

# CONTACT

VOLUME 24, No. 1 February 2020



**MOONEE VALLEY NEWSLETTER**  
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A MOONEE VALLEY INCORPORATED (A0034837K) ABN: 73 188 473 048

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What's in this issue?	Calendar of events		
From the President	Mon	10 Feb	Term one classes begin
Course Coordinator's Report	Thurs	20 Feb	Committee meeting 9.30 am
Membership Manager's Report	Thurs	20 Feb	Lunch at Anglers Tavern. Noon
Treasurer's Report	Wed	4 March	Melbourne Costume Collection 10am.
Office News	Wed	18 March	Incinerator Gallery tour 11 am
Social information.	Thurs	19 March	Committee meeting 9.30am
The Great Courses	Thurs	19 March	Lunch at Anglers Tavern Noon.
Vale Vera Andrades	Fri	27 March	End of term one
	Tues	14 April	Term two begins
	Thurs	2 April	Forum at Windy Hill 10.30
	Wed	15 April	Billy Elliot 1pm
	Thurs	16 April	Lunch at Anglers Noon
	Wed	22 April	Federation Square Tour
	Thurs	21 May	Committee meeting 9.30
	Thurs	21 May	Lunch at Anglers Tavern
	Thurs	28 May	Next Contact magazine due
	Wed	17 June	Bran Nue Day 1pm.

The authors make every effort to ensure that the information in this newsletter is correct when going to print. U3A MV does not assume and hereby disclaims any liability to any party for any loss, damage or disruption caused by errors or omissions.

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Welcome everyone to U3A Moonee Valley February 2020 edition of Contact. I hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas/New Year break and a special welcome to all new members.

Let's keep our U3A great. Do you have a keen interest in a topic that you would like to share with others? Do you think you could be a tutor but not sure how to go about translating an interest into a course? I commend to you the article by Bruce Findlay about "The Great Courses" which appears later in this edition of Contact.

## **2019AGM**

The Annual General Meeting took place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at the Ascot Vale Neighbourhood Centre. The purpose of the AGM is for the President and Treasurer to present their annual reports to members, for the election of the 2020 Committee of Management, and for the acknowledgement of the work of all our volunteers who contribute their time, skills and enthusiasm for the benefit of members. This year members were also asked to vote on a motion to increase fees across all categories of membership by \$10 pa applicable to the year ending November 2021.

AGM's aren't known for being the most fascinating of occasions so a big thank you to the 80 or so members who attended, ensuring we had a quorum and our business could be transacted.

## **2020 Committee of Management:**

Seven committee positions were due for election in 2017. They were President, Secretary and four Ordinary Members, each for a two-year term and one for a one-year term.

Seven nominations were received and those members were elected unopposed. The members of the 2020 Committee of Management are:

Brian Smith (President)  
Mandy Heane (Vice President)  
Michael Walsh (Treasurer)  
Jenny Dwyer (Secretary)  
Geoff Miller (Course/Tutor Coordinator)  
Barrie Fenby (Membership Database Manager)  
Edith James (Venue Coordinator)  
Marjorie Ridley (Office Manager)  
Jo Bradshaw (Events co-ordinator)  
Lorraine Rodger (Database Assistant)  
Bruce Findlay  
Maureen Gleeson

## **Fee Increase:**

After some discussion the motion was passed.

**Acknowledgement of Tutors:** Geoff Miller asked the meeting to acknowledge all the Tutors who provide such a diverse range of activities for member's enjoyment. He also acknowledged members who step up and take over classes when tutors are unavailable.

**Office Volunteers:** Office Manager Marjorie Ridley thanked all Office Volunteers and Debney Meadows readers for their hard work and patience. More volunteers are always welcome.

**Retiring Tutors:** Sadly, two of our most experienced tutors died in 2019. Jenny Dwyer paid tribute to Vera **Andrades**, our much loved Italian and Line Dancing tutor who died in November. Geoff Miller paid tribute to the exemplary **Ian Grahame**. Ian was running 3 philosophy classes and continued to teach despite serious ill-health until a month before his death.

Pauline Lane thanked the wonderful **Alex Vanderkooij**. Alex is one of our original pioneer tutors. He demystified Cryptic crosswords and encouraged his scrabble players to relax and have fun. Alex happily had a supply of chocolate coins to reward the players of seven letter words.

At the meeting's close: another delicious afternoon tea thanks to the catering team. Well worth turning up to the AGM for.

### **COURSE COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

I'm sure you are all looking forward to the commencement of our classes and activities for the new year. Although many of our courses filled quickly on enrolment day, there are still places available in many classes and it is not too late to join in - you can either check online or contact the office to see where there are vacancies.

The great majority of our courses start in the week beginning the 10th of February.

However please note that *Bridge Lessons for Beginners* will now start on the 17th, a week earlier than originally advertised.

*Cryptic Crosswords*, *Folk Art* and *Spanish 1* will all commence in the second week of the semester. *Croquet* will begin in the third week (Tuesday 25th February).

There are two new short courses commencing after the first term break: *The Gentle Art of Japanese Stitching* already has a wait list.

You can still join the class for *The Perfect Opera - Der Rosenkavalier*, which starts on the 14th of April. This course is particularly recommended to members who enjoy our *Opera at the Sun Theatre* sessions. To conclude: If there is room in your week for another U3A class, go online to our website.

Click on "Courses" in the top bar and you will be able to find which classes still have vacancies.

I trust that you will all enjoy your U3A activities in 2020.

**Geoff Miller**

### **MEMBERSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT**

**NEED A BADGE?:** If your badge needs replacing now is the time to let us know. Please ring the office in office hours to be put on the list.

This will allow us to make a batch of badges. It is quite expensive to make badges in small numbers.

**ARE YOU ON A WAIT LIST?:** The likelihood of your being accepted into a course for which you are on a wait list depends upon a number of factors, including your position on the wait list. Should a vacancy occur, the tutor will contact wait list members according to the order of the list.

Our database is not set up to give members their position on each list, however the office has a copy of the order as at the beginning of Term 1.

You can get this information by ringing during office hours.

If you have decided to drop out of a course remember to inform your Tutor. If you miss three consecutive classes without apology you can be taken off the class list.

**Barrie Fenby**

## **OFFICE NEWS.**

We've had our volunteer's meeting and the office is up and running. The Committee of Management and I would like to thank new and returning Office Volunteers for 2020.

The Office hours at present are Monday to Friday from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm until the end of February. However, from March onwards, the office will reduce its open days to Monday/Wednesday/Friday until the 5th June. The office is not open in school holidays.

Your voice on the phone could be the first contact someone has with our organization.

We are proud of the professional manner and dedication of our Office Volunteers and their efficiency in handling all enquires.

We are always looking for new Volunteers to staff the Office especially for emergency duty.

If you are able to assist or wish to find out more, please do not hesitate to contact me via email on officecomv@gmail.com or 0410 435 929.

**Marjorie Ridley**  
**Office Coordinator**

## **MONTHLY LUNCHESES at The Anglers Tavern**

All U3A Moonee Valley members are invited to attend the monthly lunches which are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month except December.

Venue : The Bistro, The Anglers Tavern 2 Raleigh Road, Maribyrnong

There is plenty of car parking at the hotel, plus, the no 57 and 82 Maribyrnong trams stop near the door.

You select and then pay for your own food and drink. There is a wide range of dishes offered on the main Bistro menu. Senior's meals of generous proportions are also available. Current prices for

Senior's meals are:

3 courses \$22.90, 2 courses \$19.90, and 1 course \$16.90.

2020 Lunch Dates.

20 February.	16 July
19 March.	20 August
16 April.	17 September
21 May.	15 October
18 June.	19 November

We would be very happy to see you at the Anglers for lunch.

If you plan to attend, please contact Marjorie Ridley on 0410 435 929 or email officecomv@gmail.com by the preceding Friday.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial statements for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 are presented to members. These have been prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with relevant accounting standards. The accounts have been submitted for audit but we have not yet received sign-off from our auditor. In the unlikely event that they need amendment, members will be updated with an amended version.

U3A Moonee Valley Inc  
**Income Statement**  
For the year ended 30 November 2019

	Note	2019	2018
<b>INCOME</b>			
Revenue	8	43,656.74	39,009.34
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Social events		11,716.03	14,390.85
Tutors expenses	9	6,279.00	5,833.83
Volunteers expenses		1,155.00	1,459.26
Projects		1,205.61	0.00
Venues		10,039.39	7,737.04
Administration expenses	10	10,767.46	10,921.44
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	11	1,716.60	6,056.50
Sundry expenses		128.00	638.30
Total expenditure		43,007.09	47,037.22
<b>Surplus/ (deficit) for the year</b>		649.65	(8,027.88)

**Balance Sheet**  
As at 30 November 2019

	Note	2019	2018
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	28,107.78	17,981.75
Accounts receivable and other debtors	4	0.00	5,124.08
<b>Total current assets</b>		28,107.78	23,105.83
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Plant and equipment	5	1,564.51	3,281.11

<b>Total assets</b>		<u>29,672.29</u>	<u>26,386.94</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	6	7,991.54	5,355.84
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>7,991.54</u>	<u>5,355.84</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		21,680.75	21,031.10
Retained surplus	7	21,680.75	21,031.10
<b>Net worth</b>		<u>21,680.75</u>	<u>21,031.10</u>

### Notes to Accounts

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
<b>Note 3: Cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Cash at bank	28,107.78	17,981.75
<b>Note 4: Account receivables and other debtors</b>		
PayPal subscriptions	0.00	5,310.00
PayPal charges	0.00	(185.92)
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>5,124.08</u>
<b>Note 5: Plant and equipment</b>		
Office equipment at cost	2,855.00	2,855.00
Less accumulated depreciation	(2,855.00)	(2,819.64)
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>35.36</u>
Computers at cost	7,664.96	7,664.96
Less accumulated depreciation	(6,100.45)	(4,516.29)
	<u>1,564.51</u>	<u>3,148.67</u>
Equipment various at cost	21,174.65	21,174.65
Less accumulated depreciation	(21,174.65)	(21,077.57)
	0.00	97.08
<b>Total plant and equipment</b>	<u>1,564.51</u>	<u>3,281.11</u>
<b>Note 6: Trade and other payables</b>		
Trade creditors	6,100.45	3,925.84
Income received in advance	1,215.00	1,430.00

7,315.45	5,355.84
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**Note 7: Retained surplus**

Balance as at 1 December 2018	21,031.10	29,058.98
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	649.65	(8,027.88)
	<u>21,680.75</u>	<u>21,031.10</u>

**Note 8: Revenue**

Class fees	1,320.00	1,480.00
Grants	5,500.00	0.00
Interest	41.74	0.00
Social events	11,445.00	15,168.00
Subscriptions	25,350.00	22,345.92
Sundry	0.00	15.42
	<u>43,656.74</u>	<u>39,009.34</u>

**Note 9: Tutors expenses**

Aids	4,268.77	3,933.83
Gifts	2,010.23	1,900.00
	<u>6,279.00</u>	<u>5,833.83</u>

**Note 10: Administration expenses**

AGM	363.45	758.85
Fees and charges	676.83	199.25
Communications	601.43	751.00
Office expenses	2,607.47	2,070.53
Photocopier rental	2,758.80	2,758.80
Postage	875.69	1,430.34
Stationery and photocopying	1,474.96	506.57
U3A network	1,191.00	1,042.00
Catering	217.83	331.40
Printing	0.00	1,072.70
	<u>10,767.46</u>	<u>10,921.44</u>

**Note 11: Depreciation and amortisation expenses**

Office equipment	35.36	132.64
Computers	1,584.16	1,539.29
Equipment various	97.08	4,384.57
	<u>1,716.60</u>	<u>6,056.50</u>

**Michael Walsh**

## **The Great Courses – A Great Opportunity.**

Moonee Valley U3A recently achieved a substantial grant from the Bendigo Bank.

“Our pitch for funding” was that we would like to buy DVD’s from The Great Courses catalogue to increase our range of classes on offer.

The idea was sparked when I used the DVD’s from one of the Great Course series for a class called “Why you are who you are”. This course explores what research psychologists have come to understand about human personality. The class ran during terms 1 and 2 in 2019 and is being repeated in 2020. It received excellent feedback, and the 2020 course filled up in minutes after enrolment opened.

I’d like to encourage other people to explore what The Great Courses have to offer. I’m hoping that some of you will be inspired to use one of them as the basis of a class that you could run.

The Great Courses provides a diverse range of topics ( more than 700 ).

The usual format is a series of 30-minute videos from a recognised authority.

In my U3A group, I played the video and then facilitated a discussion on its contents.

Class members told me they really enjoyed these sessions. Depending on whether the venue permits, I’d suggest a 10-minute tea/coffee break in the middle of the 2-hour session.

Some of the fascinating subjects available in Great Courses format are as follows:

**Fine Arts** (The World’s Greatest Churches, Travel Photography, Leonardo da Vinci, Painting, Sketching , Musical Instruments and many more.)

**Literature and Language** ( Books that Matter, Mythologies of the World, King Arthur: History and Legend, The Art of Storytelling, and many more.)

**Philosophy and Intellectual History** (Big Questions of Philosophy, The Modern Political Tradition, Development of European Civilisation, and many more.)

**Science** (Understanding the Misconceptions of Science, Life in the World’s Oceans, Food, Science, the Human Body, Disease, Geology, Astronomy etcetera.)

**Better Living** (Masters of Mindfulness, The Great Tours: England, Scotland and Wales, Essential Italy, London, Landscape and Wildlife Photography, and so much more.)

**History** ( Medieval history, World Wars, American History, British History, The Civil War, French Revolution etcetera)

If you would like to preview a Great Course, many of them (not all) are available to watch, for free, on Kanopy. Are you already familiar with this? If not, Kanopy is a free video streaming service (like Netflix) which you can access for free on-line through Moonee Valley Library.

This scheme allows library members to view 10 hours’ worth of content per week.

You can help us make the most of our grant money by telling us which courses look appropriate and interesting enough for us to purchase. (some are better illustrated than others.)

If you become enthused about any of them, and I hope you will, contact Geoff Miller, Course Coordinator, through the office.

If you would like to talk to me about the practicalities of using them in a group, contact me on [bfindlay99@gmail.com](mailto:bfindlay99@gmail.com)

**Bruce Findlay**



**April Forum:** Thursday 2 April 2020, 10.30am to 12noon

The Topic: **‘Traps for Young and Old: Safety at Your Place’**

U3A Moonee Valley members and guests are invited to attend a presentation by health and safety specialist Jon Temby of Axento Safety Pty Ltd.

Jon works to help businesses improve profitability through better management systems and practical safety outcomes.

At this Forum, Jon will discuss general home-based safety risks and suggest simple and practical solutions that should work for you.

The location for the Forum is **Windy Hill Venue**, corner Napier and Brewster Streets, Essendon. Car parking is usually available in Napier Street. For public transport, use stop 41 on the 59-tram route, then walk north on Napier Street to Brewster Street. The entry to Windy Hill is to your right, on the corner.

Complimentary tea and coffee will be available in the High-Marque Room, second floor, from 10.30am.

To register your name(s) for Thursday 2 April 2020 Forum:

1. Phone your name & phone number to the U3A Moonee Valley office on 9337 7779
2. send an email to mvu3a1@gmail.com

Please indicate if you will be joining us for lunch afterwards at Windy Hill’s Terrace Bistro,

Windy Hill Venue <http://windyhillvenue.com.au> supports U3A Moonee Valley Forums by providing the High-Marque room free of charge along with complimentary tea and coffee. We like to support WHV by staying on to have lunch at the Bistro. Of course, this is also a good opportunity to see old friends from across our membership and classes for a chat.

The WHV Seniors Menu: 1 course \$13.50, 2 courses \$16.50, 3 courses \$19.50  
‘Premium Mains’ meal for an extra \$5, 2 and 3 courses include a glass of beer, wine or soft drink.

I look forward to seeing you at the Forum on Thursday 2 April 2020 from 10.30am.

**Robyn Temby**

Do you know of a speaker whom you would recommend? Please email me at [mvu3a1@gmail.com](mailto:mvu3a1@gmail.com)

### **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

The following activities and theatre booking have been organised to provide interesting places for us to visit, opportunities to meet with other members and to see popular shows at a reduced price.

When participating in a **U3A social activity**, members are welcome to bring non-members with them. Prices for theatre performances are quoted for seniors and will generally cover children as well but there may be an extra cost for other adults.

**1. Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Tour of Incinerator Gallery at 11.00 am**

The gallery houses the City of Moonee Valley's Art Collection, exhibiting work from established and emerging artists, as well as providing a community access space.

Built in 1929, this striking building was once the Essendon incinerator. It opened in July 1930 and operated until 1942. It was designed by the famous Walter Burley Griffin and was one of thirteen incinerators built across Australia from 1930 to 1938. Of these incinerators, only six remain. The Essendon Incinerator is the only one remaining in Victoria.

In 2004, the City of Moonee Valley restored the unused building and created the Incinerator Arts Complex. It is now simply an art gallery ideally located just metres from the banks of the Maribyrnong River and close to Aberfeldie and Maribyrnong Parks.

**The tour will start at 11-00 am and will run for approximately one hour.** The minimum number for the tour is 8, with a maximum of 20 participants. Currently we have 4 enrolled, but need at least another 4 for this tour to proceed.

**Location** - 180 Holmes Road, Moonee Ponds 3039.

**Cost** – There is no charge for this tour.

*Please complete the booking slip and either email it to [info@u3amooneevalley.com.au](mailto:info@u3amooneevalley.com.au) attention Mandy Heane, or post it to U3A Moonee Valley PO Box 459 Moonee Ponds, Vic 3039 enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Applications close on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020.*

**2. Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2020 High Tea in Strangers Corridor at Parliament House 2.30pm -4,00pm**

The Parliament of Victoria has been serving traditional afternoon tea since 1924.

Enjoy a glass of sparkling wine on arrival whilst afternoon tea delicacies and freshly brewed tea and coffee are brought to your table. Vegetarian and gluten free options are available.

Treat yourself to a very special High Tea in a very special setting.

**Cost** - \$50.00 per person

**Meet** –at the entrance of the Strangers Corridor Restaurant at 2.30pm. Further details will be provided in your conformation letter.

**Limited Disabled Access** – can be provided at the rear of Parliament House if arranged prior to the visit. This will be negotiated for you.

**Getting There** – We recommend travelling by either train or tram to Parliament Station.

*Please complete the booking slip and either email it to [info@u3amooneevalley.com.au](mailto:info@u3amooneevalley.com.au) attention Helen Mather, or post it to U3A Moonee Valley PO Box 459 Moonee Ponds, Vic 3039 enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.*

*Payment of the \$50.00per person can be made via the internet, by payment via the Bank of Bendigo or by cheque. Please nominate the method of payment and if paying by bank transfer and put your name as "the reference" so we are able to identify the money as coming from you.*

*Applications close on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2020*

**3. Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June at 1.00 pm Bran Nue Dae 1pm. Comedy Theatre.**

Jimmy Chi's coming-of-age musical comedy Bran Nue Dae is an exuberant ride through 1960's Western Australia. Young Willie embarks on a journey of discovery, hitchhiking his way from mission school back to Broome, determined to win the heart of the girl he left behind. He sets out on the road trip of a lifetime with two hippies, a wily Uncle, and a German priest.

**Tickets:** We have 30 tickets, 20 in the stalls, rows O, M N P, and 10 in the Dress Circle row in row D. We

require a minimum of 15 participants.

**Cost** – \$80.00

*To participate, complete the booking slip and return this together with either the payment of \$80.00 per ticket or how you have paid and a stamped, self-addressed envelope and post it to U3A Moonee Valley PO Box 459 Moonee Ponds, Vic 3039 by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2020. If paying by bank transfer please put your name as the reference number so we are able to identify the money as coming from you.*

**Please note**

*In relation to all social activities:*

- Booking forms are on 12.
- Payment can be made by cheque, money order, online via the internet or directly to our Bendigo Bank account, the details of which are:

*Account name: U3A Moonee Valley Inc.*

*BSB: 633-000*

*Account number: 1540 51213*

*When paying via internet or at a bank for deposit to our account, please provide your name as a reference to link your payment with your reply slip. Banks will often ask for a reference number, please put your name as the reference number.*

- Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope with all theatre bookings for the return of your tickets. Applications will be accepted in order of receipt. If oversubscribed a repayment will be provided to you. If oversubscribed a repayment will be provided to you.
- Do not worry if you do not hear from us immediately after sending in your booking. When notifying people, we wait until we have the minimum required for the activity. Notification is generally 3 - 4 weeks after the closing date for that theatre booking.
- **No refunds will be provided**, except when the activity has been cancelled or over- subscribed. If you are unable to attend please arrange for someone else to use your ticket.



Office co-ordinator Marjorie celebrates a birthday on the Tramboat outing.

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES BOOKING FORMS

### 1. **Tour of the Incinerator Gallery on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020, at 11.00 am**

(Closing date Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020)

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Contact Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

*If using the post to send in your booking, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for confirmation*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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### 2. **High Tea in Strangers Corridor at Parliament House on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020, 2.30pm -4,00pm**

(Closing date Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2020)

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Tick if you require disabled access.

Number of persons \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$50.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Method of payment for the above amount (please tick)

( ) Cheque/money order.

( ) Bank deposit – reference number/name \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Payment via internet or at a bank for deposit to our account. In each case we need a name as reference.

*If using the post to send in your booking, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for confirmation*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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### 3. **Theatre tickets to the Musical Comedy Bran Nue Day at the Comedy Theatre**

**on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 1.00 pm** (Closing date Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2020)

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Contact Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets required \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$80.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred location of tickets: Dress Circle ( ) or Stalls ( ) Either ( ) Please tick one to indicate preference

Method of payment for the above amount (please tick)

( ) Cheque/money order.

( ) Bank deposit – reference number/name \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Payment via internet or at a bank for deposit to our account. In each case we need a name as reference.

Please find enclosed a cheque/money order or reference name from bank deposit or internet banking and a stamped, self-addressed envelope for the return of your tickets.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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### **Vale Vera Andrades.**

Vera was an enthusiastic and highly esteemed tutor of Italian. She was also our very talented Line Dancing tutor. Despite serious illness, she continued to teach her classes and only retired in 2019. Sadly, she passed away on November the 17th. 2019

Vera was a natural and gifted teacher who began her teaching career at St Columba's. After the birth of her third child, she taught for the next 25 years at Niddrie Technical School. (Rosehill College). At her funeral service, it was mentioned that she had wonderful rapport with students and worked very effectively with the disengaged and challenging ones.

When Vera retired from teaching she demonstrated her love of singing by joining the the Essendon Choral Society. She regarded it as very fortunate that a fellow chorister (Betty Meadow) told her about the interesting and enjoyable programs on offer at the Moonee Valley U3A.

As a result, we are lucky that Vera joined MV U3A in the first year of its existence. She was one of our originals and pioneers.

She joined computer and public speaking classes. But Vera really loved languages and grammar and so she joined a basic Italian class. The rest is history. She committed herself to this new (for her) language and went on to complete VCE Italian plus 10 years of private study. Vera shared the benefits of her hard work and became our Italian tutor in 2002.

She was famous for her thoroughness and her classes appreciated her dedication. They certainly got value for their annual U3A fee.

Vera has always loved dancing and after her hip replacement in 2004, she found that line dancing was a useful way to rehabilitate. The joyful exercise of line dancing meant goodbye to her limp and walking stick.

Being a born teacher, she introduced line dancing to our MVU3A classes. It is said that she had over 400 dance routines recorded on cards and so her classes were very popular and lots of fun.

Her radiant smile and cowgirl hats made her a standout at line dancing demonstrations. She was a much-loved tutor and is sadly missed.

U3A Moonee Valley acknowledges invaluable support received from  
Moonee Valley City Council, Department for Victorian Communities, ACFE,  
Hon. Bill Shorten MP, Mr Danny Pearson MP and Mr Ben Carroll MP.

