

ENROLMENT DATES TERM 3 2018

AT LAURIETON

Monday 16 July
10.30am – 12 noon
Laurieton United Services Club

AT PORT MACQUARIE

Monday 16 – Tuesday 20 July
9.30am – 3.30pm daily

ON LINE AT

www.pmhu3a.org.au
from Monday 16 July

You **MUST** be a **MEMBER** of **PMHU3A** to enrol in a course. 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 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

Please note that 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...

During the last term break I attended the U3A Network NSW annual conference in Canberra. It was an interesting program including talks on subjects ranging from social history to library resources to identity theft and workshops dealing with a variety of topics including responsibilities of committees, encouraging volunteering, and communication through public and social media. The Network AGM was also held including an open forum for members to bring up specific matters of interest. Conferences like this provide opportunities to see what other U3As are doing, to share experiences and, hopefully, to find solutions to common problems.

Regarding our own operations we are close to standardising the classroom presentation equipment. We have been greatly assisted in this by a \$1500 Community Partnership grant from the Holiday Coast Credit Union whom I thank for their generosity and concern for the community. The grant has enabled us to purchase a new 75-inch smart TV which means that all classrooms except Room 6 will now have a TV and will soon be equipped with a standard MEITS lectern system. We are also in the process of switching to the NBN and extending our internal network to ensure that we can make optimal use of higher broadband speeds.

We have entertained two important visitors recently. On 30 May the Mayor of Port Macquarie Hastings LGA, Peta Pinson, accepted our invitation to look around the centre and appeared suitably impressed with what she saw and heard. A few days later we were visited by Bob Birrer, the U3A Network's Regional Representative for the Mid-North Coast U3As. Bob sat in on our committee meeting in order to gain an idea of the issues we face and how we attempt to address them. It is hoped that a regional forum will be held at our centre later in the year.

It is always very gratifying to see our members making a mark in the broader community. During the Seniors Festival in April the Multicultural Dancers performed at the Seniors Concert and at the Seniors Expo, while members of the Textile Art class contributed works towards a special exhibition at the Port Macquarie Museum. It was then the turn of the Acrylic Painting class whose talents were on show in the Glasshouse during Art Walk, and in the last week of term U3A Laurieton Voices gave a splendid concert which raised \$400 to go towards the completion of the Beach to Beach walk on the Camden Haven River. Congratulations to the conveners—Christine Battisson, Sue Martin, Adele Lingard and Sue Bartholomew—and members of their respective groups for representing us in this way.

Tony Dawson, President PMHU3A ■

Enrol Online and On Time

We continue to ask members to enrol on line if possible and pay by bank transfer. We also urge members to **ENROL DURING ENROLMENT WEEK** rather than waiting until classes commence. By doing so you are more likely to secure a place in the course that you want (most classes have enrolment limits), and it also means that conveners can keep track of the number of members enrolled and can plan their courses accordingly (which may include cancellation if there are insufficient enrolments).

You will be notified by email of the date when you can access the Course Brochure and the Newsletter on line. Please note that in future any hard copies of either of these documents requested from the office will cost \$1 each.

Courses

Have you checked out the latest course brochure, the one for Term 3? While it's good to see that at least at U3A there are some guarantees in life, maybe this is the term when you could also try something new. What about enrolling in that course you've always wondered about or the one where you feel you could contribute some of your own unique and interesting perspectives? Or how about something totally new including –

◆ **Meditation on Mondays** with Maggie Jones. Last term Maggie presented as part of the Health Forum and all participants left feeling more calm and peaceful than when they arrived.

◆ **Broadway Musical Treasures** on Tuesday afternoons with David Thomson. This course didn't run last term due to insufficient numbers. David is very passionate about his topic and keen to have you share his passion.

◆ **Singalong with Flo** (actually Sim Livian), on twice a week. Singing is a great way to improve your health and have fun plus, these wintry days, you'll leave feeling much warmer!

◆ Two previous presenters are also returning with two new courses. Virginia Oakley will convene **'The Story of Gold'** on Tuesday afternoons and Carol Baker presents **Being Human: Lessons from Neuroscience**.

Before closing I would like to add a request on behalf of all our wonderful conveners, as well as our office volunteers that once enrolments start, please, please, please can members enrol as soon as possible in their courses? Each term we cancel some courses due to insufficient numbers as we assume that if you haven't enrolled by the start of term then perhaps you're away for the term on holidays, or you no longer like that course, or for some other reason (forgot?). To arrive at the U3A centre on the first scheduled day of a class hoping to enrol and then to discover that it isn't running because of insufficient enrolments is disappointing for everyone.

Karen Roberts, Course Coordinator ■



100 Not Out!

On 15 May our oldest member, George Alfred Wallens, celebrated his 100th birthday – a living embodiment of our motto 'Learners Live Longer'.

George's family, originally 'Wallenstein', migrated to Australia from what is now the Czech Republic, and George was born at Clayfield, a suburb of Brisbane. His mother, Elizabeth, became the first woman admitted to the Queensland Bar while his

father, Harold, was later appointed Chief Engineer for the Brisbane City Council.

From the age of six, George, an only child, attended the Southport School as a boarder and has fond memories of his years there. He was an accomplished tennis player and keen on water sports.

When World War II broke out George enlisted in the army, eventually taking command of a Transport Division. After the war he and a cousin established a trucking business which they later sold.

George then joined the Building Materials Division of CSR and rose to the position of Division Manager. Thirty-eight years later, at the age of 62, he retired from CSR and has since been a man of very active leisure.

George has been married twice, first to Maise and then to Doris, each marriage lasting 25 years. He has two children, 4 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren, and the family lived in Kirribilli and Castle Hill before moving to Port Macquarie in 1970. Now George says, "Why would you live anywhere else?"

A long-time member of the Masons, George rose to the rank of Deputy Grand Master. He has made three Round-the-World trips, enjoys reading (no glasses needed), and attributes his long life to having been married to two wonderful women and never missing a meal.

George can often be found at the U3A centre attending classes in Art & Culture and Australian History. We congratulate him on reaching his 100th birthday and look forward to seeing him around for many more years to come. ■

Multicultural Dancers

On 30 May the U3A Multicultural Dancers led by Christine Battisson attended an Afternoon Tea hosted by Leslie Williams MP and Hastings Combined Seniors where the Deputy Premier of NSW, John Barilaro, presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation for their performance at the 2018 Seniors Concert. Members of the group were greatly honoured and inspired by the recognition.

The group has since danced at CWA International celebrations, the featured country this year being Poland. The accompanying photo shows the dancers in their new Polish costumes. ■



Father Donnelly

Fr Leo Donnelly, now 90 years old, took up his appointment as Parish Priest of St Agnes Parish in 1970 and served in that capacity until his recent retirement. It is timely, therefore, to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for all he has done to help our U3A since its establishment in 2004.

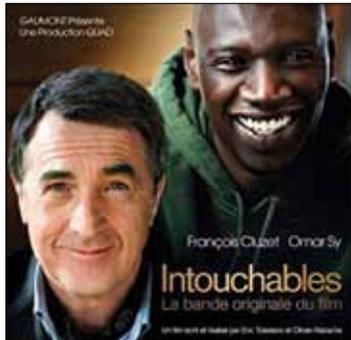
Fr Donnelly, whose life is the subject of a short film *A Life Less Ordinary*, has not only been an advocate for education for all ages, from the very young to the relatively mature (that's us), but also has backed his advocacy with practical measures throughout the Port Macquarie community. We are just one of the beneficiaries of his efforts but it is largely he who we have to thank for what we now enjoy.

His efforts on our behalf include helping us to establish our first centre on church premises on Warlters Street. After that land was acquired by K-Mart he then discussed alternatives with us and when the building we now occupy was vacated it was leased to us on generous terms. That was in 2013 and we began operating from here in 2014 when the refurbishment was completed.

Much of our success depends on our splendid physical facilities, so on behalf of all our members I thank Fr Donnelly most sincerely. We wish him well for the future and look forward to helping him mark his centenary in 2027. ■



Movie Show – *Intouchables*



Terry Feltham will again present a movie during the term break. This time it's *Intouchables*, an irreverent, uplifting comedy about friendship, trust and human possibility. The film is based on a true story of friendship between a handicapped millionaire (François Cluzet) and his street smart ex-con caretaker (Omar Sy). It depicts an unlikely camaraderie rooted in honesty and humour between two individuals who, on the surface, would seem to have nothing in common.

The movie will be shown Wednesday 18 July at the U3A Centre – see 'What's On!'. ■

U3A – Never Too Late To Learn

Young Tommy Bell could study well, with wisdom and discretion.
He longed to be a lawyer, see – and entered that profession.
His brother Dick was often sick, and missed a lot of schooling;
while Harry Drew missed lessons, too – through playing round and fooling.

Three different men; they grew, and then they worked in their careers;
and when retired, they all desired to learn in later years.
So Tom could start to study Art, while Harry took up Writing;
and Dick would speak in ancient Greek; for all, it was exciting.

And Tom's wife Sue learned new things, too – like Spanish conversation;
while Harry's Jean taught Thai cuisine; and Dick taught Meditation.
Their school today is U3A – with no exams or swotting.
They're having fun – no homework done! (No copybooks for blotting).

Now Harry's wise; to his surprise, this learning's an adventure!
He's learned a bit; he's keeping fit, and staving off dementia.
There's no Degrees – each class a breeze; this stuff's no load to carry.
This learning's fun for everyone – Tom, Dick and even Harry.

Bessie Jennings, 2010

What's On!

PMHU3A TERM DATES 2018

TERM 3: 23 July – 14 September

TERM 4: 15 October – 7 December

ACTIVITY DAY

Monday 9 July 2018

10.00am – 3.15pm

U3A Centre

Cost \$5 includes light lunch

MOVIE SHOW

Terry Feltham presents
Intouchables

Wednesday 18 July 2018

10.00am – 12.30pm

U3A Centre

Admission \$2 – Pay at the door

Tea/coffee, biscuit \$1

U3A Art on Show

Work by members of our Textile Art course was on show at the Port Macquarie Museum during April as part of a temporary exhibition called 'Postcard Connections'. The exhibition, a collaboration between creative ageing practitioner, Lisa Hort, PMHU3A textile art convener, Sue Martin, and Port Macquarie Museum curator Debbie Sommers, was opened by Leslie Williams MP with Luke Hartsuyker MP and Mayor Peta Pinson also in attendance. It was supported by a NSW Seniors Festival Grant from the NSW government.



Also on show at the Glasshouse during Art Walk on 19 April were paintings by members of our Acrylic Painting group led by Adele Lingard. The works were viewed by many of the several thousand people who were in the CBD for this year's event and were greatly appreciated. ■

U3A Network NSW

The U3A Network NSW Inc. is an organisation of 68 autonomous U3As in NSW and the ACT, plus 23 interstate groups. For administrative convenience member U3As are divided into ten regions each of which has a Regional Representative who serves as an independent member of the Network Committee of Management, acts as a conduit between the Committee and the member U3As in their region, provides advice and assistance on U3A matters to groups in the region, and assists new groups in the region to become established.

The recently appointed Regional Representative for the Mid-North Coast Region—comprising Coffs Harbour U3A, Forster-Tuncurry U3A, Gloucester U3A, Kempsey-Macleay Valley U3A, Manning Valley U3A, Nambucca Valley U3A and Port Macquarie Hastings U3A—is Bob Birrer who visited us recently and sat in on one of our committee meetings.



Bob had a long career as a manager in the aged care industry and as an organisational development, change management

and culture change consultant before retiring and moving to Kempsey. He joined Kempsey Macleay Valley U3A a few years ago and has since served as its Vice-President and President.

Bob hopes to foster stronger links between U3As in our region and is working towards holding a regional forum in early October. Being located in a central position within the region, and having the facilities for such a forum, we have offered to host the event. If, as we hope, the forum goes ahead we will report on the proceedings in a later newsletter. In the meantime we wish Bob all the best in his new role and assure him of our support. ■

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

pmhu3a.org.au if you move house or change your email address.

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