

# CONTACT

VOLUME 28, No. 1 February 2024



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

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

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## STOP PRESS:



**Need a replacement Badge?  
NOW IS THE TIME TO RING  
0468 836 359**



## Presidents Report

A happy healthy enjoyable U3A New Year to all our members.

To those who succeeded in enrolling in popular courses ....well done! To those who missed out.....commiserations.

But also consider, that if you have been doing the same class year after year and missed out, it could be enlightening for you and a kindness to others to try something else.

At our first tutors meeting for the year, Barrie Fenby (membership & data base co ordinator) told the tutors that out of 52 classes being offered, 35 of them had waiting lists.

Clearly, we can be proud of what our U3A offers. But it is always a bit sad when new people decide to join our U3A and then find that the things they would really like to do are closed.

So, is there any point in seeking to grow our U3A?

Answering my own question....yes there is a point. Perhaps there are recently retired people out there who would enjoy being part of our volunteer organisation and delighted to become a tutor. Clearly if we want an exciting organisation to belong to, we need to be on the lookout for new tutors. (whilst treasuring our existing ones).

At this stage of the year, we have 500 members at present and approximately 46 tutors.

I feel optimistic. The reason? Five new tutors stepped up this year...namely Martin Lindsay, Donna Crusiz, Cris Scarlata, Alison Donovan and Nicholas Trehwella.

It's a happy day when volunteers come forward and offer their services to light up our lives.

If you feel inspired by classes you attend this year and start having the suspicion that you have an interest to share with a U3A class, please contact Geoff Miller via [info@u3amooneevalley.com.au](mailto:info@u3amooneevalley.com.au)

### AGM 2023

Thankfully more than 70 members attended our AGM in early December. Rain damage to the Ascot vale roof meant a last-minute change to Niddrie Hub. Was parking easier?

The motion that the fees remain the same was endorsed by the meeting. What a bargain. U3A membership for less than \$1 per week.

We didn't need to hold any elections for office bearers since the number of nominations matched the number of vacancies. We welcome Deborah D'Cruz as a new committee member.

Brian Smith conducted the 2023 U3A photo quiz of MVU3A members in action. The screen was concocted by draping a bed sheet over a white board. It was a bit makeshift but 4 winners were rewarded for their good eyesight and superior true /false question guessing. Thoughts are already turning to 2024. Could you help us put together a 2024 photo quiz by sending happy snaps from your classes? Photos can be sent to [uthreea6@gmail.com](mailto:uthreea6@gmail.com) and there may be prizes.

### MVCC issues

Moonee valley Council has revived their Moonee Valley festival. It will happen in Queens park on Saturday 24th February from 9am till dark. We will have a stall and will advertise what we offer seniors in Moonee Valley. There is a program of entertainment and more detail can be found at <https://mvcc.vic.gov.au/my-week/moonee-valley-festival/>

Something else of interest from our council is "the Valley Van". Moonee Valley Council has a van that can be booked if you are over 65 years of age. You could potentially be eligible to book the van to attend a class. According to the council brochure wheel chairs and mobility aids can be accommodated. Please see excerpts from the "Valley Van Community Transport Service" brochure on p. 4 You could also find more about the Valley Van from the MVCC website at <https://mvcc.vic.gov.au/live/my-family/seniors/community-transport-services/>.

Please remember to wear your badge to class. In the unlikely event that you should suffer a health collapse there, your support details on the back of your badge would save an anxious tutor having to try to locate those very details in the midst of an emergency.

Jan Smith

## **REPORT OF THE NOVEMBER 2023 AGM**

### **Fees for 2025.**

Our treasurer (Ann Watson) provided the background to this motion. Our financial position is sound with a healthy contingency to cover any unexpected expenditures. Consequently, our financial objective is to breakeven for the year with membership fee income balancing budgeted expenditure. The fees for 2025 will be maintained at the same level as in 2024.

**Motion:** fees for 2025 remain unchanged from 2024. Passed unanimously.

### **2024 Committee of Management:**

The positions of President and Secretary, and four ordinary members were declared vacant. Six nominations were received, and the following members were elected unopposed to the 2024 committee: Jan Smith President; Jo Bradshaw Secretary. Also elected to the committee were Marjorie Ridley, Edith James, Bruce Findlay and Deborah D'Cruz. The members of the 2024 Committee are:

Jan Smith (President)  
Brian Smith (Vice President)  
Ann Watson (Treasurer)  
Jo Bradshaw (Secretary)  
Geoff Miller (Course/Tutor Coordinator)  
Barrie Fenby (Membership Database Manager)  
Edith James (Venue Coordinator)  
Marjorie Ridley (Office Manager)  
Helen Mather (Hospitality co-ordinator)  
Michael Walsh (Assistant to Treasurer)  
Bruce Findlay (Assistant to Vice President)  
Deborah D'Cruz

### **Acknowledgement of Tutors:**

Geoff Miller thanked our wonderful tutors.

### **Office Volunteers:**

Marjorie Ridley thanked the office volunteers for their assistance throughout 2024.

### **Post Meeting Entertainment:**

The Singing for fun group led us in singing a few songs and then there was the Photo Quiz. Michelle Cairns took out the winning prize with Sue Peel and Margaret Broadbent in hot contention.

(Editor)

### **OFFICE NEWS (Phone no. 0468 836 359)**

The Committee of Management and I would like to thank all returning Office Volunteers for committing to Office Duty this Semester.

The Office is now open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10.30am to 12.00 noon (excluding Public Holidays and School Holidays) until the end of Semester 1.

If you call the Office while it is unattended please ensure you clearly leave your full name and phone number and someone will return your call at the first opportunity. Alternatively, you could email your enquiry to [infor@u3amoonneevalley.com](mailto:infor@u3amoonneevalley.com)

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

Valley Van

# Community Transport Services



Need to run an errand? Pop down to the shops or make it to an appointment? The Valley Van can get you there.

### Eligibility and accessibility

For Moonee Valley residents aged 65 years and over, and people of any age with a disability.

Eligibility criteria does apply and can be discussed with you over the phone. Residents need to be independent and mobile.

Wheelchairs and mobility aids accommodated.



### Where can I go?

- Health care appointments
- Exercise and rehabilitation programs
- Leisure centres and swimming pools
- Shopping
- Seniors Clubs


### What are the hours of service?

The Community Transport Service operates Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.30pm, closed on public holidays. Bookings must be made by 12pm on the business day prior to travel.

Please remember to ring and cancel within 24 hours if you no longer need the service, as you may incur a cancellation fee.

### Contact information

For more information, bookings, charges or to discuss the service and your needs:

 9243 8701

 [communitytransport@mvcc.vic.gov.au](mailto:communitytransport@mvcc.vic.gov.au)



Scan the QR code for more information or visit [mvcc.vic.gov.au/transportservi](http://mvcc.vic.gov.au/transportservi)



## **COURSE CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT**

Our range of classes and activities have again proved very popular. There were obviously many of you crouched over your computers at 1.00 pm on the 17th of January, when enrolments opened as some classes were fully subscribed within minutes. Our tutors are obviously doing something right.

However, there are still vacancies in many courses. If you look through the course listings on our website you will see that many are shown as open. One of these is Circle Dance. Our previous class was an early victim of Covid and our new tutor, Donna Crusiz, is keen for more members to partake in this enjoyable activity. The class meets on Monday afternoons at Ratcliff Community Hall in Airport West, a new venue for us. Family Stories and Anecdotes (Monday afternoons at Woodlands Park House) is another course where new members would be particularly welcomed.

Unfortunately, Ian Williams was unable to run his advertised Local History course, Stories from Moonee Valley, for health reasons. Prior to this he had prepared detailed notes for this one-semester course. Ian would be happy to make these notes available to anyone who may be interested in presenting a course on this topic, perhaps in second semester. If anyone is interested, please contact me by email ([info@u3amooneevalley.com.au](mailto:info@u3amooneevalley.com.au))

While, as you all know, Covid is very much still with us, the restrictions of the first two years have virtually gone. However, while isolation is no longer a legal requirement, if you test positive, the government says that you should not visit high-risk settings for at least 7 days or until your symptoms have gone. Our activities, particularly indoor ones, should be considered high-risk in this context.

By the time you read this, most of you will have attended your first sessions for 2024. We hope that you will all enjoy your involvement in your U3A throughout the year.

**Geoff Miller**

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT.**

### **BADGES**

Making badges is difficult to automate. This means they are made by hand; a fiddly, intricate and time-consuming process. Making as many as possible in one batch makes it easier for everyone. If you need a badge please let us know as soon as possible.

### **You can request a badge by;**

- Ringing the office on 0468 836 359 (10.30 - 12.00 Monday, Wednesday or Friday)
- Emailing [info@u3amooneevalley.com.au](mailto:info@u3amooneevalley.com.au)
- Telling your tutor on the first or second week
- Sending a return email to this email.

**New members automatically receive a badge.**

### **WAITLISTS**

If you are on a waitlist, the COURSES link on the website will show how many members are on the list. The number on the list is given at the far right of the course description. It may help with you year's planning to know where you are on the list. If so, please let the office know 0468 836 359 (10.30 12.00 Monday, Wednesday or Friday). Or email [infor@u3amooneevalley.com.au](mailto:infor@u3amooneevalley.com.au)

## MEMBER NUMBERS

At the time of publication, we have 503 members, 393 female and 110 male.

## TRAM BOAT TO WILLIAMSTOWN - TUESDAY 26TH MARCH, 2024

U3A's annual trip on the Tram Boat has been booked for Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March. Please note that the trip will take place on a Tuesday this year giving those who have been unable to attend on the usual Wednesday the opportunity to attend this year.

This very popular outing will fill quickly so final numbers and payment will need to be finalised by 12th March.

The cost for the day will be \$65.00. This will include pick up on the Maribyrnong River, morning tea and a fish and chip lunch at Williamstown.

Please register your interest at the email address- [info@u3amooneevalley.com.au](mailto:info@u3amooneevalley.com.au)

Payment to be made to- - U3A Moonee Valley Inc.

Reference – Name Tram Boat

BSB - 633000

A/C - 154051213

Helen Mather.

## Forum – April 9th, Windy Hill

### **Electric Vehicles are coming: Brave new world? Or Back to the Future! (a practical take on owning an EV in Moonee Valley)**

The federal government has a target of 87% of new vehicles sold in 2030 to be EVs. So, they are coming. This forum will focus on the practical issue which arise when moving from a petrol-fuelled vehicle to an electric one. It will be presented by one of our members, Jan Goldsworthy. Jan (with her husband) purchased an EV in early 2021 and has lived experience.

It will be held on Tuesday 9th of April 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 Forum will commence at 11.00 in the Premiers Room. 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 Wednesday 3rd April at the latest. Please also advise if you, and/or any others coming with you, plan to stay for lunch.**

## **Monthly Lunches 2024 - East Keilor RSL**

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.

Dates for 2024:

15th February. 21st March. 18th April. 16th May. 20th June

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

I will need to advise the venue of the numbers attending. Please contact me on email [officecomv@gmail.com](mailto:officecomv@gmail.com) by Monday prior to the lunch date.

I look forward to catching up in the near future.

Marjorie Ridley

### **Want to know more about Dementia?**

We had a forum last year on the topic of Dementia which was well attended. Interested in going to the next level of understanding this topic? The University of Tasmania's Wicking Centre offers two free courses "Understanding Dementia" and "Preventing Dementia".

The courses run for 7 weeks, are free and no assignments or exams are required. Information about the courses can be found at: <https://www.utas.edu.au/wicking>

### **Photos Wanted**

I'd like to include photos of classes at work in future editions of Contact. You can send them to me at [uthreea6@gmail.com](mailto:uthreea6@gmail.com).

(Editor)

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Financial statements for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 are presented to members. These have been prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with relevant accounting standards. They have been sent to our auditor (Bruce Warlow Registered Company Auditor 8975) and we are awaiting his report.

**Michael Walsh**

U3A Moonee Valley Inc  
**Income Statement**  
For the year ended 30 November 2023

	Note	2023	2022
<b>INCOME</b>			
Revenue	7	30,458.05	25,254.07
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Social events		3,611.68	3,847.97
Tutors expenses	8	5,595.88	4,548.47
Grant projects		639.16	1,007.96
Venues		8,962.45	7,827.86
Administration expenses	9	9,958.83	9,610.01
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	10	2,084.22	2,084.22
Total expenditure		30,852.22	28,926.49
<b>Surplus/ (deficit) for the year</b>		<b>(394.17)</b>	<b>(3,672.42)</b>

U3A Moonee Valley Inc  
**Balance Sheet**  
For the year ended 30 November 2023

	Note	2023	2022
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	34,712.86	34,910.17
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>34,712.86</b>	<b>34,910.17</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Plant and equipment	4	8,820.69	9,277.91
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>43,533.55</b>	<b>44,188.08</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	5	0.00	0.00



<b>Total liabilities</b>		0.00	0.00
<b>Net assets</b>		43,533.55	44,188.08
Retained surplus	6	43,533.55	44,188.08
<b>Net worth</b>		<b>43,533.55</b>	<b>44,188.08</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Note 3: Cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Bendigo Bank Operating account	1,630.47	2,040.42
Bendigo Bank Interest Bearing account	32,882.39	32,156.41
Bendigo Bank Debit Card account	200.00	713.34
	<u>34,712.86</u>	<u>34,910.17</u>

<b>Note 4: Plant and equipment</b>		
Computers at cost	5,295.40	5,295.40
Office equipment	7,864.00	6,237.00
Less accumulated depreciation	(4,338.71)	(2,254.49)
	<u>8,820.69</u>	<u>9,277.91</u>

<b>Note 5: Trade and other payables</b>		
Trade creditors	0.00	811.14
Accrued expenses	1,837.12	711.80
Income received in advance	0.00	574.54
	<u>1,837.12</u>	<u>2,097.48</u>

<b>Note 6: Retained surplus</b>		
Balance as at 1 December 2022	42,090.60	45,763.02
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(394.17)	(3,672.42)
	<u>41,696.43</u>	<u>42,090.60</u>

<b>Note 7: Revenue</b>		
Class fees	1,180.00	1,388.00
Grants	574.54	5,325.46
Interest	538.51	110.61
Membership fees	25,175.00	15,380.00
Social events	2,990.00	3,050.00
	<u>30,458.05</u>	<u>25,254.07</u>

**Note 8: Tutors expenses**

Aids	3,311.58	2,392.49
Gifts	2,284.30	2,155.98
	<u>5,595.88</u>	<u>4,548.47</u>

**Note 9: Administration expenses**

Catering	416.18	353.87
Communications	300.00	365.60
Fees and charges	428.29	285.82
Office expenses	4,636.38	3,522.12
Photocopier rental	2,151.60	2,151.60
Postage	458.60	308.00
Stationery and photocopying	607.78	779.80
	960.00	876.00
U3A conference	0.00	967.20
	<u>9,958.83</u>	<u>9,610.01</u>

**Note 10: Depreciation and amortisation expenses**

Office equipment	952.60	952.60
Computers	1,131.62	1,131.62
	<u>2,084.22</u>	<u>2,084.22</u>

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.

