

University of the Third Age

Venue: The Philip Smith Centre, 2 Edward Street, Glebe

Website www.u3ahobart.org.au

PO Box 71 Sandy Bay 7006



Newsletter No. 138

June 2020

Dear U3A members,

We hope you are surviving this strange period of social isolation and the cancellation of our excellent Term 1 program. The IT team have spent many hours working to provide an online program for Term 2. Obviously this will be somewhat limited, but a number of brave presenters have agreed to participate in various ways, enabling us to come up with the following list of courses. Clearly, participation in these courses will involve coping with some technical issues, but we hope these will not be too great, and we encourage you to take part in the experiment.

Each course description includes the technical requirements necessary for participation.

Enrolment will be **online only** for this term.

To enrol → <https://www.u3ahobart.org.au/enrolment/>

and then click on **Log into UMAS (U3A Hobart Membership & Enrolment System)** using your membership number and password.

Once you are logged in you can view the classes on offer this term and enrol.

Please ring Alison Waters (0418 548 352) if you need help with enrolling.

We look forward to an interesting Term 2,

Leone Scrivener, Sue Mulcahy & Alison Waters

ONLINE PROGRAM TERM 2, 2020 (15 June-20 August)

1. Android Skills (Tuesdays, 11.30am, begins 16 June, 8 wks, max=10) **Graeme Ingram**

This is an eight-week Zoom course on using your android tablets and phones. Topics include managing the settings on your devices, using popular email programs and contacts, security and popular apps. Graeme will make contact with participants, and provide individual sessions for those who need help getting started with Zoom prior to the first class.

Technical requirements: Participants will need to use Zoom with help from the tutor. They will need a reliable Internet connection and a data plan that could allow using an extra 15GB per month.

2. Astronomy & Space Science (Monday, 10am, begins 15 June, 10 wks, max =25) **Peter Taylor**

Using Zoom we will continue with the examination of the latest news and science from space.

Technical requirements: Participants will need to be comfortable using Zoom and have their own Zoom account. They will need a reliable Internet connection and a data plan that could allow using an extra 15GB per month.

3. Birds and Islands: a peripatetic virtual tour examining what birds are found where, and why (after 15 June, at least 6 weeks, unlimited) **Sue Jones.**

There is something about islands. Islands lure travellers across oceans, feed our imaginations and inspire dreams of idyllic solitude. They also provide living laboratories for life scientists. Studying the fauna and flora on islands helps us understand how life evolves and how species are distributed across the world. Focussing on birdlife, this course will provide an introduction to island biogeography, a theory that explains how species are distributed across isolated natural communities. However, it is also a travelogue in disguise. We shall visit (virtually) a series of islands that I have been fortunate enough to visit myself – starting with our own island of Tasmania. We shall consider how the geography, geology, and human history of these selected islands have shaped the bird communities that live there. We shall also see how some islands are being used for the conservation of rare species. Scheduling details to be sent to participants later.

Format: Narrated PowerPoints and follow-up Zoom discussions.

Technical requirements: Participants will need to be able to watch online movie files and use Zoom. They will need a reliable Internet connection and a data plan that could allow using an extra 15GB per month.

4. From Fish to Man (after 15 June, 10 weeks, unlimited) **Randy Rose**

This course deals with the evolution of backboned animals (vertebrates) from their earliest origins over 500 million years ago to the development of modern mammals. Each lecture will deal with a specific group – sharks, amphibians, etc – using colourful diagrams and slides. As fossils from the ancient past are discussed, we will see when and how modern forms evolved.

Format: Emailed links to PowerPoint pdfs, participants email questions to presenter.

Technical requirements: Participants will need to be able to open PDF files and use email.

5. Memoir Writing (commences July, max=10)

Jennie Clarke

Writing memoirs can be a fascinating re-cap of the past, and every writer has a unique style. Whether you are a master of words or a beginner, you are welcome to join Jennie in sessions of learning, work at your own pace and capture the memories of bygone years. From the moment you opened your eyes, a story began. Whatever twists and turns landed you here today, it is a unique tale. Share the adventures, joys and sorrows of the decades, so your descendants can look at the family tree and know who you really are.

Format: Emails and pdfs, and a written manual for participants. Flexible sessions and timelines.

Technical requirements: Participants will need to be comfortable using email, including using attachments.

6. Overview of Indian History (after June 15, unlimited)

Brian McNab

This course will be presented in ten chapters. The themes covered will be as follows: Main themes in traditional Indian history; The development of India's many religious traditions; The impacts of British rule; The struggle for independence and the reasons for partition; India, Pakistan and Bangladesh since independence.

Participants are welcome to email their questions to Brian after June 15.

Format: Participants will be emailed the link to pdf chapters in Google Drive folder.

Technical requirements: Participants will need to be able to open PDF files and use email.

7. Smorgasbord of iPhone/iPad uses (Thursday 11am, begins 25 June, max=10) **Sue Mulcahy**

Apple's iPhone / iPad is a bit like a Swiss Army knife, it has great potential, but what you want to achieve is what matters. Using Zoom this class will look at a smorgasbord of iPhone / iPad uses, so you can decide if there are extra options you'd like to investigate. Topics will be drawn from a range of areas including: using your photos; reading on your device; listening and watching media; keeping in touch with friends and family; great places to visit online; emergency resources; using the free Apple apps Notes, Pages and Numbers etc.

Sue will provide individual sessions for those who need help getting started with Zoom prior to the first class.

Technical requirements: Participants will need to use Zoom with help from the tutor. They will need a reliable Internet connection and a data plan that could allow using an extra 15GB per month.

8. Writing Workshop (begins 15 June, 10 weeks, max=12)

John McRae

Topics are sent by email each Monday, writers are asked to produce a contribution in the following week, and it is emailed to all members of the group. We comment constructively on each other's work and learn by reading everyone's work as well as practising our own. We are an online community of writers.

Technical requirements: Participants will need to be comfortable using email, including using attachments.