



Newcastle U3A NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome new and returning members!

A large majority of you used our new online registration and enrolment process this year, which in the main ran very smoothly.

Many of our large offering of courses were so popular that our Course Coordinators and tutors have been able in some cases to offer a 'duplicate course' to accommodate the large number of people on the Wait List of some courses. This extra commitment on the part of our tutors is very much appreciated.

Your Committee recently received the resignations of immediate Past President and Joint Program Coordinator John Thacker and Co-Joint Coordinator Gloria Jones. In past years Gloria has also held the positions of secretary and treasurer. John and Gloria have made a huge contribution to Newcastle U3A in not only the long hours they have spent looking after and promoting the group's interests but in twice a year producing a bigger and better Program of courses which has seen our membership increase to around 650 people during this time.

We thank Gloria and John for all their efforts and their continuing support of U3A. Our organisation could not run without the many hours put in by people like Gloria and John, and by your Committee members, tutors and volunteers.

Major benefits of our U3A membership are the social interaction and camaraderie we experience in our classes, at our monthly lunches and morning teas, and in the friendships that develop.

Newcastle U3A has had some small involvement in this year's Seniors' Festival, with Newcastle Mayor, Nuatali Nelmes, visiting and addressing the Mayfield: The Toorak of Newcastle session.

The 2019 Annual General Meeting will be held on 9 April, when all Committee positions will again be open for election, or re-election as the case may be.

Nomination forms for a position on the Committee will be sent out in March. If you would like to contribute to Newcastle U3A through the Committee, please consider nominating for a position.

Our thoughts are with those of our members and tutors who are in poor health or going through sad and worrying times.

Best wishes

Julie Newing
President Newcastle U3A

NOTICE OF NEWCASTLE U3A ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY APRIL 9TH 2019

commencing 10.30am

Carrington Room, Hunter Unions Building
408 King Street, Newcastle West
(enter via Devonshire Lane)

Tea and coffee available in the room
from 10.00am and the meeting will be
followed by lunch (your expense)
in the Bistro at NEX (formerly Wests)
309 King Street, Newcastle West

Guest Speaker:

Gianni Di Gravio

Archivist, Cultural Collections,
University of Newcastle Library

Financial Reports and Agenda will be
available prior to the meeting

Your attendance will be valued!

Important Dates for your 2019 Diary

Dates for Semester 1:

Term 1: 11 February to 5 April

Term 2: 29 April to 21 June

Good Friday – 19 April;

Easter Monday – 22 April

Queen's Birthday Holiday – 10 June

Dates for Semester 2:

Term 3: 22 July to 13 September

Term 4: 14 October to 6 December

Labour Day Holiday – 7 October

Melbourne Cup Day - 5 November

Newcastle University of the Third Age

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VALE

LANCE CLOSE - a Renaissance Man

Sadly, we have recently lost one of our greatest contributors to culture in the Hunter Region with the passing from this world of Lance Close, who would have turned 98 last November. After a lifetime of working in education in our schools, evening colleges and in the wider cultural community in Newcastle New Theatre dramas and Radio 2NURFM music, literary and history programs, Lance joined in activities of music appreciation with the Music Lovers Club at the Conservatorium and in 1993 the Music programs of U3A which must be one of our longest running U3A courses ever! As recently as the early months of 2018 he was not only still attending but actually giving yet another one of his knowledge filled classical music programs which came from the heart.

Lance's interests were wide as he also remained active in the Chess group, play writing and acting, as well as an eager poetry reading and composing group. Many of those who have benefitted from his great presentations and friendly encouragement over the years attended his Farewell and Memorial Service organized by his very large and loving family.

Lance, how can we do without you?

John and Dawn Allen

UPDATE FROM THE TREASURER

Hello everyone. Just to let you know we are in a sound financial position with cash and short-term deposits of \$62,261 at the end of February. That is about \$6,700 more than the \$55,554 available at the same time last year. The improvement is partly due to the increase in annual membership fees to \$60, and partly due to an increase in paid up members, the latter now standing at 615 people.

It is as well we are in better shape because venue costs have increased sharply. We finished last year with a cash and short-term deposits position of \$37,757 and we may end up with something similar at the end of this year. Our annual expenses are now in the \$40,000 to \$45,000 range and it is prudent to have 9 to 12 months of expenses covered by our cash position in case of emergencies.

Graeme Newing

PROGRAM COORDINATORS REPORT

What a busy start to the year it has been – three cancelled courses, four relocations to accommodate the extraordinary level of enrolments and the creation of nine new courses (one extra French, one extra yoga, two additional local history walks, two additional sailing sessions, one extra “on the buses tour” and two additional Wallsend walks).

The generosity and good spirit of our tutors has been amazing. They have happily accepted the challenge of adding another session to their week or another one or two days out. Many have been willing to accept many more course participants than they wanted, and this does make the job more challenging. Thank you!

This year we are using many new venues, and some come with their own set of complications. Please send the committee feedback on new venues. Adamstown Uniting Church has a very complex technical set-up and we acknowledge Joy Carlin for managing the control panel for a number of extra courses and ongoing training of tutors. Bob Colomb has collaborated with Joy and created a visual and thorough manual for using the equipment. Many thanks, Joy and Bob!

The Office Team, particularly Julie Newing and Jenny Williams have worked ridiculously long hours right through the break on the enrolment process, ably supported by a willing team of volunteers. Phil Warren's assistance with the website is also appreciated.

We believe that now is the time to hand over the Program Coordination role. Semester 1 is (almost) settled in and it is time to create a semester 2 program. The semester 2 program is much easier to create, as ongoing courses are already in place and traditionally enrolment numbers are always lower. Finding leads for exciting new courses is easy at this time of year – many members offered courses when completing their semester 1 enrolment forms and many established tutors have already sent in proposals for the new semester.

We thank members and tutors for their ongoing support and encouragement. The Program Coordination role is a very big one. We know you will warmly welcome the incoming coordinator/s and be understanding as they navigate their own way. Change is good – it brings a freshness and new perspective that keeps a big organisation like the wonderful Newcastle U3A alive and constantly improving.

Gloria Jones and John Thacker

COURSE REPORT

DISCOVER SAILING EXPERIENCE



Ahoy!
One of the more exhilarating U3A activities that I've taken part in, especially as I had also been to Tai Chi earlier that morning
Safety- our

first priority was safety. Lifejackets to be worn before getting onto the pontoon; sunscreen. Water bottles for hydration and hats with an attachment; needless to say, mine did not have an attachment. Perhaps I'll eventually find it when I go swimming at Newcastle Beach!
Henk made sure that the craft had all the safety equipment on board - e.g., walkie talkie and other safety equipment; there was always a safety boat within close range in case they were needed
Sailing - Henk shared the duties between us onboard the sailing craft throughout the sail - each got a turn at trimming the sails, holding the rudder steer the craft etc. He gave us all a 'go. Henk explained the role and purpose of the equipment on board, what to watch out for regarding changes in wind direction and the effects of this on the sail

He talked us through - how to anticipate changes in wind direction and trim the sails AND to —:DUCK! when the boom shifter , frequently, from port to starboard and vice-versa - exciting!!

Duties - we were shown how to attach the sails, take them down at the end, fold and put them away.

It was a real 'hands on' experience and throughout it Henk was encouraging, explaining how to sail the craft, answering our question, and all the while also keeping us safe.

The wind increased to a point when the strong gusts were no longer safe for us to be on the water and Henk decided that it was prudent for us to return to base. Very sensible. It really was a fantastic, exciting and at times thrilling introduction to sailing.

Stefan



COURSE REPORT

DISCOVER SAILING EXPERIENCE –

Participants Talk About Their Day On The Water...



"Sailing was wonderful - I learnt heaps from our instructor Nina who remained calm and was always very positive. She supervised, instructed and positively reinforced our moves and gently encouraged all of us to have a go at steering, adjusting the mainsail and

altering the jib according to the sometimes very blustery or still, fickle conditions. Thanks so much for the organisation of the "Sailing Experience" which has given me a marvellous taste of what sailing involves. I was very tired after all the activity!" - Jill

"Even with the wind and heat, our harbour was very inviting. I had a fantastic afternoon. A lot to take in on one day but, our crew worked very well together. Thank you for the opportunity to experience such an amazing course. Looking forward to next week's lesson." - Lena



"It was my first experience of sailing and I did enjoy it. At times it was hard work hauling on those gibsail ropes. Also you have to be quite nimble when turning about..." - Graeme

"Superb. Need I say more. Please pass my thanks and appreciation to NCYC and especially Andrew who supervised our efforts today. It could entice me to another life on the ocean waves." – Geoff



"I thought it was great. I'm looking forward to next week". - Manwell



"The sailing experience was very very enjoyable and very well organised. We are very lucky to be given the opportunity to learn how to sail." - Elizabeth

NU3A is very grateful to Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club (NCYC) for the encouragement and tremendous support of this initiative. ☑

TUESDAY AFTERNOONS WITH U3A –

A hugely successful series of talks made possible by the effort of our Members. Ron Davis tells the story:

“We started with **Tuesday Afternoons with U3A** in the second semester, 2011, in the U3A Room in the Council Arcade [Civic Arcade - Ed]. We had been U3A members for perhaps a couple of years prior to that, but I'm not sure when we joined U3A. During the First Semester 2011, I had asked the then Programme Co-ordinator, Geoff Farris, for someone to work with me , but no-one was forthcoming, so I decided to ‘go it alone’.

After the Council closed the Council Arcade, we moved to The Loft (also owned by the Council) which was then closed, to the Adamstown Bowling Club (which was reallocated by the club management), to The Dungeon at the Adamstown Uniting Church (which was too small, with only 85 people possible), and finally to the Adamstown Uniting Church itself, where we are at the moment. Carol has always been the Course Clerk.

Regarding organising speakers, I have been the Co-ordinator of the Newcastle Philatelic Society's Daytime Meeting since 2006, where a speaker/displayer is obtained every month. But only on stamp-collecting matters.

Carol and I came to Newcastle in 1986, from Dubbo, and became members of some 12 or 13 organisations. Many of these we have dropped.”

Ron and Carol Davis



CALL FOR VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE

Many hands make light work – are you willing to lend a hand to make the load lighter? There are many jobs, which, when broken down into small parts, keep an organisation functioning. If you are willing to assist our volunteer administration team, we'd love to hear from you. We particularly need volunteers with good levels of computer literacy, but there are other tasks which require other skill sets and interests. You do not need to be a professional – just practical and willing to give a little of your time to make our rapidly growing U3A continue to offer the great range of courses to ever more members.

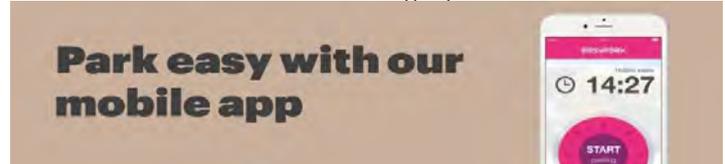
**Newcastle U3A POSTAL ADDRESS
PO Box 316, Hamilton 2303**

Members can also leave mail in the secure drop-box on the door of our office at 21 Gordon Avenue

COUNCIL LAUNCHES EASY PARKING APP

Parking your car in Newcastle is more convenient thanks to a new smart phone app that means you no longer have to pay at the meter.

By giving users virtual control of parking spaces from wherever they may be, the EasyPark app represents an advance on the old ticketing system.



City Of Newcastle is the first NSW council to deploy it to help manage parking spaces right across its local government area.

By registering with your number plate, the app allows you to start a parking session, extend it if needed and end it immediately.

Simply log in and, by spinning a wheel on the screen of your phone or tablet, set your zone and required time length.

Parking officers will use their handheld devices to verify payment by cars without a ticket on their dashboard and will still be able to enforce time limits specified by street signage.

From 1 January 2019, the City of Newcastle will reduce the hourly cost of on street parking by 25 per cent for users of its pay-by-phone parking app, in preparation for Australian first technology that guides drivers to vacant parking spaces. The reduced rate will be available on a trial for the remainder of the financial year.

The discount will automatically apply to the EasyPark app, which allows drivers to pay only for the time they use and remotely top up payments after receiving SMS notifications 15 minutes before their meter expires.

Here are the steps to get started:

Download the EasyPark app from the [AppStore](#) or [Google play](#)

Login and follow the instructions on the screen
Enter the area code which is available on the parking meter

Spin, set the time and enjoy the rest of your day!

If you have any questions or don't have a smart phone please call 1300 734 070 or visit the EasyPark website.

NEWCASTLE U3A TERM DATES

2019 Term 1:	11 February - 5 April
2019 Term 2:	29 April - 21 June
2019 Term 3:	22 July - 13 September
2019 Term 4:	14 October - 6 December

GOOGLE'S ANTI-PHISHING QUIZ MAKES IT EASIER TO KEEP YOURSELF SAFE ONLINE

As we've shifted to an online world, we've sadly seen a huge increase in the quantity and sophistication of phishing attacks.

Just in case mention of that term had you pondering picking up gumboots and long lines and dreaming of trout, that's fishing. Totally different thing.

Phishing is the term used to describe fraudulent ways to gain access to systems and information, whether that's your personal details for the purposes of identity theft, or access to your online bank accounts for more traditional stealing activities.

Google recently launched a phishing quiz to help everyday web users identify phishing attacks. Give it a go - you can find it at <https://phishingquiz.withgoogle.com/> The quiz itself encourages you to enter a name and email, and it actively encourages you to use a fake one, not that it captures this data regardless. Then again, it's Google-based, and it probably already knows who you are anyway.

It then walks you through common phishing scenarios to see if you can correctly pick legitimate emails from their more fraudulent counterparts. Whether you get it right or wrong, you're walked through what to look for and what to check for when a new email comes in, which is again, a smart approach.

If you're right, it's a refresher in what you should be doing with real email, and if you're wrong, it's the first step in learning what to look out for.

What is fascinating in taking the test is how many very simple techniques scammers use when phishing in order to lure in their prey. While the visuals are more sophisticated, there's a mix of straight up technological obfuscation at play — because the scammers want to appear as though they're actually your friends, bank or other important business you deal with — there's also an element of psychological manipulation as well.

Much of what works within a phishing approach does so because they try to short-circuit your logical thinking processes. That can come either by appearing to be from a friendly source or by making you outright panic with a warning about warrants for your arrest, lockdown of your valuable online accounts, or even just a simple request to reset your password following a "breach" of your account. So what should you do in all cases? Check the URLs (or email addresses) of any email asking you to open a link or attached file carefully. Keep your anti-malware software up to date, because that way if you do accidentally click on the wrong URL, you're at least a little safer if your software intercepts the dodgy URL before loading anything. But above all, use your brain when assessing an incoming message. If it looks dodgy, or it's trying to make you panic, think twice, and possibly contact the individual (or business) directly. If there's a genuine issue to resolve, you'll still be on top of it, but if it's a phishing scam, you'll stop it affecting you outright.

Reproduced in part from the Geeks2U Newsletter posted on 29 Jan 2019 by Alex Kidman

SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS



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My first invitation to attend a Meaning for Men forum. What should I expect to become involved with here? The U3A invite mentioned getting acquainted over coffee and cake. Obviously this was a euphemism for wine and cheese. From what I understood from Google and other media I was reasonably familiar with the traditional rituals. Bizarre oaths, secret handshakes and initiation ceremonies involving the blood sacrifice of a goat or at least a chicken or two. All this plus weekends away in the bush shooting, fishing and hard liquor. Post cocktail hour, bedecked in war paint and dancing around the campfire. All us blokes, bonding, hugging, crying and complaining about neglectful children, abusive parents, scout masters, spouses and employers. Such fun!

I arrived early for the pre-ordination get together. First surprise. it was indeed coffee (instant) and cake. Sort of made sense. Obviously organised in order for all and sundry to remain sufficiently sober for the serious business of the initiation ceremony.

Lo and behold! No grand entrance by a black robed master of ceremonies. No candles. No sacrificial goat. Not even a free-range chook. Turned out there were no secret handshakes, blood oaths or anything that needed to be spoken in code and no clandestine set of rules.

Instead, the meeting was conducted by a neatly attired gentleman facilitated with a white board and projector. Much was made about wellbeing, holistic health, compassion, good relationships and happiness. All based pretty much on the humanistic Buddhist philosophy plus a five minute session of meditation. All very interesting and informative but not exactly what I'd anticipated.

At the half time break, more coffee and cake, thank you, the main topics of conversation seemed to concentrate on hearing and prostrate problems. Certainly a far cry from frolicking around a campfire with the fellows.

Next week it's a Men's Shed. This time I won't go with any expectations. Hope they've got a bar fridge.

Roy Bisson
(Roy participated in the U3A 'Meaning for Men session; and lived to tell the tale...)

**SUCCESSFUL ONLINE ENROLMENT SYSTEM LAUNCH...
WITH A FEW BUGS AND SOME GROWING PAINS!**

The new Newcastle U3A online membership registration and enrolments platform was finally launched on 29th December, after a fair bit of hair-pulling by our small team and the generous assistance of Diane Body and Lake Macquarie U3A's Ken Doolan. Within hours the membership and enrolment forms were pouring in! By the ballot date (14th January) we had over 500 members registered. They have continued to do so ever since in response to the fabulous mosaic of over 100 courses that our diligent Program Coordinators, Gloria and John, have spent many hours and weeks pulling together in consultation with our many generous tutors and venue providers.

We now have **over 640 members registered** – a new record and a significant growth on this time last year. Almost one third of this year's members are new to NU3A in 2019, so there are lots of new people to make friends with!

The online system has been a great boon to the team of office volunteers who last year spent many days entering and checking every membership and enrolment application into the system by hand. Not only have members found it quicker and easier than filling in paper forms and bringing or mailing them into the office, it has dramatically reduced the workload of getting the initial information into the system. A very big THANK YOU to the band of volunteers who gave their time to assist members who wanted some help with the online system at two open office sessions ahead of the enrolment deadline.

Any new system will have hiccups – happily they were fewer and less difficult than we had expected at the beginning, with the great help of Ken Doolan in promptly addressing the various glitches we came across as the enrolment period went on. So, we have a few tweaks that will be included for Semester 2 (more on this in forthcoming newsletters) – including that office helpers will be available to do the online forms rather than asking members who are very unfamiliar with the process to do it themselves with guidance.

The growth in member numbers, and the generosity of tutors and hard work by Gloria and John in providing an additional 9 courses and/or expanding class sizes has been a great fillip for NU3A. The downside has been over 400 enrolment changes – to date – to be processed. This includes taking calls or responding to emails from members wanting to withdraw from a course, advising members who are waitlisted of a place available, and updating Course Clerks and tutors with new rolls almost daily. All this has added greatly to the stress on the small number who do this work. **We are very grateful that the system can now accept withdrawals online** as well!

NEW ROLES FOR VOLUNTEERS ARE COMING

As you were recently advised by email, the current program is Gloria and John's last one, and we are searching for new volunteers to take up the mantle of Program Coordination for Semester 2. In conjunction with this, there will be a number of other new roles. Your NU3A Committee will be updating members and advertising these roles in the coming weeks – so please think about putting your hand up to do what you can.... We are all volunteers!

And meantime, PLEASE REMEMBER TO **CONTACT YOUR COURSE CLERK DIRECTLY** TO APOLOGISE FOR AN ABSENCE FROM A SESSION, AND TO **USE THE ONLINE ENROLMENT FORM TO WITHDRAW** from a course.

Jenny Williams
Secretary

COURSE REPORT: Let's Write

Writing can be a serious business but it's also a lot of fun. In response to an exercise that asked members to write a story starting with: "*On paper, at first glance, the river didn't look much,*" (beginning of Scott Bevan's 'The Hunter') members were asked to cut that down to a paragraph and then to cut that paragraph to twenty-five words.

There were so many imaginative responses to that exercise that I wish we could print them all. Roy Bisson met that criteria but gave it an additional twist. His story of a luckless traveller called Bryce who had imagined a wonderful '*overseas adventure, travelling from oasis to oasis, meeting like-minded people, living in luxurious accommodation chatting up the local ladies*' arrived home '*twenty kilos and two thousand dollars lighter*' after a holiday that was the total antithesis of what he had expected, was brilliantly captured in his hilarious cartoon. Roy summed up his story in 25 words as follows:

"Bryce now sadly realised that the realities of an overseas adventure don't necessarily live up to the wondrous promises displayed in a glossy holiday brochure."



And isn't that so true. Life doesn't always live up to our expectations but from the calibre of stories shared by members of Let's Write in just a short time into term, I have no doubt that we are in for an incredible year ahead.

Elizabeth Elliott

ABOUT THE PLACE -

CHARLESTOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE



The Place - Charlestown Community Centre- is a not-for-profit community facility conveniently located at Charlestown Square.

Since 2018, Newcastle U3A has been a regular hirer of some of the high-quality rooms and facilities, locating some of our many courses and classes to this supportive venue. The benefits to members are considerable: clean, well-organised spaces; full time staff to assist with furniture and technology; state of the art AV and IT. Plus all the amenities of a large shopping mall right above your heads!



PARKING: The most convenient parking for the centre is via the Frederick Street car park entrance to Charlestown Square. Parking at Charlestown Square is free for the first 3 hours. Extended free parking can be arranged for people who are participating in functions at The Place for more than 3 hours.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT: Bus stops are conveniently located right outside The Place in Frederick Street. Regular bus services are available to and from the majority of Lake Macquarie and Newcastle suburbs, and some Hunter Valley buses have services to Charlestown. Bus timetables for services to and from Charlestown are available at The Place during reception hours. A convenient taxi phone is located inside the Level 2 car park of Charlestown Square, approximately a 200m walk from The Place. After business hours, a taxi zone operates in Pearson St, approximately a 100m walk from The Place.

BICYCLES Parking for bicycles is available just outside The Place, adjacent to the bus stops in Frederick Street.

COURSE REPORT - Tai Chi has started well with a full class of keen students. The tutor, Pauline, is a dedicated teacher and has two skilful assistants helping her. With these three good demonstrators to follow, everyone can see what to do, and so no one misses any move.



Norman Birt

AN AUTHOR'S JUDGEMENT ON SOCIETY...

"[I despair about literature] Every year seventy readers die and only two are replaced. By 'readers' I mean people who read serious books seriously and consistently. The evidence is everywhere that the literary era has come to an end. The evidence is the culture, the evidence is the society. The evidence is the screen, the progression from movie screen to the television screen to the computer. There's only so much time, so much room and there are only so many habits of mind that can determine how people use the free time they have. Literature takes a habit of mind that has disappeared. It requires silence, some form of isolation, and a sustained concentration in the presence of an enigmatic thing. It is difficult to come to grips with a mature, intelligent, adult novel. It is difficult to know what to make of literature."

[Phillip Roth 1933 – 2018]

**2019 U3A NETWORK NSW CONFERENCE
Tamworth 10th – 12th April 2019**

Keynote Speaker: Dr Kay Patterson, AO (Age Discrimination Commissioner, AHRC)

Host U3A: Tamworth Regional U3A

The [CONFERENCE WEBSITE](#) has all the information you need about the Conference as well as a link for registering for the Conference

Full registration is \$110, including refreshments and lunch on Thursday.

There is now a full list of Speakers and sessions on the website.

You do not need to be a Committee Member to attend – registration is open to any U3A Member

FRIDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

For new, current and potential members (or simply the curious) to chat, socialise and get to know others. If you have a friend interested in learning more about U3A they are more than welcome to come along. Join us in the venue at 10.30 am
RSVP please: Elizabeth 0451 272729

Dates for your diary:

Apr 12 [Hood Milk Bar](#) 188 Union Street, The Junction
 May 10 [Suspension Espresso](#) 3 Beaumont Street
 Jun 14 [Source Cafe](#) 1/74 The Lane, Maryville
 Jul 12 [CJ'S on Glebe](#) 62 Glebe Road, The Junction
 Aug 9 [Tailors Workshop](#) 10 Beaumont Street, Hamilton
 Sep 13 [Cafe Inu](#) 43 Denison St, Carrington
 Oct 11 [Fernleigh Cafe](#) 89 Fletcher St, Adamstown
 Nov 8 [Peaberrys](#) 81 Maitland Road, Islington
 Dec 13 [Birdy's Cafe](#) 173 Maitland Road, Tighes Hill

LUNCH OF THE MONTH

Venues have been chosen because of parking availability, access to public transport and a reputation for being an enjoyable place to dine and socialise. Join us in the venue at 12.00 noon. RSVP, please: Eric 4957 2211

Dates for your diary:

Mar 15 [Mary Ellen](#) 57 Railway Street, Merewether
 Apr 9 (Tuesday) [NEX](#) 309 King Street Newcastle
 May 17 [Royal Inn](#) 61 Station Street, Waratah
 Jun 21 [Wickham Park Hotel](#) Maitland Rd & Albert St Islington
 Jul 19 [Lambton Park](#) cnr Howe & Morehead Sts Lambton
 Aug 16 [Blackbutt](#) cnr Carnley Ave & Orchardtown Rd Kotara
 Sep 19 (Thursday) [NEX](#) 309 King Street Newcastle
 Oct 18 [Gates Hotel](#) 660 Glebe Road, Adamstown
 Nov 15 [Maryville Tavern](#), [Lewis Street](#), [Maryville](#)
 Dec 13 [Duke of Wellington](#) 69 Regent Street, New Lambton

NEWCASTLE U3A THEATRE GROUP

Sunday matinees. Meet in the theatre foyer no later than 1.45pm to collect your ticket from the Box Office. Contact the theatre Monday to Friday 3.00pm to 6.00pm to book 4952 4958
www.newcastletheatrecompany.com.au

Newcastle Theatre Company, 90 DeVitre Street, Lambton
 Stay for a Q&A session after the show with the creative team and cast (approximately 30 minutes). 2019 Shows include –

Apr 28 *Kidstrokes* by Ray Lawler
 directed by Cheryl Sovechles
 Jun 2 *Postcards from Kafka* by Carl Caulfield
 directed by Carl Caulfield
 Jul 14 *Stepping Out* by Richard Harris
 directed by Tracey Owens and Claire Williams
 Aug 25 *A View from the Bridge* by Arthur Miller
 directed by Janet Nelson and Howard Rawlinson
 Oct 6 *Blithe Spirit* by Noel Coward
 directed by Julie Black
 Nov 17 *Christmas at Pemberley* by Lauren Gunderson
 & Margot Melcan
 directed by Fran Hodgson

Information provided by the NTC Team and current at time of publication



The expression "Is the glass half-full or half-empty?.." has highlighted the tendency for two people to see the same situation in different ways. The saying is commonly used to emphasise the difference between positive and negative thinking / optimism

or pessimism. There are however now lots more examples of different human viewpoints and attitudes

The Optimist says the glass is half full.

The Pessimist says the glass is half empty.

The Project Manager says the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.

The Realist says the glass contains half the required amount of liquid for it to overflow.

The Entrepreneur sees the glass as undervalued by half its potential.

The Computer Specialist says that next year the glass capacity will double, be half the price, but cost you 50% more for me to give you the answer

The Trainer does not care if the glass is half full or half empty, he just knows that starting the discussion will give him ten minutes to figure out why his power point presentation is not working.

The Auditor first checks whether the empty half is material and then designs the audit procedures to obtain sufficient evidence to conclude that the glass is indeed empty.

The Magician will show you the glass with the full half at the top.

The Physicist says that the glass is not empty at all - it is half-filled with water and half-filled with air - hence, fully filled.

The Opportunist says, "Thanks, folks! While you were debating it, I drank it."

The Marketing Professional convinces the buyer that what's left is more valuable than the first half.

The Politician says that under the last government the glass was half-empty, and becoming emptier, but thanks to his own party's new leadership, the glass is definitely now half-full, and becoming fuller; but if the other party were to return to power, the glass would once again undoubtedly empty rapidly.

The Problem Solver says: Half-empty or half-full, the glass is not part of the solution; it's always part of the problem.

The Pragmatist says: I'd rather have a glass half-empty than no glass at all.

The Sceptic says: I doubt both the existence of this glass and the validity of this question.

The Authoritarian says: I am the one who decides whether you can see the glass as half-full or half-empty. Under me, seeing it either way is not a matter of free will and personal choice.

The Libertarian says: In a free country, it's all about human agency; everyone is free to make or purchase their own glass, fill it with what they like, and see it as they please.

The Glass Half-Full Person is optimistic the barman is still serving.

The Glass would say, "I'm not 'a glass', I'm a perfectly formed drinking receptacle which happens to be 'made of glass', and if I had a penny for every time someone asked that question I would be overflowing."

Have a good day

[attributed to **Mohamed Shedeed** 2015]