

ENROLMENT DATES TERM 4 2018

AT PORT MACQUARIE

Monday 8 – Wednesday 10 October
9.30am – 3.30pm daily

ON LINE AT

www.pmhu3a.org.au
from Monday 8 October

You **MUST** be a **MEMBER** of **PMHU3A** to enrol in a course. Half-year membership at \$25 is 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

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...

Members will be glad to hear that we recently signed the lease for a five-year extension to our occupancy of the U3A Centre. The lease runs to 31 July 2023 but unfortunately the Diocese of Lismore, which owns the building, was unwilling to offer us an option to extend beyond that. Perhaps this is simply because the Diocese has not yet determined its position and might be prepared to enter into new negotiations with us in due course but, whatever the case, the management committee will take the precaution of exploring other options to secure our longer term future. Faced with this uncertainty we must ensure that our financial position is strong enough to cope with the possible challenges. While we are comfortable enough in our present situation our cash reserves could quickly be swallowed up if we were forced to move to other premises. Accordingly, the committee is looking at our existing fee structure. Membership fees have not changed in seven years despite a 14% increase in the CPI during that time, while course fees are the same as when the association was established in 2005. When one considers the great strides we have made over that period, in terms of offerings and facilities, we can take

some satisfaction in our achievements. However, it may now be the time to raise our membership fee in line with the CPI increase and this is presently being considered by the committee.

Passing on to happier matters it is comforting that our membership, now close to 900, is holding up though we might be approaching a plateau. It is also gratifying that we continue to see new courses being offered and, that apart from the occasional minor glitch, our upgraded presentation facilities are working exceptionally well. We have recently connected to the NBN which will provide us with higher internet speeds and, after many months of negotiation with Origin Energy, have resolved difficulties over our electricity supply and the monitoring of our rooftop solar system. I would particularly like to thank our building manager, Lorraine Beukers, for her perseverance in dealing with this.

The U3A Network NSW, through our Regional Representative, Bob Birrer, is holding two events at our Centre in the near future and members of U3As from within and outside the Mid-North Coast Region are expected to attend. The first event is a Webmaster Course to be run by Elena Scifleet, the Network's Webmaster and IT Manager, on *(From the President... cont'd on p3, col.1)*

Enrol Online and On Time

It's pleasing to see that the number of members enrolling online and paying by bank transfer continues to rise, thereby easing the pressure on our office volunteers. However, we again urge members to **ENROL DURING ENROLMENT WEEK** rather than waiting until classes commence. To ensure that they can plan appropriately conveners are provided with class lists and contact information prior to classes being held. To have additional people arrive unexpectedly on the day of a class can be an inconvenience to them as well as to our office staff. Of course we understand that, at times, circumstances might prevent a member from enrolling during the enrolment period and in such cases we do our best to see that they are accommodated. However, we would like to think that this should be the exception rather than the rule and ask that you do your best to enrol during the designated period.

Course News

Looking at the Term 4 program, you can see that a number of our regular courses are not happening. There are also some new courses offered. The conveners who have cancelled their courses have done so for a variety of reasons including operations, holidays, and other commitments. Most of those conveners will return in 2019.

New courses include

- Brian Winship's 'Elder Law' will focus this term on Aged Care Packages.
- Don McClimont will describe, with practical demonstrations, the history of analogue and digital computers.
- Two DVD courses, one called 'Origin of Life' with Carol Baker and another called 'Understanding the Marvels of Everyday Life' with Andrew Moll.
- A presentation from community representatives on My Health Record.

Sue Whitby has three new computer courses: photo books, emailing and movie making. Jackie Deane is returning with 'Beginner Watercolours', Mike Rogers will be convening 'German Conversation', Val Mudford is organising 'Cycle the Hastings' and Karen Hinton will be stepping up for 'Acrylic Painting'.

Over the past few years we've had 70+ courses each term; this term about 60. Obviously it's not time to panic but

perhaps now is the time to consider how you could contribute your ideas and skills to our course programs.

In the past we have had suggestions about new courses you would like to see happening. 'Suggestions' stay that way unless we have the conveners to organise those courses. So ...

New courses – Perhaps you can suggest a one-week topic, a course that could span a few weeks, or one that could run for a term or longer. You might like to be the course convener or share the role with others, but the main thing is to give us your ideas.

New conveners – Have you ever considered running a course but are unsure about what's involved? Support is available, and remember that the basic role of a convener is to organise a program and act as the contact person. It does not mean that you have to teach the course. In some current courses one member organises the technology and another talks. Many courses share the presentations over the term. Other courses are run entirely via DVD and we have an interesting selection of such courses. You could also offer a one or two week 'taster' to check out the interest of members and how you feel about being a convener.

If you are tempted to be involved in any of these ways to organise a new course, why not leave a message at the office and then we can see what's possible?

Karen Roberts, Course Coordinator ■

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at the PMHU3A Centre at 2.00pm on Friday 9 November 2018. 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 2.00pm on 26 October 2018 ■

Adult Learners Week

Adult Learners' Week, a UNESCO initiative supported by the Commonwealth Dept of Education & Training and coordinated by Adult Learning Australia, ran from 1–8 September this year with the theme 'Learning changes lives'.

Although no events were scheduled for Port Macquarie the Library set up a static display with information for those who wish to engage in learning throughout their adult years. Given the demographic make-up of our local community it was appropriate for U3A to use the opportunity to display our wares. ■



Visit by prominent artists



Ron Robertson-Swann OAM, Ayako Saito and Dr Jenny Hutchison

On 28 August, at the invitation of class member Dr Jenny Hutchison, the renowned Australian artist Ron Robertson-Swann OAM and his partner Ayako Saito, a sculptor in her own right, were guest speakers at the Art and Culture class. Both artists spoke about their work, in particular about their sculptures and works designed for public spaces, including Sydney's annual

'Sculpture by the Sea' exhibition. This visit provided class members with an excellent introduction to the artists' processes of moving from initial ideas to the realisation of complex and often challenging works of art.

Ron Robertson-Swann was formerly Head of Sculpture at the National Art School in Sydney, artistic adviser and Board member of 'Sculpture by the Sea'. He has exhibited extensively in Australia and overseas, and his works are included in major Australian public collections. One of his best-known works is 'Vault', a large painted steel sculpture on display at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Southbank, Melbourne. He has received major awards and prizes and in recognition of his contribution as an artist, sculptor, teacher, mentor and public advocacy for sculpture, was awarded an OAM in 2002. Ayako Saito moved from Japan to Australia in 2002 and received a Master of Arts degree from the ANU in 2008. Her works are in collections in Australia, Japan, Singapore and the United States. ■



'Vault' by Ron Robertson-Swann OAM

From the President cont'd from p1

21 September and the second, a Regional Forum on 13 October at which issues of common interest will be discussed and ideas shared. There are also two social functions for members coming up in Term 4, a Melbourne Cup Lunch and the Christmas Party. See **What's On!** for details of these and other events.

Please note that the Annual General Meeting is to take place on 9 November, the main items of business being the Annual Report and the election of office bearers and committee members for 2018/19. The AGM is an opportunity for

members to learn more about how their association works and to have their say. It's also an opportunity for those who wish to make a greater contribution to U3A to put up their hands and nominate for the committee.

This will be my last report to you as president. After three years in the position I do not intend to re-nominate but will continue my contributions as a convener and newsletter editor. I would like to thank all of you, and especially members of the management committee, for the support you have given me, and wish you well for the future.

Tony Dawson, President PMHU3A ■

What's On!

ENROLMENT DATES – TERM 4 2018

See page 1.

REMAINING TERM DATES

TERM 4: 15 October – 7 December

MOVIE SHOW

**Terry Feltham presents
Me Before You**

Wednesday 10 October 2018

10.00am – 12.30pm

U3A Centre, Room 10

Admission \$2 – Pay at the door

Tea/coffee, biscuit \$1

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 9 November 2018 at 2.00pm

Room 10, PMHU3A Centre

MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON

Tuesday 6 November 2018

12.30pm – 3.30pm

PMHU3A Centre

**Cost \$16 – includes drink on arrival,
1 sweep ticket, chicken & salad
lunch, and the big race on the big
screen.**

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday 8 December 2018

12.30pm – 3.30pm

Garden Courtyard, PMHU3A Centre

Details to be announced.

Movie Show



Terry Feltham will again present a movie during the term break. This time the movie is 'Me Before You' in which young and quirky Louisa 'Lou' Clark (Emilia Clarke)

moves from one job to the next to help her family make ends meet. Her cheerful attitude is put to the test when she becomes a caregiver for Will Traynor (Sam Claflin), a wealthy young banker left paralysed from an accident two years earlier. Will's cynical outlook starts to change when Louisa shows him that life is worth living.

The movie will be shown at 10.00am on 10 October at the U3A Centre – see **What's On!** for more details. ■

Laurieton Voices Concert

On Friday 14 September the U3A Laurieton Voices choir performed their end of Term Concert 'When I Fall in Love'. The Choir was conducted by Iain Pole, who has been conducting the Choir from time to time and in James Hannah's holiday absence. One of the members, 88-year-old Catherine Lumme, sang a solo 'Rose of Tralee' in front of her son from Perth and a granddaughter from Sydney. The concert was attended by approximately 90 people who also enjoyed the wonderful afternoon tea and raffle prizes. The concert raised \$400 for the Red Cross Drought Appeal.

It would be nice to see more of our members make the trip to Laurieton to enjoy the choir and hospitality. ■



If undeliverable, return to:

Port Macquarie Hastings U3A Inc.
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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

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

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