



NEWSLETTER

September 2012



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VICTORIAN SENIORS FESTIVAL 7-13th OCTOBER Carnival of Learning 7th October 10-4pm Federation Square

Once again it will be a special week for Seniors at the beginning of October. The week will begin with the Carnival of Learning at Federation Square. It showcases U3As from all parts of Melbourne and Victoria. We will not be represented there this year as efforts have been focused on the amalgamation of our two campuses. Hopefully Nillumbik U3A will be ready to join U3As from all over Victoria in Federation Square in October next year. We are a work in progress as an amalgamation like ours is unique and hopefully will provide a model for similar endeavours for other U3As.

During Seniors Week there is an abundance of activities to enjoy. Pick up a copy of the Victorian Seniors Festival booklet from your campus or supermarket. It can also be downloaded from www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au Make the most of the offerings.

Nillumbik Council has also listed some local activities for the Victorian Seniors Festival. They can be seen in the latest edition of the Nillumbik News Spring.



As we get ready to celebrate the Seniors festival it is good to reflect on what is available for us in our local community. The efforts of a few have opened up new opportunities for the members of U3A Nillumbik to participate in learning, sharing and socialising. You are invited to make the most of all the opportunities in this organisation and see what possible contribution you can make to helping it grow into a rich and diverse cooperative.

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END OF TERM FUNCTION

Special Guest Speaker to attend the end of term function at Hurstbridge Community Centre

Bruce Bonyhady
Australian of the Year
finalist 2011

Members from both campuses very welcome

Happy Seniors Festival to all

Course news for HURSTBRIDGE



The Craft Group meets at the Hurstbridge Community Centre on Fridays. Betty Clark and Helen Gillies lead a group of enthusiastic crafters who enjoy sharing ideas and picking up new ones. Helen reflects on the activities over the last few terms.....

'We have had a couple of demonstrations from visiting specialists, one on jewellery making and another on wool and yarns. Our latest project is a sewn scarf which we will complete next week. Favourite projects have included the silk scarves, sewing kits, chooks and bead book marks.

The craft group has allowed members to try out new crafts without investing large amounts of money. We trawl the charity shops and search through boxes of treasure to bring in and share materials with the group.

People have joined the group for a variety of reasons – to meet new people, get some new ideas, learn a specific skill and complete UFOs (unfinished objects!). Feedback gives some indication of why this is such a popular group:"

"There is a tremendous sense of achievement completing a project".

"The group has opened up a whole new world".

Helen Gillies



MUSIC TUTTI

Hurstbridge has had a most successful and enjoyable term with a different presenter each week guaranteeing a wide range of musical interests. Our most recent presenter was David Brown, Montsalvat resident maker of Shakuhachi flutes, violins and celli, and a very entertaining speaker. David plays the shakuhachi himself and was able to demonstrate many techniques on the instrument, and speak of its importance in meditation. He also answered the questions posed by our inquiring audience. We all thank him for his willingness to perform and enlighten us and we hope to see him again next term.

Eve Scopes

SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

Nillumbik U3A is looking for a person willing to be a Special Events Coordinator.

This person would be responsible for organizing special events such as AGMs, joint campus lectures and social activities. If you feel you would like to contribute in this way please send an email to u3anillumbik@gmail.com Your services would be very welcome and appreciated at this time of development and growth.

END OF YEAR EVENT



End of Year mixes Melodrama and Music hall

Plans are in hand for a joint campus end of year visit to the Eltham Little Theatre for one of their famed Music Hall nights. The event will be table seating and BYO food, drink and glasses .

Tickets are \$20 and we have an option to book the whole theatre on Saturday December 8.

There are 16 tables of 8 available so start organizing your course table. Prospective members welcome. Booking details available soon.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

TIME FLIES



Our Eltham branch is rapidly becoming well-established. All the initial courses offered in third term were well attended, and the proposed classes for Term 4 have just been published. Brian Ellis, John Stuyfbergen and their course committee have been doing a great job. I thank them on behalf of everyone. A number of new Eltham members indicated they would be volunteers for various activities. Stuart Winstanley would like to hear from anyone who wishes to contribute their expertise – and get preference for places in any course that interests them.

Negotiations with Council for long term accommodation continue. Your committee made a presentation to Council to explain what U3A is and how it can contribute to our community. I believe this was well received and all current councilors are supportive of our endeavours. We thank Chris Chapple for his endeavours to arrange long term shared space with the SES at a peppercorn rent but which were ultimately unsuccessful. Mayor Michael Young and other councilors and officials have also been personally involved in looking for a long term solution for the Eltham branch. We thank them.

Redevelopment of the Hurstbridge Community Centre is currently being planned and I am pleased to report that Nillumbik U3A is regarded as a key tenant. I am hopeful that our request for an independent area comprising two classrooms, office and store-room can be met. Let's make sure our membership remains strong and supports this request.

I should also acknowledge Council's support via grants which have helped keep our finances in order.

It has been great to see some new Eltham members attending courses at our Hurstbridge campus. I encourage members to take advantage of courses at both locations.

Best wishes to all.
Keep learning together for pleasure!

Doug Rutherford

MEET A VOLUNTEER — Stuart Winstanley

Stuart was born in the Victorian country township of Woodend in the foothills of Mount Macedon. He has two younger brothers and an older sister. Stuart found growing up in a country town was a great experience, engendering a deep sense of community spirit and involvement with local organisations be they church, scouts, sporting clubs or the CFA. In a township of around one thousand people everyone knew one another and people would greet each other as they passed. There was a sense of connectedness to the people and place in small towns such as Woodend.

To the east, south and west of Woodend there were, and still are, fairly significant forested areas and Stuart enjoyed hiking, cycling and exploring there during his boyhood and as a youth. Stuart became a leader in the scout movement during his teens, leading hiking expeditions into the forests for days at a time. Memories of camping out under the stars in summer, sheltering in caves or in makeshift shelters in winter were all part of early life in the country.

The Russian satellite "Sputnik", with an entire neighborhood watching heavenward, was a trigger that started Stuart on a career in science. The sixties and seventies saw Stuart working in the chemical, metallurgical, and polymer industries, studying part time and completing degrees in Chemistry and Applied Science. During this time he met and married Cheryl, became a factory manager at a chemical works and then changed careers entirely to work in Information Technology, which in the seventies was in its ascendancy and a truly exciting place to be. Starting out in sales Stuart later moved into project management, developing a career that has taken him as a project leader to work in many countries for over thirty plus years in the industry.

Stuart and Cheryl made Eltham their home in 1980 and have two daughters both of whom have travelled and worked overseas with their partners. Stuart is new to U3A and quickly discovered that it is a valuable community service with a fast growing membership. He is pleased to be able to help as Vice President of our U3A and the members are the beneficiaries of the pivotal role Stuart has played in setting up the Eltham Campus.

Thank you Stuart



ELTHAM CAMPUS NEWS

SUCCESSFUL START

Congratulations. I am delighted to report that the Eltham campus of Nillumbik U3A is truly up and running thanks to your effort and interest. I would particularly like to thank President Doug Rutherford and all those members of the Hurstbridge campus who have helped us to get under way as well of course as the team from our own campus who have driven our progress to date.

Of course, as we keep reminding ourselves **WE ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS (WAAV)**. With the bountiful wisdom of hindsight, we can always do better. Eltham Administration is particularly concerned that some of your offers to lead courses and help with administration have not been followed up as promptly and positively as we would have wished. Our main excuse is that we have had no office to work from and getting the Term 3 course program up and running has been our priority.

One of the most important early decisions made by Eltham Administration recognized the need for some portfolios to be duplicated with Hurstbridge committee members helping and supporting 'Assistants' from the new campus. Thus I have worked with Doug Rutherford, Rob Rankin has worked as Assistant Treasurer and Membership Coordinator with Nillumbik U3A Treasurer Robert Scopes and Mal Harrop has joined Anne Kane's Newsletter and Publicity Committee. In each case I think I can say that there has been strong support when it has been needed and there is no way that our campus could have developed so quickly without Hurstbridge help.

Stuart Winstanley

ACCOMMODATION UPDATE

Lou Empson has done a fantastic job to find the necessary classroom space for our first term program. We now have lease agreements in place with both Nillumbik Community Health Services and with the Living and Learning Centre to cover our immediate classroom needs.

For the record NCHS is a non-government organization reliant on raising funds for its programs from the public and private sectors and on the support of volunteers,. Their support of the Eltham U3A campus has been critical and is very much appreciated. The Living and Learning Centre is managed by Nillumbik Shire and has again been helpful in getting us off the ground.

We are in negotiation with Nillumbik Shire to obtain the following premises at affordable prices:

- An office and meeting room
- A classroom suitable for use as a computer drop in centre (The Rotary Club of Eltham has helped by providing us with 13 computers)
- A large lecture theatre for joint campus lectures and other activities.

Stuart Winstanley and Mal Harrop report that they have had a very encouraging meeting with Council officers as a result of which a report is being prepared for Council recommending work on a venue which we believe will offer us an acceptable short term (3-5years) home. If this is adopted we will have a permanent office, computer drop in centre and meeting room in one location. There is also a prospect of access to a large venue a few times a year under a special rental arrangement.

Mal Harrop adds, " There is no doubt that we have in principle support from both Councilors and Council Officers. As a result of Nillumbik U3A's recent activity and particularly the launch of the Eltham campus, finding a home for us in Eltham has become a priority." We will keep you advised of progress .

ACQUIRING A CHOIR

Those who know our French tutor Bill Naim may also know that he has a fine tenor voice and a love of music. He has spotted a room in our potential new venue which looks ideal for choral practice and has offered to act as choirmaster for the Nillumbik U3A choir. If you can hold a tune and are interested or if you play an instrument which may help the choir to be more than a capella, please let Bill know :

9438 4429 or wna@primus.com.au

SITUATIONS VACANT

The Eltham Campus Admin has several vacancies to fill..

- **Assistant Secretary.** This is a critical role responsible for organizing our basic administrative needs to lighten the load on our Hurstbridge Campus. You will work with them and with the Eltham campus administration to set up snail mail, E-Mail, telephone and face to face communications processes with members and to develop course timetables. The Assistant Secretary will be responsible for setting up opening times and a staff roster when we have our office established.
- **Academic Course Development Coordinator.** Responsible for identifying potential academic courses and recommending these to the committee for inclusion in future programs.
- **Lifestyle and Leisure Course Development Coordinator.** Responsible for identifying potential non-academic courses and activities for inclusion in future programs.
- We also need help from members prepared to spend time in our new campus office when it opens. We anticipate that when our office has been confirmed and renovated by Council, it will open for set hours probably two days a week to handle membership applications, enrolments and enquiries. Hopefully the Assistant Secretary, when he or she steps forward, will coordinate roster arrangements.
- Does anyone know a **sign writer or graphic artist** who can paint an A-Board for us. Please ring Stuart on 9017 4140 if you have a contact.
- **AND.....** Particularly as we have more guest lecturers on our program, it seems a good idea to have a participant on each course prepared to act as course convener. This may involve opening and locking class rooms, ensuring that any necessary audio visual equipment is ready for use and putting the equipment away securely and keeping a roll call of attendees.

ELTHAM CAMPUS TO OFFER A COMPUTER WORKSHOP IN TERM 4

Are you struggling to master your computer's operating system - Windows, Apple Mac or Linux? Would you like help with a particular program - Word, Excel, Email or an Internet browser? Do you need to further develop your usage of iPad, iPhone or other Smartphones?

Tutors will provide ad hoc support for members with questions about computer software or different aspects of computers and peripherals, ie printers, monitors, keyboards, etc
Members with questions about laptop computers are invited to bring their machines and share their problems.

NOTE: Tutors will not offer hardware repairs during these sessions.

Below are some examples of topics that could be covered.

Computer basics for beginners, Email & Internet browsing	Travelling with your laptop, iPad or smartphone	Backup and secure your computer data	Digitise your negatives or slides	Using MS Office products or Open Office Suite
Social networking with Facebook, Twitter etc.	Digitise your vinyl record collection for CD, iPod or MP3	Create DVDs from your holiday photos and movies	Deal with problem audio or video files	Use portable applications
Buy/sell on-line with eBay	Create your own web pages	Set up an internet domain	Set up a home office network	Using browser extension software



HAVE YOU GOT SOME FREE TIME?

Wesley Do Care (a program of Wesley Mission Victoria and funded by DoH) is calling for volunteers to help support isolated older people and those with disabilities living in their own homes. People who have 1 - 2 hours spare a week to spend with someone else, sharing interests, talking at home or going out locally should phone Nikki on 8199 6260 for details. No lifting or domestic work required, as this is a social support program only. Training and support are offered to volunteers.



ENROLMENT INFORMATION for COURSES Term 4

Hurstbridge Campus enrolments for Term 4 can be done as follows:

- At the end of term function on 19th September in the Hexagon Room at Hurstbridge Community Centre.
- By telling your tutor you will continue.
- By contacting Eve (Course Co-ordinator) 9718 2459, email: evenrob@bigpond.com

Eltham Campus enrolments:

- Course offers will be scheduled subject to enrolments. If enrolments exceed course capacity the students may be wait-listed.
- **We are accepting enrolments from current members now by email** to the Eltham Campus administration site u3a.eltham@outlook.com
- If you are a friend of Nillumbik U3A you can enrol and join as a member (\$30 member fee for remainder of 2012) by attending the Old Eltham Courthouse (corner of Brougham St. and Main Rd Eltham) on Monday 10th September between 3pm and 5pm or Monday 17th September between 1pm and 3pm.

Nillumbik U3A end of term function

Wednesday 19th September in the Hexagon Room, Hurstbridge Community Centre
1.00—3.00pm

Guest Speaker is Bruce Bonyhady who is Chairman of Yooralla, President of Philanthropy Australia Council, and Chair of Solve (originally the Centre for Developmental Disability Research)

Enrolments for term 4 courses
and, as always, a **delicious afternoon tea!**

Members from both campuses of Nillumbik U3A and their family and friends
are very welcome.



CLASSICAL MUSIC LOVERS' FEAST

The Diamond Valley Singers will present Alexander's Feast, an oratorio by Handel, at the Uniting Church (Melway 12 B6) on 24th November . Tickets are \$15 and \$10 conc. Bookings and further information from Graham Ford (9439 3267).

***Do your neck, shoulders
and back ache?***

You may like to come to a short course HEALING FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS and learn techniques that will help and have fun at the same time.

Rosie Brock who is a registered nurse is offering to teach a combination of healing therapies including Indian Head Massage. Fridays in Diamond Creek.

A maximum of 6 people to this class

ADVANCE NOTICE AGM NILLUMBIK U3A.

Our AGM will be held at the end of Term 1, 2013 and there will be a need for new committee members from both campuses as some current members are retiring. Please consider whether you would be willing to contribute time and ideas to the smooth running of our U3A as a member of the next committee.

COURSES at ELTHAM CAMPUS term 4 2012 October 8– December 21

DAY/TIME	CLASS	VENUE	TUTOR
Monday			
10.00-11.30am	Computer workshop	Old Eltham Courthouse	Various
10.00-11.30am	Public Speaking and Debating	Old Eltham Courthouse	Mal Harrop
11.30-1.00pm	Creative Writing Poetry Writing	Old Eltham Courthouse	Lyn Hatherley
1.00-2.30pm	Scrabble	Old Eltham Courthouse	Bev Dittman
1.30-3.00pm	Tai Chi	Eltham Tennis Centre	April Edwards
2.30-4.00	French	Old Eltham Courthouse	Bill Naim
Tuesday			
10.00-11.30am	Meditation	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	Beverley Milne
10.00-11.30 1st & 3rd Tuesday	Board & Card Games	Old Eltham Courthouse	Gerard Vander
10.00-11.30	Counted Thread Embroidery	To be advised	Henty Punt
11.30-1.00pm	Science, Maths, Life	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	Andrew Leopold
1.00-2.30pm	Climate Change	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	Gideon Polya
2.30-4.00pm Last Tuesday of month	Last Tuesday Book Club	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	April Edwards
3.00-4.30pm	Wine Appreciation	Old Eltham Courthouse	Karen Coulston
Wednesday			
10.00-11.30am	Ch'i Kung –gentle exercise	Old Eltham Courthouse	Beverley Milne
11.30-1.00pm	The Story of Air	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	John Christie
1.00-2.30pm	Italian	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	Lou Empson
To be confirmed	Bridge	To be confirmed	Lou Empson
Thursday			
11.30-1.00pm	Life Writing	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	John Stuyfenberg
1.00-2.30pm	Introduction to Latin	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	John Stuyfenberg
2.30-4.00pm	Astronomy & Cosmology	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	John O'Connor

COURSES at ELTHAM CAMPUS term 4 2012 October 8 - December 21 continued

Friday			
10.00-11.30	The History of Modern Art	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	Guy Palmer
11.30-1.00pm	Human Rights & the Welfare State	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	Brian Ellis
1.00-2.30pm	The 1936 Nazi Olympics	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	Bill Murray
2.30-4.00pm	An Introduction to Some Bioethical Issues	Nillumbik Community Health Centre	Robert Young Janna Thompson Justin Oakley

COURSES at HURSTBRIDGE CAMPUS Term 4 2012 October 8 - December 21

DAY/TIME	CLASS	VENUE	TUTOR
Monday			
1.30-3.00	Recorder Group	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	Astronomy and the Cosmos	Meeting Room	John O'Connor
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	Bronwyn, Eve and Tess
11.00-12.30	Music Tutti	Meeting Room	Various
1.00-2.30	Current Affairs	Meeting Room	Group moderated
3.00-4.30	Short Story, Essays & Poetry	Allwood House	Group moderated
Friday			
9.00-10.30	Creative Writing	Meeting Room	Gillian Essex
9.30-11.00 19th, 26th Oct 2nd, 9th Nov	Healing for Family and Friends	Diamond Creek	Rosie Brock
1.00-2.30	Craft	Meeting Room	Betty Clark, Helen Gillies

Thanks to all members who have helped to produce this newsletter.
Contributions, editing and assistance with distribution have been greatly appreciated.

Anne Kane