

TERM DATES 2019

4 February – 29 March
29 April – 21 June
22 July – 13 September
14 October – 6 December

Prior to the commencement of Term 1 the Centre will be open for enrolments and the registration of new members between Tuesday 29 January and Friday 1 February 2019. Information on membership renewals for current members can be found on page 3 of this newsletter. Full enrolment details will appear in the January newsletter.

Summer Closure

Following the Christmas Party on 7 December the U3A Centre will be closed and will not re-open until 29 January 2018.

Management Committee 2018 – 2019

Office Bearers:

President: Lorraine Beukers
 Vice President: Reg Millar
 Secretary: Sue Moll
 Treasurer: Rodney Neasbey

Committee Members:

Michael Bowden
 David Burr
 Terry Feltham
 Gail Mendoza
 Karen Roberts
 Michael Rogers

Auditor: David Johnson

Public Officer: Sue Moll

Office Location:

The U3A Centre
 2 Lochinvar Place
 Port Macquarie 2444

Phone No: 6584 4192

Hours: 9.30am – 3.30pm

Website: www.pmhu3a.org.au

From the President...

What a busy and exciting time it has been over the last few weeks and in the lead up to our Christmas break.

We had a wonderful Melbourne Cup luncheon again this year and I thank Jacqui and the many helpers on the day. Next came the AGM and we welcome two new members to the Committee, Gail Mendoza and Terry Feltham, as well as those returning, experienced Committee members.

Thank you to retiring Committee members Jacqui Everett and Greg Dark. Both give so much of their time and energy to U3A and I know it is greatly appreciated. Jacqui will remain as Catering Manager and Greg as 'Weeds & Seeds' Manager.

With Tony Dawson vacating the role of President, I thank him on behalf of all U3A members for his contribution and guidance over the last three years. Tony will remain involved in the Committee and certainly as our Newsletter Editor. He has left me very big shoes to fill as President but I am looking forward to the opportunities and challenges of the future and working with the Committee and all members of U3A.

There are many members who work behind the scenes. I would like to acknowledge their contribution to the smooth running of our Centre and many will continue to work over the summer break: Sue Clifford, who produces the newsletter; Jennifer Dorrington, our Office Manager, who will be busy cleaning cups and working on the office roster; the IT Team of Nick Ogbourne, Mike Matthews and Andrew Moll; the Convener Support Team members; our garden team who will see that the garden is watered and kept tidy; Karen Roberts,

our Course Coordinator, putting together the program and allocating rooms; the volunteers who come in to print the programs and newsletters; Mike Bowden, our Building Manager, who, with our maintenance volunteers, will make sure all is in good 'nick' for next term. Last but not least I want to acknowledge the 'clean up' fairies (people) who turn up late in the afternoon to make sure the garbage bins are emptied, the urns ready for the next morning, biscuits in the boxes etc, etc. I am sure there are others who also help quietly in the background.

Lastly, a big thankyou to our most important people, our Course Conveners, without whom we would not have a U3A, and all our Members for your support. It is this teamwork that makes our U3A the success it is.

Our next function is the Christmas Party and I hope to see many of you there. These functions take a lot of organising and preparation, so if you are able to give some time on the day to help set up or clean up it would be greatly appreciated.

As this is the last Newsletter for the year, on behalf of myself and the Committee I would like to wish all U3A members a safe, happy and healthy holiday break and come back ready to enjoy all U3A has to offer.

Lorraine Beukers
 President PMHU3A ■

**Merry Christmas
 and
 Happy New Year**

Meet our new President

Lorraine Beukers' professional background is in financial management, mainly in the Manufacturing sector of Inventory and Production Planning. She has been married to Frank for over 50 years and has always been involved in his business in an administrative capacity, managing the accounts and keeping the office running.



Over the years Lorraine and Frank lived in Tamworth and many Sydney suburbs before moving to Port Macquarie in May 2011 to semi-retire. They have three children and ten grandchildren, though unfortunately none of them live close by.

After moving to Port, Lorraine joined the Pink Ladies and works one day a week at the Hospital. She also became actively involved with U3A, serving as an ordinary member of the Management Committee before taking on the position of Treasurer which she held from 2012 to 2017. During that time she was instrumental in the acquisition and development of our current premises and has served informally and officially as our Building Manager since we moved into them in 2014. She thoroughly enjoys her work at U3A and, even as President, still hopes to be able to enrol in several courses next year.

Her other interests, when time permits, include enjoying the beautiful beach walks of Port, kayaking on the canals, ten pin bowling, fishing and the occasional book.

We congratulate Lorraine on her election as President and wish her all the best in her new and demanding role. ■

Melbourne Cup

Fifty-five members, elegantly attired, gathered at the Centre on 6 November for one of our major social functions of the year.

They were met in the reception area by trainee bookies Mike Bowden and Reg Millar who ran the sweepstakes on



the day. Next stop was the bar where David Johnson, Tony Dawson and Frank Beukers were on hand to serve champagne and soft drinks.

Making itself comfortable, the crowd settled around the courtyard tables and there was a hum of conversation as Bev Izard carried around a plate of nibbles.

The sound of Lorraine Beukers' klaxon heralded lunch and a queue formed at



the food table where Jacqui Everett and her team served a delicious chicken salad lunch.

Before we knew it, it was time for the race and people threaded their way to rooms 10 and 8 where Nick Ogbourne had set up the broadcast on the large TVs. The mounts and their jockeys were ready to go and excitement grew as the gates flew open. As the horses entered the finishing straight the result



Annual General Meeting

The 2018 AGM was held 9 November with thirty two members in attendance. Bob Birrer, the U3A Network NSW Regional Representative, was also present as an observer.

After a welcome from outgoing President Tony Dawson apologies were received and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed. Tony then spoke briefly to the Annual Report which had been made available to members prior to the meeting. No matters were raised and the Report was approved.

The meeting appointed John Jones as Returning Officer to conduct the election for office bearers and committee members for 2018 – 2019. None of the positions were contested and all candidates duly elected. A full list appears on page 1 of this newsletter.

Incoming President Lorraine Beukers took the Chair, thanking members for honouring her with the position and undertaking to work hard on their behalf.

After re-appointing the Honorary Auditor and Public Officer to their positions the meeting was closed. ■

was far from certain but at the end it was 1. Cross Counter, 2. Marmelo, 3. A Prince Of Arran. The sweepstake winners collected their money and it was all over until the first Tuesday in November next year.



A big thankyou to everyone involved, particularly to those who prepared and served the food, set up the furniture and, not least, cleared everything away afterwards to leave the Centre neat and tidy. ■

New Committee Members

Gail Mendoza is a retired Psychologist who, during her professional career, worked as Assistant to the Dean of Science at the University of New England, providing support to academic committees and serving on selection committees for both academic and administrative staff. She was a member of the Vice Chancellor's Equal Employment Opportunities Committee responsible for the oversight and promotion of effective policies and procedures, as well as the preparation of reports to Academic Board. She also worked with TAFE as a member of various committees dealing with matters such as student discipline, violence on campus, NAIDOC Week and special events.



Gail's involvement in community service extends well beyond her academic life. In Armidale she was a member of the 'Safety House' Committee and coordinator of the volunteer program. She also served on the management committees of Lifeline Armidale, the Armidale Women's Housing Group and Armidale Women's Shelter Inc with responsibilities for policy development, fund raising, counselling and community liaison.

Capping this impressive list has been Gail's work with Zonta International Service Club since 1995. She has held Club positions such as Vice President, Chair Status of Women Committee, Chair ZISVAW Committee, Chair Young Women in Public Affairs Annual Award, and District Chair of the Zonta United Nations Committee.

Gail has been a member of U3A since 2015 and has contributed numerous presentations to the Art and Culture Appreciation Group. She brings a wealth of experience to our management committee and is a very welcome new member.



Terry Feltham joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1960 specialising in communications. He was commissioned Lieutenant in 1972 and afterwards took command of the Heavy Landing Craft HMAS *Brunei*. He was later appointed to the command of HMAS *Wollongong* and subsequently command of the Primary Naval Communications facility before retiring from the Department of Defence in 1984. He then spent nine years as a Senior Executive in the Department of Aboriginal Affairs in Canberra.

Terry and his wife Bev were married in 1978 and have four children and several grandchildren. Bev worked in Canberra as PA to the general manager of a consulting engineering company but in 2000 they moved to Little Hartley just west of the Blue Mountains, where they spent fourteen years before making the journey to the coast. They now live at Lake Cathie and joined U3A in 2017. Both are enrolled in the Australian History class to which Terry contributes regular presentations. He is also a member of the Convener Support Team.

Over the past few years Terry has been engaged in research for a recently published book by naval historian Ian Pfennigwerth, *Bravo Zulu Vol. 2: Honours and Awards to Australian Naval People 1975 – 2014*. Released from that task, Terry will now have more time to devote to U3A and we'll do our best to keep him busy. ■



What's On!

U3A LAURIETON VOICES CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Friday 30 November 2018

2.00pm

Laurieton School of Arts

Bold Street, Laurieton

Cost: \$5 donation includes
afternoon tea.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday 7 December 2018

5.30pm

Garden Courtyard, PMHU3A Centre

Catered by XS Foods. BYO drinks

Cost \$25.

Tickets available at the office.

Membership Renewals

Membership renewals for 2019 are now open. The annual fee of \$40 is payable by 8 February 2019 after which an additional re-joining fee of \$5 will be due. Early payment would be appreciated.

The simplest way to renew your membership is via the web site. Log in with your user name and password, go to Members and click Application Form. You can then renew on line or print a form with the information that we have on file about you. Please check carefully that all details are correct.

Alternatively, you may fill in a blank form and return it to the office or post it, with your payment, to Port Macquarie Hastings U3A, PO Box 1210, Port Macquarie, 2444.

Payments can be made by cash, cheque or electronic funds transfer (EFT) through your bank, but we do not have credit or debit card facilities.

Banking Details: Account Name:
PMHU3A Inc BSB: 721 – 000
Account No: 75592.

U3A Laurieton Voices farewells James Hannah

James Hannah OAM, who served as conductor of U3A Laurieton Voices for the past eight years, recently retired from the choir. James's passion for music is well known and the choir made great strides under his direction. All its members are truly grateful for his hard work and dedication.



James Hannah

James's place has been filled by Iain Pole for whom music is his life's work. Iain is a music teacher as well as the



Iain Pole, new musical director and conductor of Laurieton Voices

conductor of Sinfonia Mid-North Coast and the Camden Haven Concert Band. He has filled in for James on several occasions and the choir is privileged to have him as its new musical director and conductor.

U3A Laurieton Voices will hold its Christmas concert on Friday 30 November at 2.00 pm in the Laurieton School of Arts. Admission is by a \$5 donation which includes afternoon tea. Proceeds will be used to assist a young girl who is going to the USA for an operation to restore her hearing. ■

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PMHU3A Newsletter

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NAME BADGES – ALWAYS wear your name badge when attending classes and U3A activities.

Write your emergency contact details on the back of your badge.

Any member who does not have a name badge should contact the office.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR EMAIL – Please inform the Office on 6584 4192 or via email on office@pmhu3a.org.au

pmhu3a.org.au if you move house or change your email address.

NEWSLETTER – Contributions are welcome but we reserve the right to edit material submitted for publication. Copyright of original material remains with the author.

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