

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

President's Report

2014 Highlights

- Strategic plan 2014-2016 approved
- Harassment and privacy policies approved
- 15% increase in membership
- 22 new tutors recruited
- 36 new courses
- 15% increase in course hours delivered
- Exhibition of photography
- Botanical Art participation in "Play Me, I'm Yours" arts project
- 2 new Let's Do Groups

We aspire always to be a thriving, well-resourced community whose members embrace lifelong learning and positive ageing by sharing knowledge and life skills within a culture of friendship and generosity.

In spite of my good intentions two years ago, I am back as President, at least for a short time. It is important, however, to make sure that new people keep participating, because without change no organization is going to survive in the long run.

It has been a very good year. Membership has increased to over 1300, and the number of tutors and courses, and social events keeps growing. As a result there is a sense of energy, purpose and fun permeating the organization. It is clear that word-of-mouth from family and friends is how the majority of new members get to hear of and join U3A. This indicates that your words and enthusiasm must be positive.

However an organization of over 1300 with such a large program, does not happen accidentally. I would like to thank our team of volunteers for all the effort they put in. The social side has grown greatly with the 'Let's Do' groups and events under the overall coordination of Shirley Mason. The Management Committee is important of course, and special thanks go to Carolyne Cohn as Secretary, and Irene Jap as Treasurer for keeping the wheels turning and the system in order! There are other key roles: Graham Hawley has taken over the newsletter seamlessly and is doing a great job. Julie Nankervis and her course team are responsible for our growing course program, and our tutors give massive amounts of time and care to their courses. Gerri McDonald and her team organize the monthly forums; Tony Miles gives our promotional material a professional look; and Helena Ling and Fran Sciarretta

manage the office with their team of 30+ volunteers who are the public face of U3A. Thank you all!

2015 is our 30th anniversary and also that of the U3A movement in Australia. A watershed year, as I have said before, and something to celebrate. Think of the immense amount of work that has gone into delivering our programs over that time! Think of the great numbers who have belonged and enjoyed the learning and social life that is generated through so many people all pulling in the same direction.

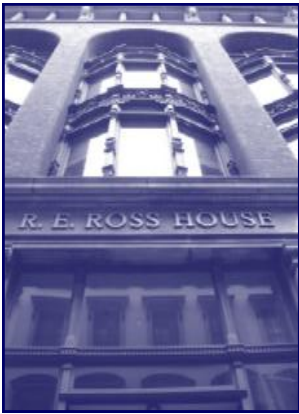
Next year we are planning a number of extra events to mark this celebration. These include:

- A Fashion Show for the 50+ at the ANZ Pavilion in the Arts Centre
- A seminar Series from May to October – around '*change, technology and the future*'.
- A Photo Exhibition in August – at the Victorian Artists' Society in Albert St.
- A film festival over a weekend in April

A successful U3A knows how important it is to get people doing the things they like, know and enjoy, and at the same time engendering a sense of belonging, and being useful. A team is made up, not of people all the same, but people who have different skills, attitudes and attributes. This is important so that an organization can grow and prosper – and meet the needs of its members. So, do you think retirement is the end of the road – 'God's waiting room'? I will bet not! You are active, involved and contributing in myriad ways to an organization that gives back learning, laughter and companionship. Long may it last – long past 30 years!



Jill Thompson, President



Our home—Ross House, Flinders Lane

“This is my first year in the U3A and I have been impressed with the organisation, the courses, and the very interesting people I have met. A huge plus for a recently retired work-a-holic. I am looking forward to the new courses to broaden my knowledge and create new interests. The U3A is doing a terrific job!”



Music Ensemble, Seniors Week

Who we are

U3A Melbourne City Inc. is part of a world-wide movement of Universities of the Third Age—self-help, voluntary organisations which promote active ageing and lifelong learning for the over-50s who are no longer in full-time employment.

U3A Melbourne City was the first to be established in Australia A public meeting

was held in 1984 and the first classes commenced in February 1985.

It fulfils its mission by providing courses in a broad range of disciplines, a lecture program on topical issues presented by guest speakers and opportunities to make new friends and extend social networks through its social and volunteer program.

Highlights

Grants

We successfully applied for and received

\$12,500

in competitive grants during this financial year.

Patrons Program and Donations

\$8,540

Membership

We had

1,316

members as at end September.

Tutors and Courses

We had **91** volunteer tutors teaching

4,755

hours of classes. We offered

66 full-year/semester courses and

61 short courses throughout the year.

Organisational Achievements

- Approved a new Strategic Plan 2014-2016.
- Approved and published a Harassment Policy and a Privacy Policy.
- Acquired 2 new teaching venues: Gemmological Society of Australia and Melbourne Natural Wellness Centre.
- Rented and moved to a new and larger office on the 4th Floor of Ross House.
- Introduced online course feedback.
- Received grants totaling \$12,500.
- Hosted two groups of Masters students from Singapore who were researching services for seniors.
- The Botanical Art group participated in Arts Centre Melbourne arts project, *Play Me, I'm Yours*.
- Members participated in two overseas tours to United Kingdom and Turkey.
- Granted two members—Dorothy Davis and Juliette Zeelander—life membership for sustained and outstanding contribution to our organization.

Structure and Management

U3A Melbourne City is a not-for-profit incorporated association, which commenced operation in 1985. It is a membership-based organisation run entirely by the effort of its volunteer members.

The Committee of Management is responsible for the performance of U3A Melbourne City, guiding its strategic direction and ensuring that its operations are consistent with its mission. Minutes of meetings are posted on our website and available for perusal in the office by members.

The Committee is supported by a number of working groups which are aligned to the objectives of the Strategic Plan. There is an open invitation to members to contribute their skills to help achieve our objectives.

The Committee, which met seven times, comprised four office bearers – President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary – and six ordinary members. Committee membership during the year comprised:

Jill Thompson, President
Keith Bettles, Vice-President (resigned)
Pam Davies, Vice-President (co-opted)
Carolyn Cohn, Secretary
Irene Jap, Treasurer

Graham Hawley, Member
 Ruth Hawley, Member
 Lance Meyer, Member (co-opted)
 Tony Miles, Member
 Liz Stephens, Member
 Max Warlond, Member
 Marcus Wearne (resigned)
 Lan Ping Yeh (resigned)



Botanical Art piano for *Play Me, I'm Yours* arts project.

"Since retiring last year, I have been studying a couple of subjects with U3A and really look forward to weekly classes with my new friends. Learning with U3A is affordable, it's fun and I'm amazed at the variety of courses on offer as well as the interesting people I've met from different backgrounds and lifestyles."

Membership

Members by Sex	
Male	318
Female	998

Age Range	
86-95	55
76-85	242
66-75	626
56-65	329
50-55	24
Unstated	40

Members by Type	
Member	1253
Associate	35
Life	10
Non-Fee	18

Registered as volunteer	307
Members with Email	1143
Members from City of Melbourne postcodes	309

Life Members

John Besley, George Boag, Joyce Bromage, Blair Cramer, John Cramp, Dorothy Davis, Marguerite Grynberg, Marie Einoder, Judy Eldred, Lillian Emmanuel, Ann Hewett, Christina Hill, Alma Kristensen, Margaret Ledley, Alan Liubinas, Eva Meredith, Ailsa Miles, Val Pincus, Will Semler, Margaret Shilton, Nan Wingfield, Juliette Zeelander.



U3A Carnival of Learning 2014 Federation Square



Tutors Social Event

"The U3A course program is excellent. There are courses for the many different interests of our members and it is great to meet people with similar interest to your own in the classes offered."



Class at GAA House

Courses and Tutors

Another wonderful year of knowledge, stimulation, inspiration and lots of fun! That's what our vibrant education program provided members throughout the year. During 2014 we were thrilled to have 91 tutors volunteer their time and expertise to offer 127 yearlong, semester and short courses.

"I feel the City U3A offers very interesting courses and such a wide variety of topics".

Our yearlong and semester program provided 66 courses across a variety of topic areas, with popular courses filling rapidly at the beginning of the year. Many courses have been offered for several years, with a devoted following by members keen to extend their learning, skills and friendships through regular classes, and we are fortunate to have these tutors commitment on an ongoing basis.

"Short courses are ideal for my lifestyle and wanting to try out lots of different things".

Our short course program continued to thrive - providing great diversity and new courses for members, with 32 of the 61 courses being first time offerings. In particular this saw an expansion of our literature courses, including medieval literature and poetry, and a growth in health, travel, technology and history courses. Short courses suit many members and are a great way to get involved as students or tutors. So if you have a passion for a topic you would like to share, please contact us!

The richness and quality of the short course program is greatly valued by members, with exceptionally positive feedback from students recorded each year. Online feedback from over 370 students attending this year's short courses indicates that most courses (86%) exceeded or highly met students expectations, and are highly valued for the friendly and supportive manner in which the class was conducted (91%).

"Excellent tutors, well crafted lessons and enjoyable classes".

Asked what they got out of attending, students specified the knowledge (91%) or skills (38%) acquired and the motivation and inspiration provided by their course (53%).

"A great introduction into appreciating contemporary art, and I feel I am now able to go to modern art exhibitions and let my senses be immersed in the exhibits".

To maintain our stimulating program, recruiting and supporting new tutors is a high priority for the Course Coordination team. Seventy-one new enquiries were received during the year (up from 40 the prior year), with equal numbers from members and the wider community. Members responded to our targeted E-bulletin and promotion at New Members meetings; while external offers were attracted by our website and word-of-mouth reputation. Overall we liaised with 76 people about running a course, with 23 to date approved as new tutors. After discussion some withdrew or were redirected to other U3As, while 20 others are still considering and developing their ideas for 2015.

Our overall course program continues to be supported by Tutor Practice Workshops, New Tutors Meetings, social events and liaison by the Course Coordination team. The opportunity to share experiences and teaching approaches, to ask questions and to meet each other is valued by many tutors, especially those new to the program.

My thanks to the Course Coordination Team and all U3A volunteers who assisted in organising and supporting our course program throughout the year. Thanks also to the staff and volunteers at our hire venues who enable our program to operate across the CBD. And a special thanks to all our tutors for their outstanding contribution to U3A Melbourne City. We know that many get great enjoyment from their classes and, in the spirit of U3A, learn from their students too. We hope to see you all again in 2015.



Julie Nankervis, Course Coordinator

Social Activities and Forums

The **Events Team**, coordinated by Shirley Mason, organised a varied program which provided opportunities for members to meet each other and form new friendships and networks. Activities included:

- Theatre: *Mother and Son*, *The Last Confession*, *Swan Lake*, *Once*.
- Outings: Johnston Collection; Tyabb Antiques & Sunnyridge Strawberry Farm; Sittings of Parliament, Carlton Brewhouse
- Winter Lunch at Angliss Restaurant

The thriving *Let's Do Lunch*, *Let's Do Music*, *Let's Do Movies*, *Let's do Books* and *Let's Do Galleries* were joined by *Let's do Walks* and *Let's do Sundays*.

The number of registrations for these groups, between 30-75, is testament to their continued popularity.

In December we celebrated the contribution and hard work of our volunteers at a BBQ at the Bowling Club in Flagstaff Gardens.

New member sessions provided members with the opportunity to meet each other and find out more about what U3A has to offer, how we are funded and how we operate.

Community Consultations and Public Relations

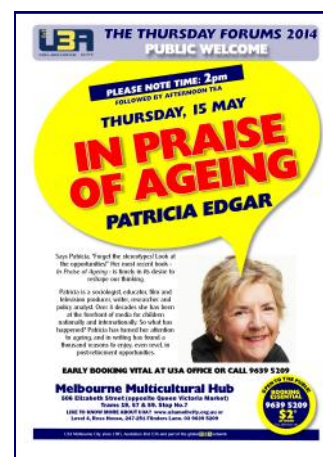
- Attended a Grant Writing workshop organised by the City of Melbourne in October.
- Sat on a panel at the 2013 Chinese Speak Up forum at Box Hill Town Hall organised by the Chinese Community Social Service Centre.
- Attended a community forum at the Melbourne Town Hall organised by the City of Melbourne.
- Met with the City of Melbourne Programs and Partnerships Coordinator.
- Met with two groups of students visiting from Singapore universities, both researching services available to seniors.
- Attended the Seniors Week launch at Docklands in August.
- Advertised via our newsletter a number of research and project opportunities of potential interest to members.
- Our nominated member served as Treasurer for the Ross House Association.

The **Forums Team**, coordinated firstly by Jill Thompson and then Gerri McDonald, ensured that topics for the monthly Thursday Forums held at the Multicultural Hub catered for a broad range of interests. This year, our program included:

- Nick Bailey—An Ode to Joy
- Patricia Edgar—In Praise of Ageing
- Peter Newbury—Lee Harvey Oswald and the Spies
- Vanessa Kwiatkowski & Mat Lumalasi—Bees in the City
- Arnold Zable—The Making of a Great Cosmopolis
- Peter Bakowski—Poetry
- Judith Charlton—Still Driving?

The forums are open to the public and are promoted widely throughout the community.

We wholeheartedly thank all of our guest speakers for contributing their time and knowledge so generously.



"I am getting a lot from all the things I do with U3A. I go regularly to let's Do Movies Let's Do Lunch and Let's Do Books. I have also started to go to Let's Do Music and I have good intentions to go more often to Let's Do Galleries. I am loving the Beginners Italian course and look forward to the French Conversation short course I have enrolled in... My week is filled with lovely things and I have made a lot of new friends, several of whom I now see outside the organised groups."



"The Opal" Winter Lunch, August



Irene Jap, Treasurer

"I have enjoyed my classes enormously, and looked forward to coming back from four months overseas to be a part of more discussions. At our age it is lovely to look forward to something special ..and my class is one of the many I have enrolled in at U3A."

Summary of Income and Expenditure

For the year ended 30th September 2014

		\$
Income	Membership fees	61,360
	Social Activities	11,629
	Forums	466
	U3A Network	5,500
	Patrons, donations, commissions	10,259
	Grants: City of Melbourne	6,000
	Bank and investment income	5,005
	Miscellaneous	15
	Total Income	<u>100,235</u>
	Expenditure	Ross House—office rent
Ross House—classroom hire		24,505
Other venue classroom hire		17,708
Newsletter		1,520
Office expenses		1,782
Bank and online costs		1,201
Telecommunications		2,810
Promotions		1,199
IT Upgrade		257
Furniture and Equipment		922
Tutor Expenses		571
Volunteer Expenses		3,167
Member Expenses		1,281
Committee Expenses		1,195
U3A Network Subscription		2,430
Grants		4,000
Social Activities		10,649
Forums	2,033	
Others	968	
Total Expenditure	<u>88,184</u>	
	Surplus/Deficit	<u>12,050</u>

Balance Sheet

For the year ended 30th September 2014



Italian Conversation (& cake) class

<u>Assets</u>	\$
Banks	45,239
Investments	113,418
Pre-payments—Fashion Show	1,000
Total Assets	<u>159,657</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>	
Member Fees in advance	5,630
Patrons/Donations in advance	1,300
Photo Exhibition	3,639
Total Liabilities	<u>10,569</u>
<u>Net Assets</u>	149,087
Balance at beginning of period	137,037
Surplus for the Period	12,050
Retained Earnings	149,087

Certification

We, Irene Jap and David Watson, being the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer of U3A Melbourne City Inc. certify that the statement attached to this certificate gives a true and fair view of the financial performance and position of U3A Melbourne City Inc during and at the end of the financial year of the Association ending on 30 September 2014.

Recognition

It gives us great pleasure to recognise members, either as volunteers or patrons, who have made a contribution to the ongoing sustainability and success of U3A Melbourne City. If your name has been omitted we apologise, but please know that your contribution was valued and appreciated. In addition to those members mentioned below, a further 80 members made donations of between \$5 and \$200.

PATRONS PROGRAM

Rudi Anders, Pamela Anderson, Diana Andrews, David Aspin, Rosalind Baker, Gloria Bedson, Dianne Berlin, Diana Bianciardi, Pieter Biesot, John Bower, Kate Brown, Keng Chong, Anita Choong, Pauline Clemens, Carolyne Cohn, Pt Collins, Barbara Cramer, Elma Crosbie, Karen Dupleix, Jenny Dymott, Rita Ferguson, Christine Fraser, Wendy Fraser, John Gleeson, Carole Gordon, Mary Gray, Gwenda Greenwood, Sheila Greville, Dora Haralambeas, Muriel Hatfield, Senga Hay, Lorna Hipkins, Ann Johns, Brenda Joyce, Clara Kanter, Joan Keane, Jillian Keetley, Fen Kho, Aija Khoo, Lily Kocins, Isabel Kroyherr, Yvonne Lakin, Alice Landau, Beverley Larwill, Helena Ling, David Littlewood, Alan Liubinas, Greg and Susan Mann, Ania Marciniak, Shirley Mason, Jan McLellan, Kathy and Vic Mercer, Eva Meredith, Julie Mills, Elizabeth Moore, Patricia Morton, Liz Mullin, Julie Nankervis, Robert Newbold, Max Noormets, Jim Norton, Ron Norton, Mary Phiddian, Carmel Piccone, Valerie Pincus, Keith Remington, Anne Rickards, Kaye Salisbury, John Shilliday, Ceinwen Smith, Margaret Smith, Max Smith, Bethia Stevenson, Eric Stokes, Adelheid Sutanto, Laine Sutton, Mary Sweeney, Keith Thomas, Jill Thompson, Tina Thoresen, Helen Tribe, Ted and Helen White, Shirley Whiting, Joan Willis, Maggie Zapadlo.

VOLUNTEERS 2014

Hilary Adair, Diana Andrews, Lyn Auditore, Goldie Alexander, Flora Anderson, Lyn Auditore, Christine Badawy, Michael Baker, Rosalind Baker, Elaine Batchelder, Kirti Baxi, Avara Becirevic, Ron Bennett, Dianne Berlin, John Besley, Keith Bettles, Diana Bianciardi, Rafael Bieber, Judy Bissland, George Boag, Lynne Broughton, Anne Buchanan, Merilyn Burt, Shirley Byron, Betty Caldwell, Jenni Caldwell, Peter Caldwell, Judi Camilleri, Anita Choong, Jenny Cleary, Pauline Clemens, Carolyne Cohn, Pat Collins, Blair Cramer, Elma Crosbie, Chris Dargan, Ramesh Dave, Greg Davies, Pam Davies, Bill Devine, Frances Devlin-Glass, Bob di Napoli, Brian Doyne, Ann Drohan, Ann Duyndam, Peter Dunn, Karen Dupleix, Jenny Dymott, Jennifer Earle, Kelvin Edwards, Sigrid Erdt, Christine Evans, Rhonda Favaloro, Jean Fahey, Christine Ferrari, Mike Finn, Eleanor Floyd, Jack Foks, Barbara Forrester, Fortunato Forte, Christine Fraser, Virgil Gill, Camille Gilmour, Judith Goddard, Veronica Goodwin, Joan Gravina, Justin Halpin, Carmel Hamilton, Nancy Hanson, Ken Harvey, Rod Hawken, Graham Hawley, Ruth Hawley, Maud Heron-Williams, Ann Hewett, Chris Hill, Barbara Hook, Robert Hooke, Mary Horsfall, David Hunt, Maureen Inkster, Anne Irwin, Rom Jagielski, Irene Jap, Bill Jeffries, Joan Jeffries, Ann Johns, Sandra Joicey, Marg Jungwirth, Indra Jury, Hana Kadera, Lyn Kalms, Maureen Kelly, Julie Klein, Jeanne Klovdahl, Anna Krepp, Alma Kristensen, Marilyn Laskaris, Cecilia Lasslett, Wendy Lea, Margaret Ledley, Alice Landau, Françoise Leconte, Martin Lee, Russell Lees, Christine Lever, Alan Lewis, Helena Ling, Clare Lo, Cathy Lowy, Rhoda Lysakowski, Ian Mackay, Charlotte MacLatchy, Jean Mapp, Ian Marchment, Helen Mariampolski, Erika Martens, Juan Martinez, Shirley Mason, Ray Matters, Maureen McBride, Helen McCulloch, Gerri McDonald, Anne McGravie-Wright, Ben Megens, Jonathan Melland, Joan Melville, Vic Mercer, Lance Meyer, Tony Miles, Jan Miller, Mimi Miller, Julie Mills, Erika Mohoric, Angela Moodie, Julie Mullan, Julie Nankervis, Max Nankervis, Pat Nelson, Peter Newbury, Jennifer Ng, Diane Noel, Hugh Oates, Paul O'Brien, Deb Pace, Tony Page, Frances Patterson, Ian Pearson, Bernard Peasley, Marie Perillo, Helen Pettet, John Pettit, Marylou Phillips, Murali Pillai, Val Pincus, Aruna Prasad, Darrell Reid, Margaret Rees, Bronwyn Richardson, Heather Richmond, Terry Rickard, Anne Rickards, Anne Riddell, Bruce Roberts, Pat Robins, Rosemary Ryall, Shinei Sakai, Peter Salmon, Elfie Schmidt, Natleah Schmidt, Fran Sciarretta, Mike Shackleton, Jean Shaik, John Shilliday, Margaret Shilton, Margaret Smith, Rosie Spear, Liz Stephens, Keira Stevens, Keith Stewart, Laine Sutton, Mary Sweeney, Versie Tamblyn, Jill Thompson, Joan Thompson, Heather Trotter, Irma Uberman, Isidoro Uberman, John Waldie, Max Warlond, David Watson, Marcus Wearne, Ed Weiss, Kerri West, Frances White, Dale Williamson, Carol Wright, Jun Li Yang, Lan Ping Yeh, Juliette Zeelander, Valeria Zito.



Never Too Old To Shoot—
Photography Exhibition

"In general, the course range at U3A Melbourne City is excellent. I have done 3 short courses and one Let's Do so far, and all have exceeded my expectations - the tutors have been knowledgeable and the participants very genial."



Office Administrator Fran Sciarretta in our new office

Next steps.....

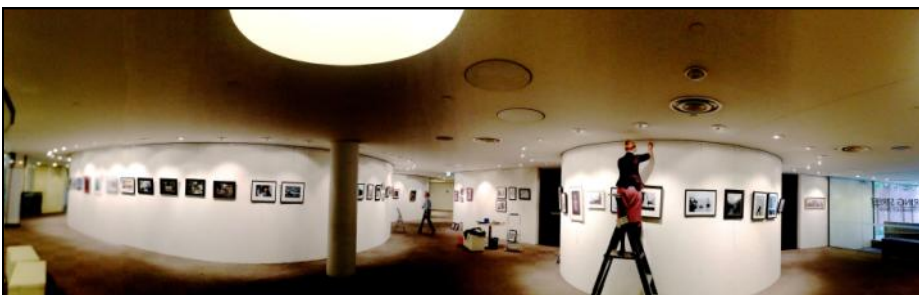
Looking ahead to the future....our challenges are

- Continuing to expand the proportion of our membership from the City of Melbourne
- Increasing the diversity of our membership and courses
- Diversifying our offerings
- Finding affordable teaching space in the City of Melbourne
- Attracting more new tutors
- Diversifying our funding base
- Building up our volunteer base

Supporters



JENNIFER KANIS LABOR MEMBER FOR MELBOURNE



Setting up the Photography Exhibition, Art@1Spring Street Gallery, October 2014

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