



U3A LOWER NORTH

Sharing Skills and Experience with Friends

NOVEMBER 2023 🍷 TERM ONE 2024

University of the Third Age is now a global movement

🍷 Post Office Box 480, Clare, South Australia, 5453 🍷

Messages 0447 601 142, Email u3alownorth@gmail.com

Secretary: Bonnie Stanley 0400 039 420 bonnie@iscs.com.au

Course Co-ordinator: Katherine Stoddart 0447 601 142 (leave a message), asku3a@gmail.com

Chairman, newsletter & website: Claire Eglinton 8842 3939, eclair5453@gmail.com

U3A Lower North website: www.u3alownorth.com Note new address and new website

Dear Members,

Greetings from a hollow in the Clare Valley where gutters are gushing with a late Spring deluge.

Our 19th Annual General Meeting was a departure from our usual format and I apologise to anyone disappointed by the absence of advertised speaker.

Winner of the annual photo contest was Art group leader Ann Foster with a lovely snap taken at their watercolour class. It showed Murray Stolte busy concentrating while Ruth Stolte looks up with that wonderful grin of someone taking pride in achieving something new which is the aim of every U3A.

Elections saw most members re-elected with a slight reshuffle. Katherine Stoddart has taken over as Program Coordinator from Hilary Adlam who had finished her term. We didn't receive any nominations for Katherine's former position of Assistant Secretary. We did have a couple of members offer to join as 'committee person' and since the meeting we have co-opted one of those to serve on the committee.

Next October we will be seeing at least 3 retirements from the committee so it is important we have new members coming in as just 'committee person' before stepping up and taking on a position.

The panel opposite shows the end-of-year celebrations will be good. Inside are 2024 course list, calendar changes, new activities, enrolment days, report of our Get Online Week event, etc.

*Hope to see you for lunch at Blyth,
Claire*

End of Year Lunch & Film

You are invited to lunch with friends then sit back to watch *My Sailor My Love*.

Friday 8 December will be our final day for the U3A year with lunch, 12 for 12.30, at the Blyth Hall supper room. Please bring a plate of finger food suitable for sharing. Soft drink provided.

After lunch and a chat (remember name tags), it's over to the cinema for our film.

My Sailor My Love is described as a beautifully nuanced drama of late-life romance and the complex family dynamics that can come with it. It is finely acted and set against magnificent Irish locations.

Grace hires Annie as caretaker for her father Howard, a retired sailor. Annie faces a complex father-daughter relationship, while Howard and Grace must realize their own imperfections.

BOOK NOW with u3alownorth@gmail.com or Peter 0411 662 384, or Bonnie 0400 039 420. It is \$10 (cost of film). If combining it with your membership fee for next year, put completed enrolment slip with exact money in envelope to speed processing. Arrive early to avoid queue. Sorry, no credit cards. Film tickets will be issued.

Do take this opportunity to catch up and thank group leaders before we all go in different directions for the festive season.

2024 ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Cards for Fun is Katherine Stoddart's latest initiative. Tuesday mornings 9-12 at the Visitor Information Centre. Katherine likes playing cards but nothing serious like bridge and canasta, etc. Instead this group will be playing: Up and Down the River; Rickety Kate; May I?, and possibly Frustration, Crazy Cards, 5 Crowns and any other games the group wants.

The first three games are ones Katherine will teach and the second three are from eager members who have already enrolled in the group.

Cryptics 2 for Beginners. The existing cryptics group is at capacity and quite experienced by now. Some members have expressed an interest in learning from scratch and a member has volunteered to get it off the ground. So **if** we have sufficient enrolments, a suitable day and time will be negotiated.

Music: Ukelele. People were hesitant to start this at the end of the year so we are offering it again in 2024. Tamar and Steve Young are rookies at this so I have asked U3A ukelele guru Sandra Heath for advice on what sort of instrument to buy as this came up at the AGM. Sandra says a lot depends on the size of your hand and what feels comfortable in it.

Most popular sizes are Soprano from \$50/60 for a Makala Beginners, and Beginners Concert from \$140. For really large hands, Tenor from about \$180. Reliable starter brands are Makala and Mahalo. Kala brand is better but dearer.

Obtainable from BMusic at 106 Murray Street, Gawler or online. While there, Sandra would recommend a Snark clip-on electronic tuner about \$25-30. (All prices are guesstimates.)

Tamar is really most at home with piano and clarinet and both she and Steve admit to being beginners themselves with ukeleles but look forward to becoming more accomplished with the group. Both dabble across a wide range of instruments so if you want to bring along a different musical instrument it would be welcomed though in the beginning that might be a distraction from the main goal.

German for Travellers is finishing as our German teacher turned out to be a traveller. Ralf is off on a grey nomad tour of the outback for a good deal of next year so it is a good thing his students are also ready for their big holidays: Germany I presume.

Will **French for Travellers** come back in 2024? It all depends on enrolments. Kath does love to have a fellow Francophile to talk to. No previous knowledge of the language is needed for the 'For Travellers' language groups.

Lunch Club continues to meet on the second Tuesday of the month. At first we thought this group over-subscribed but as time has passed we realize some members enrol and then never or rarely turn up. If you want an excuse to dress up and eat out around the Valley and sometimes beyond, do enrol for this purely pleasure group and make some new friends.

Sadly we are losing **Film Group** and **Walking Group**. Both due to lack of patronage. I thank Sue Mayfield and Margaret Daly for the time they have given these groups. Members can pick and choose whether they are in the mood or the weather suits them, but group leaders turn up rain or shine with no idea if their efforts will be rewarded or time wasted.

ALWAYS WELCOME STRANGERS

Our Contract Bridge group which meets on Mondays at the Clare Valley Wine Food and Tourism Centre had a couple of tourists ask to join their session recently. They wisely said yes. John and Pat Elliott were visiting Clare for a weekend wedding and stayed on for Monday instead of returning to Mt Barker where John hosts Bridge sessions for the SA Bridge Association at the Mt Barker Community Centre.

They both enjoyed the afternoon, so much in fact that John later mailed us a pack of useful bridge items. Group leader Peter Wood said it was much appreciated.

MASTER THAT MOBILE PHONE

Our Get Online Week event held back in October was quite a success so it looks as if we will repeat it in 2024 if we receive funding. We asked Coffee and Chat members to form the core group of attendees and we had enough to keep the Clare Town Hall function room buzzing.

Everyone has a mobile phone these days and it is easy to assume they know the finer points of using it. Thank you to Ian Stanley and all his helpers for showing us how to accomplish more with less effort.

STATEWIDE ONLINE COURSES

Any U3A Lower North member is eligible to enrol in Statewide online courses free of charge. Likewise our group leaders might like to extend their class online.

See and enrol for Statewide courses at u3asouthaustralia.org.au/courses-2/

COVID CONTINUES

COVID is not back: it never went away. Please remember to take all sensible precautions for your own safety and that of fellow members who may be particularly vulnerable to health problems.

ENROL NOW FOR 2024

Enrolments do not carry on from one year to the next.* To ensure a place, submit enrolment slip and payment as soon as possible. Enrolments are processed on a first come first served basis. While some groups struggle for numbers, others fill quickly.

New members should fill out a New Members Enrolment Form available from our website or anyone on the committee.

Enrolment is not complete until both money and paperwork are received. Please list each of your selected subjects because 'same as last year' won't impress the new Course Coordinator.

(*If you enrolled in fourth term, your \$35 payment will cover you for 2024 but still submit paperwork.)

DATES FOR 2024

2024 has four 8 or 9-week terms divided by 3-week holiday breaks. If meeting outside these dates inform the secretary to protect group leader insurance.

Enrolment days for 2024 at Clare Town Hall: _____
Thursday 7 December 2023
and Wednesday 31 January

Deadline for enrolments and payment: __ 31 January
Group Leaders Event: _____ Wednesday 14 February

TERM 1: ____ Monday 19 February to Friday 12 April

TERM 2: _____ Monday 6 May to Friday 5 July

TERM 3: ____ Monday 29 July to Friday 27 September

TERM 4: _ Monday 21 October to Friday 6 December

Annual General Meeting: _____ Friday 1 November

Enrolment day for 2025: _____ Thursday 5 December

End-of-year lunch & movie: _____ Friday 6 December

EARLY BIRDS SAVE \$10

The deadline for early bird payments has changed to last day of previous year. The annual subscription is \$35 with \$10 discount for payment by 31 December. Don't risk forgetting. Enrol and pay now for just \$25.

When the early bird rate expires, fees will be the full \$35 from 1 January 2024.

Payments can be made 5 ways:

- Registration Days. Thursday 7 December or Wednesday 31 January. Treasurer and/or Course Coordinator will be in the Clerk's Office, Clare Town Hall from 9.30 to 12.30 (cash only) **or**
- at Blyth lunch before 12 (Please note this is not a true registration day so keep things running smoothly by placing exact money and completed enrolment paperwork inside an envelope); **or**
- post cheques made out to 'U3A Lower North Inc.' to PO Box 480, Clare, 5453; **or**
- pay online. (U3A Lower North Inc., No. 748828019; BSB 085 558. For ID use surname followed by initial, e.g. John Smith = smithj. Emails to u3alownorth@gmail.com).
- Take the above bank information into NAB and pay the cashier and notify Peter Wood by phone or email of details.

U3A NAME TAGS

We are now taking orders for those hard white plastic name tags, magnet or pin backing. (conference name tags are automatically issued.) See booking slip to order. Replacement magnets available. Don't wear magnetic version if you have a heart pacemaker.

Friday 8 December

U3A End of Year Lunch & Movie

Starts at 12 for 12.30 pm, Blyth Supper Room

Please bring a plate of finger food to share

Beautiful Irish film *My Sailor My Love* to follow at Blyth Cinema

All Group Leaders invited to attend as our guests

A time for all members to combine and applaud the contribution of our Group Leaders, farewell classmates and catch up with friends before the Christmas holidays
\$10 a head (for film), contact Claire or Peter Wood 0411 662 384 to book
Booking slip over page with enrolment

2024: FIRST TERM ACTIVITIES

CLASS	LEADER	TIME	STARTS	VENUE
Art, Auburn	<i>Ann Foster</i>	Wed 9:30 am – 1:30 pm	21/2/2024	Auburn oval
Art, Burra	<i>Ann Foster</i>	2 nd Tue, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm	13/2/2024	Burra Showgrounds
Book Group 1	<i>Hermann Weber</i>	Alt Thu 10:30 am – 12 noon	22/2/2024	St Barnabas, Clare
Book Group 2	<i>Kath Lock</i>	Alt Thu 1.30 – 3 pm	29/2/2024	Clare Town Hall
Cards for Fun	<i>Katherine Stoddart</i>	Tue, 9.30 – 12 noon	20/2/2024	Tourism Centre
Coffee & Chat	<i>Doreen Hill</i>	Wed 10.30 am	21/2/2024	Various
Computing	<i>Quentin Fleming</i>	Fri 10 am – 12 noon	23/2/2024	Clare Town Hall
Contract Bridge	<i>Peter Wood</i>	Mon 1.30 – 4 pm	19/2/2024	Tourism Centre
Cryptic Crosswords	<i>Greta Handmer</i>	Alt Thu 10.30 am	29/2/2024	25 Edward St, Clare
Cryptic Crosswords 2	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Current Affairs	<i>Quentin Fleming</i>	Alt Thu 1.30 – 3 pm	22/2/2024	Clare Town Hall
Drumbeat	<i>John Monten</i>	Mon 10 – 11.30 am	19/2/2024	To be advised
Exercise 1	<i>Chris Roberts</i>	Tue 9 – 10 am	20/2/2024	Lutheran Hall
Exercise 2 (seated)	<i>Chris Roberts</i>	Tue 10 – 11 am	20/2/2024	Lutheran Hall
French for Travellers	<i>Kath Lock</i>	Thu 3 – 4 pm	22/2/2024	Clare Town Hall
Knit and Sew	<i>Mary Clark</i>	Tue 2 – 4 pm	20/2/2024	Clare Town Hall
Lunch Club	<i>Katherine Stoddart</i>	2 nd Tue. 12 noon	13/2/2024	Various
Mah-jong, Auburn	<i>Sue Beaton</i>	Tue 2 – 4 pm	20/2/2024	RSL Rooms
Mah-jong, Clare	<i>Pam Murray</i>	Wed 2 – 4 pm	21/2/2024	St Barnabas, Clare
Mah-jong (Western)	<i>Katherine Stoddart</i>	Fri 10 am – 12 noon	23/2/2024	Tourism Centre
Music Appreciation	<i>Helen Weckert</i>	1 st , 3 rd Wed 2.30 – 4.30 pm	21/2/2024	10 March Ct, Clare
Music: Ukelele	<i>Tamar & Steve Young</i>	Thu. 10 am – 12 noon	22/2/2024	Clare Town Hall
Petanque	<i>Ian Stanley</i>	Tuesday 3 – 5 pm	20/2/2024	Melrose Park, Clare
Quilting	<i>Diane Richardson</i>	Thu 10 am – 1 pm	22/2/2024	St Barnabas, Clare
Scrabble	<i>Carol Stewart</i>	Mon 1:15 pm	19/2/2024	St Barnabas, Clare

STATEWIDE ONLINE COURSES: view courses or enrol at: <https://u3asouthaustralia.org.au/courses-2/>



Retain top half for class times, etc. Assume enrolment accepted on payment unless you hear otherwise.

RETURN enrolments ASAP: U3A office door box in Clare Town Hall, or P.O. Box 480, Clare SA 5453 (messages 0447 601 142, asku3a@gmail.com). **New members** should complete a once-only New Members Enrolment Form (downloadable from website, we can email you one or they will be provided at registration days).

Name: _____

Any change of address/phone/email since last year?: _____

ENROLMENTS early bird rate \$25 by end of 2023, after that \$35.

Enrol me in: _____

Newsletters by post [] or email []. **Payment** by cheque [] cash [] EFT [] All options page 3.

OPTIONAL HARD NAME TAGS \$12 Please tick for pin back [] or magnetic back []

Print name as you want it to appear _____

2023 END OF YEAR LUNCH & FILM \$10 For self [] and [] number of guests.

Book lunch/film by 4/12/23: Peter 0411 662 384, or Bonnie 0400 039 420 or email u3alowernorth@gmail.com

All information kept in accordance with U3A Lower North Inc. privacy policy