



Paddy O'Donoghue Centre  
Buckley St, Noble Park  
Phone: 9546 2997



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's a very busy time at the moment as preparations are underway for our Expo which is scheduled for Friday October 18<sup>th</sup> 10am – 12 noon at the Gloria Pyke Netball complex. It is being held to celebrate 30 years of U3A Dandenong Inc. by highlighting the diverse array of activities, hobbies, and educational classes on offer through our organization. It will also showcase the creative endeavors and handiwork of individual U3A Dandenong members.

I know many Tutors/Course Coordinators are working with their course members on their displays/stalls/demonstrations and I am looking forward to seeing the results of their efforts.

If you're available to provide additional assistance in other ways to run the event, please let us know. Your participation makes a difference!

After the EXPO there will be lunch and our AGM, so all the information for that is being put together and will be issued shortly.

Again, we are looking for volunteers to help out on the committee.

Thank you for being part of our community, and let's continue to support each other.

**Jeanette Keane**  
**President U3A Dandenong**

## The categories for **September** Newsletter are Music and Hobbies



### **Photography/Photoshop** Thursday 10.00 - 12.00

We have been learning about our camera settings and how and when to use different settings, learning the art of composition and then practicing what we have learnt in the local area around Paddy O'Donohue center or sometimes going further afield to places such as Wilson Botanical Gardens in Berwick.

It is good to see members of the group helping each other with their cameras and seeing members improving their photography skills

**Tim Keane**



### **Book Club** Third Monday

Our Book Group meets regularly on the third Monday of each month. We meet in person at the Endeavour Hills library. At these meetings we return the book we have read over the previous month, share our opinions about it and borrow the book we will discuss at the next meeting.

Our meetings offer an opportunity to delve deeper into the themes, characters, and narratives of a book. Members share diverse viewpoints and interpretations, enriching the overall reading experience. For this reason, our discussions are often in-depth and quite wide ranging. We share a common love of reading and a willingness to express our opinions on the books and their authors. We aim to expand our literary horizons by reading a variety of genres.

U3A Dandenong is a member of the Endeavour Hills library's book club program. The program arranges for the supply of a set of up to 10 copies of various popular books. In addition to supplying the books, the Library also provides Discussion Notes for each book. The notes provide additional background material including interviews with the author. Also included in the Notes is a list of discussion points and

questions. From time to time the library arranges literary events including In-person presentations by popular authors. The library has an extensive list of “book club” books featuring both fiction and non-fiction from Australian and International authors.

So far this year we have read and discussed the following books :

January	Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver
February	Australia Day by Stan Grant
March	Agatha Christie – A Very Elusive Woman by Lucy Worsley
April	Man O’War by Corey McCarthy
May	The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart by Holly Ringland
June	A psalm for the Wild Built by Becky Chambers
July	The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles
August	Dark Emu by Bruce Pascoe

New members are very welcome. At the time of writing there are spare spots available. If you wish to join the group, please feel free to call me on 0407 097 347.

**Alan Beale**



**Singing group**  
**Friday 10.00 - 12.00**

Our wonderful, little singing group continues to have much fun throughout the year. We are busy practicing some specific songs for our Expo in October. Over the 3 years, we have become a very friendly group who share a morning tea once a month.

It would still be much appreciated if someone could join us who plays an instrument or has some expertise in directing singing.

On behalf of our Singing group

**Dorothea Kassell**



## Gardening group Thursday 9.30 - 11.30

"Blooming Beautiful: Our U3A Garden Group Flourishes!"

Join us every Thursday from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the Gloria Pyke Netball Complex for our vibrant Garden Group! We're a supportive community of gardening enthusiasts who share knowledge, solve problems, and enjoy each other's company.

Are you a keen gardener or just starting out? Join our U3A Gardening Group and connect with like-minded enthusiasts! We share knowledge, ideas, and experiences, and learn from each other's successes and challenges.

In May, we shared bits and pieces of plants from our gardens and we talked about:

- What was growing in our gardens.
- Preparing our gardens for winter
- Dealing with those pesky autumn leaves (hint: they're great for compost or adding structure to your soil!)
- Garden fungus and diseases
- Planting new veggies, Aussie shrubs and bulbs.
- Sharing tips on frost protection and mulching

In our weekly meetings, we:

- Share cuttings and plants from our gardens
- Discuss gardening tips and techniques
- Help each other troubleshoot common issues
- Enjoy each other's company around the table

During the warmer months, we visit each other's gardens, admiring the beauty and diversity of our green spaces. And as winter comes to an end, we welcome the arrival of spring with open arms! Bulbs start to bloom, wattles burst into flower, and our roses, pruned in July, burst forth with new life.

As we enjoy longer days and warmer sunshine, we invite you to join us! Bring your favorite spring flowers to share, and come and tell us about your garden. Let's celebrate the beauty of nature together.

Our group is all about supporting each other, learning together, and enjoying the joys of gardening. Whether you're a seasoned green thumb or just starting out, we'd love to welcome you to our group!

New members are always welcome! Come and be a part of our gardening community.

Open to all U3A members.

What to bring: Yourself, your questions, and your gardening enthusiasm!

**Diana Thurbon**

Group member

Good weed grower 😊





## **Knitting and crochet**

**Thursday 12.30-2.30**  
**Dream Room**  
**Gloria Pyke Netball Complex**

In the Greek myth Jason and the Argonauts, Jason embarks on a heroic quest to find and retrieve the Golden Fleece. Although most of the events are rooted in mythos, the Golden Fleece itself has an historical explanation. In the Colchis region of Greece, people used to pan for gold using, you guessed it, a sheep's fleece. The fleece was held under the running water, such as a stream, and the little bits of gold would be caught in it. If you had a very successful day, you would have "a golden fleece".

I will try to stop thinking of a cute evening top I could knit or crochet out of the spectacular yarn.

This is a teaching class especially for beginners but those who can already do it will learn to finish items properly.

I would like to call ourselves Knitting Natters and Happy Hookers. We certainly solve the problems and share beneficial experiences such as how to get off the floor - especially if you haven't attended U3A's exercise class OR where do you get such and such.

**Margaret Sheffield and Lorraine Bishop**



## **Photo page and Special Report**

### **"Get Growing with U3A Gardening Group"**





### **Semester dates**

**Semester 2 – 29/07/2024 – 29/11/2024**

### **Contact Information**

**Phone: 9546 2997 (office hours) or 0494 018 356 (outside office hours)**

**Email: [Enquiry@dandenongu3a.org.au](mailto:Enquiry@dandenongu3a.org.au)**

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**Email for membership enquiries: [umas@dandenongu3a.org.au](mailto:umas@dandenongu3a.org.au)**

### **Our usual office hours are:**

**Monday 11:00am – 1:00pm**

**Tuesday CLOSED**

**Wednesday CLOSED**

**Thursday 10:00am – 12:00pm**

**Friday 10:00am – 12:00pm**

**Closed Public Holidays and non-semester dates**

**Committee Contacts** (with dandenongu3a.org.au email):

Name	Position	email
<b>Key Roles</b>		
Jeanette Keane	President	president@dandenongu3a.org.au
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