



Hastings U3A Inc.
PO Box 537 Hastings 3915 VIC.
ABN25824915887 Inc.No.A0050846E

Newsletter



2020 Course List and Enrolment Forms are available from our office.

TERM 1 28 January - 27 March 2020 Newsletter

PRESIDENTS REPORT

It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of 2019. The year did not start very well for Hastings U3A. We had about 40 of our members who did not renew their membership for 2019 due to various reasons, ill health, moving house, moving interstate and caring for grandchildren etc.

In June we held several Come and Meet Us sessions. We served homemade soup with crusty bread. The invited guests were informed that Hastings U3A was offering low cost courses and activities to Peninsula locals.

In September we launched our Early Bird Special to encourage new members. We offered 15 months membership for \$25.00. All of these promotions were very successful. I am pleased to report that we have currently 280 members.

Hastings U3A Community Art & Craft Show which was held on 4 and 5 October at the Hastings Hall was very successful. I spoke to all the stall holders over the two days and they were impressed with their sales and the way we looked after them. They were unified with their responses that they would like to attend next year's Community Art & Craft Show.

I noticed an increase in our members attending this event. Once again it was very well supported by the public. Obviously our letter box drop had the effect we were hoping for. A special thank you to our members who helped in the delivery of the flyers.

Unfortunately I am unable to give you an update of refurbishment of the Hastings Seniors Citizens Building. I visited the site last week, there is no indication refurbishment has commenced. It would appear that there has been some hold up with the tendering process.

Di Ashton and I attended the Delys Sergeant Age-Friendly Awards conducted by Mornington Peninsula Shire at the Somerville Mechanics Hall on Tuesday 22nd October. Hastings U3A won the award for best "Innovative Club for Older People". I was very proud to accept the award on behalf of the members of Hastings U3A.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Tutors, Group Leaders, Office Reception Staff and Committee members for their generous contribution of their time and energy throughout the year. Your continuing support is why our organisation is such a success.

The committee and I would like to wish all our members best wishes for the Festive Season and good health for 2020.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Members Lunch on Wednesday 20 November at the Hastings Club. Check in time 11.00am.

Warmest Regards John Kelly Hastings U3A President.

COURSE ACTIVITY/ ACTIVITY FEES

It is disappointing to hear that some members are **NOT** contributing to class/activities fees where they apply.

We work hard to ensure your membership fee is affordable at \$25.00, so it is not acceptable for members to “forget” to contribute to class fees. Please make sure you have the correct change each class as this fee goes towards our daily running costs - water, electricity and power.



COURSES

BOCCE

At this stage we have decided to cancel this activity. From the date we commenced we have had many issues with the courts, no shelter and lack of toilet facilities. This has not gone well with many interested members. The courts will now be used for Pickleball and hope this has a better run. Council have been asked to spray the courts in readiness and we have applied for a grant with the Bank of Bendigo to cover the equipment. All interested members will be advised when we intend commencing.

ANGLING

Where are all our fisherman? Just a reminder that your U3A has an Angling Group which meets on the first Friday of each month at the Westernport Angling Club rooms next to the boat ramp. The weather is slowly changing so in no time the fish will be biting. Enrol at the office now and be part of the discussions and information sessions.

COMPUTER LESSONS

Last term we changed the information re the lessons, instead of stating dates you were asked to enrol and the tutor would then arrange a date/s for the lessons. This method had its failings. We are now changing back to the old system, dates will be set (see Course Sheet) so members will have to enrol and attend on those dates. Members will also be asked to pay the Tutor on the day of the classes.



CYCLING AND SHORT WALKS

Both these activities have been slow to get going. Surely there are members who need the exercise? Cycling is not too taxing: all you need is a bike and a helmet. Leader Ian Bradley is looking forward to some company.



SHORT WALKS

Short walks would be exactly that, perhaps members could take turns to suggest the route, retaining the meeting spot and take off from there. The weather is improving so that is in our favour. It would be a great idea if members took a break after their exercise and visited a cafe for a coffee....very social. We remind you to enrol at the office.

WILLS PROBATE AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

We have decided to conduct this workshop over approximately 1.1/2 hours. The date has not been set at this stage however we need to build up the numbers to make the workshop worthwhile. The workshop will be conducted by a local lawyer, this should make follow ups more convenient for members.

So please have a think about your position: have you a will in place? Have you organised a Power of Attorney (medical and financial)?....if not we advise you attend this workshop and learn what steps you should take to remedy the situation. All interested members will be contacted regarding the final day.

ARMCHAIR TRAVEL

This is a small group of ladies who view and discuss videos on places around the world. The group meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at a local member's residence from 1.00 - 3.00 each month. No doubt they have some good ideas on travel which they are only too happy to pass on. Sign up at the office before attending, you will be given details re the meeting place.

SCRABBLE



We intend to commence this group as soon as possible, would like to enrol at least another 2 members. Members enrolled will be contacted re the details. Let the office know if you are interested.

ANYONE FOR EUCHRE

Euchre is an easy trick - taking card game most commonly played with four people in two partnerships with a deck of 32 standard playing cards, (no Joker). Each five card “hand” is usually quite short to play. Scoring is simple. A ‘game’ takes several hands to play. Card playing experience is not needed. Laughter is compulsory. Fun is expected. We have a member who is willing to teach this game on a Wednesday 2.00 - 4.00pm at Teal Court. If you are interested please enrol at the office. When we have sufficient numbers we will contact those enrolled and commence weekly sessions.



BEGINNERS FRENCH

We have decided to introduce entry conditions to this class. As you can imagine some of us learnt French back in our school days, this would give you a basic knowledge of the language. If everyone commenced this class, with this basic skill, then the class members would be on the same level. Over the past couple of years it has become very difficult members having varied knowledge and others have never tackled French.

Enrolment to our Beginners French will be open for the first few weeks of the first term. This will allow our tutor Marie - Therese to build knowledge, with her class, and keep them on an even level of tuition.

WRITING FOR FUN

This class has lost a few members over the past terms and is keen to build up the numbers. If you have ever yearned to put pen to paper, now is the time to join this friendly group. Please advise the office staff you wish to join this course on phone number 5979 8585.

PICKLEBALL

Interested members have let us know they are interested in this activity. As mentioned we are now in the process of applying for a grant to cover the cost of bats, balls, nets etc. It is not too late to enrol, come on put your name down and have a go....we are told this is a perfect activity for seniors.

EASY MEALS FOR ONE

Members have been served a two course meal for \$5.00, these meals are very simple and tasty. It is not always possible to cook the meal in view of the members, however, we ensure they receive a copy of each recipe so they can repeat the recipes at home. Interested? Just enrol and make sure you note the date and the address....4 Kaz Court Hastings.

PESTY MYNA BIRDS

Expression of interest We have been approached, by an expert who is willing to show you the daily destruction carries out by these dreadful birds. We plan to conduct a one only workshop on the Myna birds. These birds are a danger to our native birds, killing the young, taking over the nesting boxes and nests and attacking our beautiful native birds to name a few of the problems.

We need to gauge how many members would be interested in this workshop conducted by a respected ranger and his assistant. We need to make his visit worthwhile and require a minimum number of 25 members and friends.

So spread the word and place your name on the list (including your friends and family). Please let the office know if you are interested. This is a very serious problem and we need to learn more about these birds and their destructive habits.



CABIN & CARAVANNING GROUP

Our recent trip to Halls Gap was a great success, 14 members, 1 friend and 4 dogs attended. All the dogs had a ball and got along very well. Some of the highlights: Lake Bellfield, Halls Gap Zoo, Heathlife Historic Quarry and the masses of beautiful wildflowers, Muratoa's massive pole shed, various lookouts in the Grampians, dining at the local hotel and Barney's Bistro at Pomonal (an old sheep shed converted into a restaurant) serving fantastic meals. Visiting historic townships like Stawell and its Hall of Fame and more. Every second evening we had our bbq get togethers which everyone enjoyed and socialised. The group are now planning and voting on their suggested 2020 trips which will be finalised on the 19th January at Sue Gibsons. Want to know more....contact Di 5979 8686

FRIDAY WALKING GROUP



The first meeting of the FWG for 2020 will be on Friday 24 January. Meet at Teal Court at 9.30am, to plan our program for terms 1 and 2. Please note that this date is in the last week of the summer break, before normal U3A activities start on Tuesday 28th January. Our meeting is being held early because extra classes are now being held at the U3A rooms on Fridays, and we can't have access to the class rooms during term times.

All current members of U3A are welcome to join us. Please bring ideas for good walk venues to the meeting, and \$2 for a cuppa. Copies of the typed program should be available at the Teal Court rooms early in the following week, if you miss the meeting.

Walks are conducted on the first and third Fridays of each month, from February to December inclusively. We go to a variety of venues, selected for some point of interest, as well as being an occasion to get some exercise. Most walks are 4 to 5 km maximum distance, and take an hour or two to complete. Afterwards we relax with a cuppa and bikkie (please BYO, but we usually share) and a social natter.

For any queries, feel free to call me on 5983 1986 or 0411 405 613.

Duncan Ramsay, GROUP LEADER

FRIDAY WALKING GROUP CONTINUED

We go to a variety of venues, selected for some point of interest, as well as being an occasion to get some exercise. Most walks are 4 to 5 km maximum distance,, and take an hour or two to complete. Afterwards, we relax with a cuppa and bikkie (please BYO, but we usually share), and social natter.

For any queries, please free to call me on 5983 1986 or 0411 405 613.

Duncan Ramsay, GROUP LEADER.

MEMBERS INFORMATION - IMPORTANT DATES

MEMBERSHIP AND COURSE ENROLMENT DAYS;

**DECEMBER 10.00 - 1.00 MONDAY 2ND TUESDAY 3RD AND 1.00 - 4.00
THURSDAY 5TH**

Members who joined from October this year are entitled to the Early Bird Special membership which covers the remainder of 2019 to December 2020.

Whilst new members do not need to pay membership you **ARE** required to select your courses and activities for Term 1 2020 and complete the blue Enrolment Form. This is a important requirement.

You will also be issued with a 2020 badge, so please do not forget to collect it from the office in January during Course Confirmation Days.

It is a requirement to wear your badge to all classes and activities. This assists members to get to know each other and also highlights you are a financial member.

MEMBERS BADGE COLLECTION AND COURSE CONFIRMATION DAYS

JANUARY 2020 - MONDAY 20th TUESDAY 21st and THURSDAY 23rd

2020 - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY 25th MARCH
(Venue/time to be announced)

This is one of the most important days in our calendar, our **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** is the election for the 2020 Committee of Management.

All current positions become vacant and everyone has the opportunity to play a role in the 2020 committee for the next 12 months. So if you are interested in taking a role, having your say and learning more about Hastings U3A please talk to the current committee members. (see back page). **All Nominations are very welcome.**

COURSE LISTINGS FOR 2020

Members will note the changed layout of the course activity information sheet.

The first listing covers all the activities and courses which will run **through out the year during terms** (note the dates at the top of the sheet).

Two such activities for example Table Tennis and Square Dancing both run during terms and outside term dates, so it is best to check with the leaders to confirm the dates.

The second sheets list the computer classes, CPR, Easy Meals For One, Mobile Phones, Tablet, and IPAD lessons and includes dates, times, charges and venues.

Please note members will receive an updated copy of courses requiring dates each term. Whereas the larger listing will cover the year, unless otherwise announced.

URGENT - HELP NEEDED

We are in urgent need and require our members to think very seriously about helping out in the office. We have nearly 300 members and we are virtually at the begging stage for assistance at the Office. We understand that members lives are busy with a myriad of things to do. We are all in the same position but if their were more hands to the plough we could prepare a roster that will incorporate more members rather than the committee members doing all the work. Reception staff is urgently needed so let's start 2020 on a positive note with more members putting their hands up to assist.



HASTINGS U3A OFFICE HOURS

Monday/Tuesday 10am - 1pm Thursday 1pm - 4pm

Telephone 5979 8585

13 Teal Court Hastings 3915

WEB ADDRESS: www.hastingsu3a.org.au

Email: u3a@iinet.net.au

| Hastings U3A Committee Members Contact Details | | |
|---|-------------------|------------|
| President/Office Manager | John Kelly | 5909 8012 |
| Vice President | Vacant | |
| Treasurer | Ann Knight | 0400991207 |
| Secretary | Pam Garnham | 5979 8565 |
| Events Co/Ass. Treasurer/Membership | Kathy Robinson | 5979 7015 |
| Course coordinator Membership | Dianne Ashton | 5979 8686 |
| | Marylin Ransome | 0412727020 |
| Publicity Coordinator | Noel Tolley | 0478243116 |
| Newsletter Editor | Barb Peat | 5983 5274 |
| Promotions and Grants Publicity | Joan Dillon | 5979 2016 |
| | David Minton | 5983 8317 |
| Set up Events/Lawn Maintenance | Robert Stephenson | 5977 6375 |