



**UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE**

**NEWSLETTER February 2020 No.120**

*"Printed courtesy of Rob Mitchell MP, Member for McEwen"*

**Presidents Report, February 2020**

Happy and Prosperous New Year to you all! What a great turnout we had to our enrolment day last Friday 17<sup>th</sup>. Although the total enrolment has not been finalised, the numbers look slightly better than last year.

New subjects for you to enjoy and be involved in are a notable feature of this year. Yes, some "older" topics have gone, but I am informed they could be re-introduced at a later stage. We all fully understand that conveners need a "break" from time to time.

So, to all the new members, new conveners and all those returning this year, welcome and from the committee, thanks for your support.

Speaking of the committee, we are always looking for new members to help "re-new" the committee structure. This year, at our March AGM, a number of committee members will be retiring and not nominating. I will not be nominating for any executive position, although I am happy to nominate as an ordinary committee member. I have had the role as your president for four and a half years. Under our constitution, I am only allowed three years!

So we are looking for a President, Vice-President, Secretary and four ordinary members. So I am asking you to consider offering a little piece of your time, a few hours per month, and join "The Team." Please be aware that if we cannot form the basic committee, we will have no U3A Kilmore & District Inc. This has happened recently to Yea U3A. They could not form a basic committee, so late last year, they ceased to function. Previous members now have to travel to Seymour or Mansfield U3A's to continue their interests.

It would be of a great disappointment to all our members if we went the same way!

**So don't let this happen!**

Our AGM is planned for Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020. If you would like to nominate, please fill out the committee nomination form, copy attached to this newsletter, and forward to our current secretary. On that serious note, I wish this year to be as successful as last. Please all enjoy your chosen interests, and the comradery that our U3A brings.

**Remember, this is your U3A!**

Many thanks, Paul Brinsden



**Dates for your 2020 diary.**

These events are created for your benefit and enjoyment.

**A.G.M 6<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Morning Tea 17<sup>th</sup> April**  
**Morning Tea 19<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Morning Tea 11<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Morning Tea 13<sup>th</sup> November**

This is official notice that our AGM will be held in the John Taylor room on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Commencing at 10 am.

**Guest Speaker is**

Bianca Friend from

The Australian Wildlife Conservancy  
(the address from AWC in March last year was so popular we want a replay).

**Provided with this Newsletter are:-**

The Agenda for our meeting,  
Minutes of the previous AGM, & a  
Nomination Form.  
(Please bring a plate of morning tea to share)

Please seriously consider volunteering. It is not an onerous duty and U3A needs You.

Here are the bank details for your information.

### For enrolment

The GENERAL account for Fees is  
BSB 633-000 (at Bendigo Bank).

A/C No. 153853783

Name: U3A Kilmore & District Inc.

Reference: "Subscription", plus your  
name. FEES FOR 2020

Single Membership \$35.00

Couple Membership \$60.00

(New Members add a one off joining fee  
of \$5)

### Theatre Group

U3A Kilmore & District Theatre Group.

Bendigo Bank Ltd- Kilmore

633 000

154 468 094

*Comment :Name & Initial+ number of tickets +  
show code : e.g.*

**JohnT x 1MTM**

**JohnT x 1A 2C MTM**

### Short Holidays

U3A Tours Account

BSB: 633 000

Acc No: 162324750

Book Club Christmas lunch at Rose Café.



### A SMILE:

A curve that can set a lot of things straight!

### EXPERIENCE:

The name men give to their mistakes

### BOSS:

Someone who is early when you are late and late  
when you are early.

### MISER:

A person who lives poor so that he can die RICH!

### Some Class News

Is it time you climbed out of a rut and tried  
something new?

There are **5 new classes** that will run in 2020.  
If you missed them on enrolment day they  
are:-

500 Card Playing, History of Kilmore &  
Surrounds, Mysteries & Unexplained  
Phenomena, Trivia, Writing for Fun. How  
Things Work (new name for planes, trains etc.)  
Refer to the attached time-table for times and  
contact details.

Most of the old favourite classes will run as  
usual so 2020 is shaping up to be another great  
year for U3A Kilmore & District Inc.

### Recorder Group

The U3A Kilmore and District Annual Concert  
took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> November. Arranged by  
the Recorder Group, the format differed from  
previous concerts, being less of a Variety  
Show and more of a recital. The John Taylor  
Room, with its acoustic qualities is a good  
venue for this type of musical presentation..  
Thanks to the members of Kandis and Thistle  
for their enthusiasm and willingness to work  
towards these concerts, to Lorraine and  
Wendy for their tireless work in the kitchen,  
to all who helped set up and clear away and to  
the members of the audience who came  
along to support the event. Alex Priestley  
Convener.

### How Things Work

This was previously known as "Planes, Trains  
& etc."

This year I would like to change from the  
previous format of myself choosing most of  
the subject matter to that of one where  
members of our group ask about specific  
things that they would like to understand  
more about how they work and if none of us  
know the answer then I will research the  
request and hopefully supply an answer at our  
next meeting. This is the plan anyway, so  
we'll see how it works out.

### Trivia

This will be held monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays  
commencing on 17<sup>th</sup> February. It will run from  
1-2 pm at the U3A Centre in Skehan Plc.

### **Luncheon Group (Formerly Tuesday Lunches)**

This year will be a little different.

We are trying to have a different range of options to cater for all tastes and budgets.

This will mean a range of days not all Tuesdays, and we are thinking of carpooling for places outside Kilmore and Wallan.

We had a huge sign up of 45 people registering for lunches and most places won't be able to cope with all of us at once. Therefore we will have to limit the number attending.

This means that you will have **to book early** if you want to come. We are looking forward to a fun year of socialising and trying new venues

The first three months are in the attached timetable along with the contact numbers.

Judy Owen & Dianne Carroll conveners

### **A Treatise on HOUSESITTING**

By Carolyn

Hooray, you have scraped enough money together to pay for your travel expenses, in advance, for once. Your flights and accommodation have been paid and there is enough left over for spending money.

But, hang on. You have forgotten the kennel and cattery fees you are going to incur. And then there is the cost of a handyman to keep the garden watered whilst you are away.

What to do? Well, why not try a house-sitter? For free lodging, many people will come to your house and look after a garden and pets for no charge!

Why would they do that? Some people live in flats or apartments where there is only room for a garden in pots or they are not allowed to have pets, although they would love to have one. So they enjoy having a change of scenery and have the company of a dog or cat, even for a short time.

One lady I know no longer rents a place. She is so busy house-sitting, with repeat customers, that she no longer needs a place of her own. If she should have a day or a week without being needed as a sitter, she stays at her brother's house. He is disabled and she is there at least weekly to help clean his house, so it suits them both.

Be careful about who you choose to house-sit for you. I have had several sitters. They were people I

already knew, but not closely. They all kept the cat fed and the garden watered BUT.

We had a plump lady sit for us once. She half-filled the bin with soft drink and flavoured milk containers (hence her excess weight?) She also put a bottle of soft drink in the freezer. Presumably she just wanted to chill it but forgot it. When we arrived home we were faced with cleaning up the mess an exploded bottle had caused.

Another time we returned to find the house unlocked and the television on. Where was the sitter? She was having a nap. "You are not expected back until the 16th", she said. "It is the 16th today," we replied. So a very flustered sitter rushed around to pack her belongings.

Another female friend offered to sit for us. She was also going to walk another holidaying friend's dog each day. It was Christmas so I sent a text wishing her a Merry Christmas. "Who is this?" she replied. "The people whose house you are sitting", was our answer.

We heard on our return, that she took the other person's dog for a walk by hanging the lead on the handlebars of her bike. Unfortunately something on the other side of the road attracted the dog's attention. Result - a couple of nights in the hospital for our sitter. Friends of hers were rounded up to feed our cat. Then a male friend of hers came to stay to look after her.

Why hadn't she let us know so we could make other arrangements? Her phone was broken on her fall. But we had a landline and always left contact details for our sitters. Anyway, this time when we arrived home, our house keys were left on the patio table for anyone to avail themselves of. One day I couldn't find a treasured plate which had been a 21st birthday present of mine. I rang the sitter. She had taken it to a party when asked to take a plate, but she had no idea where it was. Eventually, she found it in her car.

One Story from the sitter's side. A couple I know stayed at someone's bungalow which had a bathroom attached. But if they wanted to cook, they had to use the kitchen in the house. They were NOT to use any other room. That was ok with them. When the owner returned, after a month's holiday, the sitters were roundly berated because there was so much dust in the house. Why hadn't they dusted? Well, as they were not allowed to enter those rooms, they of course,

## Still considering getting a house-sitter?

## A Belated Christmas Chuckle

[illegible]

A large elk with impressive antlers is lying in a grassy field. Two small raccoons are perched on the antlers, one on the left and one on the right. The background is a dense forest of evergreen trees.



## SIGN IN A SHOE REPAIR

We will heel you

We will save your sole

We will even dye for you.

## ON A BLINDS AND CURTAIN TRUCK:

Blind man driving.

### On a Septic Tank Truck:

## Yesterday's Meals on Wheels

**On a Plumber's truck:**

We repair what your husband fixed.

**On another Plumber's truck:**

Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber.

**In a Veterinarian's waiting room:**

Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!

The following pages, before the time-table, contain the necessary information related to the AGM.

Venue: John Taylor Room.

Time: 10 – noon

When: 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

(Please bring some morning tea to share).

