



NILLUMBIK

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



NEWSLETTER June 2012

Celebrating the Launch of the new Eltham Campus



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- President's Report
- Meet A Volunteer
- Launch of Eltham Campus—call for Volunteers
- Courses
- Membership
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Term 3: July 16th—Sept.21st

Course enrolments:

- Eltham Village Shopping Centre— 28th, 29th, 30th June
- Quiz Night— 29th June
- Eltham Campus Launch— 5th July
- Hurstbridge CC— use enrolment book in foyer.

STEERING COMMITTEE ON A STEADY COURSE-

NEW ELTHAM U3A CAMPUS READY TO BE LAUNCHED!

Since the well-attended meeting in February to measure support and interest for a U3A campus in Eltham the Steering Committee have achieved great success. Their hard work has resulted in a campus that will be launched on July 5th at the Eltham Community Centre. Courses will commence in the Arthur Boyd Room at the Nillumbik Community Health Services Office, 917 Main Road, Eltham on 16th July.

Putting an idea into reality is no small endeavour and the various sub-committees have had to source funds, venues, courses, equipment and most of all, the members. An interesting selection of courses are ready for Term 3, with many exciting possibilities in the pipeline.

Being part of a new community group that will offer so much is an exciting adventure. A few folk have created Stage 1 and now it is up to the new members to see what is offered and what they can add to the mix. As U3A is a volunteer organisation the richness and success of the Eltham campus lie in the hands of the members. If you have some interests and skills you are enjoying, then you may feel like it is time to share them with others. Course Co-ordinators welcome new tutors.

Hurstbridge U3A members have welcomed the chance to enlarge the membership of U3A Nillumbik and have supported the Steering Committee wherever possible. The possibilities of two communities forging closer ties and sharing the huge benefits of U3A are wonderful.

Congratulations to the Members of the Steering Committee and a very warm welcome to all new members.

BE PART OF THE LAUNCH

All members and prospective members are invited to the Launch. It will be held from 2-6 pm on Thursday 5th July at the Eltham Community Centre.

It is important to RSVP to nillubik.u3a@gmail.com by June 28th, as catering arrangements need to be finalized. Tutors will offer information about their courses and it will be possible to enrol in them at this function. Speeches will be followed by refreshments.

This splendid event is being organised in the spirit that enables U3A to exist—by volunteers. The trusty few who have worked hard to make this a special occasion are calling on as many members as possible to lend a hand at the Launch. Whether it be to stack a few chairs, assemble some food or load up the dishwasher, your contribution is going to be needed.

Register your willingness to lend a hand by emailing Stuart Winstanley winstanley@bigpond.com or phoning him on 0414319597.

Thanks to the office of Danielle Green MP for photocopying this newsletter.

DISTINGUISHED LOCAL SPEAKER FOR ELTHAM KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The **launch of the Eltham campus** on the afternoon of Thursday July 5 will provide the opportunity for members to meet our team of tutors and course leaders and chat to them about their special areas of expertise.

The formal proceedings will feature speeches of welcome and thanks to acknowledge the sterling work performed by the Steering Committee and the Accommodation, Course and Membership Sub-Committees, the vital financial contributions of state and local government and the help and encouragement of enthusiastic supporters such as Councillor Chris Chapple; Shire of Nillumbik Positive Ageing Officer, Andrea Cosentino and the Nillumbik Community Health Services team particularly Daryl Brooke and Kevin Gregg-Rowan.

Much has been achieved but much more remains to be done.

Our **key note speaker** for the launch Professor Morag Fraser AM is a distinguished local identity whose career in education and journalism represents high levels of achievement. She is Adjunct Professor in Humanities and Social Sciences at La Trobe University and Chair of the Montsalvat Trust and the *Australian Book Review* among a range of other Board appointments. Her career encompasses journalism, editing ,teaching , writing, publishing and the dramatic arts. She was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2004 for services to journalism.

Stuart Winstanley is still keen to hear from any members who may be willing to help during the launch at the Eltham Community and Reception Centre. Invitations are being sent out by E-Mail to sponsors, supporters, tutors and members. Please RSVP as numbers are limited.

QUIZ, DINNER AND CELEBRATION



Come along and brighten up our cold winter with a 2 course catered dinner and quiz. This will be our end of term celebration when we will also be remembering the role played by Sabi Buehler without whose initiative and hard work we would not be enjoying the companionship, knowledge and laughter offered by the Nillumbik U3A over the last 3 years.

So now that we are on the brink of expanding into an Eltham Campus we welcome those who have worked to make this possible, and we are delighted to thank Sabi and recognise her input by making her a life member.

The Bowling Club has kindly offered their dining room free, and we will be using their bar for drinks.

Friends are most welcome. Please let your tutor know numbers or ring **Eve on 97182459 before 22nd June.** We need at least 30, but hope for double that.

Date: 29th June

Time: 6.30-10.00

Cost: \$20

Place: Graysharps Rd. Hurstbridge

NILLUMBIK U3A COMMITTEE

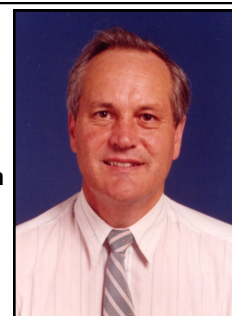
PRESIDENT:	Doug Rutherford	COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Stuart Winstanley (publicity)	Bonita Dowell—Information Officer	
SECRETARY:	Laraine Hussey	Colleen Gardner—Catering	
ASSISTANT SECRETARY:	Shirley Tunaley	Brian Mclean- Equipment and Archives	
TREASURER:	Robert Scopes (membership and website)	Geoff Gill—Data Base	
ASSISTANT TREASURER:	Rob Rankin (membership)	Mal Harrop—Grants, Publicity and Council Liaison	
COURSE CO-ORDINATOR:	Eve Scopes	Anne Kane—Newsletter and Publicity Co-ordination	
		Val Osborne	

Important Notice: We have a new email address: nillumbik.u3a@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well, it has certainly been a busy and exciting period, especially for those involved in the establishment of the new Eltham campus.

I would like to acknowledge not only the work done by the new Steering Committee members, which has been outstanding, but the additional work undertaken by current committee members. Some already had a full plate but still have found time to provide advice and assistance to the Steering Committee. Their co-operation bodes well for a fruitful and dynamic future.



That co-operation was exemplified when new 'Elthamite' Stuart Winstanley, whose work has been invaluable, was elected as Vice-President at our recent AGM.

It is interesting to note that a number of other U3As are considering a similar structure and are watching our development closely.

Perhaps the most positive outcome to date has been the opportunity to build our relationship and profile with other groups, especially the Council, Nillumbik Community Health, and Living and Learning. Their assistance has been fundamental to the progress we have made.

The Hurstbridge campus continues successfully. Visitors from the U3A Network were impressed by the attendance at our AGM. Many larger U3A's have smaller attendances, so thank you for your continued support.

It seems planning for redevelopment of the Hurstbridge Community Centre is about to begin. With recognition from Council this should be an opportunity to improve our present facility in the years ahead.

The U3A Network organization has been busy developing standardized banners for all U3A's which you will see on our publications. They have also been redeveloping the Network website. Those of you who are interested can go to www.u3anetvic.org.au and watch for the changes.

I look forward to seeing you all at our end of term dinner and quiz night.

Doug Rutherford

PROMOTING THE NEW CAMPUS

As well as preparing courses and sourcing venues it is most important to find the new members. With this in mind stalls have already been held at Eltham Community Market.

They attracted quite a range of interests, with many folk taking membership forms, either for themselves or someone they felt would benefit from joining such a great organisation.



On 28th, 29th and 30th June there will be a booth in The Eltham Village Shopping Centre (Coles Arcade). Helpful and very friendly U3A members will be able to supply information. Memberships applications will be processed and final course lists will be available. A special joining fee of \$30 will allow new members to choose as many courses as they want from both Eltham and Hurstbridge campuses.

THE STEERING COMMITTEE FOR ELTHAM CAMPUS

*The following people have been part of the Steering Committee,
led by Nillumbik U3A President, Doug Rutherford.*

Bill Naim Colleen Gardener John Stuyfbergen Rob Scopes Brian Ellis Stuart Winstanley
Lou Empson Mal Harrop Judy Sharp Rob Rankin Ray Carroll

Assisted by: Andrea Cosentino (NSC) Chris Chapple (NSC) Harry Dobson (U3A Network Vic)
Daryl Brooke (NCHS) and Kevin Gregg-Rowan (NCHS)

AN ENDURING COURSE AT HURSTBRIDGE

Soap Box.

Even though the issues discussed may be controversial the tenor of the group is always friendly and we encourage the art of listening as an essential component of the unit. Soap Box is one of the original courses offered when Nillumbik U3A was first formed and has run continuously each term since then.

Currently it runs on Thursdays between 1.00-2.30pm at Hurstbridge Community Centre.

Originally it operated very informally. Participants could bring up a current issue and it would be discussed.

More recently it has evolved into a slightly more formal approach where each week the first item decided is the issue to be discussed at the next meeting. This gives participants the option of doing some reading and research on the topic if they so wish.

Also in its current form the issues raised and discussed can be either very topical, and or, long standing.

The group feels the need to be educated and informed on some complex issues as well as being able to discuss the more immediate day to day ones. Listed below are a few of the topics raised in the course:



*Climate Change.
Asylum Seekers.
Families
Bullying.
Ethics.
And many more.*

*Carbon Pricing.
Media.
Wikileaks.
Drug Policy.
Arab Spring.*

Brian Mc Lean

NEW COURSES AT HURSTBRIDGE

COMPUTERS FOR BEGINNERS:

Thursdays 2.30-4.00

Course Leader: George Bekier

A great opportunity to learn how to use your computer for email, internet browsing, documents, etc. Plenty of hands-on work with an experienced teacher. If you are interested please ring Eve 9718 2459 so we know whether we have enough takers for the course.

CREATIVE WRITING :

Fridays 9.00-10.30

Course Leader: Gillian Essex

Have you longed to try your hand at writing but are not sure where to start? Do you have life experiences you'd love to turn into a short memoir, disguise as fiction or dress up as poetry? Perhaps you're already a writer and would like to workshop your work with like-minded souls and/or hone your skills with structured exercises? If so, then this could be the class for you. Sessions will be moulded to suit the needs of participants.



BASIC IDEAS IN SCIENCE:

Tuesdays 2.30-4.00

Course leader: Robert Scopes

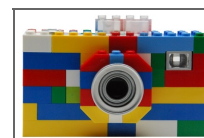
This course will start off with basic and historical concepts in science and mathematics, including the history of numbers, the problems of measurement, and significance of data, statistics and probability. We will introduce some of the simpler ideas in physics: movement, force and energy. "Energy" will lead to discussing how electricity is produced in coal-fired, gas and nuclear power stations, as well as renewable sources. Talking about nuclear reactors leads to the topics of radioactivity, isotopes and elemental structure. Then we can move into chemistry: the history of chemistry from the iron age, through alchemy and phlogiston, to the present time. Participants are welcome to suggest other topics for debate

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY—BEGINNERS

Mondays 11.30—1.00

Course leader: Anne Kane

This course is for folk who want to learn how to download their photos from their camera and create files for storing them. It will also assist with emailing images. We will use a free Google programme called Picasa. Participants will need their own laptops. Course Notes will be provided. The course will begin on Monday 30th July



HAVE YOU HEARD OF OM:NI?

OM:NI is a men's discussion group and a new group has been launched in Eltham with great success. The mission of OMNI is to provide men over 50 with the opportunity to meet and talk with other men about everyday issues and to make new friends in a confidential and non-judgemental atmosphere. The Diamond Creek group were awarded Nillumbik Council 's Australia Day Award of 'Community Group of the Year'.

More information can be obtained from COTA VICTORIA 9654 4443

COURSES: Hurstbridge Campus

Term 3 2012 July 16–September 21

DAY/TIME	CLASS	VENUE	TUTOR
MONDAY			
11.30–1.00— <i>course to start on 30th July</i>	Digital Photography—beginners	To be announced	Anne Kane
1.30 –3.00	Recorder	Allwood House	Group moderated
TUESDAY			
9.45–11.00	Mind Games and Brain Gym	Meeting Room	Group moderated
11.00–12.30	Spanish for Fun	Meeting Room	Vincent Schultz
2.30–4.00	Basic ideas in Science	Meeting Room	Robert Scopes
WEDNESDAY			
10.00–12.00	Contract Bridge	Bowling Club	Howard Kinns
1.30 – 3.30	Art	Hexagon Room	Valerie Osborne
THURSDAY			
9.00—10.30	French	Meeting Room	Group moderated
11.00– 12.30	Music, Music, Music	Meeting Room	Various
1.00—2.30	Current Affairs	Meeting Room	Group moderated
2.30–4.00	Computers—Beginners	Meeting Room	George Bekier
3.00—4.30	Short Story and Poetry	Allwood House	Group moderated
FRIDAY			
9.00—10.30	Creative Writing	TBA	Gillian Essex
1.00–2.30	Craft	Meeting Room	Betty Clark and Helen Gillies

MEET A VOLUNTEER—EVE SCOPES

Eve was raised and educated in Sydney within walking distance of 'The Bridge'. While she acknowledges some memory lapses of her younger years there are some strong and vivid impressions that forged future passions and interests. One such memory is crawling through the bushes on Berry Island in Sydney Harbour with the girl guides. It was on such adventures that interests in the environment, self-sufficiency and sharing music became important themes. Attending church helped to foster a sense of justice and the value of making a contribution.

Eve became a French and German High School teacher where she felt her "abilities were far surpassed by her responsibilities." After Eve met and married Robert they moved to England for five years, living in a little village in Somerset. Her first snowfall still remains a joyful experience. Eve also had great pleasure from a group called the Housewives Register... a group that did NOT want to discuss nappies and housework!

On retirement Eve and Robert moved to Queensland and built an ecological house. Eve's interest in justice and the environment led her to be a long-time member of the Greens and she stood as a candidate for both Federal and State parliament. In order to avoid 'ticks and politics' and to reconnect with family and friends Eve and Robert returned to Victoria. They lived in Koroit for a couple of years where Eve developed another passion – the language and history of Eire.

Now Eve is re-established in Hurstbridge she continues to develop her interests in music and Gaelic while offering her time very generously in a variety of ways. She is course co-ordinator for our U3A in Nillumbik as well as running the recorder group with Di Turner. Eve is a member of Friends of Diamond Creek and helps to proof-read and deliver Roundabout, an excellent Hurstbridge local paper. Thank you Eve for your generosity and for sharing your enthusiasms.



COURSES: Eltham Campus

Term 3 2012 July 16-September 21

MONDAY			
9.00-10.30	Value Investing	Old Eltham Courthouse	Lindsay Byrnes
11.00-12.30	History of Glass	OEC	Mal Harrop
1.00-2.30	Comedy and Politics	OEC	Lyn Hatherly
1.00-2.30	Tai Chi	Eltham Tennis Club	April Edwards
3.00-4.30	French	OEC	Bill Naim
TUESDAY			
11.00-12.30	Life, light, water and energy	NCHC	Andrew Leopld
3.00-4.30	Book Club	NCHC	April Edwards
WEDNESDAY			
11.00-12.30	History/Mystery of Chemistry	NCHC	John Christie
1.00-2.30	Italian	NCHC	Lou Empson
3.00-4.30	Astronomy	NCHC	John O'Connor
THURSDAY			
11.00- 12.30	Life Writing	NCHC	John Stuyfbergen
1.00-2.30	Latin	NCHC	John Stuyfbergen
3.00-4.30	Playing Bridge-beginners	NCHC	Lou Empson

U3A ONLINE

It is possible to go online and access learning. The online courses are becoming more popular and U3A Online is the world-first virtual University of the Third Age. There is more information at u3aonline.org.au

DOES DEMOCRACY WORK?

U3A Melbourne City has developed this blog-based course to run over the final three terms of 2012. The traditional classroom-based discussion has been replaced by a virtual forum and the limitless resources of the Internet. This course is also an opportunity for participants to sharpen their Internet skills. Participants can work at their own pace as they view, comment on, and/or respond to other participants' comments on the issues raised.

Convenor Jack Foks says that, this year, the course is open to members of any U3A without the need to become an associate of U3A Melbourne City. Participants need access to, and some familiarity with, a computer with Internet access. You can enrol anytime until 2 November by sending an e-mail to the tutor, Jack Foks, on jack.foks@bigpond.com providing the name of your U3A. and your membership number.

Important Notice: We have a new email address: nillumbik.u3a@gmail.com