

Newsletter

August 2021

From the President

Welcome all to semester 2. Exciting to meet up again for a brief period before this current lockdown. Your Committee worked hard to make sure the room was ready, including removal of cobwebs and dust which had been accumulating since last March!! They are a great team, all willing to help this organisation run as smoothly as possible under the current conditions.

I wish to take this opportunity to especially thank our secretary, Anne Bittner, for an incredible effort, often above and beyond her job description. As well as the expected duties, Anne has provided us with a regular newsletter and has been a great ambassador working with the Council in ensuring there will be a suitable room for us in the proposed facility to be built at Wareena Park as soon as funding can be obtained.

When our next AGM rolls around in January it would be great if we could expand our Committee to include others who would like to guide this U3A over the next few years. Please consider whether you could become involved and chat to one of the existing Committee about the job. Of course we are always looking for new/different courses to run to interest members so if you have ideas or know someone who might like to be involved, let us know.

Current situation

Face-to-face courses are suspended until further notice. Some courses may continue online. First Nations course participants will be sent course material by email. Other tutors may follow suit.

Mahjong will not proceed and neither will the Introduction to Shares. Basic French has some participants and more would be welcome. Tell your friends.

Access to our room at the Turf Club is not possible until Racing Victoria allow spectators onto racecourses. Individual Turf Clubs must comply with these strict bio-security regulations, Your Committee is in regular contact with the CEO of the Wangaratta Turf Club who will welcome us back as soon as the regulations are lifted.

From the Committee

- We have a Facebook page, thanks to Ian Wilson. So all you facebookers go have a look and like it or post.

<https://www.facebook.com/U3A-Wangaratta-111260097725447>

- The Constitution is being updated because it is out of date and a draft will be presented to Members at the 2021 AGM. If acceptable, the changed Constitution will be presenting for adoption at the 2022 AGM.
- A letter of support for the Wareena Park development has been sent to Council for inclusion in the funding requests. This is moving faster than expected and the old swimming pool has already been filled in.

- 10 mobility chairs have been ordered as a result of the RSL grant submitted by Past President Lorraine Crellin.
- A new headset and adapter has been ordered for use with the PA system. This microphone can be cleaned with an alcohol wipe.
- Sessions from five different courses will be listed in the Seniors Week booklet. Non-members have to book with the Secretary so that any Covid restrictions can be monitored. October 3 – 17.
- U3A Wangaratta will be hosting the North East Regional meeting on 7 September on Zoom.
- Room bookings at the library, the Digital Hub, the Oxley Hall, and the Town and Country will be made up to December in case we can't access our room.

Looking forward

Let's push through this and look forward to getting together again and having some laughs and robust discussion. Courses under consideration for 2022:

- Basic Italian
- More than Music
- Scribblers
- Introduction to Economics

Do think about nominating for Committee. You won't be dropped in the deep end – mentoring is available. Just ask.

Anne Bittner,
Secretary,
U3A Wangaratta Inc.