



CITY & INNER WEST REGION NEWSLETTER JULY 2021

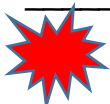
Sydney U3A Incorporated ABN: 32252 810896
Suite 10.2, 31 Market Street, Sydney 2000
Phone: 02 9262 2702
Email: mail@sydneyu3a.org
Web: www.sydneyu3a.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well this isn't the message I was expecting to write, but these are strange times we're living. I regret the suddenness with which we had to cancel some classes in the last week of this Semester, but it should have been no surprise.

By now you would have received the Course Book, or accessed it on-line. Hopefully the two weeks of the Semester holidays will be enough time for us to regain the freedom we have recently enjoyed and we will be able to resume classes. We have lots of courses on offer, and regardless of the current COVID situation, please sign on for courses because we will be back running classes as soon as it is permitted, even if the commencement is postponed. Rest assured we will do our best to be back at class as soon as possible - after all, we are very experienced at it by now.

Stay safe all
Jennifer Waldron, City & Inner West President



STOP PRESS!

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF RECOMMENCEMENT DATE FOR THE FOLLOWING COURSE:
FRIDAY AFTERNOON INTERMEDIATE ITALIAN at the Leichhardt Library (max 20)
Every Friday from **6 August** 2021 from 1:30 to 3:30 (page 13, Course Book).

FILM LOVERS PLEASE NOTE ENTRY IN COURSE BOOK IS NOT CORRECT & SHOULD READ:
FILM DISCUSSION GROUP (Max 15) - Zoom online. Alternate Wednesdays from 7 July 1:30 - 3:30. A stimulating review and lively discussion of one film every fortnight chosen by the group at each session from SBS On Demand. The result is an invigorating, insightful and enjoyable Zoom on-line discussion from the comfort of your own home.
Leader and bookings: Ross Giannone 0409 382 384
(page 14, Course Book).



NEW! 3 SESSIONS OF ZOOMING!



The internet is everywhere but how does it work? And why are there all these funny cat videos? The presenter David Farrell gave me a special preview and I found it so informative and so interesting. I was continually amazed.

His presentation is via Zoom over **three consecutive Thursday's commencing 1 July from 10 to 11.30**. I highly recommend this new presentation. Don't miss it!

To book, call David on 0420 678 403 or email david_v_farrell@hotmail.com (page 14 Course Book). When you book, David will give you the login details for the zoom session.

Anne Hall Venue Coordinator

PATRICK BRENNAN RETIRING AS LEADER OF THE REVESBY TAI CHI GROUP

After 11 years 'in harness', Patrick Brennan has retired as the leader of the Revesby Tai Chi group. The Tai Chi session has been running weekly at the Revesby Community Hall and for Patrick it has been a true labour of love. The group itself has quite a long history, having originated with the local neighbourhood centre where it was led by Tim Yan. He continued in this role when Tai Chi was included in the courses being offered by the Bankstown U3A, and then following the latter's amalgamation with the SU3A in 2009. Tim died in 2012 after a long illness, but before that in 2010, he and Patrick quietly came to an agreement for the latter to continue the weekly sessions. And so it has been!

So, writing as a former member of the group, and for all the present ones and the SU3A, thank you Patrick for your generosity and persistence. Fortunately for all the present practitioners, Christine Chew has agreed to follow in Patrick's footsteps as leader.

Joy Pegler Venue Coordinator - Bankstown Area.



'AUSTRALIAN PERSPECTIVES' ON 'ZOOM' IN THE 2ND SEMESTER 2021

'Australian Perspective' sessions will continue to run on 'Zoom' in the forthcoming SU3A 2nd semester. The program is as follows:

Date	Speaker	Topic
August 19 th	Ian Thompson	Spiders in your home and garden
September 16 th	Stephen Hill	Listening across cultural differences.
October 21 st	Matthew Taylor	The conservation group 'Bush Heritage' - what they are about.
November 18 th	Ronda Gaffey	Teaching experiences in a multicultural Sydney school.

DRAWING CLASS - GLEBE TOWN HALL



Drawing in the Glebe Town Hall, is on alternate Thursdays 10-12noon. Check the Semester 2 Course Book (page 11).

Our very knowledgeable leader of the Drawing Class, Neville Bendall, has many useful and handy hints about tone, perspective and composition whilst the participants experiment with charcoal, pencil, ink or pastel crayons. Come along and join this relaxed group if you have an interest in Art or Drawing. Places are available.





Pastel & Pencil drawings - from the Drawing Class, Glebe Town Hall.
Venue Coordinator: Pauline Valentine.

LOOKING FORWARD! LOOKING BACK!



Normally at this time of the month I would be writing this contribution for our Newsletter to send you details for the forthcoming month of the Leichhardt Zoom sessions we have been holding during the period of COVID when we were locked out of Leichhardt Library.

But these have now ceased. See the program in your new Course Book.

The good news is that for the 2nd Semester program from which you probably already have chosen, the Zoom and Face-to-face groups will be amalgamating at the library, providing of course, we don't have any major Lock Downs! The sad news is that, at best, during this last COVID phase, we have been limited to 20 members in the Meeting Room venue (even less with the 4-square metre rule in place!). In the past we have been able to squeeze in up to around 33 members plus the speaker, but those times are behind us. Rules are Rules! So, if you wish to join this group, please make sure you contact Janice Millard (details in the program pages 12 & 13)) and ensure you receive a confirmation as to the status of your booking. No 'walk-ins' can be accommodated. If you are unable to access a session of your choice at Leichhardt, don't despair. If you search the topic in the Course Book, you will find other venues throughout Sydney U3A where some of the speakers also present their topics. Other regions frequently have much larger venues so it is likely that a place in their session would be available, so I say...'Go for it!'

The language groups, and the discussion groups which meet at Leichhardt Library, Market Place and at Hannaford Centre, Rozelle have been meeting during this just-past term and will continue. All of these are subject to strict 'numbers' rules as imposed by the size of their venues.

I would remind members to wear their membership ID to all SU3A sessions.

It has been quite a year, all in all! Over this period, we have all had plenty of time to reflect on our lives to date while hoping for better times ahead, so I'm taking this opportunity to comment on the

camaraderie I have experienced among the membership within SU3A, and particularly to say 'thank you' to all who have assisted me throughout my 21 years of membership and volunteering.

For me, U3A is much more than just another association I joined when I retired. It has been my Extended Family as much as my friends and colleagues. I believe this has come about because right from the first moment I joined I found my arm levitating above my head to volunteer in whatever way I was able, to try to 'give back' for the enormous gift that was on offer. So many erudite members out there freely offering their knowledge gained through many years of study and professional experience. For someone who missed out on Higher Education, this was something not to be missed.

I had, unfortunately, fallen between the cracks during my earlier life... education during WWII was limited. The 3-Rs were a necessity, of course, along with English, History and Geography, but that was about it! Teachers were at a premium, especially with all the young men having been 'called up' for Defence duties! Married women returned to the workforce. They had previously been excluded the minute they chose marriage...but now they were needed! Classes were staggered and practice trips to the zig-zag trenches that had been dug on the perimeter of the school



grounds were a regular occurrence. In the middle of a class, the main bell would ring and off we would go pouring out of our schoolrooms with one intent...not to be left behind. I received my one and only 'war wound' on one such evacuations... legs entangling as we rushed along a gravel pathway, I and another girl went down in a painful heap! Fortunately, the wounds healed. There were no raids...our town was not important enough for the Japanese to target...although there might have been a bomb or two released if the bombers needed to get rid of their load as they raced for home. But... we survived!

I have been 'surviving' ever since, thanks in no small part to the camaraderie I mentioned previously, within SU3A. So many friends I have made over these years, people of like minds and good-will who have come to my rescue over the years of my retirement...too many to name but very dear to me. If I had not joined U3A... had not allowed my arm to climb above my head... had not taken on the challenge of volunteering, sometimes in a bit 'over my head'... but learning all the time, perhaps I might not either have survived, or developed all the extra skills I now have... I certainly would not have made so many firm friends. I do hope you do too.

Barbara Burton (HLM), Venue Coordinator (Leichhardt and Hannaford Groups and C&IW Membership).

MUNCH ON BRUNCH - with Beatrice Scheepers

Beatrice Scheepers and her brunch group farewelled the Semester by enjoying themselves in a beautifully re-adapted heritage listed former wool store near Circular Quay. Even at 10am the icy cold Prosecco turned out to be a perfect accessory to the blue swimmer crab omelette, followed by a hot caffeine kick.



WELCOME TO SEMESTER 2 2021!
WITH SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR
SHARING - **GROWING** - **SOCIALISING**
& RENEWED **PASSION!**

