

U3A CROYDON BULLETIN - WEEK 7

Dear Members,

Below is a picture of our new committee, taken from our Zoom session of the AGM last Friday, 1st May. First of all a big welcome and thank you to Neil Rose (President), Frank Brown (Vice President), Merv Amos (Course Administrator) and Ray Clark (Committee) for coming onboard. Also a thank you to returning committee for making your contribution for another year. No matter what organisation you belong to, there is always a band of workers behind the scenes, trying to do the best for members and Croydon U3A is no different. Each of our new committee members has given a little "bio" for you to read. I know each will have a unique contribution to make and we thank you for that.

And for our departing committee members, Geoff Steventon, Bernie Simmonds and Margaret Atherton, we are enormously grateful for the time and energy you gave to Croydon U3A. A bit more about them on the second page.

In coming Bulletins you will hear a bit about our reappointed committee members.

This Sunday is Mothers' day but of course it will be very different this year. To all the mums and grandmas, I hope you have a lovely day and can connect in some way with your kids and grandkids. Happy mothers' day!

As usual, let me know what's happening in your lockdown life. Write to: coordinator@u3acroydon.org.au

Take care, keep busy, and keep in touch with your friends and family.

Ingrid ☺



NEIL ROSE - PRESIDENT

My name is Neil Rose, I have lived in South Croydon with my wife, Alison since 1975. I retired this year and joined U3A for the fellowship of other like-minded members. I was a Councillor for the City of Croydon from 1990 to 1994 and worked with the late Lorraine Elliott MP and the newly formed Committee of Croydon U3A to lobby Council and the State Government for accommodation and funding to kick start the fledgling organisation. I am proud of how it has grown since then.

My work background was in research for BHP, Victoria Police and number of small businesses, including computer hardware repairs and lastly as an investigator reporting on Workcover injuries. I was also a Councillor and Mayor for the City of Maroondah and served on numerous local and State Government committees. I would like to thank all the members of the committee and especially the new members and the retiring members for their commitment to this organisation.

**WELCOME
TO OUR TEAM**

RAY CLARK - COMMITTEE

I live with wife Margaret in Lilydale. This is my first year with U3A and I am a member of the learners guitar group. I am semi retired business improvement consultant and work specifically with small businesses. My main interests are in sailing, model making, cycling and maintaining our Lilydale property. I hope I can bring some of my experience gained from other organisations to Croydon U3A.

FRANK BROWN - VICE PRESIDENT

I am married with 2 sons and 2 grandchildren. My wife is also a U3A member. I have been retired since September 2014 and joined U3A Croydon 2 weeks after retirement. My Interests: Music – playing the ukulele, current affairs, renewable energy, electric cars, CAD, CNC machines, 3D printing and all things mechanical (from my work days).

Pre-lockdown I was attending a number of classes including Guitar and Ukulele, Speechcraft, U3A Singers, and I am the tutor of Beginners Guitar on a Friday which we are currently continuing as a Zoom on-line class.

MERV AMOS - COURSE ADMINISTRATOR

I am looking forward to my new role on the committee and I realise I have big shoes to fill taking over from Marg Atherton. Marg has very kindly offered to help me settle into the role which I accept with thanks. I have been a member of U3A Croydon for 5 years and have enjoyed the friendships gained from the many activities provided. My background in my working life involved the design and maintenance of databases using MS Access. In the 80's I served on the Committee of Management of Eastfield Park for 7 years. Also at the same time both Helen and I were Cub Leaders with the 3rd Croydon Scouts for 5 to 6 years. I have been working alongside Marg Atherton for the last 6 months and she has prepared me very well for the task ahead in my new role as Course Administrator. When we get back to some normality, I hope to get out to the classes to introduce myself and put some faces to names.

RETIRING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Geoff Steventon took on the role of President last year and came to us with extensive experience from having been in the President role before. Geoff has significant commitments in other areas of his life, particularly as president of the Yarra Valley Singers, (and I believe Treasurer as well) so he probably didn't really need that extra responsibility. We were therefore very grateful that he agreed to pick up the role again especially as we were at the beginning of the discussions with Council about new premises and Geoff has valuable knowledge about previous attempts to negotiate with council. Geoff is articulate, a natural leader and has always been committed to our U3A. He takes a hands on approach which meant he would be there to chair meetings, represent us outside of U3A but also chip in with a bit of manual labour at the various U3A events. Our thanks to you Geoff. You will still see Geoff if you are a bushwalker or a Walking Footballer.



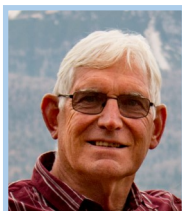
I don't think there would be many U3A Croydon members who don't know Margaret Atherton.

Margaret has been a member for many years, our Course Administrator since 2014 and a friendly fixture in the U3A office.

Marg's attention to detail and enormous time commitment to managing the Croydon U3A database means we could be confident that our data base was well managed. Plus the huge job of organising enrolment days in November each year always created a significant workload for Margaret which she handled with aplomb. A big thank you to Marg for her long standing and dedicated commitment to our U3A. I know it was a big and difficult decision for Marg to retire from this role. We will miss her but we certainly hope we can continue to access her expertise when we need to. Marg will still be around attending her classes at U3A.



A very special thank you to Bernie Simmonds for taking on the shared role of Treasurer in 2019. We understand you were new to the U3A and very much appreciate that you put yourself forward as a member of Committee, taking on the challenging role of Treasurer. We appreciate that 2019 was a particularly difficult year for you and your family and once again thank you for working with Sue Martin to ensure that this important role in our Committee was very well maintained. Bernie also held the position of Vice President. Wishing you and the family all the very best.



NOTICE TO TUTORS

Apparently a number of emails sent via UMAS are ending up in members' junk folders. When next you write to your class please try the following:

1. Place your "Subject" heading also into the "body" of the email.
2. Place a disclaimer at the bottom of each email that reads: "This email is being sent to [preferred-name] [surname] as you are a registered member of U3A Croydon Inc"

This may prevent these emails from being considered as Spam and ending up in the JUNK Mail.

BOREDOM BUSTERS

Even if you are not a model train enthusiast, check out this YouTube video to see what a very talented and dedicated 89 year old has done in his backyard. You will be amazed.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KniP3T_PPb4

If you want to watch something heartwarming but also thought provoking, try this. (Thank you to Helen S for this one)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nw5KQMXDiM4>

And for sheer entertainment, how's this for juggling?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K23mC4mpobg>

Check It Out!



COMPUTER CORNER

A new Zoom class called "Zoom-Wednesday MAY/JUNE-Online" will be starting May 27th for three consecutive weeks.

Phone Trevor or Joy 9729 9308

