



Summer Newsletter,
January 2024



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President's message :

Happy new year to all our U3A members

A brand new year is now upon us and I hope that you all had an enjoyable Christmas break. As usual, our Christmas lunch at Saltwater at Fingal Bay was most enjoyable with a large turnout, good food and much great socialising. Many thanks to Narelle for organising it and, of course, also to David for our traditional Bocce tournament. The bias due to the wind made it a little problematic but judging by the laughter, everyone enjoyed it. I have added just a few of the great photos at the end. Also thanks to Pat for organising the Christmas party Cuppa-and-Chat on December 6th as I was unable to be there. I am sorry that I missed the drawings exhibition and the recorder performance but I understand that it went well.

More than 60 members enjoyed a marvellous big breakfast on 18th January - thanks again Narelle for a faultless morning. As you will be aware our multi-talented Judith is away in the USA but Sharon and Christine are doing a brilliant job in the secretary roles.

Unfortunately we both came down with our first bout of Covid just before Christmas and that has severely limited our activities with family. It was not a good experience and certainly hope we don't get it again. They tell me that the severity was much reduced because we have had all the available boosters and we took anti-virals as soon as we could - not so easy to get a script on a weekend.

Next term most of our great courses continue but as usual at the start of the year we do have some changes. As most of you already know, the history of the world has come to an end - or rather the ancient history of the world as so brilliantly presented by Ross. No one seems to know when our history began but I am sure it was at least 15 years ago. The good news is that Ross will start a new series of sessions on special history subjects in 2nd term and I will continue to fill in the intervening period with sessions in astronomy. Over the years Paul gave us all an interest in Astronomy and my hope is that this continues some of that interest. The proposed new sessions on "Memoir Writing" have been postponed for the moment for medical reasons but should be full steam ahead in the 2nd term.

Good news is that the popular Italian Classes will now be every week instead of fortnightly. A new course, 'Chinese Made Easy' will begin this term from 14 Feb. It will be held weekly. Come and meet the presenter and ask questions at the cuppa and chat on 7th February. More good news is that despite rumours to the contrary, Non-fiction reading will continue this term. Lawn bowling has been a regular activity for over 15 years but numbers have been low lately and Ulrika has called a rest for this year.

We had some great speakers last term. In November, three members from NSW Fire and Rescue at Salamander Bay gave a talk about strategies to deal with the very high bushfire risk this summer and actions we need to take for our own safety. They had to rush out to a job mid-talk for 15 minutes but had a great video to hold the fort. Chris has some good speakers lined up again for this term. All the details are in the program that you should have by now.

Please note that the monthly "Cuppa and Chat" now starts at **2pm**. Please mark your diaries for the first Wednesday of each month (except January) as we would like to see you all there.

Please read the additional notices over the page.



At our recent AGM in early November a new committee was duly elected and for your information I have listed the 2024 committee members below because not everyone receives our emails. Also we held our annual fee fixed at \$40. Thank you to all the members that attended the AGM.

These are your Committee Members for the next 12 months as elected on 1st Nov. 2023 at our AGM:

President	Alan
Vice President	Pat
Secretary	Sharon
Treasurer & Public Officer	Kitty
Programme Coordinator	Narelle
Committee Members	Chris and Christine

Fees of \$40 for 2024 are now due so please pay at cuppa and Chat or with the usual bank transfer.

Be sure to include your First and Last Names for our records

*I am so grateful to have another capable committee. I hope that you enjoy our program for first term.
Many thanks to Narelle for all her great work. Thank you, Alan*



Up and coming dates for your diary:

- ◆ Term 1 begins on Monday 5th February (Don't forget that fees are due)
- ◆ Next Cuppa and Chat social get-together is on Wednesday 7th February at 2pm
- ◆ Term 1 ends on Thursday 28th March

