

Batesford Community Hub, 94 Batesford Rd, Chadstone 3148 Tel: (03) 9832 5855

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PLEASE EMAIL ALL NEWSLETTER ITEMS AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE THE START OF THE MONTH TO:
erenstrom@optusnet.com.au

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome back for 2021 to returning members and to new members, we hope you find your time with us enjoyable and profitable.

It is hard to believe that it is almost 12 months since we first suspended classes at the Hub and Notting Hill. Subsequent suspensions meant that we did not return to those facilities for the whole of 2020.

2021 brings a new year and a new start. Most classes are returning – some with reduced enrolments due to room capacity limitations imposed by the government and council – others with an altered way of presenting, using a combination of in-class and electronic presentation and yet others choosing not to return at this point of time, because they do not feel comfortable with the Covid-safe arrangements, or continuing with electronic presentation, because of the limited room capacity. We anticipate the rules changing as we proceed through the year and will keep you informed as they are promulgated.

2021 will not be the same as 2020 started out. Please understand that we are all doing our best under changed, and sometimes, difficult circumstances. Please be patient, and try to be understanding if things you have been used to are not available at present.

Our overall enrolment has dropped since the beginning of the lockout. As at late March last year, our enrolment was expected to reach 800 sometime during the year. Current enrolment (at the time of writing this report) is 560 plus. We anticipate more enrolments occurring during the early part of the year as members become more comfortable with the new environment we find ourselves in, and as the vaccines are rolled out.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at the Hub on Tuesday March 16 at 11:00 in the Multi Purpose Room. Please consider the opportunity to nominate for the management committee when the notice of meeting arrives.

Thank you to all who have worked hard to make the start of 2021 as smooth as possible. A lot of work has been going on “behind the scenes”.

Robert

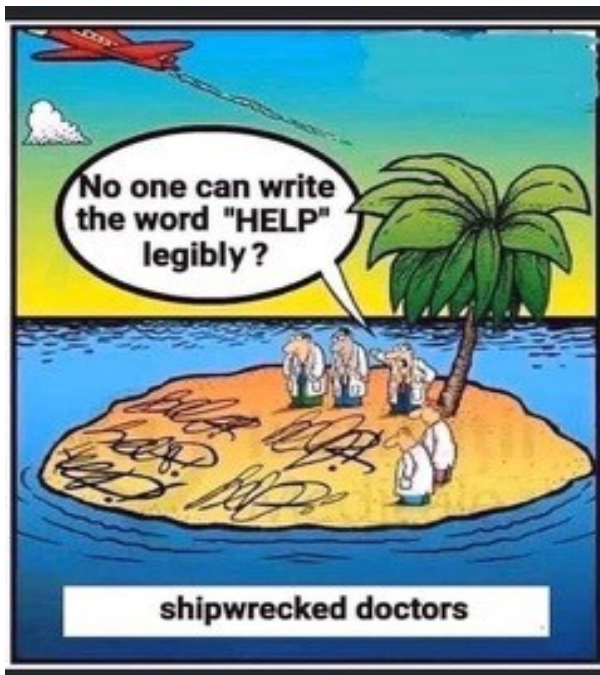


OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are urgently seeking extra volunteers to work in our U3A office. This is a great way for you to contribute to your U3A, which is dependent on volunteers to operate successfully. Office volunteers work a morning and/or afternoon shift about twice per month and training is offered before you start. Familiarity with computer software programs is essential, as is a clear speaking voice for communicating with members, both on the phone and at the office. Both males and females are most welcome.



Enquiries phone Jan Delaney on 9807 4861 or leave your name at the office when it is open from Monday 1st February, 2021.



Got up this morning, ran round the block 5 times. I got tired, so I put the block back in the toybox.



Apparently it is only polite to say "Look at you, you have got so big" to children. Adults tend to get offended.

Whatever you are doing today, do it with the confidence of a 4 year old in a Batman T-shirt.

Just sold my homing pigeon on eBay for the 22nd time.

Membership Overpayments

Some members were overcharged when enrolling for this year. A number of refunds have been made through PayPal. However, some refunds still need to be made. If you have not received a refund, you can claim it from me once the semester begins.

I will be in the Office from

Monday 1st Feb – Friday 5th Feb 2021.

Monday 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30am – 11.45am.

If you are unable to attend at these times you can leave your contact details at the office.

Maree Brown, Treasurer

Hi everyone,

Happy New Year to you all! It is going to be wonderful just to see each other in person at U3A, and I know we have all been looking forward so much to this day. It won't be easy at first, as we have many new rules to observe. Including no tea or coffee and not eating our lunches on the premises or lingering at the hub to have a chat. (We can chat in the car park). Plus of course compulsory mask wearing. But we can do it, and it will all be worth it.

Our Committee and several other dedicated people who work tirelessly behind the scenes, have been working SO HARD for weeks to bring everything together and make this all possible for us. I know it hasn't been straight forward for them. We are the lucky ones.

See you at the Hub!

Kind regards

Lorraine, Newsletter Editor.



The Serenity Prayer

GOD grant me the SERENITY to accept the things I cannot change. The COURAGE to change the things I can and WISDOM to know the difference.