

President's Message on COVID-19 Restrictions

On behalf of the newly elected Management Committee I thank all members for the trust, confidence and support you give us to run U3A Hawthorn for the next 12 months. Be assured that we will do our best, and that all decisions will be guided by the interests of all members.

Of course our principle task for the coming year will be to navigate our way through the lifting of social distancing restrictions to enable us to carefully re-open all of our activities on a face-to-face basis at the Sinclair Avenue Campus or elsewhere.

You are no doubt pleased to see the first steps of relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions recently announced by the Victorian government. They are tentative first steps towards something like the "old normal" we all used to enjoy, although it is noteworthy that the government has been deliberately cautious.

I want to emphasise that, while we are very keen to resume our program, the Management Committee will only be considering recommencement of classes at Sinclair Avenue and other facilities when we are confident that we can do it safely for members, volunteers, tutors, conveners and guest speakers.

In addition to the State Government and the Victorian Chief Medical Officer's advice, Boroondara Council, as the owner of our facility, has also provided us with information that we will be obliged to submit a "COVID-19 Plan" to Council for approval before any classes, meetings or activities can recommence in the Sinclair Avenue Campus and its premises.

We are also obliged to take into account the demographics of you, our members, since we are more vulnerable to the COVID disease than the broader community. Your health, safety and well-being are paramount to our decision making, as it should be.

A sub-committee of the Management Committee has commenced planning work on how we might address the potential health and safety requirements for face-to-face learning in the future. This will take some time. We must "hasten slowly".

I will keep you informed of our progress and decisions via Gateway News and Newsletters.

Stay safe and stay connected.

Irving Miller
President

IN THE JUNE NEWSLETTER

Editor's Note: This is the first Newsletter produced under COVID-19 restrictions. Therefore, many regular features such as Music, Book Exchange and Excursions do not feature. However, we have added items about how classes are continuing using on-line and other methods to stay productive and connected.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MAY 2020

The Thirty fifth Annual General Meeting was held on 20 May 2020. Due to isolation regulations for COVID-19, the meeting was held by video conference with 51 members participating and 8 providing proxies.

The audited Financial Report for 2019 was presented and accepted at the meeting together with the President's Annual Report (see following pages).

The membership subscription for 2021 has been set at \$30 as a one-off reduction, in recognition of the impact of COVID-19 on members' ability to participate in classes and activities for 2020.

There were two retiring members of the Committee; Peter Hardham, a past President and long standing tutor, and Stuart Cleland. The President thanked them both for their contribution to U3A Hawthorn.

He also reminded members that our Treasurer, Frank Egan, had resigned earlier in the year due to ill health. He expressed our great appreciation for Frank's long service in that role. He also thanked Ellen Stoddart for her willingness to act in the position and to now seek appointment as Treasurer.

All other members of the Committee were returned for 2021 and we welcome the addition of Ron Box to the Committee for 2020-21.

Committee of Management members for 2020/2021 (photographs are included in the President's Report):

Irving Miller	President
Stefanie Sowerby	Vice President
Bruce Lancashire	Secretary/Public Officer
Ellen Stoddart	Treasurer
Meg Adams	
David Bennett	
Ron Box	
Norm Fary	
Nathan Feld	
Judy Hamann	
Ian McKenzie	
Ruth Muir	
Sue Waller	



Some of the participants at the Zoom Annual General Meeting

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2019/2020

The President's Report is the Annual Report delivered to the Annual General Meeting, held 20 May 2020.



*Irving Miller
President*

What an extraordinary year this has been for everyone at U3A Hawthorn. It has been a year in two parts really. Before Covid-19 and after Covid-19. For the first 9 months, the year developed as “normal”; since February/ March 2020 it has been anything but “normal”. Our world has been turned upside down. 12 months ago we had not heard of Novel Coronavirus, Covid-19, flattening the curve, social distancing, self-isolation, partial lockdowns, Zoom and panic buying of toilet rolls. This has become the “new normal” in our Covid-19 pandemic world.

Nevertheless as our AGM approaches to be conducted via a Zoom teleconference, it is appropriate to review this extraordinary year.

Over 200 courses and activities were on offer in 2019/20, including year-long, short courses, themed Series, and single sessions. We began 2020 with record enrolments [1575 members] and an ever expanding variety of stimulating, challenging and engaging range of courses and activities.

At the commencement of 2020 we had over 140 tutors/convenors of whom 37 were new to the role at U3A Hawthorn. We are grateful to each and everyone one of them, for without their generous gift of time, knowledge, skill and dedication; our organisation could not function. They are also supported by class volunteers who assist with secretarial, AV and other support.

In order to acknowledge the wonderful support of our tutors/convenors and volunteers generally, and in anticipation of their contribution for the current year, the Management Committee held a volunteer appreciation lunch on 30 January 2020, which was attended by over 140 people. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all attendees. Little did we know how short our “normal 2020” academic year would be.

U3A Hawthorn conducted its Summer School in January 2020 at our Sinclair Avenue Campus [SAC]. This three week program was convened and managed by Anne McQueen-Thomson and her subcommittee. This year's Summer School was an outstanding success, with some sessions booked out to the point that some members were “wait-listed”. The program included highly skilled speakers who presented a range of topics, including science, history, politics and international relations, to name but a few. Our thanks go to all those involved with Summer School, the subcommittee, the presenters and the several AV support members, whose contributions allowed our Speakers presentations to go so well.

During 2019 the Readman series of “one off” monthly lectures proved again to be an outstanding success, thanks to the organising committee led by Meg Adams. This series permits members to hear outstanding speakers present on challenging topics without committing to a long or short term course.

We continue to maintain an excellent relationship with Swinburne University of Technology. Its Vice Chancellor, Linda Kristjanson AO has been our Patron until her recent move from the University. We are grateful to the University, its academics and students for their support. During the year, academics have presented at our Summer School and in our general program, we have had casual English conversations with international students and we use the University's IT facilities.

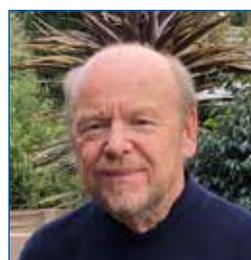
It's a “win-win” are far as we are concerned. Thank you Swinburne.

During 2019 our wonderful musical program was an outstanding success. The U3A Hawthorn Orchestra held several very accomplished concerts, performed at Federation Square during Seniors Week 2019 and visited a local primary school. Each of these events was well attended and enthusiastically received. Jules Cseszkó and William van der Vis [Conductors] and Orchestra Managers Ruth Muir, Ken Jamieson and Assistant Manager Nola Meredith and all of the musicians are to be congratulated on their fine performances and significant contributions.

Similarly our Choir, the “Gateway Singers” performed in a mid-year concert in June 2019 called “Movies, Musicals and Miscellany”, and an end of year Christmas Special. These events were very well attended and were a great success. The choir also performed a mini concert at our Open Day, in October 2019. Our thanks go to Choir Director, Julie Lancashire and all singers for your wonderful performances.



*Stefane Sowerby
Vice President*



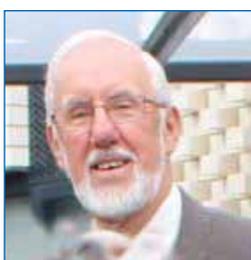
*Bruce Lancashire
Secretary*



*Ellen Stoddart
Treasurer*



Meg Adams



David Bennett

Regrettably, in this Covid-19 world, all of our musical program, including the Saturday Matinees have been cancelled until further notice. Nevertheless these programs will be back with new Concerts at the earliest opportunity, and when it is safe to do so.

On Saturday 5 October 2019 we celebrated Seniors Week with our second "Open Day" at our campus. We were [again] blessed with wonderful weather. This event was very successful in drawing visitors, members and family to our campus, where numerous examples of our program were on display. A welcome innovation was our "free sausage sizzle" which ensured all were well fed. Thanks go to our own "MasterChefs", Nathan Feld and Stuart Cleland, and to all those who participated.

Arguably the highlight of the day was the musical program, which included the Avalon Jazz band, The Gateway Singers and the U3A Hawthorn Orchestra Ensemble. We thank each and every one of you for your participation in Open day, and the great atmosphere which you helped create.

At the time of writing this Report, though Open Day 2020 is on our Calendar for Saturday 5 October 2020, it is problematic as to whether it will be possible to go ahead.

A broad range of well attended excursions was organised during 2019 and thanks go to Joan Harding and her organising committee for these events. Sadly the COVID-19 pandemic has seen the cancellation of the excursion program for 2020 until further notice.

The Book Exchange was very popular in 2019 and the early part of this year. Julie Angus-Kiddle and her team are responsible for this successful initiative, which is greatly appreciated by our members.

It is presently another victim to COVID-19, so no books are being exchanged.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the City of Boroondara for our wonderful campus and for providing community-based lease access to venues such as the Parkview Room at the Camberwell Library. The team at Aged Services with whom we liaise, together with those in Facilities Management, deserve our special gratitude for their availability, assistance and ease of dealing with issues we raise with them.

No Annual Report could be tabled without acknowledging the outstanding contributions made by our many volunteers including receptionists, database, AV support, gardening group and catering group. Then there are the tutors/convenors and committee members who generously and tirelessly give of themselves for the benefit of us all.

The success of U3A Hawthorn is based primarily on the valued and significant contribution of the many volunteers who so freely donate and share their time, skill, expertise and knowledge in the running of our organisation.

What would we do without you?

We acknowledge and thank several volunteers who have left us during this past year.

We honour and thank 3 long-standing tutors who retired at the end of 2019; they are Lilli Lipa, John Cook and Heidi Garner. Each was a tutor for more than a decade; Heidi for more than 20 years!!

On a very sad note, we learnt of the deaths of 3 of our tutors in 2019/20: Iain Horden [Current Affairs], Peter Havlicek [Duplicate Bridge] and John Wykes [Watercolours and Painting on the iPad]. They are all remembered with affection for their contribution to our organisation over many years. They are missed but not forgotten. We were also saddened by the death of Brendan Hayward who was a long-standing member and volunteer, in particular by assisting with the preparation of our quarterly Newsletters.

We note with much regret that our long-standing Treasurer, Frank Egan, resigned from that role in U3A Hawthorn in early January 2020, due to serious health issues. Frank had been Treasurer for more than a decade. He performed his duties calmly, competently and with great humour. During that whole period he was also a member of the Management Committee, where his contributions were always thoughtful, constructive and insightful. His monthly Financial Reports were clear and accurate; hence our strong financial position has never been in doubt.

All members of U3A Hawthorn owe Frank a great debt of gratitude. We send him our best wishes and trust that his future is a positive one.

We gratefully thank Ellen Stoddart for taking on the role of acting Treasurer. Ellen is standing for election to the position at our forthcoming AGM.



Ron Box



Norm Fary



Nathan Feld



Judy Hamann



Ian McKenzie



Ruth Muir



Sue Waller

On 14 November 2019 the Management Committee hosted an afternoon to unveil our Honour Boards, which are in the Hall. Doing so revealed the long and proud history of our organisation since 1984. These Boards detail just some of the many people who have contributed so much of their time, energy, and dedication to making U3A Hawthorn the outstanding organisation it is today.

The Boards “humanise” the Hall, and remind everyone that this is our “spiritual home”.

During 2019 your Management Committee determined policy issues which apply to all U3A Hawthorn Members, Tutors/Convenors and Volunteers.

They are: Policy – Code of Conduct and Policy – Role of Tutors and Convenors.

In March 2020 the Committee adopted Health and Safety Policies which apply as a result of the Coronavirus/Covid-19 Pandemic. We provided members with regular and updated advice on the disease and our operations, via Gateway and signage around the campus.

On the advice of the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services, and after careful consideration of our membership cohort, on 13 March 2020 we suspended all operations of U3A Hawthorn until 14 April 2020, and foreshadowed that the period of suspension might be extended.

On 8 April 2020, the Committee met via a Zoom teleconference and determined that all face-to-face classes and activities were suspended until further notice.

That decision is still extant.

Obviously these decisions were unprecedented and posed, in a way, a threat to our organisation.

Like much of the general community we went into hibernation, with no idea when we can awake from our slumber. The effect of the closure on our organisation and our members has been profound.

Fortunately, modern technology has thrown us a “digital lifeline”. Some of our classes commenced “informally” using Skype, Zoom and other platforms as tutors and convenors acted on their own initiative to stay engaged with their classes.

Accordingly the Committee decided to purchase a number of Zoom licences to be hosted by designated Members. By using this technological “classroom”, or by other methods, we now have over 60 classes running. As at the date of writing this report [30 April 2020] we still do not know when the many social distancing requirements and restrictions on our movement will be rescinded or reduced.

Even when those restrictions are removed, it is not likely we would resume face-to-face classes until we are absolutely sure that it is safe to do so, having regard to our membership cohort.

The running of U3A Hawthorn involves a huge workload, and endless hours of dedicated work in a challenging and complex environment. It can only be undertaken successfully with the support and

contribution of some special people. I would like to acknowledge the leading contributors to our U3A over the last 12 months:

- Bruce Lancashire: Secretary, UMAS, U3A Network, A/V technology, Zoom, & etc
- Frank Egan: Treasurer and Management Committee member
- Stephanie Sowerby: Vice President & Management Committee
- Carol Lancashire: Curriculum Coordinator, Program Planning Committee chair, Newsletter design and general support
- Ellen Stoddart: Acting Treasurer
- Ruth Muir: Orchestra Manager [recently retired] & Management Committee
- Harvey Sowerby: Campus Manager
- Nigel Hannam: External Venues
- Ian McKenzie: Newsletter and Management Committee
- Joan Harding: Excursions
- Julie Angus-Kiddle: Archives & Book Exchange
- Julie McNaughton: Catering
- Sue Waller: Office Manager & Management Committee
- Meg Adams: Readman series & Management Committee
- Anne McQueen-Thomson: Summer School
- Judy Hamann: Health & Safety Officer & Management Committee
- All Tutors, Convenors and Class Facilitators
- All members of the Management Committee, and
- All Sub-Committee members.

Finally, I would like to thank ALL MEMBERS for giving me the privilege of serving U3A Hawthorn as President for the past 12 months.

I trust that everyone will remain well and safe.

I look forward to seeing you at our Sinclair Avenue Campus, sooner rather than later.

Irving Miller
President
30 April 2020

IN MEMORIUM

VALE BRENDAN HAYWARD



The many members of U3A Hawthorn who knew him have been saddened by the passing of Brendan Hayward on 15 April 2020, at the age of 84. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather, a good friend to many and a valuable member of our community.

At U3A Hawthorn, Brendan was a willing volunteer, always giving generously of his time and effort wherever it was needed. For many years, he was an integral part of the team managing the distribution of our Newsletter, ultimately taking major responsibility for the mail-outs. Over several cycles of Morris William's art appreciation class, Brendan worked in conjunction with Morris, operating the audio-visual equipment and greatly enhancing class members' appreciation of the course content. Brendan and his wife, Marion, have participated in many other U3A Hawthorn courses and activities, particularly enjoying Irving Miller's course The Law and Justice and attending Readman Lectures, Saturday Matinees, orchestral and choral concerts and other events, reflecting their wide variety of interests.

In the broader community, Brendan was, over a very long period, a regular visitor to terminally ill patients in Cabrini Hospital, offering friendship and conversation and generally bringing comfort and companionship to many.

Brendan will be remembered particularly for his genuine nature, his sense of humour and his unfailing consideration for others. It is not in the least surprising that the description of Brendan most frequently used by all who knew him is that he was "a true gentleman".

David Bennett

VALE JOHN WYKES



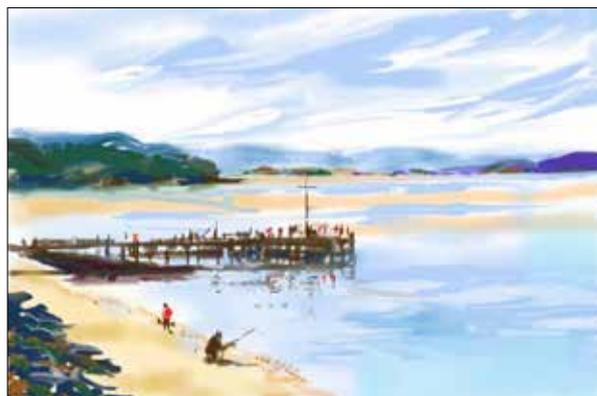
The U3A Hawthorn community was saddened to hear of the passing of John Wykes on April 28 2020. John was an active member and volunteer at U3A Hawthorn, who taught painting classes at U3A for many years, bringing the joys of painting and art to many colleagues.

John's interest in art began early in his life - through his Aunt Peg. He would fondly point out that she ran an art gallery located not far from his house in Albert St. East Melbourne. He had a firm belief in "improvement through learning" - through coaching, from books, by observation or by dismantling and analysing in order to understand how things work. John believed in extending himself through new technologies, new psychology, new approaches to learning, and always through dedicated, focussed practice. With this of course came a capacity and enthusiasm to teach others, taken to the extent of qualifying and practicing as a tennis coach.

For the U3A students starting out in water-colour painting, John brought all of this broad, deep understanding of the basics to his lessons. Behind it all was an equally thorough pursuit of achieving excellence in teaching. Much of his week was spent preparing the next lesson. Every lesson was to benefit every student in class, irrespective of their ability and experience. It was this that led him to realise that the I-pad app would be a "god-send" to U3A students seeking to learn to paint in their older years. Skip learning arcane techniques and jump straight to the rewards of expressing creativity in that same traditional two-dimensional rectangular format! He appreciated the many bonuses that only computing enables - including reversing the arrow of time.

Those who knew him will remember this gentleman of quiet, self-contained demeanour; his lively intellect, his curiosity, his humour and always through his concern and care.

Pennie Kendall & Boyd Wykes (son)



Ipad painting of the beach at Inverloch by John Wykes

KEEPING OUR ACTIVITIES GOING DURING LOCK-DOWN

We have been very impressed and delighted with the enthusiasm and determination of tutors and members to continue with their classes. Whilst some courses such as exercise activities have been unable to continue as a group activity, most other courses have found a way to keep going and keep in touch.

A large number of courses have been able to operate online, many using the Zoom licences purchased by U3A Hawthorn. Up to 40 classes are now operating via Zoom, including language classes, smaller current affairs groups, film groups, and some book groups.

Seven U3A members are designated as the hosts of our 8 Zoom licences, and they open up the class for members to attend and provide assistance where necessary for tutors and participants. The Zoom Hosts are:

Linda Baynham
David Bennett
Bruce Lancashire (2)
Lily Lau
Ian McKenzie
Michael Mullerworth
Sue Waller

However Zoom is by no means the only way of maintaining contact. Other tutors are using WhatsApp, Skype, YouTube and old-fashioned email and the telephone to stay in touch.

Some highlights of innovation have been:

- Whilst the larger classes are more difficult in the on-line environment, recently the Wednesday Current Affairs Class managed to hold a DVD-based presentation and discussion led by David Spivakovsky for over 60 participants. David will continue to offer a monthly Wednesday Current Affairs session on the 3rd Wednesday.
- Sam Alfreds Opera course has commenced operating over Zoom and this week Sam's niece Shimona Rose, sang for the class from Singapore. The jazz course has also recommenced on zoom.
- Innovation allowed our oldest member, Bill Bennett to recently join the Tuesday afternoon current affairs class via Zoom. Bill has restricted vision and therefore had difficulty logging into the Zoom session via his computer, but with the help of his daughter who logged into his computer remotely from her home, he was able to join the discussion.
- The choir is rehearsing remotely (see story from Julie Lancashire and Zoom screen shots below).
- Pam Welsford and Mike Bilsborough have been continuing with the short IT courses that were scheduled. They are limiting class numbers to 10 to make it easier to provide support and assistance.
- Kathy Manderson (Pilates) and Adrian Guest (Film Analysis) have developed videos on YouTube which

are available for all members to view - see the Curriculum Update for details. Jim Poulter, who is a tutor at other U3As and has spoken with our First Peoples group in the past, has provided his full Readings in Australian History - the history you were never taught (Full details and links in the Curriculum Update).

- Whilst continued learning is stimulating and interesting, even more important has been maintaining contact between people to help overcome the sense of isolation and confinement. The telephone call and email have been life lines for many people.
- Let's go to a Gallery convenors are circulating links for virtual tours of galleries. Music groups are doing the same for music performances.
- A reminder about Kathy Manderson's U3A Hawthorn Cookbook project. Please send your recipes to Kathy for inclusion (see previous Gateways for details).
- Note: Three new short courses on Zoom are advertised in the Curriculum Update.

SCENES PRE COVID



Top: Excursion to the Maribyrnong River, 12 March

Right Local member for Higgins Katie Allen MP with Pennie Kendall after speaking at the Wednesday Current Affairs class in February.



ZOOM FROM AFAR

I'm staying with my son Kent and his partner Fiona in their home with the long driveway in the middle at the bottom of the picture. It's located in The Ring of Gullion in Northern Ireland - could there be a more perfect place to isolate in this extraordinary time of great loss and heartbreak for thousands of people all over the world? I'm very fortunate and feel as safe as one could hope for during this scary time.

I arrived in Ireland on St Patrick's Day leaving Australia naively believing the Coronavirus would be under control by my scheduled return date on 26th May. Etihad recently advised me my return ticket has been cancelled! So much for my optimistic thoughts.

The reason for being so eager to keep my travel plans was the arrival of Odrán (pronounced Oran) my first grandchild. My visit is both filled with joy and at the same time a niggling feeling of isolation from my home and family in Australia especially my 98 year old mum.

Despite the time difference I was delighted to be invited by Ann and Michael to join with the wonderful people in my U3A First Peoples class last Wednesday via Zoom. Thank goodness for modern technology during these uncertain times. It keeps us connected and at the same time safe - who could have imagined it?

It was 1.00am in Ireland and I confess to going to bed setting an alarm and attending the meeting in my pyjamas. If PJ attire is good enough for working from home then I was hopeful my class would accept it given the early hour here. It was an excellent, and as always, thought provoking meeting which ran very smoothly in spite of our newness to Zoom.

I very much look forward to a time when we can all be together again.

I'd like to send my warm wishes to all of our members and hope they are safe and finding enough to keep them occupied during the lock down.

*Warm regards
Maude Smith*



TIPS FOR ONLINE ZOOM CLASSES

Whilst Zoom sessions are relatively straightforward, there are some things to watch out for to make the experience more pleasant for other participants:

- Hardware and setup - you need a relatively up to date PC, tablet or phone with microphone and camera.
- If it is a recurring event/class, the Zoom link will usually remain the same for each session. Make sure you save the link.
- Because other class members can see you and part of your room, it is nice to have it tidy, and well lit.
- Lighting should be neither too dark, nor too bright – direct sunlight or a bright lamp can be a distraction. Light from windows or doors behind you can cause the webcam to adjust to the background, making you appear very dark.
- Laptops with tilted screens will aim the camera up your face and to the ceiling. Try adjusting it to right angle or raise the height by putting it on a book.
- You can put your own virtual background behind you. Go to video settings in zoom and choose one of the standard ones or add one of your own photographs.
- Where the class involves interactive discussion, it is important to agree some Zoom etiquette. An all-in conversation is largely unintelligible and very frustrating. The system can only pick up one voice at a time. It is useful to have a class coordinator or MC who nominates who speaks next, based on people raising their hand, or using the show hand feature on Zoom.
- If a question just requires a yes or no, a nod of the head, or use of the Zoom symbols to indicate your agreement or not is better than speaking.
- Do not have your radio or TV on in the background. Any noise in your room is picked up by the microphone and broadcast to all.
- If you are not requiring to speak you can turn yourself onto mute, so that noises in your room are not broadcast.

WANT TO TRY ZOOM?

If there are other Tutors who would like to trial zoom with their classes please contact Carol Lancashire to discuss. We can set up a trial and some training to assist you and then timetable regular zoom meetings for you and the class.

Email: courses@u3ahawthorn.org.au

GATEWAY SINGERS USING ZOOM

A “silent rehearsal” is an unusual method for a choir to use to keep practicing during the coronavirus lockdown, but that’s what the Gateway Singers are doing. Each Tuesday since early May, roughly thirty members have been logging on to Zoom and ‘singing like nobody’s listening’!

Certainly, this virtual rehearsing can never be the same as in-person rehearsals, but it does provide a way for us to sing together and to continue to build our choral community in lieu of physical connection. In this time when we are being asked to isolate, using technology like the Zoom platform is one way we can still keep in touch.

The voice is a muscle and as such, needs exercise! We can use the time in our virtual rehearsals to continue improving our vocal skills and musicianship. It’s an opportunity for ‘note-bashing’ that we don’t always have in our weekly rehearsal.

It is also important to try to keep things feeling as normal as possible. Keeping a regular routine can help us to take our minds off the uncertainty that many are experiencing.

Of course, a virtual rehearsal has many limitations, but it has been terrific to catch up with so many friends and we have had the opportunity to fine-tune parts, to ask questions, see others face-to-face and simply stay connected.

Many thanks must go to our U3A Management Committee for providing the Zoom licences that have enabled so many courses to switch to online operation, to David Bennett for organizing and hosting the Singers’ Zoom sessions and to Meg Howsam for her piano accompaniment.

We’d love to see more singers connect and David is more than happy to answer any questions. The technology is not difficult, and the benefits are wonderful!



*Julie Lancashire
Choir Director*



VOLUNTEER CORNER

CLARE CARLSON.

U3A HAWTHORN GARDENING COORDINATOR

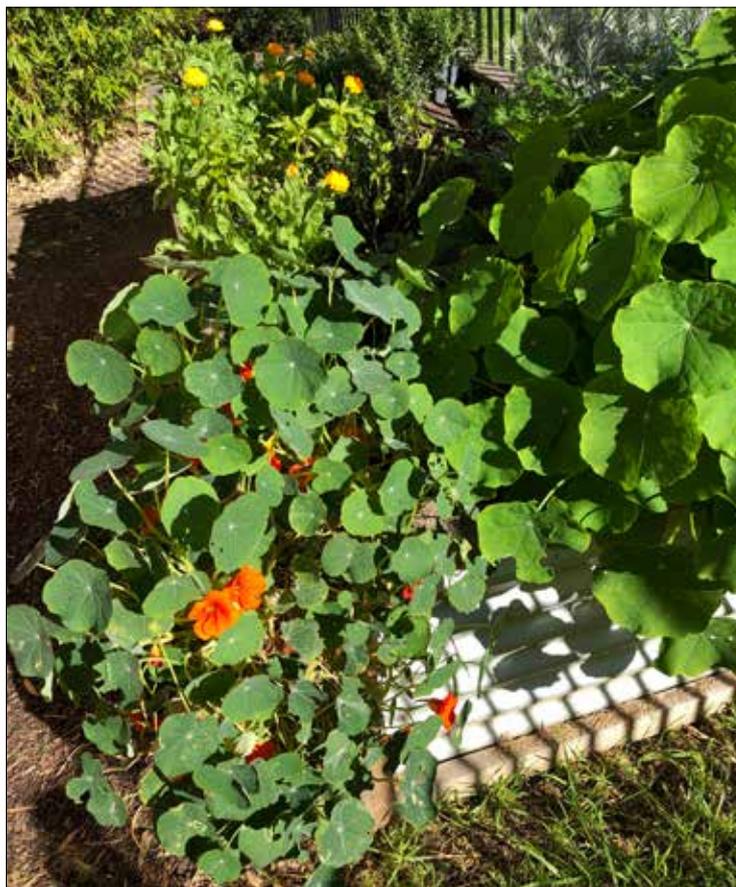
I was born and brought up in north London and went to Nottingham University before coming out to Australia as a £10 pom. Most of my working life was spent as a medical microbiologist at the Alfred Hospital and I joined U3A in 2009 after I retired. Unlike my parents I was never interested in gardening when I grew up. Not an uncommon story - you have to have your own property before the addictive nature of gardening creeps up on you. It's a continual learning curve and you just never tire of it.

I hadn't been a U3A member for long before Shirley Hallows persuaded me to volunteer at U3A and assured me that a little bit of help in the garden could easily be managed in addition to my own very large garden and that I only had to help out for a couple of hours once a month. Of course, I was hooked, and I joined a happy small band of like-minded folk. This was at a time before the U3A renovations (in 2016) when the garden was quite different to what we have now. Only a very small area of the old garden still remains and that's along the fence line next to the bicycle path where the water tanks are located.

I hardly consider any gardening as volunteer work. I'm really just the coordinator of a varying group of other volunteers who try to keep the U3A gardens looking good. It's lovely to meet other people who bring fresh ideas in addition to their volunteering work in the garden. In fact, the help of other volunteer gardeners is essential because I couldn't manage it all myself without them.

Did you know that we have a small lemon tree and some lemon verbena starting to grow in the back corner behind the Office building? There is also a herb garden close by, the produce of which is available to all U3A members - season dependent. Just walk around the back of the Office building to have a look and help yourself. Please donate a herb or plant your own if you would like.

It's lovely to hear appreciative comments from other U3A members who might be passing through the gardens while we are there. Unfortunately, we are not available for help in other gardens! We meet just once a month for an hour or two (it's a virus independent activity) and I think I have only had to cancel once due to inclement weather!



The following courses are operating as face-to-face outdoor activities as permitted by the Victoria Government with the easing of Covid-19 restrictions. Tutors and/or the Course Co-ordinator notify enrolled members of recommending courses to inform them and offer them the opportunity to participate if they wish. No new enrolments in these courses will be accepted at this stage.

EXERCISE

20EXE028 Yang Style TaiChi & Qigong Level 3 Tutor: Charles Leong

20EXE029 TaiChi & Qigong - Tuesday Tutor: Linda Kost

20EXE032 Go for Life Tutor: Graham Ellis

OUTDOOR

20OUT001 Shorter Walks on Wednesday Convenor Garry Warne

20OUT002 Metro Walks: Short Walks on Tuesday Convenor: Lorraine Doyle

20OUT003 Wednesday Weekly Walk and Talk Convenors: Elisa Lando & Janet Gromer

20OUT004 Moderate Walking Group Convenors: Eva Carew-Reid & Lily Adolphe

20OUT010 Munari Riders - Cycling Convenor: Trevor White - recommending Friday 5 June

20OUT012 Tuesday Cycling Group Convenor: Carol Lancashire

NEW ZOOM SHORT COURSES

PLEASE ENROL USING THE MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM IN THE USUAL WAY

20ITC022 Managing iPhotos on your Apple devices Tutor: Pam Welsford
Single session Friday 12 June 11.30 and 2.30 (will be divided into 2 groups).

This course had been advertised before the lockdown but there are still a small number of places available.

20ITC002 Android Phones and Tablets Tutor: Mike Bilsborough
5 sessions weekly from Thursday 25 June, 11.30am

This course had been advertised before the lockdown but there are still a small number of places available.

20MUS016 Great Piano Music and Pianists Tutor: Roger Creed
Weekly from 15 June, 2pm (2 sessions) . A new course.

COURSES AND RESOURCE MATERIAL AVAILABLE ONLINE TO ALL MEMBERS

Thank you to our tutors who have prepared materials, videos etc and made them available online to all members.

FILM ANALYSIS TUTOR: ADRIAN GUEST

“Good morning U3A Hawthorn members, here are links to the latest YouTube presentations I have made for those interested in cinema during this period of social distancing.

“Groundbreaking films from the 1950’s U3A Hawthorn”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IkJq9rcT2rY>

“Useful websites for cinephiles U3A Hawthorn”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hkb0jAG6VtI>

“A guide to free movie streaming U3A Hawthorn” (SBS On Demand)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D686WjxC51k>

“Cult movies/forgotten films”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzZ4kp9GHAs>

PILATES TUTOR: KATHY MANDERSON

Kathy has been producing an exercise class on YouTube each week. The latest one is
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LrhTh_xlCAE

READINGS IN AUSTRALIAN HISTORY - THE HISTORY YOU WERE NEVER TAUGHT

TUTOR: JIM POULTER

The readings have been produced by Jim Poulter over several years. During this time Jim has tutored U3A classes in Australian History and given innumerable talks to schools and community groups, in order that we might better share and take pride in our rich Australian Aboriginal history and heritage. These readings are available on the Home page of our website. <https://www.u3ahawthorn.org.au/AustralianHistory/Poulter.htm>