arkadie, Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre

3.00 pm: Special General Meeting

Resolutions for alterations to the rules of U3A Darebin Inc.

3.30 pm: Refreshments will be served at the close of the meeting. The Door Prize will be drawn at this time. Members must be present to receive their prize.

OUT AND ABOUT, CONT'D

Federation Square Experience

Did you take advantage of the beautiful Spring weather on Sunday 3 October to visit the Federation Square activities? For those who didn't, what a great day it was, with many U3As being represented. Darebin U3A had presentations by the Yoga group, the Line Dancing group and the Singing for Pleasure choir. The Needlework group had some of their exquisite work on display, which was admired by all who stopped at our booth. After our performance, the choir received some most encouraging feedback. The hustle and bustle of people moving around the square, and the music emanating from various points of interest, gave the whole show a carnival atmosphere. Many thanks to those who attended early in order to set up our booth. Well done, Darebin U3A!

Elva Armstrong

Line Dancing

During Seniors Week our Line Dancing group, under Loraine and David's tuition, support and encouragement, performed at Federation Square. We did three dances, and the last one (called 'Cheerio') had the crowd clapping and cheering us on. The young man who was the announcer said, 'Wow, what a finish! You had the crowd in a party mood and looked like you were thoroughly enjoying yourselves,' which we were! I think Loraine and David have created a monster! We are looking forward to our next performance – you never know, we might even make it to *Australia's Got Talent!* Thanks again, Loraine and David, for having faith in our ability (which is very limited). We need more people, so come and join the fun.

Maureen Barlow

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2011 COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

According to the Constitution and Rules of Darebin University of the Third Age Incorporated, the current Committee will hold office until the Annual General Meeting on 7 December 2010.

As Darebin U3A is an incorporated body, it is mandatory that certain office bearers be appointed, in order to satisfy the legal requirements. Apart from the protection that incorporation provides its members, it is a condition of eligibility for certain funding, and the organisation cannot survive in the long run on membership dues alone.

The Officers of the Association

Rule 21 (1) calls for the following positions:

- (a) President
- (b) Vice President
- (c) Treasurer
- (d) Secretary
- (e) Assistant Secretary

A nomination form for candidates offering themselves for election as committee members appears elsewhere in this newsletter (p.9). Please return to the Secretary no later than Tuesday 30 November.

Most current Committee members have expressed their willingness to continue in their present roles and offer themselves for re-election. Please see the **Contact Information** side panel for a list of current Committee Members and their positions. However, we welcome further nominations for these and other positions, most importantly for the office of Treasurer, since Dianne Beaumont is retiring from that position.

Meetings of the Committee of Management are held on the third Wednesday of the month from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. Role descriptions for all Committee positions are available by contacting Audrey via the office.

NOMINATION FORM

NOMINATION FORM FOR COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

for 2011, for election to be held at the General Meeting at
Fairfield RSL, 9 Railway Place, Fairfield, Tuesday 7 December 2010, at 1 pm

You are invited to stand or nominate a fellow member to the Committee of Management for one of the following positions:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| PRESIDENT | MINUTE SECRETARY |
| VICE PRESIDENT | TUTOR CO-ORDINATOR |
| TREASURER | PROPERTY OFFICER |
| SECRETARY | OFFICE CO-ORDINATOR |
| ASSISTANT SECRETARY | ORDINARY COMMITTEE MEMBER |

I hereby nominate..... for

Proposed: (Name)..... (Signed)

Seconded: (Name)..... (Signed)

I accept the above nomination:

(Nominee)..... (Signed)

In order to satisfy the requirement of Rule 23(1) (b) of the Constitution, please ensure that this form reaches:

The Secretary
U3A Darebin Inc,
PO Box 44
FAIRFIELD VIC 3078

not later than Tuesday 30 November 2010.

OTHER POSITIONS

I am prepared to offer my services in one of the following positions (please tick)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MEMBER DATABASE OFFICER | <input type="checkbox"/> NEWSLETTER EDITOR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CLASS ENROLMENTS OFFICER | <input type="checkbox"/> WEBMASTER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COURSE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLICITY OFFICER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> U3A NETWORK DELEGATE | |

(Name)..... (Signed)

Our Privacy Policy

U3A Darebin is a community based provider of classes for older people and is run by volunteers.

We collect names and addresses to enable us to mail out newsletters and other information about classes, and we list phone numbers to contact you directly if required. This mailing and phone list is not made available to anyone outside the organization.

We also ask you for personal details to provide statistical data to government funding agencies. This is a requirement for receiving government grants. The information is used for future planning.

This information is compiled into statistical reports that do not identify individuals.

If you choose to withhold these personal details there will be gaps in the data that will reduce the accuracy of the statistics, and this will not help our cause.

We do not disclose any of this information to any other parties, and would never do so without your consent.

If you have any concerns or queries or would like to know more about how we handle your private details feel free to phone our office on

96 102 102 so that we can explain our procedures in greater detail.

If undeliverable return to:



DAREBIN INC.

Reg No. A0028861A

PO Box 44 FAIRFIELD VIC 3078

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Number 60 - November 2010

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