



Moorleigh Community Village, 92 Bignell Rd, Bentleigh East, Vic 3165

Tel: 9570 3929 | Email: [office@u3abentleigh.org.au](mailto:office@u3abentleigh.org.au) | Website: [u3abentleigh.org.au](http://u3abentleigh.org.au)

Office hours: Mon-Fri 10am-3pm (closed weekends & public holidays)

Course information: [courses@u3abentleigh.org.au](mailto:courses@u3abentleigh.org.au) | Publicity & newsletter: [publicity@u3abentleigh.org.au](mailto:publicity@u3abentleigh.org.au)

## Presidential Ponders

Hello Everybody,

Well, it's 2 years since I became President and it's been a tough, full on time. Covid caused havoc with member numbers, timetables, finances, access to classes as well as exerting a huge toll on both the physical and mental health of every member of our community. Somehow, over that time, the members of the Committee of Management (C of M) and a few other wonderful members have kept the faith that our U3A would survive and we have introduced a huge number of changes, some of which I will discuss at our **AGM on 25th November at 10.00am (register at 09.30am)** All the signs now show that we are over the tsunami and entering calmer waters.

Our C of M is changing and I want to give a very big 'THANK YOU' on behalf of all U3A Bentleigh members, to all the committee over the last 2 years. Everyone contributed and all deserve a pat on the back for what we have achieved and for their magnificent efforts. Pauline Clark, Don Jayanithie, Sue Kelaart, Ian Kirkwood, Marie Nailon, June Berman, Eric Aston and Liz Rankin - all of whom gave to our community and left at different times for different reasons over this period.

In our current committee some will be leaving us and some will be reducing their input while others will take different portfolios. Of those leaving, we will miss the sage advice of Zeki Toral, the computer whiz Cynthia Paciocco and of course, that institution of U3A Moorleigh / Bentleigh for over 20 years, Rosemary Browning the course coordinator. The big constant in life is Change but we will miss them.

A couple of people have put up their hands and will be joining us after the AGM and I thank them BUT, I would like to see another **5 or 6 adding to our numbers**. I am very optimistic that it will be much more settled next year and with more members on committee, it would mean a wider pool of ideas and a reduced workload, so we can start to think of the Committee as having less work and much more play. I want our committee members to have FUN next year, so I throw the challenge out to our Bentleigh members, COME & JOIN US. Add your skills and ideas to our community and join in the camaraderie of the Committee of Management. Inquiries to [secretary@u3abentleigh.org.au](mailto:secretary@u3abentleigh.org.au)

Ciao, Erika Fleming

## Important Dates

Tuesday 2nd November **Closed for Cup Day holiday**

Friday 4th November 1pm First Friday Film "La La Land" (Last film for 2022)

Friday 4th November 2pm **Friday Fun** (regular on-line with link on the webpage)

Friday 25th 10.00am **Annual General Meeting room 67 & last day of classes.**

Friday 2nd December U3A Bentleigh **Christmas Party** on the deck + lounge area

Tuesday 6th December **ENROLLMENT** for 2023 begins.



## Our Life Saver

## Come and Chat

Every **Tuesday morning at 11am** in the kitchen area, Avril Lochhead (vice president) will be available for coffee and a chat to anyone who wants to find out more about U3A Benteleigh. Avril's initial idea was to make new members welcome and answer any questions they may have but this is also a great opportunity to give us some feed back and bring a friend along.

## Books

A big 'Thank You' to all the people who have donated books over the year. Sales have raised over \$800 to help with supplies etc. and we have all benefitted from a convenient supply of cheap reads. Angela and Lynne have even been able to sort them into categories to make your choice even easier (crime fiction very popular) BUT (you knew this was coming!) the book shelves are full and the over flow store is about to overflow, so please leave the tidying up till after Christmas and give us time to make some room. Don't forget if you want foreign language material, have a look in the cabinet in room 66 at the bottom of the ramp.



It's happened again! Our anonymous donor has really out done themselves and given \$2,500 for a defibrillator. The committee were considering applying for a grant for this vital piece of equipment.

We know that you want to remain unknown and we respect your wishes. You may have given someone a second chance at life. Bless you.

Thanks also go to Steve Dugdale and the folk from the East Benteleigh Community Garden who have allowed us to pick flowers on a Monday to display in U3A and cheer up the kitchen area. Don't forget you can buy some bargain plants from the Community garden at the farmers market on the 4th Saturday of each month.

## 2022 Committee

**President** ..... Erika Fleming  
**Vice President** .....Avril Lochhead  
**Secretary** ..... Janet Lee  
**Treasurer** ..... Rachael Golombick  
**Courses** ..... Rosemary Browning  
**Webmaster** ..... Michael Bonacci  
**Publicity** ..... Ann Watts  
**Events Manager**..... Jan Sapir  
**Welfare**.....Olive Collingwood  
**OH&S Officer**.....Nick Ancorra  
also  
Cynthia Paciocco, Zeki Toral  
Margaret Clay

## Nominations WANTED

We have several opportunities for members to make a difference to the management of U3A Benteleigh in 2023. We need a **Secretary** (keyboard skills) who will be supported by Janet Lee and a **Fire and Safety Officer** to support two existing team members. We also would like some 'ideas people' to join the committee. Without volunteers U3A doesn't exist so think about how you can support us. The **AGM** will be held on **25th November** at 10.00am in the art room 67. We need your support now so come and make a difference. The Committee of Management Nomination Form can be found on the website. Click <https://u3abenteigh.org.au/constitution/>

# The Business Page

Following the government's changes and the management of the **Covid Pandemic/Endemic** we have reviewed our policy. How things have changed! While it is not mandatory to isolate or wear a mask, we ask that **if you are unwell at all, do not come to class**. I'm sure most of us can appreciate the health risk to others.

The **AGM will be held on Friday 25th November at 10.00am**. If you are unable to attend **proxy forms** will be available in early November and on the web page. This will be our first face to face AGM since 2019, so come and have your say. This year's speaker is from Moongala Community House.

**LAST DAY OF TERM 25TH NOVEMBER Take all personal items home with you by this date.**

The back office staff are working on our class schedule for 2023. If any current tutor has not been asked about plans for next year, please talk to Rosemary or one of the reception volunteers. **Tutors are the heart of any U3A**. If you want to hold a short or long course or a single talk, we would love to hear from you.

**ENROLMENT DAY 6th DECEMBER FROM 10.00AM ON LINE AND IN PERSON FOR 2023**

Umas will be **off line the weekend prior and Monday 5th December** while the new classes are loaded and ready to view.

We had a poor turn out for the Seniors Festival in the first week of October, when we invited visitors to U3A but we have learned from the experience and will do things differently in 2023. Someone who did visit was a representative from **Southern Radio 88.3fm** who run a regular community session on a Tuesday morning from 09.00am. I have been tuning in and enjoy the mix of pop music, chat and information and U3A Benteigh have subscribed to the station. Catch our news soon.

A big 'Thank You' to the 14 members who turned up at Classic Residences in the pouring rain, to attend a seminar and inspect the facilities. Your effort earned us a \$250 voucher that will go towards costs and equipment at U3A.



## Tidy Up Please

We are into our last month of activities but the committee will be working behind the scenes, preparing for next year and this includes cleaning and tidying rooms. **Members should not leave personal items in rooms and expect them to be safe. If you have left equipment like cups, water bottles, craft and art work in rooms please take them home before the end of November** or you could risk losing it. Check in the the Lost & Found cupboard near reception too. We need to have a massive tidy up in the art room (67) and hope to remove one or two of the locked storage cupboards so there is safer storage for the desk easels, which tipped over recently. At present the small whiteboard blocks the air flow from room 66 and this is where the central thermostat is located.

**La La Land** is the **last film** for 2022. I must apologize for giving the wrong information last month (we had a last minute change.) Attendance at the film sessions has been poor recently. With over 20 people registered only 4 attended last month, and very few apologies given.

What would YOU like to see next year? (Already had a request for 'Casablanca'.)

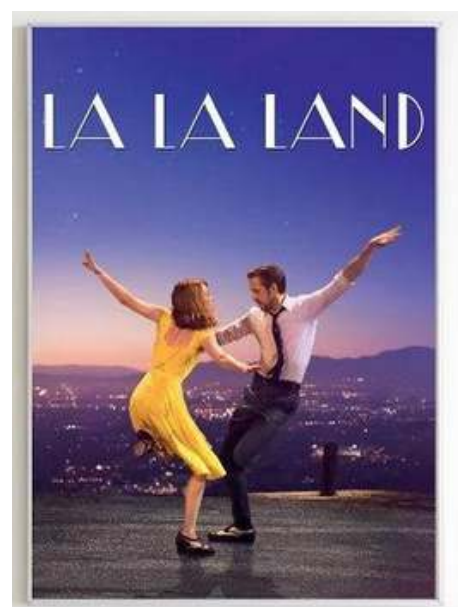
**Send requests to publicity** and we'll see what we can do.

## FIRST FRIDAY FLICK

**Friday 4th November 1pm**

**2016 Musical Comedy/drama**

Two youngsters chasing their dreams of stardom in Los Angeles, fall in love.





# Prize Winning Artists

Members of Mondays drawing class took on a challenge set by the New Zealand company Summerset, to produce a poster that conveyed a sense of "Community". With encouragement from tutors Ken Marriot and Renate Hubner, six artists were awarded a gift voucher prize (joint 1st prize winners Dorit Harvey and Mick Healy). **Summerset** have purchased a site in **Oakleigh South** on Golf Road and plan to develop a retirement village there. The posters from U3A are now reproduced at the site. Well done to all. Summerset are a well established N Z company who provide quality retirement homes and aged care.



Mick (left) & Dorit (right) with Simon Hicks Representative from Summerset

Mai Phang, Cecilia Louey, Mick Healy, Dorit Harvey and Neville Curtis with Tutor Renate Hubner.



## NEW Presentation

### Single Talk

A22-300 Gambling Harm Prevention

!6/11/22 at 1pm-2pm in room 41  
Book in on line or sign in on the day.



The posters on display at 52 Golf Road (corner of Beryl Ave.) Oakleigh South plus some great advertising for U3A Bentleigh

## Happy Birthday Gus



Members of Wednesday's Current Affairs class helped Gus MacFarlane celebrate his 97th birthday by bringing lovely home made sandwiches and cakes. Since joining U3A Gus has helped raise funds by making timber foot stools. A skilled carpenter, Gus usually inserts a coin set into each item and this often has a special date and meaning for the recipient of the article. Gus and his wife Una, have been members since 2005. Thanks & congratulations

December newsletter to come with a report of the AGM and summer school information

## Antiques Appraisal Event



Arthur Simpson with Jan Sapir

Last month, antiques expert **Arthur Simpson** donated his time and expertise to U3A Bentleigh.

Arthur has no previous association with any U3As so we are extremely grateful that he agreed to make the long journey to Bentleigh and provide this exciting and informative session as part of our Seniors Festival.

A steady stream of members gained information about items that varied from china, paintings, silver, timber and souvenirs. One member may have a painting from the 1400's and Arthur suggested that it be checked out at Christies auction house!

Arthur must have enjoyed himself as he has offered his services next year. THANK YOU

## Welcome to Moongala Community House

Last month Moongala held a magnificent Open Day to celebrate their relocation to the refurbished rooms in the South building at Moorleigh Village. Included was a moving **Smoking Ceremony** conducted by David Tournier, a representative from the local Boonwurung tribe.

David explained that all our civilizations originally gathered around a fire that warmed, protected and sustained them. At the ceremony the fire is honoured and welcomes visitors and the smoke cleanses the spirit.

Different leaves have a special meaning and David chose to use **Gum leaves** to represent diversity and the protective father, **Cherry Ballart** for its beautiful seed that represents children and lastly **Wattle** to honour elders and the old ways. David pointed out that when the wattle is about to die, it drops its seeds so you will never see a lone wattle tree in a natural setting, thus the elders leave new generations to prosper.

We are hoping that David will be a speaker at U3A next year.



## Brainstorming in 2022

During 2022, we had a number of brainstorm sessions and surveys to try and gauge the wants and needs of members as a whole and also specific cohorts of members. I would like to give you a summary of what we have implemented as a result of these efforts and ideas.

### **Brainstorming with Tutors & Members May / June**

- . Website was changed in line with feedback.
- . 6 local Retirement villages approached for tutors
- . Val English (IT) notifies tutors of new members
- . 3 levels of fitness developed and applied to class descriptions
- . Vice President Avril Lochhead has set aside a weekly meet & greet time on Tuesday morning.
- . Some of the suggested new classes will commence in 2023
- . Saturday course commencing 2023
- . Limit the number of courses members can apply for in December to either 5 or 6

### **Male members Surveyed June / July**

- . Some of the classes identified as 'of interest' to males will be incorporated into Courses for 2023. hopefully including Military History.
  - . A **male advisory group** is in the process of being setup for 2023.
- Local U3A's were approached to see if we can share tutors & resources. No definite results obtained yet.

( report by Erika Fleming)



## Come to Our Christmas Party

FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER AT 10.30AM - 12.00PM

Dress up in your Christmas finery and join U3A members and fellow tenants of Moorleigh Village in our lounge/courtyard area for the last event for U3A Bentleigh in 2022.

**Cake, ice cream and hot or cold drinks provided.**

**Sing festive songs led by Val and the choir and Annie will also facilitate a session of songs.**

Tickets will be available for a chance to win one of two generous hampers. Craft work gifts to buy for Christmas stockings.

## Christmas Hampers

Once again Pauline Clark and her family have been generous in donating a beautiful hamper for us to raffle. Full of Christmas treats, you can purchase tickets at reception from early November at just \$2.00 each or three for \$5.00.

U3A are also putting together a second hamper with gifts suitable for the man in your life. Jan Sapir is busy assembling items and she realizes how time consuming and creative one has to be! Tickets will be drawn at the party and winners notified by phone.



## Brie Encounter.

The skies are Gruyere since she left me  
I've never felt so Danish blue,  
Caught between Roquefort and a hard cheese,  
I Stilton know what to do.

Don't give an Edam about the future  
now my Babybel's walked out the door  
Can't believe I've double Glouster  
I Camembert it any more.

I've Ricotta get myself together  
and build my life back Caerphilly.  
Cheddar tear for the final time  
Say 'Goodbye' to us and Halloumi.

Anon

## Thoughts to make you Smile

Starting tomorrow, whatever life throws at me, I'm ducking!  
I'm not lazy, just highly motivated to do nothing.

I'm not superstitious, just a little bit stitious.

If you're cooler than me, does that mean I am hotter than you?

Of course I talk to myself. Sometimes I need expert advice.

They say you learn from your mistakes. I'll soon be a genius.

Alcohol doesn't solve all your problems but neither does milk.

Smile while you still have teeth.

People say nothing is impossible but I do nothing every day.

I am like a good wine, I get better with age.

I intend to live forever.....so far so good.

Even if you are on the right track, you will get run over if you just stay there.

There are 3 kinds of people in this world, those who are good at maths and those who aren't.

**A clever person solves a problem, a wise one avoids it.**

quote from Albert Einstein.