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Campus Communiqué

Edition No. 629
2 October 2026

Diary dates

5 October: King's Birthday (public holiday)	6 October: Start of Term 4
24 October: Seniors Concert	11 December: End of Term 4

From the Secretary



Several matters of import were discussed at the September meeting of the management committee. These included:

The rolling over of popular classes at year's end

This matter comes from a member suggestion. The Committee is aware that this is a vexed issue which is causing concern for some members. On the one hand, long-standing members of some classes understandably wish to continue in those classes. On the other, where enrolments in popular classes are simply rolled over from term to term, other often newer

members may get limited opportunities to enrol in and experience them.

As a first step to investigating this problem, the Committee has decided to survey tutors during Term 4, to understand:

- how they view their classes
- what they are trying to achieve in them
- how they view the matter of rolling over enrolments and,
- the difficulty of access into popular classes.

Based on the information derived from this survey the Committee hopes to develop some principles and strategies to address this difficult issue.

The difficulty of offering social events

In addition to our excellent classes we used to offer a good variety of popular 'social events' for our members, particularly bus trips to interesting local destinations. The Committee observed that for the last 12 months we have attempted without success to attract a member to organise such events—a Social Events Coordinator.

Without such an organiser taking the lead we will not be able to resume offering social events. We have almost 1800 members, so hopefully someone with the interest and skills required might step forward and give this a go. If interested please let me, or our Office Coordinator Barb Cooper, know.

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Possible trip to Norfolk Island

Committee member June Greenwood updated the Committee on a proposed trip for members to Norfolk Island in 2027. Members who are interested in this and would like more information will have the opportunity to meet with the organisers, Trade Travel, here on campus on Saturday 17 October. Brochures promoting this trip will be available at the office from the beginning of Term 4.

Membership

The Committee approved 24 new members at its September meeting. Our current membership stands at 1,782.

Steve Wilson

From the WHS Coordinator



A quick health and safety reminder

To keep our groups thriving, please remember that members are responsible for managing their own health and well-being. Be sure to look after your individual needs during your sessions, and thank you for helping us keep our community safe!

Please ensure you are taking the necessary steps and have what you need with you during your activities. If you need further assistance, please come to reception; we will contact your emergency contact/000.

Thank you for your cooperation and dedication.

Elle Frawley

Happy Birthday!

Wishing all our members born in September a Very Happy Birthday
from all at U3A Redcliffe



From the Course Coordination Team

Announcement

Teresa Dugic has resigned from our Course Coordination Team. We thank Teresa for her commitment to our team and wish her all the best for the future.

Course Handbook, Term 4

The Course Handbook for term 4 was emailed to all members on Tuesday 15 September. Printed copies are available from the campus office from the 6. October 2026 (start of Term 4)

On-Line Enrolments

On-line enrolments will remain open until Thursday 1 October.

Term 4

Term 4 commences on Tuesday 6 October and concludes after ten weeks, on Friday 11 December.

Reminder - Long Term Absences During Term 4:

Long term absences for term 4 should be noted in the Member Portal by Wednesday 30 September. Instructions for doing this are included in the Procedures Handbook.

For members not wishing to note absences through the Member Portal, they can do so by coming to campus and giving the relevant information to a Course Coordination Team member at the sign-on desk.

Housekeeping

Before we start Term 4 I would like to make all our members aware of the following:

- You have to wear your badge whilst on campus
- Your mobile phones have to be switched off or put on silence in the class room
- No food, coffee, tea or other drinks except bottled water are allowed in the class room
- Make yourself familiar with the emergency exits

Direct Phone Number to the Course Coordination Team:

If members or tutors wish to talk to a member of the Course Coordination Team, please call on **0436 845 462**. This number will be answered **only during campus opening hours** when a team member is present. Please leave a message if there is no answer.

We hope that you love U3A, love learning and love being together with like-minded people.

Course Coordination Team

Petra Lyons, Janet Luton, Cheryl Verdon, Steve McGahey, and Russell Hopkins,

Position vacant: Social Events Coordinator!



Do you love bringing people together?

U3A is looking for an enthusiastic Social Events Coordinator to lead our social outings and events.

You'll have the support of an experienced backup team—you just need to enjoy organising, coordinating, and helping our members connect and have fun.

Interested? We'd love to hear from you!

Please contact us to find out more about this rewarding volunteer opportunity.

Applications can be in writing via email to u3a@u3aredcliffe.org.au or come in for a chat.

Please contact Barbara Cooper at the office: 3284 2687.



Time-Out

By Jean Gillespie

Time flies on, it doesn't wait
And everything's got its *USE BY DATE*
The milk in the fridge, the beans in the tin,
The cake on the shelf, the bread in the bin,
The carton of cream, the packet of custard,
Got to find it before it's too late,
Not time to prevaricate.

Now, I've looked for mine, it must be there,
Inside my car or under my hair,
Behind my knees or under my tongue?
Scrolled into my wrinkles? I'm not so young,
For there's things to do with the time I've got.
It might be a little or maybe not,
Mountains to climb, dreams to achieve,
I've got lots to do before I leave,
Folks to visit, places to see,
To think, to walk, to plant a tree.
Letters to write and books to read,
A jumper to knit, a garden to weed.

And it gives you a nudge, a bit of a dig
When someone you know drops off the twig,
You never know when you'll do a bunk,
If you'll fade away slowly or just go 'clunk'.
There's arthritis, Alzheimer's, angina out there
And if that's not enough to give you a scare
That's only the A's, you've heard nothing yet,

Just think of the rest of the alphabet!

And then there's diseases known only by
letters,
AIDS, ME, IBS, et al won't make you feel better.
Whatever they are they're sure to be woeful,
Just an anagram for *SOMETHING AWFUL*.
And if that's not enough to make your blood
freeze
Or shake in your shoes and knock at the knees,
There's Parkinson's, Addison's, Hodgkin's as
well
To quicken your heart, turn your stomach to jell.
As if the world didn't have troubles galore,
These good men went out and found us some
more!

Drugs get to the young, the middle aged brood,
Drink and ponder on what they ought and
should.
The old know that they'll be going soon
So they make the most of the honeymoon.
It all comes down to quality time,
Enjoying what's left, try to make it sublime!
All fixed to the Fickle Finger of Fate
Just keep it in mind, there's a *USE BY DATE*.



Lenore's laughs

- It's been months since I bought the book, How To Scam People Online. It still hasn't arrived yet.
- If you have a red wine stain on your carpet, get some white wine and drink it until you don't care anymore.
- My wife and I started role-playing in the bedroom. Her favourite is The Sexy Librarian, where I have to sit quietly while she reads a book.



October is Cyber Action Month. *Be Connected* will be holding online presentations to help us make the best use of the online world.

The free presentations this month cover three important topics: staying safe on Facebook, protecting your personal online information, and how to spot a scam.

On Tuesday 6 October, at 10:00 am the resenation [Staying safe on Facebook](#) will cover using Facebook to discover new interests and stay connected with your community. You will [learn how](#)

to get the most out of Facebook while protecting your privacy and recognising common scams.

[Follow this link to register for this presentation.](#)



On Thursday 15 October, at 3:00 pm the presentation is [Protecting your personal information online](#)

This free presentation will help you to strengthen your online safety skills. [Learn why](#) protecting your personal information matters, how to keep your data secure, and what to look out for to avoid common impersonation scams.

[Follow this link to register for this presentation.](#)



On Thursday 22 October at 3:00 p.m. the presentation will be [Can you spot a scam?](#)

While the internet offers plenty of modern conveniences like online shopping, accessing services and opportunities to connect with others, it is important to know how to recognise and avoid scams.

[This this free online lesson](#) will help you learn how to recognise common scams, spot the warning signs and

know where to go for help.

[Follow this link to register for this presentation.](#)

If you are unable to take part in the online lessons *Be Connected* also makes summary sheets available afterwards.

Be Connected's video courses offer another way to build your online skills. New courses designed to help you build confidence include learning how to use multi-factor authentication (MFA) for extra online security, sending voice messages, using your phone's speaker during voice calls, and checking your data limit and usage on your device. [Follow this link to explore the range of courses available.](#)

Ruth Northcott

Passkeys

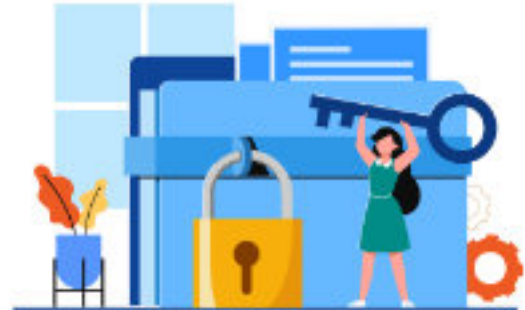
Have you found recently that online accounts have asked you whether you would like to use a passkey? If you are unsure, the following information from the Australian Signals Directorate (ASD) may help you make an informed decision.

‘Passkeys are a new way to log in to your online accounts, without needing to remember a separate password. You may have noticed this option when logging into your online services like online shopping accounts.

‘Microsoft ANZ recommends passkeys as the most secure form of MFA* - they are faster, simpler and phishing-resistant by design. They remove reliance on passwords and make secure sign-in easier for people while making it significantly harder for attackers.

‘Where possible, we recommend choosing passkeys for the best account security.

‘Learn more about passkeys 🖱️ cyber.gov.au/protect-yourself/secure-your-accounts/passkeys.’



ASD has also provided the following information about using a passkey on different devices.

‘If your passkey is stored on a different device from the one you are using to log in to your account, you have several options.

‘One option is to use a passkey stored on your iPhone, iPad or Android device. Choosing this option when you log in to your account will display a QR code for you to scan using the camera on your phone or tablet. This will use Bluetooth to connect your devices, prompting you to unlock your passkey and approve the request to log in to your account.

‘Another option is to sync your passkey to the device that you use to login. The sync process copies all of your passkeys to that device, typically over the Internet, and keeps that copy updated. Avoid syncing your passkey to untrusted or shared devices. Every device that you sync your passkey to, provides an opportunity for cybercriminals to steal your passkey from that device.’

* Multi-Factor Authentication

Jennifer Booth

Care and Concern

At times we learn that a member has not been enjoying the best of health, perhaps with a hospital stay. On some occasions this has not been known until much later. If you know of a member who is not well please contact the Care and Concern Coordinator, Jean Hunt, on 0432 107 261 and she will arrange for a card to be sent from U3A.

Pack your bags: Discover Norfolk Island

On Saturday 17 October, Greg and Andy from Trade Travel will join us at the U3A campus to present a beautifully curated escorted holiday to Norfolk Island — a destination known for its breathtaking scenery, rich history, and relaxed island charm.



This tour is open to all U3A members, their families, and friends, making it a wonderful opportunity to share a memorable experience together.

Just over two hours from Brisbane, Norfolk Island offers an easy escape to a world that feels delightfully different yet comfortably familiar. Your holiday package includes return airfares, quality accommodation, most meals, and a selection of guided excursions designed to showcase the very best of the island. And because Norfolk Island is part of Australia, you can enjoy your getaway without the hassle of currency exchange.

Greg and Andy will walk you through the itinerary, highlight the experiences awaiting you, and answer any questions — giving you a clear picture of what this exceptional holiday has in store.

Brochures will be available at the Office counter from the beginning of Term 4.



Presentation Details

Where: U3A Campus

When: Saturday 17 October 2026

Time: 9:30 am for a 10:00 am start.

What is happening in your classes?

With so many classes and so many members, you can help others understand what you do at U3A Redcliffe. Please send a brief story and some pictures to editor@u3aredcliffe.org.au.

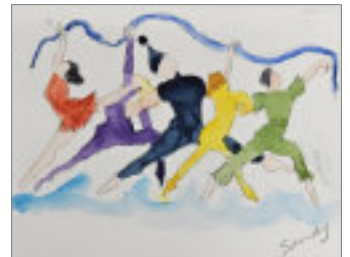
Class news



Sketching and Watercolours class

marked the end of another successful term with a delicious afternoon tea.

Here is some of their work from Term 3



Pastels class

Most class members, a few were away, enjoyed painting this rooster. Very talented artists and I've noticed a huge improvement in all of them.

Anne Burton





Watch out for swooping birds

Magpies, Noisy Miners and Masked Lapwings (plovers) are still protecting their nests.

Remember to use an umbrella or wear a hat to ensure you make it safely to and from your car. Injuries caused from swooping birds can be nasty.

Campus Communiqué Editor: Jennifer Booth (editor@u3aredcliffe.org.au)

The editor reserves the right to publish articles in any form.

Members who wish to share of their own work are welcome to submit appropriate images and/or text. However, no advertising or publicity for activities not directly involving U3A Redcliffe will be accepted.

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