Hastings Valley U3A Inc

Newsletter

Volume 1 number 4 **Term 4 2005**

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President & Course Coordinator
Carol Surrey
6586 1792

Vice President
Harry Bryant

Secretary
Brian Syms

Treasurer
Ruth Lincoln

Membership Secretary
John Neilson

Our next Registration and Enrolment Day will be on: Tuesday 11th October, 2.00 pm – 4.00pm Auditorium, Port Macquarie Seniors Facility, Munster Street,

Calendar for the rest of 2005
Term 4
Enrol 11 October
Start 17 October
End 9 December

Welcome to term 4.

This will be your last newsletter for 2005 and what a year it has been for the HVU3A. The Committee, in spite of having to learn on the job , have had some remarkable successes. We did a needs analysis of the members, explored venues, streamlined our administration, networked with other U3As, offered a wide range of courses, and established our website. The Committee has worked hard and we can proudly say the Hastings Valley U3A is now a flourishing organization, secure enough in its foundations to meet the challenges of 2006. On a sad note the Committee will say goodbye to two valued members, Dr Bob Gerdes and Lyn Inall. We thank them both for their contribution in establishing the U3A . We shall miss their enthusiasm and hard work. Happily, Bob and Lyn will remain active members, sharing their knowledge and skills with others.

At the same time we extend a warm welcome to our Committee for 2006.

President.....Carol Surrey
Vice President ...Harry Bryant
Secretary.....Brian Syms
Treasurer.....Ruth Lincoln
Membership Secretary.....John Neilson
Committee Members...Matthew Wallace & Robyn Hardman.

Although the changes in the Committee have been minimal this year it does remind us of the need to have other folk on our list who will be prepared to stand for office in the future.

Membership 2006.

Enclosed with your Newsletter is a Membership Application Form for next year. For those of you who are rejoining please return your completed application with your cheque asap. Anyone not financial by the end of March 2006 will be removed from the database.

ICE (In Case of an Emergency)

There are over 18 million mobile phone owners in Australia - and Telstra is encouraging every one of them to **ICE** their phone. **ICE** stands for 'In Case of Emergencies'. The idea is to create an entry for **ICE** in your mobile's phonebook. It's the name and number of a family member or friend who can be contacted 'In Case Of Emergencies' (**ICE**).

Ideally, your **ICE** contact should know your basic medical information, such as blood type and allergies, and be able to help emergency services make decisions if necessary. That could be a family member, close friend or even your doctor.

Having **ICE** in your mobile phone makes it quicker and easier for emergency services workers or passers by to give you the right help if you ever need it. So take out your mobile now - and **ICE** it.

Putting your **ICE** contact and basic medical details on the back of your U3A membership card is also a good idea so that the information is available if you should be taken ill in class.

New Members in Term 4. Your Committee has decided that people joining in the last term of the year will pay the usual annual fees and this will make them financial members until the end of the following year.
Membership fees will remain at $30 for single & $50 per couple.
Name cards can be picked up on enrolment day Tuesday 11th January 2006, and the remaining name cards will be posted to members.
Prospective Tutors, Group Leaders & Conveners of Special Interest Groups are invited to fill in a Tutor Application form which can be obtained by ringing Carol on 6586 1792 .

Videos:

Port Macquarie Library now has a interesting collection of videos dealing with rather controversial issues e.g. Globalization & Human Rights, The Tampa & Beyond, Ethics & Social Responsibility in Business, Multinationals, the Global Food Industry and the Threat to Free Speech and many more. Very challenging topics! Anyone interested in starting a discussion group around these videos?

This will be our last opportunity to say to all our members
:

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Stay healthy, stay safe, live long and we shall see you all in the new year.

Two Free Information Sessions.

1. Senior Constable Jacqui Isbel has some great ideas for staying safe in your own home. Unfortunately, break-and-enter crimes seem to be on the increase in the Hastings area, So come along and learn all about protecting yourself and your home.
The Meeting Room at Port Macquarie Library, Tuesday 18th October at 10.00 am.

2. Mr. Michael Milne, the Acting Manager of the local Public Trustee Office has offered to talk to U3A members about Wills, Estates and Power of Attorney and will answer your questions in this area. Michael will be in the Meeting Room at the Port Macquarie Library on Tuesday 25th October, 10.00 am.

Tutors

are invited to meet at 1:00 pm before enrolment on 11th October for a coffee and a chat. This will give you an opportunity to share your third term experience with other course leaders, meet new course convenors, learn about venues, record keeping and enrolment procedure prior to meeting your prospective group members for

Membership Survey 2005

Thank you to all those members who helped our planning by contributing to our membership survey.
About 35% of our membership returned completed forms.
Some of the more interesting results are:

- 82% of respondents drove themselves to class., 10% were driven. Only 8% walked or used public transport
- An overwhelming majority were in favour of continuing with 4 eight week terms
- There was a strong wish for 'ongoing' courses, although many members would support more one day events
- Members don't want to meet on evenings or weekends. Midweek is the most popular time.
- The average satisfaction rating with our courses was over 90%
- The satisfaction rating of the newsletter was also about 90%
- Most respondents were satisfied with the current registration arrangements
- Overall satisfaction with our U3A was 87%
- 89% of respondents indicated they intend to rejoin next year.
- A number of members commented they didn't see the need for our U3A to offer social activities. These were available through other organisations.