

ENROLMENT DATES TERM 4 2014

AT LAURIETON

Tuesday 7 October
10.30am – 12 noon

Laurieton United Services Club

AT WAUCHOPE

Tuesday 7 October
10.00am – 11.00am

Wauchope Library

AT PORT MACQUARIE

Tuesday 7 – Friday 10 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 available from July 1st.

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.

- **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...

Appeal for Assistance

It is very pleasing that our program in Term 3 has been enjoyed by so many members and we do indeed owe a huge debt of gratitude to all convenors and office-staff.

Whilst the core activity of our organisation, providing stimulating educational courses for our members, continues to function extremely successfully it is apparent that we urgently need further volunteers to come forward in numbers to assist with important functions at PMHU3A.

We need members to assist with:

- Providing on site equipment set up and support for convenors at daily courses (we will provide any training required)
- Office support.
- The setting up of holiday programs.
- Technical IT support
- Premises security (e.g. opening and closing the Centre)

There is also an increasing demand from within our membership base for holiday programs and social functions. To make this a reality we need members to volunteer to take up the leadership role in the planning, organisation and implementation of holiday events.

If you can assist in any of the above areas, please let the office staff know of your interest. Thank you.

Social functions

The Mad Hatter's Tea Parties in August were a huge success and my thanks to everyone who joined in the fun. I am pleased to report that approximately \$1,200 was raised with the proceeds going towards the air-conditioning project.

Upcoming functions listed for the benefit of members are:

- Afternoon with the Bards – Sunday 2 November at 3.00pm.
- Melbourne Cup Lunch – Tuesday 4 November at 1.00pm

Important Notice

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held at 2.00pm on **Friday 14 November** at the PMHU3A Centre. Registration will begin at 1.30pm. The Annual Report will be presented, followed by the election of Office Bearers and other members of the Management Committee for the coming year. The Management Committee comprises the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and six ordinary members (further details on page 2)

- End of Year Xmas Lunch time Party and BBQ – 29 November at 12.00 noon.

I hope that as many members as possible will come along and enjoy these functions.

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone the lunchtime barbecue originally planned for 26 September as the new electrical equipment will not be completed in time.

Fund raising

We recently received the terrific news that our application for a grant from Port Macquarie Hastings Council was successful.

This means that the local firm, Coolcene, will soon be installing air-conditioning units in six (6) rooms, with the capital cost of \$11,100 being shared by PMHU3A and Port Macquarie Hastings Council.

I record our thanks to Port Macquarie Hastings Council for supporting our U3A.

Your committee has also lodged applications for grants to support proposed projects for a solar energy system and courtyard shade sails. With your financial support I'm confident that these projects will also soon become a reality.

In summary Fund raising in 2014 has realised \$40,466 (Target \$50,000).

- Members donations and events \$23,731
- Balance Commonwealth Grant \$10,000
- Council Grant \$6,135
- Holiday Coast Credit Union \$600

Congratulations to everyone!

Kevin Pike, President PMHU3A ■

PMHU3A Centre Celebration

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at the PMHU3A Centre at 2.00pm on Friday 14 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.

The following rules apply to nominations:

- (1) Nominees for the committee must be financial members of the Association of at least 12 months' standing.
- (2) Nominations of candidates for election as office-bearers of the Association or as ordinary members of the committee
 - (a) shall be made in writing, signed by 2 members of the Association who have been financial members of the Association of at least 12 months' standing, and shall be accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of the nomination), and
 - (b) shall 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.

Committee changes

We are sorry to record the resignation of Eric Graham as Vice-president of PMHU3A and member of the Management Committee. Eric, who was elected Vice-president last year, was leading the current Fundraising & Recognition Project but stood down for health reasons.

As one of the founding members and motivating forces behind PMHU3A we owe a great debt to Eric for his unfaltering commitment to our organisation over the past decade. Despite his main love—apart from Shirley—being Australian History, he has always been much more forward-thinking than backward-looking and sees a bright future for U3A, with greater community recognition leading to a marked increase in membership. We shall continue to welcome Eric's wise counsel, not only on how we attract new members but on how we seek to progress all the aims of our organisation into the future.

Tony Dawson is now serving out the balance of Eric's term as Vice-president and John Harlow, who runs the *Exercise for Seniors* classes, has been appointed to the casual vacancy on the Committee.

The day was picture perfect for almost a hundred members and guests who came to celebrate the new PMHU3A Centre on 12 July. With everyone comfortably seated in Room 10, President Kevin Pike welcomed the guests who included Leslie Williams MP and, importantly, Bessie Jennings and members of the Jennings family.

Following the welcome, Kevin gave a brief account of how the Centre came into being, paying tribute to the hard work of everyone involved and expressing special appreciation to our former federal MP, Rob Oakeshott, and Mrs Williams for their help in securing the government grants that made the project possible.

Kevin then handed over to Eric Graham who spoke about PMHU3A as a natural extension in the cultural history of Port Macquarie, running from the early days at Lake Innes, through the contribution of the School of Arts, to the development of the Glasshouse as a regional cultural centre.

Des Davis followed, focusing his address on how U3A meets the definition of a university as community of students and teachers. He spoke about the benefits it offers to those of us who, while alive and kicking, will never be 'past it'.

It was now time for Bessie Jennings to step forward and say a few words about her late husband, Frank, who had given so much to PMHU3A. As always, she did this in style, this time with her wonderful and heartfelt 'Ode to Frank.' With her family gathered around her, she formally dedicated the



Kevin Pike with Bessie Jennings

former Room 10 as 'The Frank Jennings Room', a fitting tribute to his memory.

With the main formalities over, everyone moved to the courtyard for drinks and afternoon tea. Local caterers provided a splendid spread, and everyone enjoyed milling around in the afternoon sun.

The moment had come to cut the traditional celebratory cake. Eric, with a little help from Kevin, performed the honours and soon we were licking the sponge and cream from our fingers as the sun sank and we arrived at the end of what had been a great celebration of our wonderful new Centre.



Frank Jennings was Private Secretary to Prime Ministers Menzies and Holt. A record of his 2007 interview with Barry York can be found on the Museum of Australian Democracy website at <http://oralhistories.moadoph.gov.au/frank-jennings>. Bessie Jennings has donated a copy of 'Speaking Frankly', a book about Frank's life, to the U3A library.

Mad Hatter's Tea Parties

"Where Did You Get That Hat?" is a music hall song first performed by Joseph J. Sullivan in New York in 1888. However, the same question was posed many times during one week in August when U3A heads sprouted a variety of gear ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous.



Brian Tolagson, Maggie Wilson & John Brownsberger

Of course, it wasn't all about hats. It was also about socialising over cakes and savouries, and (dare we say it) raising funds for the very best of causes — US! Over the five days we raised \$1200, a healthy amount to put towards the air conditioning of classrooms and the office. And if predictions of a hot summer prove correct, it's something we'll need.



Robin Munro & Jann Patterson

Elegance Soirée

Sparkling drapes, potted plants and artwork transformed the U3A foyer as members and guests gathered for drinks, hors d'oeuvre and conversation prior to our latest fundraising event held on 5 September. The Frank Jennings Room was similarly transformed, creating a most attractive setting for the evening's entertainment—and what entertainment it was with performers offering a variety of musical styles to suit every taste.



Alex Small & Madeline Farlow

Stella Hannock, a Year 11 student aiming for a singing career, led off with a rendition of *Le Violette* by Scarlatti, accompanied by Robyn Ryan O.A.M. on piano keyboard kindly provided by Coastal Music. Stella followed with *Mopoke*, evoking a quite different mood, and the diversity continued throughout her repertoire which ended with *Wish You Were Somehow Here Again* from 'Phantom of the Opera', beautifully sung by a very accomplished young woman.

Pianist/vocalist, Alex Small, currently taking a 'gap year' before going on to study music at university, then performed two solos, one being his own arrangement of a Michael Jackson song. He was afterwards joined by Madeline Farlow, also taking her 'gap year', and together they captivated the audience with five short duets including the intriguingly titled *Bugs* and *Bad Wine and Lemon Cake*. Madeline then proceeded to a series of solos including *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*, *Blue Moon*, and the Gershwin classic, *Summertime*, all superbly performed and greeted with great delight.

The soiree ended with a three songs from the U3A Vox Choir, accompanied by Isobel Johnson and directed by Betty Starr. Beginning with *Walking in the Air* and ending with *Remember*, they reminded many of us of the time when we could do those things more easily than now. However, their other song, *Prayer*, struck a more achievable chord. The choir has come a long way since it was formed and is now becoming more adventurous.

So ended a very entertaining and successful evening. Special thanks to Betty Starr and the Social Committee, to the usual bevy of volunteers who decorated the rooms, served the food and drinks, and cleared everything up afterwards, and to everyone else involved, not least those who supported the event with their attendance and added \$800 to our 2014 fundraising efforts, the results of which will soon be obvious to all our members.

Now Hear This!

Australian Hearing Port Macquarie, a federally funded organisation, will be at U3A on **Wednesday 22 October at 2.00pm**. They will provide information on devices that can help the hearing impaired to improve their quality of life as well as their security in their homes.

Research tells us that many Australians over 50, including those with diagnosed hearing loss, are reluctant to do anything about it, either believing that their hearing is still good enough or willing to put up with the problem.

But hearing technology is constantly improving. For example, today's almost invisible hearing aids are quite different from their older counterparts.

And remember that losing your hearing doesn't always lead to a hearing aid. Sometimes it's just hearing the television, conversing on the phone or hearing the doorbell that's the issue. There are many solutions other than hearing aids available to help improve your life.

There's really no excuse for not doing something about your hearing, and the sooner you take action, the better your quality of life and health will be.

So come along for a free hearing information presentation and see what's available to help you hear the sounds you love.

Australian Hearing will have printed information and items for 'show and tell' eg. door bells and assistive listening devices to help with the TV.

If you would like to attend please register your interest with the office.

Wheelchair available

Some of our less mobile members will be pleased to learn that we now have a wheelchair available to help you move around more easily inside the Centre.

The chair was kindly donated by Peter O'Driscoll of St Agnes' Church. If you wish to use it please see the office staff.

What's On!

ENROLMENT DATES – TERM 4 2014:
See page 1.

REMAINING TERM DATES 2014
TERM 4 2014: Oct 13 – Dec 5

'AUSTRALIAN HEARING' VISIT
Wednesday 22 October 2014
2.00 - 3.00pm
PMHU3A Centre

AFTERNOON WITH THE BARDS
Sunday 2 November 2014
3.00 - 5.00pm
PMHU3A Centre - \$5 per person

MELBOURNE CUP LUNCH
Tuesday 4 November 2014
1.00 noon - 3.30pm
PMHU3A Centre - Details to follow

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Friday 14 November 2014
2.00 - 3.30pm
The Frank Jennings Room
PMHU3A Centre

CHRISTMAS FUNCTION
Saturday 29 November 2014
12.00 noon - 4.00pm
Tenison Woods Centre BBQ Area
Lochinvar Place - \$15 per person

Page 3 Girls (and Boys)



Top Hat
Judith Wallis receives her prize from Bessie Jennings



Taking the Cake
Kevin cracks up as Eric wields the knife

Hello Con!



Jill with Con

As part of the **Hello Koala** public art sculpture project, Jill Williams, convener of the Textile Art class, submitted an entry on behalf of U3A. She then spent a very busy July creating Con the Koala.

Con arrived covered in bubble wrap and was given a coat of primer before Jill started on her masterpiece. She decided to paint him in black and cream so as to create the impression that he had stepped out of an early Australian history book.

According to the Hello Koala website (<http://hellokoalas.com/koalas/con>), Con comes from the early 1821 settlement of Port Macquarie where he was a convict. Con was assigned to the road building chain gang, working from dawn to dusk, shackled, with his feet covered only by stockings.

Congratulations to Jill for her creation which will be housed—appropriately—outside the old Courthouse in Clarence Street.

If undeliverable, return to:

Port Macquarie Hastings U3A Inc.
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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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