

## President's Report

### Welcome to 2019 at U3A Manningham

Our current membership is just over 1700, which is virtually the same number as at this time last year. In terms of new members, we have increased our membership by nearly 9% which is a very healthy situation. If the organisation is to retain its vitality and dynamic character, it is essential that we enrol as many new members as we can accommodate. Without new members with new ideas, enthusiasms and skills, we would be in serious danger of stagnating. For 2019, we introduced a number of reforms to try to make enrolment for new members more successful: limiting the number of course choices to five and reserving 10% of places in the most popular courses for new members. It would appear that this has had a beneficial effect as more new members were successful in securing admittance to their first choice of courses than in previous years.



As always, we have a very varied program of activities and I would like to thank our many tutors for their willingness to devote their time, energy and expertise to our organisation. I am particularly grateful to those tutors who have shown great goodwill in allowing more members into their classes than they would perhaps wish for in order to meet demand.

### Enrolment

The enrolment process was much smoother this year, thanks to the improvements to the computerised system that **Warwick Wright** and his team have introduced. Similarly, the procedure put in place by **Doug Wallace** and his team for people who enrolled in person was a great success. All enrolments were processed effectively and efficiently by the data entry volunteers working diligently behind the scenes in the back office: **Joan French, Trish Bevan, Kathy Withers, Pam Grehan** and **Frank Lau**. On behalf of the Committee of Management, I would like to thank you all most sincerely.

### Summer School

Summer School provided members with the opportunity to continue participation during the holiday. There is a solid core of tutors who continue to offer courses in Summer School and I would like to thank you for your tireless commitment to the U3A cause. There were also a small number of new activities offered by new tutors which is always gratifying to see. For some members, this was an opportunity to try tutoring in a small way as a possible prelude to offering a future course over one or several terms.

# President's Report (Cont'd)

## Summer School (Cont'd)

Thanks also to those members who volunteered their time to keep the office open during this period: especially **Tess Gibbs**, who organised the roster and timetabling of duties, and **David Jensz**, who managed the important business of ensuring that The Pines building opened and closed at the correct times.

## Celebratory Events

2018 concluded with the annual Artistic Showcase and Unifest. It is always a pleasure to welcome visitors from Manningham City Council and neighbouring U3As to our Showcase because the quality of members' work on display is so good. The exhibits are testimony to the many talents and skills which our members possess.

Unifest is always a lot of fun. A lively carnival atmosphere seems to embrace the many varied dance and musical performances. It remains quite the happiest way to end the year and to herald in the party season leading up to Christmas festivities. Our sincere thanks to all who participated and to the tutors who spent many hours preparing their groups for this event. Thanks also to **Tony Ellul** for fulfilling the role of MC with his usual flamboyant introductions.

Both these end of year celebrations could not take place without the invaluable efforts of **Graeme Martin** and his slick band of furniture movers and hardworking team of caterers. Your role is not as visible as that of the performers but your contribution is equally important.

## Australia Day Awards

**Jillian Gange** received a much-deserved Menzies Award from the Member for Menzies, The Hon. Kevin Andrews, MP. She was nominated by the Committee of Management for her outstanding work as Communications Manager, responsible for the important business of keeping members supplied with essential information relative to the organisation and administration of our U3A. In addition, she willingly took on the job of Editor of the Newsletter when the incumbent editor unexpectedly resigned some years ago. Her appetite for hard work is second to none.

## Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Thursday, 21 March at 11.00am. Please make every effort to come along. A light luncheon will follow the meeting.

This will be my last report as President before I step down at the AGM having completed my allotted tenure of four years. I would therefore like to express my sincere thanks for the support and goodwill of members during this time. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve you and I send my very best wishes to my successor. I would especially like to thank the wonderful members of the Committee of Management who, by virtue of their commitment, enthusiasm, cooperation and camaraderie, have made my job so much easier and less burdensome than it might otherwise have been.

Finally, I would like to wish all our members a successful, enjoyable and fulfilling year at U3A Manningham.

**Geoff Sheldon, President**

# **MANNINGHAM U3A INC**

Registration No. A0026531J

## **Twenty-Eighth Annual General Meeting**

**Thursday, 21 March 2019 at 11am**

Notice is hereby given that the Twenty-Eighth Annual General Meeting of Manningham U3A Inc. will be held in The Pines Function Room, The Pines Learning and Activity Centre, 520 Blackburn Road, Doncaster East.

### **Order of Business**

1. Welcome and acceptance of apologies.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting of 14 March 2018.
3. Business arising from the Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting.
4. To receive, consider and adopt the Annual Report.
5. To receive the Statement of Accounts and Auditor's Report for the period 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018.
6. To transact any other business, notice of which must be submitted one week prior to the Meeting.
7. Election of Committee of Management Members for 2019.

*A light luncheon will follow the meeting.*

**Alita Mossop, Secretary**

All positions on the Committee of Management are declared vacant each year. The positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Enrolments Manager, Communications Manager, Office Manager, Curriculum Manager and Equipment Manager.

Members interested in nominating for a position on the Committee of Management should have a commitment to the objectives of the organisation and be prepared to accept an appropriate responsibility for an aspect of its management. Current role descriptions of the Committee of Management members are available in the Resource Folder in the Office.

Nominations of candidates for election as Members of the Committee of Management must be in writing on the appropriate form. Forms must be signed by two members of the Association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of nomination) and must be delivered to the Secretary by 3.00pm on Wednesday, 13 March 2019.

Nomination forms for the election of Committee of Management Members are available from the Office.

As discussed at the 2018 Annual General Meeting, the Treasurer's Report will be available to members two weeks prior to the Meeting.

## Where Did You Come From? Wei Xing Huang -Tutor in Mandarin

*(To continue our series “Where Did You Come From?”, Wei Xing generously agreed to tell me her story which I hope you will find as fascinating as I do.)*

Wei Xing was born in 1957 at the 157 Military Hospital, Guangdong military region, the third of four children. Her father named her ‘Wei Xing’ meaning ‘satellite’ in honour of Sputnik 1 which had just been launched by the Russians.

As her father was a member of the Red Army doing clerical work, Wei Xing’s family lived in an army camp. The Government was very supportive of army personnel, including providing education and health care. Members of the Red Army and their families were insulated from the food shortages which impacted much of China at that time.

Wei Xing’s mother was a teacher, eventually becoming a school principal. Her grandfather had been a wealthy landowner (who had four wives and many children) and when the Communist Party came into power, all his property and money were seized and the only way he survived was through his expertise as a herbalist and acupuncturist. Because of her family background and despite joining the Communist Party when she was 18, Wei Xing’s mother was sent to a rural area for six months for 're-education' when Wei Xing was only three months old.



Wei Xing boarded at a kindergarten for six days a week from the age of three and later attended school in the army camp where there were excellent teachers and conditions. During the summer holidays, the children were cared for, learning among other things how to fire a gun!

The family moved to the city of Guangzhou when her father left the Red Army and Wei Xing continued her education, graduating from high school when she was 18.

This was the time of the Cultural Revolution (1966 - 1976) and Wei Xing remembers hearing gunshots, as well as seeing bodies hanging in the streets. All universities had been closed so when she graduated from high school, she had to go to a rural area to undertake a second education. She remained there for three years, planting rice and sugar cane, growing vegetables and helping to build a factory. She believes that this stood her in good stead in years to come as she learnt to use her hands, to work out how to get things done, and to be resilient. She was paid 27 yuan (\$6) a month.

After the Cultural Revolution, she returned to Guangzhou and studied university entrance part-time, while being employed at the Chinese Scientist Energy Institute as a laboratory assistant.

In 1983, Wei Xing commenced studying Human Resources at the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing. This was the happiest time of her life as she had time to study, was without stress and made lots of friends from all over China. She had no particular interest in politics until she was in Beijing. Wei Xing graduated in 1987 and returned to Guangzhou to work.

Wei Xing knew many people who were involved in the build-up to the Tiananmen Square protests and there was support throughout China for the Beijing students. Because of its proximity to Hong Kong, people in Guangzhou knew what was happening and students staged a sit-in - The Hunger Protest. As she was working in the day-time, she met with the students in the evenings. They were all concerned that the Red Army would be sent against the students.

# Where Did You Come From?

## Wei Xing Huang -Tutor in Mandarin (Cont'd)

In 1989, Wei Xing made the difficult decision to apply for a visa to study in Australia. She was encouraged by her mother who felt that there would be more opportunities for her here. Wei Xing arrived in Sydney in December 1989 to commence studying Business English but unfortunately, the school closed six months later. Over the next few years, she worked in a wide variety of jobs, living in share houses with other Chinese students.

Wei Xing travelled a long way from Guangzhou to Tasmania to find happiness. While visiting a property she had purchased in Tasmania, she met an English chemist, **David Duerden**. They married, had a daughter, Tiya, and settled in Devonport. In Devonport, Wei Xing taught Mandarin, studied English and continued to study arts & crafts at the Devonport TAFE and Launceston University. She graduated with a Diploma of Arts & Crafts, presenting on Chinese Art Theory in her oral exam. She was also awarded Most Outstanding in the Tasmanian North West Art Circle in 2004. Wei Xing painted Tasmania's landscapes with 'Chinese eyes' and her paintings have been in great demand.

The family relocated to Melbourne for her daughter's education and the move has given Wei Xing the opportunity to build relationships with our Chinese community and with U3AM members.

Wei Xing Huang & Jillian Gange

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## Kaffeeklatsch 2019

Would you like to have a friendly chat in German over a cup of coffee? Your level of German doesn't matter. However, we would like you to participate in German.

Native speakers are most welcome to join this group. It gives students of German an opportunity to practise with competent German speakers, and it would also benefit you, the native speakers, with friendship, opportunity to keep your own language skills alive, and stimulating conversation.

The Kaffeeklatsch is held from 9am to 10.15am at the Indulgence Café, Pines Shopping Centre. However, it will be held at Stammtisch at Cherry Hill Tavern in April and June.

- 25 March
- 8 April           Stammtisch at Cherry Hill Tavern
- 13 May
- 24 June           Stammtisch at Cherry Hill Tavern
- 22 July
- 12 August
- 9 September
- 14 October
- 11 November
- Final Date TBA

Jutta-Inge Szwed, German Tutor

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# Through the Looking Glass: Truth Inside the Fiction

Hello everyone. My name is **Jackie Fritzlaff**. In Terms 1 and 2, I am presenting a class entitled **Through the Looking Glass: Truth Inside the Fiction**.

The course is a journey into the lives of classic writers, historians and social commentators. Many of the authors to be studied lived through times of great technological development, scientific advancement and social change. Through the writers and their books, one not only acquires knowledge about the times in which they lived, but also how they saw and interpreted historical events. We will investigate the melting pot of political intrigue, social drama and scandals that provide the backdrop to many of the famous writers and historical figures that are common household names today.

I started reading from a very early age and have been hooked ever since. At school, my favourite subjects were literature and history and I always longed to travel overseas to see all the places I had read about. Fortunately, in my twenties, I was lucky enough to spend five years on a working holiday.

I loved living and working in London and for a while worked for two of the largest Australian and New Zealand travel companies during which I conducted weekend tours around London and national sites on the city outskirts. We visited all the famous landmarks: The Tower of London, Stonehenge, Bath, Windsor Castle and Westminster Abbey, to name but a few. All of these sites, and others, played a major role in the lives of the people we will study during the course. Many of the modern streets of London today were the old slums where Charles Dickens would often stroll on one of his nightly walks. One can still see parts of the early public schools that HG Wells fought so hard to attend, striving for the education that he believed would elevate him from a life of poverty and despair.

Books are written by individuals influenced by the society in which they live. Dickens was born poor, worked as a child labourer and never forgot his origins or the people he left behind. Wells, also from a poor background, despaired over the inequality between the rich and the poor and developed socialistic ideals from a very young age.

To understand classic literature, it is also important to understand the atmosphere in which the books were written. For me, this is part of the joy of literature, a constant journey of discovery into a world long gone but forever remembered.

My entire working career has been in law. I started as a secretary, studied at Box Hill TAFE and completed a 'Legal Executives' course, and again, while working fulltime, qualified as a Law Clerk. I then spent the next thirty odd years working as a Property Law Clerk for two of the largest law firms in Melbourne.

Now, in my retirement years, I am the full-time carer to my elderly mother and devote my days to looking after her and doing many of the things that I once never had time to do. I enjoy the hours I spend researching the classical writers as one not only acquires knowledge about the times in which they lived, but also how they saw and interpreted historical events and socioeconomic change.

**Jackie Fritzlaff**

# Enrolments Report



First, I must express gratitude to **Joan French**, the senior member of our Data Entry team, for the work she has done over her 'holidays'. Most members are unaware of what needs to occur between finishing the previous year and the start of the new year. Many members who were on wait lists for classes are now in those classes as other members realise that they have over-committed themselves and have withdrawn from classes with wait lists. Joan has done a sterling job managing those changes.

Thanks also to several tutors who have allowed extra members to join their classes to remove their wait lists. This is not possible for some classes because of space or equipment requirements, but when a tutor has been able to take in extras, they should have some very grateful class members.

## A request to all members:

Please ensure that your personal profile is correct, especially your email address. It creates a great deal of extra work when an email is sent to members and is rejected for any of the following reasons:

- Misspelt email addresses.
- New email addresses which have not been put onto members' profiles.
- Full mailbox which will not even allow a message to be received advising that the mailbox is full. There are a number of ways this can be prevented. If you cannot work out how, contact your Internet Provider and ask for help - you are already paying for the service!

## 2019 Enrolments - changes

As explained in the President's Report, two changes were made to enable more people to get into classes they wanted to attend:

- 10% of the most popular classes were reserved for new members and members who joined the previous year but had been unable to get into any class.
- The initial number of classes that any member could enrol in was limited to five.

All restrictions were removed in the last week of January, enabling members wanting to take up positions in classes that were not full to do so.

These measures seem to have worked well and we will do the same for next year's enrolments. Next year, however, the restrictions will be lifted earlier, in the middle of January, to ensure that class lists are complete when they are printed for the start of term.

## Attention new members - please take note!

Places were specially reserved for you, as new members, in the most popular classes this year. For future re-enrolments, you will no longer enjoy this privilege so to ensure that you get into the most popular classes, you will need to volunteer your services in the organisation to earn sufficient credit to give you priority in enrolling. You may volunteer for any of the volunteer categories by logging online and ticking the relevant boxes at the bottom of your **Profile** page. More details of volunteering can be found on the **About Us** page on our website.

## Enrolments Report (Cont'd)

### Payments still outstanding for classes in external venues for which we are charged

Members of each class held in an external venue for which we pay rent are required to pay a class fee towards the additional cost of the venue. All such fees should have been paid when you were accepted into the class but there are still a number of members who have not paid them. These fees are now overdue so if you have not paid, please do so promptly. **Members with outstanding fees risk being excluded from their classes in the near future!**

Outstanding venue fees may be securely paid by credit/debit card using the **Pay by PayPal** button. This is explained in MyU3A Help, available via the **MyU3A Help** button on the **Courses** page. There is no need to have a PayPal account, but if you do have one, you may elect to pay that way. You will receive an email from PayPal confirming your payment.

If you are unable to pay online, your payment may be made at the Office.

### IMPORTANT!

When you are accepted into a class, there is a record shown on your **Member Summary** page of all classes for which you have applied, together with the fees and your payment status. You will also get an email from PayPal acknowledging your payment through the PayPal system. As well, you will receive a receipt for any amount paid at the Office. Make sure you keep copies of these in case there is any confusion over whether you have enrolled in a class and whether you have paid. Mistakes can be made on either side. Having this evidence will help you if any dispute arises.

You can print your **Member Summary** page by first displaying it. To do this, click on **Next** on the **Membership Status** page to get to the **Member Summary** page. Then select **File** and **Print** on your browser.

Warwick Wright, Enrolments Manager

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## Curriculum Report



Welcome back all current and new members. This will be another exciting year with a number of new courses commencing, most of which have been well subscribed.

We have nearly 200 courses being offered by our tutors old and new, covering different subject areas and activities. The popular courses continue to have long waiting lists and some tutors managed to increase their class sizes to accommodate more members. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their support.

If you would like to teach a new course, please leave a note in my pigeonhole. We will look forward to hearing from you to discuss the possibilities.

Milly Ching, Curriculum Manager

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## Storing Photos Taken on an iPad

When I purchased my first iPad, it didn't take me long to realise that it was easier to use the iPad to take photos than to search for my digital camera and set it up and by then I had lost the photo opportunity.

If I wanted to save special photos on either a USB stick or a laptop, it wasn't possible to take them directly from the iPad. I would need to email them to myself, download them on to my laptop and collect them on a USB memory stick. Sounds complicated. Now there is a simpler way.

Lexar has a product that can be bought on eBay which will store photos and movies from your iPad or allow you to transfer them to your laptop. It is called a Lexar 16Gb, Jump Drive C20i lightning + USB 3.0. 3-in-1 iOS USB Flash Drive. Price: AUD \$27.49. Free Postage. Sometimes the price and conditions may vary slightly.

You may see many other Lexar products for sale on this site. Look for this picture and the description. After purchasing, simply download the app onto your iPad and follow the instructions.

If you would like more information or assistance to download your photos, contact me by leaving your name, telephone number and question in my pigeonhole in the office and I will get back to you.



Ken Hosking

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## Lifelong Learning Summer School - University of Cambridge, August 2019

This residential summer school offers the opportunity to experience Cambridge University while attending a one or two week program designed for adult learners from around the world.

For information click on <https://www.girton.cam.ac.uk/summer-programmes/lifelong/>.

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## Replacement Name Badges and Lanyards

When joining our U3A, members are provided with name badges and lanyards which should last a long time. Therefore, please try not to lose or damage them.

If you do require a replacement name badge, it will be replaced at no charge. However, there is a cost of \$5 for a replacement lanyard.

Robyn Butling, Office Manager

# Calendar of Events

## Terms 1 & 2, 2019

(The calendar for the full year is available on our website.)

### TERM 1, 2019

Monday, 4 February  
 Monday, 11 March  
 Monday, 18 March  
 Thursday, 21 March

**TERM 1 commenced (8 weeks)**

**LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY**

Committee of Management meeting (Rm 8)	1.30pm
<b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, PFR</b> (A light luncheon will follow the meeting.)	11.00am

Friday, 5 April

**TERM 1 ends**

(Term Break - 2 weeks)

### TERM 2, 2019

Tuesday, 23 April  
 Thursday, 25 April  
 Friday, 26 April  
 Wednesday, 15 May  
 Wednesday, 15 May  
 Monday, 20 May  
 Monday, 10 June  
 Monday, 17 June  
 Friday, 28 June

**TERM 2 commences (10 weeks)**

**ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY**

Newsletter deadline	
COM Volunteers luncheon (PFR)	12.15pm - 2.30pm
Class Representatives meeting (Rms 13-14)	3.00pm - 4.20pm
Committee of Management meeting (Rm 8)	1.30pm
<b>QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY</b>	
Committee of Management meeting (Rm 8)	1.30pm

**TERM 2 ends**

(Term Break - 3 weeks)

**PFR - Pines Function Room**

## The Newsletter

Editorial: Jillian Gange, Liew Staras, Frances Langdon; Website Manager: Kevin Chan;  
 Distribution: Warren Trompf, Kathleen Caffry and Robyn Lamprecht.

*Information contained in this newsletter was correct at the time of publication. U3A Manningham makes no guarantee that the information contained in the newsletter is always accurate.*



### MISSION STATEMENT

*Our mission is to provide accessible and affordable educational, cultural, physical and social opportunities appropriate to the needs of retired and semi-retired people.*

