

## U3A INTERNATIONAL

U3A, *L'Universite du Troisieme Age*, was founded in Toulouse in 1972 in response to French Government legislation which required universities to provide more community education for older adults. The experiment met with almost immediate success and soon swept across other European countries.

By 1981 the idea spread to Britain. There it was adapted by a group of enthusiasts at Cambridge so that instead of being dependent on universities, it was promoted as being a movement based on self-help and mutual aid, a kind of 'intellectual democracy'. This means that tutors or course leaders, those responsible for

the administration of the organisation, and the members all have the same status and all give their services voluntarily.

Both concepts have a similar aim -- to promote lifelong learning. One has become known as the 'French' model of U3A (university based), the other the 'Cambridge' or 'British' model (self-administered).

Today, U3A exists in one form or another in most western countries and in some Asian ones, particularly in China, and has millions of members. Those campuses following the French form are linked by an international organisation called AUIA to which other U3As may have associate membership.

## U3A AUSTRALIA

The U3A concept was introduced into Australia in 1984, with the first meeting in Melbourne. The Cambridge model was adopted, possibly because no one knew much about the options and because, at the time, Australian universities were not heavily committed to the idea of community education.

Now there are almost 120 campuses, all working along roughly the same principles.

Both these items are from the website of the ACT U3A at <http://www.tip.net.au/~mdinn/u3aast/au3int.htm>

## U3A Online

For those members with access to the Internet, there is an interesting and informative U3A site at <http://u3aonline.edna.edu.au/>

This is a site where Universities of the Third Age, particularly those in Australia and New Zealand, can share ideas, resources and information. A major component of this site is Isolated Bytes, an Internet project devised to allow older members of the community who are isolated, either geographically or through physical or social circumstances, to enjoy some of the advantages of membership of an ordinary University of the Third Age.

Links are to:

- What are U3As all about?
- Directory of Australia and New Zealand U3As
- U3A news items
- Calendar of U3A-related events
- Useful resources for U3As and U3A members
- U3A Online Forum

## PROGRAM TERM 1 – 2000

(The courses are now full)

Starts Monday 13 March. Finishes Tuesday 23 May. Easter recess 24-25 April. Classes will generally be held in Room A1 (southernmost block) at the Kingston Adult Education Centre, 8 Hutchins Street, Kingston, vehicle entrance off Church Street.

### GREAT RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

Monday 10.00 am

John May  
Room A1

### SHAKESPEARE'S KING LEAR

Monday 11.30 am

David Mallick  
Room A1

### TEN COMPOSERS

Monday 2 pm

Barrie de Jersey  
Barrie's home at 4 Fairway Drive, Redwood Village

### ASPECTS OF ANCIENT GREEK CIVILISATION

Tuesday 10 am

Joe Priest  
Room A1

### THE ENDOCRINE SYSTEM AND OTHER ASPECTS OF BIOLOGY

Tuesday 11.30 am

Joe Barta  
Room A1

### ASTRONOMY

Tuesdays 1.15 pm

Peter Stevenson  
Room A1

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAM FOR TERM 2 – 2000**

Starting 26 June  
A final program and an enrolment form will be distributed to members on or about 8 May.

**PERU or EGYPT?**

Monday 10 am

Gifford Causon

**MATTERS OF LIFE AND DEATH**

Monday 11.30 am

Francesca Touber

**CITIZENSHIP AND CIVIL SOCIETY**

Monday 1.15 pm

Ralph Chapman

**ANCIENT CIVILISATION**

Tuesday 10 am

Joe Priest

**HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

Tuesday 11.30 am

Leone Scrivener

**ASTRONOMY Part 2**

Tuesdays 1.15 pm

Peter Stevenson

**WOMEN OF SCIENCE**

Thursday 10 am

Noela Foxcroft

**ASPECTS OF COMMUNICATION**

Thursday 11.30 am

Graeme Thompson

**MONEY MATTERS.** Your annual subscription entitles you to access to courses for all three terms. A small levy may be charged by some tutors to cover cost of photo copying

**MORNING TEA.** Tea and coffee is available in the kitchen at the end of the corridor. Please place 50c in the jar, and wash your cup when finished.

**NAME TAGS.** If you have a name tag, please wear it to class.

**NEWSLETTER.** The next issue should be published on or about 8 May, with a deadline of 28 April. Contributions from members will be welcomed by the Editor (Don Gregg, 5 Klama Place, Blackmans Bay 7052, phone 6229 6519

e-mail [Don.Gregg@tassie.net.au](mailto:Don.Gregg@tassie.net.au))



**NEWSLETTER**  
**U3A Kingborough**  
A University of the Third Age  
Number 1  
March 2000

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Secretary	Marjorie Major	6229 1368	PO Box 479
Treasurer	Pat Neilsen	6229 3002	KINGSTON, TAS 7051

**MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF KINGBOROUGH**

At the start of a new era in Kingborough with the opening of our splendid new Council Chambers, I feel sure the introduction of U3A to the Municipality will add further to the quality of cultural life for our senior citizens. I commend the program and those who have joined, and give my good wishes to this admirable initiative.

Donald R Hazell MBE

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

When U3A was inaugurated in Kingborough last October we knew there was a demand for quality education programs for older persons in our community, but the response to the invitation of the Management Committee to join for the year 2000 has exceeded expectations. Attainment of a fully subscribed membership approaching one hundred and twenty mature-age students, and the provision of six varied and interesting courses, bodes well for a fulfilling and stimulating first term. Then there is the promise of further courses later in the year.

On behalf of all who have worked to bring about this happy state of affairs -- the Committee members (especially our indefatigable Hon. Secretary, Marjorie Major), the staff of the Adult Education Centre in Hutchins Street, the Program Advisory Panel, Mr Harold Graham of the School for Seniors, the officers of neighbouring U3As with their helpful advice and, not least, the contribution of the Kingborough Council to our endeavours -- I welcome all readers of our Newsletter No. 1 to U3A Kingborough and wish this venture every success. Enjoy!

Sheila Given