



PELICAN NEWSLETTER

July 2024

Winter Edition



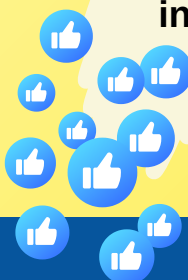
*Painting by Alison James from the Acrylic Art Class U3A

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A very big welcome to all new Members!
You can keep up with all the latest U3A information on our Facebook Page.



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello Everyone,

At this time of the year some of our members head north, towing their caravan towards warmth, sandy beaches and lobster diners. For those of us remaining on Westernport we shiver in the rain and howling winds under dark skies. Still it could be worse just imagine how our Olympic athlete's felt at the opening ceremony in Paris dressed to impress in the pouring rain. Wherever you are reading this I hope you are well and healthy.

Several new courses have been added to our range and we continue to seek out new and unusual subjects to offer to our membership.

This is not accidental, this is quite deliberate and as a result of a lot of dedicated work by your committee. Hastings U3A is now larger than it has ever been with 335 members, and still rising. Our membership comes from far and wide across Westernport with a surprising number from Bittern, Crib Point, Somers, Balnarring and Merricks. To our new members I would like to say thank you for joining and please make as much use of our courses as you can. To our existing members, of which there are over 200, thank you for staying with us and please continue to enjoy all that we have to offer.

In our last Newsletter I gave you the sad news that we were unlikely to return to the purpose built Seniors Learning Hub and that there were difficulties with our existing temporary accommodation in Hastings Community Hall. The situation remains the same and despite several attempts on our part to solicit further information on either of these matters the Shire has offered no further detail. One thing is certain, to make the hall roof leak proof we will need to move out and cease using the facilities in Hasting Community Hall for quite some time. Naturally we are insisting that we be given time to plan the move and physically execute it but as yet we do not know when the move will occur. As soon as we know our members will be informed.

There is a push by the Shire to optimise the utilisation of the buildings they manage. This means that they want buildings occupied by long term groups requiring little on-going management. Our licence agreement for the SLH falls neatly into that description but unfortunately fell victim to contractual problems. HU3A provides a very valuable service to the Westernport community through the provision of interesting educational courses, gentle physical exercise and lively and welcoming social interaction. We will continue to pursue the Shire to secure a suitable, long term location for our vital local group.

Mike Wright



Jill McLachlan



The winter months are a bit quieter for some of our classes, but we've still managed to get a few new courses up and running – Introduction to Mahjong (you can't join now the course has started), a Craft Group and Introduction to Acting, both of which currently have vacancies. We're also re-running the First Response to Cardiac Events course which proved so successful last term and our Computers for Beginners and Computer Tasks courses are operating again this term with a new tutor, Tonia Doyle.

Our main problem moving forward is going to be where we run all our classes. The Seniors' Hub that was purpose-built by the Shire for us and the Senior Citizens Club (and which we had to hurriedly vacate in mid 2022) is still all closed up and does not seem likely to be repaired or rebuilt in the near future. In 2022 a number of different community organisations helped out by offering us temporary accommodation, but now that we are moving into our third year with them, they are, quite understandably, wanting their space back for their own needs. And the Hastings Hall where we have our office and a number of teaching spaces is in need of major and urgent repairs which the Shire is planning to start later this year. Our President, Mike, is working very hard with Mornington Peninsula Shire to find alternative accommodation/s for us and we'll keep you updated as things progress.

Life was never meant to be easy!!

Jill McLachlan

UBA HASTINGS
UNIVERSITY OF THE BAY
CRAFT GROUP
WITH LEADER ROS STIRLING
2ND AND 4TH WEDNESDAY
FROM 2.00 TO 4.00 PM
AT WALLAROO COMMUNITY HOUSE
BRING ALONG YOUR CRAFT PROJECTS AND MATERIALS AND JOIN OTHER LIKE-MIND CRAFT ENTHUSIASTS

UBA HASTINGS
UNIVERSITY OF THE BAY
COMPUTER TASKS
A BROAD-BASED COURSE TO HELP YOU ORGANISE FILES AND FOLDERS AND USE PRINTERS AND SCANNERS. IT WILL HELP YOU TO USE THE INTERNET AND EMAIL AS WELL AS SOLVE PROBLEMS THAT YOU HAVE.

UBA HASTINGS
UNIVERSITY OF THE BAY
First Response to Cardiac Events
Tutor: Kay Aldridge
Do you know what to do in other situations? Are you confident enough to help someone in need? This is a practical course for you and your family. It will give you the knowledge and skills to help someone in need. This is a practical course for you and your family. It will give you the knowledge and skills to help someone in need. This is a practical course for you and your family. It will give you the knowledge and skills to help someone in need.

UBA HASTINGS
UNIVERSITY OF THE BAY
BEGINNER'S COMPUTING
With Tonia Doyle
Computing can be intimidating, so if you would like to join a friendly helpful group sign up today. So many opportunities are now available online so start learning about this now. This is an introductory course to help you organise files and folders, use printers and scanners, help you to use the internet and solving as well as solving problems that you may have.

UBA HASTINGS
UNIVERSITY OF THE BAY
INTRODUCTION TO ACTING
With Peter Eddy
You can't handle the truth Well...can you? Life is but a stage, and all the men and women are merely players. Hastings UBA is offering to all, the opportunity to participate in an intense and immersive acting course conducted by Peter Eddy, a respected Community Theatre troupe and an accomplished playwright, producer and director. This class will run for 8 weeks on a Friday morning from 10 am to 12 noon in the Hastings Community Hall, starting on 9th August. At the conclusion of the course, the troupe will perform at Hastings Hall in front of family and friends the winning but controversial one act play, "Once upon a time in America".

This is a four week course
Starting Monday 12th
August from 11am - 12pm
Hastings Hall

*This Month's
feature*

Dance Group With Sue Gibson



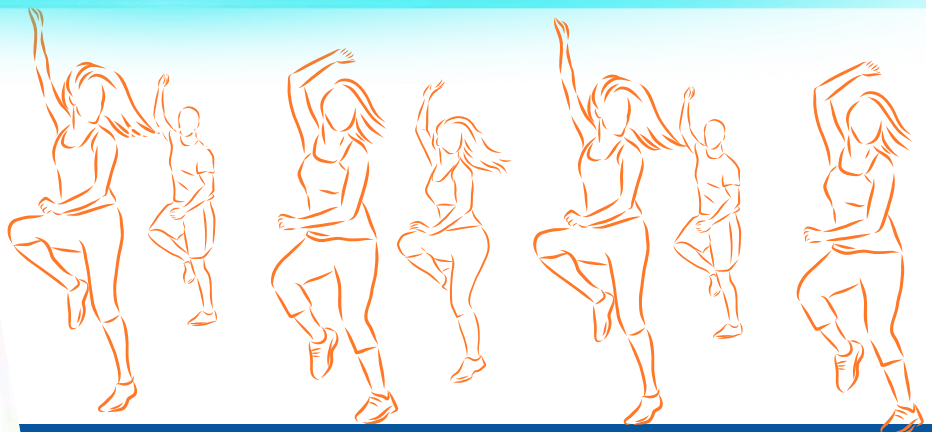
I became a member of U3A after retiring and my husband's passing 11 years ago. I went on a trip to Inverloch with Pam Garnham from U3A and enjoyed the friendly group.

I had always danced, Rock and Roll and Line Dancing.

When they were starting up a Dance group I had the right music and knew some dances! We originally started with another leader but I took her place when she was unable to continue. That was about 8 years ago. It's been a fun time, lots of laughs, keeping fit and having fun. Thanks to my fellow dancers for new moves and music!

Sue Gibson

The Dance Group is one of the most popular groups in U3A with numbers always increasing. It's a fun way of keeping fit for everyone!



Featured Group



Philosophy GROUP

With Roger Stanley

The members of the usa philosophy group, have several experiences of reading philosophy over their varied lives. From Plato, Socrates, Russell, Germaine Greer, and John Paul Sartre to current and recent intellectuals from the USA, England and Australia. We discuss the VIRTUES of each and consider their place in today's complicated society.

We reveal our inner thoughts and beliefs without any recrimination, and treat each other and the community in which we live with respect.

As the co-ordinator I can call on a most varied and to me exciting life when at 4 years old, I was one of a million children evacuated from the major cities in England to various villages in the UK and also Australia and Canada.

Parents were not told where their children were being evacuated, but each child had a luggage label with their name and address for the foster families to notify the parents where their children were. I was one of the lucky ones with a wonderful family life in a village not far from London.

When being returned after 6 years I felt alienated from "my mother"? So at 11 years old I ran away back to the life I loved. I was legally fostered, then at 18 years old I was advised that the name I was known as, was not my birth name. In modern terms I had an identity crisis and despite the wonderful life I'd had I "ran away" again; to Jersey in the Channel Isles and worked there until I joined the RAF and then volunteered for overseas and served in the Middle East.

After serving for 5 years and back in England, I met Jean and we still talk about our meeting and togetherness today. We paid our 10 quid in 1969 and have lived locally since 1974.

I reckon the study of Philosophy is inherent in my day-to-day survival.

Roger Stanley

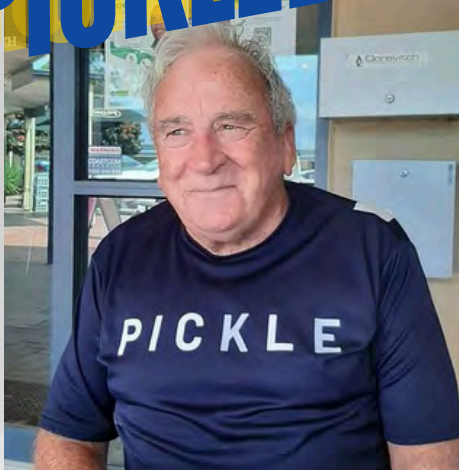
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90th

Editor's Note:
 Roger is celebrating
 his 90th birthday this year and we
 would like to congratulate
 him on this milestone!



PICKLEBALL

With Brendan McCormack



Now in our third term at Bittern, I would like to say that we have a great group of people who are enjoying the game, probably between 12 and 16 regular attendees, we are at beginners level, in most phases of the game, but certainly improving, strictly fun, we do not take it too serious.

As with all physical activities, injuries can occur from time to time, unfortunately we have had a few, so hopefully those with injuries are recovering slowly...

As it is a fairly new activity, no doubt time will be our judge as to its success, whether we stay pickled or not.....

Thank You

Brendan.



Acrylic Art Group

Our Acrylic Art Group on Wednesday's is a very happy group. Our leader is Denise Bond. We are always ready to welcome new members to our group. The painting on the left is by one of our students, Alison James. We give each other support and help and you are free to paint whatever you like. There are no rules here!

Please consider coming along to see what we do. Wednesdays from 10am-12pm at the Uniting Church Hall, Hastings

Cabin & Caravan GROUP



Join us as we travel to the beautiful Limestone Coast in South Australia. We will be staying at Sea Vu Caravan Park, Robe on 17th November for 7 nights. The Park overlooks Guichen Bay and has direct access to coastal walking/cycle trails. A 5 mins walk along a lane way will bring you to Robe town centre for shopping and restaurants. All members of the cabin and caravan group have received details of how to book. If you would like to join us and enjoy dining out, Happy Hour, BBQ's, visits to wineries and other local attractions please enrol in our group.



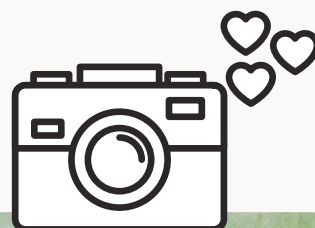
Views of Robe, South Australia



Attention all keen photographers!



If you're a keen photographer you may like to send your favourite views of Westernport to show how beautiful our area is! I would like to have the best photo used as a cover photo for the next edition for The Pelican Newsletter. Send your photos to "Newsletter Editor, Cover Photo Competition" email to jreyles11@gmail.com



German for Beginners



Tutor: Peter Weber

This class has been running for several years. Class members' skill at speaking German ranges from newcomers, to moderately good speakers.

Students learn about aspects of Germany's language and culture, and practice speaking the language.

We meet at Hastings Community Health Centre, 185 High Street, on Tuesdays during term time, Classes run from 1pm to approx 3pm.

The tutor is Peter Weber, who was born and grew up in Germany. Enrolment inquiries should be made through the U3A office, during our normal office hours.



Some of our other Groups

See our full range of courses in the U3A Office

Hastings Hall,
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
10am- 12pm



Cycling Group



Cycling is one of the few semi-vigorous activities we oldies actual participate in. Many of us cycle alone and some of us cycle in groups. Either way cycling over the winter period is a double edged sword. Prior to getting up the prospect is daunting and once we are on the saddle and pumping -it's still daunting but beneficial. Getting your leg muscles working and your heart beating rapidly is good for your wellbeing and good for your health.

The best part about it (for those of us resurrecting our forgotten skills) e-bikes make it much easier to tackle hills even with opposing wind direction (and there's quite a bit of that on Westernport). So come on, get on your bike!



We meet at
The Pelican Cafe on Thursday's at 09.00
Bittern Station on Sundays at 09.30
Occasionally we have away days which can be anywhere at any time.

So give me a call first or you'll be billy no mates.

Mike Wright
0481 414 227

*To all
Groups!*

For inclusion in the next
Newsletter
please send me your
articles by email.
jreyles11@gmail.com

HAHAHA





Dear Tutors and Members

Over the past few weeks we have encountered several instances where members and tutors have made changes to courses and activities without first seeking approval from our Course Coordinator and Committee.

Please note that any request for changes to scheduled courses/activities should be directed to our Course Coordinator Jill McLachlan by email: courses@u3ahastings.org.au - please do not make or request any arrangements on behalf of HU3A direct with staff at any of our venues.

Amendments to courses/activities may involve extra expenditure which would need Committee approval. In addition amendments need to be made to posters, course brochures, website/umas, Facebook advertising, insurance cover and all enrolled members need to be notified by email.

Jill and her team have systems in place to cope with any changes and where possible we will try to accommodate your requests. We do not wish to curb your enthusiasm we politely ask for your cooperation in following the correct procedure.

Non attendance of courses

If you are enrolled in table tennis, pickleball, watercolours, current affairs, philosophy, dancing for fun and fitness, French for Beginners or Italian please let us know if you no longer wish to attend. These courses are at or nearing full capacity and we need to provide availability for those on waiting lists and for new members. If you no longer wish to be enrolled in any of these or other courses please advise by email to: courses@u3ahastings.org.au or contact our office.

Photocopying

Our venue hire contracts do not include photocopying services. Please do not ask staff at our venues for photocopies unless you wish to pay for the service yourself. At the present time all photocopying must be carried out at our Office at Hastings Hall where we have several large printers available for this task. For 2025 it is our intention to provide a HU3A photocopier to selected venues which will be more convenient for those needing this facility.

Hastings U3A needs to maintain a good relationship with our venue providers and ensure our members are kept up to date with accurate information on courses/activities. Your cooperation is required to ensure our U3A operates in an efficient and organised manner.

Thank you for reading.

Mike Wright
President
Hastings U3A Inc



If you have good organizational skills and would like to be a part of our team of volunteers please contact U3A for more information.

**Minutes
Secretary**



**We need a minutes
Secretary for our
Committee meetings.
If you think you could do
this, please contact U3A
Hastings.**

U3A Committee Members contact details



President
Mike Wright
0481 414 227



Vice President
Graeme Mackenzie
0407 590 830



Treasurer
Ian Barron
0478624 658



Secretary
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Course Co-Ordinator
Jill McLachlan
0400 912 112



Membership
Marilyn Ransome
0412 727 020



Health & Safety
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0424 434 401



Publicity/ Promotions
Julie Wright
0449 900 264



Office Manager
Colleen Kitchen



Newsletter
Jan Eyles
0403 180 589



Grants
Eric Lindner



Welfare Officer
Wendy Melling



Minutes Secretary
Vacant



Events Set-Up
David Florance
0412 556 764



Events Coordinator
Vacant