

Watson

16th February 2022

Hi to all members,

Welcome to our 1st Term for the 2022 year which has now started. We held our annual Meet & Greet on 22nd January 2022, unfortunately we did not get the number of attendees we expected, but our Team Leaders did put on a great exhibition of the things their groups do. A big thank you to Team Leaders, Committee members and everyone else that assisted on the day to make our Meet & Greet an enjoyable morning.

This might be a good time to remind those that have not already done so, your annual memberships are now due, please note there is an added section on the membership form in regard to Covid-19 vaccination that needs to be signed off by either a committee member or Team Leader. Some members have paid their fees by direct debit into Bacchus Marsh U3A's Commonwealth bank account and forwarded their membership form by email and included a copy of their Medicare vaccination certificate, which is very acceptable. Maybe this may be a good method to use for anyone who wishes to renew their membership on line.

For those who were a financial member last year/2021, this year's annual fee reduced \$10.00, due to Covid-19 lockdowns and many cancelled activities. Our aim this year is to have all members renew their membership by the end of February 2022 so that we can have our insurances and Consumer Affairs issues updated and paid. In order to do this, we need to have a definite number of members for 2022.

Last year we removed the names of unfinancial members from our membership registry at the end of February 2021. Unfinancial members no longer received Watson and bi monthly Newsletter, also they are not covered by public liability insurance and should not have the privilege to attend any activities.

Thank you to those who have promptly paid their membership and sent in a completed membership form, please see membership renewal form in attachment for those that have not renewed as yet.

Darley Neighbourhood House:

An email was received from Darley Neighbourhood house stating:

"The current Government regulations that we are required to abide by:

- *All attendees must show proof of vaccination or exemption (once this has been checked once we don't need to see it again)*
- *All attendees must check in using the QR code EVERY time they visit (we also have a manual option available)*

- *All attendees are required to wear a face mask AT ALL TIMES unless eating or drinking*

We have had a couple of challenges over the past couple of weeks enforcing these regulations and while we understand that it might be frustrating, we do ask that everyone respect our staff."

These government regulations apply for all the venues that we use, please ensure that you are compliant.

Some of our groups have taken off to a great start, our Garden Group are planning their first outing for this year on this coming Tuesday 22nd February 2022, please see flyer in attachment for further details.

We welcome Pamela back after a brief illness, science sessions are again held at Darley Neighbourhood House on Monday afternoons from 1.00pm. Please contact Pamela on 0400 387 841 for further information or if you would like to join her group.

3rd Tuesday Book club have changed their start times to 1.30pm, for further details contact Heather 0427 095 080.

French lessons have started up again every Monday morning from 10.00-11.00am via ZOOM. Please contact Lyn 0488 588 011 if you would like to join this group.

Painting for fun group meet weekly and have changed their activity day and place, they now meet on Thursday's 10.00am-12.00pm at the ex-Childcare centre at Darley Neighbourhood House. For further details please contact Laurel on 0423 500 019.

Please see our 2022 Timetable for session times and contacts for all of our other groups.

It was brought to our attention that the Lerderderg Library hold a monthly movie screening. It would be great if Bacchus Marsh U3A had a person who could coordinate and make bookings for these movies for our members and perhaps organise a lunch and discussion of movie after the session. This could be listed as an activity on our timetable. Anyone interested on taking on this roll, please contact Sharon on below contact details.

We are very pleased to advise that we now have a Course Co-ordinator. Thank you to Judy Archer who has volunteered to take on this roll. Judy can be contacted on 0409 858 183.

We have mentioned several times that we are always on the lookout for anyone with a special skill or a passion for an activity that they would like to share with other like-minded members. You do not need any qualifications, just a desire to share your skills. If this is something you would like to do, please contact either Helen or Sharon on below contact numbers and we can discuss this further.

That's all for now. Any queries in regard to any of the above, please contact either:

Helen Brown 0400 143 392 or Email: president@u3abacchus.org.au

Sharon Moore 0407480207 or Email: secretary@u3abacchus.org.au or Info@u3abacchus.org.au