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Presidential Ponders

Hello Everybody,

I am looking forward to the AGM being finished, enrolment day 2nd December going without a hitch and then our Get-Away break at Lakes Entrance (the last one is the one I am truly looking forward to.) What a year!!!!

I need to thank everyone on the committee who contributed to getting us through a MOST CHALLENGING year. Cynthia (our backbone in the office throughout 2021), Marie, Rachel, Zeki, Ann, Olive, Pauline, Ian, Liz. Sue, Janet and Michael; without Michael's technical expertise and patience on the web and zoom, we would have had big problems. Thanks to their collective efforts we are well organized for 2022. To Val, Carole, Nick, & John the front and back office volunteers (many of whom turned into phone buddies during the year) and all the tutors who kept in contact with their class members as much as possible you all have my gratitude.

Finally I want to thank you, the members, who stayed with us, adopted new technologies and adapted to the myriad changes that Covid and regulations imposed on us. "Thank You all" - we made it! Well done peoples!

I take this opportunity to wish all the members of our U3A family a relaxed and fun Christmas/Holiday (whatever you want to label it) - enjoy your families - enjoy your friends - laugh - tell exaggerated stories - let your hair down in whatever fashion feels right to you and yours. I think the lesson I have gained most this year is that the small things are important in our lives - the sky, the park, a casual chat with a stranger, our families and our animals. I know I appreciate my husband and my dog a lot more.

Enjoy life.

Ciao, Erika Fleming (President)

Important Dates

Thursday 2nd December from 09.00am Enrolment begins for 2022 courses

Office closed after Friday 10th December 2021

Summer school 10th - 21st January 2022

Monday 7th February 2022 Classes commence

- **Are you ready for enrolment?**

As you know by now, enrolments commence **from** 9:00 AM on Thursday 2 December 2021, and this year will all be carried out online via the **U3A Membership Administration Software (U-MAS)**. For a detailed explanation and access to various help guides, please refer to the website.

Members can enter their own enrolment details. This automated system is like shopping online at Coles or Woolworth's. It uses a Shopping Cart – where you add the courses & activities you choose – and when you have finished, you checkout, and will be able to print an invoice containing your Membership Renewal and the list of Courses & Activities you have selected.

Payment methods are explained on the invoice, and must be paid by 7th January 2022 .and a confirmation email will be sent to each member prior to the commencement of Summer School 2022.

Please be aware that we have fifty members who will be coming in to the building on 02/12/21 because they are not on-line. If you've tried on-line and still want to come in PLEASE come later in the day or another day. Help is available until 10/12/21 (at this time we should have time to show you the procedure too)

Stay Safe, Stay Connected ... and we look forward to welcoming you face-to-face soon @ **The Hub**.

2022 Committee

President Erika Fleming
Vice President June Berman
Secretary Janet Lee
Treasurer Rachael Golombick
Courses Rosemary Browning
Web Master Michael Bonacci
Publicity Ann Watts
Events Manager..... Jan Sapir
Cynthia Paciocco Olive Collingwood
Pauline Clark, Annette Harriott, Zeki Toral

Twenty eight members attended the AGM via Zoom, thirteen in the Hub plus twenty four proxy votes. All agenda items were approved. This means that, when things settle down, we can proceed with the change over to the more recognizable name of U3A Bentleigh. Congratulations to Val English and Malcolm Hannan- Smith who were presented with a life membership of U3A Moorleigh after they have contributed many years working behind the scenes with the computer systems.

A Big Thank You

All of U3A Moorleigh, want to thank those committee volunteers who will be resigning at the end of this year. After many years of dedication both on committee and in other roles Marie Nailon, Liz Rankin, Sue Kelaart and Ian Kirkwood have decided there are new challenges ahead. Each one of them has brought special skills, ideas and their personal stamp to Moorleigh, to help make us the friendly organization we are today. Finally we want to acknowledge the many years of work given by Peg McClory who was a Jack-of all trades, mine of information and good friend working in the back office. We wish each of you all the best for the future and hope to perhaps see you back relaxing and enjoying membership from a different view.

The Business Page



*We have our new wiz-bang phone system with a friendly greeting & the ability to retrieve messages. It has heaps of functions & buttons (all a challenge for the operator!)

* To set up your U-Mas account, before enrolling, open the website and click on 'login'. To activate your membership and set your password you will be emailed an access number to enable this process. **THIS TAKES SEVERAL MINUTES & may end up in the junk mail!** Check that all your personal details are correct then **OK** the vaccination box & **save** the changes. This can be done any time before enrolment day. You are now ready for:

09.00 am on Thursday 2nd December onwards

* Still having problems? See FAQ/Quick Guide, ask a young friend for help, give us a call, drop in but be prepared to wait or email- enquiry@u3amoorleigh.org.au

*You can pay your \$50.00 membership fee **after** you have enrolled. (\$35 for associate) Payment options will be displayed on screen once you've enrolled. You will not be able to attend a class unless you are a financial member. and payment must be made by 7th January 2022.

*Your **membership number** is on all your recent emails so scroll back to check. You will receive your badge once we have sighted your vaccination certificate & paid membership. Too many passwords? I've written mine inside my old badge.

*Your badge will be your **'passport'** into the building so please be sure to wear it in 2022.

*Because there are unvaccinated children entering our building, the council have asked that we wear a **mask while in the corridor**. Social distancing & good hygiene continue.

*There will be no Messenger in January and the next edition will come out for February 2022.

Rosemary Browning, our Course Coordinator has spent hours entering the 2022 classes on to the new system helped by Val English & Michael Bonacci. Due to the recent Covid restrictions we have kept the class numbers low to comply with guidelines. Don't despair if you are on a wait- list; room numbers have already changed (as of 27/11/21) and you will be posted/emailed final confirmation of class status. Keep checking the website. We know this is an anxious time but be patient. Our volunteers are here to help but are also learning a new system.

Friday Follies Finished

Hi Erika & Michael,

As this Friday approaches without a fun afternoon, I would be remiss not to thank you for the time and effort you both put in to making our lockdown Fridays bearable.

The afternoon mix of music, laughter, brain stretching and very interesting talks and documentaries was just great.

It allowed me to think that my weeks had not been completely wasted and it boosted me for the week to come. The U3A group was a delight to be part of and I look forward to next year minus lockdown. ? with some more monthly fun on Fridays..

Yours Gratefully,

Marg Clay



What do you call an old snowman? Water.



The Best Christmas Present

The following story was told to Erika Fleming in the 1970's by an elderly patient who had lived on a remote station.

My husband and I were going into town to sell some stock and then on to the races. I was so looking forward to talking to other people maybe even a woman. I packed my best clothes, gloves and hat and we were off. We camped overnight and before getting into town the next day, I changed into my best clothes and sat on the cart under some shade while my husband wandered off to chat to people he knew to talk about stock and look for goods we needed.

After a while a group of young chaps gathered around my cart and began talking to me. One chap left and came back with something in his hand. "Here Missus, this is a Christmas present for you." He pressed a tin of peaches into my hand and said "Any of you chaps got a knife and a spoon?"

A knife was found and my young gallant opened the tin. A spoon was produced which was carefully cleaned on his shirt tails and presented with a flourish. "I can't eat this all by myself. Find some plates and we can share."

"Missus, there isn't enough to share. I looked after that tin all the way up here." and with tears in his eyes he said "It would be such a pleasure to watch a young lady enjoy eating it. Such a real pleasure." The other men nodded.

So I sat there in my dray, under the shade of a gum tree and enjoyed this early Christmas present. It was the best thing I had eaten since leaving Adelaide several years before. All the men watched me and they all stayed until I had finished! I thanked them all for the great present. The best I ever had.

Orange Cranberry Relish

- 1 packet orange jelly crystals
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1/2 cup orange juice & a whole orange
- 500 gm jar cranberry sauce
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/4 cup chopped nuts (optional)

Method

- Dissolve the jelly in boiling water.
- Add the orange juice.
- Chill to the consistency of egg white.
- Cut the orange into quarters to remove the pips then blend or chop finely.
- Add all the ingredients into the cooled jelly.
- Turn into a basin or mould to set.
- Un-mould to serve with turkey.

from Mary Joan Hansen

Holiday reading

A Gentleman in Moscow

by Amor Towles

A beautifully written story set in in the Stalin's Russia.

Recommended by Judith Bennett

The Banksia House Breakout

by James Roxborough.

An elderly resident escapes her care home.

Recommended by David Hutt



Tim Minchin's Life Lessons

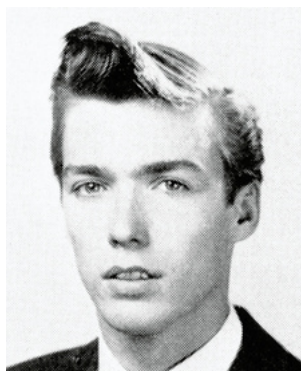
You don't have to have a dream.
Don't seek happiness; make someone else happy.
It's all luck.
Exercise--take care of your body.
Be hard on your opinions.
Be a teacher--share your ideas.
Define yourself by what you love.
Respect everyone.
Don't rush. Take time to consider each day.

From his acceptance speech at WA University, on gaining an honorary Doctorate of Letters (as seen on Friday U3A on-line)

Feeling Old?



The Beatles split up 52 years ago.
The movie 'Wizard of Oz' is 82 years old.
Elvis died 44 years ago. He'd be 86 by now.
Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' video is 38 years old.
The movie 'Saturday Night Fever' is 44 years old.
The Ed Sullivan show ended 49 years ago.
The Mustang is 57 years old.



Do you recognize any of these young celebrities? ... Answers on page 6.

All you ever wanted to know about Mince Pies!



It's thought that mince pies were first brought to Europe from the Middle East at the time of the crusades in the 13th century. Minced meats, chopped fruits and spices were combined and preserved together and easy to transport. By Tudor times the large pie traditionally had 13 ingredients representing Jesus and the 12 apostles; it included mutton for the shepherds. If you refused a piece of pie you had bad luck. In the 1650's Oliver Cromwell made it illegal to eat mince pies in England! He wanted to tackle gluttony and traditions linked to the Catholic church. Our mincemeat now contains only fruit and traditionally should be topped with a star to represent the star of Bethlehem.

Who hides in the bakery at Christmas time?.....The Mince spy?



A Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

What do reindeer play when they have sleep-overs? Truth or deer.
 Why has Santa been banned from sooty chimneys?
 Carbon foot prints.
 How does Christmas Day end?
 With a 'Why'
 What do you call an obnoxious reindeer?
 Rude-olph.
 What goes oh, oh,oh?
 Santa walking backwards.
 Who is never hungry at Christmas?
 The turkey..... It's always stuffed.



1. Which country did egg nog come from?
2. What is the first name of the Dickens character Mr Scrooge?
3. Which real person is Santa based on?
4. In the song 'Winter Wonderland' what is the snowman's name?
5. What did my true love send on the 8th day of Christmas?
6. What is the highest grossing Christmas film?
7. What is the highest selling Christmas song?
8. Name the 3 reindeer whose names begin with letter D.



Christmas WORD SEARCH

I	I	J	L	L	S	D	Y	R	J	E	I	P	J	J	C	C	V	I	P
W	M	V	G	K	N	S	A	V	C	M	R	L	Z	O	A	A	B	V	J
G	R	H	O	G	S	X	D	T	T	D	Z	C	K	L	K	R	O	D	J
B	I	A	Q	W	L	W	I	C	H	X	K	D	P	L	R	O	I	N	I
V	R	I	P	R	X	W	L	T	T	X	N	R	I	Y	X	L	J	Q	N
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P	Q	L	U	W	Q	M	G	W	R	P	O	D	T	Y	R	S	A	A	L
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J	V	I	C	O	O	A	W	P	D	S	N	W	D	O	S	K	Q	C	S
U	T	F	R	N	O	B	L	D	N	O	R	T	H	P	O	L	E	A	S
H	L	S	S	F	L	G	M	R	K	L	U	T	H	Z	B	L	N	Y	E
C	O	B	S	G	E	F	G	U	A	M	W	D	X	Y	D	T	L	U	D
W	O	B	H	B	A	K	B	H	D	G	Z	O	H	T	A	I	F	K	L

<p>JINGLE BELLS BOW CANDY CANE CAROLERS CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS ELVES</p>	<p>FIREPLACE GARLAND GINGERBREAD HOLIDAY JOLLY SANTA MISTLETOE</p>	<p>NORTH POLE ORNAMENTS PRESENTS REINDEER SNOWMAN WREATH WRAPPING PAPER</p>
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If you can get your hands on a copy of the December 'Senior' magazine, you will find an article about our U3A phone buddies who have been invaluable during the lock down, by keeping all our non-computer members up to date with what is happening through out the year.

Thank you all so much

ANSWERS



1. England
2. Ebenezer
3. Christian Bishop St. Nicholas was born in Turkey.
4. Parson Brown.
5. Eight maids a-milking.
6. Home Alone.
7. White Christmas sung by Bing Crosby
8. Dasher, Donner and Dancer.

The celebrity photos on Page 5

(From left to right)

Clint Eastwood, Dolly Parton, Tom Hanks and Yul Brynner