1991 – 2001
THE FIRST TEN YEARS
Darebin U3A

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Universities of the Third Age of AUSTRALIA

The first University of the Third Age was founded in Toulouse, France in 1972 to improve the quality of life for older people by bringing them into contact with academic programs run by the University.

In July 1981, the U3A concept was introduced to Britain. In contrast to the French, the British U3As adopted the idea of a self-help or mutual-aid model. This self-help approach follows the original concept of ‘a community of scholars’ which is the medieval concept of a University.

In the latter part of 1984, the first Australian U3As were formed in Melbourne, based on the British model. Each U3A is autonomous. Activities are planned jointly by group leaders and students in response to members’ interests. There are no entry requirements for membership of a U3A. No assessment or academic qualifications are needed.

The umbrella body for U3As in Victoria is the U3A Network. It provides services for its members and represents them in negotiations with government bodies.

Important U3A Name Changes

Over the 10 years U3A Darebin has changed its name reflecting the alterations in the local community.

In the beginning we were known as INTAL for Inner Northern Third Age Learning because we feared the title university might be intimidating for our members. At the start of 1994 we became Northcote U3A. Then in mid-1994 we changed to U3A Northcote Incorporated.

In 1996 the Councils of Northcote and Preston amalgamated to form the City of Darebin. This meant that we too needed a name change so we became U3A Darebin Inc.
History
On October 16th 1991 a Public Meeting was held at the Northcote Library to establish the University of the Third Age in Northcote.

The meeting was launched by the Mayor of Northcote Cr. Phillip Bain and chaired by Eileen Capocchi. Guest speakers included Phil Slattery and Dame Myra Roper.

This meeting was the result of enthusiastic work by a dedicated group who widely publicised the idea of U3A and its benefits to the over 50’s in our community.

Amongst the 55 people who attended were, staff of Northcote and Collingwood Councils, NEMCOA, SPAN and local residents.

Encouraged by this response we decided our first course “The History of Christmas and Christmas Music” would be a good start and it proved successful it was held in the Northcote Library Community room.

Excited by this promising start we decided to offer a wider range of courses. HOW COULD THIS BE DONE? At that time we didn’t even have a base from which to work. Thanks to North East Metropolitan Council of Older Adults (NEMCOA) Libby Saunders offered us a corner of her desk, space in the top drawer of her filing cabinet and use of her phone and answering machine. Odette used her second hand manual Adler typewriter to type our first minutes, correspondence and newsletters..
At this time a small committee had been formed. We publicised in our local papers and articles also appeared in Greek and Italian newspapers and interviews were broadcast by SBS foreign language radio.

The result of this publicity saw the creation of the “Improve Your English” class. This brought together an enthusiastic, happy group, the majority of whom have remained close friends to this day. Thanks to the dedication and encouragement of the tutor Alan Clements, the first publication of their stories “Wednesday Writings” was produced with the assistance of Vivian Achia and Northcote Library staff.

The success of this group and seeding grants from Collingwood and Northcote councils gave the Committee the heart to search for new tutors and courses. Another three very interesting courses were offered. These were, History and Origin of Culture, Understanding Shakespeare and Creative Writing which were held at Bent Street Senior Citizens Club.

**ACCOMMODATION MERRY-GO-ROUND**

After limping along for 18 months the small committee called for volunteers. The ready response from the membership was welcomed.

About this time NEMCOA moved to 326A High Street Northcote. We were again invited to join them and share their upstairs office facilities and use of the answering machine. Downstairs, two rooms were available for classes and meetings. This was a very convenient location with access to public transport.

The popularity of these classes brought new faces into our midst, among them were a number who were prepared to share their knowledge and expertise. This meant we were able to fulfil requests from members by offering further courses. This happy situation continued for some time. Then we learned that NEMCOA was about to move again.

**PANIC STATIONS!!**

Once more we would be without telephone access and office space—just as Term 2 classes were being organised.

An exhaustive search was made but we were unable to afford the rents requested. Local churches, schools and halls had been inspected, all to no avail.
Meanwhile a Special Meeting was convened to discuss this emergency. Suggestions from the very lively meeting included the placing of advertisements in the Melbourne Times and Leader newspapers, sending delegations to Brian Howe, our Federal MP, and to local authorities, investigating the possible use of room in the Northcote Town Hall and old Courthouse.

Finally we appealed to the new City of Darebin Community Services for help. This was provided in the form of rental assistance at 326a High Street and so no move was needed.

Towards the end of 1995 we were encouraged by the City of Darebin to move our office from 326a High Street to Northland Shopping Centre. Use of a large meeting room was also available for classes. As an added bonus the rent was covered by the Darebin Council. We also negotiated use the photocopying machine in the very handy Council’s customer service office. It was in this environment with funding from ACFE we were at last able to purchase very much needed equipment, i.e. a computer, white board, portable television, overhead projector and slide projector. Fairfield library gave us a set of metal shelving. Now, for the first time we felt we were in a stable situation and able to continue to meet the growing needs of our classes.

We remained at Northland from July 1996 until the end of 2000 when the premises were required for other purposes. We then moved our office to the old Fairfield Station, thanks again to the good graces of the Darebin City Council.

**CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATION**
Office accommodation has only been one side of the story. Suitable rooms for classes has always been a problem.

Over the years courses have been held in High Street Northcote, Bent Street Senior Citizens Club, Dennis Street Day Care Centre, Northcote Library, Span, Northcote Community Legal Services Offices, Regent Uniting Church, Preston Library, Helping Hand Thombury, Northland, Northcote Arcade, Northcote Uniting Church Hall, Jika Jika Centre and DAAG House.

Since losing our High Street, then Northland headquarters, the Northcote Arcade has been demolished and Regent Uniting Church premises sold.
These setbacks occurred at a time when our membership was growing rapidly and the need for appropriate class space was becoming more urgent.

The start of 2001 saw the move to the historic Fairfield Railway Station Building, our present home.

**OUR PRESENT HOME FAIRFIELD RAILWAY STATION**

*Odette Stuckey*

In May 1995 the Public Transport Corporation announced its intention to bulldoze the station and replace it with a modular building within 12 months.

This created a huge outcry from local residents and traders in the district who were shocked by the decision.

The City of Darebin commissioned a team of consultants consisting of David Mayes and Associates and Context Pty Ltd, with Henshall Hansen Associates, to prepare a report on the possible future uses of the station. Here are some notes taken from their report and also from a pamphlet produced by Andrew Hillier outlining the history of the old station.

Originally known as FAIRFIELD PARK, the station was officially opened on 8th May 1888. In 1896 it was awarded the Railway Commissioner’s
Prize for the neatest metropolitan station and commended for its fine garden surrounds.

The present station buildings date from 1911 when a steam train service used to run every hour. The electrification of the line from Clifton Hill to Heidelberg in 1921 enabled a service every 15 minutes in peak times. In 1943 the name of the station was simplified to FAIRFIELD.

Have a look at Railway Place as you leave the ‘classroom’ and notice the buildings.

The State Savings Bank of Victoria opened a branch there in 1916. This was followed 3 years later by the establishment of the RSL, Fairfield Branch. This section of Railway Place became the main shopping area and remained so until after World War 2 when it was superseded by Station Street.

Contributions from our Office Bearers

Eileen Capiocci

I hadn’t long moved to Northcote when walking along High Street, I bumped into Carol Mavric. We had both worked in the Western Region so I was pleasantly surprised to see her familiar face. I learned that Carol was now Community Arts Officer with the Northcote Council. She learned that I had retired and now lived in Northcote. Within a week or so I received a letter inviting me to join a Steering Committee, initiated by the HACC workers on the Northcote and Collingwood Councils to investigate the possibility of setting up a group of the University of the Third Age in Northcote. That’s how I became involved.

The meetings were held in the Community roomn at the Northcote Library.

I was quite overawed at first. I met some very earnest people, Dorothy Trigg & Judy Walsh from Fred Combridge House, Maria Metelli & Gabrielle Mc Tiernan, from Northcote Council, Vivian Achia from Northcote Library, Barbara Sawyer and Mary Spirings from Collingwood

In no time flat a plan was agreed to, tasks allocated and both the Northcote & Collingwood Councils were asked for a small establishment grant of $250.00 to assist with the advertising and printing necessary to launch a U3A in two municipalities.

It was an exciting, busy time. Notices were put in local papers, Ethnic workers advertised within their communities. Maria Metelli and Vivian Achia were involved with the Italian Community Marian Achkar, with the Greek and Arabic Community. Leaflets were printed in Greek, Italian & English. Much legwork (good exercise) letterboxing, meeting local people etc. As a result of this hard work and enthusiasm a meeting of interested people was held on September 4th. At this meeting I met Odette Stuckey who became our first Secretary and Alfonso Di Battista, a retired Maths Teacher who became our first Treasurer. By the time of the official Launch of U3A, in October 1991, I was no longer a “stranger in a strange land”.

Despite the often stressful moments, worrying that perhaps our plans would come to naught, whether we would get the Tutors, classes and venues, I wouldn’t have missed the experience for anything. The council workers on the steering committee were always helpful, as were other people. Eva Glen, the local artist who illustrated the first leaflet and brochure, Pam, the typist for Northcote Council who typed the sticky labels for our mailing lists, and many others. Nothing was too much trouble. Not just in the beginning but in the first years when we needed their expertise.

One of the highlights of these ten years is for me, the National U3A Spring School held in Mildura at the Sunraysia TAFE College from September 24th to the 28th 1994. Three of us from Northcote were among the large Victorian contingent that made up the 200 visitors from Northern Territory Queensland, New South Wales and Tasmania. The theme of the school was “Myths and Cultures”. Speakers of the highest calibre introduced the subjects: Aboriginal Pre History, Australian Culture and Multiculturalism, Homeric Poems and Celtic Sagas, local history of the irrigation settlement and the saga of the Murray Riverboats. I still have copies of the lecture notes and remember the coach tour to Mungo National Park and the last night dinner on the “Showboat Avoca” as it cruised the River Murray.
The organisation of the whole program, accommodation, food, speakers, tours and transport which was arranged to meet a wide range of individual needs, went without a hitch and was a credit to the dedication, energy and efficiency of the U3A organising team. It was exciting meeting new friends, swapping successes, problems and programs with other U3A groups. Flying Kendall Line was an experience in itself. We’d heard that the planes to Mildura are small, but we hadn’t anticipated flying in a “cigar case”.

Another highlight was the Luncheon held at the National Gallery of Victoria on the 14th March 1995 to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the University of the Third Age in Australia. Ten of us from Darebin, members and their partners attended. It was an awesome occasion in that large hall under the wonderful stained glass ceiling.

Betty Marginson AM, then President of U3A Network—Victoria introduced the guest speaker RT Hon Sir Zelman Cowen, AK, GCMG, GCVO, QC, DCL and Jack McDonell AM, Hon. Secretary U3A Network —Victoria responded and after a sumptuous meal Anne Bell concluded the formalities.

We had the opportunity to informally meet and chat with each other and members from other groups, States and visitors and feel a sense of pride in belonging to the Network.

I am proud to have been in at the beginning and to have made many friends and still be around to celebrate the first 10 years of U3A.

L to R: Betty Marriner, Eileen Capocchi, Odette Stuckey
As soon as I became aware of the U3A concept I was hooked. It was a TV program that first brought it to my attention. Great, I thought, where do I enrol? Unfortunately there were no groups in the area or even nearby.

Much later there were 2 or 3 lines in the Northcote Leader hinting that what I had hoped for might be about to happen. ‘Anyone interested phone this number.” So I did and that’s how it all began for me.

In September 1991 there was a meeting at the Northcote Library and before I knew what had happened I became the first Secretary

What followed was lots of hard work to get the show on the road. There was a combined sigh of relief from both Eileen and myself as the first courses took off and we got to meet our new members. Until then we’d only spoken to most of them over the telephone.

What impresses me most is the great satisfaction and pleasure U3A brings to us all. Also the opportunity to study all sorts of subjects, some we hadn’t previously had time to pursue or perhaps had never realised could arouse our interest. Best of all is the feelings of affection and friendship we have for each other.

BETTY MARRINER

My years as President of U3A Northcote, later Darebin, were satisfying thanks to the loyal support of the committee. Each and everyone gave their time and effort willingly to the task of developing our branch.

Particular mention must be made of Eileen Capocchi Vice President, David Carrel Secretary, Ron Hellings Treasurer, Carmel Lee Publicity Betty McCready and Edna Young membership records.

A sad memory was the sudden death of Betty McCready. She was sadly missed. Membership increased to the 200 mark by 1999, the year I retired and the number and range of our classes had increased which was very pleasing. To record our activities on video was exciting and came about by accident. I suggested a video to the committee who agreed and appointed me to explore possibilities. I was completely out of my depth with this assignment. In desperation I turned to Laurence Course our Art Appreciation tutor for help. He suggested Eugene Schlusser. Nervously
I contacted Eugene and made a proposal which he amazingly accepted. The filming and production of the video was a totally new experience for everyone who was involved.

My sincere thanks to the tutors who provided their expertise and knowledge. We are indeed fortunate in having such an enthusiastic group of knowledgeable people.

The highlight of my term of office was the Italian tour with Charles D’Aprano and other members of U3A. We enjoyed a wonderful trip and have remained firm friends.

Despite the problems with accommodation which haunted us continually, the time on the committee was well spent and the meetings were quite a lot of fun.

DAVID C CARREL

I was privileged to serve as Secretary of U3A Northcote/Darebin from 1994 to 1998 inclusive. When I joined U3A in August’93 I attended ‘Introduction to Italian class’. I didn’t become multilingual but I got an opportunity to meet the Committee who were in recruiting mode at the time. The result, I became Secretary of U3A Northcote (later to become U3A Darebin) the committee included Betty Marriner, Eileen Capocchi and Carmel Lee and others.

Originally the Committee met upstairs at a former Bank in High St.Northcote. Later we moved to new quarters in Northland. The Committee during this time really put in great teamwork and support was shown by all. Committee members were encouraged to offer themselves as tutors. Betty ran a very popular poetry class and I did an essay on the Popes of Rome which I continued a few years later with a fullblown course on the history of the Popes from Peter to ~John) Paul. I eventually ran an abridged history of the Kings & Queens of England. It seems that since my class and the referendum, interest in the English monarchy is not what it was. However as a result of this class I felt I had discovered my true vocation as a history tutor and stepped down as Secretary at the AGM of 1998. I hope that U3A Darebin can continue to offer popular classes in the future.
One of the most pleasant times I spent as Secretary of U3A was at the launch of the book “A Year in Our Life” which was held at Bundoora Park on Seniors Family Day on Sunday 26th March 2000.

The “Improve your English” class had contributed letters, poems and stories of their thoughts and experiences of their life in Australia. The book was edited by their teacher Kim Burrell and printed by the U3P Network. Some of the class had read their work at a U3A Exhibition held at the Immigration Museum in November 1999. It was fitting that previous teachers of the class were present and Charlie D’Aprano was presented with a Distinguished Service Award for his service to U3A and Darebin in particular.

The City of Darebin had reserved a section of Bundoora Park for this “Picnic in the Park”. Large groups had gathered in marquees provided by the Council. The smells from the barbeques were mouth-watering. Nearby groups were generous and shared food with those of us who had not come prepared.

We were delighted that Chris Kelly, the then Mayor, was able to launch “A Year in Our Life” for us. Chris was always a great supporter of U3A Darebin. Kim Burrell was there but Sheila Moore representing the Network, unfortunately couldn’t find the (difficult to find) reserved area and after all her efforts missed the launch. Fortunately, few of us from the committee found her in the coffee shop on our way home.

It was a very pleasant day and the class went home with copies of their book to share with families and friends here and overseas.

Some Recollections of U3A Activities

In late 1995, whilst attending the launch ceremony of the up-graded Fairfield Railway Station I met stalwart Heath McKnight. We discussed one-to-one literacy tutoring for Adults in which I was involved. Within a few days Eileen Capocchi contacted me inquiring if I could tutor a U3A group whose tutor was unable to continue. I attended a few sessions but decided that this activity was outside my experience. When I attended
a committee meeting to explain the situation, Eileen who was not to be put off, advised me of the urgent need for a Treasurer. After some cajoling by Eileen, I enrolled as a member and was appointed acting Treasurer until the AGM of 1996 when I was duly elected Treasurer.

This fortuitous introduction to U3A Northcote began an interesting few years during which I attended a number of courses, presented in a relaxed atmosphere by volunteer tutors with an intimate knowledge of their subject, thoroughly researched and presented with a minimum of academic material.

I became involved in many other areas of interest—to list a few:- The transfer of U3A Darebin from High Street Northcote to Northland Shopping Centre. The setting up in the public area of Northland in celebration of 1997 “Adult Learners Week”, displays and performances of many of the activities of Darebin and other U3A groups. This was launched by the Minister for Education. Representing U3A Darebin at meetings of the “High St” Pedestrian Safety Committee, chaired by Vicroads and with the Secretary, attending a number of meetings of the Preston “Care and Share” Group. Interesting and helpful discussions with the Auditor, Mr John Breguet, receiving valuable advice on compiling the books of accounts for our Group.

Finally I believe U3A Darebin offers a rewarding, inexpensive experience in a convivial atmosphere to those older persons with the time and ability to participate in its activities.

CARMEL Lee

In 1992, the committee of (Inner Northern Third Age Learning) now U3A appealed to its few members for help with general office duties; those interested to meet at 126 High St. Northcote. I went along as did quite a few other people and listened to the pleas of the few people doing a lot of work to get U3A functioning as a service to the older community in Darebin. Convinced of the need for a local U3A and believing that you can’t leave all the work to the same few people, I volunteered.

I was made responsible for publicity. With no expertise, but full of enthusiasm, I set up a network of outlets to publicise U3A. The aim being to make the community more aware of our existence, advertise DAREBIN U3A
courses and special events and thereby gain new members. Beginning with all local newspapers in the Northern area, then to community Radio stations. Community Radio was particularly helpful, giving us airtime for interviews about U3A in general, about specific classes and importantly, our need for volunteer Tutors with new courses to offer.

An item in the staff newspaper at Latrobe University gained us tutors David Weatherall and Professor Ione Gaillard.

Taking advantage of Adult Learners Week we had a large showing at Northland Shopping Centre in 1996 and another at Darebin Arts Centre in 1999 where members displayed the things they did at their courses. Also in 1999, the Year of the Older Australians we presented “Coming Alive Again” at the Northcote Town Hall with speakers giving advice on life after retirement.

We had a hard working Committee working together to present these events and a band of enthusiastic volunteers.

I came to live in Preston in 1973, however it was not until I came to U3A in 1992 that I began to feel part of a community, meeting people and making new friends. That to me is the essence of U3A.

DAVID ELDER

I joined U3A Darebin four years ago, soon after leaving the work force. I had heard about U3A and had a bit of an idea what it was. I had seen the signage at Northland so I knew there was one there, but it was just a closed door with U3A Darebin on it and I wondered what was inside. I was to find out soon enough. Shortly after finishing up at work at the start of 1998 I saw a notice that enrolment days were at Northcote Library the next two Mondays so I went along and enrolled for Victorian History I was interested in learning more about computers but the only class was for beginners, little did I know that I would be teaching it for the next few years.

I read the newsletter and saw that the committee wanted people to help behind the scenes so I offered my services and next thing I knew I was on the committee. I had no intention of becoming an office bearer but when the AGM came in the December of 1998 they needed a Treasurer so I

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took it on and taught myself Quicken and learned a lot about book keeping. The following year the Committee shrank in size and I found myself President as well as Treasurer I hoped this would be a temporary arrangement until we found someone but this went on for two years. At the time it was OK but there were times I found it hard to cope, because all the deadlines seemed to come at once.

During 2000 the GST was introduced and although organisations like ours did not have to register for GST, we would not be able to access state government funding if we didn’t, so we did. The rest is history. It was quite difficult and confusing for a non-accountant to understand how it all worked, and from what I hear it was difficult for the accountants too.

As we reach the close of 2001 and our first decade, it is my hope that U3A Darebin continues to flourish for decades to come, meeting the needs of older learners in the area.

*Valrio Borghese History & Origin of Culture Tutor*
Contributions from our Members

**Grammatiki Michael**

A tree was planted in the garden in the year of 1991 and it was special. A lot of people over 50 found something interesting under its shadow.

The tree had started to grow and in the ten years its branches have spread, sparkle, and cover a long distance. The tree was a eucalypt and it is called U.3.A. That tree was planted by three ladies Eileen Capocchi, Odette Stuckey and Betty Marriner.

In that ten years the committee of U3A used to work hard to organise the school and the wonderful Tutors and the school has grown. People over 50 had found something to improve their knowledge, also they met other people to share their own ideas.

I am a student for a long time at U3A and am proud of it. During this time our class “Improving your English”, with the help of the tutor have created three books and have done a lot of writing.

I would like to thank the Darebin University of the Third Age, the Committee of the school and all the Tutors.

Now I have to finish my writing in *Loving Memory of Students of “Improving your English” class Heath Mcknight and Diva Lenzi. And Tutor Rita Ghabriel. Keyboard and Singing and Charles D’Aprano History of Italian Literature.*

**EDNA YOUNG**

My association with U3A Northcote/ Darebin began in 1993 when I read an advertisement in the local paper that enrolments for classes were to be held at the Northcote library ‘Wonderful” I thought. A chance to study with people of my age and not too far too travel. I didn’t realise then just how wonderful it would be.
At the time U3A Northcote was in its infancy, so I had the opportunity of being able to watch it grow and expand in a remarkable way. As it has been for so many others, joining U3A was like opening the door to a new world! Meeting interesting people and I never cease to marvel at the generosity of the tutors who give their time and share their knowledge with such enthusiasm.

The excitement of looking forward to attending the classes in such a friendly atmosphere, together with the gaining of knowledge and discovering skills hitherto unknown to me and above all the special and enduring friendships I have formed.

All these have combined to make the third age of my life so productive and satisfying!

It has been always my ambition to go on learning till the day I die. Thanks to U3A Darebin and all the great people connected to it that’s what I’ll be doing.

And enjoying it...

**JOSEPH BONO**

I had the pleasure of being part of the U3A Darebin (then Northcote) from 1995 to 1999. I was a tutor in Italian. We had lots of fun, myself and the people who participated in the group.

When I was asked to take over the group I was interested in finding out why people went to the trouble of joining such activities. The reasons were many and varied, but the majority were interested in the language because with it they could help newcomers who were unable to communicate in English. This gave me the feeling that I was the link between people who were eager to connect with other human beings.

As I said, I had a lot of fun and I cany with me fond memories of those years.

DAREBIN U3A
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People retire from paid work for many reasons, which will include compulsion or choice. But no matter what the reasons, nothing fully prepares you for the social effects of the loss of structure that being in the workforce gives to your life. You do need time to enjoy your holidays and to fully appreciate the grandchildren. Yet it seems that without much “disposable income” you suddenly disappear as a person and become invisible to Bank managers, shopkeepers, other people and groups. Even your family may act as though they’ve heard everything you say before.

You have spent a lifetime building up experience and expertise which one wants to hear about; you are defined by your appearance, which is out of date.

This is where U3A comes in, with balloons, bells and whistles. It offered everyone opportunities to share their knowledge and to enrich the material being studied. For example, I studied English Language at university, but some students in the class “What’s in a Word?” make a reality of the regional aspects of English which were mainly theoretical to me.

We have had some lively discussions on more complicated aspects of Literature and challenged each other’s natural affection for this writer or that, while accepting that there is no way everyone will agree on matters of taste.

Personally, I have gained enormously from attending Francoise Baxter's French conversation class. I have not used French much in the last 20 years, and it makes me come alive again to realise how much French I remember, rather than having to lament how much I have lost.

I had the pleasure of taking “Improve your English” for a year which continues to be a model of deeply-held friendship and affection between its members. Through participation in U3A as a tutor and a student, I have both found and rediscovered friendships which are very important to me; which sustain me as a real person in the real world.
**Nell. BEll.  NEEDLEWORK GROUP**

*Half a yard of material white,*  
*Half a yard of yellow.*  
*That’s the way to make a quilt*  
*But oops, I’ve lost my needle.*

My father impressed on me at an early age, “never volunteer for anything, it always catches up with you.” Well I always learn the hard way,

Yes, I foolishly volunteered to open the door and turn on the lights for the Needlework group and what’s happened? I am now the co-ordinator, facilitator-boss cocky, whatever you like to call me. Sometimes I think what a mess, at others what fun. I also volunteered to help an elderly group of Collingwood Needlewomen. They accepted with gusto, our whole U3A group got roped in. We appliqued and quilted for them for three weeks. Of course I demanded payment of afternoon tea! Now we are having a joint exhibition with them called "A Tale of Two Cities". I think should be the “Women of Two Cities”.

Our most Herculean effort was the making of Christmas stars and angels. Never has glue, ribbon and lace been twisted and tangled to such effect. Each week brings different treasures, ideas hidden away for years suddenly given new life, colour and shape. Light and shade dominate our thoughts we struggle to create. Maths rears its ugly head, why are American patterns in inches and European ones in cms. Fingers and toes work overtime as we try to convert. If two heads are better than one, what happens to twelve?

Life with Needlework is to us the joy of creating with our own hands.

*Twelve little maids still at school are we,*  
*Still at school though we’re sixty-three.*  
*Some are younger and others old*  
*But we giggle and chat with our colours bold.*  
*I’ve embroider and patch to our hearts content*  
*Our fingers are pricked and our backs are bent.*  
*Whatever we do is done with pride*  
*As we struggle over the patterns and guides*  
*But the day will come when we all can cry*  
*“It’s done. It’s mine. I’ve made it.*
I always thought that I would be the one to choose the time to retire. However, it didn’t happen like that. I was offered a redundancy package which I took on advice from my financial advisor. Within a week, I was a bewildered retired person. It is important to understand the implication of such a major change as retirement and to accept the negative emotions associated with it, as a genuine grieving process. A perceived loss of identity, direction, and purpose in life can be unsettling and soul destroying.

I did not realize until much later that these feelings I experienced are part of a natural grieving process. And then I discovered U3A.

After some time as a member of the committee, I was asked to facilitate an English conversation class of older adults with limited English.

My background as a Community Health Nurse did not fully prepare me for this experience, which proved to be challenging, delightful at fulfilling.

The class consists of a mix of Italian, Greek, and Korean speaking women. We discuss everything from superstitions, self-esteem, favourite television programmes, and their cultural heritage with seriousness, enthusiasm, and hilarity. We even play “Simon Says.” Sometimes I don’t know if I am learning more Italian than they are learning English, but it doesn’t seem to matter.

I am very proud that between us we have created a safe, supportive, and fulfilling atmosphere to share learning, knowledge, and life experiences. We all look forward to class on Monday mornings. As one student said, “I like coming to class because we practise reading, writing, and speaking English. Time passes quickly”.

_Natasha Svendsun_
If you would like to join a class  
Come along and see us.  
14/c are a class of over fifties  
Trying hard to learn English.  
You learn to read and write in that class  
And with games like “Simon Says and the Alphabet”  
The teacher drives us mad.

The housework is never finished  
Come to LT3A to learn English.  
Its never too late to learn something new.  
The teacher is there to help you.  
I’ve are old but we feel young  
14/ hen we are sitting around in the class.

Students’ Thoughts and Feelings from  
Improving Your English Class 1999

Today the weather outside is very cold and cloudy But inside, in that room all the students look very warm and happy sitting around that table Listening to our teacher Kim like young children. We are a group of students over 50 who all came to Australia a long time ago from different countries and now we study English at U3A. It’s a marvellous time to see people together around the table trying to learn another language. I call this class the class of wisdom because we are the wise people”.

“In the Improve your English class most of the students are Italian so we really have a bi-lingual conversation. It’s fun because in this way we learn English and the Teacher is learning Italian”.

DAREBIN U3A
“U3A has offered me a valuable opportunity to enjoy life continuous. Besides, I can have my English improved with the help of the tutor and the classmates. This group makes me feel younger at heart”.

“It is a very good excuse for avoiding vacuuming the house or ironing. I have done this for over forty years, my house should be clean enough and the clothes without creases by now”.

“In the beginning we were strangers but now we look like a ‘little’ family. I have to admit we are a wonderful bunch. I also learn something, but most importantly I keep my brain awake”.

“I come to U3A because it’s very important and nice company. I try to learn better English and reading and sometimes have a nice conversation and learn about other peoples’ customs. I try my best to learn”.

“The time we spend together is precious so we try to make the best of it well knowing that time and tide wait for no man”.

“Our teacher does her best to teach us in a very friendly way and we all feel happy and relaxed which in our situation is important. Joining this group makes me feel richer and happier—we have the right teacher for this group”.

“I like to be a member of U3A for the company and enjoy it. I would like to learn to read in English because I like U3A and Australia. I wouldn’t like to live anywhere else than Melbourne”.

“Although the English language infuriates me, I like it, even though all my verbs are upside down, saying things that probably have a different meaning. I persevere...”.

“I always learn something new at each class: the atmosphere is relaxed and friendly and I look forward to the next one. I would like to mention the teachers too who generously share their time and knowledge with us”.

‘Welcome new students in the middle of a chattering Italian Group. Together with gaiety we are improving our English’.
Improve English Class

TERESA GJERGJA

It is the tenth anniversary of Darebin U3A. Thinking back it is about 8 years ago that I took the opportunity to return to school in my middle age. In all these years I learned not just the English language but a lot of diverse culture and habits from different countries because in the class there are people from different nationalities.

We are not just companions but much more. We are very strong friends. Together we go to the cinema, concerts, window shopping, birthday lunches or just for a cup of coffee. Together merrily we improve our English.

The enthusiasm for this class is also because all the time we have had wonderful, patient and understanding teachers. In this class I found much more than simple lessons. In my mind I have clear my first day in “Improve your English Class”. I smile thinking about it. I am a short time in Australia and my English was limited only just for everyday shopping. I remember when Mr. Alan the teacher, asked me to read something, I was trying to conceal my embarrassment, but I am sure my ruddy cheeks betrayed my fear.

Now on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of Darebin U3A, I like to thank heartily all of the committee. All these people devote a lot of time for the continuity of Darebin U3A. Thank you.

Friendship

Maria Vido

When 10 years ago I joined the U3A, my first priority was to enrol in a class “Improve your English”. That was one of my best decisions, because it gave me the opportunity to learn, and in doing so, to be more confident in occasional English conversation.

In a short time, I convinced some of my friends to join the class. Together, merrily, we are improving our English.
All this was made possible thanks to U3A, that in the autumn of my life I am enriched and experiencing what friendship really means.

But there is not joy without sadness in life. Two years ago our friend Dina died. She was a wonderful and gentle human being. We all miss her terribly. It is hard to come to terms that she is really gone.

In conclusion I want to express my profound gratitude to the Committee and all the teachers who donated their free time to help us. Most of all Mr. Alan Clements who was our tutor for three years.

**Computer Impact**

*FRANCA PIERONI*

Computer my great companion! It keeps my brain alert, it entertains melts challenges me, it has a vibrant brain. How could I have been scared of it?

Seems so long ago the first day that I encountered it at U3A Darebin Computer Class.

I suppose the teacher expected me to know how to open it. Instead I was sitting in front of the computer thinking; “Are you going to be my friend?”

Till that day I looked at a computer a metre away, frightened by this new technology.

Ah! very easy I thought, while the teacher was showing me how to work on it. Then holding the mouse gently I realised it was really a mouse jumping and running everywhere, but not where I wanted.

In that first lesson I used all my resources mind, eyes, hands, shoulders mouth and even feet to control this mouse but it remained stubborn, uncontrollable. At one point, jumping on my chair I screamed “Impossible, impossible, I can’t stand this.” Fortunately my teacher understood and gave me a terrific piece of advice; “Hold your mouse firmly, show that you are the master.”

Click here, click there, lots of fun till all at once my windows took a horizontal position and no one knew how to fix it. Meanwhile my mind was saying “You have ruined this computer.” Instead it was playing tricks...
on me. Another click and the windows turned on the vertical position again.

Then I discovered how to insert a picture, cut, copy, paste, print and suddenly the printer went mad printing an infinity of butterflies.

Although once in a while this little box brain surpasses mine, upsetting ie, and I am not as yet the master, at last we have become friends!!

**JERINA NOVAK**

It has been 10 years since a group of very vital people initiated the institute of U3A for us students not so young any more with ashes on our heads, but still fire in our hearts.

Starring again to learn. At first it wasn’t easy, but gradually we improved our English to the point that now we are able to write and express ourselves quite well. We did learn not only knowledge in what we do but most of all we became close friends in and out of school. Friends who shared good and bad times, new life and inevitable death. “Heath, Dino, Dma, Clarlie, you won’t be forgotten.”

I personally was a Tutor for 3 years and I must point out I was proud to teach Italian to a small but enthusiastic class.

To finish I will thank once more all the people involved in U3A for the grand job, for the many hours they spend for the continuation of this program.

**FRANCOISE BAXTER**

When I received a telephone call from a former member of our U3A Branch, I realised what a marvellous service this Association is providing to the over 50’s people in this country. The lady is 87 years young and is now living in another city. She was doing her homework for a U3A class. What a wonderful example of dedication and love of learning.

Since I started five or six years ago with U3A, I have vastly expanded my knowledge in so many ways. It is not only my brain that is enriched, my body is also enjoying improvement with Tai-Chi and my vocal chords are working hard in the choir where we have so much fun. We even
performed twice at the Darebin Music Festival, under the baton of the late Rita Ghabriel. Our children and grandchildren were so surprised to see their Grandpa and Grandma singing and acting not so badly after all. This year we performed again in the Festival but on a smaller scale nevertheless less it was great.

What I really enjoy with U3A as a student and a Tutor of French Conversation, is that the tutor can say “I don’t know” and no one is shocked. The students and tutors do their best. We learn from each other. We laugh and enjoy ourselves a great deal.

It is never too early or too late to learn. And what a great excuse it is for getting out of doing the housework!

WARWICK TAYLOR

I first came to U3A Darebin in 1998 when I offered a course for those who wanted to improve both spoken and written English. The class was held at SPAN house in Victoria Street, Northcote, and consisted of a marvellous group of women (mainly Italian) and one brave man!

It was a wonderful experience for me, helping this group wrestle with the problems of English Expression, and I think I learned as much about life as I hope they learned about English.

The following year I moved to the Northcote Library to teach a course in Shakespearean drama. The students were terrific! A very lively lot with a deep love of Shakespeare, and a wealth of knowledge. Again, I learned a great deal. That’s what I love about U3A: it’s a sharing of knowledge and experience.

After a brief illness, I returned in 2000 to offer a course called Poetry for Pleasure in the Northcote Arcade. This is the second year of the course and from my perspective, it’s highly successful. The class is made up of people from rich and varied backgrounds whose contribution is highly valued, not only by their colleagues, but by me. Discussion is lively and always interesting, and we’re all on a learning curve.

An unpredicted bonus has been that they’re all superb cooks, and at end of term classes, a magnificent repast is offered.

I, of course, do not participate!!.
Travels With Charley
(With apologies to Steinbeck)

ODETTE STUCKEY

Who could ever forget Charles D’Aprano and his classes “Italian Studies” and “History of Italian Immigration to Victoria — From Gold Rush to Federation”. The day trip to the Daylesford area tracing the footsteps of those early settlers and on to Yandoit visiting homes still resided by descendants of the Italians who built them in the mid-1800’s.

Charles had been a lecturer in Italian Studies at Swinburne Institute of Technology and regularly took groups of students over to Italy. One day he said “I’d love to do this with those of you who would be interested”. INTERESTED!! I should say so. Albert and I had been fortunate enough to have lived in that beautiful, fascinating, exhilarating and at times frustrating country for two periods of three years each from 1969-72 and again in the early 980’s.

And so it came about, one Sunday afternoon in September 1997 found ten of us at Tullamarine Airport ready for take-off There were the two Bettys- King and Marriner, Kath McLaughlin, Charles, and we two from Darebin U3A plus a couple from Hawthorn U3A, Ken, an ex-Swinburne student and Ruth an acquaintance of Charles and the Hawthorn pair. It was the start of a four week tour with bases in Rome, Campania, Tuscany and Emilia-Romagna. We were to visit the usual “must see” places but ‘d like to introduce you to some of the places in-between and people we met along the way,

Southward Bound

Heading down the Appian Way, after a few days in Rome, we went off the beaten track to Cerri Aprano. This is where we were to spend the next 6 nights. Our Pensione/Bar/Ristorante was the meeting place for a number of local characters. One who’d caught my eye was there every evening at the same outside table. I’d decided he was there for consultation
after seeing him carefully examining someone’s leg. I jokingly recommended him to our group who were complaining of sore feet and aching limbs after a day at Pompeii. Lo and behold the following night he was giving massages. It was then that I learned from the padrone that he was indeed a “Healer”.

VENTOSA: The village where Charles spent the first fourteen years of his life was nearby. Pre World War 2 the population was 1,500, today it is about 100. Most of the houses are shuttered and barred. This is a common story all over Italy but more especially in the South. In 1937, at the age of 14 Charles left there and travelled to Australia with his father. They settled in Melbourne. Unfortunately his mother and younger brothers were unable to join them until after the war.

TEANO: Our bus driver’s home town is where Garibaldi, heading north after defeating the forces of the Bourbon King of Naples, greeted the Piedmontese monarch Victor Emanuel as the King of Italy and handed over his conquered lands. And so Italy became a unified country. Excavations made here show that three towns have been built on top of each other. A bust in the Museum has a tablet with Oscan (pre-Roman) writing. Our driver, Antonio, is the image of that honourable gentleman.

SANTA MARIA IN CAPUA has a perfect small Roman Theatre. This is where Spartacus started the slaves uprising. Today, there is a calm peaceful feeling with a smell of wild herbs in the air.

MONTECASSINO: Kath told us her story of camping at the foot of the mountain years ago. Her daughter 13 years of age at the time, had seen a young soldier with his hands held out to her with a pleading look. Kath recognised the description of the uniform and insignia as that of a World War 2 German. Time to head north!

CAMPOGIALLO in the Valdarno region of Tuscany. What a delightful spot. Our accommodation, high on a hilltop, was superb. A small group of furnished apartments with all mod cons plus swimming pool built on what was previously farmland.

As we had no intention of cooking evening meals, arrangements had been made for us to dine in a trattoria in a neighbouring village. We managed to lose our way the first night. Stopping at a villa to ask directions it turned out that the owner, complete with Australian accent, had return here to run a riding school and stables.
FLORENCE U3A is housed in what was originally a palazzo of the Colonna family, all beautiful frescoes and decoration. The garden was being restored to its medieval design. The membership of this U3A is 2,700 after 14 years of existence.

Six days flew by and it was time to move on again. Our final dinner at the trattoria was a memorable occasion. After the meal, the owner came around with Spumanti “on the house” and then followed fond farewells with hugs and kisses from the owner, 2 waitresses and washing-up lady. The chef came out waving a pair of XXL size pair of red satin shorts. He was on his way to a festa and was competing in a tug-of-war. I’m sure he’d be a great asset to any team.

MODENA, home of the Ferrari car, is a lovely small city with a relaxed atmosphere. The hospitality here was overwhelming with receptions and lunches from both the President and Vice President of the Province also the Mayor.

Sergio Rossi, founder of the ISTITUTO DELLA RESISTENZA, had organised a lot of these meetings. An interesting character. As an 18 yr old he was conscripted and sent to Milan. Five days later a bombardment enabled him to escape. He fled South and returned to this region to join the Partisans. By the time he was 19 yrs. he had been made a Commander. He, along with others, has aimed to gather all relevant documents in this area pertaining to the resistance. Interviews have been made with participants in the 1943-1945 struggle. A library holds 15,000 books on facscism, anti-fascism, history of the republic and trade union movement. There are archives containing Communist, Socialist and Action party papers (Fascist archives were supposedly destroyed). Each year courses are held here for History teachers.

Of the 19,840 known Partisans, 1952 were women. There is a wall in the city commemorating them all. After the war the city was awarded a gold medal for its struggle against fascism.

The U3A Modena members had been looking forward to our meeting for months. Video and TV cameras recorded this event. They offer 52 classes-16 of them English language. Membership is over 3,000.

An interesting tit-bit. Mary of Modena (Beatrice d’Este) married The Stuart King James 2nd and so she was the grandmother of Bonny Prince Charlie.
FANANO: At week’s end we were whisked up here in a fleet of limousines. Another Mayoral reception, a tour of the surrounding countryside, which is designated National Parkland, a walk through the town followed by lunch made it a very pleasant Sunday.

Since medieval times stone from the Appenines has been quarried here. Every year an International Stone Sculpture Symposium is held. The sculptors’ works of art are seen all through the town.

Another 6 days had whizzed by and we were off to Venice for a short stay before heading back to Roma.

Included in our last few days was a visit to CERVETERI, and the Etruscan tombs dating from the 7th to the 1st centuries B.C. Then it was time for winding down. Albert and I enjoyed visiting our old home in Parioli, a suburb of Rome. We also went to Frascati in the Alban hills. This is a white wine growing area and Frascati is the favourite ‘drop of the Romans.

The cathedral houses the tomb of Edward Stuart, pretender to the throne of Great Britain - remember Mary of Modena, she was his mother.

All too soon it seemed we were packing our bags. Some returned to Australia, others of us continued on to different destinations and more adventures.

Ah, happy memories.
FROM NITA GREEN SHAKESPEARE GROUP

The Darebin U3A Shakespeare Group have done the ‘Bard of Avon’ proud!

We have studied the text assiduously for nine years and we have had some great scholars as our leaders. Firstly we owe a great debt to Dot Thompson.

Dot has been featured in the Centrmjal Exhibition and Book of 'Ordinary Women-Extraordinary Lives’ for her life-long commitment to the theatre. As a Director of ‘New Theatre’, she has been involved in over thirty plays and has tutored hundreds of aspiring actors.

Our group has been treated to some wonderful Shakespearean Videos, outstanding being Olivier’s ‘King Lear’. We have been enriched by the live performances of the John Bell Company at the Athenaeum and Malthouse theatres.

Our enthusiasm for the Bard has been spurred on by the tutors, Elaine Brady, Warwick Taylor and Jacqui Tomlins,

Our attempts to read our parts especially our comedy have led to much amusement.

Our bridging of Shakespeare’s world with that of today have brought reality to our enterprise.

MARGARET NORRIS

I first started teaching painting and drawing with U3A a number of years ago. It remains one of the most enjoyable things I have ever done. I made friends there which I still have and learned a great deal from my students. Next I moved on to teaching Tai Chi and eventually stopped the painting and drawing classes. The same pleasurable moments of fun and enjoyment are still experienced by me with this wonderful class full of wonderful people. We do not take ourselves very seriously and there is a great feeling of relaxation and pleasure, as well as experiencing the unique and special advantages of this ancient and beautiful “ART”.

I think that the organisation of U3A is one of the most important things that has ever been created.

DAREBIN U3A
It highlights the extensive range of highly experienced people who have so much to offer. If it wasn’t for U3A all this wonderful resource would be wasted.

In the latter part of our lives we still want to feel valued and important and often this doesn’t happen.

This is where U3A comes into its own. It makes us feel wanted and often we are able to learn things that we always wanted to learn but had to put on hold due to family commitments. For example an 82 yrs old man came to my painting and drawing class and after 6 months said “I had always wanted to learn how to draw since I was in kindergarten and now I have”. He is now sadly no longer with us but I have the great feeling of knowing that he has achieved his goal.

With U3A we can feel independent and valued so I say most loudly

“LONG LIVE U3A”.

A Tribute to our Tutors

CLAUDIA SANZIN

It’s the 10th Anniversary of the foundation of Darebin U3A. We have been very lucky to have had such wonderful, dedicated and very competent people in the establishment of this branch in both administration and teaching. A lot of hard work went into bringing Darebin U3A to where it is today. But I’m not here to praise the committee. They get their own reward, year after year, by being such a successful organisation.

What I’d like to do here is to acknowledge the tutors that every year are giving, voluntarily, their time for such a good cause, to stimulate intellectually so many grey heads. In this respect we have been very fortunate.

I have only been a member of this organisation for a few years, so I am unable to write about the lecturers before my time. But one person of great intellect came to my attention. I met him and his lovely wife in one of Charles D’Aprano’s classes. Robert McLaughlin a geologist, is not only well enlightened in his own field, but a very erudite man in many
fields. And then we had Charles D’Aprano, an Italian immigrant who came to Australia before the WW2, without any knowledge of the English language. A very intelligent man he worked by day in very manual jobs and studied by night to become a lecturer of Italian Studies in one of Melbourne’s Universities. He wrote a few books as well. An autobiography “Tears, Laughter and the Revolution” and another “From Goldrush to Federation” the story of the first wave of Italian Migration to Australia. Unfortunately Charles passed away two years ago. We have another writer among our teachers. The Signora Olga Giuliani, the tutor of an Italian Class. Olga too wrote an autobiography, “The Little Oak Tree.”

Amongst all these great names we have a brilliant man. A man who captures all your attention, a man with whom I fell in love in the first lesson. I am sure everyone will agree with me what a wonderful lecturer, actor, poet he is, I’m talking about Professor Warwick Taylor. It doesn’t matter if he teaches English, Shakespeare or Poetry, you love every minute of his class.

I would like to mention our little English girl who lectures us Shakespeare. She is a jewel and we are very fond of her. Now we come to a most popular class. Dr. Jonc Gaillard Corsi lectures on “The Iliad and The Odyssey.” My knowledge of the English language is very limited so I cannot find words to praise this woman who at the moment, in her exuberant ways, is explaining to us Homer’s masterpieces. Her class is so popular that the committee had to get more chairs to accommodate all the participants.

I must not forget Margaret Norris our Tai Chi instructor, who with such patience, week after week, goes over the same exercises that we forgot from one Thursday to the next. Be sure Margaret we appreciate you very much.

I’m sure that there are others who deserve to be mentioned but I don’t know them. After all, unfortunately, you can only attend so many classes in one week.

Looking forward to writing something for the Silver Jubilee. Goodbye for now

DAREBIN University of the Third Age
Office Bearers

PRESIDENTS: Phil Slattery
Eileen Capocchi
Betty Marriner
David Elder

VICE PRESIDENTS: Eileen Capocchi

SECRETARIES: Odette Stuckey
David Carrel
John Cannard
Elaine Curtis

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Lorraine Davis

TREASURERS: Alfonso Di Battista
Keith Walker
Eileen Capocchi
Ron Hellings
Toni laquinto
David Elder

AUDITOR: John Breguet (ACPA)

Committee Members:

Natasha Svendsen  Duncan Bourne  Nancy Davies
Rita Ghabriel  Betty Mc Cready  Eileen Capocchi
Carmel Lee  Joamy Smith  Betty Marriner
Silvana Cermely  Mary Tizzard  Graham Ennis
Roland Asfar  Bob Howe  David Elder
John Cannard  Charles D’Aprano  Nita Green
Edna Young  Valerio Borghese  Lorraine Davis
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History of Christmas and Christmas Music
Ideas and Expressions in Art
Early Victorian History
History and Origin of Culture
Spotlight on Australian Writing
Try Writing
Current Affairs
Understanding Shakespeare **
Theory of Music
Florence of the Medici's
You and the Law
Silk Screen Printing
Tracing Your Family History
Armchair Travel:
• Abruzzi
• Russia
• Nature's Walk
• Iceland
• Sicily
• Zimbabwe and Kenya
• Friends of the Zoo
• Tuscany
• Sicilian Panorama
• World Trip Highlights
• China, Malaysia and Indonesia
• Trans Siberian Railway
• Odette a/so showed weekly videos
Landscape-ideas, Emotions or Loxale
History of Italian Literature
Book Discussion
Exploring Textile Techniques
Italian Opera
Kings and Queens of England
Finance Seminar
Ships of Shame
Portraiture from Ancient Times to the Present Day
Herbs for Health and Relaxation
Music Appreciation
Improve your English
History of the Cottage Garden
Italian Language**
Italian History
Australian Prehistory
Storia delle Origini della Cultura
Health & Nutrition
Ships and Italian Migration to Australia
History of Docks
Silk Screening
Basic Astronomy
Book Discussion
Poetry for Pleasure

TUTORS
Phil Slattery & Odette Stuckey
Laurence Course
John Waghorne
Valerio Borghese
Alex Sequeira
Jeanne Mullenger
Dennis Bowers
Various
Rita Ghabriel
Jone Gaillard-Corsi
Northcote Legal Service
Helping Hand Thornbury
David Weatherill
Alfonso Di Battista
Bernice Morris
Arthur Howard
Pauline Butler
Charles D’Aprano
Ann Bouchier
Charles D’Aprario
Ann Bouchier
Ann Bouchier
Laurence Course
Charles D’Aprano
Alex Sequeira
Olga Murray
Jone Gaillard-Corsi
David Carrel
Rod Jones
John Ayres
Laurence Course
Margaret Norriss
Michelle Bullas
Alan Clements
Sheridan Page
Various
Alfonso Di Battista
Margaret Munro
Valerio Borghese
Panayiota Stampotolou
Charles D’Aprano
John Ayres
Olga Murray
Ann & Ted Bouchier
Chris Honig
Betty Marriner
French Conversation
History of the Popes
19th Century Art in Context
Italian Studies
Great Thinkers in Time
Life Drawing
Singing
Keyboard and Singing Tuition
Drawing
Computers **
Tai Chi
Painting and Drawing
History of Railways
Needlecraft
Rocks and Minerals of Victoria
Aboriginal Heritage
Crafts and Textiles
The Effects of Colonisation on Aborigines
English Literature
Chess
Thinking about Painting
Historic Fairfield Rudder Grange
The French Revolution and its Causes
History of Northcote and Brunswick Brickworks
The Classical Symphony
Poetry
What’s in a Word?
Painting
Needlecraft
Art Appreciation
Painting and Life Drawing
Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire
Classic Poems of Homer
Astronomy
Crime & Punishment Today
Money Matters in Retirement
The Byzantine Empire
Opera
Thinking about Painting
History of Medicine

Francoise Baxter
David Carrel
Laurence Course
Charles D’Aprano
Michelle Bullas
Joamy Smith
Rita Ghabriel
Rita Ghabriel
Robin Rumbold
Various
Margaret Norriss
Margaret Norriss
Don Baker
Margaret Moormann
Bob Mc Laughlin
Dr.Ian Clark-Toby Heydon
Olga Murray
Rev.J.Turpie-Johnston
Alex Sequeira
Dennis Bowers
Laurence Course
Arthur Howard
Peggy Martin
Paul Michell
Dennis Bowers
Warwick Taylor
Margaret Munro
Joamy Smith
Nell Bell
Laurence Course
M. Falcone & A. French
David Carrel
Dr. Jone Gaillard-Corsi
Ann & Ted Bouchier
Rod Settle
Panel
David Carrel
Dr. Jone Gaillard-Corsi
Laurence Course
Mr. James Downie
During our first 10 Years continuing classes were conducted by various Tutors. These were:

**COMPUTERS:**
Mario Anneta
Rosalie Ham
Duncan Bourne
David Elder

**SHAKESPEARE:**
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