

## Presidential Ponderings – May Musings

Here we are again at the beginning of Term 2, and it looks like it will be a great one. The classes are running almost to normal capacity and so we are working hard to increase the offerings and above all keep you safe. Welcome to the five people who won a free membership through the kind donation of Positive Ageing.

The flu season is on us now and together with the continuing Covid menace, we need to stay alert. As an organisation that deals with the older and more vulnerable members of our community, we would ask you to maintain your distance where you can, wear masks if you feel at all uncomfortable, keep using the hand sanitiser and ensure that your vaccinations for both flu and Covid are up to date. I realise that these rules are no longer mandatory, but I would ask you consider the health of us all.

I am delighted to report that the Choir is back and singing. I'm told there were some new faces as well as the originals and that happiness was the word of the day. Thank you to Betty, Liz and Annemaree for getting things going again. Here's to a great 2022.

I mentioned new classes – we are very keen to encourage new tutors or even former tutors to take on new topics. We need tutors to help our BeConnected computer classes so if you know anyone who is a bit of a computer whizz, let us know. We have several retired teachers and academics out there. Would you consider taking a class? We would like to expand into areas such as History – all periods welcome. There has been a request for anything on the Law, writing your autobiography and I am hoping the Mornington Peninsula Family History Society will return along with the Frankston Historical Society. We may also consider some field trips to some of our interesting local sites. The Frankston Library will be giving a series of talks on the services they offer too. Ann and Terry are working hard on the Winter Warmer talks as well, so please support them.

**Anyone willing to teach? Please contact Graham Wallis or me to discuss.** We would love to hear from you. We are also always looking for new members, so tell your friends.

On 17<sup>th</sup> May, your committee will be representing you at the Volunteers Expo at the Frankston Arts Centre. If you are around the area between 11 and 2pm that day, do come in and say hello.

Our fundraising table has been a real success – and we would like it to continue. So, clear out those cupboards or getting knitting, sewing or filling jam jars. We would also welcome seedlings and bulbs as we look to winter plantings in our gardens. Our community garden here at Karingal Place is looking magnificent – my thanks to the hard work of our green fingers.

May will be a busy month. For those of you who celebrate Mother's Day this month, enjoy the moment.

A reminder to cast your vote before or on 21<sup>st</sup> May. I know only too well how many of us regard this task as tedious and frustrating, but in the light of the troubles in Ukraine and other parts of the world, we should continue to embrace our democracy even if it is a little frayed at the edges.

I hope to catch up with lots of you during May around and about and thank you for your continued support of U3A Frankston. We are a great group of people.

Andrea McCall, President