

Community

It has been suggested that we add a page to the U3A Website called “Community” where members can show requirements or items that are of general interest to the U3A community in East London. If you have something you wish to include on this page, contact the U3A using the message facility on this site or email u3ael2020@gmail.com

The following is the sort of thing:

Work4aLiving East London

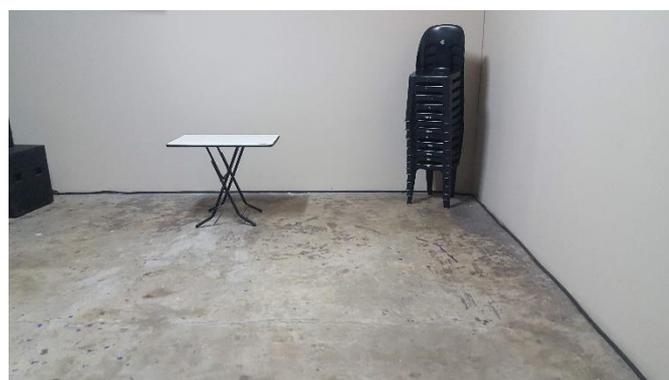
I have been associated with this operation for a year or two and have been a mentor to its facilitator Connie Zziwa. You will recall that she wowed us when she talked to us in July 2019. Do you remember those good old days when we met face to face at the croquet club and enjoyed tea and biscuits afterwards?

Due to Covid, I had not met Connie for over a year. I knew that she was having a difficult time, both coping with running classes in an epidemic, but also as a result of being asked to leave the church in Southernwood from which the project was operating.

I had a particular idea that I needed to discuss with her so felt brave enough to pay her a visit on the 7th of May at the premises the activity was now using.

This is in the Victory Church in a building in Station St, right opposite the main East London train station. She had warned me that this was not the best area in town and she came out into the street to escort me in. (Afterwards, she escorted me back to my car- a first for me as I am of the old school where the gentlemen escorted the lady) The church looked like a converted warehouse, but the podium was smart and the banner- 2021 Victory- Unwavering Faith-impressive.

The facilities that Work4aliving have there are extremely basic- a long narrow room for the lectures room, an office, an area for computers and a corner of the main auditorium for group meetings. Ventilation is provided by keeping doors and windows open.



How Connie and her assistant survived last year, I do not know (They basically operate on a no work, no eat basis) Since they started this year, they have been operating very slowly but things are starting to build up now with a number of young folk signing up for the basic course.

You will recall that they offer basic training in writing a CV, attending an interview, workplace practices and the like. They offer follow on specialist courses for such items as merchandising, cashier, waiter/waitress, PA, computers and even entrepreneurship

They operate on absolutely minimal equipment. The principal asset is a Data Projector, which now they are having to project on a wall in the absence of a screen. They have a need for second hand Laptop or Desktop computers. They are using Windows 7, but the learners require experience



with Windows 10.

The success of the operation is amazing, Connie told me that they had recently placed 15 young folk with KFC. She was taking 10 people to Woolworths for job requirements next week.

Those who met Connie at St Andrews will recall her bubbly personality, her sense of humour and her determination to make a difference. I can assure you that despite the battering of 2020, that attitude is still there, coupled with her absolute Christian Faith. It is a privilege to be able to offer her some support.

If anyone has a cast off computer or screen that this group could have, it would be appreciated.

Please contact John Stoddard 082 466 7095 or johnstoddard35@gmail.com

NB. Due to the location of the Victory Church, security is high and there is a full time caretaker on the premises.

JS 13 05 2021