University of the Third Age

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#### **Presidential Ponders**

Hello Everybody,

Well here we go again, another lock down to get through! We are all becoming reluctant experts at this lock down business in some ways, but in other ways, we are entering new territory. It just doesn't feel as if it's something we can get through with the expectation that life will return to normal at the end. We lock down, come out in incremental steps and almost hold our breaths for the next breakdown. This up and down is feeling like our new reality, our new order of life and perhaps, we need to think how we, as a community, live with it.

I would like to challenge all our members to put on their thinking caps.

#### The Challenge.

What can U3A Moorleigh, as a community group do to make you, your friends, other members live with our 'new normal?' What will help you, your friends and fellow members to live in this new world order?

Think of practical or 'left field' suggestions; things that we volunteers can do to help each other and then shoot off an email to president@u3amoorleigh.org.au

If you don't have an email address, write to me c/- U3A Moorleigh. I don't promise that we will or can do everything you suggest but we will certainly think about it and if it's possible, we would love to try it.

Ciao,

Erika Fleming

## <u>Important Dates</u>

Monday 12th July 2021, second semester classes resume.

## **News from The Hub**

- New COVID-19 sign-in kiosk
- Your guide to QR codes
- Trivia quiz
- Big changes are coming



All members are encouraged to install the free **Services Victoria** QR app on their phones for quick and easy contactless check-in. For those without a phone, a QR **Check-In Kiosk** has been installed outside Reception. For the latest information go to: <a href="https://u3amoorleigh.org.au/u3a-moorleigh-covid-safety-plan/">https://u3amoorleigh.org.au/u3a-moorleigh-covid-safety-plan/</a>.

Are you confused about or just interested in all this QR code stuff? If so, we have a great article on the website called *Your guide to QR codes*. Written by a journalist, this short 5-minute read will tell you everyting you've always wanted to know about QR codes. Here's the link: <a href="https://u3amoorleigh.org.au/your-guide-to-gr-codes-2/">https://u3amoorleigh.org.au/your-guide-to-gr-codes-2/</a>.

Don't forget to have a look at the new Trivia Quizzes on the website. You'll find them under Latest News. Go on, have a go and challenge yourself.

We mentioned last time having received a grant to upgrade *The Hub*. Hopefully by the time we reopen, *The Hub* will have been upgraded with 9 new top-of-the-line computers. We also hope to have the services of one of our IT instructors available in *The Hub* every Monday to assist members and answer any of your questions. Check out the website for more information as it becomes available: <a href="https://u3amoorleigh.org.au/latest-news/">https://u3amoorleigh.org.au/latest-news/</a>. So, Stay Connected ... see you @ *The Hub*.



#### Erika & Pauline draw a ticket

### The BIG Raffle!

Unfortunately, the Big Morning Tea had to be cancelled due to the lockdown but that did not stop U3A Moorleigh making our donation. Those who signed up for the fund-raiser were contacted & their donation was translated into raffle tickets. The gift basket donated by Pauline Clark's family, was won by Rosemary Browning, our Class Coordinator, who most of you will know.

The foot stool was made and donated by Gus MacFarlane and won by Olita Jepson. The amount raised for the Cancer Council was **\$443.00**, a good amount considering the disruption to the number of days available for fund-raising



# We are closed from mid-June because of Covid and Glen Eira Council restrictions & return to the classroom on **Monday 12th July** (after the MID-SEMESTER HOLIDAY.)

#### YOU MUST WEAR A MASK indoors, sanitize your hands & maintain social distancing.

Everyone entering **ANY** building in Moorleigh Village must be registered; those with a smartphone can scan our QR code (help available) & others will be registered at an electronic 'kiosk' near reception. This will slow down class entry & require **volunteers.** Offers of help will be appreciated so let office staff know. Class rolls will be maintained. Let's beat this bug!

# Have you checked the website recently? We have added trivia quizzes if you're getting bored.

# The **Class Bulletin** (new name) will be sent out when changes are made to classes. News can also be found on our new website at <u>u3amoorleigh.org.au</u>.

#Our president Erika Fleming has been working hard to promote U3A Moorleigh. Please keep **September 11th** free in your diary as Moorleigh Village is hosting an EVENT that involves multiple community organizations. It is a chance for us to see what's on offer in our area & to promote U3A Moorleigh & learn what SESPN is all about!

MORE DETAILS IN NEXT MONTH'S MESSENGER.



# Lakes Entrance Get Away.

Our innovative president has come up with a fabulous idea; a short 4 day break to Lakes Entrance. This will also provide some much needed money for the local rural economy. Accommodation at the Big 4 Whiters Holiday Village is available at a 10% discount when **YOU BOOK** & mention U3A Moorleigh.

Drive yourself down on

### **Monday 11th October & return Friday 15th October.**

The Big 4 Whiters (**phone 1800 039 006 or book on line**) (The Hub can help) can also book **optional** excursions for you; do as much or as little as you want. As long as one of your group is a U3A member you can add friends to your group.

For full information get a flier from the front office.

U3A Moorleigh will be offering short workshops on a variety of subjects in semester two. The beauty of a workshop is it will run just a few weeks so there is no big commitment for the rest of the year. You will learn a new skill that can be the building block for further classes. We will email the class bulletin once dates are confirmed or keep an eye out for notices on the website or outside Reception.



## **Important Email address**

If you do not have an email address, you will realize that keeping up-to-date with our news is difficult for you & us, particularly during the recent lockdown. When government restrictions were lifted, Glen Eira Council maintained the closure of Moorleigh Village. Contact by mail is expensive, slow & labour-intensive & phone messages may not be received or can be misinterpreted.

# If you have a friend or family member who can receive Email on your behalf please let us know.

Don't forget also that there is now help available in our computer HUB & one of our technicians will be able to set you up with your own email address & give advice on using a smartphone.

With a smartphone you will also have access to our website & back issues of the Messenger & our Covid policy. Unfortunately these viral outbreaks will re-occur & it's important to know what's happening.

## **Thursday Crafts with Kerrie**



The Thursday craft classes are an important and fun day for members of Kerrie Dugdale's textile classes. Kerrie has a Degree in Arts in Fashion, has worked as a designer & pattern-maker, and then went on to study textile embellishment. More recently she has taken up stencil & printing. We are fortunate to have had her voluntary skills for the last four years.

Within the class there are many different interests; knitting & crocheting, embroidery & textile art, toy making, dressmaking & patchwork. If you can imagine it, someone in the class has probably made it! Members share a love of creating & have worked with donated & recycled materials, or on forgotten and unfinished projects, & help to support each other.

The collective knowledge of long-standing members & new members, all with differing experiences & all willing to help each other makes for an inspiring & enthusiastic environment. Many projects are donated to charity or sold at U3A Moorleigh's Open Day to help raise funds that help improve our facility & update equipment.

Along with all this talent there are great friendships made, with much talking & laughter so even if you are getting frustrated with your creation, you still leave with a smile on your face! That's what U3A is all about. We have some short courses planned in Semester 2, so keep an eye out for these announcements & get in fast.



Did you hear about the cat that swallowed a ball of wool? She had mittens.

Two sewing machines were sitting in a bar. One said "Are you a Singer?" The other replied, " NO. Why do Ja-no-me?"

To sew or not to sew? What a silly question.

Did you know that COTA (Council of the Ageing) has a free monthly newsletter on line, with interesting articles covering diverse subjects of interest to our age group? This month there is information on how the state budget could affect retirees, a survey on healthy ageing, how to maintain your core strength and much more. Look at their website & sign up for their newsletter; you can unsubscribe at any time.

Following U3A Moorleigh's concerns with the illegal use of the village parking areas, Glen Eira Council performed a traffic & parking assessment, & reported issues at school drop-off & pick-up times. The East Bentleigh primary school have been made aware that parents may be fined for using the Moorleigh Village car park which will make the whole area much safer for all concerned.

Bentmoor Men's shed have done a great job completing cabinets in room 39 (craft room) with no labour costs to us. We now have better storage & no wasted space under the fixed shelf, & stock can be kept tidy.

Are you aware that in Semester 2, full membership of U3A Moorleigh until the end of 2021 is only \$35.00 for new members? If you have a friend who has not been involved with our U3A, let them know; it is the best value around & we have plenty planned for the remainder of the year but only available to members. We must get our numbers up to cover costs.

