

U3A Clarence Newsletter November 2020

U3A CLARENCE INC.
A University of the Third Age
PO Box 774 Rosny Park 7018

Enquiries:

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CONTACT DETAILS

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DATES FOR 2020

Classes are held at Rosny LINC on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

There are 3 or 4 one-hour sessions each day, with a choice of courses in each session.

Term 1: begins Mon March 1 and ends Wed May 19.

Term 2: Mon June 14 to Wed Aug 18.

Term 3: Mon. Sept 13 to Wed Nov 24.

Enrolments Day, Term 1: Wed. 16th Feb.

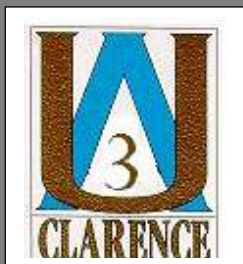
SESSION TIMES

Mon., Tues. and Wed. mornings:

Session 1: 9.30 - 10.25

Session 2: 10.50 - 11.50

Session 3: 12.00 to 1.00pm



President's Message to Members:

What a strange and testing year this has been.

Let us hope that it is all behind us and that the year 2021 will be great again. We are certainly planning for it. We are just waiting for the Library to make a few more concessions, like getting the use of the kitchen and allowing sufficient members to enter the lecture rooms. The Library has also reduced the number of rooms made available to us and this has required us to plan the New Year's program with three days of activities per week.

I was fortunate enough to recently make a trip to the west coast of Tasmania to experience the Abt Heritage Train trip and the Gordon River Cruise. Along the way we met up with a group of seniors travelling in a small bus doing a similar journey. This was arranged through the RACT and it occurred to me that this kind of event would make a wonderful extension to the activities of the class enjoying the Armchair lectures. Just a thought.

Getting back to business, there will be a Christmas lunch this year on the 23rd November at 12.00 and you should all have been notified. Bookings can be made with Beth Jeffrey on 62476329.

You are also reminded that financial members for this year will have their membership carried over into 2021 for no extra charge. New members will still need to pay the \$45 annual subscription.

I wish you all well for the festive season and hope to see you next year bright eyed and bushy tailed.

Yours sincerely,

Len Spaans



2020 CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

MONDAY NOVEMBER 23rd

12.00pm

Lindisfarne Rowing Club

**WONDERFUL COMPANY, FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT
AND OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISING RAFFLE**

Only \$40.00 per person, A FEW PLACES LEFT!

PLEASE PHONE *URGENTLY* IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GO:

BETH JEFFREY - 62476329

U3A Clarence Inc. - Important Dates

Pre- term 2021

Newsletter	Mon 18th Jan.		
Enrolment Day Enrolments Due by:	Wed 17 Feb Sun. 21 Feb	10:00-12.00	Library
AGM	Wed 24th Feb	1.30-3.30	Library

Term 1 2021 Monday 1 March - Wednesday 19 May

No classes Monday 8, Tues. 9 and Wed. 10 March (Public holiday week)

No classes Monday 5, Tues 6 April and Wednesday 7 April (Easter)

Newsletter Mon May 10

Term 2 2021 Monday 14 June – Wednesday 18 August

Newsletter	Mon 9Aug
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Term 3 2021 Monday 13 September – Wednesday 24 November

Newsletter	Mon 15 Nov.		
Christmas Luncheon	Mon. 29 Nov.	TBA	TBA

A fuller list of dates will be compiled for the January Newsletter.

Only new members or people who were not paid up members in 2020 need to pay! If you paid in 2020 you do not need to pay this year.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2021

\$45 PER PERSON

You can pay online as follows:

**MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION PAYMENTS ON LINE
BY DIRECT CREDIT**

Members can pay their U3A Clarence subscriptions by completing the form on line. Go to our website <http://u3aclarence.com> and click on the link "Subscribe to U3A (membership)". Payments may be made by electronic funds transfer to our account. Or by visiting a bank and making a deposit to our account **after** the online form is submitted. Whichever method is used to make a direct credit payment, it is **ESSENTIAL** that the following information is recorded as part of the transaction:

Account Name : University of the Third Age
BSB 067103
Account number 10059047
Reference Members first name and surname

Please note: When making a deposit at a bank you must ensure that your reference information is recorded whether or not the teller asks for the details. Please address any Payment queries to our Treasurer, Terry Mahoney

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO PAY BY DIRECT CREDIT PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING FORM
YOU MUST SUBMIT THIS FORM IF YOU PAY BY CHEQUE OR CASH**

Name _____

Preferred name for name tag _____

Phone: _____ Mobile phone: _____

Email address _____

Residential address _____

_____ Post Code _____

Method of payment and amount paid - cheque, cash \$ _____

Please make your cheque payable to U3A Clarence and mail **with this form** to PO Box 774 Rosny Park 7018.

OR hand it in on Enrolment Day - 12th February. **Please bring this form completed if you intend to pay for a subscription on Enrolment Day.**

Term 3 Discussion Group

Imagine my surprise when the August Newsletter arrived and I found that I was the contact person for a possible Discussion Group. When we had been asked earlier for suggestions for courses, I had put forward the idea of such a group, never thinking that it would fall in my lap. You would think I would know better by now not to open my mouth without being prepared to take the consequences. We formed a small group and decided to meet over coffee once a week. Discussions have ranged far and wide with varying degrees of intensity.

Topics included:

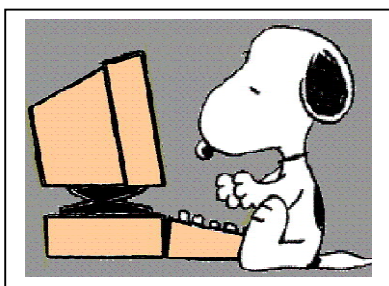
- What does it mean to be Australian/unAustralian?
- What is the 'Australian way of life'?
- How will life be different post COVID?
- What is the future for democracy?
- Women in public office. (We had no men in the group so we really let our hair down.)
- American politics. (We couldn't resist it.)

These topics were discussed over at least two weeks and were frequently revisited as thoughts occurred to us or one of us had read or heard something of relevance.

It has not been all serious business by a long shot. We have managed to include family news, recipes, background details, travel stories and chit chat with the café staff. Above all we have made new friends outside our regular circles - perhaps the greatest benefit!

Pat Jeffery

ENROLMENT DAY WEDNESDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2021



10.00am - 12.00 noon

Rosny LINC - Room 6

You will be able to get help with enrolling online. Also, new members can pay annual subscriptions quickly. **Term 1 Program - in January newsletter.**

AND MEMBERS WRITE...

"Your request for writings made me think that you (and others) might like this piece which is one of two I wrote recently trying to brighten the days a little. I'd been reading The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam - Fitzgerald, and challenged myself to write the same rhyming pattern, which is a bit unusual, 3 rhyming lines and one not.

So 'The Best of Days' was the result."

The Best of Days

Ah, make the most of days we yet may spend
Before we too into more gloom descend;
This nasty virus that the world is prey to
Will surely one day reach its unforgiving end.

Till comes that unknown time we have a choice:
Perhaps we all could look around, rejoice,
Take note of what is going on nearby;
The world out there is always in fine voice;

Colours bright, a canvas always blazing
With autumn days, as usual, quite amazing;
They bring us warmth, our bodies feeling better;
A beautiful world we should be praising.

Birds around my garden are always quite a sight,
Magpies chortle cheerily from just before first light;
They worry not about corona viruses,
Each day enjoy their avian life from morn till night.

There's walks to do along a wide expanse of beach
While looking up, high in the trees, white cockies screech;
And friendly dogs; they love splashing in the water,
Their owners wave, say "hi", but stay just out of reach.

Graceful swirling flights; two pelicans down with splash,
Together on the canal - it's a gentle crash;
Ducks and cormorants, quietly content in bird heaven;
They come, go, fly in, fly out; then gone with panache.

Those dolphins in the Derwent, swimming all the way;
Another time they're on Frederick Henry Bay;
They bring delightful smiles around the place
Such special, joyful moments surely make one's day.

Smiling, happy kids on bikes, always keeping fit,
Parents close behind, share time, loving every bit,
All enjoying life at home; homework is a breeze;
Time for work, play, and fun; enormous benefit.

People-friendly smiles abound, kindness in the air;
Neighbours being helpful to show how much they care
And shopping for our aged house-bound relatives;
There's new-found joy in life; we love to see it there.

"Days of gloom" now given quite a new perspective;
A happening world which is mostly positive;
Now is a time when people and the world we share
Could perhaps remind us: this is the way to live.

Colin Pyefinch
April 2020



UMAS takes off in 2021 for U3A Clarence

New enrolment system lifts U3A Clarence members into the era of cloud computing.

2021 Enrolments

Prior to the start of Term 1 2021 members will have a new way of enrolling online.

The January Newsletter will include the program for Term 1 2021 as usual. Members with email addresses will receive this newsletter sent by email using UMAS (U3A Membership Administration System)

You'll be invited to log in to UMAS from then on, check your membership details and use it to enrol in classes. If you do you'll know immediately whether your enrolment is successful or if you're on a waiting list for the selected class. Also, you'll be able to print out a list of your classes.

(Please note that for 2021 all members who paid their subscription for 2020 will have this carried over for 2021 and no further subscription is due this year)

You can access UMAS from our website at u3aclarence.com and by clicking on the link **Visit our new Learning Portal** on the bottom left hand side of the home page.

At first you may login using your email address and your password which is set at the default of the last **FIVE** digits of your telephone number. You will be able to change this password later if you wish.

The email accepting your enrolment will include your membership number which may be used to login to UMAS in future. Should you forget your member number you may access the system using your email address and password.

You will at any time be able to log in and review your enrolments and membership status for the current term.

Please note that your membership details will include a Birth Year field which has been arbitrarily set to 1950. This is a mandatory field required by the system. We recommend that you set it to your actual birth year.

UMAS Support

If you have problems with UMAS or questions about it, you'll be able to get help during the enrolment period from receipt of the January Newsletter by emailing membership@u3aclarence.com or Margaret Collis the enrolment officer on lm.collis@bigpond.com

Background to UMAS

The previous PC-based system did a good job of tracking the membership and producing the class enrolment lists, which are at the heart of U3A Clarence activities. However, members could not directly access any of their information. It was also very labour-intensive and required all information to be transcribed from paper forms and emails into the PC. Consequently, in July 2019 the U3A Clarence Committee started a working group (Jocelyn Head, Carol Rossendell, Rob Thomas, Margaret Collis and Terry Mahoney) to investigate whether there was a more integrated online system available that would meet U3A Clarence's needs and provide a better service to members. The results of the investigation were presented to the Committee in September 2019 and approved for implementation.

UMAS is a very popular system with U3As on the mainland. Over 30 U3As have implemented UMAS including U3A Hobart. Most UMAS users are in Victoria, where the system is promoted and supported by the state coordinating body, U3A Victoria. We expect that UMAS will be easy to use and improve your access to your membership details and enrolments.

New online enrolment system for 2021for U3A Clarence

This notice is to advise U3A Members without email addresses of our new system.

As usual the January 2021 Newsletter will include the program of classes/lectures for term 1 2021. Because the number of people per room in Rosny Library is restricted due to Covid-19 requirements we may have to impose limits on enrolments to meet the Library requirements. In addition you will find that we cannot operate on only Monday and Wednesday mornings as in previous years.

The January Newsletter will advise members with email addresses on how to use the new UMAS (U3A Clarence **Management Administrative System**). This system makes it very easy for members to enrol on line and to track their details.

You are receiving this notice because we do not have an email contact for you.

You will receive the January Newsletter by post and we will include a paper enrolment form for you to use. This means that you receive the newsletter later than members with an email address because printing and posting takes time.

It may well be that by using a paper form your enrolment will be received after all places are taken by members enrolling online which is a much quicker process. This is because we will need to use a first come first served approach for limited numbers. We will do our best to accommodate your preferences.

You will be advised if your enrolment is successful.

It is in your interest to lodge the paper enrolment as fast as possible after receiving the program in the January Newsletter by posting it to U3A Clarence, PO Box 774, Rosny Park 7018.

It may be that during the Covid lockdown you have now obtained an email address or have a family member or friend who will allow you to use theirs. If this is the case, please advise us as soon as possible and we will send you electronic copies of messages and newsletters in future. Please send this information by email to Margaret Collis, enrolment officer at lmcollis@bigpond.com

You may be interested to know that the Rosny Library conducts beginner classes for people new to email and computer use. These can be enjoyed to increase your skills.

If you paid your membership fee for 2020 this will be carried over for 2021 and you do not have to pay again

And now for some puns and jokes from Len, who has been missing Morning Tea and his chance to star:

1. The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
2. I thought I saw an eye-doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
3. She was only a whiskey-maker, but he loved her still...
4. A rubber-band pistol was confiscated from an algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.
5. No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
6. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
7. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
8. Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
9. A hole has been found in the nudist-camp wall. The police are looking into it.
10. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.