



U3A NORTHERN ILLAWARRA

Newsletter

No. 115

Editor: Ainslie Lamb

Term 4, 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Term 4, 2026.

We had a very successful Trivia Night on 10th September and raised over \$800*, Thanks to Geoff, Pam, Therese, Ireena and Dennis who assisted in various ways. A special word of thanks to Margaret, who, for several years, has been the main organiser of the event and who has helped ensure its success every time. Margaret feels it's time to hand over the reins for 2027, so we'll be looking for a new organiser for next year. It's a fun night so please think how you might be able to assist and let Margaret know.

Our annual 5km Sandon Point Parkrun will take place on *Saturday 10 October*. Join in and either jog or walk, or both, or simply come along and show your support. Parkruns are a great community event with 555 events held every week across Australia. Ours commences from Bulli Beach Café at 8am. Don't forget to sponsor our participants. You can give cash to Geoff (Treasurer) any Wednesday morning or pay by direct bank deposit (details in the Newsletter). (*see next page*).

Important: Just as with the Trivia night, your U3A survives because members agree to volunteer in some way. Our AGM is fast approaching (*18 November*). If you're interested in serving on the Management Committee, please make sure you nominate using the form in the Newsletter. We only meet once per term. We are also looking for a new Secretary and President. These are NOT full-time roles. Secretary and President require a couple of hours per week at most. They are not onerous roles. Please consider nominating. New blood is always a good thing. The Nomination Form is found on page 11 in this Newsletter. A strong volunteer base will ensure the long-term health of U3A Northern Illawarra.

We are also looking for a new Wednesday Talks Coordinator. Perhaps 2 or more of you would like to form a small group and together seek out presenters? You only need to fill about 8-10 slots per term. Speak to Joe or me if you can assist with this important role.

Best wishes to you all,

Patrick

* After payment of expenses of running the trivia night, \$540 will be donated to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TERM 4?

Term 4 begins 12th October, concludes 4th December .

NB: There will be a display of U3A Painting and Drawing Group work at the TCC 9 -23 November.

Sandon Point Park Run , Saturday 10th October, 8am. Sponsor our team Patrick and Joe

Please sponsor \$ 5, \$10, \$15 or more - Cash can be handed to Geoff on Wednesdays, or submitted electronically -

BSB 633 000 Account No. 187 964 762

Account name - U3A Northern Illawarra Reference - Park Run

U3A NORTHERN ILLAWARRA – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 18th November, at 11.00am

Full details are at pages 11-12 of this Newsletter

At this meeting, we will elect our committee for the next twelve months. U3A groups generally like to spread the work load widely over as many people as possible, so that no one will feel burdened by having too much to do. The Committee meets 5 times a year, various members undertake roles as described. We welcome new ideas and enthusiasm. **Nominations close on 11th November 2026**

Why get involved? Volunteering to be a group leader or committee member in U3A will not guarantee entry to heaven, but will guarantee others' appreciation and some self-satisfaction for making your contribution to our administration and program. Do think about volunteering your experience and talents to U3A.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wednesday 2nd December commencing at 9.30am.



Entertainment by the Illawarra U3A Choir and U3A members. Please bring along a contribution on a plate for the lunch that follows (and take your plate and any leftovers home afterwards, to minimise cleaning up!)



We will have a "Giving Tree" – where you bring (unwrapped) new items that we can donate to pass on a little bit of Christmas via the Lord Mayor's Christmas Gift to disadvantaged families (not just for small children, and nothing perishable please).

We pay our respects and acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, the Dharawal and Wodi Wodi people, whose country extends from the area around Helensburgh to the Shoalhaven River, and pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

WEDNESDAY TALKS PROGRAM - TERM 4 2026

At the Excelsior Hall, Thirroul District Community Centre, Lawrence Hargrave Drive Thirroul.
Talks are scheduled for 9.30am, followed by morning tea

Note" The timetable may change on occasion. The best way to stay up to date is by checking the latest Wednesday Program menu button at www.u3ani.9rg

14 October - Karen Johnson: *Caring through the silence of dementia*

Karen's husband Brian was diagnosed with Younger Onset Dementia (suspected CTE) in 2010 and died in 2016. Karen cared for him at home until he passed away. She wrote a book to try to explain the struggles of someone navigating life with dementia and to show other partners of those with dementia what caring can be like.

21 October - Peter McIlquham: *Sydney Harbour Bridge Part I*

Looks at the need for a bridge, the chequered path to get an agreed design for the bridge, and how the bridge was just one part of Sydney's new CBD Rail System.

28 October - Di Madden: *Australian kookaburra kids*

Di is the proud founder of this nationwide program that provides support and fun for kids living in families impacted by mental illness in their families.

04 November Steve McKenna, Community Engagement Specialist at Service NSW

Steve will explain the NSW government's Savings Finder program

11 November - Lisa Williams: *Australian Federal Police*

Lisa will explain how the AFP evolved between Federation and the present day including a broad outline of its role conducting national and international criminal investigations; as well as touching on its participation in international peacekeeping missions since the 1990's.

11am Remembrance Day 1 minute observance

18 November - Sharon Concannon from NSW Health Promotions Unit

Sharon will speak about the many resources for seniors offered by her department.

11am - U3A Northern Illawarra Annual General Meeting

25 November - Peter McIlquham: *Sydney Harbour Bridge Part II*

Expands on Part 1, looking at the actual process of building the bridge.

2 December - Christmas Party

The Term 4 program has been co-ordinated by Joe Lane - talk to Joe if you have suggestions for speakers for 2027. NOTE - we need a new co-ordinator (or a team) to tak on the planning of talks in 2027 - talk with Joe and Patrick if you are willing to help with this important part of the program.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS AND CLASSES DURING TERM 4

held at the Thirroul Community Centre

New members are welcome at all our groups – however, due to room sizes there are some limits on the numbers who can actually attend. For further information, contact the co-ordinator. Please do not attend if you feel unwell with Covid-like symptoms. Don't forget to wear your membership badge!

Note to members of Brain Games, Book Clubs, Creative Writing and Reading Aloud groups - the Ocean Breeze Room is closed for renovations and your group will meet in the Red Cedar Room during Term 4. TCC will arrange for setup of the room prior to the first booking and pickup up after the final U3A bookings on these days.

Australian/Pacific Studies - Convenor – Toni Conley -9 toni_conley@yahoo.com.au)

2nd and 4th Mondays, 1.30 – 3pm, Black Diamond Room . Attendance limit 20 people.

The program this term will cover the following topics, and members are invited to nominate a subject for each session and advise Toni in advance of the session. Our first session will be on *Monday 12th October, then 26th October, 9th November and 23rd November.*

1. Our natural landscape features: aspects like geology, history of human involvement and/or significance both indigenous and 'discovery' post 1788, naming history, controversies, personages good and bad, significance. You could choose to cover any aspect you wish from among the above ideas or any other. Maybe throw in your travel stories. I am sure that most of you could give input in this topic.

2. Bushrangers who are not Ned Kelly

Helen Gibson did a wonderful talk on Ned Kelly some time ago, but there are many interesting stories about other Australian bushrangers. I am sure that we can fill a whole session if many of you could choose one, or a few, bushrangers to do a short talk on.

3. Young Australian or Pacific leaders of the future, in any field: politics, science, the environment, indigenous issues, gender issues , the arts, media influencers etc. egs Thomas Mayo (he's under fifty, so young I reckon), Chanel Contos, Hannah Ferguson, Leo Puglisi, Yasmine Johnson, Isabella Higgins, Bridget Brennan.

Balance'n'Bones - Co-ordinator - Helen Whelan.(0419 983 265 Email:helen@dispoiled.com).

Gentle aerobic, balancing and stretching exercises for both men and women.

Due to demand, two sessions are now held weekly, but you may register and must remain in one class only (limit 20 persons each class). Excelsior Hall (enter from TCC main side entrance of hall).

Mondays 9.30 – 10.30am and 10.30 – 11.30 continuing during term breaks (but excluding public holidays)
Wear light clothing, flat shoes, bring own weights if you have them, and water bottle.

Book Clubs – meet monthly Tuesdays 1.30- 3pm –Red Cedar Room, all limited to 12 persons.

1st Tuesday – Classic Book Club - Co-ordinator Alison Wiig (alisonwiig@hotmail.com)

- 3rd November, 1st December

(cont'd next page)

2nd Tuesday Book Club - Co-ordinator Lyndall Dawson (lynfount40@gmail.com) 13th October, 10th November

3rd Tuesday Book Club – Co-ordinator Helen Wilson (heleniwilson@bigpond.com) - 20th October, 16th November

Brain Games -Co-ordinator Ainslie Lamb)– 2nd and 4th Tuesdays , 9.30 –10.50 am, in the Red Cedar Room.
Term 4 dates - 13th and 27th October, 10th and 24th November Attendance limit 20 persons.

A variety of amusing puzzles, activities and creative challenges to stimulate different parts of the brain.
Bring clip board, paper, pencil and a sense of humour.

Creative Writing - (Co-ordinator Rose Andrew (sachasrose@yahoo.com.au) Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in the Red Cedar Room 9.30 - 11am - 20th October, 3rd and 17th November, 1st December. This term we will be focussing on preparing our material for publication.

Creative writing takes many forms, but provides the writer with the opportunity to use imagination, to convey emotion or feeling, and to use elements such as character development, plot, and the lyricism of words to share the author's connection with the reader. Prompts are provided each session for group members to work on in the intervening weeks, and the class provides the opportunity to give and receive constructive feedback on class members' efforts.

The Current Affairs group will meet on the first and third Monday of the month at 1:30pm to 3pm in Room tba. Term 4 dates are 19th October, 2nd and 16th November. Attendance limited to 20 persons.

After welcome and introduction to any new participants, an around the room scan (we sit in a circle) is conducted to provide a clearinghouse of public affairs that have come to our attention in the preceding two weeks since the last meeting. Two topics previously agreed are then discussed in turn. An attempt is made to balance domestic Australian and international events but some topics are thrust upon us with their media prominence or urgency and impact. Time is left at the end for "looking ahead" to topics for the next session.

For further information contact Convenor David Muscio at dtmuscio@gmail.com or 0434 292 964

Drama Group – *Release your inner thespian!* (Co-ordinator Cath Philps (rcmp72@bigpond.com))

After exercises to develop our mental and physical alertness and performance skills, we practice monologues, sketches and other performances in readiness for presentation to our U3A members, eg at the Christmas Party. Meets in the Escarpment Room, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 11am – 12.30pm,
Term 4 dates – 19th October, 2nd and 16th November. Attendance limit 20 persons

Drawing and Painting - Co-ordinator and tutor Jeanette Southam, Ph. 4285 1986) –
2nd and 4th Mondays , 11.00am-12.30pm Escarpment Room. Attendance limit 16 persons.

Unleash your creative talents for visual expression or just for the joy of it.

Beginners and experienced artists welcome. Every session has a theme chosen by members prior to each meeting so they can be prepared. Themes have included drawing animals, buildings, outdoor scenes; different paint mediums, and types of shading. It's a very sociable group.

Term 4 dates are 12th and 26th October, 9th and 23rd November.

U3A Northern Illawarra Film Appreciation Group – Weekly Wednesdays, 12.30 – 3.00pm in the Excelsior Hall, Convenor Virginia Cawsey ((vcawsey@gmail.com) Leader Rick Thompson.
Term 4 commences 14th October, concludes 25th November. See p.8-9 for Term 4 program.

Italian -Language - Convenor – Judy Bull (judy.bull@bigpond.com) Turor: Pina MacPherson. Meets weekly Venerdi (Fridays) 9.30 - 11am, *commencing October 16th and concluding November 27th*, in the Escarpment Room. Open to anyone with some experience in Italian. New members interested in joining, please contact Judy.

Line Dancing - Convenor Joe Lane (joelane52@gmail.com; Ph: 0415 269 934)
Every Tuesday during term, commencing *Tuesday 13th October* in the Excesior Hall.
Time - 1.30 - 2.30pm. (Hall opens at 1-pm for set up and registration)
Ensure you are wearing appropriate footwear (cowboy dress and hat optional - yeehah!)

Joe will be using line dancing DVDs, with beginners and more experienced line dancers catered for.

Reading Aloud - Convenor Ainslie Lamb (ainslie2518@gmail.com)
1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 11.00am – 12.30pm, Red Cedar Room. Attendance limit 20 persons.
Term 4 dates - 20th October, 3rd and 17th November.

Reading aloud to others is a great way of sharing reading you find interesting, and an opportunity to listen and reflect on other times, other viewpoints, other possibilities. The convenor chairs the program, but participants bring to share and discuss a wide range of readings – humour, poetry, stories, philosophy, magazine articles and whatever else takes our members’ fancy. Non-readers are warmly invited as listeners.

Yoga - Convenor -Helen Gibson (0423 004 172; gibbo_hj@bigblue.net.au). Classes are held in the Escarpment Room every Friday at 11am for a 11.15 start, and run for 2 hours. As we are near full capacity, new members should contact Helen in advance. The class continues during term breaks (except on public holidays) to ensure continuity of the benefits of yoga.

You will need to bring a yoga mat and two yoga blocks. Our teacher Amanda -Lee Ruddiman has some spares you can use for a try out class. Cost of the class is \$10 per person per session, payable to the tutor.

Stanwell Park Walking Group - all U3A members are welcome to join.

We go walking during term breaks on Mondays, doing mostly flat walks covering the local landscape and History and occasional wildlife, up and down along the northern Illawarra coast. We use public transport with breaks for morning tea and lunch. Contact Roy Lawrie (soilguru@gmail.com) to let him know of your Interest and he will send details of walks as they are planned and where you can meet to join in.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS HELD AT OTHER LOCATIONS

Lawrence Hargrave U3A Stanwell Park

1A Railway Crescent, Stanwell Park, Hillcrest House, behind Kennett Home and Hillcrest Village

Mondays 9.30 am to 12.30pm. The first Session begins at 9.30am and usually has a guest speaker. The second Session is usually Music Appreciation, 11am until 12pm. For further information contact Jenny on 0406 350 025

Date: 9.30	Topic	Speaker
12 th Oct	The Quest for Camelot	SBS On Demand
19 th Oct	Sharing and Discussing Your Favourite Poems or Quotes	Members
26 th Oct	Current Affairs	Members
2 nd Nov.	What's Happening in Gaza	Sally Stevenson
9 th Nov	Remembrance Day - Wartime Memories	Local Members
16 th Nov	<i>Russian Ark</i> (set in The Hermitage)	DVD
23rd Nov	Tanzania: Kilwa, Kishwana and Zanzibar	David Christian
30 th Nov	How the Hacking got its name <i>From 12 pm - Christmas Celebrations bring a gift)</i>	Kerie-Anne Christian

Illawarra U3A Choir (Convenor Jean Horgan, Musical Director Iris Costello) - practices in Room 1-2, close to the car park at the Wollongong Conservatorium of Music, Glenifer Brae, Murphy's Avenue, Keiraville, from 10 - 12 am on Tuesdays – *commencing 13th October*. Please bring water to drink, a blue plastic folder (to hold music scores) and a pencil.

From time to time the Choir gives concerts, to local retirement villages and other venues.

The Choir includes members of other local U3As as well as Northern Illawarra.

New Members are welcome. For further information email Jean Horgan (jlhorgan85@gmail.com) or call Margaret Stratton (0411 526 899).

Table Tennis – (Coordinator Terry Newham, terrynewham@bigpond.com) – weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 am – 12pm at the Bulli-Woonona RSL Club, Princes Hwy, Woonona. All gear (bats, table tennis balls etc) is provided, but players should wear appropriate footwear and bring a water bottle. Play for fun and fitness. Attendance limit – 20 persons per session. Membership of the RSL Club is recommended as it provides the venue to us for free.

DID YOU KNOW that dolphins are so smart that within two weeks they can train humans to stand up on the edge of a pool and throw them fish?

U3A NORTHERN ILLAWARRA FILM SOCIETY – TERM 4, 2026

Venue - Excelsior Hall, Thirroul Library and Community Centre, 11.30 - 3pm each Wednesday during term. Convenor – Virginia Cawsey (vcawsey@gmail.com) leader – Rick Thompson

These sessions are about discussing the film(s), not simply watching them. A discussion follows each screening. Short films or excerpts may accompany some programs.

14 October - MON ONCLE (France 1958 (120 mins) Directed by Jacques Tati. The socially awkward Monsieur Hulot, played by Tati, has a quixotic struggle with France's postwar infatuation with modern architecture, mechanical efficiency and consumerism. Style rather than function is uppermost in the setting of Villa Arpel. The film won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 1958. **MAY**

21 October - THE SECRET AGENT (Brazil, France, Germany, Netherlands 2025. (162 mins) Directed by Kleber Mendonça Filho. This historical, political thriller follows Armando (Wagner Moura), a former professor as he tries to escape persecution amid the Brazilian military dictatorship which began in 1964. During Carnival he visits Recife to see his son, Fernando, who lives with his in-laws since his mother's death. There Armando befriends other political dissidents. **ROB**

28 October - THE MISFITS (USA 1961 (125 mins) Directed by John Huston with a screenplay by Arthur Miller, based on his short story of the same name. It stars Clark Gable in his last film, Marilyn Monroe and Montgomery Clift. Set in Nevada where Roslyn (Marilyn Monroe) meets three men involved in hunting for wild horses. The characters are outsiders and the world they belong to is disappearing. The film explores the contrast between freedom and responsibility. **ROB**

4 November - PANDORA'S BOX (Germany 1929 (133 mins) Directed by G.W. Pabst and based on Frank Wedekind's plays. This silent melodrama stars Louise Brooks, an American actress, at a time when German cinema was trying to woo American filmmaking. Lulu is a seductive young woman whose nature brings tragedy to herself and those who love her. It is a story based on the Pandora myth. Overlooked at the time sound was first being used, the film was rediscovered by scholars in the 1950s when it was deemed it a classic of Weimar German cinema, along with METROPOLIS and THE BLUE ANGEL. The film underwent significant censorship in a number of countries. **RICK**

11 November - HIGH NOON (USA 1952. (85 mins) Directed by Fred Zinnemann. It stars Gary Cooper, Grace Kelly and Lloyd Bridges and is based on John W. Cunningham's short story "The Tin Star", first published in *Collier's* magazine in 1947. In Hadleyville, a small town in New Mexico, Marshal Will Kane is newly married to Amy Fowler and prepares to retire to another town, but when the vicious outlaw Frank Miller is to arrive on the noon train, Will must decide either to face a gang of killers alone, or leave town with his new wife. On its release, audiences expecting a typical Western were surprised by the film's focus on moral and emotional conflict. **RICK**

18 November - INTERSTELLAR (USA 2014 (169 mins) Directed by Christopher Nolan. This epic scientific fiction film is set in a dystopian future where Earth is barely habitable. Ex-NASA test-pilot-turned-farmer, Joseph Cooper, is raising his children, Murph and Tom, following his wife's death. Still he agrees to pilot the *Endurance* spaceship with group of astronauts who travel through space in search of a new home for humanity. They pass through a wormhole and come into a galaxy orbiting a supermassive black hole, Gargantuan. Cooper transits this, emerging inside a higher-dimensional

tesseract (or 4-cube) and is able to communicate with his daughter, Murph. The visual effects team on the film created “Gargantuan” using real gravitational lensing equations, which later helped real scientists better understand actual black holes. The film stars Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway and Jessica Chastain. **ROB**

25 November - BURN AFTER READING (USA, UK, France 2008. (96 minutes) Directed by Joel and Ethan Coen. The film follows a recently jobless CIA analyst, Osborne Cox (John Malkovich) whose memoir CD is found by dim witted gym employees (Frances McDormand and Brad Pitt). They mistake the memoirs for classified government documents and attempt to profit from their find. The film also stars George Clooney and Tilda Swinton. **ROB**

CANBERRA U3A TUESDAY LUNCH FORUMS, which are conducted by Zoom, are available to members of any U3A. Canberra U3A is able to access retired politicians, senior public servants, academics and a range of other experts to talk on important issues of the day.

The Forums are accessed via Zoom and run from 12.30 to 1.30. The Forums offer a selection of top class speakers covering an eclectic range of topics sure to attract interest among members.

Interested members should register with Patrick (Ph. 0448 061 951) who will co-ordinate their email addresses with Canberra U3A Chairman Alex Gosman, and advise interested members of the program as it is released. Log in at least 10 minutes ahead of the start of the talk.

Note - The talks will be recorded but rather than contacting the organisers for a copy they will be available on-line on the U3A Canberra website to reduce the workload.

The 2084 Report: An Oral History of the Great Warming by James Lawrence Powell (pub.2021)

The year is 2084 and a historian sets out to document the damage that climate change has wrought on the world. Through interviews with scientists, political leaders and ordinary people around the world, we come to understand the true impact of global warming. Each of these characters reveals the issues they are confronting, from drought, migration and flooding, to politics, war, health and the extinction of animal and vegetation species. It is fiction but rooted in scientific fact. It is a powerful prophecy and a call to action.

D'HARAWAL SEASONS – D'harawal Calendar

Source: Indigenous Weather Knowledge, Bureau of Meteorology, 2016

Time of the Parra'dowee - November-December – Goray'murrai – warm and wet.

The season begins with the Great eel Spirit calling his children to him, and the eels which are ready to mate again make their way down the rivers and creeks to the ocean.

It is the time of the blooming of the Kai'arrewan (acacia binervia) which announces the occurrence of fish in the bays and estuaries.

Thankyou to the staff of Alison Byrne MHR's office, who print our newsletters.

U3A Northern Illawarra is a self-run non-profit community education organisation for retirees which provides members with the opportunities to maintain social engagement and mental and physical fitness and to retain independence and self-esteem. As a member, you agree to

- Respect others and their rights to learn and teach
- Look after all property and the environment in which we work
- Act responsibly so that the reputation of our association is maintained
- Treat others fairly and resolve conflict with fairness and dignity
- Do not accept bullying or harassment from or towards others
- Value what each member contributes to the group
- Work in a voluntary capacity and not use U3A for personal or financial gain.

U3A NORTHERN ILLAWARRA – CONTACT DETAILS

Management Committee 2026

President - Patrick Heaven (Ph 0446 061 951; patrickcheaven@gmail.com)

Vice-President – Development – position vacant

Vice-President – Operations - Maureen Jarvis (Ph: 0450 878 623

Treasurer Geoff Barnes (geoffbarnes@iprimus.com.au)

Secretary – (position vacant as at October 2026) – secretary.u3a.nillawarra@gmail.com

Publicity Officer: Barbara Cranfield (Ph: 0413 047 687

Committee members:

Toni Conley (Ph: 0457 598 946)

Robert Dalmas (robertdalmas60gmail.com)

Ainslie Lamb (Ph: 4296 7903)

Joe Laes (joelane52@gmail.com; Ph: 0415 526 899)

Margaret Stratton (0411 526 899)

Helen Whelan (helen@dispoiled.com)

Other contacts:

Welfare Officer; and Safety Officer - Margaret Stratton (0411 526 899)

Minute Secretary –

Newsletter Editor - Ainslie Lamb (ainslie2518@gmail.com) *Proofreader* – Ron Browne

Public Officer : Patrick Heaven

Website : www.u3ani.org *Website editor* - Patrick Heaven

The Newsletter of the U3A Northern Illawarra is produced five times a year, providing advance notice of courses, speakers and topics, and other activities for each Term.

The Newsletter is distributed to members by email , however, some copies will be available for collection from the at the Wednesday Talks session. The Newsletter can also be accessed on www.nu3ani.org

U3A NORTHERN ILLAWARRA Inc. NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026

The Annual General Meeting of the U3A Northern Illawarra Inc will be held on **Wednesday 18th November 2026**, in the Excelsior Room, Thirroul Community Centre, at 11.00am.

Agenda :

- To confirm the Minutes of the last AGM
- To receive a report from the President and other office-bearers as relevant
- To receive and consider the Statement of Financial Affairs of the association
- To elect office-bearers and other committee members
- General business (if any): please advise the Secretary of any items you wish to raise, by **Wednesday 11th November 2026**

Nominations are called for the following positions on the Committee of Management:

- President
- Vice-President – Development
- Vice-President - Operations
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Publicity Officer
- Up to 5 additional Committee members

Role descriptions of each of these positions appear on the next page.

If you wish to nominate someone for a position on the Committee complete the nomination form below and hand it or post it to the Returning Officer, **Margaret Stratton**, by **Wednesday 11th November 2026** . If insufficient nominations are received for any position by that date, nominations may be made from the floor at the AGM.

You must be a financial member of the U3A Northern Illawarra Inc. to nominate or be nominated for a position on the Committee, and to vote at the AGM.

U3A NORTHERN ILLAWARRA Inc. NOMINATION FOR OFFICE-BEARER OR COMMITTEE MEMBER

We*nominate(name of person nominated)*

for the position of

*Proposer: *Seconded *

I accept the above nomination

(Signature) (Date)

* Both the Nominators and the Nominee must be financial members of the association.

ROLE DESCRIPTIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

President: Acts as chairperson at Committee meetings and general meetings of the Association; represents the U3A NI publicly; liaises with the broader U3A community including the NSW U3A Network; liaises with Publicity Officer on media releases.; makes announcements at Wednesday sessions or organises someone else to do so.

Vice-President – Development: Applies for grants; encourage the formation of new classes and ensure that correct procedures are followed; undertakes surveys to ascertain member needs and interests; advises on copyright obligations; deputises for the President when requested.

Vice-President – Operations: oversees the on-going operations of the U3A NI including support for the secretarial and financial operations; in the absence of the President acts as chairperson of committee and general meetings; liaises with the convenors of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) in relation to maintenance of attendance records and operations., and ensures all SIG leaders have a current handbook containing up-to-date information and incident report forms.

Secretary: establish and maintain the register of members; and the register of committee members; records and maintains minutes of committee and general meetings of the U3A NI*; handles correspondence; gives 48 hours notice of committee meetings; distributes minutes and agenda to other members; maintains attendance records at Wednesday talks program.; acts as signatory for cheques ; liaises with and makes bookings with the Thirroul Community Centre.

***A Minute Secretary** may be appointed by the Committee to assist the Secretary.

Treasurer: ensures that all moneys due to the association is collected, receipted and banked as soon as possible; keeps correct books and accounts showing the financial affairs of the association; maintains membership records; handles incoming and outgoing payments on behalf of the association; prepares financial statements for committee meetings; prepares annual financial statements; prepares an annual budget; maintains assets register; maintains Public Liability insurance.

Publicity Officer: publicises the U3A NI and in particular - liaises with the President on media releases; prepares information brochures and posters for recruitment; organise the annual debate with Bulli High school; builds and maintains publicity contacts

Committee members (and other individual members) may be involved in assisting the above officers in the execution of their duties, and in roles such as

- Newsletter editor – prepares the newsletter and associated leaflets, arranges for printing
- Webmaster – maintains the NI website
- Wednesday Talks Co-ordinator
- Public Officer – ensures that official reporting obligations are met
- Facilities officer – oversees use of audio/visual facilities
- First aid and safety officer - advises on risk management
- Maintenance of historical records (eg scrapbook)
- Member welfare officer
- Organising external excursions.