



U3A FRANKSTON INC.

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MID-YEAR NEWSLETTER

July 2009

Supported by the Victorian Government

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MID YEAR PARTY LUNCH

12:00 noon
Tuesday, 21 July 2009

UNITING CHURCH HALL
HIGH STREET FRANKSTON

**IT IS TIME FOR US ALL TO GET TOGETHER AGAIN
TO CELEBRATE BEING MEMBERS OF FRANKSTON U3A.
SO COME ALONG AND JOIN THE FUN WITH YOUR
FELLOW MEMBERS FROM ALL TUTOR GROUPS.**

**DONATIONS FOR HAMPERS AND RAFFLE PRIZES
WILL BE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED
IN THE OFFICE UNTIL 17TH JULY.**

ACCOMMODATION FOR U3A FRANKSTON Inc.

A comprehensive report from David Abbott, Coordinator — Accommodation

Since my last report in the Newsletter in 2008 there has been some progress made, but still nothing definite to the solution of our accommodation problem.

Peter Harrison, Manager Aged Services, Frankston City Council (FCC) showed us a defunct tennis club site in Gretana Crescent, off Carramar Drive, which in turn is off Karingal Drive and on a bus route to Karingal Shopping Centre.

Your Accommodation Sub-Committee was not overly impressed, being in favour of pursuing our “Expression of Interest” in Milpara.

The FCC is now developing a proposal to convert Milpara into a Family and Community Hub. U3A has prepared and submitted a detailed proposal to use part of Milpara. This will be examined, along with proposals from other Frankston organisations providing Family Support Services, and then the FCC will make a decision on how Milpara will be developed.

Your Sub-Committee has also made further approaches to Frankston Councillor, Christine Richards (South-West Ward); and both the FCC Executive Officer, Mr George Modrich and General Manager—Communities, Ms Gillian Kay, who all attended a meeting held at U3A office on Friday, 22 May at which the current situation was reviewed and a decision was taken to adopt a

second, but different approach for future negotiations.

Ms Gillian Kay has experience in conducting “Value Management Workshops”, a technique for finding possible solutions for seemingly insolvable problems. The way these Workshops are conducted is to apply a “Clients List” of its needs, prioritised into:

- Must have;
- Should have;
- Could have

to a range of alternatives.

The FCC will supply a list of possible buildings and sites and U3A will list its needs. All members are invited to assist develop the “Needs” list. After this has been done, a Workshop will be set up and, hopefully, we can then move forward.

*David Abbott
Co-ordinator — Accommodation*

Here is a preliminary draft of our 'NEEDS' list with a synopsis of the ideas your Accommodation Committee has developed to date. We expect our workshop with Frankston Council to take place in late July and input from any and all of our members will be appreciated.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU, OUR MEMBERS, TO GIVE US FEEDBACK BY SUBMITTING YOUR OWN IDEAS TO OUR U3A OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

FRANKSTON U3A RE-LOCATION WISHLIST		
MUST HAVES	SHOULD HAVES	COULD HAVES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 X General Classrooms* • 1 x dedicated Computer Classroom* • 2 x Toilets* • 1 x Office Facility* • 1 x Lounge Area* <p><small>* Provide these facilities by either moving existing portables or by providing new/existing structures</small></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Onsite Parking for > 30 vehicles • Accessible by Public Transport • Pleasant surroundings (eg. grassy area, landscaping, shrubs & trees) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 3rd General Classroom • Space & capacity to expand to accommodate ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ 500 members by 2012 ~ 750 members by 2015 ~ 1000 members by 2020 • Onsite Parking for > 50 vehicles • An Outdoor Common Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Canteen / Kitchen • A General Purpose Hall, for activities such as ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Choir *Art & Craft displays *Film days / evenings *AGM's *Tai Chi *Yoga *Fitness classes

TUTORS NEEDED

DO YOU HAVE A SUBJECT of which you are particularly fond, and would like to pass the pleasures of that subject on to others?

This could be your opportunity.

Frankston U3A is looking for new tutors and new subjects to add to its already impressive line-up of courses for 2010.

To get the process under way, you will need to submit a course outline (including any special requirements and class numbers) for approval by the Committee.

All submissions will be faithfully and fairly evaluated; remembering that the more interesting and diversified classes we can offer can only enhance the appeal and benefits to our members.

Think about it. But not for too long! Next year's program is already being formulated!

Members meeting with Committee to put a point of view

There are two avenues open for members to speak to the Committee.

- 1 **By calling for a Special General Meeting**
This is done by writing to the Secretary advising the reason for requesting the meeting and having the signatures of **five percent of members** supporting the request. The Special General Meeting will then be convened with the subject matter of the request as the Agenda item.
- 2 **By writing to the Secretary** seeking an invitation to attend a Committee Meeting in order to discuss a specific matter (to be stated in the letter). The Committee will consider this letter and may invite the member to attend a subsequent meeting. Where several members are interested in the discussion it will be necessary for them to nominate **one** spokesperson to speak on their behalf.

NEWS FROM THE ART ROOM

Over the years, many of our students have been encouraged to exhibit their art works in Art Shows. Some have sold paintings and to do so is a big thrill.

This term, Brenda Hunt from the Monday "Water Colours" Group exhibited her lovely work at the Flinders Art Show (Queen's Birthday weekend) and sold a painting. Her paintings of birds are delightful and she deserved to sell her work.

Well done, Brenda.

Jeannie Laine (Art Tutor)

NEW U3A COURSE

English Literature

A new English Literature course will run through terms 3 & 4, commencing Thursday, 16 July 2009.

The course will be conducted in Room 2 from 9:00am to 10:30am with tutor, Margaret Mace.

The class will be reading and discussing two classical books. The first is Joseph Conrad's *The Heart of Darkness* which is a serious study of the white man's intrusion into the heart of African Congo and

the extent of depravity that some people can go to. In Conrad's own words "The darkness of the heart of the world."



The second book is Nathaniel Hawthorn's *The Scarlet Letter*, a beautifully crafted story of the effect of guilt and retribution on those who err in a society governed by strict religion.

CREATIVE WRITING 1

Hello fellow U3Aers,

With regular Thursday morning attendances averaging about sixteen members, ours is proving to be one of the truly popular groups at Frankston U3A.

Our first Creative Writing term was successfully run with John Tinney at The helm. John offered a different perspective about creative writing. It was very informative and enjoyed by us all.

At the time of writing, second term is nearly finished and we have enjoyed the challenge of different topics with the outcome providing us with some very interesting stories. One challenge was “Nothing to Write About”. Over half a dozen of our group wrote at least 1000 words about NOTHING!! There was much merriment and laughter.

Also, this last term we were invited to the local Community Radio Station to participate in their “Writers at Work” program. John, Gail and I read some of our stories “on air”. Peter and Kathleen did the same a couple of weeks later.

Several of our class members set aside their paper and pens just prior to Christmas and went for a “Book-reading Lunch and Guided Tour” at Mornington’s Beleura House. The reading (from Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol”) was most appropriate for the season.

Below: Margaret Albrick (right); John Forrest (seated); and John Tinney’s wife, Dorothy, in the background, on the veranda at Beleura House.

Right top: We did encounter at least one other literary person on our tour.

Right bottom: Our reader, dressed in typical Dickensian period costume.

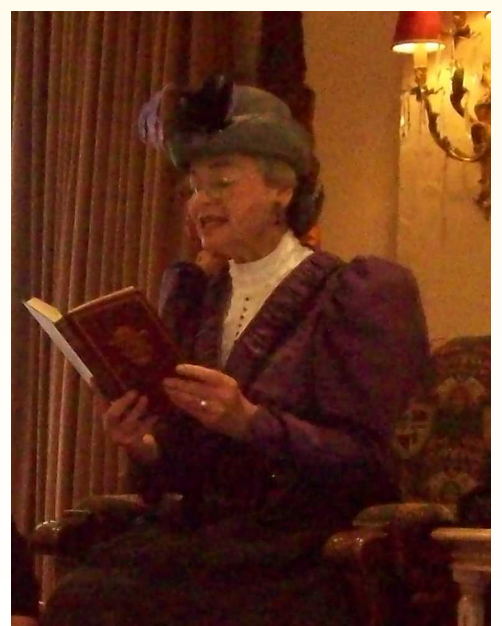
“Writers at Work” is all about creative writing. The program is broadcast each Monday morning from 9:00—10:00 am on Peninsula Community Radio 3RPP (98.7 & 98.3 FM).

An anthology, showcasing the best of our year’s work, is produced annually. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of this year’s anthology can pre-order by contacting either Brenda Thurgar or myself.

I am off to Queensland for the third term and my very capable class will take turns to run the show.

I trust them!!!

Regards — *Margaret Ulbrick* (Tutor)



STILL NO PRESIDENT

At its meeting on 19 June, the Frankston U3A Committee failed to resolve its current Presidency problem. Frankston U3A has been operating without a President since the last Annual General Meeting when there was no candidate willing to stand for the position. It was thought that a suitable candidate would be found at the June meeting, but circumstances prevailed against this happening at this time.

The committee was in agreement that measures must be taken to find a way around this current situation. Whilst there was no-one willing to take on the position 'full time', the Committee did agree on a stop-gap measure whereby they would rotate the Presidency amongst the current Committee Members on a meeting-to-meeting basis.

It is hoped that in this way one of the Committee will, with the experience under their belt, gain the confidence to accept the Presidency in the near future.

U3A RELATIONS WITH THE FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL

We are linked to the FCC in many ways.

First, our members, as part of the community, are vitally interested in the Services they provide for Senior Citizens.

Secondly, FCC plays a major role in providing our accommodation, as covered in a separate report in this Newsletter.

Thirdly, U3A has representation on the Committee planning Frankston's "Seniors Week" activities in October.

Fourthly, U3A is also represented on the FCC "Ageing Positively Reference Group", a think-tank to aid in the development of Council's policy for its Aged Care Department.

Two items on the Agenda for that Group's last meeting were:

1. Victoria's Senior of the Year Awards

There are four awards:

- The Premiers Award;
- The Council of Ageing "Senior Achievers" awards,
- The "Go For Your Life" award; and
- The Veteran Community award.

The F.C.C. is promoting these awards and encouraging groups like U3A to make nominations.

2. World Health Organisation Checklist of Essential features of Age friendly Cities

These are:

- Outdoor Space and Buildings;
- Housing;
- Transportation;
- Social Participation;
- Communications and Information;
- Respect and Social Inclusion;
- Community and Health Services;
- Civic Participation; and
- Employment.

The Ageing Positively Group will be contacting Groups within the City of Frankston and seeking to develop a profile of the importance groups attach to each of these. U3A members will be asked to rate their top three and a Committee member will visit Classes and discuss this with you in the near future.

David Abbott



MID-YEAR
PARTY
LUNCH
12.00

TUESDAY 21ST JULY

UNITING CHURCH HALL
HIGH STREET
FRANKSTON

**It's time for us all to get together again
to celebrate being members of Frankston U3A**

**So come along and join the fun with your
fellow members from all tutor groups.**

***Donations for hampers and raffle prizes
will be gratefully accepted
in the Office until 17th July**