

## YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

LANEWAY  
LEARNING

**FIND OUT ABOUT THE WEIRD AND WONDERFUL CLASSES ON OFFER WITH LANEWAY LEARNING**

Ever wanted to learn about worm farming, phonetics, neuroplasticity or playing the ukulele? These are just a few of the weird and wonderful classes that Laneway Learning has hosted since 2012.

Melbourne caught up with one of the organisers, Michael Patterson, to find out what makes Laneway Learning so different.

**'... people get to share their knowledge and they in turn encourage others, knowledge should be for everyone no matter what age ...'**

'Laneway Learning helps make learning fun and encourages people from all walks of life to come along and experience something new. Our informal classes are taught by regular people who have a passion for a particular subject and want to share it with others. We also keep classes

small with a maximum of 24 people. We currently have two venues - Shebeen cafe and Little Mule cafe. This allows people to have a drink and meal if they want and the classes are all \$12 which is affordable for most budgets.

'It's still early days for Laneway Learning but Melburnians love it with most classes booking out quickly. We are leading the way in providing a huge variety in our classes, our motto is anything and everything, and we have expanded Laneway Learning interstate into Sydney and recently Brisbane.'

Michael sees learning as a life-time activity rather than finishing after formal education.

'It fills a gap that traditional educational venues don't cover. The exciting thing is that people get to share their knowledge and they in turn encourage others, knowledge should be for everyone no matter what age.'

Michael and the other organisers are looking at more ways to build on partnerships and encourage people to get involved.

'As the demand for classes increases, we are starting to explore partnerships with other venue owners. We also try to tie in our classes with what's happening in the Melbourne events scene.

'In 2013 we were part of City of Melbourne's Knowledge Week and had a 'new technology' theme for all our classes during that time.'

**'It's all about providing people with the opportunity to enjoy learning...'**

Michael is enthusiastic about the future of Laneway Learning.

'It's all about providing people with the opportunity to enjoy learning for the sake of it and that will always be popular.'



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT  
[www.bit.ly/MELBlanewaylearn](http://www.bit.ly/MELBlanewaylearn)

