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A word from the President.

Dear members

Can you believe that it is only **3 weeks until Xmas?**

Overall **2022** has been a good year for Hume U3A, compared to the previous two years, when our classes were disrupted by COVID restrictions. At least this year we have been able to return to some form of normality.

Thank you to all the Volunteer Tutors and others who have given their time and effort to ensure the continuance of our organisation. Also, the Committee deserves our thanks for their continued support. In particular our Membership Officer, **Marilyn Rohweder**, who puts in an enormous effort well over the call of duty as she takes on work normally performed by a Course Co-Ordinator and Office Manager. It is pleasing to report that once again we have been successful in gaining a \$1500 grant from the Hume City Council. Thanks to our Treasurer Julie McPherson.

Our Social Committee, comprising of Anne and Pat, were able to successfully organise a Bus Trip to Marysville in November and it was good to see people up and about supporting social activities. Once the Summer program has been finalised it will be published to all members. We request that you support the social activities wherever possible.

On behalf of the Hume U3A Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family all the very best for a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Mackay, President Hume U3A



Cyber Security

Hacking of Optus accounts and more seriously, Medibank, have highlighted the constant vigil needed against Cybercrime.

The U3A Hume membership system has been made more secure to limit the damage of any exposure of confidential information. The membership system has names and addresses of members, telephone numbers and full birth dates. It does not use or save credit card, bank account or Medicare card details. Saved passwords are encrypted.

Changes that have been made include deleting the records of persons who have not been members since 2019. All records of deceased members have been deleted.

The system now only records the birth year of members. Birthday and month have been removed. New members will only enter their birth year.

System passwords will be changed each six months. Passwords shall be 12 characters in length. Example: lh645%LnFm6G

The membership system is secure to an extent limited by factors outside the control of U3A Hume. The website and membership systems depend also on the security facilities provided by our Internet Service Provider VentralP.

Peter Lazarus

Webmaster

2023 Enrolments and fees

A reminder to all that fees must be paid prior to commencing classes for 2023.

Fees can be paid on line via our website **or** in person to Marilyn Rohweder....

Where: GPCC
When: Monday January 30th 2023 to Friday February 3rd 2023
Time: Daily between 10am -12noon

Bunnings' Fundraisers are back.....

Over many years Bunnings' Sausage Sizzles have provided great fundraising opportunities for U3A . After the long Covid lockdowns and our slow return to the new normal it is now time for Hume U3A members to get involved and support Choi Foong and Marilyn Rohweder in getting our sessions off the ground.

We have not been allocated days and dates yet but don't let that stop you from hopping registering your interest to volunteer. It only requires a few hours of your time on the day.

To Register: email Marilyn at membership@humeu3a.org.au



All class start dates are on
our Hume U3A website...
humeu3a.org.au



From Our Social Secretary:



Dine Out 2023

When: Friday February 24th
Where: TBA
Time: 6.00pm

Our last Dine Out for 2022 was held at The Meadow Inn on Sydney Road. Good meal and great company. Looking forward to our 2023 program.



Summer program

NOTE:

As our Newsletter goes to print the final details of the Summer program, in January, are not yet available.

Anne De Gabrielle and Pat Blundell will finalise details shortly and all information will be emailed to members and also loaded onto our Website.

Please remember to:

- check emails regularly
- log onto our website....humeu3a.org.au
- spread the word to others

Thankyou

Editor

Australian History

Australian History has been a popular course within our U3A suite of courses for many years. We are seeking a new tutor for this popular course s it may continue in 2023.

Special thanks to Wendy Dalton for the time she has put into the preparation and delivery of amazing elements that make up our Australian History.

To register your interest: email Marilyn at membership@humeu3a.org.au



Searching for a Tutor



VALE

We extend our thoughts to family and friends of Stan Kurth who passed away in October this year. Stan joined U3A in July 2001 and was a keen participant in Tai Chi classes. He was also an avid gardener and a member of the Broadmeadows Garden Club.

Celebrating the Melbourne Cup U3A style.....

Yet one more reason to shorten the punishing workouts Ira puts us through weekly.

The Melbourne Cup.....

Morning tea, The Huff Puff Sweep and best hat competition were enjoyed by all.



**You are a Winner
Margaret Skellett**



Winners of the Cup Hat competition were:

L to R:

Tamara Guglielmi

Faye Tamburro

Dawn Daws

Cup Sweep winners were:

1st Robyn Craig

2nd Ira Vale

3rd Sandra Dyer



The draw was held in front of the group. No room for rigging. Thanks for the heads up Robyn Craig.



Day trip to Marysville, November 16th

So exciting to finally see us heading out on a day trip. The first for the year. It's been such a long time and it's fantastic to see such a large group respond to Anne De Gabrielle and Pat Blundell's invitation to board the bus!!!!



We enjoyed "on coach" fun as well as the scenic drive via Diamond Creek and past Sugar Loaf Dam to arrive in Yarra Glen for morning tea. As we arrived the skies opened and a mad dash was made for the covered rotunda a little distance from the coach.



While it was very damp underfoot it didn't stop anyone from enjoying the delicious morning tea provided to us. Thankyou .

Back on the bus and we head to Marysville via Healesville and Narbathong. Once again a beautiful scenic drive. It was devastating to see the damage caused by the rainfall we have experienced in recent weeks and months.

Neville won the honour of wearing Bruno's hat. Lucky man!



Passing through Marysville we arrive at Bruno's Art Sculpture Garden. Bruno welcomes us, introduces us to some of the quirky features of the art gallery and provides us with some background to the gardens. The bushfires of 2009 destroyed his home, workshop, gardens and some sculptures. With a lot of fundraising and help from community the Sculpture Gardens are once more quite spectacular. The beautiful gardens have regenerated and, at present, there is a raging creek running in the back of the gardens. Sometime commented that they wish they had a line as the trout would be loving it.



Many of the sculptures have a mystical and oriental sense about them bringing a feeling of peace and tranquillity as you wander around.

The 2009 fires completely destroyed this sculpture and many others. Dedication and hard work has restored them.

It is interesting that day trips were first mooted, by Anne and Pat, in April this year but it took until November before our first trip for 2022. Now we've tested the water, let's get behind our Social Committee in 2023 for another outing.

Editor



You just can't take Dawn Daws anywhere.

Back on the bus and we are ready for lunch at the bakery and what a noisy crew to take to lunch. Much "cheering and singing (tradition started in Mildura on another Nationwide tour I am told)" and laughter in between eating lunch.

For those into Op shops there is one right next door!

While the old Marysville cannot return, the new Marysville is just as pretty in its own right. The tree lined streets and local shops compliment the newer modern buildings. It's truly worth a visit if you haven't been back since the fires.

Finally time to head home and we board the coach to drive back to Gladstone Park via Alexandra and Yea, both pretty country towns.

I hope I can safely say that we all had a great day out and look forward to 2023 and more tours.

Joyeux Noël et bonne année



Morning Tea to celebrate our 2022 French classes.

L to R: Peter Lazarus, Eddie Abraham (tutor), Oliver Mc Auley, Helen Rees, Thelma Marshall, Jenny Safstrom, Terry Hanlon, Marilyn Rohweder (taking the photo).

Walkaways Christmas Lunch

Our first full year, since Covid, that we have been able to walk our way around the many walking paths, both locally and a little further afield. We were very fortunate that the weather only caused the cancellation of one or two days in 2022, which is pretty amazing.

Good company and good food was enjoyed on Thursday December 2nd at our Christmas Breakup lunch at Skyways.

Our special thanks to Lorraine Ivens and Gloria Chandler for their leadership, our gift at Christmas but most importantly for the time and effort you have both put into planning our walks and keeping us all in line. Thankyou also to Judy Barnes for her thoughtfulness to us all at this time of the year.



Jan dressed up for lunch.

Happy New Year and see you all at Poyntons in February for scones and cream after our walk of course!!

Merry Christmas everyone. Santa's on his way



A big thankyou to the team for our newsletter.
Love it.
Your Poster Girl
Margaret



Merry Christmas to all at Walkaways. Bring on 2023!



Hope you have all enjoyed your many U3A experiences this year and look forward to all that 2023 has to offer. Thankyou to all our members who have contributed to our newsletter throughout the year.

Relax and enjoy the break from U3A activities and celebrate the festive season anyway you please.

Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and busy 2023.

Editor

Next Edition February 2023

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