

Presidential Ponderings Update

Dear All

Well, we all now have the Roadmap out of this dreadful journey. It was not all good news, but it asks us to be patient and compliant a little longer.

This means that we will not be returning to Karingal Place until the 26th October at the earliest. It is more likely to be 5th November. This means that any celebrations for Seniors Month have now been cancelled. For us to keep connected with you all, we will continue our Zoom classes until the end of the year and Graham will notify you of which classes are available. We are also pursuing some other ideas to keep you all involved. We are looking at a year-end function to be held at Karingal Place, if possible. When we are allowed back, we will look at accommodating those classes you have missed face to face, such as Book Reviews and Art. It is unlikely that any of our exercise classes will be permitted indoors. In addition, we will be required to abide by the regulations regarding distance, mask wearing and above all ensure that everyone is fully vaccinated. We may only accept those people in face-to-face classes who have been double vaccinated. I realise for some of you, this may be a bridge too far, but we are obliged to obey the rules and for that I apologise. Your committee has unanimously agreed that we must follow the instructions for the safety of us all.

The news for 2022 looks a little more positive. We would hope to recommence classes, albeit with some restrictions, in February, and we may even run a couple of classes over the summer. In order for us to meet our financial commitments and to begin a return to 'normal', the committee has voted to introduce six monthly memberships. This will come into effect on 1st January and will be \$50 membership per person for any number of classes as long as there is space, and the tutor agrees.

We also have some sad news.

I am sorry to report that Bill Blackham, a longtime member and a leader of our Rambling group has died. We send our deepest condolences to Patricia during a difficult and challenging time.

For those of you interested in chess, you will remember Klaus Kurfurst. I am sorry to say that Klaus has also died. He was a very active member, joining in 2010. He is survived by his wife, Angela, to whom we send our very best wishes.

On a lighter note, Yvonne Lenders has contacted me to ask if anyone collects stamps? If you do ...she has a collection free to a good home. Her email address is yvonnelenders758@gmail.com.

We are now struggling towards a rather difficult finishing line, and I ask you all to be patient and resilient. Look after yourself and support those around you.

Until we meet again

Andrea McCall

President