

ENROLMENT DATES TERM 4 2017

AT LAURIETON

Monday 9 October
10.30am – 12 noon

Laurieton United Services Club

AT PORT MACQUARIE

Monday 9 – Friday 13 October
9.30am – 3.30pm daily

You **MUST** be a **MEMBER** of **PMHU3A** to enrol in a course. **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORMS** may be obtained from the office or downloaded from the website, or you can apply online. Half year membership at \$25 is currently available.

Please **WEAR YOUR BADGE** when attending an enrolment centre. Collect a **COURSE BOOKING FORM**, fill in your **MEMBERSHIP DETAILS** and **TICK THE COURSES** you wish to join. The **COURSE BOOKING FORM** can also be downloaded from the website.

You may enrol and pay for courses by:

- **IN PERSON** at the **Office** with your Course Booking Form and cash or cheque.
- **ON-LINE** at www.pmhu3a.org.au and then by bank transfer to:
Account Name: PMHU3A Inc
BSB: 721 – 000
Account No: 75592
- **POST:** Enclose cheque with your Course Booking Form to:
Port Macquarie Hastings U3A Inc.
PO Box 1210
Port Macquarie 2444

We have NO credit card facilities.

Office Location:

The U3A Centre
2 Lochinvar Place
Port Macquarie 2444

Phone No: 6584 4192

Hours: 9.30am – 3.30pm

Website: www.pmhu3a.org.au

From the President...

As we reach the three-quarter mark of 2017 it's pleasing to see our plans for the year falling into place. Membership is up, if only marginally, and we continue to introduce a range of new courses. Improvements to facilities include the attractive and practical floor tiling in the northern corridor, while the new rooftop solar panels should substantially reduce our dependence on the electricity grid. New backup systems have increased the security of our IT network and we are committed to improving the classroom presentation equipment with new computers integrated into moveable lecterns. So, all in all, we can be well satisfied with the progress we've made this year.

It was heartening to see the positive response to our call for volunteers in the last newsletter. The office and IT teams have both benefitted from the arrival of new members and we anticipate further changes when the AGM rolls around a few weeks from now. Those changes will be covered in the mid-term newsletter but already one member, Grant Heaton, has been appointed to the new position of IT Operations Manager with a view to improving our internal lines of communication.

Two social functions are planned for next term. First up will be our traditional Melbourne Cup Lunch, always a most enjoyable event. Equally enjoyable will be our Christmas Party at the end of term. Details are not yet finalised but should be available soon.

On a less positive note I find it necessary to remind members that conveners devote a great deal of their

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Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at the PMHU3A Centre at 3.30pm on Friday 3 November. The principal items of business will be the presentation of the Annual Report and the election of Office Bearers and other members of the Management Committee for the coming year.

Nominations are called for the following positions:

- President
- Vice-president
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Ordinary Committee members – six (6) positions

The following rules apply to nominations:

- 1) Nominees for the committee must be financial Ordinary Members of the association of at least 12 months standing.
- 2) Nominations must:
 - a) be made in writing, signed by two (2) financial members of the association of at least 12 months standing, and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the nomination form), and
 - b) be delivered to the secretary of the association at least 14 days before the date fixed for the holding of the annual general meeting at which the election is to take place.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the office when it re-opens for Term 4. The deadline for lodging nominations is 3.30pm on 20 October 2017. ■

Course News

Most of our courses are returning in term 4. We also have some new courses for you to enjoy including Practical Childcare Activities, French Song Appreciation, Science Forum (see below), Creating Mandalas, Petanque for Beginners, Relaxation Techniques for Chair Yoga, Italian Beginners at PMQ, Wading through Water and Working with Literary Devices.

Returning courses include Sue Whitby's Computer courses, Bridge to Bridge Riverwalk, and U3A Vox Choir which is now on Wednesday afternoons. However, Magic of Movies, which Bob Jeffrey kindly took over when Florence Gibbons left during term 2, will not be running.

Some weeks ago an invitation was sent to all members seeking presentations from those who are keen on Science topics. Their program will be on Wednesday afternoons and will cover the following topics –

Week 1: David Smith – An overview of what makes Physics so robust a science.

David Mathieson – Primary metallurgical processes used in mineral beneficiation. Includes demonstrations.

Week 2: Tony Dawson – Biochemical tests in medical diagnosis – use and misuse.

Pam Hudson – Blood groups – is there a link with disease?

Week 3: Phillip Geary –

Mining legacies and contaminated land.

Environmental CSI: Whose faecal coliform is it?

Week 4: Mike Pepperday –

Discussion of what makes science different from other forms of knowledge.

Week 5: Bob Morgan –

Polymers and Plastics.

Karen Roberts, Course Coordinator ■

Painting class

Adele Lingard convenes the Beginners' Acrylic Painting course held on Friday afternoons. The class is small—just five members—but they all have fun as they learn something new. Acrylic is very forgiving when learning to paint and Adele is very proud of what her students have achieved so far. As one of them said as she admired her work, "I always wanted to be a painter." Well, now she is. ■



L to R: Janet Hawes, Susan Brinkley, Marguerite Wade, Barbara Mede

Call for Photos

We know that members often take photos at U3A, whether of something they've created, a social function or event they've participated in, or simply of being engaged in normal class activities. While we understand that such photos are largely for personal enjoyment, they might also be of interest to others both within U3A and in the broader community.

Rita Spencer, our Publicity Officer, keeps a digital photo library on which she can draw when the media asks for shots. Photos are also valuable to illustrate our newsletter articles. So, if you have some you'd like to share, please send them, together with descriptions and other relevant information, to Rita at publicity@pmhu3a.org.au or to Tony Dawson at newsletter@pmhu3a.org.au. Alternatively, you can make arrangements to have them digitally copied at the office and we'll see that they're passed on. ■

Enrol Online

You may enrol in courses online from 00.00 hours on 9 October (midnight on 8 October). Just go to our website at www.pmhu3a.org.au and log in with your username and password. You will find the course program there together with the online booking form and payment information.

Members are encouraged to use this easy and convenient service.

New Writing Course

Wendy Haynes invites you to enhance



your writing skills with a six-week course on Working with Literary Devices. Each week participants will unpack the tool box and explore

a different literary device, consider the meaning, read and discuss examples, work through some exercises to help better understand how to use a device, and apply it to your own writing to



enrich it. They will also be encouraged to bring a short piece of writing to each session that they want to discuss, and apply literary devices to.

Wendy has been a member of U3A for four years and is the current President of Port Writers Inc. She has recently completed a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment and is close to completing a Diploma in Creative Writing at Southern Cross University. As she says "It's important to understand as writers, that although we have many literary devices up our sleeve, there is a fine line when it comes to over use." Wendy is looking forward to guiding you through a weekly two-hour workshop. ■

Farewell to Jill and Harry



Harry and Jill

Jill and Harry Williams are leaving us. When our new centre opened Jill was instrumental in setting up Room 6 as the Arts and Crafts room. This led to her convening her Textile Arts class and under her tutelage her students have created some mesmerising works of art which include pictures of koalas which were recently exhibited in the Port Macquarie Museum during the 'Hello Koalas'

festival. Jill also spent many months designing and painting "Con the Koala" (wearing convict garb) who sits outside the Historic Courthouse in Clarence Street and is a credit to Jill's artistic ability and attention to detail. Jill was farewelled by her students at a morning tea on Monday 4th September.

Harry has also convened a number of classes, one being the A-Z of Google and more recently the stories of a number of infamous people have had their stories recounted by Harry in his classes of the same name.

In saying farewell to Jill and Harry we thank them for their contribution to Port Macquarie Hastings U3A and wish them all the best for their future in Melbourne. ■



Con the Koala

Meet Grant Heaton

Grant has recently taken on the new position of IT Operations Manager for our association. In this role he will liaise with the IT team and the Management Committee to establish an appropriate balance between the technical requirements of our IT systems and our financial resources and management priorities.

Grant, who has lived in Port Macquarie since 1991, is used to reconciliations of this kind. As Deputy Principal of Wauchope Public School until April 2002, and Principal of Hastings Public School from then until his retirement in April this year, he has broad experience in balancing the wants and needs of different groups in an educational environment.

Pictured here at his retirement dinner with his wife, Ann, a physical education and sports teacher, and daughters Adriane, a vet at the Eastport clinic in Gordon Street, and Eloise, a human resources manager for an international construction company in Brisbane, Grant, perhaps unsurprisingly, has been involved in local netball for 25 years. He has been a member of



L to R: Adriane, Grant, Ann, Eloise

the Blokes Notes male choir for five years, and is a member of Sailability, a group providing sailing for disabled people, as well as Sunrise Rotary. How he whiles away his idle hours Grant doesn't say but he is looking forward to new challenges with U3A. ■

Mah Jong

A number of members have expressed interest in learning and playing Mah Jong. However, no one has yet stepped forward to act as convener for the course. If you are a Mah Jong player and would be prepared to take on the role of convener please contact our Course Coordinator, Karen Roberts, on 6582 0573 or email her at coursecoordinator@pmhu3a.org.au ■

What's On!

ENROLMENT DATES – TERM 4 2017
See page 1.

REMAINING TERM DATES 2017

TERM 4: 16 Oct – 8 Dec

MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON -
7 November 2017 – See below.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON - Details to come.

Melbourne Cup Day

7th November 2017



Your U3A Committee is once more inviting members to enjoy Melbourne Cup Day celebrations in our lovely courtyard at 12.30 pm

Cost will be \$16 per person

On arrival – Complimentary glass of Champagne or Juice, with some nibbles.

Lunch – Chicken and salads, bread roll, tea and coffee.

\$2 sweep ticket included.

'From the President...' Continued from p1
time and energy to our association for no reward other than the satisfaction of seeing their efforts appreciated by others. It is they who bear responsibility for the way classes are conducted, and while all are open to constructive ideas on how their courses might be improved, that's a far cry from class members attempting to dictate how things are run. Although difficulties arise very rarely it is essential that we all deal with such issues in a respectful manner. However, having said that, I wish all members well for our final session of the year.

Tony Dawson, President PMHU3A ■

G'day MEITS

MEITS (pronounced "maates") is the acronym for a Moveable Ergonomic Information Technology Station. It's what you could call a 'smart' lectern and we'll be phasing them into our classrooms to replace some of our existing equipment. The IT team, and especially David Burr, are to be congratulated on designing a presentation station incorporating a computer, monitor, keyboard, mouse and DVD/CD player into a height-adjustable, moveable lectern that provides space for printed notes, a lectern light and other facilities so that users have all the controls at their fingertips without having to turn away from the audience.

The prototype, shown here, will be set up in room 10. It has already been trialled there and elicited very favourable comments from both the speaker and the audience. Although the prototype has been painted, subsequent MEITS will be wood panelled.



It is planned to run sessions to assist conveners, particularly in using PowerPoint Presenter View where the speaker's notes are displayed on the MEITS monitor but not on the screen seen by the audience. The advance is a significant one for U3A and will undoubtedly be embraced by members. ■

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Port Macquarie NSW 2444
PMHU3A Newsletter

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NAME BADGES – ALWAYS wear your name badge when attending classes and U3A activities.

Write your emergency contact details on the back of your badge.

Any member who does not have a name badge should contact the office.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR EMAIL – Please inform the Office on 6584 4192 or via email on office@pmhu3a.org.au if you move house or change your email address.

NEWSLETTER – Contributions are welcome but we reserve the right to edit material submitted for publication. Copyright of original material remains with the author.

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