



JABBER JOURNAL

GRAFTON U3A INC. (UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE)

PO Box 688 Grafton NSW 2460

www.grafton.u3anet.org.au

"Sharing our knowledge, skills and experience in a friendly convivial way"

AUGUST 2016

JABBERFEST – 10.00AM 8 AUGUST 2016 – GRAFTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 14th AGM will be held at the Community Centre on Monday 8th August at 10am. For all attending, papers with minutes of the 2015 AGM, a report of activities compiled by the Committee and a financial report for the year will be available. Members should arrive at the meeting early enough to peruse the reports as they will be asked to adopt these reports if thought satisfactory. The meeting will initially be chaired by our auditor Warren Morrow; handing over to the newly elected president after that position is filled. Members are requested to bring a blue or black biro in case of the need for secret ballot.

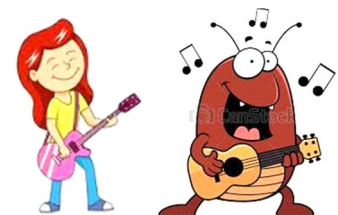
At the conclusion of the formal segment of the AGM on Monday morning, it is intended to showcase a number of our groups during the morning tea break and then in the session after morning tea. During the morning tea break, there will be static displays from the following groups - Men's Shed, Bushwalking, Mahjong, Chess and Armchair Travel. Following morning tea several groups will then present a performance on the stage. They will be appearing in the following order: Good Vibes, Tai Chi (join in if you wish), Creative Writing, Guitar and Ukulele. If you will be participating in any of these groups, please be prepared to come onto the stage as soon as possible after the preceding group has completed its performance. If you have sound equipment etc you will be welcome to set up on the stage or place your equipment at the back of the stage prior to the commencement of the AGM.

We have so many members achieving good results in so many groups; this will be a great opportunity for groups to display their skills and for all members to see what some other groups are offering. It promises to be a most entertaining morning.

All members are invited to attend our AGM to help celebrate another successful year for Grafton U3A.



"WRITING IS THE PAINTING OF THE VOICE!"
VOLTAIRE



VICE-PRESIDENT'S LETTER... Dear Members



As I compose my final message, I cast my mind back to 2003 when I joined Grafton U3A, at the behest of the rather wonderful Mary Carlton, which gave me a very worthwhile change of direction in my life. I have watched our U3A grow and prosper, giving a great deal of meaning and pleasure to so many members over that time.

Our inaugural President, Wendy Jacob was outstanding in creating a structure which has stood the test of time. Subsequent Presidents Bob Cuming, Trish Miller, David Morgan and Maree Burrows have all been outstanding in their contributions to enhance the very significant organisation we now have and that will continue to prosper.

This situation would not be possible without the remarkable and dedicated support from all our group leaders – they make a great contribution to the success of our U3A. I also acknowledge the committee, all of whom deserve the greatest praise for their

dedication in carrying out their particular portfolio with great good grace and expertise. We are in a very strong financial position, which augers well for the future, given that plans for expansion of our existing premises are able to come to fruition within our capacity to provide top class facilities.

My thanks go to you all for your help, encouragement and assistance.

David Abrahams (Ret.)

JULY JABBERFEST WRAP

Treasurer Bruce Carle opened proceedings welcoming 87 members to July Jabberfest before providing the audience with a number of interesting facts under the heading of "Useless information". He then introduced Gladys Anderson narrating an amusing story before Brian Carter related the inspirational story "The Tablecloth". Interest groups coordinator, Alysian Pender, informed members that Woodworking for Women would recommence on 19 July and run for six to eight weeks with expressions of interest being taken today. Social Events coordinator Fiona Duggan confirmed bus pickup times for the Christmas in July luncheon at the Harwood Hotel on 31 July. Outstanding costs to be paid today. She then guided the audience through an interesting session titled Keep the Marbles Rolling. Helen Campbell informed members of a Garden Club bus tour being organised to Toowoomba for the Garden Festival from September 15-19 at a cost of \$799.00 per person. Enquiries to Helen 6643 1645. Bruce Carle then reminded members of the upcoming AGM to be held on 8 August in conjunction with the August Jabberfest. Morning tea then followed.



Following the break Bruce Carle then introduced guest presenter and Clarence River U3A member Bernard Hides, production designer on the topic of "Memories of the Film & Television Industry from the perspective of Production Designer". His profession has been Production Design in the Film & Television industry having retired at Christmas 2006 after forty nine years in the industry.

So what does a production designer do? Bernard explained that in both film and television a production designer is the person responsible for the overall look of any filmed event such as films, TV programs, music videos or advertisements. Working intimately with the director and producer, the designer selects the settings and style to visually tell the story by creating the overall look, atmosphere and emotion that moves the story from the printed page to the screen. Bernard went on to say that when a person reads a story and from the writer's description of events therein the reader sees images in their head. What he does as production designer is take those pictures he sees in his head and makes them real.

In the past, the title of art director was used to denote the head of the art department (hence the academy award for Best Art Direction). On the film

Gone with the Wind, the producer David O Selznick felt that William Cameron Menzies had such a

significant role in the look of the film that the title Art Director was not sufficient and so he gave Menzies the title of Production Designer. The title has become more common and is now used for the head of the Art Department, although it actually implies control over every visual aspect of a film including costumes. Bernard then recounted details of his career path to becoming a Production Designer. After completing his Leaving Certificate in 1951, Bernard left school with a desire to become a naval architect and design beautiful boats such as the America's Cup 12 metre yachts. He was able to obtain a position at the Cockatoo Docks shipbuilding company as a shipwright loftsman, serving a five year apprenticeship, learning from the ground up what boats really were and how they were built. While doing so, he was studying part time at University of NSW completing a degree course in Engineering/Naval Architecture as well as obtaining a private pilot licence for light aircraft. On completion of his apprenticeship and near completion of his degree course management moved him into the ships drawing office while he completed his degree. However, Bernard realised as shipyards were being closed all around Australia and there were many ahead of him for promotion and so he sought alternate employment which one could do in the 50s. As television was in its infancy at that time he thought there would be opportunities in this growing industry. As luck would have it, he got to talking with someone in the ABC canteen and was offered a job at the ABC as a draughtsman at a salary two pounds more than he was earning at the time. After seventeen years with the ABC, having learnt the most wonderful of professions, in 1976 Bernard went freelance. He worked as a production designer for a variety of companies all over Australia, New Zealand, South East Asia, Japan, Hong Kong, USA and Canada. In 1990 he relocated permanently to Los Angeles then in 1993 received his Green Card and worked there until he retired in 2006. To quote Bernard's own words "I have had a most fortunate life." His list of credits includes The Odd Angry Shot, Harp in the South, Poor Man's Orange, The Lighthorsemen, Casualties of War, Lightning Jack, J.A.G., Roar, Smallville, The D.A., Jericho and Eureka. At the conclusion of his very entertaining address, Bernard was thanked and presented with a gift crafted by members of the Mens Shed. The lucky door prize was won by Margaret Winkler. Bruce Carle then reminded members of the next meeting on 8 August and closed the meeting.

COURSE/GROUPS UPDATE

BUSHWALKING

Wildflower walk to Shelly Beach in Yuraygir National Park is set down for 29 August. Meet at McDonald's car park at 7.45am for an 8.00am start. Remember to wear appropriate clothes, shoes and to bring lunch, swimmers, hat, sun-cream and smiles. Easy to moderate walking. Names at Jabberfest or to Barbara 6642 3934.
Barbara Fahey

WOODWORK FOR WOMEN

The course will not be commencing on 19 July as advertised in the July Jabber Journal as there was insufficient interest from members. The course will be re-advertised in the October edition of the Journal with expressions of interest being taken at October Jabberfest with a view to running the course in October/November. Enquiries to me on 6644 5397. *Alysan Pender*

MENS SHED SNIPPETS

Pictured below are two examples of transformation of raw material by a couple of our Shed members showcasing their diverse talents.



SLABS LIKE THIS



BECOME A BEAUTIFUL MEAT SAFE LIKE THIS



TIMBER FROM THE YARD BECOMES BOOKSHELVES

STEPPING DOWN

In August 2008, I started an interesting and challenging task as Webmaster for Grafton U3A and now wish to pass the job to one or more of you out there who would be keen to take the reins.

It is not essential to be on the Committee; just maintain a good and steady relationship with those who will provide you with updates and relevant information for publication. This particularly applies to monthly posting of the Jabber Journal and keeping abreast of the latest news from our Interest Groups and Classes.

The degree of expertise with computers required could best be described as moderate – there is a very easy to follow manual covering all aspects of the process and the website editing is also easy to follow.

The NSW Network Website is run by Bert de Hooson who is a very cooperative and helpful one to turn to for assistance. Also I am rarely far away and will be readily available for support.

If you feel like a challenge, gain an insight into and would like to make a contribution to our very special U3A, have a reasonable rapport with your computer and wish to learn some new processes; give me a call on 0407413813 or email dga11@bigpond.com

David Abrahams



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL – OVERDUE SUBSCRIPTIONS



Enclosed with your journal, for those members yet to pay their annual subs, is a renewal notice for your attention. Please note that

only financial members can vote at meetings. Your response will be welcomed. If you wish to discontinue membership, a call to Carole Cairns 6642 4615 or a note to that effect would be appreciated - thanks.

STAYING POSITIVE does not mean that things will turn out okay. Rather it is knowing that YOU will be okay no matter how things turn out.



Sadly these persons have passed away recently:

Adela Howe - Member

Sue Ibbott - Yulgilbar Station Archives Curator & Daughter in law of U3A Member Mona Ibbott

LATERAL THINKING PUZZLER

DEATH IN A FIELD

A man is lying dead in a field. Next to him is an unopened package. There is no other creature in the field. How did he die?

Last Month's Solution – A CHESS PIECE

Who said they were playing each other?

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome new members – John Cosh and John Brien. We trust that you enjoy your association with Grafton U3A and take the opportunity to avail of the various courses/interestgroups on offer.

LET'S DO LUNCH!

Come along and join us for a delicious lunch with friends on Sunday August 28th. Payment for your own meals and drinks on the day.

WHEN: Sunday 28 August 2016
WHERE: Five Mile Hotel Armidale Road
TIME: 12 Noon

BREAKING NEWS – GROUPS

ARMCHAIR TRAVEL

At our next meeting at the U3A Rooms, Dougherty House on Tuesday 23 August commencing at 2.00pm Carole Cairns will be talking about her travels to Singapore and her recent cruise in South East Asia. Enquiries to Magda Mussared 6644 9309. *Alysan Pender*

EDITOR CONTACT

Contributions to the Jabber Journal are always welcome. We reserve the right to edit or refuse material submitted for publication.

Closing date for the September edition of the Journal is **Monday 29 August 2016**. Editor Dennis Kelly thehifields@bigpond.com