

CONTACT

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MOONEE VALLEY NEWSLETTER
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

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STOP PRESS:



**Need a replacement Badge?
NOW IS THE TIME TO RING
9337 7779**



BADGES – NOW IS THE TIME! From Barrie Fenby.

If your badge need replacing NOW is the time to request it. Badges are made in batches as they are expensive to make in small numbers.

If you need a replacement please ring the office on 9337 7779 and ask for your name to be placed on the list.

New members automatically receive a badge.

FROM THE PRESIDENT. Brian Smith.

Welcome everyone to U3A Moonee Valley for the year 2021.

While there's optimism that the trials and tribulations of 2020 won't be re-visited, we are by no means out of the woods yet with this tricky virus.

I know that you all value highly face to face interaction and the social aspect of classes. However, we have to deal with what the new "Covid normal" environment looks like. We need to safeguard members' health and comply with Government and Council regulations. Thus social distancing regulations and maximum meeting numbers per venue will constrain class sizes. It may well be that throughout the year new constraints will be imposed on us from time to time. We will use careful co-operation when and if authorities have to deal with

“breakouts”. Should we encounter such events the Committee will work with Council and tutors to continue with as many of our activities as possible.

In 2020 a number of courses were able to complete a “normal” year on-line via Zoom. We acknowledge that not every course can be delivered online easily. Not every tutor and member want to meet this way. While Zoom is not a focus for course delivery in 2021 it will be a lifeline if circumstances change and current control measures for Covid are tightened.

Now that we are out of lockdown, *Contact* magazine slims down and returns to the facts and just the facts. For most of last year we could not access our office photocopier. We are grateful to Danny Pearson’s office for duplicating the magazine for our members without email addresses. Thank you to all those who chose to receive *Contact* electronically. You have helped us save a lot of paper, postage and time.

2020AGM

2020 delivered another first for us. Our Annual General Meeting was conducted on Zoom. My heartfelt thanks go out to the 58 members who attended and I confess to having been worried that we might not make a quorum. This would have entailed doing it all again (somehow)! So once again thanks for logging on to the AGM zoom invitation.

The President’s report and nominations for Committee positions had been circulated by email prior to the AGM. This helped speed up the meeting and smoothed the transacting of normal business during the meeting. We even established a possible world record in completing our AGM in 35 minutes. (unlikely to ever be matched in a non-covid year.)

2021 Committee of Management:

The positions of Vice President and Treasurer, and four ordinary members were declared vacant. Five nominations were received, and the following members were elected unopposed to the 2021 committee: Bruce Findlay Vice President; Michael Walsh Treasurer. Also elected were Geoff Miller, Barrie Fenby and Jo Bradshaw as committee members.

One position remains vacant. The members of the 2021 Committee are:

Brian Smith (President)
Bruce Findlay (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)
Maureen Gleeson

Moonee Valley U3A is indeed fortunate to have such experienced hard -working people continuing on with committee work this year.

Deferral of Fee Increase:

As you know, many classes could not be offered in 2020. Because we have had some cost reductions (room hire deferred, photocopier lease terminated), the committee decided to defer the fee rises originally planned for 2021.

A motion to defer the fee increase was passed.

Acknowledgement of Tutors:

Geoff Miller thanked our 53 volunteer tutors, who are the heart of our organisation. After a mere 4 weeks of term one, our venues were closed, and many classes had to cancel. Some tutors were able to keep classes going with Zoom or Email.

Office Volunteers:

Our Office Volunteers are often the first contact people have with our U3A. We had to close the office in March, but Marjorie Ridley monitored the phone, supervised the process of obtaining a new photocopier and kept a wise eye on things.

Acknowledgement of Retiring Committee Members:

Fran Horton: Fran retired from the committee in 2020. She is best characterised as ‘the wise woman’ of our U3A. Fran joined Moonee Valley U3A in 1998. Her valuable contributions have been many and varied. She has been a tutor, our president, our secretary, the assistant treasurer, U3A Network delegate, acting office manager and much more. She is practical, sensible and knows how to make things work. Fran has also been a mentor to presidents and secretaries past and present. Thank you, Fran, for your wonderful contribution.

Heather Feldman: Heather officially retired from the committee in 2018. She has fulfilled the demanding roles of office manager and social activities organiser. As a co-opted member Heather continued to organise our much enjoyed and appreciated theatre outings during 2019. She also organised the very popular Tramboat excursions. Thank you, Heather.

Mandy Heane: Mandy has served two terms as Vice President, and has been responsible for creating and maintaining our stylish and interesting Facebook page. Fortunately, Mandy has agreed to continue as a co-opted member. Thank you, Mandy.

Some AGM attendees captured on Zoom:



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COURSE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

In spite of the latest setback, hopefully most of you have commenced your classes for 2021 this week, after a very long and unwelcome break. We are all keeping our fingers crossed that this year will be very different.

All those involved in indoor activities should have received an information sheet setting out the requirements for maintaining a Covid-safe environment. Although it may seem that the threat of the virus is reduced – at least at the time of writing - please continue to take the threat seriously.

Our eager team of tutors was able to meet face-to-face for the first time in twelve months on Tuesday the 2nd of February. Jeanette Donaldson, (Moonee Valley City Council's Team Leader of Community Facilities), addressed the meeting. Jeanette clarified a number of issues relating to our obligations to protect the safety of those attending classes in council-owned facilities. She also emphasised the very high regard that council has for the service that our U3A provides, particularly to members of the Moonee Valley community, but also to those who reside in neighbouring municipalities.

John McMahon and Bruce Findlay spoke about their experience of successfully conducting their classes by Zoom last year. However, it was agreed that while meeting online can be effective for learning and the sharing of ideas, it can never provide the same level of social interaction that we all appreciate in our normal U3A classes.

There are still vacancies in a number of our courses and it is not too late to enrol. One of these is Women in Strife – Three 19th Century Novels. This commences at the start of Term 2, allowing time to read the novels to be studied. Also, at the time of writing, two of the book clubs each had one vacancy.

I hope you all enjoy your classes and activities in 2021.

Geoff Miller

MEMBERSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

ARE YOU ON A WAIT LIST?

You can see which courses have a waiting list in the table below.

The numbers on the waiting list for each course as at 4 February are given below.

“0” indicates the class is full with no one on the waitlist as yet.

Course	No. on Waitlist	Date first person went on waitlist	Time first person went on waitlist
Badminton	4	20/1	13:29
Book Club 1	0	-	-
Current Affairs	3	20/1	16:49
Fine Films	3	20/1	16:32
Fitness Flexibility and Fun	17	20/1	13:03
Folk Art	0	-	-
French 1A	0	-	-
In the News	11	20/1	13:02
iPad and iPhone	1	28/1	-
Italian for Beginners	8	20/1	13:06
Legacy of ancient Greece	0	-	-
Line Dancing	0		
Mahjong – Western Style	3	20/1	19:13
Natural Philosophy	2	20/1	13:31
Oil Painting	0	-	-
Patchwork and Quilting	0	-	-
Peddalling for Pleasure	0	-	-
Qigong Tai Chi	All accepted	-	-
Sketching and Painting	3	20/1	16:09
Social Activities Craft	0	-	-
The Romanovs	5	20/1	13:05
Timely topics	4	20/1	13:24
Using Social Media	1	20/1	14:07
Wednesday Woodies	1	20/1	16:49
Why you are who you are	3	20/1	13:08

Barrie Fenby

Are you still looking to join a class? Check the course list on the website. The green “open” sign shows which classes you can join.

OFFICE NEWS.

The Committee of Management and I would like to thank all members who volunteered for Office duty for 2021.

We all hope that this year is better than last.

The Office is now open Monday to Friday from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm (excluding school holidays and public holidays until the end of February when we will be open Monday/Wednesday/Friday until the 18th June.

The voice on the phone is often the first contact someone has for our organisation. 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 more 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 **WE ARE BACK**

MONTHLY LUNCHESES AT KEILOR EAST RSL

All U3A Moonee Valley members are invited to attend the monthly lunches which are to be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month until June 2021

Venue : Keilor East RSL
Hoffman's Road,
Keilor East.

You choose and pay for your own food and drink. There is a wide range of dishes offered on the main Bistro menu. Also, Seniors meals of generous proportions are available. Current prices for Senior meals are 3 courses \$18.95 , 2 courses \$16.50 and 1 course \$14.50.

2021 Lunch Dates :

18 February. 18 March. 15 April. 20 May, 17 June.

Please come and join us.

Due to COVID-19 conditions, if you plan to attend lunch please contact Marjorie Ridley on 0410 435 929 or email officecomv@gmail.com. by the Monday of the week of the lunch.

Treasurer's Report:

Financial statements for the year ending 30th November 2020 are presented to members. These have been prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with relevant accounting standards. The accounts were submitted for audit and were signed off as true and fair view by our auditor on 5th January 2021.

Michael Walsh

U3A Moonee Valley Inc
Income Statement
For the year ended 30 November 2020

	Note	2020	2019
INCOME			
Revenue	7	32,246.90	43,656.74
EXPENSES			
Compensation		1,060.00	0.00
Gifts and donations		325.00	0.00
Social events		6,326.00	11,716.03
Tutors expenses	8	2,229.99	6,279.00
Volunteers expenses		0.00	1,155.00
Projects		2,209.81	1,205.61
Venues		1,302.61	10,039.39
Administration expenses	9	7,023.33	10,767.46
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	10	1,405.80	1,716.60
Sundry expenses		0.00	128.00
Total expenditure		21,882.54	43,007.09
Surplus/ (deficit) for the year		10,364.36	649.65

U3A Moonee Valley Inc
Balance Sheet
As at 30 November 2020

	Note	2020	2019
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			

Cash and cash equivalents	3	35,931.40	28,107.78
Total current assets		35,931.40	28,107.78
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Plant and equipment	4	158.71	1,564.51
Total assets		36,090.11	29,672.29
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	5	4,045.00	7,991.54
Total liabilities		4,045.00	7,991.54
Net assets		32,045.11	21,680.75
Retained surplus	6	32,045.11	21,680.75
Net worth		32,045.11	21,680.75

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Note 3: Cash and cash equivalents		
Bendigo Bank Statement account	1,010.76	3,066.04
Bendigo Bank Savings account	34,920.64	25,041.74
	35,931.40	28,107.78
Note 4: Plant and equipment		
Computers at cost	7,664.96	7,664.96
Less accumulated depreciation	(7,506.25)	(6,100.45)
	158.71	1,564.51
Note 5: Trade and other payables		
Trade creditors	0.00	6,776.54
Grants in advance	4,000.00	0.00
Income received in advance	45.00	1,215.00
	4,045.00	7,991.54
Note 6: Retained surplus		
Balance as at 1 December 2019	21,680.75	21,031.10
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	10,364.36	649.65
	32,045.11	21,680.75

Note 7: Revenue

Class fees	1,685.00	1,320.00
Grants	750.00	5,500.00
Interest	53.90	41.74
Social events	5,138.00	11,445.00
Subscriptions	24,620.00	25,350.00
	32,246.90	43,656.74

Note 8: Tutors expenses

Aids	2,229.99	4,268.77
Gifts	0.00	2,010.23
	2,229.99	6,279.00

Note 9: Administration expenses

AGM	0.00	363.45
Fees and charges	650.67	676.83
Communications	638.00	601.43
Office expenses	1,784.55	2,607.47
Photocopier rental	1,609.30	2,758.80
Postage	509.14	875.69
Stationery and photocopying	587.27	1,474.96
U3A network	1,113.25	1,191.00
Catering	131.15	217.83
	7,023.33	10,767.46

Note 10: Depreciation and amortisation expenses

Office equipment	0.00	35.36
Computers	1,405.80	1,584.16
Equipment various	0.00	97.08
	1,405.80	1,716.60

Thanks Michael for your hard work in a difficult year and congratulations on a successful audit.

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.

