

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD

The History of Croydon U3A
1992–2012



Looking from Croydon U3A office onto Town Park, Croydon.



Looking Back, Looking Forward

Looking Back, Looking Forward The History of Croydon U3A 1992-2012

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Looking Forward, Looking Back

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Looking Back, Looking Forward

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The authors of "Reflections of the Decade 1992-2002" were

Dot Ward
Margaret Wilson

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Looking Forward, Looking Back

Forward

You might not be able to put ‘an old head on young shoulders’; but over the past 20 years the Croydon branch of the University of the Third Age has proven that you can ‘put young ideas into older heads’.

Catering for people in the ‘third part of their lives’ the University of the Third Age (U3A) brings together like-minded people who want to keep active in both body and mind.

Since it was established in 1992, the Croydon U3A has continued to thrive – today it offers more than 80 different classes each week to more than 850 members.

The courses, the majority of which are free, are put together to address the needs and interests of U3A members. Members are also encouraged to share their own knowledge and skills by hosting classes in their field of expertise.



What makes this concept even more impressive is that the hours of work involved in coordinating these programs is done by leaders and committee members on a voluntary basis.

Given that 14.8 per cent of Maroondah’s population is over 65, it is important that people have the opportunity to not only expand their knowledge, but to also be an active member of the community.

Whether you’re wanting to learn how to use a computer or like to connect with others over a game of chess, Croydon U3A provides something for everyone.

This book reflects on the past 20 years, looking at the achievements of the group through text and photographs collated by a dedicated team of volunteers.

It is a wonderful reflection of what can be achieved when the community comes together, as well as highlighting the hundreds of lives that have been impacted by the work of U3A over the past 20 years.

Cr Les Willmott JP
Councillor for Wyreena Ward, Maroondah City Council

Looking Back, Looking Forward

The History of the U3A

Beginnings in France

The University of the Third Age began at the university in Toulouse, France in 1972 with the help of Professor Pierre Vellas from the Faculty of Social Sciences, following a summer school that he organised for retired people. This was so successful that the next year the university formally decided to set up the Université du Troisième Age (UTA). This became the French model and it centred around universities, relying heavily on their facilities and tuition although there were no exams.



Toulouse University, France, the home of U3A

The course content and presentation were a mix of open lectures, negotiated access to established university courses, contracted courses, study groups, workshops, excursions and physical health programs. The concept spread rapidly throughout France, Belgium, Switzerland, Poland, Italy, Spain and across the Atlantic to Quebec and California. When U3A surfaced in Great Britain at Cambridge University in 1982, Dr Peter Laslett changed the French U3A model significantly. In the British model there wasn't any distinction between the teacher and the instructor, that is, members would as far as possible be teachers as well as learners, the British U3A model became known as the "Cambridge Model".

British Model

Australia followed the British model, in running a local U3A. Some key concepts of the British model are:-

- To provide affordable learning opportunities for older people
- The instructor and the student are interchangeable
- There are no qualifications for membership, with no awards, degrees or diplomas
- The emphasis is on learning for the love of it, and improving skills and knowledge
- Learning should take place in a friendly, supportive, social environment
- The U3A members shall pay for its upkeep, yet there is no payment to any person for teaching
- The curriculum is determined by the needs and expertise of its members
- The subjects are non-political and non-sectarian

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Development in Australia

In July 1984, a public meeting was arranged in Melbourne to determine public interest in U3A. As a result, the first U3A in Australia was established at Melbourne's Council of Adult Education, followed by another shortly afterwards in Hawthorn. During 1985 two other U3As, one at Monash and one at Ringwood, were inaugurated.

There are now approximately 99 U3As in Victoria with over 26,000 members and more than 232 Australia-wide with a total national membership exceeding 45,000. The newly formed U3A Alliance Australia acts in an advisory capacity and U3A Network represents U3As in Victoria. The term "Third Age" refers to the age of active retirement, after the "First Age" of childhood and formal education and "Second Age" of working life. A university refers to any seat of learning.

The Beginning of Croydon U3A

The first U3A to start under the auspices of Local Government was Ringwood. The Ringwood Council provided free accommodation at the North Ringwood Senior Citizens Centre for three hours five days per week enabling classes to be held. Ringwood membership grew steadily and, at the end of 1991, there were more than 300 members,

With a view to widening U3A activities, Dot Ward approached Jacinta Archer, Project Officer for Croydon City Council, late in 1991 to look at the possibility of establishing a U3A in Croydon. Through Jacinta Archer and Richard Penny, Glen Park Community Centre Coordinator, a public meeting was called and this resulted in an enrolment of 46 people on the day. Glen Park Annexe was founded and already there were six or seven classes operating.

However, it became apparent that to enable expansion there was a need for a more central Croydon group. To gauge interest another public meeting was held in the Glenn Frost room of the Croydon Library on June 3rd 1992. This proved very successful, there were 16 new enrolments, and all who attended showed much interest. A steering committee was formed, with a view of setting up a separate Croydon U3A.

Croydon U3A, over the years, has had great assistance from the Council, Scout groups, Croydon schools and churches to provide rooms in which to meet and conduct courses. Croydon U3A has enabled people to meet and to exchange valuable knowledge and experience, thus providing mental and physical stimuli to those in the Third Age. This has been beneficial in the prevention of premature ageing and dependency as well as possibly cutting the cost of health services.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—1992

The first year of operation of the Croydon U3A didn't start until 3rd June of 1992, after a public meeting was held in the Croydon Library's Glenn Frost room. Interest was high and there was no doubt that the Croydon U3A was off and running, particularly with a number of new enrolments on the day.

An Interim Committee was appointed with Alys Clough at the helm as President, relinquishing her role to Dot Ward in August 92. Dot couldn't serve as Foundation President as she was the current President at Ringwood U3A. Thus began Dot's long association with Croydon U3A, serving five terms as President; numerous roles on the committee and a constant course presenter, which continues up to the present day.

Courses during the first year included Tai Chi, Stretch Sewing, Bridge for Beginners, Enjoying Writing, Calligraphy, Australian Studies, South East Asian Studies, Speech Craft, Play Reading, Bush Walking, Music Appreciation, Astronomy, Chess, Financial Planning, Romantic Literature, Philosophy, Family History, Social Golf, Theatre Group, Creative Gifts/Crafts and Creative Writing. Membership at the end of the first year was a very commendable 100 members.

Croydon U3A held general monthly meetings which had a line-up of interesting guest speakers that entertained the audiences. The initial joining fee of Croydon U3A, was \$1, with a \$15 annual subscription.



The first Croydon U3A Executive (left to right), Ron Browne, Vice-President, Dot Ward, President, and Marion Koffyberg, Treasurer

Twenty Years of History—1993

At the AGM at Croydon Civic Centre in March, the first Committee was elected, replacing the Interim Committee. Dot Ward once again took the helm as President. Lorraine Elliott, MLA, addressed the meeting and offered to lead a one-day workshop on the subject of Education for Older People. The membership fees remained at \$15.

In June, the first birthday of Croydon U3A was celebrated at the Croydon Entertainment Centre hall with guest speaker Leila McCrae, her subject "Dunnies through the Ages". In August an enquiry was made by the Principal of the Croydon Primary School for any U3A parents to participate in a Grandparents Programme. The idea was for older members of the community to have contact with children who do not have access to grandparents. It was thought a good idea that these older folk could help the children with their reading or maths, have lunch with them, or visit them at the school on a regular basis.



Moving forward in old age Des Callaghan faces off against Ota Barton in a challenging game of chess.

In October a proposal was made to the Croydon Primary School by Croydon U3A Committee that in conjunction with the Croydon Central Scout Group, the Committee obtained occupancy of two rooms at the east end of the School Gymnasium for a

once off payment of \$2000. This proposal was endorsed by Croydon U3A members and by November 1993, Croydon U3A was in occupancy. A move was made to raise money for furnishing these two rooms, and to raise the \$2000 to be handed to the Scout Group.

Various fundraising events were organised such as the sale of U3A T-shirts, a games night, a Scottish Ceilidh, a cake stall, and a car boot sale. The year finished with a Christmas breakup with demonstrations, readings, songs, plays, and dances by members. By the end of the year, 28 courses had been held, servicing 170 members. For their Annual Bushwalking Camp Croydon U3A Bushwalking group joined with other U3As from Ringwood, Box Hill, Monash and Frankston on a bus trip for a week at Mallacoota enjoying walking, boat trips, talking, birdwatching and eating.

None are the days when senior citizens were consigned to the rocking chair and balls of yarn or to pottering around in the garden.

Croydon University of the Third Age (U3A) is a community based organisation or seniors which offers courses to exercise the mind and body.

Celebrating its first anniversary this year, growing U3A membership shows many seniors are looking for an active retirement.

The demand for intellectual stimulation is shown by the popularity of subjects like Australian Studies, Asian Studies, Chess, Poetry and Music Appreciation.

There are also more active classes such as Scottish Dancing, Tai Chi and Home Handyman.

What is unique about U3A's mode of learning is the use of class leaders rather than

Elderly and active

lecturers.

Croydon U3A president Dorothy Ward thinks the most exciting thing is the concept itself.

"The sharing of knowledge is a very exciting part of the program, there is all this knowledge out there," Mrs Ward said.

"When I started at the Ringwood U3A it was very novel and I didn't know what to expect and the leaders were tentative but it has developed since then and people are more confident," she said.

"There really is no comparison to mainstream university courses," she said.

Open to people over 50, what appeals to

members is the absence of tests and exams. The emphasis of the courses is participation in shared learning and experience.

Accommodation for the classes has been difficult to arrange but with the assistance of Croydon Council and TAFE venues at the library and primary schools have been found for 19 courses.

There will be first anniversary celebrations on Friday at Croydon Entertainment Centre in Mt Dandenong Rd and all people over 50 are welcome.

Lunch is included in the \$7 price but bookings must be made with Marion on 725-4687.

The U3A committee plans new courses in Spanish and German, Film Studies and Public Speaking.

Those interested in getting involved can call Lorna Carey on 728-6962 evenings.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—1994

In February Croydon U3A participated in the Croydon Festival with a “Living in Retirement” display. During the year, a grant of \$2500 was received from the Croydon City Council. Also during this year the debt to the Croydon Central Scout Group was cleared from funds raised. The membership fees increased by \$3 to \$18, with the AGM being held at the Croydon Primary School on 4th March.

Local member, Lorraine Elliott MLA, generously provided use of an office at her premises for the U3A monthly management meetings, together with the use of her library at 60 Main Street, Croydon.

A volunteer office co-ordinator was found to organise volunteers to do work in the U3A office. A resolution was adopted to hold only one general meeting per term, instead of monthly meetings, which was in line with the U3A Charter.

During the year, Croydon U3A joined the State Film Theatre Video Library and with the generosity of the Footmen’s Club acquired a TV monitor and VCR, both of which were used for various courses.

Croydon U3A’s second birthday was celebrated with an Open Day at Tallent Street Uniting Church Hall with performances by Tap Dancers, Scottish Dancers, Play Reading and Writer’s Group, along with cake and white elephant stalls.



The first outing of the PT (Public Transport) Rambles Group with a cruise on the Maribyrnong River

Lola Fogarty took over as newsletter editor from Lindsay Horner and started to produce the newsletter on a computer for the first time.

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Twenty Years of History—1995

Membership continued to grow and at Enrolment Day, in February, membership stood at almost 350. The cost of membership remained on \$18, with the AGM being held at the Croydon TAFE in the Industry Development Building, Room G102, Norton Road, Croydon.

The third birthday party was celebrated with a luncheon and cutting a birthday cake at the June general meeting. The speaker was from Victorian Department of Aboriginal Affairs who delivered a most interesting talk and display on Australian indigenous people.

A decision was made to purchase equipment with the money granted by Croydon City Council and extra chairs and tables were purchased for Croydon U3A use in the Croydon Primary School rooms.

Cliff Picton, one of four founders of the U3A movement in Australia, was a special guest speaker at one of the regular coffee mornings. He was also invited as guest speaker at our 20th Anniversary Luncheon at Karralyka Theatre later in May 2012.



Croydon Library allowed the use of their showcase, where the Arts and Crafts groups mounted a display.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—1996

The membership continued to build to reach a high 360, utilising 38 leaders and conveners. The AGM was held on 1st March at Croydon TAFE, as in the previous year.

In September, a meeting was held of members expressing an interest in forming a choir and by June of the next year, the group was holding rehearsals at the Mingarra Retirement Village and Hostel.

The Croydon U3A members enjoyed many social functions during the year such as dine-outs, games afternoons, a trip to the Casino, a holiday to Merimbula, a visit to the Olinda Rhododendron Gardens, as well as Coolart Wetlands.



Ramble Group at Coolart

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Twenty Years of History—1997

A special meeting was held between members of Croydon Primary School Council and Croydon U3A regarding our current accommodation at the school. The Croydon Primary School Council had advised there would be no renewal of our lease. The Croydon U3A Committee then negotiated an agreement with the Croydon Central Scout Group who were happy for us to transfer our office across Kent Avenue to their premises, and to have full daily use of the hall and the rooms. The Group even offered to assist with our moving.

Fund raising continued and a cheque for \$250 was forwarded from Croydon U3A to the Mercy Maternity Hospital for their 'Small Miracles' Appeal to assist in updating equipment used in their work with premature babies.

A special morning was held in September to celebrate Adult Learners' Week and the 5th birthday party of Croydon U3A was celebrated with a spit roast. The AGM was held on 7th March at St Johns Careforce Hall in Croydon Road.

The committee had made successful submissions to the Adult Community and Further Education (ACFE) board for funding and were granted the following:-

\$1250 for the continued provision of an internet connection. \$2000 to be used to research teaching sources and to provide new courses for members, plus \$950 towards the purchase of a photocopier from State Works.

ACFE also provided funds for a computer, as well as \$673 to cover the cost of having the telephone connected plus the purchase of a printer and an internet connection.

The 5th birthday party was celebrated with a spit roast.



Playreading Group at Christmas Break Up

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—1998

With membership now over 400, the sixth birthday celebrations took place at the Croydon Primary School Hall, including a spit roast and entertainment from the Victorian Police Band. Life Membership Awards were given to Dot Ward and Lola Fogarty in appreciation for their time, work and dedication to Croydon U3A since its inception.

In September, the United Nations International Day for Older People was celebrated and a programme titled 'Making the Most of Life' was held at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre in Albert Park where some Croydon U3A members took part in line dancing and the craft group gave a demonstration.

To mark the International Year of the Older Person, Croydon U3A received from the Department of Human Services, through Lorraine Elliott MLA, a cheque for \$1000 which would be used to buy new equipment. A meeting was held with Maroondah Council members who conceded U3A Croydon needed help with accommodation.

The singing group gave concerts at several nursing homes under the leadership of Marsh Darlow with Dorothy Baker as accompanist. The Bushwalking Group went on their monthly walks at Emerald, Olinda, Silvan, Warrandyte, Healesville, Box Hill, and Eltham, with the annual camp held at Creswick. Members of the watercolour course distinguished themselves at the Ferntree Gully Art and Craft Show by taking off the 1st prize in the watercolour section, as well as an honourable mention.

Dot Ward and Carol Larder attended a 5 day Train the Trainer Course run by the Council of Adult Education and were able to share the knowledge they gained with Croydon U3A members.

The end of year breakup party was held at the Talent Street Uniting Church Hall. The AGM was held on 6th March at St Johns Careforce Hall in Croydon Road. The monthly management meetings were held at Lorraine Elliot's MLA office, 60 Main Street, Croydon, while general meetings were in the Glenn Frost room next to the Croydon Library.

Craft Group
Croydon Primary School
Canteen



Looking Forward, Looking Back

Twenty Years of History—1999

The membership rose to a new high of 434. Croydon U3A's seventh birthday celebrations were held at Bramleigh Reception Rooms, with entertainment provided by the Police Pipe Band. The AGM was held on 5th March at St Johns Careforce Hall in Croydon Road.

The book "A Spice of Life", a collection of works from Croydon U3A's Writing Groups and edited by Jack Newton, was launched at Wyreena on May 5th. The occasion was the opening of Croydon U3A's Art and Craft Exhibition, with Cr Maureen Naylor, Mayor of Maroondah, City Council conducting the official opening. Part of the celebrations was dedicated to the United Nation's Year of the Older Person.

In May 1999 the Maroondah Council made two rooms available at the 'Wyreena' complex. The Central Croydon Scout Hall was still being fully used for courses as well as accommodating the Croydon U3A office. Maroondah Council also advised a portable classroom could be erected at the 'Wyreena' complex for the sole use of Croydon U3A at a cost of \$4,020 per annum, but this offer was later withdrawn due to aesthetic reasons. A further two rooms, for a rental \$48 per week, was offered to Croydon U3A by Maroondah Council at 'Silver Birches' but the Croydon U3A Management Committee rejected this offer.

News was received that the Croydon Market Management wanted to move the Croydon Central Scout Hall higher up Kent Avenue and this was being considered by the Scout management who assured Croydon U3A that whatever the outcome the present arrangement with Croydon U3A would continue.

Due to the moving of the Scout Hall, temporary accommodation was secured at the Scout/Guide Hall in Birdwood Road and Croydon Secondary School. This all involved rearranging courses.

A fax/photocopier and two computers were donated to Croydon U3A by the Eastern Regional Branch of Adult Community and Further Education.

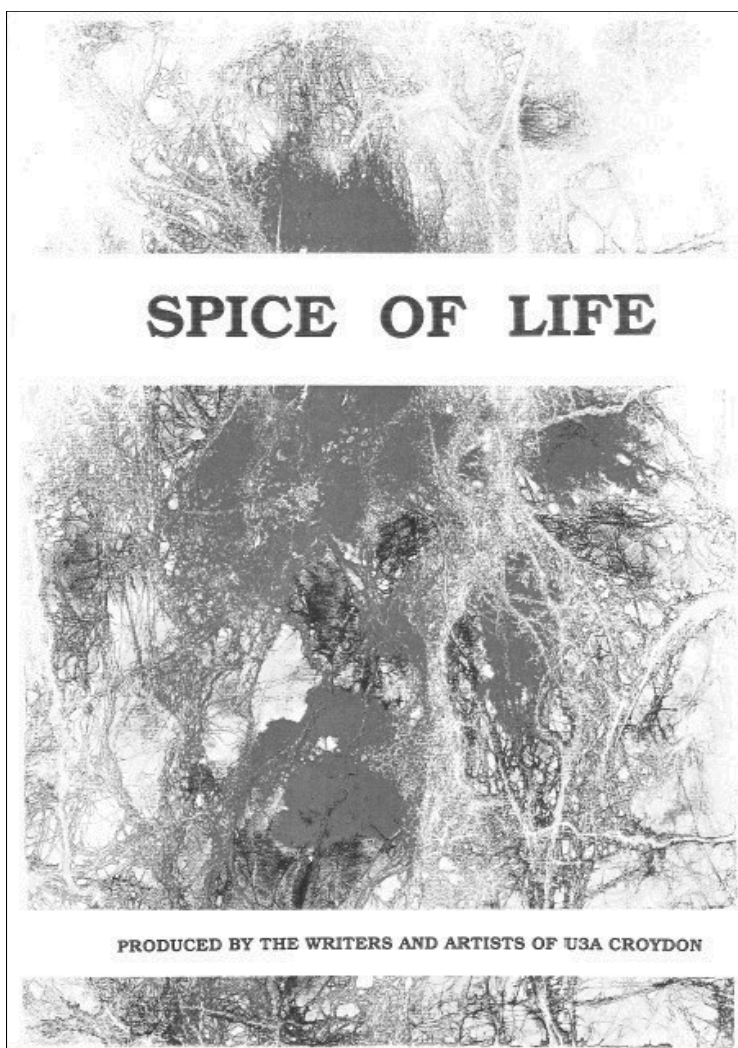
In the first week of August 1999, Croydon Market Shopping Centre Management offered to Croydon U3A an area for the display and promotion of our group. The Croydon U3A Singing Group won a prize of \$500 from Byvan the owners of the market complex for being the most entertaining group. This group had become very proficient and worthy of the title 'choir'. The Japanese Study course spent a day at Tintern Primary School helping the students on their Special Japanese Theme Day.

'Mingarra' sent a letter of appreciation from the residents for the entertainment provided by the Croydon U3A Choir who held their practice sessions at Mingarra.

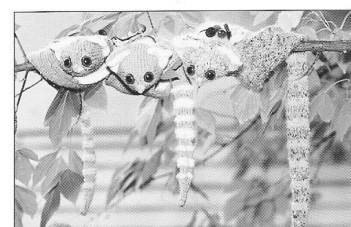
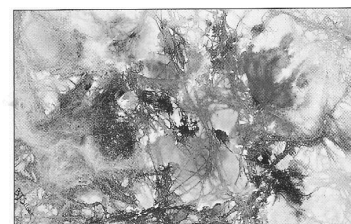
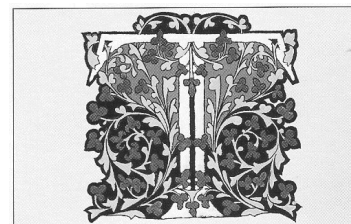
Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—1999 (cont.)

Volunteers from our Croydon U3A membership were called to make scarves for the Scout Troops.



You are invited to
VISIONS OF THE THIRD AGE
an exhibition of
watercolour, mixed media, paintings,
craft work & calligraphy
by members of
U3A Croydon
on Wednesday 5 May 1999 from 7.30 - 9.30 pm
and continuing until Sunday 30 May



to be officially opened at 8.00 pm at
Wyreana Community Arts Centre
13-23 Hull Road Croydon Phone 9725 4611

Photographs by Andrew Harrison, with thanks

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Twenty Years of History—2000

Maroondah City Council offered the use of a room in the Croydon Citizens Advice Bureau in Mt Dandenong Road, Croydon, as a permanent Croydon U3A office. It was central and adequate for our U3A purposes, with a nominal rent. The Committee announced that subscriptions would be increased next year to accommodate the new Goods and Services Tax (GST). A sub-committee was formed with a view to producing a strategic plan for Croydon U3A's future.

U3A Croydon again took part in the 'Making the Most of Life' event at the Exhibition Buildings in October. The Scottish Country, Tap, Line, and Greek Dancing groups took part, as well as members from the Craft and Calligraphy courses. At the Grand Opening Ceremony our Greek and Tap Dancers were selected for the 'Dance Extravaganza' on the main stage, and the response from the audience was overwhelming.



The Greek Dancers

During the year the Choir sang at many venues for free and received donations amounting to \$410, which they turned over to the Committee.

As the Croydon Central Scout Hall was still not available, as at March 2001, accommodation was spread over 20 venues. U3A Croydon became a member of the U3A Network and an Annual Conference of U3As was held late April or early May with Dot Ward and Rod Williamson representing Croydon.

Swinburne College of TAFE, Croydon offered their computer room to hold computer and internet courses for members. Birthday celebrations were held at Bramleigh Receptions, while the AGM was held at the Anglicare Hall, monthly management meetings at the Croydon Central Scout Hall in Kent Avenue and general meetings in the Glenn Frost room. The membership was 500 with 51 leaders some taking more than one course.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—2001

The Committee adopted a Strategic Plan covering membership, promotion and communication, accommodation, services, and finance and planning relating to the future of U3A Croydon Inc. Membership was now at 600 members.

Watercolour Group exhibited their works at Eastland Art Show, Camberwell Rotary Show and Ringwood Art Society "In house Exhibition" and were successful with selling many of their works and winning prizes.

A spring fete, and a garage sale in October raised \$2500. A grant of \$4959 was received for the purchase of a photocopier as a result of an application to the International Year of Volunteer Awards. The Commonwealth Government equipment grant provided U3A with a photocopier to value of \$4939.

The Croydon Central Scout Hall in Kent Avenue was moved from its original site to a site further up the Kent Avenue hill on October 18th. Renovations provided Croydon U3A with an extra room at the front, plus upgraded flooring, new kitchen and toilets thus relieving the accommodation problems, which meant the rooms at 'Wyreena' would no longer be required.



Scout Hall moved to new address—33 Kent Avenue

The Croydon U3A office was to be extended thus improving the ability to welcome members and provide information to anyone interested in joining U3A. U3A Croydon Inc contributed \$3,000 to the cost of renovations, and Maroondah City Council paid the balance.

A ninth Anniversary Luncheon was held on the 27th of July at Colonial Court, Maroondah Highway, Croydon North. Croydon U3A made a contribution to Maroondah City Council policy on mature age activity groups.

Anne Perkins donated 100 books to Croydon U3A library.

Member Terry Brown was awarded the Centenary Medal for her services to Returned and Services League (RSL).

Twenty Years of History—2002

The membership steadied at 570, with 58 leaders taking 72 courses and activities. The fees were \$28.

A significant event for this year was the 10th anniversary luncheon which was held at Dorset Gardens, and included a hat parade by members and the induction of two new life members, Jack Newman and Ron Cavill, who were presented with their certificates.

The 10th Anniversary Art & Craft Show was held over 24/25 August at the Croydon Primary School. The 10th Anniversary Book was compiled by Margaret Wilson, Dot Ward and a sub-committee.

New sub-committees were formed for social, course co-ordination, newsletter editorial and office management. As well, committee members' job descriptions were documented. The AGM was held at the Central Croydon Scout Hall, the monthly management meetings at Lorraine Elliot's MP office in Main Street and general meetings at the Glenn Frost room. Margaret Dunbar became Newsletter Editor.

The Victoria Government changed the name of Seniors Week to the Victorian Senior's Festival, held in March, with Croydon U3A holding an open day to celebrate this week. U3A also participated in Maroondah's Mature Adults Expo at Eastland Shopping Centre. An op shop fashion parade was held which raised \$230. During Adults Learners Week some of Croydon U3A courses were open to the public to visit.



Dot Ward cutting the Anniversary Cake

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—2003

The AGM was held at the Croydon Central Scout Hall on 2nd May with guest speaker Dympna Beard MP, the monthly management meetings were held at Dympna Beard's office in Main Street, Croydon and general meetings at the Glenn Frost room. The fees remained steady at \$28 while membership rose to 690. A special general meeting was held at Central Croydon Scout Hall on Friday 7th March to consider the adoption of a new constitution (comprising the statement of purposes and rules of U3A Croydon Inc). The new constitution was accepted by a unanimous vote.



Craft Display

Dot Ward stepped down from having a position on the Committee of Management. This was the first time Dot wasn't on the Committee of Management since its inception, her commitment to the organisation was unsurpassed, her only regret being not to have secured a permanent home for Croydon U3A, which was not for the lack of trying.

Courses weren't held during Senior's Festival Week from 16th to 23rd March. The Maroondah Council Multicultural luncheon, which took place at the Ringwood RSL, was entertained with line dancing. The choir entertained the residents at Dorset Lodge. Members of the craft group demonstrated their skills at the handicraft fair at Queen Victoria Market.

Dot Ward was awarded "Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation" by the Victorian Premier at the Victorian Senior of the Year award. Croydon U3A and other various groups nominated her.

The 11th birthday luncheon was held at Croydon Primary School and was catered for by the social committee. The op shop fashion parade and sale was held at the Central Croydon Scout Hall. The October fair raised \$710.

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Twenty Years of History—2004

The AGM was held at the Croydon Central Scout Hall on 30th April with guests Dympna Beard MP and Cr Neil Rose, Mayor, Maroondah City Council. During the AGM Cr Neil Rose presented Dot Ward with a framed award in recognition of her substantial contribution to Maroondah and surrounding districts residents. The monthly management meetings were held at Dympna Beard MP office in Main Street, Croydon, with the January meeting and general meetings at the Croydon Central Scout Hall. The fees remained steady at \$28 while membership dropped to 540.

The birthday luncheon was held at Sophia's on Maroondah Highway, Croydon, whilst the Christmas break-up was held at the Tallent Street Uniting Church Hall, Croydon. The Microsoft Access program, from Knox U3A, was installed on the office computer for managing memberships, enrolments, members' badges and receipts and, finally, class lists for each course. Enrolment day was held on Saturday 13th November at the Scout Hall with a display by leaders and a sausage sizzle put on by the scouts.

Wendy Sinfield was approached by Diny Driessen to become Assistant Treasurer. Later she became Assistant Office Manager until 2006, then Office Manager, a position she still holds in 2012. Margaret Dunbar became the Newsletter Editor and, like Wendy, still holds the position in 2012. A grant from Maroondah City Council was received for the purchase of a piano for the choir.



Computer Publisher Class

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—2005

70 courses, led by 58 leaders, were held at various venues including Croydon TAFE, Mingarra, the Croydon Central Scout Hall, the Glenn Frost Room and private homes. Membership was 545 with a slight increase in fees to \$30.

The AGM and a Special General Meeting were held on 20th May at the Croydon Central Scout Hall. Regular management meetings were again held at Dympna Beard's MP Office, 60 Main Street, Croydon.

The birthday lunch was held at Sofia's, like the previous year. Discover Antiques Day was held at the Central Croydon Scout hall. Members were able to bring small items and have them valued. Croydon U3A combined with the Friends of William Angliss Hospital Op Shop and held a fashion parade at the Central Croydon Scout Hall.

Croydon U3A joined "The Regional Forum for Eastern U3As". After long negotiations with Maroondah City Council it was agreed that the Glenn Frost Room could be used on Tuesday mornings, as well as Friday mornings. Gay Hill successfully organised from 'start to finish' a Christmas Break-up with a lunch and revue at the Tallent Street Uniting Church Hall.



Moira Russo and Edith Rankin on Open Day

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Twenty Years of History—2006

The AGM was held on May 26th at Central Croydon Scout Hall, where members voted on an amendment to the constitution that “committee members to be elected for 2 years instead of 1”. Regular Management Meetings were again held at 60 Main Street, Croydon. A special General Meeting was held on 28th March to discuss the change to the constitution. Membership was 599, with 70 classes and 58 leaders, and the fees remained at \$30.

Croydon U3A combined with the Friends of William Angliss Hospital op shop and held a fashion parade at the Scout hall on 18th October. Open Day was held at Tallent Street Uniting Church hall on 27th October with 30 courses participating with Dymphna Beard MP the special guest.

A grant of \$8175.10 was received from U3A Network Victoria and used to purchase a microphone with a stand and amplifier, an audio system, a refrigerator, a photocopier, one year’s rent at the Central Croydon Scout Hall, a digital camera, some music sheets and a stand for the choir plus a computer and a printer for the newsletter editor.

Diny Driessen, the President, was interviewed by Channel 31 and the program was later televised. On 20th July the President had a very positive meeting with Tim Cocks, Team Leader of Leisure Services at Maroondah City Council, in regard to a permanent U3A office. Tim was able to offer all the offices on the south side of Keystone Hall except the small one, which was offered to Croydon Little Athletics. Rent negotiations began and finally in December the rent was settled at \$100 per month, as well as the terms of the lease. On 1st January 2007, Croydon U3A would be able to move in to their own office.

Diny Driessen and Gay Hill attended the opening of the “very luxurious” Knox U3A building for which the council charged a nominal rate of \$2 per annum.

Croydon U3A attended their first meeting of Maroondah City Council’s “Healthy Aging, Healthy Future” forum.



Christmas Revue and Luncheon at Tallent St Church Hall

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—2007

The new office complex, at Civic Square, was opened by the Maroondah City Council Mayor, Cr Peter Gurr on 22nd March. David Hodgett MP gave a short speech on the day. Among the Maroondah City Council employees who attended were Tim Cocks, Di Childs and Rosemary Sheehan. Deirdre Meredith, Hon. Secretary, represented U3A Network Victoria. The event was published in local paper.

The President Diny Driessen remarked about the new venue in the newsletter, *“Our new office has been in use since the 29th of January and is proving to be an excellent venue. It provides all the space needed to administer our ever growing organization and room for storage, not only of documents that need to be kept for seven years but also of valuable equipment previously stored at member’s homes. On top of that we have gained a classroom in the foyer, which we use in the afternoons when the office is closed.”*

Membership was 587, with 67 courses and 55 leaders, and the fees remained at \$30. A General Meeting was held on 26th March at Central Croydon Scout Hall in Kent Ave, followed by the AGM on 18th May at the same venue. The committee meetings were now being held in the new Croydon U3A office, after the move from the Maroondah Citizen’s Advice Bureau (CAB), Mt Dandenong Road to the Keystone Hall Complex.

The Council’s Tim Cocks suggested the Keystone Clubrooms could be used for courses during the day. A meeting was held in January with Rosemary Sheehan, from Maroondah City Council who advised Little Athletics and Master Athletics were willing to share the clubrooms on weekdays except Tuesday afternoons. This provided space for one course.

The 15th birthday party was held at the Kilsyth Club, where Dot Ward was guest speaker. Croydon U3A participated in the Croydon Festival on 18th February. The Christmas Break-up, with displays, revue and luncheon, was organised to be at the Croydon Secondary College Hall but the Federal Election was called, so after a lot of searching for another hall and change of date, the break-up was able to be held at the Keystone Hall.

In the second half of the year, the Central Croydon Scouts started on their building repairs, therefore the Yoga, Tai Chi, Shibashi, Recorder and German courses had to be moved to another venue. Swinburne TAFE kindly donated six of their computers to Croydon U3A.

Telstra provided a grant of \$5115 which was used for the purchase of two projectors and the cost of installing the donated computers. Eric Lock and assistants built the desks at the Keystone Office for the computer room. Eric Lock, Ian Tuffs and Margaret Dunbar set up the computers ready for courses in February 2008. The U3A Network grant of \$7172, from the Victorian Government, was used for setting up the new office at Keystone Complex and the rental costs of Keystone Complex office and clubrooms.

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Twenty Years of History—2007 (cont)

During the year, the website was rebuilt by Margaret Dunbar.

Diny Driessen asked member Margaret Benzie to prepare and lodge the quarterly BAS statement instead of using an external bookkeeper, this, along with a change in auditors, represented a large saving in costs. There was a display of member's articles at the Croydon Library showcase during Adult Learner's Week in September. A grant from Maroondah City Council was received for part of the costs of an air conditioner for the Keystone Clubrooms.

It was with great sorrow that Croydon U3A received news of the passing of Diny Driessen, a much loved President, on Wednesday 13th June. 2007 For the July newsletter, Margaret Dunbar wrote a tribute to Diny. (see page 101)

Following the funeral of President Diny Driessen, Croydon U3A members provided the food for the wake at the Central Croydon Scout Hall. Shortly after Diny's death, Vice-President Gay Hill passed away.



Ruth Crichton, Deirdre Meredith, David Hodgett MP, Mayor Cr Peter Gurr, Diny Driessen cutting the ribbon at the official opening of U3A Croydon Inc office

Looking Back, Looking Forward

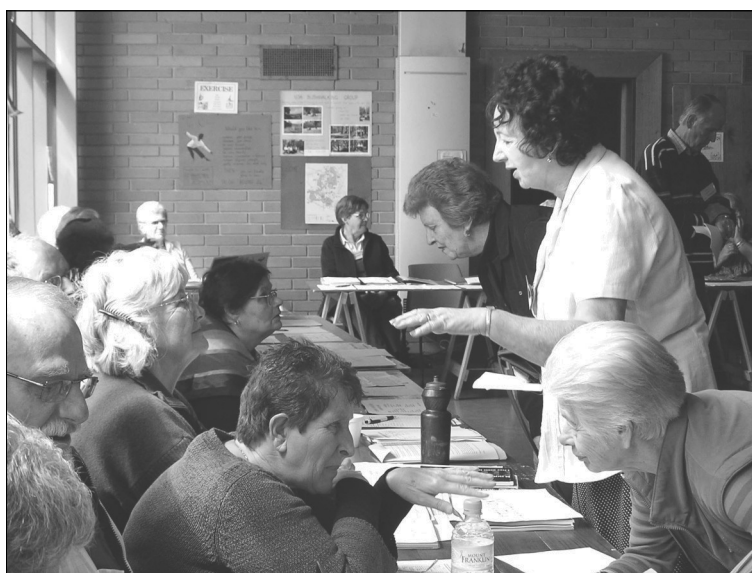
Twenty Years of History—2008

At the AGM held on 30th May at Central Croydon Scout Hall, a minute silence was observed in recognition of the contribution made to Croydon U3A by Diny Driessen and Gay Hill. The monthly management committee meetings were held at the Keystone Complex and Central Croydon Scout Hall. Executive committee meetings were held at David Hodgett MP office, 60 Main Street, Croydon. The membership was 640, with 67 leaders taking 78 courses. The fees remained at \$30 plus \$5 postage.

Program Growth Support Fund grant of \$3070 was received via U3A Network Victoria and the ACFE grant of \$7671 was also received. A number of courses received new equipment, including a table tennis table and laptop for course leaders. Bank trading went from the Maroondah Credit Union to National Bank of Australia. Croydon U3A finances, including the quarterly BAS, were computerised by Treasurer, Barbara Allen.

Due to the lack of facilities for courses, President Bob Harman held meetings with David Hodgett MP regarding grants and the future requirements for premises. David sent a letter of support to Maroondah City Council. Other meetings were with Shaun Leane MP, State Member for Eastern Metropolitan, in relation to our office requirements, Mike Symon MP, Federal Member for Deakin, in relation to the grant to Croydon Little Athletics to upgrade their facilities which we share and Cr Tony Dib, Mayor, Maroondah City Council, regarding use of two computers at the Croydon Library and the Little Athletics office attached to the U3A office. Contact was made with Croydon Primary School and Croydon Secondary School concerning course accommodation and a room for computers, and Mr Di Carlo, Swinburne TAFE (Croydon Campus), regarding the possibilities of using their facilities. Various other meetings with MCC Leisure and Recreation team were held regarding accommodation.

The first edition of “*Leading Lights*”, a newsletter for leaders, was produced by Doris Hotzel. Enrolment, Information and Open Day were held together on 21st November at the Keystone Hall, with Channel 31 coming and interviewing members and filming the day. The footage was shown later on Channel 31 and again in March 2009. There was a display at Croydon Library during Adult Learner’s Week in September and again in Senior’s Week in October.



Open Day at Keystone Hall

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Twenty Years of History—2009

The AGM was held on 29th May at Croydon Central Scout Hall with Mike Symon MP and David Hodgett MP present. Committee meetings were held at the Keystone Complex, and the Scout Hall. Membership was 677, with 87 courses and 75 leaders. Fees were \$35.

Grants were received from the ACFE \$9334 and the DPCD \$2140. Croydon South School was vacant and members signed a petition “that the State Government turn the land into public parkland and allow the buildings to be used for the public”.

The Keystone Clubrooms were renovated and enlarged, with the work being done by MCC with the grant from Federal Government to Croydon Little Athletics. Courses being held here were moved to Springfield Hall during the building and returned back at the beginning 2010. One of the benefits of the renovation, more storage area was made available..

U3A participated in the November Maroondah Festival held in the Town Park an area surrounding Keystone Complex. The festival was formally known as the Croydon Festival. Also the choir participated at the U3A Network Vic Carnival of Learning at the beginning of Senior’s Week in October at Federation Square, Melbourne.

After considerable discussion on upgrading versus new, looking for another venue to house the computer courses, ten new computers were purchased. Eric Lock and his helpers upgraded the computer room benches to allow an extra three computers to be accommodated. Eric and Margaret Dunbar loaded the software from DonorTec and had the computers up and running for Term 3.

Open and Enrolment Day was held at Springfield Hall on 29th October. Again Channel 31 was present and Geoff Steventon (Vice President U3A Croydon Inc) conducted a lengthy interview and showed the film crew around. The footage was shown on Eastern Newsbeat program. Margaret Dunbar printed statistics of the number of visits to the website, broken up by Australian States, Overseas Countries and the sections viewed.

The end of year concert and luncheon was held at Tallent Street Uniting Church Hall on 4th December and was compared by member Geoff Oakley. The special guest was David Hodgett MP. Entertainment was provided by Tai Chi, Line Dancing, Scottish Country Dancing, Italian, Belly Dancing and the Choir, with children from Croydon Primary School performing.

The search continued for extra accommodation with Croydon South Primary School and other locations being potential sites. An air conditioner for the Kent Avenue Scout Hall was

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—2009(cont)

purchased by U3A and the Scouts paid the installation costs. The first of bi annual meetings with the local councilors from Maroondah City Council Wyreena Ward, Crs Les Willmott JP, Rob Steane and Michael Macdonald and the Croydon U3A executive committee was held. The Croydon Swimming Club Hall was suggested as a possibility to be used for courses. The new slogan “the only degree you need is a degree of enthusiasm”, to be used in conjunction with “Sharing Knowledge and Skills”, was introduced.



Essie Fitzgerald & Ruth Crichton

Ian Tufts & Graham Rhodes with prospective Computer Course members.



Looking Forward, Looking Back

Twenty Years of History—2010

The AGM was held at Croydon Central Scout Hall on 26th March with guest speaker Cr Alex Makin, Mayor of Maroondah City Council. Geoff Steventon presented the draft of the strategic plan he had been preparing for months. Membership reached an all-time high of 791, with membership fees of \$35.

Geoff Steventon wrote a new mission statement “Sharing knowledge and skills with each other for mutual benefit, wellbeing and enjoyment and to work constructively with its partners”. Margaret Dunbar designed Croydon U3A’s new colour logo of gum leaves and nuts. A colour brochure was also designed by Margaret Dunbar.

The U3A moved into the new office area vacated by the Little Athletics off the main office area. The office computers were increased from one to two, adding a printer. After the 2007 major flood there were another three minor floods in the Keystone Office area, after which the Maroondah City Council changed the outside guttering to avoid flooding in the whole Keystone Complex. Croydon U3A commenced using the Alan Jackson Room which was used for one morning a week.

The Executive Committee met with the Ward Councillors regarding parking around Keystone Complex. Later in the year the Committee met with the Mayor, Cr Alex Makin, Tim Cox, Community Facilities manager and Ward Councillors to present the strategic plan, which was received positively. They also met with Ringwood U3A to discuss the forming of a “Maroondah U3A” which both U3A’s would combine. A fruitful meeting with David Hodgett MP was held, he offered his support for our endeavours to find a more cohesive, convivial and centralised place to conduct courses.

Morning teas were arranged to welcome new members. Croydon U3A was represented at the Healthy Ageing Network by Geoff Steventon and the Choir and Line Dancing groups participated at the Council’s Maroondah Seniors Wellbeing Expo held at Eastland on 13th October. The members wore the new Croydon U3A Polo T-Shirts.

At the Seniors Week launch in Federation Square on Sunday 3rd October, Croydon U3A had two marquees, with Bush Walking, Cycling, Card Making and the Choir participating on the day. The Volunteer’s High Tea was held in the Keystone Hall and the Leader’s Luncheon was held at the Ringwood Club. Croydon U3A also participated in the Maroondah Festival on 7th November with a Watercolour Exhibition in the office, Scottish Country Dancing and Tai Chi performing on the main stage with Leadlighting, Cards, Cycling and Bushwalking groups providing displays.

Course enrolments were held over three days from 23rd to 25th November.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—2011

The AGM was held at Central Croydon Scout Hall on 25th March with a membership of 769 fees remaining at \$35. The Arts and Culture grant from Maroondah City Council was provided to assist in the preparation and printing of the History of Croydon U3A.

The patchwork group raffled a quilt that they had made, with the proceeds going to Maroondah Hospital. The Knox U3A's Members Data Program (MDP) was installed on the two office computers. Wendy Sinfield, Office Manager, was in charge of transferring the members data with the help of Doris Hotzel and Dotti Newman and using a quote from the ex-president of Knox U3A who wrote the program *"I must say the progress of the ladies at the U3A office is impressive. I've watched other U3As taking up the program but nothing compared to the effort and dedication these ladies show"*.

In regard to the Maroondah Council Parking Implementation Strategy, Croydon U3A replied to the consultation document, stressing the need for designated parking in the Civic Square and Town Park areas to enable ease of access for members attending courses and attending to voluntary office work. Council indicated we would be consulted on the implementation of the Parking Strategy Plan in 2012.

U3A Network were so impressed with our web site they asked Margaret Dunbar, Croydon's web site designer and manager, to help other U3As to set up their web sites. A new photocopier was purchased with the grant from ACFE. Maroondah Council upgraded the office signage above the office.

The leasing of the Croydon Swimming Club Hall with Maroondah Council Staff members was a longer than expected process with the outcome of the lease being with the Swimming Club instead of the Council.

Distinguished Service Awards guidelines were introduced to award members "for their outstanding service in furthering the aims and objectives of U3A Croydon Inc". Regular welcoming of new members at the morning teas continued through out the year.

U3A participated in the opening of Senior's Week at Federation Square with four marquees occupied by Bushwalking, Cardmaking, Creative Craft and Scrapbooking courses. Enrolment for 2012 was held over two days at the Central Croydon Scout Hall in November. At the Maroondah Festival, held on November 13th, Creative Craft, Cycling, Languages, Leadlighting and Scrapbooking courses had displays in the U3A marquees, whilst the Tai Chi Group and U3A Croydon Singers performed on the stage. The Leaders Luncheon was held at Dorset Gardens Hotel. Classroom computers were upgraded to Windows 7 plus extra RAM was added during the Christmas break by Keith Eyssens and Trevor Bellinger.

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Twenty Years of History—2011(cont)

U3A met with the Ward Councillors Les Willmott JP, Rob Steane, and Michael Macdonald twice during the year and, from the last meeting, they were able to arrange a new hand rail at the office entrance. Late in the year, a plan of 20th anniversary celebration events, involving all courses and members was drawn up by Barbara Allen.

Discussions with David Hodgett MP began about using one wing of the Croydon North Primary School, along with Blackburn English School that now occupy three wings of the school. This was after the Government's decision to "bull-doze" Croydon South Primary School and turn it into public parklands after the Government found the school to be beyond repair. Croydon U3A was to be one of the main beneficiaries of Croydon South Primary School



Croydon U3A displays at Maroondah Festival Croydon Town Park



Looking Back, Looking Forward

Twenty Years of History—2012

2012 celebrated Croydon U3A's Twentieth Anniversary Year at a luncheon in the Karralyka Centre. The guest speaker was Cliff Picton, one of the four people who brought the U3A concept to Australia in 1984. Special guests were David Hodgett MP Kilsyth, Mayor Cr Rob Steane, Cr Les Willmott JP, Cr Paul Macdonald, Cr Ann Fraser and U3A Network President Elsie Mutton. A distinguished service award was given to Wendy Sinfield. Corrie Cooksley prepared a wonderful scrapbook of each course being held in our twentieth year which was displayed on the day.

The 20th Anniversary Concert was held at Mooroolbark Community Hall with Alan Strachan as M.C. and performances from Choir, Belly Dancing, Scottish Country Dancing, Guitar and Ukulele Group, and Line Dancing. The first Leaders Continuous Service Awards were given out, with the balance given out at the Leader's Luncheon in November, plus the second of the Distinguished Service Award's was given to Margaret Dunbar at the Concert. The concert was enjoyed immensely by all who attended.

Unfortunately the Art, Craft and Photographic Show organised for June was cancelled by the venue owner and their new venue or another suitable venue wasn't available for 2012.

The membership fees remained at \$35. The AGM was held on Friday, March 30th at Central Croydon Scout Hall, with the Anti Sexual Harassment Policy being introduced.

As per our strategic plan from 2010, more discussions were held with Ringwood U3A, again with the possibility of creating a Maroondah U3A but Croydon members voted against this move. In May, a meeting was held with the Principal of Blackburn English School and the concept of the two different organisations being together on one property was being submitted to the Department of Education for approval.

Open Week was introduced to enable the members and the public to come along and view courses operating and discuss with leaders details of their courses. During Senior's Week we again participated with a display at Federation Square plus the Croydon U3A Singers along with 24 other U3A choirs had the experience of joining together and performing at the U3A Combined Choral Choir Concert in Melbourne Town Hall. The Volunteer Morning Tea was held at the Swim Log Cabin Springfield Road, Croydon and the Leader's Luncheon at the Dorset Gardens Hotel. We were also represented again at the Maroondah Festival in the Town Park Croydon, by various courses.

The Executive Committee continued to meet with the Ward Councilors each six months, with a view to gaining more accommodation and updating lease arrangements. An extension was granted for the production of this book with the new launch date being targeted for 2013.

Looking Forward, Looking Back

The Newsletter

Essential Communication

The newsletter is the U3A's most important way of communicating to the members. In fact, in most cases, the only form of communication, due to being spread over so many venues. It also allows new or potential members, or people in the community, friends or fellow U3As, to get information on the happenings of the organisation.

Therefore it was essential that, after the Croydon U3A was formed in June 1992, an editor be appointed and a regular newsletter developed and distributed. The person appointed was Jack Newton and he produced the first newsletter in August 1992. Originally the first newsletters were produced on a typewriter but then, in 1994, the new editor Lola Fogarty produced the newsletter on a computer.

Members were encouraged to pick up their copy of the newsletter when attending classes, In 2000 a fee was charged to members to have their copy posted. In 2009 the newsletter was posted to all members instead of being available at the various venues/classes. The Newsletter is produced in black and white to allow distribution to members but has been available in colour on our website since 2009. Newsletters have been printed by our members, Croydon City Council then Maroondah City Council, this arrangement with Maroondah Council continues at the present time. We are very grateful to Maroondah City Council for their support in offering the printing at a very reasonable rate.

Jill Webber joined in 1998 and has been the newsletter proof reader for most of the time that she has been a member of Croydon U3A. There are 11 editions of the newsletter produced per year.

EDITOR	PERIOD
Jack Newtown	August 1992 to December 1992
Lindsay Horner	January 1993 to August 1994
Lola Fogarty	September 1994 to March 2001
Editorial Committee	April 2001 to June 2002
John Sapsford	July 2002 to August 2003
Margaret Dunbar	September 2003 to present

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Venues

Over 20 years of providing service to the local community, many locations were used for conducting courses, holding meetings or for office space. The following table is a summary of these venues.

C	Alan Jackson Room	Main Street, Croydon
C	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	3rd Croydon Scout Group Hall, Birdwood Road, Croydon
O	Citizens Advice Bureau	Maroondah Citizens Advice Bureau, 214 Mt Dandenong Road, Croydon
C	Civic Centre Courts	Croydon Leisure Centre Civic Square, Croydon
C	Croydon Entertainment Centre	now EV's Youth Centre, 212 Mt Dandenong Road, Croydon
C	Croydon Fitness Centre	24 Croydon Road, Croydon
C	Croydon Leisure Centre	Civic Square, Croydon
C	Croydon Library	Civic Square, Croydon
C&O	Croydon Primary School	Cnr Kent Ave & Croydon Road Croydon
C	Croydon Secondary School	61-77 Croydon Road, Croydon
C	Croydon Senior Citizens	Cnr Mt Dandenong Road & Civic Square, Croydon
C	Croydon Swimming Club Room	Springfield Road, Croydon
C	Dorset Golf Course	Trawalla Road, Croydon
C	Glen Park Community Centre	30 Glen Park Road, Bayswater North 3153
C	Glenn Frost Room	Croydon Library Complex, Civic Square, Croydon
C	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Croydon Central Scout Group, now 33 Kent Ave, prior to 2000 15 Kent Ave, Croydon
C	Keystone Club Room	Keystone Athletics Clubroom, Keystone Complex, Croydon
C	Keystone Computer Room	U3A Croydon Office, Keystone Complex, 1 Civic Square, Croydon
O	Keystone Office	Keystone Complex, 1 Civic Square, Croydon
M	Kilsyth State Electorate Office	60 Main Street, Croydon
C	Latter Day Saints Church	Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints Library, 62 Hewish Road, Croydon
C	Lilydale Croquet Club	20 Market Street, Lilydale 3140
C	Mingarra	Mingarra Retirement Village, 77-115 Mt Dandenong Road, Croydon
C	Monkami	Monkami Centre Inc, 2-6 Dixon Ave, Croydon
C	Outside Venues	Members Homes, Walking Tracks, various attractions and dining venues, travelling by Public Transport, hired bus and car pooling between members
C	Ringwood Community Centre	Central Ringwood Community Centre Inc, Bedford Park, Bedford Road, Ringwood 3134
C	Springfield Hall	Cnr Mt Dandenong Rd, & Springfield Ave, Croydon
M	St John Careforce Hall	Now Anglicare Victoria, 22 Croydon Road, Croydon
C	St John's Church Hall	Anglican Church of St John Divine Hall 5 Toorak Ave, Croydon
C&M	TAFE	Outer Eastern College of TAFE which amalgamated with Swinburne University of Technology in 1998, 12-50 Norton Rd, Croydon
C	Tallent St Church Hall	Croydon Uniting Church Hall, Cnr Croydon Rd & Tallent St, Croydon
C	Wyreena	Wyreena Community Arts Centre, 13 Hull Road, Croydon

C = Course held, O = Office, M = Meetings held

Croydon U3A is currently in the Maroondah City Council's Wyreena Ward, Victorian Electorate of Kilsyth and Federal Electorate of Deakin

Courses and Leaders

Introduction

Croydon U3A's courses are dependant on the members passing on their skills to other members, either from their occupation or through their hobbies and interests that they have acquired over the years. These leaders volunteer their services willingly and freely and there is no doubt that all members appreciate the time and effort that the leaders devote to researching, creating material and presenting each and every course.

Often leaders go over and above their duty, and publish preliminary information in the newsletters or, often, a small article on a course that they took in the month before.

Over Croydon U3A's 20 year history, there have been over 250 different courses conducted which were run by over 270 leaders. This amounts to many thousands of sessions and tens of thousands of hours spent in preparation and presentation

Many of these courses have had the honour of running every year, for the full twenty years. These are:-

- Astronomy
- Australian Studies
- Bushwalking
- Chess
- Creative Gifts/Craft
- Tai Chi

Not far behind are three other courses all running for nineteen years:-

- Computers
- Scottish Country Dancing
- Mahjong

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Courses and Leaders

Course	Leader	Periods	Venue	Description
Astronomy-Introduction	Ron Cavill	1992	TAFE Room 210	The study of our skies, planets and stars
	Ron Cavill	1993-1994	Outside Venue	
	Ron Cavill	1995	Croydon Primary School	
	Ron Cavill	1996	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Ron Cavill	1997	Croydon Primary School	
	Ron Cavill	1998-2006	Mingarra	
	Bruce Dodd	2006-2008	Mingarra	
	Bruce Dodd	2009-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
500 Card Game	Rosemary Isaacson	2000	Wyreena	An old American card game, played by 2 to 6 people but usually in groups of four
	Rosemary Isaacson	2001-2002	Wyreena	
	Val Townsend	2003-2004	Tallent St Uniting Church	
	Anna Ford	2005-2010	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Helen Wilson	2010-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
All Media Painting	Hans Wolfers	1995	Croydon Primary School	Painting with various types of mixed media
Alternative Medicine	Rita Stellar	2002-2003	Glenn Frost Room	Examining the latest clinical research, as well as returning to some of the old favourite remedies
Alternative Religions	John Sapsford	1999	Wyreena	Discovering more about other religions and their places of worship
Ancient Civilisations	Ivy McGregor	1999		The culture of many old societies
	Phillip Daniels	1999		
Armchair Travel	Patrick Wheatley	1993	Croydon Primary School	Members presented their trips to various places including "Beautiful England", "Curious China", "Glorious Greece", Japan, South America to name a few
	Ivy McGregor	1994-1995	Croydon Primary School	
	Ernest Foley	1997		
	Jan Mitchell	2001	Glenn Frost Room	

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Art, Introduction to	Rex Schurmann	1995	Croydon Primary School	Introduction of art techniques and skills
Asian Cooking / Chinese	Jan Mitchell	1994-2001	Outside Venue	Asian and Chinese
Asian Studies	Sandy Kahn	1992	Croydon Library	Study of various parts of Asia
	Sandy Kahn	1993	Croydon Primary School	
Australian Mosaic	Lola Fogarty	1996		An alternative look at Australia
Australian Studies	Ron Browne	1992-1995	Glenn Frost Room	Research and sharing Australian History by members during the early years of U3A. Later years external speakers and members shared their knowledge
	Robyn Pike	1995	Wyreana	
	Robyn Pike	1996-2003	Glenn Frost Room	
	Pearl Christie	2003-2005	Glenn Frost Room	
	Elizabeth Kirk	2006-2009	Glenn Frost Room	
	Joan Shanahan	2006-2009	Keystone Clubrooms	
	Aileen Irwin	2009-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
Australian History	Pat Nixon	2008-2010	Keystone Clubrooms	
Australian and Early English History	Pat Nixon	2010	Keystone Clubrooms	
Basic Electronics	Barry Ponchard	2000	Wyreana	Learn the basics for home electrical maintenance
	Barry Ponchard	2001-2002	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
	Barry Ponchard	2003-2006	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Christopher Travers	2007	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Hille Polak	2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Beading	Margaret Somers	2007-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Introduction to the tools & techniques in making beaded jewellery
Beading/Jewellery	Isobel McLean	2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Belly Dancing	Mandy Heinze	2008-2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Beginners course in learning Belly Dancing
	Jo Slee	2009-2010	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Leah Sette	2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Book Clubs History				Books were originally supplied by CAE and currently by Croydon Branch of Eastern Region Library to book club members for an annual fee
Book Club 1	Pat Tuffs	1997	Croydon Primary School	
	Pat Tuffs	1998-2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Margaret Somers	2006-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
Book Club 2	Barbara Lingerwood	2001-2003	Outside Venue	
	Joan Shanahan	2004-2006	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Joan Shanahan	2007-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
Book Club 3	Beth Dooley	2008-2012	Outside Venue	
Book Club 4	Pat Cavanagh	2011-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
Bridge/Social Beginners	Marion Koffyberg	1992	Croydon Library	
	Marion Koffyberg	1993-1995	Croydon Primary School	
	Jim Bennett	1996-2000	Croydon Primary School	
	Jim Bennett	2001-2003	Mingarra	
	Nirbhay Singh	2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Buddhism, Introduction to	William	2000	Wyreena	
Bushwalking	Hans Wolfers	1992	Outside Venue	Earlier years, bush walks were often held over weekends, while currently they are held twice a month on Saturday
	Dot Ward	1993-1998	Outside Venue	
	Pat Henderson	1999-2005	Outside Venue	
	Jennie Hollis	2005-2007	Outside Venue	
	Trudi Doblin	2005-2012	Outside Venue	
	Vern Routley	2009	Outside Venue	
	Geoff Steventon	2009-2012	Outside Venue	
	Rob Koper	2009-2011	Outside Venue	
	Meredith Douglas	2011-2012	Outside Venue	
	Roger Fiddian	2011-2012	Outside Venue	
Calligraphy Beginners	Marie Harrison	2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Over 12 months the course covers four different alphabets

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Leader	Periods	Venue	Description
Calligraphy 1	Ivy Noyes	1992	TAFE Room No 3	
	John Clough	1993	Croydon Primary School	
	Ted Hoogland	1994	Croydon Primary School	
	Ivy Noyes	1995-1996	Croydon Primary School	
	Marie Harrison	1997	Croydon Primary School	
	Marie Harrison	1998-1999	Wyreena	
	Marie Harrison	2000	Croydon Secondary School	
	Marie Harrison	2001	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Calligraphy 11	Norma Barry	1995	Croydon Primary School	
	Norma Barry	1996-1997	Croydon Primary School	
	Marie Harrison	1997-1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Marie Harrison	1999	Wyreena	
	Marie Harrison	2000	Croydon Secondary School	
	Marie Harrison	2001	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Calligraphy 111	Norma Barry	1997	Croydon Primary School	Versais, Copperplate and Calligraphy Cards
	Marie Harrison	1999	Wyreena	
	Marie Harrison	2000	Croydon Secondary School	
Calligraphy Master Class	Marie Harrison	2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Calligraphy Social	Marie Harrison	2001	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Canasta	Ivy McGregor	1994	Outside Venue	
	Ivy McGregor	1995-1996	Croydon Primary School	
	Brian Hughes	1997-1998	Glenn Frost Room	
	Jim Rapson	1998-1999	Croydon Primary School	
	Brian Hughes	1999	Wyreena	
	Bob	2000	Wyreena	
	Mary O'Hare	2001-2002	Wyreena	
	Jocelyn Young	2003-2004	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Audrey Coughlan	2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Margaret Benzie	2006-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Card Making	Margaret Benzie	2006-2007	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Cards/Mini Albums/ Star Brag Book
	Margaret Benzie	2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	3D & Christmas
	Margaret Benzie	2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Japanese Cards
	Barbara Allen	2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Cards
	Shirley Delaney	2009-2010	Keystone Office	General card making
	Geraldine Driver	2010	Kent Ave Scout Hall	3D & Greeting Cards
	Meron Allen	2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	3D & Greeting Cards
	Shirley Delany	2011-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	3D & Greeting Cards
Chair Dancing Exercises	Jacqueline Lerwill	1996-1999	Croydon Primary School	Complete body work- out, Aerobic exercise done sitting down to your own limits, later to become seated aerobics from 2006
	Jacqueline Lerwill	2000-2002	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
	Ruth Blackburn	2003	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
	Shirley Delaney	2004-2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Charcoal Drawing	Mary Ham	2009-2010	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Chess	Les Noyes	1992	TAFE Room 118	
	Dennis Bowers	1992-1994	TAFE Room 119	
	Dennis Bowers	1993-1994	Croydon Primary School	
	Andrew Graham	1995	Croydon Primary School	
	Des Callaghan	1996-1997	Croydon Primary School	
	Andrew Graham	1996-2000	Croydon Primary School	
	Andrew Graham	2001-2004	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Tom Kenney	2005-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
China Yesterday and	Ivy McGregor	1998	Croydon Primary School	Videos were hired
Choir see Croydon U3A Singers				
Cinema & Media Studies	Dennis Bowers	1993	Outside Venue	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Class Leaders Workshop	Georgie Couer	2010	Alan Jackson Room	Geoff & Georgie attended a Tutor Training Course in 2009 at Sherbrooke U3A, modified the course and offered their version to Croydon and other U3A members
	Geoff Steventon	2010	Alan Jackson Room	
	Georgie Couer	2010	Keystone Clubrooms	
	Geoff Steventon	2010	Keystone Clubrooms	
	Geoff Steventon	2011	Keystone Office	
	Geoff Steventon	2012	Outside Venue	
Classic Movies	Geoff Foster	2001-2002	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Geoff Foster	2002-2006	Outside Venue	
	Bob Harman	2006-2009	Outside Venue	
Classic Symphony	Dennis Bowers	1998	Mingarra	
Clogging Beginners & Advance	Pat Wilmot	1997-1999	Croydon Primary School	Clogging is a form of dancing which became popular after "Riverdance"
Come to the Movies	Dot Ward	1998-1999	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Computer Club	John Sapsford	2002-2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Bill Moseley	2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Computer Course/Computer Studies/Starting Computing	Lola Fogarty	1993-1996	TAFE	Learn to operate and read a program, learn computer technology and some elementary DOS commands
Computer - Basic Keyboard & Mouse Skills	Trevor Bellinger	2010-2012	Keystone Computer Room	First course to kick start your computer journey
Computer - Beginners/Basics/Introduction	Lola Fogarty	1994	TAFE	Assist in your understanding of "the little monsters"
	John Sapsford	1998	TAFE	with assistants Jean Cooke & Adrian Pearce
	Bill Moseley	1999	TAFE	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Computer - Beginners/Basics/Introduction	Bill Moseley	1999	TAFE	
	Jean Cooke	1999	TAFE	
	John Sapsford	2001-2003	TAFE	
	Mary Thompson	2001-2003	TAFE	
	Bill Moseley	2002	TAFE	
	Diny Driessen	2002-2006	TAFE	
	Margaret Zommers	2004-2005	TAFE	
	Margaret Zommers	2006	TAFE	
	Barbara O'Reilly	2007	TAFE	
	Joy Bellinger	2008	Keystone Computer Room	
	Ian Tuffs	2008-2010	Keystone Computer Room	
	Geoff Oakley	2010	Keystone Computer Room	
	Wendy Sinfield	2011	Keystone Computer Room	
	Doris Hotzel	2011	Keystone Computer Room	
	Rob Schmidt	2012	Keystone Computer Room	
Computer - Beginners	Diny Driessen	2004-2006	TAFE	
Computer - Intermediate	Adrian Pearce	2001	TAFE	
	Eric Lock	2001-2004	TAFE	
	Geoff Oakley	2010	Keystone Computer Room	
	Trevor Bellinger	2012	Keystone Computer Room	
Computer - Digital Photo	Eric Lock	2008-2010	Keystone Computer Room	
Computer - Nero	Dotti Newman	2011	Keystone Computer Room	Learn to transfer your photos from camera to computer and create a slide show
Computer - Transfer Photos from your Camera	Dotti Newman	2012	Keystone Computer Room	Learn how to transfer all those precious moments from your camera to your computer hard drive
Computer - Internet	Lola Fogarty	1997	TAFE	
	John Sapsford	2000-2003	TAFE	
	Adrian Pearce	2004-2006	TAFE	
	Ian Tuffs	2008-2012	Keystone Computer Room	
	Allyson Anthonisz	2008-2011	Keystone Computer Room	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Computer - Internet Advance	John Sapsford	2003	TAFE	
	Ian Tuffs	2009-2011	Keystone Computer Room	
Computer - Buying & Selling on eBay	Dotti Newman	2012	Keystone Computer Room	Learn how to open your own a/c with eBay & PayPal, how to buy & sell, watch auctions taking place, searching for items
Computer - Microsoft Excel	John Sapsford	2001	TAFE	Learning what spreadsheets are, designing spreadsheets, formatting, sorting & filtering data plus more
	Trevor Bellinger	2008-2012	Keystone Computer Room	
Computers - Microsoft PowerPoint	Joy Bellinger	2008 & 2010	Keystone Computer Room	Learn how to create powerful & effective presentations and using the program to display as a photo album
	Trevor Bellinger	2011	Keystone Computer Room	
	Trevor Bellinger	2012	Keystone Computer Room	
Computer Microsoft Publisher	Bill Moseley	2001-2003	TAFE	You will learn how to create, design and layout your own cards, invitations, newsletters, labels
	John Sapsford	2002	TAFE	
	Joy Bellinger	2005-2008	TAFE	
	Joy Bellinger	2010	Keystone Computer Room	
Computer - Microsoft Word	Adrian Pearce	1998	TAFE	
	Adrian Pearce	1999	TAFE	
	Adrian Pearce	2003	TAFE	
	Barbara O'Reilly	2008-2009	Keystone Computer Room	
	Allyson Anthonisz	2011	Keystone Computer Room	
	Rob Schmidt	2012	Keystone Computer Room	
Computer - Microsoft Word Inter./Advance	Adrian Pearce	2002	TAFE	
	Georgie Couer	2008	Keystone Computer Room	
	Barbara O'Reilly	2008-2009	Keystone Computer Room	
Crazy Whist	Lola Fogarty	2010-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Creative Cards	Dot Ward	1999-2000	Wyreena	Mediums used for card making include quilling, paper tole, stamp craft and pergamano
	Dot Ward	2001	Senior Citizens	
	Dot Ward	2002-2004	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Brenda Chapman	2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Jo van Groenestey	2006	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Barbara Blease	2007	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Pat Butler	2008-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Brenda Chapman	2010-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Creative Craft	Dot Ward	1997-1998	Croydon Primary School	Experimenting with different crafts, including knitting, beading, crochet, ribbon crafts, embroidery stitches.
	Dot Ward	1999-2000	Wyreena	
	Dot Ward	2001-2004	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Carol Piel	2005-2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Sandy Flynn	2007	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Annette Hill	2009-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Janet Wilkinson	2009-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Annette Hill	2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Mona Jones	2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Creative Drawing/Painting, Intro to	Kaye Cornell	2011-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	The course is designed to learn the theory and the principal behind the fundamentals of drawing, sketching & painting mediums
Creative Gifts	Dot Ward	1992	Croydon Library	
	Dot Ward	1993-1996	Croydon Primary School	
Creative Writing	Jack Newton	1992-1998	Outside Venue	Writing on how to present your thoughts and feelings on paper
	Jack Newton	1999	Wyreena	
	Anne Perkins	2000-2001	Wyreena	
	Anne Perkins	2002-2006	Kent Ave Scout Hall	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Creative Writing for Beginners	Anne Perkins	1998-1999	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Crime Fiction Course	Scott Beattie	1998	Croydon Primary School	
Crochet	Sylvia Condon	2009-2010	Keystone Clubrooms	
	Arden McPhee	2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Croquet	Lola Fogarty	1994 & 1997	Lilydale Croquet Club	
Croydon U3A Singers / Choir	Marsh Darlow	1997-2000	Croydon Primary School	Come with a love of singing and learn the aspects of the art of singing
	Marsh Darlow	2001-2005	Mingarra	
	John Detering	2005-2006	Tallent St Uniting Church	
	Jenny Ellery	2005-2006	Tallent St Uniting Church	
	John Detering	2007-2011	Keystone Clubrooms	
	Alan Strachan	2011-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
Cryptic Crossword	Judy Cairnduff	2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Current Affairs / Discussion Group	Patrick Wheatley	1993	TAFE Room 213	Group discussion and sharing knowledge on a wide range of subjects
	Patrick Wheatley	1994-1995	Glenn Frost Room	
	Jim Williams	1996	Croydon Primary School	
	Robyn Pike	1998	Outside Venue	
	Alison Wright	2005	Outside Venue	
	Pauline Cornell	2005	Outside Venue	
	Pauline Cornell	2006	TAFE	
	Pauline Cornell	2007-2011	Keystone Clubrooms	
Cycling (more challenging)	Helen Girschik	2009-2012	Outside Venue	Cycling on various tracks for approx 45kms
Cycling (easy to moderate)	Pat Cavanagh	2010-2012	Outside Venue	Cycling mostly on bike paths for approx 20 kms
Debating Group	Patrick Wheatley	1995	Croydon Primary School	
Decorating with Jewellery	Corrie Cooksley	2004-2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Decorate boxes, picture frames and mirrors
Digital Camera	Jeffery Faig	2006	Kent Ave Scout Hall	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Digital Camera Basic & Advance	Brian McCarron	2009-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	This course is an introduction to the digital camera, covering menus, modes, ISO, exposure compensation, composition etc.
Divine Magic	John Sapsford	1998	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Documentary and Discussion Group	Bruce Dodd	1996	Croydon Primary School	
Drama Group	Arline Myers	2002-2003	Tallent St Uniting Church	In 2003 presented "Iron Magnolias" a hilarious one act comedy for members.
Drama & Movement	Marsh Darlow	1995	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Marsh Darlow	1996	Croydon Primary School	
Dream Workshop/Making Sense of Life	John Sapsford	1996-1997	Croydon Primary School	
Dutch for Beginners	Tony Driessen	2001-2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Dutch Intermediate	Ivy McGregor	1998	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Tony Driessen	2005		
Earth Revealed	Ivy McGregor	1998	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Phillip Daniels	1998	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Economics, Intro to	Barbara Shying	2001	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
English for Migrants	Rex Schurmann	1995	Croydon Primary School	
English Literature 1 & 11	Rex Schurmann	1994-1996	Croydon Primary School	Through literature one's self image is enhanced, the course was designed to provide participants with tools for better enjoyment of their future reading
Enjoying Poetry / Poetry Studies	Mary Lester	1995-1996	Croydon Primary School	
	Mary Lester	1997-2001	Croydon Library	
Enjoy Writing	Jim Dooley	1992-1996	Outside Venue	
Enjoying Movies	Geoff Foster	2002	Outside Venue	A course to cultivate an interest in all types of movies

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Enneagram Wisdom 1 & 11	John Sapsford	1995-1996	Croydon Primary School	The Enneagram is an ancient method of personal discovery, it helps to tap into the well- springs of strength, wisdom and love within each of us
Family History	Eric Lock	2000-2001	Latter Day Saints Church	The church's "Family History Centre" microfiche was used for research on their public day
	Eric Lock	2003	Latter Day Saints Church	
	Eric Lock	2010	Latter Day Saints Church	
Feldenkrais	Janey Brooks	2008-2010	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Feldenkrais is awareness through movement, one hour per week will improve balance, co-ordination, help prevent falls and increase confidence towards independence, its easy and safe
Film Reviews	Dennis Bowers	1994	Croydon Primary School	
Financial Planning	Richard Hocking	1992	TAFE Room 213	
	Richard Hocking	1993	Croydon Primary School	
First Aid Course	Joan Ryan	1999-2000		Red Cross First Aid
Fitness Program	Mike	2000-2003	Croydon Fitness Centre	In 1999, after not being able to obtain a grant for "Active for Life" from Vichealth, Croydon Fitness Centre offered a tailored program for U3A which included racquet ball, gentle exercise, dietary advice, bikes and treadmills
	Garry	2003-2011	Croydon Fitness Centre	
		2005	Croydon Leisure Centre	Croydon Leisure Centre provided the Leader
Folk Art	John Stanley	1995	Croydon Primary School	
	Audrey Barnett	1997-2000	Croydon Primary School	
	Audrey Barnett	2001-2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Folk Decorative Art	Miriam Attard	2004-2006	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Foot Massage	Margo Craddock	1995	Outside Venue	
French Beginners	Lesley Burns	1998	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Lesley Burns	1999	Wyreena	
	Lesley Burns	2000	Croydon Secondary School	
	Mike Collins	2003-2004	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Marianne Maltig	2005-6	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Franciska Toubale	2009-2010	Glenn Frost Room	
	Onre Dossena	2010-2012	Glenn Frost Room	
French Continuing	Marianne Maltig	2007	TAFE	
	Marianne Maltig	2008-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
French	Barry Shying	2001	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
French Conversation	Bernie Shying	2001-2002	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Renata Newman	2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
French Intermediate	Mike Collins	2004-2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Franciska Toubale	2011	Glenn Frost Room	
Furniture Restoration	David Morgan	1999	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Bring your old wooden treasures along for evaluation to see if they can be lovingly restored
	David Morgan	2000-2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Margaret Moorhouse	2004-2007	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Nelson Riquelme	2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Kevin Postlewaite	2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Nelson Riquelme	2010-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Kevin Postlewaite	2010-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Gardening Group / Club	Dot Ward	1996	Outside Venue	Garden visits to members and other gardens, plant sharing and regular speakers
	Roger Eggbeton	2000-2003	Outside Venue	
	Beth Dooley	2004-2005	Outside Venue	
	Ellen Bennett	2006-2007	Outside Venue	
	Judy Munn	2008-2010	Outside Venue	
	Maureen Markham	2008-2010	Outside Venue	
	Jane Jones	2011-2012	Outside Venue	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Genealogy	Lindsay Horner	1994-1997	Croydon Primary School	
Genealogy Beginners & Continuing	Kaye Crettenden	2012	Keystone Clubrooms	Learn to trace your ancestors, field days to various venues
Genetics/Biology	Pat Ingham	1995-1996	Croydon Primary School	
Gentle Exercise	Barbara Shying	1999-2000	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Inger	2001-2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
German Advance	Rudi Moerke	1997-1999	Croydon Primary School	
German Beginners	Rudi Moerke	1996-1997	Croydon Primary School	
	Lou Bauer	1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Lou Bauer	1999-2001	Wyreena	
	Tony Driessen	2002-2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
German	Rudi Moerke	1994-1996	Croydon Primary School	
German Intermediate	Margaret Milner	2005-2006	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
German Conversation	Ellie Stevenson	1993	Croydon Primary School	
	Renata Newman	1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Renata Newman	1999	Wyreena	
	Renata Newman	2000	Croydon Secondary School	
	Renata Newman	2001	Senior Citizens	
	Renata Newman	2005-2006	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Elisabeth Gillespie	2006-2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Elisabeth Gillespie	2009-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
Golf	Dot Ward	1994-1997	Dorset Golf Course	
	Ivy Noden-Hill	2001-2005	Dorset Golf Course	
Gourmet Lunch Club, previously Dine Out	Dot Ward	1993-1996	Outside Venue	Visited various restaurants for lunch
	Val Townsend	1997	Outside Venue	
	Pauline Killip	1997-2003	Outside Venue	
	Annette Abblett	2004-2005	Outside Venue	
	Maria Konstas	2006	Outside Venue	
Great Composers	Rod Williamson	1999-2003	Outside Venue	
Greek Dancing	Sophie Tsoutouras	2000-2001	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Greek Mythology	Sophie Tsoutouras	2000	Kent Ave Scout Hall	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Guitar & Ukulele	Graham Philpott	2012	Croydon Swimming Club Room	
Hand & Foot Card Game	Carina Harding	2009-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	A game similar to Canasta
	Dawn McIntyre	2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Heirloom Teddies	Audrey Barnett	1994	Outside Venue	Learn the basics of making teddy bears
	Audrey Barnett	2000-2005	Outside Venue	
Hobby Model Building	Neil Bathie	2006	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Hobby Class	Bob Harman	2008-2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Home Handyman	Bert Ward	1993 & 1996	Croydon Primary School	
	Hans Wolfers	1997	Croydon Primary School	
Horticulture	Ivor	1997-1998	Outside Venue	
Israeli Folk Dancing	Betty Finch	1999-2001	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Italian		1996	Outside Venue	
Italian Study Group		1996	Croydon Primary School	
Italian Advanced	Sirio Saisi	1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Sirio Saisi	1999-2001	TAFE	
	Sirio Saisi	2002-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
	Lyn LaMorticella	2002-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
Italian Beginners	Sirio Saisi	1996-1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Sirio Saisi	1999-2001	TAFE	
	Sirio Saisi	2002-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
	Lyn LaMorticella	2002-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
Italian Intermediate	Sirio Saisi	1996-1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Sirio Saisi	1999-2001	TAFE	
	Sirio Saisi	2002-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
	Lyn LaMorticella	2002-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
Japanese Advance	Tony Driessen	1998-2000	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Tony Driessen	2001-2010	Outside Venue	
Japanese Beginners	Tony Driessen	1998-2000	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Tony Driessen	2001-2010	Outside Venue	
Japanese Intermediate	Tony Driessen	2007-2010	Outside Venue	
Knitting and Crochet	Sylvia Condon	2010	Keystone Office	
	Jenny Thorogood	2010	Keystone Office	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Know Thy Self	Terry Green	2007-2008	Keystone Clubrooms	A journey in Human Development
Language & Literature	Josephine	2000		
Lapidary	Ron Cavill	1993 & 2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Leadlighting	Bert Ward	1993-1995	Croydon Primary School	Instruction is given in lead lighting & copper foiling
	David Morgan	2002-2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Frank Danaher	2004-2010	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Bob Thompson	2011-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Learn to Swim	Ann Longridge	2011-2012	Croydon Leisure Centre	Learn the basics of swimming with a qualified leader
Library		2010	Keystone Office	Australian Studies and other Croydon U3A members donated books and our own library was set up. Several office volunteers catalogued the books
Library, Getting to Know Your	Library Officer	1995-1996 & 2000	Croydon Library	A course run by a qualified librarian
Life Story Writing	Marianne Maltig	2003-2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	This course introduced personal and short story writing, where family photos and memorabilia are used
	Marianne Maltig	2006-2007	TAFE	
		2008-2009	Keystone Clubrooms	
Line Dancing Advanced	Dot Ward	1995-1996	Croydon Primary School	Line dancing is a pleasant form of exercise for both body & mind done to music
	Lorraine Clarke	1996	Croydon Primary School	
	Dot Ward	1997-2000	Croydon Primary School	
	Dot Ward	2001-2002	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
	Dot Ward	2003-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Jackie Green	2008-2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Elly Raamakers	2010-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Line Dancing Beginners	Bev	1995-1996	Croydon Primary School	
	Dot Ward	1997-2000	Croydon Primary School	

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Line Dancing Beginners	Dot Ward	2001-2002	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
	Dot Ward	2003-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Jackie Green	2008-2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Elly Raamakers	2010-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Literature	Rex Schurmann	1995	Croydon Primary School	
Lunch and Coffee Day	Ivy McGregor	1994	Outside Venue	
Mahjong	Marie Cerni	1993-1994	Croydon Primary School	The modern western game of Mahjong has evolved from the original Chinese game first recorded about 5000 BC
	Ken Lipzker	1995-1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Ken Lipzker	1999-2001	Wyreena	
	Lois Scullion	2002-2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Lola Fogarty	2010-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Mandarin Language	Kit Hoh	1997-1999	Croydon Primary School	
	Kit Hoh	2000	Croydon Secondary School	
Mandarin Advance	Kit Hoh	2001-2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Medieval English History	Pat Nixon	2011	Keystone Clubrooms	
Meditation	Cecilla Ribee	1995	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Relaxing your body and mind has definite physiological benefits
	Cecilla Ribee	1996	Croydon Primary School	
	Rita Stellar	1998	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Rita Stellar	1999	Wyreena	
	Rita Stellar	2000	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
	Riet Taal	2012	Croydon Swimming Club	
Meditation Beginners	Rita Stellar	1999	Glenn Frost Room	
Memory Training	Rita Stellar	1998	Croydon Primary School	From 40 years old we begin to lose brain cells however your memory need not decline, learn how in 5 weeks
Mobile Phone	Georgie Couer	2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Musical Appreciation	Alex Young	1993-2010	Outside Venue	Members brought their own music on CD's, tapes or Videos to share with others

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Music for Pleasure	Rod Williamson	1998	Outside Venue	
Mythology - Its Power	John Sapsford	1995	Croydon Primary School	
New Vogue Dancing	Colin & Lorraine Coch-rane	1995-1997	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Oil Painting	Hans Wolfers	1994	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Oil Painting & Pastels	Coral Phillips	2010-2012	Outside Venue	
Old Thyme Dancing	Colin & Lorraine Coch-rane	2000		Enjoyable exercise with or without a partner
Opera on Video	Eva Por	1997		
Painting Introduction to	Rex Schurmann	1995	Croydon Primary School	
Papermaking and Allied Crafts	Marie Harrison	2002-2003	Outside Venue	
Patchwork Capers	Eileen Donnelly	1998	Outside Venue	
Patchwork/Patchwork Corner	Dot Ward	1998	Croydon Primary School	Start with basics: cutting, stitching, basting, quilting, naïve appliqué or needle turn appliqué, then progress to your own project.
	Dot Ward	1999-2000	Wyreena	
	Irene Morrison	2001	Senior Citizens	
	Irene Morrison	2002-2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Marie Harman	2004	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Anthea Bradley	2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Tina Stuart	2006-2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Jude Crute	2010-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Patchwork - Fridays	Marie Harman	2004-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Pathways to Personal Development	Terry Bennetts	2011-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	Participants discuss wide based life issues, sharing of their experiences and analysing informative material on the topics raised including topics stress management, self awareness, interpersonal relationships, self-reliance, confidence and fulfillment.
Pencil, Black & White Acrylic Paint	Josie Parkinson	2010-2011	Alan Jackson Room	
Personal Growth/ Development	Georgie Couer	2008-2010	Keystone Clubrooms	
	Marilyn McFarland	2011		

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Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Philosophy	Barbara Seccombe	1992	TAFE Room 205	
	Peter Gibson	2005-2006	TAFE	
Philosophy/Psychology	Avis Hart	2010-2012	Alan Jackson Room	Each term a different subject is studied including Liars & Lovers, Aristotle's Ideas and R.E.T.
Photography	Flora	1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Geoff Foster	1999 & 2003	Croydon Primary School	
	Carina Harding	2009-2010	Keystone Office	
Piano for Pleasure	Joan	1999-2003	Outside Venue	
Piano	Heather Jensen	2004-2007	Outside Venue	
Playing with Shakespeare	Jim Dooley	1994-1998	Outside Venue	
Play Reading	Patrick Smith	1992-1994	Outside Venue	This group enjoys reading plays from comedy to drama, modern and classical
	Dorothy Holwell	1995-1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Dorothy Holwell	1999	Wyreena	
	Jean Hill	2000	Wyreena	
	Jean Hill	2001-2002	Senior Citizens	
	Jean Hill	2003-2006	Tallent St Uniting Church	
	Jean Hill	2004-2006	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Michael McNeil	2007	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Nick & Marlene Pruys	2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Poetry Studies	Mary Lester	1995-1996	Croydon Library	
Point of View - Discus-	Robyn Pike	1998	Glenn Frost Room	
Popular Music	Val Breen	1996	Croydon Primary School	Participants brought along their favorite music on CDs or tape to share with others
Pool / Snooker	Brian Hughes	1996-1998	Outside Venue	
Positive Thinking	Sophie Tsoutouras	2001	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Potted Poets	Jim Dooley	2002-2012	Outside Venue	A look at notable poets - Australian, English and American. Introductory chat about characteristics, contexts and qualities.

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Prose & Poetry Reading	Norma Barry	1995	Croydon Primary School	
PT Rambles (Public Transport Rambles) which became Robyn's Ramble till 2006	Robyn Pike	1994-2006	Outside Venue	First outing was to Footscray with a 2 1/2 hour cruise on the Maribyrnong River after catching the train from Croydon. Regular monthly outings followed
Public Speaking	Jim Dooley	1993	Outside Venue	
Recorder Beginners	Liz Adney	2005-2007	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Carole Gowland	2007	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Maria Rommelaar	2008-2010	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Recorder Intermediate	Carole Gowland	2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Doris Hotzel	2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Recorder Advanced	Liz Adney	2006-2007	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Maria Rommelaar	2007-2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Rediscovering Melbourne	Dot Ward	2007-2012	Outside Venue	Various excursions in and around Melbourne on 4th Saturday of the month
Religious Studies	Rex Schurmann	1994	Croydon Primary School	The basic religious aspects of human life and how these are expressed through the different religions
Religion Comparative	Ken Lipzker	1997	Croydon Primary School	
Ribbon Embroidery	Anne Begg	2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Rummikub	Geraldine Driver	2010	Kent Ave Scout Hall	A table game played with numbered tiles
	Geraldine Driver	2011-2012	Keystone Clubrooms	
Scottish Country Dancing	Jacqueline Lerwill	1993	Croydon Entertainment Centre	A fun class in traditional Scottish Ballroom Dancing, a form much admired around the world
	Jacqueline Lerwill	1994-1999	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Jacqueline Lerwill	2000	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
	Jacqueline Lerwill	2001-2002	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Helen Duncan	2003-2010	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Bill Ross	2010-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Bill Ross	2011-2012	Croydon Swimming Club	

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Scrabble	Beryl McGrath	1998-1999	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Beryl McGrath	2000	Wyreena	
	Irma Dahn	2001-2002	Wyreena	
	Irma Dahn	2003-2004	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Anne Foster	2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Sue Seikel	2006	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Anne Foster	2007-9	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Bev Clancy	2010	Keystone Office	
	Loretta Simmons	2011-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Scrapbooking	Corrie Cooksley	2005-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Course in making photo album for a special occasion
	Ruth Cannon	2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Seated Aerobics & Weights	Shirley Delaney	2006-2009	Kent Ave Scout Hall	All exercises are done to music and whilst seated on a chair with the aim being to improve fitness without putting pressure on the joints. Everyone works within their own range of movement
	Doris Hotzel	2010-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Marilyn Perry	2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Self Realisation	Rita Stellar	2002	Tallent St Uniting Church	
Shibashi	Ken Cook	1995	Croydon Primary School	With its full name of Tai Chi Qigong Shibashi, it is a set of 18 gentle movements to increase blood flow to internal organs and a good introduction to Tai Chi
	Ken Cook	1996-1997	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Bep Wolfers	1998	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Alex	1999-2000	Kent Ave Scout Hall & Mingarra	
	Rodney Chalk	2001-2004	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
	Joan Callaghan	2001-2002	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Anne	2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Edie Cameron	2007-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Edie Cameron	2011-2012	Croydon Swimming Club	
	Joan Hourn	2012	Croydon Swimming Club	

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Shibashi Advanced	Edie Cameron	2008-2010	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Sketch & Paint Class- Josie's	Josie Parkinson	2010-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Discover the artist in you
	Josie Parkinson	2011-2012	Croydon Swimming Club	
Sketching	Susan Grundy	2006-2007	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Sketching using charcoal and Chinese Block Inks
Sketching & Watercolour	Alexandra Rearden	1993-1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Alexandra Rearden	1999	Wyreena	
	Alexandra Rearden	2000	Outside Venue	
Solo Card Game - Social	Patrick Wheatley	1994-1995	Croydon Primary School	
	Jim Rapson	1998-2001	Mingarra	
Spanish	Patrick Wheatley	1993	Croydon Primary School	
	Deo Alba	1994-1995	Croydon Primary School	
	Richard Adam	1996	Croydon Primary School	
	Sirio Saisi	1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Ercy Inostroza	1999-2000	Croydon Secondary School	
Spanish Advanced	Richard Adam	1997	Croydon Primary School	
Spanish Beginners	Thelma Law	2005-2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Thelma Law	2009-2012	Keystone Office	
Spanish Intermediate	Sirio Saisi	1997-1999	Croydon Primary School	
	Sirio Saisi	2000	Croydon Secondary School	
	Thelma Law	2005-2008	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Thelma Law	2009-2012	Keystone Office	
Speech Craft	Nancy Ball	1997	Outside Venue	Course in communication, effective listening and self expression
Spirituality in Australian Society	Harold Taylor	2009	Keystone Clubrooms	Course explores how a spiritual approach to life in all its forms and expressions infuses every dimension and aspect of our daily experiences.
	Harold Taylor	2010-2011	St John's Church Hall	
	Ian Whitehill	2012	St John's Church Hall	
Stretch & Flex	Keith Brindley	2008-2010	Ringwood Community Centre	

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Stretch Sewing	Dot Ward	1992-1995	Croydon Primary School	
	Dot Ward	1996-1997	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Table Tennis	John Deany	1997-1998	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Ivy Noden-Hill	1999	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Ivy Noden-Hill	2000-2012	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
Table Tennis	Ken Chapman	2012	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
Thai Conversation	Well Vullada	2010-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Tai Chi Level 4	Joan Callaghan	1997	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Tai Chi Level 6	Rodney Chalk	1997	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Tai Chi Advanced or 111	Ken Cook	1992	Glen Park	The advanced class is learning 'Yang' style with the most advanced students learning 'Sword Form'.
	Margaret Timmers	1993-1994	Croydon Primary School	
	Ken Cook	1993-1995	Croydon Primary School	
	Ken Cook	1996	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Joan Callaghan	2001-2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Rodney Chalk	2001-2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Jennie Hollis	2006-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Jennie Hollis	2011-2012	Croydon Swimming Club	
Tai Chi Beginners or 1	Ken Cook	1993-1994	Croydon Primary School	Tai Chi is a sequence of movements done in order. This course is the "Beijing 24" form
	Margaret Timmers	1995	Croydon Primary School	
	Joan Callaghan	1996	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Joan Callaghan	2001-2002	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
	Dorothy Cranston	2002-2004	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Rodney Chalk	2005	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Jennie Hollis	2006-2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Jennie Hollis	2011-2012	Croydon Swimming Club	
	Joan Hourn	2012	Croydon Swimming Club	
Tai Chi Beginners	Toni Marshall	2010-2011	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
	Toni Marshall	2011-2012	Croydon Swimming Club	

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Tai Chi Intermediate or 11	Margaret Timmers	1995	Outside Venue	Practice "Beijing 24" and begin to learn "Yang" Style
	Rodney Chalk	1996-1997	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Joan Callaghan	1998-9 & 2001	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Rodney Chalk	2001	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
	Rodney Chalk	2003-2004	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Tai Chi Beijing 24	Ken Cook	1997	Kent Ave Scout Hall	Beijing is another form of Tai Chi which is shorter and simpler than Yang Style
Tai Chi Yang Style	Ken Cook	1998 & 2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Joan Callaghan	2003-2007	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Tap Dancing	Ruth Blackburn	1993-1999	Croydon Primary School	
	Ruth Blackburn	2000	Birdwood Rd Scout Hall	
Tap Dancing Beginning	Ruth Blackburn	2001-2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Tap Dancing Intermediate	Ruth Blackburn	2001-2003	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Tap Dancing Advanced	Ruth Blackburn	2001	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Tennis	Patrick Wheatley	1993	Civic Centre Courts	
The Great Composers	Rod Williamson	1998-1999	Outside Venue	
The Money Course	Milton Teal	1999	Wyreana	Financial planning designed for U3A members
Theatre Group	Dot Ward	1993-2000	Outside Venue	Attending shows at Lilydale Athenaeum Theatre, Babirra Musical Theatre, Doncaster Playhouse , Nova Musical Theatre, Karalyka and Whitefriars College
Thinking about Shakespeare	Jim Dooley	2002	Outside Venue	
Touch Typing	Dorothy Holwell	1995-1996	Croydon Primary School	
Travel Group	Jan Mitchell	1999-2000	Outside Venue	
Understanding Poetry	Dennis Bowers	1995	Croydon Library	
	Mary Lester	1998	Croydon Library	
Users of Imagination	Werner Pelz	1998	Croydon Primary School	
	Werner Pelz	1999-2002	Wyreana	
	Werner Pelz	2003-2006	Glenn Frost Room	

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Courses and Leaders

Course	Name	Periods	Venue	Description
Watercolour	Alexandra Rearden	1993	Croydon Primary School	
	Peter Thorpe	2011	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
	Peter Thorpe	2012	Croydon Swimming Club	
Watercolour Painting & Sketching became Sketching/Watercolour	June Spence	1996-1998	Croydon Primary School	
	June Spence	1996-1999	Wyreena	
	June Spence	2000	Croydon Secondary School	
	June Spence	2001-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Watercolour Advance	June Spence	2011-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Watercolour Beginners	Tom Steventon	2011-2012	Kent Ave Scout Hall	
Weight Therapy Group	Carol Piel	1997-1998	Croydon Primary School	
Woodworker	David Brimelow	2009	Monkamsi	
Writers Group	Shirley Mill	1996	Croydon Primary School	If you have a persistent desire to express yourself in writing then belonging to this group can provide the regular discipline, inspiration & encouragement
Ye Olde Worlde Crafter	Edith Rankin	2005-2010	Outside Venue	
Yoga	Marion Vaughan	1998-1999	Mingarra	
	Dorothy Cranston	2000-2004	Mingarra	
	Keith Brindley	2005-2007	Glenn Frost Room	
	Marion Vaughan	2008-2009	Glenn Frost Room	
	Pam Banfield	2010	Senior Citizens	
	Pam Banfield	2011-2012	St John's Church Hall	

The foregoing is based on the information available at the time of compilation.

1992 Time Table

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Time Table.</i> <i>University Of The Third Age.</i> <i>Croydon.</i></p>				
MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.
TAFPE College.	TAFE College.	TAFE College.		GlenFrost roo
Room 119.	Library.	Room 213.		Croydon Librar
3pm - 5pm.	10am.- 12noon.	9-30am - 11am.	10-30am -12noon.	2nd,3rd,4th- Friday of eac month.
<u>CHESS.</u>	<u>BRIDGE.</u>	<u>FINANCIAL- PLANNING.</u>	<u>PLAY READING.</u>	10am -12noo.
Tel. 7259710.	Tel. 7254687.		Tel. 7297912.	AUSTRALIAN- STUDIES. Tel. 7221395.
CROYDON LIBRARY.	TAFE LIBRARY.		TAFE COLLEGE.	
1pm - 3pm.	10am - 12noon.		1pm, - 3pm.	
Stretch sewing or Creative gifts.	ENJOY WRITING.		Room 205.	
Tel.7259381.	Tel. 7297929.		ROMANTIC- LITERATURE. Tel. 7259381. or *PHILOSOPHY. 1-30pm - 3pm.	
		TAFE COLLEGE.	TAFE COLLEGE.	TAFE COLLEGE.
		3pm. - 4pm.	1-30pm - 3pm.	Room 210.
		FAMILY HISTORY.	CALLIGRAPHY.	2pm - 4pm.
		Tel. 8763355.	CROYDON LIBRARY. 2pm - 3-30pm.	ASTRONOMY. Tel. 8791406
			ASIAN STUDIES.	
			CROYDON HALL.	TAFE COLLEGE
			TAI - CHI	4pm - 5pm.
			Beginners 1 -2pm.	<u>CHESS.</u>
			Advanced 2pm - 3pm	Tel. 7259710
			Tel.7254687.	

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Specific Courses

COMPUTER COURSES

We have been very fortunate to be able to offer computer courses from 1993 to the present with the generosity of our leaders, members, Swinburne University of Technology (previous outer Eastern TAFE) and later through a Telstra Grant and DonorTec.

Lola Fogarty was our first computer course leader in 1993 followed by many more over the 19 years, with a course typically running for a term. As members increased their computer knowledge and skills, they then moved to the next computer course level.

Prior to 2007 we were able to use Swinburne's computers with our own leaders when there was a vacancy in their computer rooms. In 2007, Swinburne donated six computers to Croydon U3A, so began our own "computer room" attached to our office. Eric Lock and assistants built the desks, Eric Lock, Ian Tuffs, Margaret Dunbar set up these six computers along with two projectors funded from the Telstra grant, ready for the start of the 2008 year. It soon became apparent these computers didn't have enough RAM for all the programs needed to teach the various courses. So due to the shortage of RAM and the demand of our computer courses, the committee took the decision in 2009 to purchase ten new computers, enabling the number of members in a course to be increased to nine. From 2010, it was decided to introduce a fee for all computer courses to recover the cost of the investment of computers, new chairs and air conditioning and the ongoing costs involved with maintaining the computers. Once again, Eric Lock was involved in building another desk for three computers. Eric and Margaret Dunbar installed the new software and this classroom was up and running for the beginning of Term 3. Margaret Dunbar provided regular maintenance of these computers. In January 2012 these computers had their memory increased again by Trevor Bellinger and Keith Eyssens. We, at Croydon U3A, wish to acknowledge the contribution both Eric Lock and Margaret Dunbar made to the Croydon U3A computer room.

The administration of these courses became extremely time consuming and required the setting up of a separate fee payment and enrolment system by Barbara Allen with Dotti Newman taking over this position in more recent times. Dotti puts in many hours on a weekly basis to ensure the smooth running of the computer courses as well as being a computer course leader.

Over the years Croydon U3A have had 22 computer leaders and many assistants to whom we say thank you for your contribution to Croydon U3A and its members in helping them overcome their fears of using 21st century technology. Some hadn't used computers before whilst other members updated their computer skills to allow them to communicate with their family and friends who may live some distance away. They were also able to be creative and produce cards, their own photo albums, slide shows, PowerPoint presentations or, on the serious side, a budget or cash flow using Microsoft Excel

Looking Forward, Looking Back

CYCLING

This course came about due to the response to a request placed in Croydon U3A newsletter by Helen Girschik. Five cyclists met at the U3A office in June 2009. We rode to Bayswater Park and over coffee talked about establishing a Croydon cycling group. In the beginning rides were on a Thursday and relatively short and easy.

To accommodate those who had other commitments we switched to alternating Thursdays and Tuesdays, still only one ride a week. This has evolved to rides on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, suitable for beginners. Thursday rides are generally first and third day of the month, these are further and faster, although all riders are welcome. Over time some riders have left the group. Some have found us a bit slow and have moved on to faster groups. We aim to encourage seniors to straddle a bike and discover the many places we can ride together. We also enjoy the coffee stops and company. Helen is the overall leader and Pat Cavanagh is in charge of Tuesday rides. Participants are asked to lead a ride when they feel able to do so. In this way we share local knowledge as well as the company of like minded people. Our program is published in the newsletter and new and returning cyclists are always welcome.

(written by Pat Cavanagh, Leader Cycling)



Hank, Joyce & Rob - some of our intrepid "bikies" heading off from East Camberwell railway station for a 35km ride back to Croydon. This despite the misty rain upon arriving at the platform. The mandatory "coffee" stop at Nth Balwyn helped maintain their keenness.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

FURNITURE RESTORATION

We met every Monday in the Scout Hall in Kent Ave, Croydon and share our facility with a Leadlighting group.

Our aim is simply to find old wooden treasures and bring them along for evaluation by the members present. Most times the objects of our viewing are not as old as the persons admiring them. That will give you a rough guide as to the limits of our age group.

We have several members of the female variety who make up for their lack of woodworking skills by discussing the latest bargains to be found at the local shopping centre. This is of course in between tea or coffee and biscuits. The husband of one of our lady members is still recuperating from a bad fall which has affected operations on his shoulder, so we all wish Sylvia's other half a very full and speedy recovery and we hope to see her back sanding away very soon. The objects of our work (I use that word loosely) are many and varied, ranging from things such as small clock cases through a vast variety of chairs and tables, even into an antique gong that was born many years ago in the Philippines. Nothing is beyond us (yet). We comprise about 15 members and are led (very amicably) by Nelson Riquelmé and Kevin Postlethwaite.



Most of our work comprises dismantling of the latest acquisition, sanding it back to its natural state, re-assembling it and staining and frequently French polishing the finished object. Often we are required to replace old and rotten sections of an item but this can be achieved with just a little patience and the assistance of other club members. We have to stress that we are all there to help each other and to share our skills with others who need assistance.

I would also point out that this is not necessarily a cheap occupation. If you are not careful it can be exactly the opposite as I recall. My wife recently purchased a wreck of a "Bridge" chair for the princely sum of \$2 at a garage sale. Apart from the bits and pieces like sandpaper, stain, polish etc, it cost a further \$26 for covering material and \$12 for new springs. She was away in Queensland for 2 weeks and I needed to finish the chair whilst she was away as a surprise on her return. To this end I went for 3 consecutive days to Kevin's house in Heathmont and we got the job done. A week later I received a letter in the post from our friends at The Traffic Camera Office 56kph in a 50 zone. Fine \$149.00. This makes the bridge chair a collector's item with a street value of \$189.00. *(written by Frank Tewkesbury published in September 2010 U3A newsletter)*

Looking Forward, Looking Back

SEATED/CHAIR AEROBICS

What a wonderful way to spend every Tuesday morning! Under the guidance of our lovely leader Doris, we manage a great work out whilst still seated on our chairs!

And you wouldn't believe the amount of exercise that you can do! We have a rotating three week program for the Seated Aerobics, which means a fresh lot of different 'dances' and movements to enjoy. We even manage to 'travel' the World with many of the dances, doing such things as the Top Hat, Cossack, Belly, Cha Cha, Mumbo dances etc.

We also row up rivers, swim in cool pools, go flying, diving, and many more movements which are aimed at toning the body at our own pace, but which manage to use the whole of the body for a complete work-out each week.

To finish the class we do a well structured, but simple weight class. Each person just follows the guidance of their own body's limitations, doing only that which is comfortable. When the class has finished, we are all feeling so much better than when we walked in, energised and full of beans again.

We would like to say a huge 'thank you' to Doris, who makes the class such an enjoyable experience, and is such a gentle, caring leader. We love our Tuesday mornings Doris!

(written by Joan Bradford Bowers, published in September 2011 Newsletter)



Doris Hotzel with members of her course

Looking Back, Looking Forward

BUSHWALKING GROUP 1992 – 2002

Prior to Croydon U3A starting, in 1988 Frankston U3A invited Ringwood U3A to join them on their monthly walks and a five day camp at Hall's Gap. Since that first camp in 1988, Ringwood and later from 1992 Croydon U3A had this wonderful affinity with Frankston members, each year sharing a three day camp around March and a five day camp in October. These camps have taken us to Lorne, Mallacoota, Bright, Anglesea, Bacchus Marsh, Strathbogie, Marysville, Phillip Island, Rye Daylesford, the Grampians, Wilsons Promontory and Creswick.

Over the years, many new people have joined us, and others have left but we still maintain about twelve of the early group and this has developed many strong friendships. This friendship is extended to newcomers who want join us either just for our monthly walks or the camps which continue twice a year. Not all camps were as basic as our first one as we now arrange to have the catering done for us. Nevertheless we still aim for camp style accommodation as long as it's clean, comfortable and provides good food with a community room to share card or board games in the evening. This course epitomises the true value of U3A in our community, and long may it continue.

Dot Ward 2002

Although this original group of bushwalkers don't go away on their camps or have monthly walks, their friendship has continued for another ten years and they now often meet for lunch.

Dot Ward 2012



Bushwalking Group 1993 "Braving the elements" while on camp at Mallacoota

Looking Forward, Looking Back

BUSHWALKING 2008 AT KALORAMA

We have had three walks in the Dandenongs during Autumn and each of them have shown different aspects of the Hills, even allowing for the changes in the weather. We went to Sherbrooke in March, Silvan in April and then to Kalorama most recently. Sherbrooke was tall trees and clear blue sky, Silvan clearing grey skies and more open forest and then Kalorama in all its autumnal glory. The skies looked a little threatening as we gathered as usual at Croydon Station, but they did not deliver as we walked in fine cool conditions, in fact the sun shone on our endeavours on more than one occasion. Our walk this month started at Kalorama Park with the idea of really enjoying the brilliant autumn colours on the eastern side of the Hills.



We set off downhill through a wonderful gully of tree ferns. It was wet underfoot after the storm on Friday but the walking was not difficult. The track came out on Olinda Creek Road and after a kilometre or so on the road we found the beginning of the Cascade Track. This track follows the Olinda Creek up to the Olinda Falls. The track is quite narrow and after the heavy winds we have had recently there were a few fallen trees across our path, not blocking our track, just providing a little extra crouching or straddling exercise!

Some of the gum trees in this part of the Hills are enormous, 15 feet (5 metres) or more in diameter at the base. We also found a grove of tree ferns around 20 feet (6 metres) tall. They must have been growing before the Port Phillip settlement was established. We soon reached the Olinda Falls and with rain the previous day there was a steady flow of water over the rocks. The Falls car park provided a table for our morning tea and we were closely observed by a kookaburra who was obviously hoping somebody would leave a tasty morsel.

We had intended to take the Mechanics Track up to the Mt Dandenong Arboretum but time beat us, so we made our way back to the starting point well satisfied with a very pleasant morning of gentle exercise.

If you enjoy a walk in the fresh air at a gentle pace enjoying the natural sights and sounds of the local area why not try the next walk with the bushwalkers on the first Saturday in June. We meet at 9 a.m. at the Croydon Railway Station by the roundabout. We would love to have your company. (*written by Geoff Steventon, published in the June 2008 U3A newsletter*)

Looking Back, Looking Forward

PATCHWORK THROUGH THE YEARS WITH BUS TRIPS

Marie and Bob Harman

I joined Croydon U3A in 2001 and the Patchwork Group under Irene Morrison's leadership, 10 of us sitting quietly in the Room 1 of Kent Ave Scout Hall doing our sewing – can you image this? No, I find it hard to believe also but I was there.



Our first "bus" trip came about because my daughter took me to Loch Quilt Hanging in 2002 and when the Loch Quilt Hanging came around in 2003 I said how good it had been — what about if we go in my Ford and have a look — its holds seven so with Anthea Bradley, Tina Stuart, Glenda Morgans, June Leishman, Corrie (now) Cooksley off we went. It was a wonderful day and the Quilts were hung everywhere and they were great. This was something new to us all and we enjoyed ourselves so much that we took a trip to visit Loch Patchwork shop along with Korumburra, Yarragon, Warragul and Drouin shops — stopping to share our afternoon tea at the park in Drouin (this we did in our van), Bob's first encounter with Australian Patchwork shops and eight women — I might add he enjoyed all of it especially the afternoon tea.

Meantime Patchwork U3A members had increased to 15 and it was time to think about hiring a bus if we intended to do anymore trips, and it seemed that most of us liked sharing Morning Teas, eating lunch out in the open and visiting shops. Our first bus was hired (a small one only 11 or 12 people) but what a day we had visiting Castlemaine, Maldon and Bendigo enjoying every minute of it Ballarat seemed to have some great shops, firstly "Gails", then 2 others with 2 small shops in Melton on the way. I think we were hooked, about this time I started letting the shops know when, and how many were coming and they offered us a discount and sometimes morning tea (shame because we have the best cooks in Patchwork).

Irene handed over leadership to me (what was she thinking of I'm only new at this) in 2004 as our numbers increased, more members, a bigger bus to hire so this was the start of our larger bus trips which we organize and Bob drives.

Our trips over the years with the Patchwork Group members include shops at Rosebud, Frankston Mt. Eliza, Mornington and Tyabb we were lucky we found places to eat and the weather was very kind to us, this kindness still continues — thank goodness.

Although the class has grown now to 23 - 24 we still manage to do some wonderful trips, lunch and shops at Geelong then off to Queenscliff shops and ferry to Sorrento with the enjoyment of watching the water police board and search the ferry and offloading back into their fast rubber boats. Gay Hill organized the next trip to the Bellarine Peninsula, Drysdale, ride the Old Red Rattler.

Looking Forward, Looking Back

PATCHWORK THROUGH THE YEARS WITH BUS TRIPS

Marie and Bob Harman (cont)

Bright was our first overnight stay with visits to shops and wineries along the way there and back.

We have visited SPC/Ardmona, Woollen Mills, Patchwork shops and Chateau Tahblik, Wonthaggi, Korumburra, Koo Wee Rup, Cranbourne, Kyneton, Ballarat, Bendigo, Wangaratta, Rosebud, Frankston, Warburton, Shepparton, Sale, Rosedale, Warragul, Daylesford, Bacchus Marsh (both for apples, pears etc and patchwork shops), Melton, Yarram, Ferntree Gully, Berwick, Pakenham, Tooradin, Wonthaggi, Leongatha, Ocean Grove, Mansfield, Wangaratta, - Mt Macedon, Eaglehawk, Maldon, Castlemaine to name a few.

I have loved organising these trips (and there have been a few — about 30 in all) because I love these Patchwork ladies — and now with 2 classes running Jude Crute and mine we will have to think of something different to do — shops but maybe retreats or all day sew-ins. There may even come a day when the Aussies match the English and Dutch for numbers. I've been outnumbered since I joined but we are catching up. More trips in the planning.



Marie with Patchwork Group members Trish Davis, June Leishman and Tina Stuart

Looking Back, Looking Forward

CHOIR

Once again, the choir has had an enjoyable time this year learning new songs for our repertoire. I was on extended leave from the beginning of the third term, but in my absence the choir kept going in the very capable hands of Julie who introduced some new ideas in the way of warming up the choir and also a stack of sing-a-long songs. Julie was ably assisted by our pianist Annette and our own guitarist and singer extraordinaire, Hille.

We are now preparing for the Croydon U3A Concert and performing for our fellow U3A members. Hopefully we can encourage new members to enquire about joining U3A singers in 2010. What better way than to pass the time singing a song or two in great company!

On Wednesday, 2nd December, the choir is inviting family members and friends to come and listen to a program of songs and share with us the enjoyment of singing. We would also like to extend an invitation to members of Croydon U3A who would be interested in learning more about the choir. Program commences at 1:30 pm (duration approx 1 hour) and then afternoon tea will be served. The venue is the Scout Hall in Kent Ave.

(published in November 2009 Newsletter)



Choir at Federation Square 2010

Looking Forward, Looking Back

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

During my absence while on an overseas holiday in 2012 we had the pleasure of Mrs Sheena McLatchie filling in for me as the leader of the Scottish Dancing Group. She went on to devise this beautiful simple and enjoyable dance dedicated to the Croydon U3A group. We are honoured to dance it frequently as our own signature dance.

Bill Ross, Leader Scottish Country Dancing

THE CROYDON STRATHSPEY

40 bar Strathspey for 3 couples in a 3 couple set

Bars

- 1- 8 1st couple dance a Figure of Eight round 2nd couple crossing down to begin
- 9-16 1st and 2nd couples dance The Knot.
- 17-24 1st and 3rd couples dance The Knot
- 25-32 1st couple dance a Figure of Eight round 3rd couple crossing up to begin.
- 33-40 All three couples dance Six Hands Round & Back.
Repeat with a new top couple.

Devised by: Sheena McLatchie July 2012

Dedicated to members of the Croydon U3A Scottish Country Dance Group

Suggested Music: *Swithland Woods* from David Cunningham & his Scottish Dance Band - Silver Collection Album



Looking Back, Looking Forward

TAI CHI

The Completion of a Pilot Study Investigating whether Regular Tai Chi Practice Affects our Genes.

Last year our Tai Chi course was asked by the Chromosome Research Laboratory at the Murdoch Institute to be involved in a research project aimed at studying whether tai chi practice improves the function of our genes. Previous studies had proven that tai chi is beneficial both physically and mentally and they wanted to determine if it was changes at the cellular level that brought about these benefits. The following paragraphs are from a letter from the Murdoch Institute to thank us for our participation.

“I am pleased to inform you that the pilot phase of this study has now been completed. The study used the DNA we obtained and isolated from the mouth-wash samples we collected from you. We designed an experimental strategy to measure changes in the DNA prepared from Tai Chi practitioners and from people who had never done Tai Chi. We looked specifically at genes whose functions normally decline with age. Our measurements revealed that regular Tai Chi practice appeared to slow down such a decline at least in the few genes we had selected for our study.

This preliminary finding, whilst exciting, clearly needs further investigation before we are confident of its validity. If the results can be confirmed, it would suggest that tai chi practice can influence how our genes work, and would allow us to begin to understand the mechanisms by which tai chi brings about its many health and disease benefits. We are currently in the process of applying for new fundings to continue with the project.

Jennie Hollis, Leader Tai Chi

(Published in the October 2011 Newsletter)



Edie Cameron Windsor Thomas Jennie Hollis

Looking Forward, Looking Back

FIVE HUNDRED CARD GAME

The 500 club meet in the hall
Most afternoons we have a ball
Club, diamond, heart and spade
Under these the game is played
The deal, the bid, the play and then
Post Mortem plays the hand again

Players are not free to choose
Suits assigned, nor hands refused
Dealt them regardless of their skill
Shuffled carefully, well or ill
We hold the cards close to our chest
And hope with good cards you've been blessed

Lola and Lee are great players
And Margaret and Val are regular players
Terry likes to go Open Misere
He often wins much to our despair
It's always good to lead your trump
Otherwise your partner may give you a thump



The Joker is often called the BIRD
If you don't lead it you've probably erred
Some games are short and some are long
Up and down, the game can prolong
Thirty four hands I think is the best
After that you'd deserve a rest

Helen is the boss and runs a great school
That's as long as you play by the rule
We seem to start earlier each week
As players call for the scorer to speak
At 3.30 the contest ends
Opponents now revert to friends

A poem by Gayle Everett
(Published in the February 2012 Newsletter)

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Committees

Position	1992	1993	1994	1995
President	Alys Clough	Dot Ward	Dot Ward	Rex Shurmann
	Dot Ward			
Vice President	Audrey Barnett	Lorna Carey	Ken Lipzker	Ken Lipzker
	Ron Browne			
Secretary	Norma Saunders	Ron Browne	Dorothy Holwell	Dorothy Holwell
Treasurer	Marion Koffyberg	Marion Koffyberg	Lola Fogarty	Lola Fogarty
				Carol Larder
Committee	Peter Egan	Dennis Bowers	Marina Kanaris	Dot Ward
	Chris Smigh	Lindsay Horner	Marion Koffyberg	Ivy McGregor
	Marjorie Case	Sandy Kahn	Mary Lester	John Sapsford
	Jack Newton	Doris Pope	Adrian Pearce	Dorothy Cranston
		Norma Saunders	Bev Pearce	Marion Koffyberg
		Ric Dunstan	Robyn Pike	Lola Fogarty
		Ken Lipzker		Adrian Pearce
		Adrian Pearce		
		Bev Pearce		
Position	1996	1997	1998	1999
President	Dorothy Holwell	Dorothy Holwell	Dorothy Holwell	Richard Adam
Vice President	Ken Lipzker	Ken Lipzker	Ken Lipzker	Ken Lipzker
Secretary	Lola Fogarty	Margaret Dowell	Margaret Dowell	Margaret Dowell
Treasurer	Carol Larder	Rita Stellar	Rita Stellar	Rita Stellar
Committee	Dorothy Cranston	Dorothy Cranston	Annette Abblitt	Annette Abblitt
	Ivy McGregor	Bruce Dodd	Richard Adam	Dorothy Holwell
	John Sapsford	Lola Fogarty	Lola Fogarty	Lola Fogarty
	Fay Wood	Carol Larder	Pauline Killip	Pauline Killop
	Bruce Dodd	Ivy McGregor	Beryl McGrath	Jacqueline Lerwill
	June Ellis	John Sapsford	Ivy Noyes	Dot Ward
	Dot Ward	Dot Ward	Dot Ward	Rod Williamson
				Rita Stellar

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Committees

Position	2000	2001	2002	2003
President	Richard Adam	Dot Ward	Dot Ward	Denis Darlow
Vice President	Ken Lipzker	Barbara Shying	Lola Fogarty	Robert Harman
Secretary	Margaret Sharwood	Mary Thompson	Denis Darlow	Janice Simmons
Treasurer	Graham Sharwood	Graham Sharwood	Graham Sharwood	Kath Perkins
			Kath Perkins	
Committee	Annette Abblitt Office	Annette Abblitt Office	Annette Abblitt Office	Margaret Dunbar Newsletter Editor & Web Site Manager
	Dot Ward Course Co Ord	Barry Shying Assist Sec	Dot Ward Course Co Ord	Ernie Sinfield Office
	Lola Fogarty Editor	Rod Williamson U3A Delegate	Pat Henderson Course Co Ord	Diny Driessen Office/Membership
	Pauline Killop Social Sec	Pauline Killop Social Sec	Eric Lock Editorial/Purchasing	John Sapsford Course Co Ord
	Jacqueline Lerwill Membership	Jacqueline Lerwill Membership	Joan Stevens Social	Robert Harman Course Co Ord
	Rod Williamson Assist Treasurer	Mike Dobson Course Co Ord	Terry Brown Speakers	Brenda Chapman Membership/Social Sec
	Rita Stellar Assistant Sec		Irene Seward Membership	Bill Moseley Membership
			Janice Simmonds Welfare	Barbara Coker Welfare
				Terry Brown Purchasing Officer & Speakers
				Marge Watson Network

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Committees

Position	2004	2005	2006	2007
President	Denis Darlow	Denis Darlow	Diny Driessen	Diny Driessen
		Diny Driessen		Ruth Crichton
Vice President	Robert Harman	Robert Harman	Robert Harman	Gay Hill
				Eric Lock
Secretary	Janice Simmons	Loretta Simmons	Glenda Walton	Ruth Crichton
	Loretta Simmons		Carole Gowland	George Munn
Treasurer	Beverley Clancy	Beverley Clancy	Beverley Clancy	Beverley Clancy
Committee	Margaret Dunbar Newsletter Editor & Web Site Manager	Margaret Dunbar Newsletter Editor & Web Site Manager	Margaret Dunbar Newsletter Editor & Web Site Manager	Margaret Dunbar Newsletter Editor, Web Site & Class- room Computer Man- ager
	Diny Driessen Office Admin	Diny Driessen Office Admin	Wendy Sinfield Office Manager	Wendy Sinfield Office Manager
	Marsh Darlow Course Co Ord	Marsh Darlow Course Co Ord/Info	Gay Hill Course Co Ord	Georgina Couer Course Co Ord
	Brenda Chapman Social Sec	Gay Hill Assist Course Co Ord	Carole Gowland Rosters	Sue Seikel Course Co Ord
	Wendy Sinfield Assist Treas	Wendy Sinfield Ast Treas/Office Admin	Maria Ramsden Assist Sec	Maria Ramsden Assist Sec
	Barbara Coker Welfare	Marie Harman Publicity/Minute Sec	Trish Davis Spec Events	Marie Harman Spec Events
	Terry Brown Purchasing Offi- cer/Speakers	Terry Brown Purchasing Offi- cer/Speakers	Barbara O'Reilly Publicity	Trish Davis Spec Events
		Ilona King Welfare	Terry Brown Newsletter Dist	Barbara O'Reilly Publicity
				Terry Brown Newsletter Dist

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Committees

Position	2008	2009	2010	2011
President	Robert Harman	Robert Harman	Geoff Steventon	Geoff Steventon
Vice President	Ian Tuffs	Geoff Steventon	Marion Vaughan	Gordon Longridge
Secretary	Nick Pruys	Ruth Crichton	Ruth Crichton	Ruth Crichton
Treasurer	Barbara Allen	Barbara Allen	Barbara Allen	Barbara Allen
Committee	Margaret Dunbar Newsletter Editor, Web Site & Classroom Computer Manager	Margaret Dunbar Newsletter Editor, Web Site & Classroom Computer Manager	Margaret Dunbar Newsletter Editor, Web Site & Classroom Computer Manager	Margaret Dunbar Newsletter Editor, Web Site & Classroom Computer Manager
	Wendy Sinfield Office Manager	Wendy Sinfield Office Manager	Wendy Sinfield Office Manager	Wendy Sinfield Office Manager
	Doris Hotzel Course Co Ord	Loretta Simmons Course Co Ord	Loretta Simmons Course Co Ord	Geraldine Driver Leader Co Ord
	Margaret Benzie Public Officer	Margaret Benzie Public Officer	Trish Davis Assist Sec & Welfare Officer	Barbara Allen 20th Anniversary Co. Ord
	Terry Brown Newsletter Dist	Terry Brown Newsletter Dist	Doris Hotzel Assist Class Co Ord	Barbara Allen Computer Co Ord
	Trudi Doblin	Eric Lock Computers	Elly Eaglemead Spec Events	Trish Davis Assist Sec & Welfare Officer
	Dorothy Caselin	Dorothy Caselin	Eric Lock Computer Co Ord	Doris Hotzel Assist Course Co Ord
				Elly Eaglemead Spec Events
				Brian Robertson
Position	2012		Position	2012
President	Geoff Steventon		Committee	Margaret Dunbar Newsletter Editor, Web Site
Vice President	Gordon Longridge			Wendy Sinfield Office Manager
Secretary	Ruth Crichton			Barbara Allen 20th Anniversary & Events Co Ord
Treasurer	Barbara Allen			Barbara Allen - Course & Asst Leader Co Ord
				Geraldine Driver - Leader Co Ord
				Trevor Bellinger - Publicity & Class- room Computer Manager
				Fiona McTier
				Kaye Crettenden
				Elly Eaglemead

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Awards - Life Members

Life membership is conferred upon members who have given outstanding service to the organisation. The following four have received this honour; Dorothy Ward and Lola Fogarty in 1998, Jack Newton and Ron Cavill in 2002.

Dorothy Ward

Dorothy Ward, or 'Dot' as she is known to the members, was born in Halifax, Yorkshire, England. Arriving in Australia 1951, she lived in turn in Adelaide, Georgetown Tasmania, moving to Cockatoo in 1977. She and Bert renovated their home. However, bushfires tore through Cockatoo in 1983, burning down their home.



Following retirement, in 1985, Dot was introduced to U3A Ringwood by a friend. Needing an outlet for her time and energies and on hearing of an organisation flourishing in Ringwood she decided to join.

In 1990, Ringwood had a growing membership and a varied nucleus of activities, in many of which Dot took part. Eventually she was elected to the committee and served in various positions gaining experience which stood her in good stead later when she became President.

On realising that many of the members came from Croydon, Dot approached them and suggested they should set up their own branch in Croydon. The first step was contact the Croydon Council and enlist their support. Surprisingly, this was well received since the Council was promoting activities for elderly citizens.

In October 1991, Jacinta Archer, from the Council, gave valuable assistance issuing leaflets to organise a public meeting that was attended by 45 people at Glen Park Community House. So a branch was formed as an annexe of Ringwood and accommodation allocated at Glen Park.

In April 1992, Glen Park wished to incorporate the U3A into their group but it was decided that this was not the way to go. So the Council was once again consulted, and a second public meeting set up. This was held in the Council's Glenn Frost room in June of that year.

A steering committee was set up and Croydon ceased to be an annexe of Ringwood. Dot could not be openly involved at this stage since she was still President at Ringwood, but gave much helpful advice. They acquired use of the Glenn Frost Room and the TAFE College allocated some of their rooms and some space at the Cinema and Library was also available.

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Awards - Life Members

Dorothy Ward (cont)

Classes were formed, activities begun with leaders from the membership, and Croydon U3A was now underway. When Dot's term as President of Ringwood was completed in August 1992, she joined Croydon, involving herself in many of the classes some of which she led and held diverse positions in the committee. The Presidency became vacant at this stage and Dot was asked to take over the position.

Dot had acquired organisational skills when employed and was now able to use them in keeping the group operational. In this she was a willing and able manipulator, as many came to know.

The membership had increased to around one hundred when another blow fell; TAFE informed them that they could no longer use their rooms.

The hunt for space was on again, virtually by taking to the streets. On the off chance, Dot visited Croydon Primary School and was offered the use of their Hall and another small room.

Over the years, Dot, as President, made many submissions to Croydon Council regarding premises, without much success. Dot has never ceased to labour this need and has tried to enlist the help of various councillors. She has spent much time and energy juggling space to accommodate classes in her position as co-ordinator and her efforts have proved fruitful in many ways.

Older people need other interests, and pleasure from this involvement is what Dot has tried to engender. University in our sense means 'Universal'.

To quote Dot, "My life has been taken over by U3A, because I have loved doing it".

Lola Fogarty

Lola joined U3A Croydon in 1993 after being a very active foundation member of Ringwood U3A, remaining there for seven years.

Becoming a member at Croydon U3A, it was not long before Lola offered to serve on the management committee, where she accepted various duties, including Treasurer and another year as Secretary.



In September 1994 Lindsay stepped down as the Newsletter editor and Lola was only too willing to take this on board as this was what she had done so successfully for

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Lola Fogarty (cont)

Ringwood.

After only a short basic computer course at a community centre, Lola taught herself all about the computer and of course this became evident in our more elaborate newsletter. The following year when we were able to share some computer time at the TAFE College, Lola took on the role as Leader in this subject, passing on her self-acquired skills to others.

Lola is a person with a flair for statistical and mathematical problems and this she was able to demonstrate brilliantly when we became part of ACFE (Adult and Community Further Education), working out the many requirements needed to enable us to apply for grants. This entailed many hours of paper and computer work.

In 1998 Lola received Life Membership from U3A Croydon, which was very well earned in doing the tasks very few people want to take on, so in this respect alone Lola has made a valuable contribution to our organisation for which we are indebted.

Ron Cavill

Ron came to Australia with his parents in 1925, when he was 10 years old, from Sheffield, Yorkshire, England.

His Father was a teacher, and soon after they arrived in Melbourne was sent to teach at Castlemaine Technical School. Ron continued his education in Castlemaine where he too went on to become a teacher in Art and Craft. His first teaching post was in Dimboola in 1936, then he transferred to Melbourne in 1939. He met Mary in 1938 and they married in 1940.

Ron has always had an interest in Astronomy, and in 1948 he joined the Astronomical Society of Victoria. Such was his enthusiasm for the subject that in 1950 he became a voluntary demonstrator at the Melbourne Observatory, working nights and sometimes weekends, whilst still continuing his teaching profession during the day.

Ron was invited to join the staff at the H V McKay Planetarium at the Melbourne Museum in 1965, where he continued until his retirement in 1977.

On retirement Ron was looking for an interest and Mary suggested lapidary, so their trips away always included tools for digging and fossicking and what a splendid collection they now have, learning all the techniques for cutting and polishing these precious stones at the Nunawading Lapidary Centre.

In 1992 Ron heard of the Public meeting to start a Croydon U3A. He and Mary went along to see what it was all about, and with so many others he joined on the day. He not only

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Ron Cavill (cont)

joined up to become a member but offered to lead a course, naturally the subject was Astronomy. His class continued non-stop for 10 years, and some of his first students still attend each week, they all enjoy it so much.

Ron has also led classes with his Lapidary hobby, another very popular and well presented course.

Ron gave us much pleasure in a series of slide shows he did for us, showing and talking about their interesting travels around England.

Jack Newton, Mary and Ron Cavill



Jack Newton

It was appropriate that Jack volunteered in August 1992 to produce the first Newsletters of the recently formed Croydon U3A. "I was a frustrated writer all my working life," says Jack, who had hoped as a youth to become a journalist, although the circumstances of the Depression, Army service and the demands of working to support a family forced him to postpone his writing until he retired at sixty-five. Jack was an energetic foundation member at Croydon, serving on the original Steering Committee. His two enthusiasms led him to set up the Creative Writing Group in September 1992, and to be closely involved with the Australian Studies Group, where he arranged programs and took many sessions, and in which he keeps up a lively interest.

Many budding writers have benefited from Jack's skills and knowledge, feeling secure with his advice, especially when they discover that the very first story Jack wrote, 'Rain on a Tin Roof', won a national competition from over a thousand entries. Jack epitomises the U3A experience: a hard-working life before, during and after the War; a desire to expand and refine his talents and knowledge in areas denied him by circumstance; sharing talents, expertise and enthusiasm with others in retirement; and continuing commitment to his art and craft. It's not surprising that he's also a Life Member of Probus; that he emphasises the support of his late wife, Jean, over sixty-two years of loving marriage; that he believes his readers feel that his story characters are people that they themselves would like; and that, right now, at eighty-nine, he has 'a couple of good stories on the go.' That's the true U3A spirit.

Awards- Life Members taken from "Reflections of a Decade 1992-2002"

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Distinguished Service Awards

Wendy Sinfield

Wendy was awarded a Distinguished Service Award at 20th Anniversary Luncheon at Karralyka Centre in May 2012 for her outstanding commitment to Croydon U3A.

Wendy joined Croydon U3A in 2004 and was soon asked to join the committee, becoming the Assistant Treasurer, then the Assistant Office Manager, in 2005 she became Office Manager, a position of great importance to the organisation. She has held that position up to the current time. During her time, she has moved the office twice, first from the Citizen's Advice Bureau to the Keystone Building, which required long hours during the holidays in January 2007, and then again when the Little Athletics Office, in Keystone Complex, became vacant.

Wendy has updated the membership databases and trained office volunteers over the last seven years. She has also installed new computers and various software. She always has had a smile for everyone, helping members with their queries, and cheerfully sorting out the daily problems an organisation of over 850 members has.



Wendy receiving her Award from Geoff Steventon at the 20th Anniversary Luncheon

Distinguished Service Awards

Margaret Dunbar

Margaret was awarded a Distinguished Service Award at 20th Anniversary Concert at Mooroolbark Community Hall on September 7th, 2012 for her outstanding commitment to Croydon U3A.

Margaret joined Croydon U3A in 2002, and in 2003 was asked to edit and produce the Croydon U3A newsletter. She has held that position up the current time. Every year she has produced 11 newsletters, with not one being late. Since 2009, the newsletter has been produced in colour for our web site.

In 2003 Margaret also took on the position of Website Manager. She has updated the website with new newsletters, timetables, photos and any other relevant information about our organisation. In 2007 she built the new web site.

2004 Margaret became a committee member, during which time she has been a fill-in minute secretary at committee, leader's, AGM and computer meetings. Margaret helped install the software she organised from DonorTec on the 10 class room computers in 2009 and continued to carry out the maintenance of these computers every term holiday for 3 years. She has been an assistant computer course leader many times, gladly sharing her computer knowledge with other members of U3A. Margaret has designed Croydon U3A's certificates, brochures and logo over the years.

She has been the archivist and photographer during her time at Croydon and her photos and artwork have often appeared on the front page of the newsletter.

Margaret received her Award
from Geoff Steventon at the
20th Anniversary Concert



Looking Back, Looking Forward

Leader Continuous Years Service Awards

During 2012 the committee approved the awarding of badges to acknowledge the services of our leaders for their continuous service as leaders to Croydon U3A. These award badges were handed to the following leaders at the Concert in September 2012 or the Leaders Lunch in December 2012.

15 years or more continuous years of Service Awards

Dot Ward – Dot was the founder of Croydon U3A in 1992 and receives this award as a leader of 20 years continuous service of the following courses Bushwalking 1993-1998, Come to the Movies 1998-1999, Creative Cards 1999-2004, Creative Craft 1997-2004, Creative Gifts 1992-1996, Dining Out 1993-1996, Gardening Group 1996, Genealogy 1994-1997, Golf 1994-1997, Line Dancing Beginners and Advance 1995 to present, Patchwork Corner 1998-2000, Re Discovering Melbourne 2007 to present

Sirio Saisi – Sirio joined Croydon U3A in 1996 and receives his award as a leader of Italian Beginners 1997 to present, Italian Intermediate 1997 to present, Italian Advance 1998 to present, Spanish in 1998 and Spanish Intermediate 1997 to 2000.

June Spence – June joined Croydon in 1994 and receives her award as leader of Watercolour Painting & Sketching which is now named Sketching/Watercolour 1996 to 1998 - 1 class each week, 1999 to present 2 classes each week and Watercolour Advance from 1999 to present 1 class each week

10 years or more continuous years of Service Awards

Jim Dooley – Jim joined Croydon U3A in 1992 to 1998 and re-joined in 2002 and receives his award as the Potted Poets leader from 2002 to present and we acknowledge Jim's prior leadership of Thinking about Shakespeare in 2002, Enjoy Writing from 1992 to 1996 and Playing with Shakespeare 1994 to 1998

Ivy Noden-Hill – Ivy joined Croydon U3A in 1996 and receives her award as the Table Tennis leader from 1999 to present and we acknowledge Ivy's prior leadership of Golf from 2001 to 2005

Leader Continuous Years Service Awards

10 years or more continuous years of Service Awards (cont)

Lyn LaMorticella - Lyn joined Croydon U3A in 1999 and receives her award as leader of Italian Beginners, Italian Intermediate and Italian Advance from 2002 to present and her helping Sirio with these course between 1999 to 2002 before she retired from work.

Marianne Maltig - Marianne joined Croydon U3A in 2003 and receives her award as a leader of Life Story Writing 2003 to 2007, French Beginners 2005 and 2006 and French Continuing 2007 to present.



From left to right, Marianne Maltig, Dot Ward, Sirio Saisi, June Spence, Lyn LaMorticella, Jim Dooley and Ivy Noden-Hill

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Member's Contributions

Pearl Christie

When I joined U3A Croydon in October 1993, I was new to the area and didn't know anyone. Croydon council suggested I join the newly formed U3A. It was 1 year old. I enrolled in a little room at the front of the Croydon Primary School. We had the use of 2 rooms there and some times at the old Scout Hall (Where Aldi is now)

I came every morning and attended whatever was on. I was soon put behind the desk to help and that way I met a lot of people, made friends and learning to mix again and get on with life while participating in interesting classes and learning. The principles, I believe, are the same today, although there are a lot more than the 100 members we had then.



Over time I did office work, social work and led a course for 5 years. I feel I have given back some of the things to Croydon U3A that they gave to me 19 years ago and I always praise U3A to other people.

Courses I attended (and remember):

Astronomy (one of my favourites). Ron Cavill took this course in a small room Monday at the back of the old Scout Hall. Very serious business! At the same time in the hall, the Tap Dancing was going on. (I wanted to be in that too). Later on when Mingarra was built, Ron was offered the 'Harris Room' on a Tuesday and there he stayed. I was able to go to Tap Dancing on Monday as well, everyone was happy! Play Reading with Jean and then a social game of cards in the afternoon. Wednesday a.m. the serious business of learning Bridge – beginners class first a large class, also Solo, Chess and Canasta. Exercise classes were Yoga which I did, having done it before, always hard to find a suitable clean space and it was off and on. Shibashi with Ken & Alex was popular and then we moved to Mingarra and some of the residents join in with us. Some of us would go to Mingarra on a Saturday afternoon and play cards with the residents on a reciprocal arrangement.

The demand on our rooms was great. We would be playing Canasta 1.30pm to 3pm and of course we were having so much fun it was hard to finish. The Spanish Class would be waiting outside the door to get in. Ivy finally decided to have Canasta at her place and we played on and on, again everyone was happy.

Genealogy, another favourite of mine was a great course. With the help from the Croydon Church of Latter Day Saints and Lorraine Elliot MP, we had a full day in the City to access Libraries and documents etc, lots of knowledge, we were on our way. I had great rewards from this course and it continues on. Lorraine supported us by sharing her knowledge of Literature each term. We would have a light lunch prepared by ourselves and she would re

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Pearl Christie (cont)

view new books etc. We had to book early for this. She was the State Member for the Arts.

John Sapsford's Religious courses were very popular. We had to book ahead for a bus of 40 people. Each month, John would prepare notes for us to study and we would visit Churches of different religions. We went to Hindu, Sikh, Jewish, Russian Orthodox, Greek, Buddhist Monks and others. We learnt so much from John, he put a lot of work into this class.

Calligraphy had a long waiting list, Marie Harrison only had 6-8 in the class, first the Beginners, then you could progress to the next level. This was on at the same time as the Tai Chi (which I wanted to do too) but my turn had come for Calligraphy and I loved it. (I currently do Shibashi and Tai Chi on Thursday)

Australian Studies was a very popular class, from this the Rambles Group evolved, with our interest in discovering Melbourne's history. 4th Friday of the month (no Australian Studies) we used the Glenn Frost Room for a meeting and Leaders reports etc. with a Guest Speaker and morning tea was prepared by the Committee.

While all this was going on we were busy fund raising for our dreamed of own premises. We had a Market Day, Raffles, Socials, and Trivia Nights etc. Many set-backs after attending regular Council Meetings over a long period. Citizen's Advice Bureau helped out with Office space and we all had our day to work there, a good roster.

I remember a bus trip to Merimbula and another to Mildura and Mungo National Park. (Studied in Australian Studies). A RACV Older Driver Safe Driving Course at TAFE. A weekend in the School Hall on 'Living Safely in Your Own Home'. We had Lectures from the Police, Health, Fire, Social, on travelling alone etc.

The numbers were small but growing fast. Lots of courses had waiting lists.

Apart from all this activity, my other favourite courses had to be Bushwalking and their Camps each March and October with our friends from Ringwood and Frankston U3A and the Rambles Group. Both of these held on Saturdays.

There were other courses as well but these were the ones I attended and enjoyed.

I have retained my interest in Astronomy, Australian Studies, Genealogy, Bushwalking and Exercises.

I try to keep contact with the friends I don't see now at classes (everyone moves on to other interests) during the Term Holidays.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Arthur and Corrie Cooksley

When Geoff our President asked me to write something about Croydon U3A, I really did not know what I could write. But after thinking about it I wondered where Arthur and I would be without Croydon U3A, I thought about all these people doing all sort of things and enjoying learning and sharing day after day. How good is that?

Arthur and I joined Croydon U3A in December 1999 because we liked to learn how to play Mahjong. So we started with Ken as our leader and he soon taught us how to play, later we had Lois as our leader.

We went to the meetings and soon realised there was lots more to do. So I joined the Patchwork class and a lovely group of ladies made me feel very welcome. I am not very good at it but we do what we can and everyone is helpful and we talk a lot. Arthur joined the basic electronic class with Barry as leader. I could have started to lead a card making class but that was not needed. We both started to help with the office duties. And got to know more and more nice people. At the meetings I could not find Arthur he needed to talk to so many people!!



Arthur then joined the choir. And loved it. I started to lead a class in decorating with fashion jewellery. Together with a group of lovely ladies we painted boxes-mirrors and frames and decorated with lace ribbons and fashion jewellery. So nice. As a hobby I was making a scrap-book album for my sister in Holland and I did have to take the album to show when we did enrolment day. Well of course a scrapbooking class was started that year. We had a full class in next to no time and even one of the husbands joined the class. What fun it was.

Arthur joined yoga and stretch and flex and piano. Boy we were busy but loving it. After all the years my scrapbooking class is still going strong and Ruth one of my ladies has just started a new class which really helped with the waiting list. We are now both doing Tai Chi and Shibashi and Arthur is even taking up swimming. I am still doing my Patchwork course and leading my Scrapbooking course and we keep doing the office duties and love it all. Through the years we have shared many happy occasions with everyone, but also many sad ones and it has made us all appreciate each other more.

You must think we are fairly young to do all these courses. No, we like to keep young even if we are 83 and 87. There is something for everyone in U3A. Just give it a go you will love it whatever you do LEARNING OR SHARING or both.

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Wendy Sinfield

In 2004, I was approached by the then Office Manager and asked if I would be interested in joining the committee as Secretary. I jokingly said I didn't want to be Secretary but would go on the committee as Treasurer and promptly found myself as Assistant Treasurer. This didn't last long though as there wasn't enough for two of us to do so I became Assistant Office Manager then Office Manager when Diny took over as President in 2005. I've been in that position ever since but enjoy the opportunity to meet new members, catch up with existing members and all the wonderful volunteers that man the office daily.

My first office in the Citizens Advice Building was smaller than our present computer room. Apart from the main volunteer's desk and two chairs, it contained a two door metal cabinet, 3 filing cabinets, a fridge, photocopier and computer desk and chair. Very cramped as you can imagine. Our present office is wonderful in comparison and we were all thrilled when we were offered the space in the Keystone Complex and moved in January of 2007. The office was officially opened by the Mayor Peter Gurr on 22nd March 2007.

Since then things have again changed with the two offices being combined to form the computer room and the additional office being converted into the committee computer room. As well as working in the office, I've attended courses in Shibashi, History, Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher and PowerPoint and enjoyed every one of them. I, along with Doris, also taught a Beginners Computer Course for a term and also learnt quite a lot which I hadn't known before.

I don't attend any courses at present other than being a member of the Croydon U3A Singers and in the past we've entertained at local nursing homes, for the birthday celebrations of the CWA, the Dutch Retirement Village and at Federation Square during the 2010 Carnival of Learning Senior's Week and at Ringwood Expo also in 2010. This year we joined with other U3A choirs to perform at the Melbourne Town Hall during "Carnival of Learning".

At the 20th Anniversary Luncheon I was unexpectedly awarded one of the first two Distinguished Awards to be awarded for my services to Croydon U3A.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Pauline Cornell

Pauline moved to Croydon from Surrey Hills in 2003. At that time she had low vision, but was able to distinguish light, shape and some colour. She and her first guide dog, Willow were learning to work together when they crossed Dorset Road to join the library and make use of its music and talking books. As Pauline had been a member at Box Hill She also joined Croydon U3A.

The next year, 2004, she became a member of U3A Book Club 2 led by Joan Shanahan. The Library supplied talking Books for most of our texts and continues to do so. Pauline's input is valued by members. She also joined the class "Uses of Imagination." Led by the late Werner Plez (1921-2006) this class discussed many issues, philosophical and current.

In 2005, she and Alison Wright, both relative newcomers to Croydon started a Current Affairs discussion group at Pauline's home in South Croydon. Over the years this group also used, Swinburne, Springfield Hall, U3A office and Keystone Hall.

Topics ranged from community issues:-Dogs in parks, health services, downsizing, suburban development, public transport. Science:-Genetically modified food, embryonic stem cells, intelligent design/evolution, and nanotechnology. Political - David Hicks, Public Private Partnerships, Climate Change, Carbon credits. During the 2009 bushfires two members worked as volunteers at Marysville and were able to give accounts of the devastation. Much discussion about the work of charities followed.

However the most talked about subject in these drought years was WATER. All aspects of water usage were splashed around. How to conserve it, safe ways to recycle it, was desalination necessary? Australia's use of the Murray Darling basin, were new dams needed and where? Who owned our water? Who controlled it? How would Australia manage limited resources and a growing population?

If a topic was on radio, in newspapers or on television, it would be discussed. Sometimes listening to others was a problem and Ellen's son made a gavel to be used when necessary. While some people came to discuss only topics of particular interest to them there was a core membership. Pauline would like to acknowledge Alison, Pat and Faye and all those who bought articles and contributed to discussion.

This group encouraged people to interact with their peers, sharing concerns about the issues of the day. Different lives produce different perspectives. Members could appreciate another's viewpoint even if they did not agree with it. Much of the talk was anecdotal and for many, a chance to share their life's experience with others. Some say we are the stories we tell, and

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Pauline Cornell (cont)

many stories were shared and appreciated. On the fifth Monday of the month the group went to lunch at various venues, sometimes bringing partners.

From being a newcomer and a stranger, Pauline and her dog, Willow, have got to know many people and become well known members of the Croydon U3A community.

It is the nature of U3A that people come and go. They move away or are unable to get about due to health problems. They become tired of particular topics and move on to something else. During the years this class ran Pauline lost the little vision she had enjoyed. After a bout of influenza she developed labyrinthitis, which led to a hearing impairment and vertigo. Of necessity a blind person relies on her other senses and this has impacted on Pauline's ability to participate in the activities she enjoys. As no one else was prepared to take the group it folded in 2011. She is still an active member of Book Club 2.

Although she cannot see Pauline needs to be seen. She wants to focus on what she can do, not what she cannot and to be a part of the community she lives in. U3A has helped her to do this.

Pauline Cornell assisted by Pat Cavanagh.



Pauline and her dog Willow

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Lyn LaMorticella and Sirio Saisi

THE ITALIAN CLASS AS WE HAVE SEEN IT 1996 – 2012

Prior to 1996, a group of people wanting to learn Italian, gathered at Lilydale U3A and then decided to come to Croydon. The Italian Study Group course at this time, without a specific leader, was held immediately following to Spanish course, a course that Sirio had decided to attend. This was August 1996. Two of the ladies realizing that Sirio was Italian approached him and asked if he would be interested in leading the Italian course. This was their lucky day. He was certainly Italian but also he was born and schooled in Toscana where the purest form of Italian was spoken and he agreed to be their leader.

The lessons began in the gym at Croydon Primary School and then moved to an iron constructed shelter shed at the school with louvre windows. The children would thump on the tin walls and one can imagine the heat in the summer and the cold in the winter. On some occasions classes were held at our home in Lilydale as well as other class members' homes. It wasn't long before the course moved to a more salubrious place that being the old Scout Hall.

In 2002, after retiring from work I took up as an assistant leader. I had been in the class prior to that whenever possible. It was around this time, that the Italian class was offered a room at the Croydon TAFE University which then remained our home for a number of years, the first few being very settled in a class room on the 1st floor. It was warm in winter and although not air conditioned was bearable in summer.

We were then moved downstairs because they (TAFE) thought it unsafe to have seniors on the 1st floor in case of a fire. We wondered about that as we all seemed quite agile and no-one had a walking stick or frame. It was however short lived, as TAFE needed the ground floor room so we were back upstairs waiting for classes to finish our allotted room was always occupied, so every week it was a different room and our students would be forever searching to find where we were.

For the final year, we were relocated in a room on the ground floor quite near the office and toilets and seemed to be in a corner away from the rest of the TAFE classes. This suited us well and here we stayed until TAFE (because of restructuring) could no longer accommodate Croydon U3A. We then went to the Athletics Room in the Keystone Complex where we have been very comfortable, only moving out for several months, when the club-rooms and toilet block were extended.

The courses have grown over the years so we have increased our classes to Intermediate and Advanced to try to keep the continuity. We have a new intake of Beginners every year and some years that has exceeded 40 people.

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Lyn LaMorticella and Sirio Saisi

THE ITALIAN CLASS AS WE HAVE SEEN IT 1996 – 2012 (cont)

This has not been a problem because for a variety of reasons, people drop out as anyone who has tried to learn a new language would know it takes quite a commitment involving time studying at home and everyone does not have that sort of time available, but the ones that have continued have united into a friendly, caring and supportive group.

At the end of 2010, Sirio and myself attended the end of year function of the 'Italian Institute of Culture' where they show cased all their classes at each respective level. We were amazed to find that on the same levels, our students could have held their own and we thought that our students pronounced, read and sounded better. We were very happy.

Over the years we have used a number of texts.

AMICI BUONO SERA – BBC

A FIRST ITALIAN READER FOR ADULTS – HERBERT SMITH

BUON GIORNO ITALIA – BBC ITALIAN FOR BEGINNERS

MOUVE LETTURE DI CULTURA ITALIANA – CAROLINA DONADIO LAWSON

BASIC ITALIAN GRAMMER – CHARLES SPERONI AND CARLO L. GOLINA

LEAGIAMO E CONVERSIAMO – GIOVANNI BATTAGLE

BASIC ITALIAN GRAMMER – C.A. MCCORMICK



Lyn & Sirio with course members Elisabeth Ogden
and Gudrun Kiesskalt

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Jim Dooley

For The Record:

My first U3A activity in Croydon must have been in 1992 with “Enjoying Writing”. Our first couple of sessions were at Glen Park in Bayswater, but we soon moved to our house where I had my books & resources.

It was emphatically NOT a group for writers aspiring to publication, but a mixture of reading and writing to help us discover what was good about good writing.

It may be the “Enjoying Writing” group continued some time after Lilydale U3A set up, with whom we decided to run a joint group, “Playing with Shakespeare” which operated until about 1998 – which puts its origin in the mid-90s.

After a break during which I worked with another organisation, went back to study and worked part-time, we established, I think in 2001-2002, the current “Potted Poets” – again, a reading, not a writing group, although several members have contributed fine pieces to the group.

Dot Ward, 1992 persuaded me to attempt a Public Speaking Group, which lapsed after a couple of poorly attended sessions.

What have I gained:

Marvellous friends including recovering three whom I first knew in Yallourn over fifty years ago. Great insights and understanding from group members. And the encouragement and inspiration to continue rewarding pursuits that I might otherwise have abandoned.

Jim with his wife Beth who is also a Leader at Croydon U3A



Looking Forward, Looking Back

Joy Bellinger

My time with U3A began back in 2002 when I joined to attend a Computer course for Microsoft Publisher. The Leader was John Sapsford and the classes were held at the Croydon TAFE College in Norton Road Croydon. (At that time, TAFE allowed us to use their computers free of charge.) I then followed this with another course called Intermediate Computers lead by Eric Lock, a program on Photo Manipulation with Eric and a Life Story Writing Course with Marianne Maltig. Marianne's course also was held at TAFE.

At the time of attending these classes I assisted in the U3A Office a couple of times a month. The U3A office, at that time, was operating from a small room in the Citizens Advice Bureau in Mt Dandenong Road. Assisting in the office involved handling office and phone enquiries, checking phone messages upon arrival and accepting payments for classes and subscriptions.

In first term 2005 I accepted the challenge of teaching a computer course on Microsoft Publisher. This course lasted for most of the year and once again we used the computers at TAFE. Although, the room had about 18 computers I only had about 12 students for most classes. Any more pupils would have made it very difficult to give everyone enough attention. There were only rare occasions when there were any technical problems, but even then the staff were very obliging. Beginners Computers and also Microsoft Publisher were other classes which I was fortunate enough to teach at U3A Croydon.

Over the few years I conducted my courses at TAFE, not all the rooms had an overhead projector permanently in the room, but we were able to borrow a portable one from their library. This had to be returned to the library after the class for that day. Unfortunately it took time erecting the overhead projector prior to the class starting. It was always necessary for me to set up a stool, stack several books on top of it, set the projector on top of the books so that it was sufficiently high enough so that everyone one could see the image projected from my computer screen.

Looking ahead it seemed clear that there would be no computers available at the TAFE for us to run our courses in the future as all their computer classes were being transferred to the Lilydale Campus. So, it was then we had to seriously consider purchasing our own computers. Gay Hill, the Course Co-ordinator, was able to secure some which were surplus to requirements at TAFE. Eric Lock then gave a lot of his time erecting benches and setting up these computers in a room at the Croydon U3A Office which had now moved to the Keystone Complex in Civic Square. As these computers were second hand it wasn't long before

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Joy Bellinger (cont)

they needed to be replaced with newer ones. Sometime later, an overhead projector was installed and a colour printer connected to the Leaders computer. Having our own computer room has now enabled us to conduct many more computer courses and at more convenient times.

Charcoal Drawing Classes was another course that I attended more recently. The teacher was Mary Ham, who was very experienced and knowledgeable and we all learnt so much from her and appreciated her encouragement. Sometimes, during inclement weather, the classes were held in the Kent Avenue Scout Hall, but in nice sunny days we sketched scenes around the hall and in the parks, etc near Civic Square.

In my time with U3A, I have gained confidence in using my skills, and knowledge in conducting courses, gained new skills, met so many people and gained new friends.



Joy and Trevor Bellinger both Computer Leaders

Looking Forward, Looking Back

Trevor Bellinger

As my wife Joy was already a U3A member at the time, I decided to become a member also, probably around 6 years ago. I participated in the Photo Enhancement course which was run at the Croydon TAFE College and lead by Eric Lock. I later enrolled in a Microsoft Word course after which I was given the opportunity to lead the next Microsoft Word course as the existing Leader was leaving the Croydon area. I accepted this invitation and have since progressed onward to leading several other Computer courses, including Basic Keyboard & Mouse Control Skills, Computer Beginners, Beginners Word, Computer Intermediate, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft PowerPoint. I am currently assisting my wife Joy in conducting her Microsoft Publisher course.

After establishing our own computer room around 4 years or so ago at the Keystone Complex, and the subsequent installations of our own computers, projector etc, we no longer needed the facilities which we had previously enjoyed at the Croydon TAFE college. Whilst we had greatly appreciated the TAFE and their tremendous generosity they afforded us in allowing us to use their facilities including their Computer Rooms and computers, we were now able to enjoy the convenience of our own in-house facilities. It was now so much easier to plan our Computer timetable etc.

Whilst Eric Lock is no longer a Croydon U3A Leader it is important to recognise and acknowledge his hard work, time and expertise in constructing the computer benches, setting up the computers, installing computer software, internet etc. Without Eric's expertise it is doubtful whether we would have had the computer room and its facilities which we have available to us today. We also acknowledge and thank Telstra for their generous grant which assisted us finance the purchase of new computers and setting up costs in the computer room.

At present we have 10 separate computer courses running each week. We also have 3 new ones commencing 2013.

In my time as a member of Croydon U3A, it has been rewarding to see how many of our computer course participants have progressed from being absolute computer novices to now participating in our more advanced computer courses.

Whilst I lead several computer courses, I am also a keen member of the table-tennis class; currently the Croydon U3A Publicity Officer and member of our Committee. Croydon U3A has been an important, busy and enjoyable part of my life since I retired from paid employment more than four years ago. Croydon U3A is also an important part of our Community and to our 850 or so loyal members.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Essie Fitzgerald

After arriving in Croydon in the year 2000, my introduction to U3A Croydon was later made through my friend, Lillian Burgess. The Monday Book Club, then run by Pat Tuffs in her home, was my first class. The book topics were varied and whilst not always my 'cup of tea' they provided the material for lively discussion of the 'Book of the Month', just read.

When other outside interests died, (eg – Square Dancing and Ballroom Dancing at local clubs) due to the ageing process (bad knees) my U3A classes began to take up more of my time. Choir was the first addition and has stayed a constant. My friend Lillian fancied Chair Dancing with Shirley. We did this until Lillian moved out of the area.

After that, came Life Story Writing, Beading, Stretch and Flex, and more recently Philosophy/Psychology and Spirituality not forgetting Discovering Melbourne with Dot Ward. Great days out.

My new one for this year, term 3 is Digital Camera Basic Beginners with Brian McCarron who tells us we will be whizz kids if we attend ALL classes and do our homework.

I would like to give 500 cards a go. It's years since I played, so maybe long term memory will be an asset there. (not much good on the short term)

Office Duties and any other way I can help is also great.

So many lovely people to meet and expand minds with.

So many great leaders to learn from.

Many thanks to a great Executive and Committee. U3A Croydon offers such a variety of ways to keep busy, become wiser and be very happy doing it.



Looking Forward, Looking Back

Ruth Crichton

Our Age of Wisdom

Can I share with you the most wonderful week that Georgia Coeur (Class Co ordinator) and I have experienced? We decided to visit as many classes and get an overview of what Croydon U3A offers its members. As relatively new members to U3A Georgie and I felt we needed to do this.

We spent all day Monday, most of Wednesday and Friday morning doing the rounds!!!

What an eye opener it was. Creative Cards were producing cards that you would just want to keep, they are works of art. The Creative Crafts group were industriously working on a wide range of crafts, Lead Lighting and Furniture Restoration through no fault of their own were a bit late starting, and I promise we will come back again to see the rewards of your efforts. A brief visit to Mahjong, prompted me to learn this down the track, this to me looked rather a complicated game but I'm assured if you can play Canasta, you can play Mahjong.

The Line Dancers were energetically mastering their new steps. The Basic Electronics course led by Christopher Travers was discussing the various lights available and their suitability to meet various needs in the home.

A visit to the French Group at Swinburne gave us further insights into the needs of class participants.

We finished the day with a visit to the Current Affairs group. They were discussing medicines, and I was impressed with the depth of understanding of the topic, and their ability to inject a sense of humour into debate.

Advanced Watercolour group were producing beautiful flower paintings. I hope June has had her beginners visit this class to see what can be achieved in the long term. Marie's quilting group were doing the most intricate work, and making it a social event.

The Recorder class took me back to when I and my children learnt recorder. Georgie also visited Tai Chi, Shibashi and Chess groups on Thursday.

In closing can I thank you all for making us feel so welcome and demonstrating the extensive range and creativity of our classes. I promise that over the next few weeks we will visit all courses. So if you missed out this week, we look forward to meeting your class at a later date.

The committee will do their best to ensure that the Croydon U3A continues to grow and reflects the needs of our members in this "Our Age of Wisdom"

Ruth Crichton, President

(Published in September 2007 Newsletter)

Ruth stepped into the President's role at short notice due to the deaths of Diny Driessen & Gay Hill

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Margaret E Dunbar

Thank you for the opportunity to share my twelve-year journey with you all. After graduating from secondary school, teacher training and many years of arts and crafts subjects, it was time for retirement and entering the third age of my life. Through a friend, I joined Croydon U3A as I thought it was time to learn more about my computer. I was self-taught. It was wonderful being able to attend many classes - Intermediate computer at TAFE, Play-reading, Publisher, Poetry, Patchwork and Watercolour.

In September 2003, when asked to edit the U3A newsletter, I happily agreed. I had edited the Seymour High School newsletter for two years. The first one was one page as I only had 20 minutes to produce it with the help of Eric Lock. Since then, it has been mostly eight, sometime ten or twelve pages, depending on the contributions submitted.

From black and white to colour (on the internet), the newsletter and its logo has changed during those years and I am happy that my 'gum leaf' design is now being used as the official U3A Croydon Logo. Browsing the internet, I found Croydon's website and realised it had not been updated for some time. So I asked for permission to try, contacted Vicnet for a new password and a few instructions, and went ahead. It wasn't easy as I thought. What was this strange HTML language that was used to write a webpage? So after attending two TAFE online courses - webpage creation and web graphics - I was a bit more knowledgeable and able to do the updating, which included posting the newsletter as a PDF file.

After doing a photo editing course, I became able to edit the many photos that I have taken at U3A events, to crop unnecessary items, fix colour and brightness, etc., thus improving their appearance. With the help of Yahoo Frontpage, web editing software, groups, other free websites and many hours of study and work, I was able to launch an entirely new website, which is still online today and being updated monthly.

I am back studying Watercolour painting with Peter and finding it challenging and very enjoyable, so different from the oil painting that I spent many hours on.

When my time on the committee and producing the newsletter comes to an end, I look forward to attending a lot more of the wonderful courses our U3A has to offer and to meeting a lot more members than I am able to do at present. I want to close by saying, "Thank you". Thank you for allowing me to share this knowledge and to use my arts and craft skills. Thank you for the recognition shown when, at our recent 20th Anniversary Concert, I was presented with a framed "Distinguished Service Award".



Looking Forward, Looking Back

Diny Driessen

In August 2005 when the President resigned from the Committee, Diny, a former Croydon Secondary College teacher, was elected unanimously to the position of President, to be ratified at the 2006 AGM. She was well known for her many hours spent in the U3A Office, working as Office Convener to make it a well-organized and pleasant place. She implemented an efficient enrolment system using our computer, with the help of other people. On becoming President she continued to work tirelessly for Croydon U3A and it is amazing what she, with the help of the Committee and others, was able to achieve in such a short period of time. Under Diny's leadership we have gone from strength to strength, and we value her achievements and continued loyalty. From essential negotiations (we now have a new office and classroom) while at the same time conducting two computer classes (having written a manual), so that as many members as possible were able to keep up with modern communication and technology.

She was noted for her attention to detail, and her extra efforts, things she did because they needed to be done. If there was a meeting to be attended and she considered it important for the U3A, Diny was the one who attended. She was always available to discuss problems and to help where possible. Her contribution is immeasurable and ensures that vital services continue to be provided for our members. She was very much appreciated by all who knew her and we will miss her immensely.

Tribute to Diny from Margaret Dunbar published in July 2007 Newsletter



Looking Back, Looking Forward

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Over the past 20 years our membership has continually increased along with courses and leaders and we have 851 members together with more than 84 courses. With the occurrence of Australia's "Baby-Boomers" now beginning to retire, we would envisage that the increase will start to accelerate. Until the last couple of years our growth came mainly from word of mouth and the odd entry we were able to have included in our local newspapers. Now we are promoting ourselves at the Maroondah Festival and the Seniors' Festivals; on local Eastern FM and a Melbourne radio station. We find new members are hearing about us from these sources as well as our traditional ones and our Web site. Based on the trend of our previous growth of approximately 25% every 3 years, we can expect a membership of no less than 1800 in 10 years' time.

Accommodation has always been our biggest concern over the years and all Croydon U3A committees have worked closely with Maroondah Council, local Scout Groups, Swinburne TAFE, local schools and churches to provide for our accommodation needs. Currently the Executive committee meet regularly with our Maroondah Ward councillors in an effort to secure more accommodation for our future needs. Currently we are spread over 8 venues using 15 rooms, a leisure pool, member's private homes and other outside areas with very little storage area of our own. Ideally we would like all tiers of Government to recognise the valuable part that Croydon U3A plays in the lives of the senior members of the City of Maroondah and surrounding areas and provide us with appropriate accommodation.

The concept of the social interaction benefits of the U3A would be considerably enhanced if Croydon U3A had one central property with several rooms suitable for a variety of activities for its exclusive use during the day. This would then enable more members to meet socially as they leave or arrive for their courses and, an area to allow for expansion as we grow would be ideal. The rooms required would need to be larger than those we currently have to enable the member numbers per course to be increased. The area should also be large enough to allow equipment to remain in situ plus provide our own storage areas. Other U3A's do have council buildings allocated to them and most of their activities take place within the one structure.

We realise that the expansion of the organisation cannot be achieved without close co-operation with Maroondah City Council as Croydon U3A does not have the resources to provide its own accommodation. We will continue to work closely with Maroondah City Council and the State Member for Kilsyth to take advantage of any accommodation which may become available, with the major consideration being a location close to central Croydon so that members using public transport have easy access to venues.

Looking Forward, Looking Back

The fundamental financial principle is to keep membership as affordable as possible to make the benefits of the organisation accessible to as many people as possible. A reserve fund has built up during the 20 years Croydon U3A has existed and it was originally intended that U3A Croydon would use the accumulated funds to purchase its own property. However, this is now well beyond the capacity of the organisation without a massive increase in subscriptions which would be contrary to the fundamental principle. This reserve allows the organisation the flexibility to set up new courses that may require significant initial expense such as the setting up of our computer courses with ten new computers to provide specialised training for leaders and members.

From time to time the U3A receives grants from State Government agencies such as the Adult, Community & Further Education (ACFE) and Department of Planning & Community Development (DPCD) plus Maroondah City Council.

Our office is small in comparison to other U3A's but is always a hive of activity, staffed by our Office Manager, Committee members and approx 90 volunteers who rotate for two and a half hours every weekday morning during school terms. They handle all enquires, course vacancies, photocopying etc. As our membership grows, more volunteers will be required and the hours that the office is open may need to be reviewed.

Along with our increasing membership come new Course Leaders with different talents and areas of interest who volunteer their time to be Leaders which, in turn, enables us to offer an increased variety of subjects to our members. The basic concept of U3A is a co-operative, self help organisation for people who are no longer working full time. Course Leaders do not require any formal qualifications and are drawn from the general membership. A Course Leader will typically have developed a skill in a specific subject either through their working life, as a hobby or through their general life experience and be prepared to share that skill or experience with others who have an interest in the subject. All Course Leaders are members who volunteer their time to lead a course. Committee members also volunteer their time to keep the organization running smoothly.

Looking forward to a future of sharing our knowledge and skills amongst our increasing membership where members benefit from learning and being active. Whether they are a leader, part of the committee, a volunteer, a course member or all four, keeping the mind and body active, forming friendships with each other in the third stage of life is the ethos of Croydon U3A.