

ENROLMENT DATES TERM 1 2015

AT LAURIETON

Tuesday 27 January
10.30am – 12 noon
Laurieton United Services Club

AT WAUCHOPE

Tuesday 27 January
10.00am – 11.00am
Wauchope Library

AT PORT MACQUARIE

Tuesday 27 – Friday 30 January
Monday 2 – Friday 6 February
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.

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...

Members of Port Macquarie Hastings U3A will be looking forward with keen anticipation to another exciting year of stimulating learning programs and enjoyable social activities at our Centre in 2015.

I'm delighted to start the year with the happy announcement that the fundraising efforts in 2014 were an outstanding success. Thanks to the generosity of members and the special fundraising events we raised \$28,400, exceeding our target of \$25,000. With additional financial promises from benefactors, I am confident that we can grow our "Future Fund" to \$30,000.

This is a terrific outcome for PMHU3A and sets us up to meet the cost challenges of our future requirements for information technology (IT), sound equipment and member facilities.

I thank all members who enthusiastically and generously supported the fundraising campaign, and, on behalf of the Management Committee and all members, I extend a huge thankyou to Betty Starr and her energetic Fundraising (now Social) Committee for your fantastic efforts.

As you come to the Centre this year you will soon realise how the Future Fund is providing benefits for members.

On entering the courtyard you will see the new shade sails flying majestically over the western side, while in the IT training room seven new computers are available for members who enrol in the computer courses. These two projects were budgeted to cost \$6,580.

You will also be able to enjoy the new BBQ facilities now set up in the small courtyard on the northern side. Those attending activities over the summer break have already made use of them and I'm sure that, in the future, all members will get full value from these facilities which will provide the focus for many social activities. Greg Dark and Laurie Lardner are to be congratulated for taking on this project so enthusiastically and effectively.

Enrol Online

You may enrol in courses online from 00.00 hours on 27 January (midnight on 26 January). 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.

I am delighted to report that the Wednesday holiday classes have been most successful. The two events held before Christmas each attracted twenty-plus members, while well over thirty members have attended each of the two sessions held so far in January. Thank you to Sue Moll and Jacqui Everett for managing the program and providing an important additional benefit for members.

As our activities expand, we urgently need more volunteers to come forward to help in providing essential services at PMHU3A.

We need members to assist with:

- on-site equipment set up and support for conveners at daily courses (we will provide any training required)
- office staff to provide member services and support
- the setting up of holiday programs
- technical IT support
- premises security (e.g. opening and closing – holiday events)
- course conveners – to teach in your area of expertise or interest.

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

I am looking forward to the year ahead and wish all conveners, committee volunteers and members best wishes for a successful year at PMHU3A.

Kevin Pike, President PMHU3A ■

Sailing into 2015

It was too late to enter the good ship "PMHU3A" in the Sydney-Hobart race but the sails over the courtyard were hoisted in good time for the first of our holiday entertainments. They'll no doubt be appreciated in the months ahead, and with Captain Kevin Pike on the bridge, Navigator Sue Moll at the helm, Bursar Lorraine Beukers with a firm grip on the purse strings, and the rest of the crew busy at their various tasks, 2015 promises to be another great year for everyone.



Sail away, sail away, sail away...

As you'll see from our list of courses, most, if not all, the old favourites are back again this year, and there are several new ones to sweeten and add spice to the mixture. What, for instance, could be sweeter than the chocolate-making class *Chocolate Indulgence* (wonder if they need an Official Taster?) It's also thumbs-up for those with green fingers with the new *Botany for Gardeners*, while anyone with a yen for travel and an eye to the past need go no further than

The Great Tours: Experiencing Mediaeval Europe. Of course, with so much on offer there will be some who can't quite make up their minds which classes to enrol in but if your difficulty is in deciding between yoga and pilates you'll be relieved to find that there's a class in *Yogalates* where you can enjoy the best of both. For a full run-down see the Term 1 Course Program.

So there's a lot to look forward to in 2015; old classes and old friends, new classes and new friends, and all the various combinations. Whatever and however many you choose, you're sure of a warm welcome at U3A.

Christmas Barbecue

Over eighty members, including a number in traditionally festive gear, were at the Christmas function held at the Tenison Woods Centre towards the end of last term. Well before the official starting time people were busy preparing food, moving furniture into place, arranging decorations, and setting balloons to hover above the tables and add to the merriment by bursting with a joyful pop. Mike Frost and Laurie Lardner were at work on the barbecue, while Greg Dark had the drinks ready for a thirsty crowd. As noon drew close Joan Lane and Patricia White checked in the guests and the place began to buzz with conversation and laughter.

Fresh salads of various kinds magically appeared from the kitchen where Jacqui Everett, Faye Lardner, Alvina Dark and other willing helpers were hard at work, and when the steaks, chicken, sausages and onions came in from the barbecue we all descended on the fare to the up-beat music of 'Lick the Spoon', the trio who came to entertain us.



The Three Santas



Lorraine Beukers & Sue Clifford

After a dessert of fresh fruit we settled back in our chairs and, led by Betty Starr, joined in some Christmas carols. The lucky draw followed, prizes awarded and people slowly began to drift away, well satisfied and offering their Christmas greetings. A few members made good use of the music to take to the dance floor, but by three o'clock the party was just about over and all that remained was to clear the debris, put everything back in its proper place, and leave the centre looking as if nothing at all had happened.

Print – Save

No, we're not on the File menu of your latest software; what we want to let you know are the steps we are taking to save on our printing costs. Every term we produce a 4-page newsletter, an 8-page course program, and a 2-page booking form. Until now up to 400 copies of each have been printed commercially, representing a significant cost impost on our operations.

In an attempt to reduce these costs we have recently entered into an agreement with an office equipment and supplies company to lease a commercial-quality laser printer that will allow us to do our printing in-house. This issue of the newsletter is the first to be produced on the new machine.

Your committee is constantly looking for ways of getting the best value for money. In relation to printed material you can help by using our online services wherever possible, thereby enabling us to save not only on printing costs but also postal charges. We understand that not everyone can do this but hope that more of our members will choose the online options and help us to use our limited resources more productively.

Disorder in the Court

These are reported to be things people said in court and taken down by court reporters.

✱ ✱ ✱

Lawyer: *How was your first marriage terminated?*

Witness: *By death*

Lawyer: *And by whose death was it terminated?*

Witness: *Take a guess*

✱ ✱ ✱

Lawyer: *Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?*

Witness: *No*

Lawyer: *Did you check for blood pressure?*

Witness: *No*

Lawyer: *Did you check for breathing?*

Witness: *No*

Lawyer: *So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?*

Witness: *No*

Lawyer: *How can you be so sure, Doctor?*

Witness: *Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar*

Lawyer: *I see, but could the patient have still been alive, nevertheless?*

Witness: *Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practising law.*

Where does the money go? Simple as ABC

The hugely successful fundraising effort last year led a number of members to ask where the money was going. Well, the new shade sails over the courtyard have already been described on page 2 and here are three more things.

Air conditioning....all our classrooms now have reverse-cycle air conditioning. Each system operates independently so that it can be turned on or off as required and enable us to control the running costs. Most members would have enjoyed the benefits on some of the warmer days towards the end of last term and will undoubtedly appreciate them even more during what is likely to be hot and humid weather in the next couple of months.



*Where'er you sit, cool gales shall fan you
(with apologies to Handel)*

Barbecues Galore....or so it seemed on 17 December when Master Chefs Greg Dark and Laurie Lardner got to work on the new electric barbecues for the first time. The occasion was the second in our series of summer entertainments when members came to the U3A Centre to do battle in a Trivia Quiz.

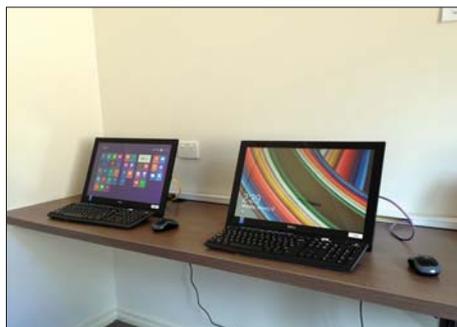


Greg (left) and Laurie (right) getting hot but unbothered on the barbecues

Following the quiz all contestants—victors and conquered—settled down amicably for a chat and a simple lunch of sausage sandwiches (with or without onions) and soft drinks. A very pleasant way to pass the time, and both the barbecues and the chefs had passed their first test with flying colours.

Since then the barbecues and our two chefs have been there for all the Wednesday holiday activities and we can look forward to many similar functions in the future, confident that members will give their support.

Computers....the computing classes convened by Sue Whitby are amongst the most popular offered at the Centre but, as we all know, the rate of advance in computer technology, both hardware and software, currently outstrips that in any other field of human endeavour. So it is incumbent upon us, if not to keep pace, then at least not be left too far behind, and with that in mind we have recently purchased and installed seven new Dell Inspiron 20 3000 Series All-in-One Desktop PCs. All have 19.5" touch screens, built-in web camera and audio, and run Windows 8.1. Mike Matthews and Nick Ogbourne have set them up in such a way that they will also be able to run Windows 10 when it becomes available later this year.



What's On!

ENROLMENT DATES – TERM 1 2015:
See page 1.

PMHU3A TERM DATES 2015

TERM 1: 9 Feb – 3 Apr

TERM 2: 4 May – 26 Jun

TERM 3: 27 Jul – 18 Sep

TERM 4: 19 Oct – 11 Dec

U3A NSW NETWORK CONFERENCE

29 April – 1 May 2015

to be held at the Mittagong RSL,
Old Hume Highway, Mittagong 2575

Details from the Southern Highlands

U3A website www.sohiu3a.org.au

or contact

The Conference Secretary,
PO Box 421,
Bowral 2576

Phone: (02) 9990 6650

Email: admin@sohiu3a.org.au

We anticipate running a number of social functions during Term 1 but the details have not yet been finalised.

However, the information will be provided in good time so keep your eye on the website and/or look out for notices prominently displayed in the Centre.

U3A Network News

Following a redistribution of the sixty-four U3As presently in the NSW network we are now a member of the North Coast region comprising Ballina/Byron, Brunswick Valley, Clarence River, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo Plateau, Forster-Tuncurry, Gloucester, Grafton, Kempsey/Macleay, Manning Valley, Nambucca Valley, Northern Rivers (Lismore), Port Macquarie Hastings, Port Macquarie Watonga, and Tweed Coast.

The redistribution took into account various considerations including distance and logical transport flows. The other regional groups are Central Coast/Hunter, Central West/Blue Mountains, North West, South Coast and South West/ACT.

Our representative on the North Coast regional committee is Des Davis who will be well known to most of you as a long-standing member of PMHU3A and a former president of our association. He is in regular contact with representatives from our sister U3As, exchanging ideas and looking at ways of improving the programs and services we offer to members.

We are very grateful to Des for continuing in this important role.

The Art of Belonging

NSW Network Conference
April 29 – May 1 2015



U3A Southern Highlands
Extends a warm welcome to
ALL U3As.

- ✓ Keynote Speaker Hugh MacKay
- ✓ Tony Whittingham on E-Learning
- ✓ Sarogini Millott on Insurance
- ✓ Wonderful Workshops
- ✓ Great before & after Activities.
- ✓ Help Celebrate our 20th Birthday

The Conference aims to be enjoyable, informative and to provide the opportunity for the exchange of ideas.

VENUE:

Mittagong RSL
Old Hume Highway
Mittagong 2575

You're Invited...

..to attend the annual U3A NSW Network Conference which is to be held at the Mittagong RSL, Old Hume Highway, Mittagong on 29 April to 1 May 2015.

U3A Southern Highlands, currently celebrating its 20th anniversary, is hosting the conference and has arranged a stimulating and entertaining program. The theme is *The Art of Belonging*, the title of a new book by the Keynote Speaker, the highly-regarded psychologist, social researcher and writer, Hugh Mackay. Two other main contributors, Tony Whittingham and Sarogini Millott, will speak respectively on *Third Age Learning in a Digital World* and *Insurance and U3A*. The conference also includes various thought provoking workshops from which to choose, covering subjects as diverse as *Bulldust Baffles Brains*, *Who Do You Think You Are* and *Globally Displaced Persons: Our Challenge Now and in the Future*. All this plus a civic reception at the Bradman Museum, a conference dinner and various optional excursions.

The registration fee of \$65 per person (\$80 per person after 15 March) covers your attendance at the civic reception and all conference activities, workshops, lunch and refreshments during the day on Thursday. The conference dinner and excursions are additional costs.

Full program details, registration forms and accommodation information may be found at the Southern Highlands U3A website www.sohiu3a.org.au.

If undeliverable, return to:

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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.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND PRIVACY – If you have any objection to having your photograph or name on the web site or in our Newsletter, please write to the Secretary and make this known. We will always respect your privacy.

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