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### **A word from the President.**

Dear Members

On behalf of the Hume U3A Committee, I would like to welcome you all back to classes for this year –2022 and also welcome any new members to our classes. It is extremely pleasing to note that over 95% of our classes have commenced for 2022 which is a great start to the year, considering all we went through during 2020-21.

We trust you will have an enjoyable year catching up with old friends and meeting new ones. We also look forward to a year of good health free of any of the adverse effects of Covid- 19 or any other illnesses for that matter. At present there is still no Victorian Government direction to change density limits in Community facilities. We therefore encourage all Tutors to manage the Social Distancing when running classes, considering the high number of Omicron cases still in the Community. This could include thinking about how you're setting up your room, tables and chairs, food etc. and managing how many people attend on a particular day.

As safety is always a top priority, we request that all members follow the undermentioned precautions while Covid-19 is still around:-

- Be fully vaccinated or have a valid exemption.
- Wear a mask indoors ( unless eating or drinking )
- QR in on entry
- Practice social distancing and good hygiene
- Wipe down all high touch points before leaving the classroom
- Stay at home if unwell, awaiting a test result or having been advised to isolate.

As a volunteer organisation we rely on the support of all members in different ways to run over 30 courses each semester. Thank you to the members who undertake the Covid Monitoring role which is part of our Covid Safe Plan and a necessary safety initiative. All the best for the ensuing year and I look forward to catching up with you in the near future.

*Geoff Mackay*  
*Hume U3A President*

**Note:** *The amended Life Membership and Awards Policy can be found on page 8. Submissions for Life Membership 2022 must meet the criteria outlined in the document. Submissions must be emailed to the Secretary: [secretary@humeu3a.org.au](mailto:secretary@humeu3a.org.au) by **June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022.***

## Farewell 2021

*Celebrating a rare Huff N Puff session in 2021, Robyn is so pleased to have us all back in class.*



*Changes to Covid rules allowed some of us to get back to normal, well the New Normal anyway. Huff N Puff members rallied for a few classes in late November and ended the year on a high note..... Christmas Party!!!!*



**I lost my job at the bank on the very first day!**

**A lady asked me to check her balance so I pushed her over.....**

*A rubber-band pistol was confiscated from an algebra class, because it was a weapon of math destruction.*



**Line Dancing** finished the year on the right foot too, celebrating a return to dance, late in the year, and enjoying each other's company in time for Christmas.



**Happy Birthday**

Best wishes to all U3A members who recently celebrated a birthday, and to those, who have a birthday to look forward to in February and March.

## Welcome 2022



## Thankyou lunch for Tutors and Volunteers

Our lives according to Covid, have for the present, changed the ways we work, play and celebrate and has impacted all of our U3A Hume activities. However, on January 21<sup>st</sup> this year, we were finally able to celebrate and acknowledge the great work that our tutors and volunteers did throughout 2021. Our acknowledgment of their efforts was marked with a buffet lunch at the Highlands Hotel in Craigieburn which was attended by some of the tutors and volunteers.

While we may have been in lockdown for much of the year there was still work happening behind the scenes. Tutors ran Zoom classes, the Committee kept us in touch with the changes in Covid and implications for our activities, the newsletter provided light relief and many of us received well being phone calls from our tutors and volunteers.

We would not be functioning as Hume U3A without you. There would be no programs without your continuing long term commitment to all of us.

A huge vote of thanks to all our tutors and volunteers for your work in 2020 and 2021, together with the hope that 2022 will be an amazing year for U3A.



**Left to Right Standing:** Dick Radenkovic, Margaret Skellett, Choi Foong, Geoffrey Mackay, Anne de Gabrielle, Marilyn Rohweder, Lee Tipton, John Druery, Evelyn Lazarus, Pat Blundell, Neville Blundell, Gloria Taylor, Lorraine levins, Peter Lazarus.

**Left to Right sitting :** Maureen Boyse, Lin Fong, Andy de Gabrielle, Ann Druery, Maria Malacria, Patricia Redenkovic.

Our first post Covid floral art class. The ladies were very happy and excited to be back and very happy with their designs.  
Regards  
**Maria**



### **Class enrolments and other stuff**

A reminder that Class enrolments are still open. At present there are only 2 people enrolled in **Mahjong**. We would love to hear from anyone who would like to learn or play Mahjong.



It's time to think about **Bunnings Sausage Sizzles** too. Do you have a spare few hours over a weekend to support U3A? It's a great fund raiser for us and one we have sorely missed over the last two years. Not to mention the smell of cooked onion wafting across the carpark.

Our social calendars have been pretty light on recently but now that we can move further afield, how about a trip or two? **Day trips or overnights** might be a way to start. How about some ideas???? We would welcome them.

To register interest or ideas please call **Anne De Gabrielle 0403 067 626** or email **membership@humeu3a.org.au**





## Future sessions to add to your diary.

Zoom sessions with a weather theme, will be presented in conjunction with U3A Sunbury.

### **2nd May: "Of Droughts and Flooding Rains – Rainfall Variability in Australia",**

*In this talk we look at the long history of droughts and floods in Australia and their devastating impact on society. In an attempt to predict these extreme events "long range" forecasting became a hot topic, with early practitioners such as Inigo Jones and Lennox Walker becoming household names in the 50's and 60's.*

*Towards the end of the talk we look at modern progress, with sea surface temperatures identified as important rainfall drivers.*

### **9th May: "From Gods to Gigabytes - A Brief History of Weather Forecasting"**

*This tells the fascinating story of humanity's love affair with the weather – together with the strong desire to predict it.*

*Many different forecasting methods have been tried down the ages such as using prayer and sacrifice to the Sky Gods, observing the behaviour of plants and animals, looking at cloud patterns and in more recent times using science, technology and mathematics as the main forecasting tools. Modern weather prediction is one of the more recent scientific endeavours. Mathematics, physics and chemistry can be traced back for centuries but mathematical weather forecasting is barely 100 years old and has made astonishing progress in such a short time.*

### **16th May: "East Coast Lows (ECL's) – the Demons of the Shoreline"**

*This looks at the causes of ECL's and significant historical events they have produced – the wrecks of the Dunbar (1857) and Maitland (1898), the Bondi tragedy (1938), the Sydney and Central Coasts (1974), the Pasha Bulker (2007) and Collaroy (2016).*

*The improvements in predicting the development of ECL's is looked at, together with the theoretical and instrumental progress that has underpinned this progress.*

### **23rd May: "The Forecast for D Day"**

*Arguably one of the most important weather forecasts in recorded history the weather prediction for Operation Overlord – the invasion of German occupied Normandy in June 1944 - is a fascinating story. The weather for the first day of the operation - called D Day - was of paramount importance and here we look at the behind-the-scenes decision making that went into the weather predictions involved.*



**Pro cooking tip:**

If you stir coconut oil into your kale, it makes it easier to scrape it into the trash.

## Chinese Year of the Tiger.....2022



The Lunar New Year is rung in Tuesday, February. 1, 2022, with festivities celebrated by nearly two billion people worldwide that can go on for more than two weeks.

Also known as the Chinese New Year – and as the Spring Festival in China – the celebration marks the end of the Year of the Ox and the start of the Year of the Tiger.

It is a traditional time to honour ancestors and deities, with family reunions, street parades and fireworks to drive off evil spirits. While based on the Chinese lunar calendar, Lunar New Year is also celebrated in Korea, Singapore, Mongolia, Tibet, Vietnam and in Asian communities worldwide.

Red and gold symbolise good fortune on the Lunar New Year.

The Chinese calendar is on a 12-year cycle, with each year linked to one of a dozen animals – the rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster, dog and pig. The Chinese New Year usually falls on the second new moon after the northern hemisphere winter solstice.

Gift giving at the start of the Lunar New Year is an important custom. Instead of gifts of material objects, parents give money to their unwed children in red packets called Ang Pow.



*To anyone who is feeling unwell. We hope you are well on the way to recovery and soon able to rejoin your U3A class.*



I am mystified that people are so angry about Serbian tennis player Novak Djokovic being an anti-vaxer and his current visa troubles with the Australian govt. I know that it is his personal choice.

But his parents must have known something way back then as they named him....

"No Vac" 🤔🤔🤔

Now....that's a Djok 😂

Serb him right ! 🤔

And all becos of kovic 🤔 !!

**WIFE: DID I GET FAT DURING  
QUARANTINE?  
HUSBAND: YOU WEREN'T  
REALLY SKINNY TO BEGIN WITH!  
TIME OF DEATH: 11:00PM  
CAUSE: COVID**



## Dine Out 2022

**When:** Friday February 25<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** Westmeadows Tavern

**Time:** 6.00pm

Call Anne to make a booking at least 3 days prior to ensure you have a seat at the table.

**Anne: 0403 067 626 or Pat: 0400 092 027**



We extend our thoughts to the family and friends of Pat Cairns who recently passed away. She died peacefully in her sleep. Pat was an active member of Walkaways and Australian History for many years.

### Our brains are amazing..... Thanks Win

I cdnuolt blvieve that I culod aulacly uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaomneal pweor of the hmuam mind. Aocccdrnig to rsceearh at Cmabrigtde Uinervtisyt ideosn't mtttaer in waht order the ltteers in a word are, the only iprmoatnt thing is taht the frist and lsat ltteer are in the rghit pacle. The rset can be in a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a problem. Tihs is bcuseae the human mind deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the word as a wlohe.

Amzanig Huh?????? Yaeh and I awlyas thought slpeling was ipmorantt !!!!

### WORDLE

Josh Wardle, a software engineer in Brooklyn, knew his partner loved word games, so he created a guessing game for just the two of them. As a play on his last name, he named it [Wordle](https://www.powerlanguage.co.uk/wordle). On Nov. 1, 2021 90 people played. Just over two months later, more than 300,000 people played. It's been a meteoric rise for the once-a-day game, which invites players to guess a five-letter word in a similar manner as the guess-the-color game Mastermind. After guessing a five-letter word, the game tells you whether any of your letters are in the secret word and whether they are in the correct place. You have six tries to get it right.

Wordle can be found here:

<https://www.powerlanguage.co.uk/wordle>

***The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.***

**Played it. Loved it. Loved the challenge.  
Be careful as Wordle uses American spelling (humour is humor in Wordle) and its addictive!!  
Thanks Peter  
Ed**

Following a review of the Life Membership and Awards Policy, the Committee has approved some amendments. The major change is a reduction in membership service from **20** years to **15** years as a **mandatory** pre-requisite to qualify for Life Membership.

Also the words “**continuous** years” have been changed to read “**accumulated** years” in order to now recognise someone who may have had broken service but eventually acquired 15 year’s service.



## Policy and Procedures Manual LIFE MEMBERSHIP AND AWARDS

### Life Membership and Awards for Hume U3A

The following are the guidelines to be used before bestowing an Outstanding Volunteers Award or a Life Membership to a member of the Hume U3A.

#### Distinguished Volunteers Award

Tutors, committee and volunteers will be awarded a “Recognition of Contribution” certificate for **15 years accumulated** service. Similar certificates will be awarded for each successive 5 years of service.

#### Life Membership

Hume U3A Life Membership is a special honour given to recognise outstanding commitment, service, and support to the Hume U3A over a long period of time.

The following is the criteria that will be considered by the Committee before conferring a request for Life Membership:

##### **Mandatory**

1. (a) **Accumulated** membership of the Hume U3A for **15** years. or  
(b) Served on the committee for at least 5 years, as part of 10 years accumulated membership.

##### **Plus one or more of the following:-**

2. (a) Held an Executive position of President, Secretary, or Treasurer for at least 2 years.  
(b) A history of support for Hume U3A.  
(c) A history of supporting Hume U3A in negotiations with local government and other related organisation

Nominations for Life membership shall be made by two members. The nomination is to be sent to the Secretary in writing, or E Mail based on the defined criteria **by the end of June**. Any other information that is considered relevant should be included. Nominations will be treated in confidence. Awards and Life Memberships will be presented at the **AGM in August** each year.

**Next edition:**  
**April 2022**



*No Trivia this edition. Apologies to our Trivia Tragicis.*

The Committee of Hume U3A would like to thank Maria Vamvakinou MP and her staff for the printing of this newsletter.