



Benalla and District Inc.

Newsletter – July 2017

U3A Benalla & District Inc

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Please send all newsletter items for the newsletter to newsletter@u3abenalla.com by Wednesday 16 August

President's Report

At long last the move to our shared premises, the Senior Citizens and Community Centre, has taken place. I thank the Executive for the packing up of W4 and the unpacking into our new rooms. Thank you does not seem enough for the great amount of work Terry Dillon has done setting up our computer. We are going to enjoy the wonderful back-drop to our room in every season. We have had some interesting feedback about how the room is working. All feedback is welcome but no changes will be made until we have had time to settle in.

Possible new courses for 2018 include:

- Recorder for Beginners (Convenor required)
- Easy Exercising (Convenor required)

Please consider if you have the expertise to help with these courses.

Government House runs tours and if there is enough interest I will arrange a tour. Tour is free but there will be cost for the bus. (35 people maximum)

There will be a formal opening of our new premises when the Council finds a suitable time.



Our New Facility

Dorothy Webber President

Group Reports

Armchair History

We have reviewed the importance of crusades, saints, martyrs and pilgrimages in the lives of Europeans in the period 1066-1300, next we look at Church attitudes to sex. We will also examine the reign of King John's son Henry III, who plunged England into civil war.

Please note that Semester 2 Armchair History will now start at 1.30pm

Terry Case

Armchair Traveller

Yes, the timetable for Semester 2 left September 19 out, **but it is on!** Reina and I are apologies, but Bill Parris, backed up by Rupe Cheetham, has agreed to act as Convenor. Armchair Traveller for September 19 will be a colourful presentation on Papua New Guinea of a recent visit by Judy Perry. The video features a dramatic journey around many of the islands. It covers: the dances, music and festivals of the Trobriand Islands, interviews with local village schools and a commentary on their subsistence lifestyle, WW2 history of the Battle for Milne Bay, The Battle for Rabaul including its tunnels, wrecks and War Memorials and the volcanic destruction of Rabaul after the 1994 eruption as well as a visit to the volcanology centre. Also a

brief look at Honiara, the Solomon Islands capital, and the Folkloric Festival. There is something of interest for everyone in this presentation

John Avery

Art Appreciation

A cold rainy day saw us gathered at the Gallery to hear Bryony discuss the photographic exhibition:

The Body's Terrain. The exhibition enabled us to explore the many and varied ways the human form can be depicted. Female photographers were represented by a number of enigmatic studies reinterpreting women as a contemporary Eve or insignificant figures of men and women bathing at the base of a waterfall (Janina Green). Julie Rapp's comic study of herself with a horse's tail challenged the idea that women always need to be beautiful. Tim Silver's four panels of an increasingly crumbling prone sculpture of himself spoke movingly of the body's inevitable decay through time.



We spent some time viewing Bill Hanson's photo *Cupid and Psyche*, a dark reinterpretation of a c19th French painting. Two young lovers engrossed in each other's arms, surrounded by old car bodies and shadowy figures in the dark. Not everyone's cup of tea...but quite a few felt it showed young love in a striking but beautiful way.

The three studies of the body as landscape (David Moore) melded the concept of low hills with the sinuous curves of the female form. Like other photos in this exhibition these studies showed only parts of the human form, departing radically from the formal depictions of nude figures painted as full-frontal figures. Altogether a satisfying morning's viewing with members participating in lively discussions.

Meg Dillon

Bird Watching

Not meeting this month. Next meeting in September

Kathy Costello

Brain Games

While showing talents in memory, cryptic clues, web throwing and especially life drawing, we still seem a little cowed by number puzzles and may need to give those cells a spell. We need challenges but success is important too! Stretch, relax and later try a fresh look at a daunting puzzle

Elsbeth Maconachie

Bushwalks

Here are the details of July's Bushwalks. The Easy walk was cancelled, but I have included a photo of the Rocky Ned falls, which was running quite well. I have also included 4 photos of the Seven Creeks - Balmattum Hill walk for you to pick from.

Easy Walks

The easy walk to Rocky Ned Falls was cancelled due to weather and track damage caused by trail bikes

Mid Week Walks

Seven Creeks / Balmattum Hill



Vaughan led a group of ten from BBQ area in Euroa, along the Seven Creeks Walking Track. From "The Rockies", a sandy bend with large boulders and an interesting bridge, we set off under the freeway & up the Balmattum Hill Walking Track. The climb was picturesque and warming, the slippery track a little treacherous, but everyone survived. We passed piles of small rocks, which WWII soldiers had carried up in training exercises. Eventually we all made it to a high point on Balmattum Hill, with magnificent views. Lunch was eaten in the lee of lovely granite boulders, then we carefully descended, and followed the North track by Seven Creeks. Back at the cars we were grateful to those who provided walnut cake & Tim Tams. A group of escapees from Violet Town Nursing centre occupied the next picnic table, and roped Bev in to describe our walk.



I recorded the walk as 7.8km, being 4km up, with a slightly shorter return North of Seven Creek. Vaughan had previously recorded it as 7.3, so I might have wandered more. The part of Balmattum Hill we enjoyed is Crown Land, Balmattum Hill Bushland Reserve, 78.6 Ha, only a fraction of the entire hill. The actual point of the hill appears to be another 50 metres higher, 1.5km WSW of our luncheon spot.

Andrea Stevenson

Easy walk Wed Aug 2



Lower Ned Falls

I have heard that the Euroa Arboretum has recovered from several years of drought, so we will have a look. No climbing required for this walk. We will leave the usual car park at 9.45am.

Mid-week walk Wed Aug 9

Walk up the Salisbury Falls track to Mt Warby and then continue along the Alpine Views track to complete the circuit. If the weather is clear we should be able to see snow on the mountains. Helen Spinks will be leading this walk. We will leave Benalla at 9.30am and please ring Helen 5762 3223.

Vaughan Cowan

Chat n' Chew

A new venue for Chat 'n' Chew run by Catherine and Andrew from Hollywood Pizzas - Serendipity Café next to Rural City Council Offices Bridge St Benalla. They are delighted to have us and will offer a pre-booked menu. Please phone Shirley on 5762 6768 re attendance

Shirley Kearney

Collectors

Our Collectors group have not met this month due to our change of date but will meet on Monday 24th July at 10.00 am in the U3A room at the Seniors Community Centre. Our theme for this meeting will be 'blue and white' or whatever you would like to bring along.

Members were saddened to hear of the death of Jim Casey. Jim attended our last meeting of Collectors and brought along an exquisite figurine of a dairymaid milking a cow. A picture of this was included in the June Newsletter. Jim was a valued member of our group and will be sadly missed

Judith Borthwick

e-Book Group



Nakano Thrift Shop

The Nakano Thrift Shop is a work by a young Japanese writer Hiromi Kawakami, who has already made her mark on the Japanese literary scene. At the heart of the action, if it could be so described, are Mr Nakano, proprietor of a shop dealing in modest second-hand goods, and his two employees, Takeo and Hitomi. They have all taken refuge here away from the frenetic pace of life in Tokyo, and over the course of a year find out about each other's interests, desires, and secrets. A host of other characters inhabit the scene, bringing with them their memorabilia and the history they represent. Above all, this is a quietly joyous novel about second chances, and simple pleasures: Mr Nakano closes one business, but soon opens another; Takeo and Hitomi

renew their romance and find new jobs. This novel is so very Japanese, beautifully packaged, and a joy to read.

Helen Scheller

Exploring the Universe



Australia has signed a ten-year agreement with the world's most advanced visible light observatory, the 'European Southern Observatory.' This partnership will further strengthen ESO's programme scientifically and technically and will give Australian astronomers and industry access to their facilities.

ESO, the European Organisation for Astronomical Research in the Southern Hemisphere is an intergovernmental organisation with sixteen member-states. It has several huge observatories high in the Atacama Desert of Northern Chile. In one of the worlds driest places at an altitude of 2,635 metres there is little interference from atmospheric

conditions. In these ideal conditions, their advanced technology can rival the in-space telescopes. The Very Large telescope at Cerro Paranal consists of four individual telescopes each with a primary mirror of 8.2 metres across, which can be linked to form one very large telescope. An ESO press release said, "Australia's expertise in instrumentation, including advanced optics and fibre-optic technology is ideally matched with ESO's instrumentation program. This European-Australian collaboration will lead to fundamental new advances in science and technology that neither could hope to achieve alone."

Meanwhile here at Benalla, we studied the various types of smaller telescopes available to us and delved into the subject of 'Dark Energy.' Dark energy is a hypothetical form of energy that exerts a negative pressure, the opposite of gravity and is thought to be 72% of the Universe. Dark Energy cannot be observed but is presumed from observations of gravitational interactions between astronomical objects. In other words, dark energy is being blamed for the fact that the Universe is expanding!

We finished the afternoon with a film of *The Orion Nebula Re-visited*. The Orion Nebula is a huge cloud of interstellar gas and dust which is a vast region of star formation. The film began at the astronomy pad at Winton Wetlands where we viewed 'The Orion Nebula' through Rupe's telescope as a very small smudge, then progressed to the Very Large Telescope high in the rarefied air of the Atacama Desert of Chile. The last section of this film is the "Deepest Ever Look into the Orion Nebula," as seen by the ESO's very Large Telescope and well worth watching: [CLICK HERE](#)

Bev Morton

Film and Literature

This month we watched *Eddie the Eagle*.

Genre: Biography, Adventure, Drama

Plot: The story of Eddie Edwards, the tenacious British underdog ski jumper who charmed the world at the 1988 Winter Olympics.

Key Characters: Michael "Eddie" Edwards ([Taron Egerton](#)), Bronson Peary ([Hugh Jackman](#))

Filming Location: UK, Germany, Austria

Review: This was a "feel good" movie. One person commented that it was just what was needed after watching *The Handmaid's Tale* recently. While this was based on the true story of Eddie Edwards, the story had some strong messages about determination, growing up and redemption. The music contributed well to the atmosphere of the movie. There was a political/class aspect that seemed to part of the sports hierarchy that Eddie had to overcome. It would be a good movie to show young people who are striving for achievement. Generally, we rated the movie as 3-3.5 out of 5 – an enjoyable movie, but perhaps not one of the great movies.

Other comments: The locations were spectacular. It was noted that it was the female parts that were the most supportive and sympathetic to Eddie's struggle, although the coach he found did come around.

Our July session is on 9 August. We plan to watch the movie *The Third Man*, a celebrated British thriller. We will be in our new location at the Senior Citizens, and will start promptly at 1:00pm.

With all the movies we watch we can look at them as literature – literature in a different medium, that of film. This helps to focus the discussion, covering ideas around genre, characters, plot, but also adding the aspects that relate to film, such as cinemascope, music and atmosphere

Joy Shirley

Garden Appreciation

August we will have our winter break.

September 28

Meet in the car park at the back of our room at the Seniors building at 9.30. We will head off to visit the garden of Stan Robson and family at 19 Holmes Court Rutherglen. Please bring something for morning tea to share. Stan has offered to prepare our lunch. Please phone Gwen with any special dietary needs. Hot water, milk, tea and coffee will be provided.

October 26

Meeting in the car park at the back of our room at the Seniors building at 9.30. We will then visit the farm and cherry orchard of Valda Martin, 175 McLeans Lane Ruffly. The cherry trees will be in flower. Valda has a great display of patchwork and quilts. As usual bring something to share for morning tea and lunch is yet to be decided.

Can you let me know if you are attending these outings please? Phone Gwen 0438 627 010 or 5762 7017

Gwen Turner

Garden Team

Val's roses have been well dealt with (with a little extra assistance, thank you Shelley) while Frank and Kathy earned gold stars for dealing with weeds and vine. At the end of this month we will move to Harry Williams Drive and see what Lois would like done.

Elsbeth Maconachie

In the Mood for Opera

Opera will resume in October. Meg will email participants on her return.

Meg Dillon

Investment

Our July Investment meeting was one of the first meetings of U3A in the U3A room at the Seniors Community Centre. The Smart TV provided by the Benalla Rural City Council showed remarkable clarity and will be very much appreciated by our members. However, to assist with better vision of the screen an alternative seating arrangement in the room will be tried at our next meeting.

Being the July meeting we looked at the performance of the various sectors of the ASX and also at the ASX Indexes over the past financial year. For interest we studied the figures achieved by some major overseas Indexes for the same period.

Exchange Traded Products or ETPs occupy only a small proportion of the ASX. However, interest in ETPs appears to be increasing partly due to prolific marketing by US firms involved with ETPs. We looked at some high yielding ETPs and also at the variety of ETPs which are available to the investor on the Australian market.

Our final topic for the afternoon was Managing Financial Risk in Share Transactions. This is an important area for those investors seriously involved in the share market.

The next meeting of Investment will be on Friday 4 August 2017 at 1.30pm

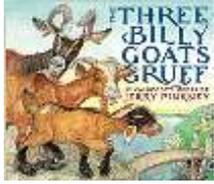
Margaret Jenkins

Let's Talk Books

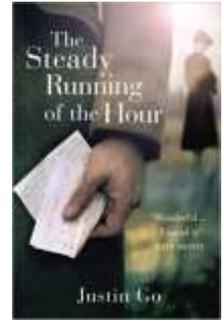
On an extremely cold and wet afternoon twelve of our group met and discussed our “doings” for the month.

Some had not picked up a book being busy with their knitting etc. However quite a few books were discussed, The Steady Running of the Hour, Chillway Ladies Choir, Penguin Bloom and Chaucer to name a few.

I have just finished reading a book I consider to be the saddest book I have ever read, and I have to admit that now I think about the riots in our juvenile detention centres in a different way.



On a brighter note our conversation went on to discuss how we learnt to read, and the stories we read, The Hobyards and Three Billy Goats Gruff, were foremost in our minds.



Geraldine McCorkell

Lifeball

We have been going, and growing, strongly, despite the cold mornings. Having to install the metal goalposts each week is especially uncomfortable on the frosty mornings, but, grizzling and moaning, it is done to everyone's satisfaction each week. We play about five games each Monday morning, and at the end of that time, everyone is thoroughly warmed up, although the laughter is enough to warm anyone!! We have had a couple of players - Thelma and Beth - who are on the unwell list, and we send them all our best wishes for a full recovery in the fullness of time. We miss them both, especially Thelma who is undergoing chemotherapy, and we hope to see her back one day, before too much longer! At the end of August there will be a special day - Benalla will be hosting an Umpires' Day, teaching those interested players how to be an accredited umpire, and refresh those players who have done the course but who need to update their rules, both with theory and practice. It is a long day, and the lovely Colleen (a master trainer, from Albury,) will be here to oversee the day. This means there will be more umpires to assist on Fun and Friendship Days, when umpires have been scarce on the ground in the past

Marg Merriman 5762 2967

Meet and Mingle

Marcus Bolger moved to Benalla from Melbourne with wife Kirstin last August.

He commenced work as a cadet engineer with Kraft Foods Limited in 1970 and completed an Engineering degree part-time. After 17 years with Kraft as a Senior Engineer, Marcus changed course in his career and joined a firm of Patent and Trademark Attorneys in Melbourne and trained to become a Registered Patent and Trademarks Attorney.

The patent attorney profession has a profound effect on industry and commerce and Marcus gave a very interesting presentation of what a patent attorney is and does, and how they make a difference. Thank you Marcus



The Bolgers

Judith Borthwick

Music Appreciation

23 June, 2017

John presented the session commencing with Aurelio Magnani (1856 - 1921), composer, clarinettist and pianist. We played

- Melodica Romantica, Ricardo Bartoli pianist.
- Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770 - 1827), 7th Symphony played by Zagreb Philharmonic.

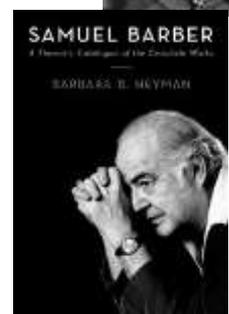
Les presented the second half of the session with a DVD of Edward Elgar (1857 - 1934) featuring his Cello Concerto with soloist, a very young Jaqueline Dupre conducted by her husband, a very young Daniel Barenbohm!

14 July, 2017

John presented a session of American music. The composers are:



Aurelio Magnani



- Edward MacDowell (1860 - 1908) Contemporary of Mahler, pupil of Liszt. We played Piano Concerto No. 2
- George Gershwin (1898 - 1937) we listened to the Opera, Porgy and Bess, Symphonic Picture.
- Samuel Barber (1910 - 1981) we played his Adagio for Strings, which he was most famous for. This was played by New York Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Toscanini.

Aaron Copland (1900 - 1990) - Billy the Kid (The Ballet)

Joan Visvader

Patchwork

Our first patchwork day at our new home was an enjoyable day. Work continues on our yearly project and we did have cake. We are looking forward to many happy days stitching with our beautiful outlook from our new room

Dorothy Webber

Play Reading

Our July session was held in the Library as the new meeting room at the Benalla Seniors Community Centre wasn't available and the group couldn't wait another month to meet! The play was the second of Terence Rattigan's 'Separate Tables', 'Table 7'. 'Table 7' explores the complex friendship between two lonely, desperate people— Miss Railton Bell, the repressed unmarried daughter of a dominating mother and Major Pollock, apparently an upper-class retired army officer, who is likely to be charged with sexually harassing women



At The Library

at a local cinema. We became quite immersed in reading this absorbing, complex play in the sunny far corner of the library. Jane, a friend of Jenny's, joined us and took on a part for the day. Next session will be 'The Putting Down of Ned Kelly' by Melbourne playwright Len Kenna. This play premiered at Benalla's 'Felix' festival in 1995. Len Kenna has asked if he can join us to hear our play reading!

Bev Lee

Politics and Current Affairs

President Trump's latest Twitterings dominated our Politics class, together with thoughts of nuclear war being stirred by the North Koreans. *The G20 Summit was remarkable for America's* abdication of a leading role in Western leadership. It leaves the way open for China & Russia, two authoritarian regimes to dominate the world stage. Many American allies are left doubting their security pacts and wondering which of Donald's speeches/twitters to believe.

We had time to consider the turmoil in the Federal Liberal Party, with an ex Liberal Senator speaking on the topic "The party is over". Not helpful Cory! Tony is also trying to be helpful, or so he claims.

We tried out the new TV and computer in the second part of our class looking at a documentary on Turkey. We liked the picture, but some thought the TV is positioned a bit low. We will tryout different seating arrangements for the next class to overcome this.

On a sad note, many of us missed James Casey's inputs, he was a long-standing member of this group that was established 17 years ago.

Terry Case

Singing for Fun

Joyce Borschmann's Singing for Fun group had the privilege of being the first general session conducted in the U3A room at the Seniors Community Centre on Thursday 6 July 2017. A rousing rendition of "Seventy-Six Trombones" conducted by Brian Greed commenced what will hopefully be a very pleasant singing experience for our members.

During the same session we also enjoyed some community singing conducted by Faith Hicks.

Our piano has made the move successfully as shown by the skills of our pianist Gwen Barnes.

The first meeting of the Harmony group in the new room produced some great harmony particularly in the rendition of "Sweet and Low" chosen by Margaret Merriman. The ability of the Harmony group to blend together appears to be improving month by month.

The next meeting of the Singing for Fun Group will be in the U3A room on Thursday 3 August 2017 at 10am.

Margaret Jenkins

Tech Savvy

Tech Savvy Beginners

YES! Tech Savvy Beginners continues in Semester 2.

- How do I pay bills online?
- How does PayPal work?
- How do I make hotel reservations?
- Do you have questions like these?
- What is a travel blog?

We may be able to help with and answer these questions and more.....

Topics include

- Money on your devices.
- Making travel easier
- Let's play games
- Learning and Leisure

Apple Users

- August 2nd, 16th
- September 6th, 20th

Android Users –

- October 4th, 18th

November 1st, 15th



Pay by Phone

Jenny Sawyer

Tech Savvy Plus

There is no Tech Savvy Plus during July, August & September. Terry will contact participants in September.

Terry Dillon

Tech Savvy Talks

'Coding' is currently in the news, with a push to have more young people learn coding to empower them to create sites, programs and apps. Another form of coding, and code breaking, became an imperative during World War II, when Dr Alan Turing and his team at Bletchley Park in the UK sought to understand and break Germany's 'enigma' code and developed a machine to counter it. We watched the excellent movie *'The Imitation Game'* which follows the story of mathematician, cryptanalyst, war hero and pioneer of modern-day computing Turing as he and his team sought to break the Enigma Code. All considered *'The Imitation Game'* worth viewing - it is available on loan from the Benalla Library. Items raised by this month's Rustik discussion group included Facetime (Les); a 256 USB flash drive which connects to standard USB and phones (Terry); the NBN (Peter) and the interconnector to South Australia (Len). Facetime, which is used by a number of U3A Benalla members, can only be used between two Macs of one form or another. Either WIFI or the mobile network can be used but using the mobile network would incur a charge depending on how long the call was and the users plan and how much data was left on the plan. For example, a one-hour call would use approximately 150 MB of data. If the call triggered the need for more data capacity then worst case for Telstra, \$10 would be required for 1GB. This compares with \$60 being required for a mobile voice call for one hour. Skype, Duo or Messenger would give similar results. WIFI is generally of much greater capacity and 150 MB would not impact it very much if at all and would be virtually free. Regarding the interconnector to South Australia, many of us envisage lattice steel towers with wires on them which might fall over in the wind. Actually, there are 180 kilometres of two high voltage DC cables from Red Cliffs in



Victoria to Berri in South Australia, very securely buried in the ground and completely safe from all the bad weather that could be thrown at them

Bev Lee & Les Rodgers

Towards a Sustainable Future

Our fortnightly sessions focus on monitoring well researched media reports of developments related to a sustainable future, however we do share anecdotes of interest. This month Brian Howard reported on taking the opportunity, while spending a few nights at the RACV resort in Cobram, to test drive an electric vehicle made available by the RACV. The car in question was a [2012 Nissan Leaf](#). He found the experience well worthwhile, commenting on the quietness and driveability of the vehicle; but also noted his concern, when monitoring the battery indicators on the return to Cobram from Yarrawonga, as to whether he and Margaret would make it back. They did! On another note entirely, it is with great sadness that members of this group learnt of the death of class member Jim Casey at Box Hill Hospital. At our meeting on the third Friday in June, we thoroughly enjoyed hearing Jim Casey and Frank Dunin engaging with gusto in their customary intellectual teasing and repartee. Then, at our next class on July 7, we were to share the news that Jim had passed away. It will be so sad not to have Jim with us as we continue to explore issues related to sustainability. A number of us attended the beautiful service for Jim at Moorngag during which flocks of white birds flew past, high in the sky, as we remembered him.

Bev Lee

Wine Appreciation

Next Wednesday July 26 we will be visiting Gehrigs Winery with lunch at King River Café. Meet at Barkly Street parking area (old tennis courts) for a 10:30am getaway. Contact Keith Rogers on 5762 4086 to book your spot.

Keith & Heather 5762 4086

Writing Workshop

Our most recent topic was 'Rebellion'. Although most of us considered ourselves not to be particularly rebellious, we all came up with memorable occasions when we did, in fact, react to unfairness with righteous indignation and decided to rebel! We will be sharing '[Travel Tales](#)' in late July '*Everyone has at least one good travel story to tell. Share your best story of adventure or misadventure in 500 words or less*'. Coming up in our regular late August meeting – '[Odd One Out](#)' '*Have you ever felt like you didn't fit in? Too old or too young? Wrong clothes or different culture? Write about a time you felt out of place and why*'.

Our Semester 2 plan to include a 'Creative Writing' workshop in the U3A Meeting Room prior to our coffee and conversation catch up at the Northo is now underway. Helen Duggin is facilitating a workshop in the U3A Meeting Room from 1 to 2.15 pm for members keen to develop creative writing skills. The group will head to the Northo to join 'As Time Goes By' memoir writing regulars for coffee between 2.30 and 3.30 pm

Bev Lee

Farewell W4



It was with mixed feelings that many of us farewelled W4. It had been home to our courses for many years. Members had shared learning experiences there as well as meeting and sustaining new friendships. We had come to enjoy sharing what had been 'The Centre' with the young people and teachers of the Benalla Flexible Learning Centre. The building had effectively become a community learning hub offering programs for young people and older people.

Brad Hearn from the Flexible Learning Centre called in after the final session of Armchair History to say farewell and spoke of the

way in which students at the Flexible Learning Centre had benefitted from seeing older people coming to W4 so keen to keep learning.

Brad also explained that the Flexible Learning Centre would like to mark our farewell, offering their services as baristas in providing a coffee morning. The only group still to use W4 was the Politics class. The farewell

event was soon organised with Terry Case, and towards the end of the final Politics class in W4 Michelle Ramage, Brad Hearne, and students served coffee accompanied by pikelets and biscuits cooked at the centre by participants in their program.

Michelle spoke about the Flexible Learning Centre, then two students spoke of their appreciation of the



The Last Words

support they have received at the Flexible Learning Centre and their hopes for the future. Terry Case followed on, wishing the students well for the future and thanking the FLC for providing a fitting celebration to mark the end of our time in W4.

A few days later, the packing began, the moving trucks arrived, and W4 was emptied out ready for refurbishment by the expanding Flexible Learning Centre. As reports in this newsletter suggest, our new meeting room in Fawckner Drive is now in use and, resilient beings that we are, we are already enjoying our time

there. But we will always have fond memories of W4!



Corrie, Cheryl, Lorraine & Dorothy

Bev Lee

Vale Jim Casey

Jim was a most valuable member of the Benalla U3A Group. He joined several the study groups within the organisation. Very interested in politics he joined the U3A Politics group. From all accounts and unsurprisingly he was a major contributor to discussions. Jim had an amazingly large memory of the past historical records of modern history and political history. Of equal amazement was his extraordinary capacity to recall historical quotes of prominent people of the past, events of the past and the issues of the day. Indeed, if there was any doubt on issues people would say "Let's ask Jim". Of course, he was nearly always right.

Jim loved a drop of quality wine and was a keen member of our Wine Appreciation Group. A favourite expression of his was "Let's lower the level of a bottle or two of red wine". He always had a few members to help with this pleasant task. His interest in a range of activities manifested itself through his involvement with the Benalla Hospital Flora Stall at the monthly Benalla Market. He was an original member of the U3A Astronomy Group; he was involved with the Sustainability Group; for a while ran the Film Appreciation Group. Jim had an extensive collection of video tapes of classic film of by-gone days and, of course, modern CDs. Again, his amazing capacity to recall facts was revealed when discussing films from yesteryear. He was involved with the Friends of the Benalla Library and contributed to the establishment of our new Library at the old Civic Centre.

People's lives were enhanced and intellectually elevated by having the pleasure of Jim for company in any group of which he was a member.

Vale Jim Casey – a special person.

Keith Rogers

Program News

New Course in Semester Two – 'Over There'

Do you like to read the Anzac Commemoration column in the Ensign each week? Would you like to find out more about 100th anniversary milestones in the months from July 1917 to the end of November 1917? Are you interested in sharing and finding out more about the experiences of relatives who fought in the final years of the First World War?

'Over There' is a new five session course being offered by John Barry. It will explore the following themes - 'How WWI began'; 'The aims of the parties – what were they trying to do?'; 'Changes in technology during the war'; 'Blockades, Famine and Terror'; and 'What happened at the end of the war?'

'Over There' has been timetabled on the third Friday of the month from 1.30 to 3.30 pm commencing on 21 July. Please contact Bev on 5762 8171 or bevelee47@gmail.com if you would like to put your name down.

'Legal Matters' This popular short course of 2 two-hour sessions on Wills, Powers of Attorney and Online Banking is being offered by retired lawyer John Barry on Mondays August 14 and September 11 from 10 to 12 in the U3A Meeting Room. To enrol, contact Terry Case 5762 1700 or email terence.case@gmail.com.

iPad and Tablet Loans A number of iPads and Samsung tablets have been returned and are now available for loan to members keen to discover if they would like to try and perhaps purchase one. Contact Bev on 5762 8171 if you are interested.

Bev Lee

Advanced Care Planning Course

Benalla U3A is offering a single session course on Advanced Care Planning in conjunction with Benalla Health on Monday 9 October 2017 between 10am and 12 noon in the U3A room at the Seniors Community Centre. In this session there will be two videos as well as discussion led by Ms Deb Smith, Community Health Nurse, Benalla Community Health. The session is designed to start the conversation regarding pre-determining Care options for when the recipient is not able to communicate their wishes with family and health care professionals. The first video is by Chris Thorne, an Aboriginal Support Worker, Koolin Balit and Lisa Guppy from Central Hume Primary Care Partnership. In the video Chris explains the dilemma his family faced when an elder had a massive heart attack and was unconscious and unable to communicate. Part of the film has been recorded in the Aboriginal Community Gardens on the Moira Reserve in Benalla.

The second video is recorded within the ICU (Intensive Care Unit) facility of Barwon Health. It shows the staff of that unit sensitively discussing the treatment options available for a severely ill patient with the patient's children and grandchildren.

The session follows two sessions by John Barry in August and September on the Wills, Power of Attorney and On-Line banking in a similar time slot.

Enquiries regarding the session may be made by contacting Margaret Jenkins on 5762 6944 or at margaretjenkins@bigpond.com

Margaret Jenkins

Community News

Information Centre - Call for Volunteers

Volunteers play an important role as ambassadors for the Benalla area. Tourism is going through an exciting growth period in the region and volunteering presents an excellent opportunity to contribute to the local community and help visitors make the most of their stay. You do not need to have lived in Benalla for a long time to volunteer. If you enjoy meeting and speaking with people, learning about the region and have time to give then join our enthusiastic, fun and friendly team. Please contact the Tourism Coordinator on (03) 5760 2627 or stop by the Visitor Information Centre in Mair St and have a chat about volunteering (Open 9am to 5pm daily).

Jenny McKenna

Some dates for your diary:

Christmas in July

Saturday the 29th July 2017

- Christmas in July at the Swanpool Memorial Hall
- Fund raiser for the Swanpool Oval Committee
- Delicious two course dinner plus drinks on offer.
- Ticket prices still to be determined but if any Members enjoyed our Christmas in July during the Bald Archy then you will also enjoy this Evening, the same Caterers and the same atmosphere.

Bald Archy Exhibition – Swanpool

Saturday the 26th August 2017 to 10th September 2017 (inclusive)

- 2017 Swanpool Bald Archy Exhibition

- Open 10:00am till 4:00pm daily
- Entry \$5.00 Adults and \$4.00 Concession
- Morning and Afternoon Tea plus a light Lunch and a main Lunch will be available however the menu has not been finalised as yet.

Surplus Equipment

When the dust settles on our move to the new location we will be stocktaking our equipment. Surplus or outdated equipment will be offered to members. Watch this space.

What's On

Tuesday, August 1

10:00am E-Book Group
10:00am Member Services Group
2:00pm Let's Talk Books

Wednesday, August 2

9:45am Easy Walks - Euroa Arboretum
9:45am Play Reading - 'The Putting Down of Ned Kelly'
1:30pm Tech Savvy Beginners - Apple - Money

Thursday, August 3

10:00am Singing for Fun
1:00pm Patchwork

Friday, August 4

9:30am Towards a Sustainable Future
1:30pm Investment

Monday, August 7

10:00am (Benalla Computer Club)
10:00am Lifeball
10:00am Art Appreciation
1:30pm Brain Games

Tuesday, August 8

10:00am Politics & Current Affairs

Wednesday, August 9

9:30am Bushwalking - Mt Warby circuit
10:00am Tech Savvy Talks
1:00pm Film & Literature - The Third Man
7:00pm In the Mood for Opera

Thursday, August 10

10:00am Harmony Group - Singing for Fun
1:30pm Executive

Friday, August 11

10:00am Music Appreciation
1:30pm Armchair History

Monday, August 14

10:00am Legal Matters
10:00am Lifeball
1:00pm Writing Workshop – Creative Writing
2:30pm Writing Workshop - Cafe Catchup Northo
2:00pm Garden Team

Tuesday, August 15

1:30pm Exploring the Universe

Wednesday, August 16

10:00am Meet and Mingle – Ken Jenkins - Benalla Camera Club
12:00pm Newsletter Deadline
1:30pm Tech Savvy Beginners – Apple users - Travel

Thursday, August 17

10:00am Singing for Fun
1:00pm Patchwork

Friday, August 18

9:30am Towards a Sustainable Future
11:45am Chat N Chew - Serendipity Cafe
1:30pm 'Over There'

Monday, August 21

10:00am (Benalla Computer Club)
10:00am Lifeball
1:30pm Brain Games

Tuesday, August 22

10:00am Politics & Current Affairs

Wednesday, August 23

10:00am Wine Appreciation - Red Feet Wines, King Valley
1:30pm Member Services Group

Thursday, August 24

10:00am Garden Appreciation - Winter Break
3:00pm Tech Savvy Talks at Rustik Cafe

Friday, August 25

10:00am Music Appreciation
1:30pm Armchair History

Saturday, August 26

10:00am Bald Archy Exhibition

Sunday, August 27

10:00am Bald Archy Exhibition

Monday, August 28

10:00am Bald Archy Exhibition
10:00am Collectors
10:00am Lifeball
1:30pm Writing Workshop – Odd One Out

Tuesday, August 29

10:00am Bald Archy Exhibition

Wednesday, August 30

10:00am Bald Archy Exhibition

Thursday, August 31

10:00am Bald Archy Exhibition

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Our thanks go to Steph Ryan MP and the staff at her Benalla Office for the printing of this newsletter.