

# CONTACT

VOLUME 26, No. 2 May 2022



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

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| What's in this issue?       | Calendar of events |         |   |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------|---|
| From the President          | Thursday           | 16 June | Committee Meeting 10:30 am.<br>Monthly lunch. Keilor East RSL Noon. |
| Course Coordinator's Report | Thursday           | 30 June | Trivia Day  |
| Membership Manager's Report | Thursday           | 7 July  | Forum – The West Gate Bridge Disaster                               |
| Treasurer's Report          | Tuesday            | 12 July | Tutors Meeting, AVNC, 10:00 am                                      |
|                             | Thursday           | 21 July | Monthly Lunch. Keilor East RSL Noon.                                |
|                             | Thursday           | 18 Aug  | Committee Meeting 10:30 am.<br>Monthly lunch. Keilor East RSL Noon. |
|                             |                    |         |   |
|                             |                    |         |   |
|                             |                    |         |   |

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.

## STOP PRESS:



**Office telephone not working!**  
Please use [info@u3amooneevalley.com.au](mailto:info@u3amooneevalley.com.au)

We are working with the Council to resolve this difficult problem. We'll let you know when.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT.

It's wonderful to be meeting our friends and family and going to our U3A classes again. We have reason to be grateful to the medical researchers who have designed effective boosters for us. Many of our members have already bared their arms for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Covid booster plus the flu shot. (different arms on the same day in many cases.)

It is also encouraging that new drugs that have proved to be effective in preventing severe Covid if taken early enough.

I'm sure you all have classes you look forward to attending. For me, it's the French Revolution class, book group and mah-jong. Thanks to all our tutors for adding so much enjoyment to the lives of MVU3A members this semester.

Remember; if you have skills or interests that you could share with a U3A group, Geoff Miller would be very happy to hear from you. Our U3A is only as good as the willingness of members to step forward and offer to share their interests.

In this first semester, our members have had a wide range of experiences with Covid. Some have tested positive, informed their tutor and isolated for the required time before returning to class.

Others have been close contacts and also done the necessary testing and isolation.

We also have members for whom attending class is a bit risky at the moment and I hope that we can find ways to accommodate their participation. The U3A network are working out ways to do future hybrid classes with some present in the room and some joining in online.

Let's not get too complacent. The glorious autumn leaves are falling off the trees now and winter is next week. There are suggestions we might be wise to use masks again to protect ourselves and others against what is being described as a nasty annual flu season.

The golden rule remains that we should stay home if we have cold symptoms.

All that hand washing seems to have been a good thing as well.... We can always sing happy birthday again to give the germs the slip.

The Tram Boat outing (23<sup>rd</sup> March) organised by Helen Mather and Ann Watson was a most enjoyable day. Captain Anthony, as usual, provided entertaining and informative observations as he steered us down the Maribyrnong, turned left into the Yarra River and onwards under many low bridges to Herring Island.

It has been 3 years since the last voyage and amazing to see the new apartment developments that have shot up along the river in that time. The Captain's wife Lisa made sure we were well fed and gave us a guided tour of the island and its interesting natural sculptures.

At the end of June, (June 30<sup>th</sup>) we have another opportunity to have a fun day with friends.

The Trivia Day has always been very enjoyable occasion.

It's lots of fun to discuss the "correct" answer to Michelle's questions. You have to remember to argue about the answers quietly so that nearby tables don't benefit.

Michelle has kindly arranged to have multiple choice answers and has purchased some prizes.

An Omail was sent out to inspire members to form teams. You can also let Michelle know you would like to join a team independently.

The Trivia entry form is included in this "Contact" to remind you what a good day it is and to give you a nudge to get busy sorting out your team.

**\*Please remember to bring your own plate, cup and water bottle. \***

We want this day to be sustainable with minimal one-use waste.

Jan Smith, President

Some pics of our happy  
Tramboat trippers.



## COURSE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

There will be two new courses available in Semester 2: Science Fiction as Philosophy was run in 2021 by Zoom, but this time it will be face-to-face. The second one is a repeat of iPad and iPhone for Beginners and Intermediate. Details of these two courses follow.

There are also 14 continuing courses, listed below, which have vacancies for additional participants.

Remember, if you are currently enrolled in a course which continues into second semester you do not need to re-enrol; just continue to turn up and enjoy it.

### New Courses in Semester 2

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Science Fiction as Philosophy<br>Wed. 10.00 - 12.00<br>Sam Merrifield Library<br>Starts 20 July               | Tutor: Bruce Findlay<br>Science Fiction is a major way that society engages with important philosophical, political, religious, ethical, societal and scientific questions. This course will address some of the philosophic questions that sci-fi raises, using DVDs from "The Great Courses" series, and referring to many of the films and TV series of the past generation or so. There are no prerequisites, and people are encouraged to discuss and share opinions and experiences.   |
| iPad and iPhone for Beginners and Intermediate<br>Fri 10.00 – 12.00<br>Avondale Heights LLC<br>Starts 22 July | Tutor: Di Phillips<br>Be in the know – become a Silver Surfer.<br>I'll show you how to connect to your family and friends. Stay in touch anywhere in the world. Learn how to customise your iPad and iPhone to suit your needs. Topics include software updates, setting up iCloud and iTunes, backing up, email, contacts, calendars, notes, scanning documents, photos, pages, iBooks, Kindle and Amazon.<br>Before buying an iPad or iPhone please check with Di to ensure that you choose one most suited to your needs.<br>diphillipsmarketing@gmail.com or mobile 0467 538 308 |

### Continuing Courses with Vacancies

Please note:

- Vacancies in many of the continuing courses are very limited.
- All courses are weekly for the whole semester unless otherwise indicated.

### Art

|  |
|--|
| Oil Painting and Watercolours<br>Wednesday 1.15 – 4.00 Emerald Street Community Centre<br>Tutor: Lois Lepp |
|--|

### Sketching and Painting

Tuesday 1.00 – 4.00, Emerald Street Community Centre

Tutor: Peter Lepp

### Exercise and Wellbeing

#### Golf

Thursday 9.30 – 1.00 Riverside Golf Course

Tutor: Nino Tosone

#### Petanque

Wednesday 10.15 – 12.00 Rose Hill Car Park

Tutor: John Linforth

#### Wednesday Walkers

Wednesday 9.00 – 10.15, Maribyrnong River Path, near Aberfeldie Park.

Tutor: Ann Gordon

### Games and Leisure

#### Cryptic Crosswords

Monday 1.30 – 3.00, Sam Merrifield Library

Tutor: Alison Stewart

#### Seniors Cinema at ACMI 1

4th Saturday of the Month, 11.30 – 2.00 (approx.), ACMI, Federation Square

Tutor: Helen Blom

#### Seniors Cinema at ACMI 2

3rd Friday of the Month, 1.30 – 4.00 (approx.), ACMI, Federation Square

Tutor: Jenny Cleary

#### Social Bridge

Monday 9.45 – 12.00, Doutta Galla Community Hall

(Note: some training and/or experience in Bridge is required)

Tutor: Lorraine Higgins

### Handcrafts

#### Patchwork and Quilting

Wednesday 1.30 – 3.30, Aberfeldie Pavilion

Tutor: Dianne Liinforth

### Music

#### Opera at the Sun Theatre

Wednesday, selected dates approximately monthly, 10.15 – 3.00, Sun Theatre, Yarraville

Tutor: John Adams

#### Singing for Fun

Monday 1.30 – 3.00, Crown Street Stables

Tutor: Jo Bradshaw

## Writing and Literature

National Theatre Live

Wednesday, selected dates approximately monthly, 10.15 – 3.00, Sun Theatre, Yarraville

Tutor: John Adams

Play Reading

Thursday 9.30 – 12.30 (Fortnightly) Woodlands Park House

Tutor: Gail Mayes

You will be able to enrol online in any of the above courses from the time you receive this newsletter.

Reminder: how do I enrol online in a course?

Log onto the system via Member Login: on our website, <http://u3amooneevalley.com.au/> .

Select Classes 2022. Select the class required using the small radio buttons above Request, to the left of each course description.

At the bottom of the page select Next and then Next again (if you don't select Next your enrolment is lost).

If you have forgotten your password, or your ID, you can use Forgotten Password for it to be sent to you.

Semester 2 Dates:

- Term 3: 18 July to 16 September
- Term 4: 3 October to 25 November

Geoff Miller



## From our Treasurer Michael Walsh

**U3A Moonee Valley Inc**  
**Income and Expenditure Statement**  
**For the month ended 30 April 2022**

|                                      | YTD<br>2022      | YTD<br>2021      |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Opening balance                      | 39,696.29        | 36,051.40        |
| <b>INCOME</b>                        |                  |                  |
| Class fees                           | 1,360.00         | 810.00           |
| Social events                        | 2,536.00         | 0.00             |
| Member subscriptions - associates    | 160.00           | 460.00           |
| Member subscriptions - new           | 3,135.00         | 1,485.00         |
| Member subscriptions - renewals      | 11,255.00        | 18,831.00        |
| Grants                               | 5,900.00         | 3,350.00         |
| Interest                             | 9.07             | 9.06             |
| <b>Total income</b>                  | <b>24,315.07</b> | <b>24,945.06</b> |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                      |                  |                  |
| Fees and charges                     | 269.82           | 314.20           |
| Catering                             | 33.50            | 17.09            |
| Computer expenses                    | 10.00            | 0.00             |
| Donations                            | 0.00             | 0.00             |
| Gifts                                | 0.00             | 0.00             |
| Administration expenses              | 446.92           | 365.58           |
| Photocopier lease                    | 896.50           | 717.20           |
| Photocopying and stationery          | 191.28           | 121.62           |
| Trivia Day                           | 0.00             | 0.00             |
| Grants Projects                      | 5,295.40         | 1,526.20         |
| Postage                              | 176.00           | 273.24           |
| Social events                        | 2,416.00         | 0.00             |
| Tutor aids                           | 235.50           | 111.00           |
| Tutor gifts                          | 100.00           | 0.00             |
| Venue hire                           | 523.65           | 0.00             |
| Volunteers                           | 0.00             | 0.00             |
| U3A Network                          | 0.00             | 0.00             |
| MyU3A website fees                   | 0.00             | 274.20           |
| Website hosting fees and maintenance | 650.00           | 500.00           |
| Internet                             | 155.00           | 213.67           |
| Refund - subscriptions               | 10.00            | 55.00            |
| Compensation                         | 0.00             | 120.00           |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>             | <b>11,409.57</b> | <b>4,609.00</b>  |
| Surplus/ (deficit) for the period    | <b>12,905.50</b> | <b>20,336.06</b> |
| Closing balance                      | <b>52,641.79</b> | <b>56,387.46</b> |

**2022 Trivia Quiz**  
**Thursday June 30, 10 am - 1 pm**  
**Ascot Vale Neighbourhood Centre**

Are the feathers for shuttlecocks taken from the left wing or the right wing of a goose?

- a) Left
- b) Right
- c) Depends which way the goose is facing.

How many years did the 100 years war last?

- a) 116 years
- b) 100 years
- c) 92 years

Be prepared, Trivia Day is approaching!  
Michelle has been collecting questions for us to wrestle with.

It's maybe too late to read Encyclopedia Britannica or Wikipedia, but it's not too late to consult with your class mates, form a team and join in the fun!



**Information**

- Teams of up to 4 people who are current U3A members
- Questions are multiple choice, 4 sections of 20 questions each
- Members are asked to contribute \$5 to cover the cost of lunch and hall hire
- Individual members may enter, and we will attempt to form teams
- To make this a sustainable event, **bring your own cup, plate, water bottle**
- Let us know if you have any special dietary requirements
- There will be prizes for the top 3 teams, as well as door prizes
- Closing date for entries is **Tuesday 14 June**
- Any questions contact Michelle by text: 0405366731



## Trivia Quiz Entry Form

Please email your team details to: [info@u3amooneevalley.com.au](mailto:info@u3amooneevalley.com.au)

Or

Post this entry form to Trivia Quiz, U3A Moonee Valley, PO Box 459, Moonee Ponds, Vic, 3039

Team Name:

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
|                          |       |
| 1. Contact person and ph | Email |
| 2                        | Ph    |
| 3                        | Ph    |
| 4                        | Ph    |

Or

I would like to enter the Trivia quiz as an individual

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment is direct credit to our bank account

Account name: U3A Moonee Valley

BSB 633-000

Account number: 154051213

Number of participants..... @ \$5 per person = \$.....

Please include a reference number or name

## **Forum – July 7<sup>th</sup>, Windy Hill The West Gate Bridge Disaster....Why?**

This Forum will be presented by civil engineer Richard Olive. Richard is a Melbourne boy who has enjoyed a globe-trotting career in the hydropower and the mining industry. He is the recipient of professional awards in Australia, Canada and the USA.

Despite the collapse of the West Gate Bridge happening more than 50 years ago the event is still indelibly locked in our memories. There are many people in the western suburbs with personal connections to this tragic event. Drawing heavily on the Royal Commission Report into the disaster, Richard will explain the problems in the structural engineering in simple terms we can all understand.

Beyond the technicalities, the shortcomings in the various organisations involved - the owners, the consultants, the contractors and the unions, will be explained. As well, Richard will discuss the pressures upon the young engineers who paid the ultimate price for their errors.

This fascinating forum will be held on Thursday July 7<sup>th</sup> at Windy Hill Venue at the corner of Napier and Brewster Street Essendon. There is a free car park opposite in Napier Street and the venue is accessible by the No. 59 tram or Glenbervie or Essendon train stations.

The presentation will commence at 11.00 in the Premiers Room, (different to previous forums.) There will be tea or coffee available from 10.30. Partners and/or friends of U3A members are also welcome to attend. We encourage those attending to stay for lunch at the Venue's bistro, where reasonably priced meals, including those on a seniors' menu, are available.

**If you would like to attend, please send an email to [info@u3amooneevalley.com.au](mailto:info@u3amooneevalley.com.au) by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July at the latest. Please also advise if you, and/or any others coming with you, plan to stay for lunch.**

### **SOCIAL EVENTS: MCG TOUR – 7th JUNE, 2022 , 11:00 am**

You have to be quick, but it's not yet too late to join in this event.

A 60-minute guided tour of the MCG will offer an insight into Melbourne's sporting culture while exploring one of the world's most iconic stadiums.

Our guide will take us behind the scenes of the 'G' to see the Long Room, MCG Tapestry, Player change rooms, a walk on this famous arena and many more features. We will meet at the MCG outside Gate 3 at approximately 10 minutes before the start of the tour.

For those interested, the MCG Paddock Café will be open for lunch/coffee at the conclusion of the tour.

Please email your booking slip to – [helenmather49@hotmail.com](mailto:helenmather49@hotmail.com)  
or telephone on- 0407 582 656

Helen Mather

MCG TOUR – 7TH JUNE, 2022 – 11.00am start

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that while non-members are welcome, members must take priority if numbers become an issue.

Numbers Participating \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$24.00 per person      Total Price

Method of Payment for the above amount

Payment via internet or a bank deposit into U3A Moonee Valley account

Account name: U3A Moonee Valley

BSB 633-000

Account number: 154051213

Please note – your name and “MCG” is required for reference

**OFFICE NEWS.**

The Committee of Management would like to thank all Office Volunteers for their continued help in the Office.

Apologies to everyone who has tried to contact the Office recently without success. Unfortunately, the telephone has been out of order for the last 4 weeks so no-one has been in the office. If you wish to contact us please call me (Marjorie) on 0410 435 929 or email officecomv@gmail.com.

The Office will close on the 17th June and reopen on the 18th July. The first week of the term will be Monday to Friday, then Mon, Wednesday and Friday from 10.30am to 12.30pm..

I will be arranging the new Roster for Semester 2 in late June. Please advise if there are any dates you are unavailable.

We are always looking for new volunteers. If you are interested please complete the Availability Form on the website and forward to me by the end of Term 2 to be included in the next roster.

Marjorie Ridley

### **MONTHLY LUNCHESES at KEILOR EAST RSL**

**Please come and join us for a social lunch. Members and friends attending are enjoying the contact.**

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

You choose and pay for your own food and drink. As well as a wide range of dishes offered on the main Bistro menu, a Seniors menu of generous portions is available. Current prices for Seniors meals are 3 courses \$20.00, 2 courses \$18.00 and 1 course \$16.00.

2022 Lunch Dates :

16 June. 21st July. 18th August. 15th September. 20th October.

17th November. 15th December.

Please come and join us to socialise and enjoy each other's company.

Due to COVID-19 conditions all persons attending MUST be double vaccinated. I will need to advise the venue of the numbers attending. Please contact me on 0410 435 929 or email [officecomv@gmail.com](mailto:officecomv@gmail.com) by Saturday of the week prior to the lunch date.

I look forward to catching up in the near future.

Marjorie Ridley

### **Contributing to Contact – from the Editor**

Enjoying your classes? Think other members may not know what they're missing? I'd be very happy to consider adding member contributions to future Contacts, space permitting. Here are some contributions from the Creative Writing Group and the Wednesday Woodies. Expect to see the Woodies article in a forthcoming edition of the Moonee Valley Council's community newsletter "Valley News"

## **I NEVER KNEW HOW MUCH .... By Deborah D'Cruz, April 2022**

*Our Writing Group members are provided with a choice of 3-4 subjects on which to write a short piece. I was drawn to this heading for use as a poem, based on the song "How Much Is That Doggie in the Window?"*

Those Doggies in the Window  
I'm amazed by how much they cost  
So I look for ways of acquiring them  
Like spotting good ones lost

My 20-year veterinary practice  
Attracts a fine income  
But I've started a sideline business  
Which I'm finding much more fun

"I'm afraid I have unfortunate news  
Re the sock in your Afghan hound  
It's really rather tangled up  
And we'll need to put him down"

"Your sweetheart Labradoodle  
With no wag left in her tail  
Has developed a rather rare disease  
And I fear her heart may fail"

I present the families with ashes  
And move the dogs to Bright  
Where they're fed and walked and brushed and loved  
Until the price is right

From Bulldogs that understand French  
To Chow Chow baby-lions  
For an affordable pedigree furry friend  
Come up to Bright sometime

**Stella Dion** reminds us that crime doesn't pay?

Letter from Mrs Sylvia Brown.

Victoria Cottage, Happisburgh

Norfolk NR12

14th January 2022

Dear Frederick,

I know it has been 37 years since I have been in touch with you, but don't worry brother – it's safe to write to you now because Mr and Mrs Beaumont are dead, and you can finally come home.

The Beaumont's have spent a fortune over the years trying to find you and recover the money and jewels we stole from them; they didn't succeed, and they never suspected that I was in on the theft! I've kept your location in Dublin secret all this time, just as I promised I would. I've spent many years misdirecting them to keep you safe, but that is over now. We have been very clever, and patient, and successful. It was worth the long wait!

At Christmas a catastrophic storm surge came in from the North Sea, with waves smashing into the cliffs below the Beaumont's house, undermining the foundations. There was a terrible crack, and the house broke away from the garage and plunged off the cliff and into the sea below, taking Mr and Mrs Beaumont with it. Also, astonishingly, even the section of the yard where you buried Carlos' body fell into the sea, and was washed away! No more worrying about dogs digging him up now. What great, good luck for us!

The Beaumont's could have taken Government compensation and moved inland, like other homeowners. But not them! They were the last ones left – clinging to the cliff's edge, despite seeing the yard on the seaward side of their house slowly crumbling, year after year, and falling bit by bit into the North Sea. So now they are gone – and we have won.

They left no family, so no one will ever know what we stole from them! And as for Carlos – the police investigation into his disappearance has ended. They couldn't find you to question and eventually they decided that he had gone back to Cuba.

So, hurry home. It has been such a long time! Dying to catch up with all that has happened over the years.

Your big Sis, Sylvia

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Reply To Mrs Sylvia Brown

Victoria Cottage, Happisburgh

Norfolk NR12

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

Dear Mrs Brown,

By happenstance, your letter of the 10th of February to your brother Mr Frederick Marshal was inadvertently delivered to, and read by, me - Frederick Marsden. I am currently a sergeant in the Criminal Investigations Division of Dublin Police Department. Your brother is my neighbour on the second floor of the Ellis Bay Apartments.

The contents of your letter raised many questions of interest to the police. It has been forwarded to the Norfolk Constabulary. You, and your brother, can expect to hear from them in the very near future.

Yours sincerely,

Sergeant Frederick Marsden

Dublin Police Department

346 South Jefferson Street, Dublin, GA 31021

## Woodwork project to benefit the local Aged Care community

Moonee Valley U3A's woodworking group – known as the “Wednesday Woodies” – has been happy to get back to regular meetings at the Aberfeldie Men's Shed this year. Comprising nine men and eleven women, Woodies meet for three hours each Wednesday morning and have just completed a range of items for the local Dousta Galla Aged Care Centres at Avondale Heights and Queens Park, Moonee Ponds.

The photograph below shows a range of wooden items that the Dousta Galla Lifestyle Coordinators suggested we make. These include Playing Card Holders, Noughts and Crosses Sets, Sets of Dominoes, Colours and Shapes Sets and Stacking Pyramids. With the guidance of some highly skilled group members, we developed many skills during these sessions and had a lot of fun. We hope these items will assist aged care residents widen their range of weekly social activities and have fun as well.



On Wednesday 18 May we invited a small group from Avondale Heights Aged Care to the Aberfeldie Shed to collect their share of these items. We will deliver the other half to Dousta Galla Queen's Park. Some photos of the presentation are shown below:



Staff and residents from Dousta Galla Aged Care being presented with a range of items by Woodies Tutors, David and George (orange vests)



David demonstrating some features of the items being presented.



We would like to acknowledge the support of a Moonee Valley Community Grant for the Woodies this year. Part of this grant has been used for this project.

Harry Dobson, on behalf of  
Moonee Valley University of the Third Age's Woodies  
May 18, 2022

For those of you who can't work  
out social distancing, this is two  
meters apart.



I wanna be  
14 again and  
ruin my life  
differently.  
I have new  
ideas.

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.

