



STAY CONNECTED CENTRAL OFFICE NEWSLETTER



Welcome back to Volume 13 of Stay Connected

Thank you to all who sent messages of support. Keep your feedback coming. Glad you enjoyed the video produced and donated by Patrick Harris. It really captured the soul of our members as well as the ethos and essence of Sydney U3A.

Dianne Ekert
VP Public Relations
Sydney U3A

Harvey Broadbent from our Northern Beaches region is the leader of Sydney U3A 3rd Age Rock Orchestra. Harvey has let us know that he has also posted a video publishing Sydney U3A on YouTube. Very useful for new member welcomes and promotions.

NEWS FROM HARVEY LEADER OF THE 3RD AGE ROCK ORCHESTRA

As this difficult lock down period continues Sydney U3A Northern Beaches Region's 3rd Age Rock Orchestra (3ARO) is meeting every two weeks on Zoom. That way we can continue to be creative and play our music even though distanced physically from each other. The limitations of Zoom mean we have to be extra creative. One result is that we have found a way to produce a video performance. So, we'd like to share the first effort with you, our fellow U3A members. 3ARO guitarist and vocalist, Francis Buttle, has composed a song, *Having A Ball*, and we have succeeded in making a recording and video of it, which we have posted on You Tube.

If you click on the link below, we can share our pleasure in producing it with, we hope, your enjoyment of our performance. Click on or type into your internet search window.

<https://youtu.be/XIMFZzFAUro>

We wish all U3A folk a safe and happy Spring season.
Harvey Broadbent, Leader 3ARO.



COURSE BOOK

Last month we told you that we had received requests to discontinue publishing hard copies of the course book as many members, in this electronic age, prefer to access their book online. In acknowledgement of that input, but because around ten percent of our members do not have access to the internet, the Board of Management decided that members must be given a choice.

You will, by now, have received correspondence from central office asking you to make that choice.

- Members who elect to access the course book online will receive the book free of charge
- Members who elect to receive a hard copy will be charged \$10 (2 books @ \$5 each) per annum **payable on membership renewal date**

If you choose to receive a hard copy **do not send your payment now. The \$10 will be added when you are renewing your annual membership. This means that some members will pay in advance and other in arrears, but it is the cleanest and easiest way to manage the process.**

You are asked to advise your choice by September 30, 2020. If you do not reply you will not receive a hard copy. Nominate your preference by emailing officemgr.sydneyu3a@gmail.co Thanks to all have already responded.

By imposing a charge for the course book, we have been able to keep membership at the low rate of \$75 per annum and to fulfil our ethos of providing low cost continuing education. The low fee allows members to attend as many courses, talks and events as they like provided there is space. If a member attends only one class per week for 40 weeks of the year the cost is less than \$2.

MEET OUR VOLUNTEERS

Sydney U3A has some wonderful members who, behind the scenes, contribute so much, but who our members don't really know much about. People like Stuart Cumming who looks after the Myu3a membership software system and who sends out our newsletters and emails; Floyd Patterson who takes care of the phones and office computers; Pam Furney who is streamlining and bringing our website further into the 21st century and Laurie Wilson who is our Facebook editor. In this volume we meet Laurie.

MEET DR LAURIE WILSON, FACEBOOK EDITOR

Spending all of my working life in scientific research means that satisfying my curiosity and "finding things out" has been second nature. So, after retirement, U3A helped fill a big gap that opened up for me. A particular pleasure has been exploring ideas related to my previous training and career and developing them into presentations which can convey my excitement and wonder to those who may not have a scientific background. I particularly enjoy finding links between humanity's scientific and artistic achievements.

My interest in photography has expanded since retirement, and I am now co-convening an active U3A Creative Photography group. And, of course, I take every opportunity to attend talks and courses by other U3A members. In some ways it is like being an undergraduate again, but without the exams!

In the last couple of months I have taken on the role of managing Sydney U3A's Facebook page. In a few short months in 2020, Sydney U3A went from being 100% face-to-face to 100% online, and a major online presence is likely to outlast the current pandemic, with Facebook and other online resources playing an increasing role in making connections and enriching our lives. It is exciting to be part of this transformation.

Laurie is a member of Northern Beaches Region.

Photo by Tony Clark at Northern Beaches Showcase 2020



Remember to visit our Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/sydneyu3a>

SHARING GROWING SOCIALISING

PASSION

SYDNEY U3A CREDOS

SUE MCGRATH HAS SENT US A BEAUTIFUL MESSAGE. Thanks, Sue, for being part of our Sydney U3A family

May I take this opportunity to express my thanks to all concerned for managing to provide continued courses during what has been an extremely difficult time. Talks, particularly those organised by Rosemary McCullough, and Zoom have been excellent.

We are extremely fortunate to have a membership consisting of most interesting people who are willing to share their time and knowledge for the benefit of members. There has certainly been something for everyone.

Sincerely,
Sue McGrath

MEMBERSHIP BADGES

It is a requirement that all Sydney U3A members attending courses, talks or events wear their membership badge. This applies even if class members all know each other. You are also required to provide you membership number when booking and/or attending courses, talks or events.

PERSONAL DETAIL UPDATES



MOVED HOUSE?

HAVE A NEW PHONE NUMBER?

CHANGED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Advise both Central Office and your Region. It is of critical importance that we are able to effectively communicate with our members, particularly in our COVID-19 environment

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