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PLEASE EMAIL ALL NEWSLETTER ITEMS AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE THE START OF THE MONTH TO:
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi everyone. My name is Dennis Atkin, Vice President of U3A Waverley. As Robert is away overseas at the moment he has asked me to write the President's report for the July Newsletter. It is therefore really the Vice-President's Report!

Firstly, I would like to repeat Roberts request from the June Newsletter as follows:

"Next year we celebrate 35 years of service to the senior communities of the areas we serve. The committee has agreed that, to help celebrate this special occasion, we would like to invite a guest speaker to address the Annual General Meeting which will be held on Tuesday March 17, 2020. We are seeking advice from our members as to appropriate people to approach. If you have friends, relatives, acquaintances, people you have heard elsewhere etc. etc who you think may be appropriate, please leave a note in the President's in-tray in the office with contact details and areas that they may cover in a presentation. Thanks to a bequest from a former member we are able to provide limited funds for travel and accommodation if required."

In other matters the committee continues to negotiate with Monash Council regarding the soundproofing of the first floor from the ground floor and vice versa and to get the aging projector replaced in the Multi-Purpose Room.

U3A Waverley has started the process of digitizing past records to save space and make records more accessible. Member Fok Lee has volunteered to organise the massive job of scanning the documents. He has set out a clear process and has organised and trained a group of 6 members to help with the task. Our Secretary Brenda Hateley and Treasurer Marie Brown have also been assisting with the work. By the time you read this it will be well under way.

At the Network Victoria level, myself and committee member Rahif Kattan, attended the President's Briefing Day on 15th May in Melbourne. The main topics were the Rules Review, The Technology Future for the U3A, The Education Arena and so called Soft Issues (i.e. dealing with difficult matters). The morning involved presentations on these issues and in the afternoon we had group discussion on the same issues. More recently on June 19th I attended the June Council Meeting. The issues discussed were similar to those in the President's Briefing and work continues on all of them. There was also a report on 2019 membership statistics from data recently collected from U3As. There were some interesting stats. Here are a few : Membership by gender – Females 73%, Males 27%. Our region, Eastern region has 11,025 members (the largest). There are 36,215 primary members state wide (doesn't include Associate members), there are 28 U3As with less than 100 members and 2 with over 1500 members. There are about 105 U3As in Victoria. We are a big organisation! It was interesting to get an insight into the workings of the U3A at the network level from both meetings. I believe it is useful for all U3As to be aware of what is happening at this level.

Dennis

Vacancies - Friday Art Workshop 2

There is now a vacancy for three budding artists in my class from 1.30 - 3.30 pm on Fridays



OPERATIONAL DATES 2019

Term		Ends	Public Holidays
3	15 July	20 Sept	
4	7 October	29 Nov	Mon 4 & Tues 5 Nov. Mel Cup Eve & Cup Day

David (Knobby) Clarke
Tutor of Recorder Ensemble and
"How to Read Music" (Finished 14 May)



Knobby read Physics at Balliol College, Oxford, UK. He completed a post-graduate apprenticeship with Bristol Siddeley Engines, but left to join ICT where he became leader of the team building the GEORGE 2 operating system for the 1900 Series of mainframe computers. When the industry merged to form ICL

he contributed to the design of the 2900 Series and rose to become a senior consultant in Data-Management and Databases.

In 1979, he emigrated to Australia where he worked for the local subsidiary of ICL. He subsequently formed his own software development company, which, at its peak, employed thirty people.

After the recession of 1990, he worked for twenty years as an independent contract consultant specialising in the delivery of complex transactional systems using database technology. He was one of the first in Australia to develop mainframe systems using the Java language. From 2002 till 2005, he spent time as the overseas consultant for an Australian start-up software company. He worked in Malaysia and, for two years, in Paris, France.

He has lectured on the technical aspects of IT at Swinburne University and at the University of Melbourne.

In December 2018, the University of Melbourne awarded him the degree of PhD for his thesis "Analyses of Java Programs over weak memory".

I live in my own little world, but it's OK.
 Everyone knows me here.



I don't do drugs. I find I get the same effect by standing up really fast.

Wouldn't you know it! Brain cells come and brain cells go, but FAT cells live forever.

I signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose fitting clothing. If I HAD any loose fitting clothing, I wouldn't need the class!



Exploring Science & Technology

Tuesdays 9.30 to 11.30am

16 July

1. Driverless Trains - *David Kemp*
2. One Neurosurgeon's Journey - *Prof Graeme Brazenor*



23 July

1. Inverters - *Dr. James Brown*
2. Continued

30 July

1. Smart Houses & Other Devices - *Ian Jackson*
2. Eco Enzymes - *Amy Wang*

6 August

1. Robert Taylor Presents

13 August

1. Food, Flu & Rescue of 12 Thai Boys - *Robert Sinclair*
2. Continued

20 August

1. Robert Taylor Presents

27 August

1. The Most Intelligent Animal on Earth - *DVD*
2. A Geometra's Delight - *Stef Bervoets*

Fred Fuessel - Chess Tutor

Fred Fuessel is the tutor for the U3A "Chess for Seniors" course held on Mondays from noon. I played a lot of chess at Melbourne University where I also worked as a tutor whilst completing my studies in physics and then a doctorate in metallurgy. My career was spent in two major companies working predominantly



in the areas of IT and also retail marketing. I retired early to enjoy more time participating in my hobbies and to be able to explore new interests. I discovered U3A courses as an excellent opportunity to learn new things and interact with interesting people. I play a lot of tennis, go on regular bike rides and play golf occasionally. To work out my grey cells I learn mandarin, play chess and practice playing keyboard. I am currently doing the following U3A courses: Chess for Seniors, Piano/Keyboard Beginners, Manadrin and German Conversation. When the previous chess course tutor moved interstate I was delighted to undertake that role. We play chess games during our sessions and we also have chess clocks for those who want to heighten the stress levels to play within shorter time

Then ... and Now by Christine Archer

The huge job of converting our records to digital format had begun, and a tiny part of de-cluttering was to dispose of all the office desk diaries that had accumulated in the storeroom. These diaries - hard cover day-to-a-page books - are indispensable to the smooth running of the office. Messages of cancelled classes, on-going instructions to office staff, complaints, requests by members, and much more are all noted and followed up. None of the diaries contained material that needed to be preserved, so the simplest thing was to 'bin' them. But first, in accordance with our privacy policy, any page with personal information – names, phone numbers, or addresses – had to be torn out and shredded.

I volunteered to do what promised to be a boring job, searching each page for personal info, tearing it out and shredding. So with the exception of 2018, I took them home, and with a glass of wine at my elbow I started on the oldest, the final year of U3A at St Stephen's Church Hall. A boring job? Definitely not. Most pages were filled with notes so interesting that I had to force myself not to read them all, otherwise the job would take forever. But the messages I did read showed how much has changed – and how little some things have.

I learnt that a large funeral at St Stephen's Church meant U3A had to suspend classes. I read some of the instructions that had to be carried forward each day; the recurring reminders to office staff to pick up their monthly rosters; calls for extra volunteers in February to fold and stuff hundreds of envelopes with annual AGM forms, and again in October with information about the following year's courses. There was proof of sound financial management by previous Committees when it was decided we could afford to stop charging for tea and coffee - which was always difficult to collect - and later, to reduce the \$50 membership fee to \$40. On 1/9/17 the crew of "Neighbours" filmed part of an episode in the Batesford Road car park.

Then there were the day-to-day complaints: how the boiling water tap has been unreliable from the beginning; things borrowed from one room and not returned; regular complaints from downstairs about our noise levels; rooms left untidy; tables left out, cupboards left open, and AV equipment left on overnight; the never-ending problems with the old lift - and complaints about the 'mountain goat track' that meandered down from the multipurpose room to the car park, and used whenever the lift wasn't working. Remember the track?

One thing did stand out, though, as I progressed through the years: fewer and fewer messages were being written. In fact, most weekday pages in recent diaries were mainly 'white space'. Computers and emailing are replacing many handwritten notes. Members' records on UMAS now mean that office volunteers rarely need to include personal details. So while the desk diaries are still essential to record something that is urgent or sudden, and therefore can't be communicated to staff members by email, the office now has enough scrap paper salvaged from those recent diaries to last the rest of the year.



U3A Waverley spent eight Years at St Stephens Church before moving to the Batesford Hub in 2011.

The Internet

C'mon Ma you have got to try it" I pleaded to my elderly Mother. I don't know how my Mother lasted this long without ever using the internet, but enough was enough! I thought. "Ok" she said reluctantly settling down by the computer and slowly putting on her reading glasses "what do I do now?" "Now I'm going to open the home page of google", I explained. "OK here it is! Now type in ANY question you want into the bar over here and you will find an answer to your question." I confidently assured her. My Mother looked at me warily, thought for a second, and slowly began to type, How is Gertrude doing this morning?



Password

"My memory is gone Mildred, so I changed my password to "Incorrect." That way when I log in with the wrong password, the computer will tell me... "Your password is incorrect."



Looking Good

*My face in the mirror isn't wrinkled or drawn.
My house isn't dirty. The cobwebs are gone.
My garden looks lovely and so does my lawn.
I think I might never put my glasses back on.*