



## Newsletter February 2022

**Greetings all, and welcome back to U3A for another year of great activities.**

Firstly, we need to say that U3A classes will carry on as usual, unless Government advice changes (again!) We will follow good Covid guidelines (summarized below), but we also expect people to use their own good sense.

- Don't come if you are unwell.
- Don't come if you are in quarantine.
- Don't come if you are waiting test results.
- Don't come if you have been a close contact.
- Don't come if your immune system is compromised.

Our guiding Covid principles will be as follows, and Tutors in particular need to be familiar with these, and ensure that we can honestly “tick off” each one for all classes:

A We follow each venue's COVID plan

B We provide sanitizer for each tutor/ venue

C We maintain masking indoors until told otherwise

D Social distancing IS maintained as much as possible

E Venue QR code used

F Tutors have the right to expect and insist that only vaccinated people attend classes, and that proof of double vaccination be shown.

It is a crazy Covid world we live in now, but we can still make the best of it!

### **If proof of Vaccination is Required**

***If a tutor requests proof of full Covid 19 vaccination, students are to provide it directly to that tutor at the commencement of their first class.***

*Proof can be shown through the Medicare app or the required vaccination certificate provided by Medicare.*

*If prospective students need any assistance at all in obtaining this proof, the online access centres at both Exeter (Tresca) and Beaconsfield are approachable and experienced at loading and linking the appropriate apps on either Apple or Android devices. If a student does not have devices, the centres can also help with on line/ phone enquiries and printing. A small printing fee applies.*

*Georgetown Community Hub (Public library) offers a similar service and Launceston General Hospital helps load and link the apps. Local GP clinics may also provide a vaccination history printout.*

***Beaconsfield online access centre: (03) 6383 1146***

***Exeter online access centre: (03)6394 3257***

***Georgetown Community Hub: (03) 6702 6090***

### **A bit of a giggle!**

Now, with all that serious stuff done, let's pause for a giggle...especially for those of us "mature" people, born before 1950:

We are the survivors. Consider the changes we have witnessed: we were born before television, before penicillin, before polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, Frisbees and The Pill. We were before credit cards, laser beams and all ballpoint pens; before pantihose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip dry clothes and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together. How quaint can you be? We were before house-husbands, gay rights, computer marriages. We were born before day centres, group therapy and nursing homes. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, walkmans, electric typewriters, artificial hearts, wordprocessors, yoghurts and blokes wearing earrings. For us, time sharing meant togetherness – not condominiums; a chip meant a piece of wood used to heat water for the bath; and software wasn't even a word.

In 1950 "Made in Japan" meant junk and the term making out referred to how you did in an exam or interview. Pizzas, McDonalds, instant coffee and tea bags were unheard of. Chicken was a luxury after dad chopped the head off one of the chooks and mum spent hours plucking it.

In our day, cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass was mown, coke was a cold drink and pot was something you cooked in. Rock music was Grandma's lullaby and AIDS were helpers in the Headmaster's office or a type of nurse.

We were certainly not born before the differences between sexes were discovered but we were surely born before sex changes. We made do with what we had. No wonder we are so confused and there is a generation gap!

Original version published in Port Macquarie Real Estate Tattler, Winter **2002**.

## **U3A News**

Courses start again on **14 February**, and continue until **17 June** for Term One. Fees for the full year are now \$20. Generally speaking, we would encourage members to make an early payment for the full year in February. As always, however, we are flexible about payments, knowing that some people may wish to make different arrangements. If you are a new member, you will need to complete the application for membership form, which can be found on our website, [tamarvalleyu3a.com.au](http://tamarvalleyu3a.com.au) and this form explains options for how you can make your payment.

In case of doubt, contact Jo or Frances in the office, on a Monday between 12:30pm and 4:00pm, on 6383 1113, and they will advise you. You can also email your query on: [tamarvalleyu3a@gmail.com](mailto:tamarvalleyu3a@gmail.com)

## **Local events coming soon**

### **Exeter Community Market- 14/3/22**

#### **Held at Exeter Showgrounds**

We welcome new stall holders, charities and small traders. Times of opening 9:00 to 1:30. Stallholders should be set up by 8:30. Contact 0427 084 600.

### **Joke for today!**

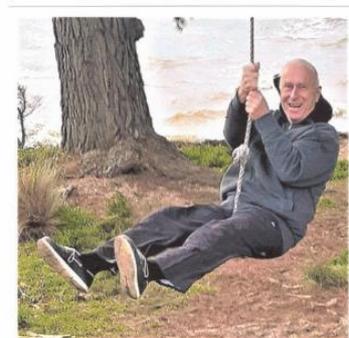
A cement mixer and a prison bus crashed on the highway. Police advise the public to be on the lookout for a gang of hardened criminals!

## Meet our Committee and Tutors

**Rai Bruns** is a Committee member and a Tutor for classes on “Ideas for the Third Age” and “History”. Rather than a conventional “biography”, Rai has chosen to tell us about things he is grateful for!

### 10 Things I am grateful for:

1. That I was born in West Germany 10 years after the war, when the country had been rebuilt and was once again prospering.
2. To have had a mother and grandfather as well as teachers, who encouraged me to do well at school...a privilege they didn't enjoy.
3. That at age 9 we moved to Australia, where I could further my schooling, learn a new language, make new friends and enjoy “the great outdoors”.
4. That I spent six years in a government high school with really good teachers (not always the case)- and where I was lucky to be able to excel through hard study.
5. That I was sensible enough not to follow my friends into Maths/Science, - and chose the Humanities instead. I recommend: English Expression and Literature, Geography, History, and learning another language, preferably German.
6. That we had a High School hiking club with a fantastic lead teacher, that lead us to the most wonderful parts of Australia.
7. That in 1974 one could still go to University affordably and get paid by the government to become a teacher. A special thanks to Melbourne Uni., the Department of German Studies, and the German Students' Club, who enabled me to discover my “inner actor” while performing in yearly plays and cabarets.
8. That I ended up being a not altogether failed teacher.
9. That I married a certain Thai lady with 3 step children who are all grateful to have come into Australia, and my six grandchildren, who, despite getting themselves into occasional trouble, should all do well in future.
10. That despite the “slings and arrows of outrageous fortune”, I can still face life with a sense of humour.



**Rai on the swing at Paper Beach**