



Benalla and District Inc.

Newsletter – June 2023

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Please send reports for the newsletter to newsletter.u3abenalla@gmail.com by 25 June 2023

President's Report

Semester 2 commences in July 2023. We are pleased to announce the return of the popular five-session course *Demystifying Psychology*, convened by Jane Rushworth and held in our U3A room on the third Tuesday from 10am to 12 noon. If you would like to attend, please phone Jane on 0437 621 575.

Members should note that the *Demystifying Psychology Discussion Group* is now meeting in the back room of the Ruby Blue Café on the 3rd Thursday from 2pm to 4pm. The *Photography* course run by Rene Martens is having a break over winter and will reconvene late September. *Tech Savvy Beginners* will cut back to two sessions on the 1st and 2nd Thursdays 10am to 12 noon whilst *Tech Advice* will continue with Robyn and Jenny by appointment. *Chat'n'Chew* is moving to the second Friday as from the June meeting, while *Cards '500'* has offering an extra session on the first Wednesday from 2 to 4 to its regular session on the 3rd Wednesday.

We would like to thank the Convenors of courses finishing at the end of Semester 1 which have been enjoyed by U3A members, and hope that these courses will restart in 2024. The courses which are ending at the end of Semester 1 include "*Enjoying the Internet*" run by Dawn Stephens, "*Be Connected --Managing Money Online*" run by Jenny Sawyer and Robyn Lukey and "*Tech Savvy Apple – Pages*" run by Jenny Sawyer.

U3A Benalla would like to thank the Benalla Rural City Council for the Grant of \$1250 recently received towards the purchase of our new photocopier. Whilst this is less than we applied for, we appreciate that Council has given 32 grants to community organisations.

At the May U3A Benalla Committee meeting it was decided to defer the time tabling of regular office hours at the U3A office until January 2024. In the meantime, notices are going to be put up on entrance doors giving phone numbers where U3A can be contacted.

On 26th April Geraldine and I met with Greg Robertson and Elise Wood from the Facilities Department of the Benalla Rural City Council to discuss the Submission which U3A Benalla had made to Council regarding more space in future years. We discussed options for expansion to the north or south of the building, and also the possibility of going upwards.

None of this is going to happen unless there is a large grant available from either the State or Federal Government. But at least we have got our future requirements documented and on the BRCC Council Plan. At the conclusion of our discussion, we were told that we will get a time slot at a future Council meeting to present our case for expansion to the Councillors.

We also discussed the naming of this building. In the past this building has been known as the Benalla Senior Citizens and Community Centre. But times have changed, and U3A Benalla are a significant group sharing the building. So, we floated the idea of changing the name of the building to the Benalla Seniors and Community Centre. There was no opposition from the Council representatives.

Subsequently we met with representatives of the Council and Senior Citizens, and Val Burke, President of the Senior Citizens, was also agreeable to the change in the name of the building. This is a significant step forward. However, it still needs to be ratified by the CEO and the Councillors of the BRCC.

Margaret Jenkins

Group Reports

Art Appreciation

On the 1st Monday in May we were privileged to listen to Mike Nicholls tell us about his life and his artistic career. Mike sculpts from single pieces of wood. Some large - some small. Some are very large. It is not always obvious that they are one single piece of wood. His aim is to visually express commentary on such issues as the futility of war, concern for the environment, and indicating humanity's spiritual self. Mike was able to go into detail about his technique and we saw a series of slides giving a true indication of his work. Mike explained that it's virtually impossible to attach two pieces of wood together and expect that the wood will stay attached. The finished product will reveal itself as the sculpture progresses. It is always inside the piece of wood. This is the same with all sculpture. Mike also acquainted us with the brutal realities of pursuing an artistic passion. To start work on a project he first has to arrange the finance. And he has to allocate time. He has the same responsibilities as most people and his family always must come first. Nevertheless, he has managed to carve himself a career that has spanned several decades and he has been awarded accolades for his efforts. He has succeeded in his endeavours.

Join us at *'First Mondays'* at the Gallery on June 5th, at 10 am for an artist talk by self-confessed revhead, artist Eoman O'Toole, coinciding with his major exhibition *Hot Lap*.

Neville Gibb

'As Time Goes By' – Memoir Writing

This month we welcomed James into our group. Our session also opened windows onto memoirs yet to be written.

But first we feasted, thankfully figuratively and not literally, on bugs and insects.

Bev invited us to share childhood and other memories of 'creepy crawlies'. Introduced by an internet account of the destruction of a white cedar tree by larvae of the White Cedar Moth, other group members catalogued home invasions by other infestations. To balance the horror, we were introduced to a pet rat which, for some, did not relieve the discomfort.

Heather began, sharing two personal memoirs on subjects carried over from previous weeks. The first memoir described **precious objects** which included a gift bible received during Queen Elizabeth's coronation and black and white photos of Heather's grandparents. Under threat from natural disasters, Heather shared her priorities of 'people, pets, photos, and then precious objects....If she had time, clothes were included'. Her second memoir revealed why Heather is so often invited to deliver an **Anzac Day** address.

In Barry's absence, Bev read his memoir on **'learning from history'**. For Barry, trust in others has been essential in his functioning as a community leader. After some disappointments though, he has learnt to be a little cynical of enthusiastic offers and waits to assess the quality of community service offered.

Bev followed with her memoir of learning to knit from her grandmother. From plain and pearl to rib and moss stitch, Bev shared the joy of making a pom pom for her first knitted beanie. Learning to knit and crochet taught Bev that perseverance can lead to valued outcomes, whether a beautiful Afghan rug or a website with posts of group newsletter reports and stories patiently compiled each month to record Benalla U3A activities.

Graham followed the theme of 'learning from history' by blending his move to Benalla, with the adage that 'when you look behind you, you see the future in your footprints'. In retrospect, Ray celebrated the Apollo 11 success in landing a man on the moon. Yet also questioned what impact the 100 billion (today's dollars) spent on this project would have on world homelessness.

Under the topic, 'shaped by childhood', Neville shared with admiration the work ethic of both his mum and dad and his mum's enjoyment of family and the acknowledgement of his dad's 'war hero' status. Yet Neville also acknowledged that without a work schedule he has a sense of loss and his dreams reflect his struggle to embrace a post-employment lifestyle.

From a very different perspective, Phil recounted his and his family's experience as migrants from the United Kingdom. The separation of family between the Melbourne migrant centre and Lady Northcote Farm School would have lifelong impacts on his family, only hinted at within this memoir. What he experienced and what he learnt, has been left for further memoirs.

James 'reached for the sky' with a narrative of a journey begun by admiring a top-dressing aircraft as a young boy, and concluded by traversing the Pacific in a Hawker Siddeley Andover as an RAAF pilot. His conclusion acknowledges that which 'shaped his childhood', yet also leaves open the door for further exploration.

Finally, Carmyl shared a delightful recounting of 'making do' on a limited budget and a plentiful garden. The 'cook and the gardener', her parents, were clearly multi-skilled and much of the food preparation and storage skills have been 'handed down'. If we can source a wood stove, would Carmyl offer a cup of 'beef tea'?

July's 500 words topics - 'I Changed My Mind...' "Describe a time when you changed, or had your mind changed, perhaps through some advice, direct or indirectly received. Describe the context in which this happened, and what opportunities (hopefully) resulted as a result of this".

Alternative - 'I quit' "We've all quit something - a job, a musical instrument, a food group or a bad habit. Tell us your story of quitting. What brought you to breaking point? Was it exhilarating or challenging to quit? What strengths did you draw upon and how did people react? What new opportunities were created once you quit?"

Graham Jensen

Australian History

At our last two meetings we concentrated on the status quo when the first fleet arrived. Amongst the talking points presented to the class -

1. Why was Australia judged to be Terra Nullius? It is a mystery as to why this happened as it was obvious that there were human beings present. It is salient to note that only Antarctica and two other small parcels of land have also been deemed to be Terra Nullius.
2. It was obvious that both the local inhabitants and the newcomers wanted the same land. It was obvious to both the newcomers and the indigenous people which land was the best. Conflicts were inevitable.
3. There were 162,000 convicts transported to Australia.

We will continue to concentrate on the circumstances occurring when settlement started.

Neville Gibb

Bird Watching

With our leader away in May, an alternative bird-outing was attended by four of the group; a wander around a paddock near the Hollands Creek, often frequented by a lovely flock of Red-Browed Finches. We saw & identified quite a few birds... but not a single Red-Browed Finch graced us with their presence.



Our bird list for the day:

Currawong (heard), Cockatoo, Galahs, Fairy wrens, Black faced cuckoo shrike – seen flying, White Faced Heron, Magpie, Red Wattle Bird, Crimson Rosella, White Plumed Honeyeater, Kookaburra, Grey Fantail
Probable Grey Shrike Thrush?

Andi Stevenson

Next outing - Shadforth Reserve, Violet Town on Thursday 8th June

I was unable to run our May outing as I was enjoying a birdwatching trip to the Gulf of Carpentaria. Thanks, Andi Stevenson for hosting an informal bird walk May during my absence. This June trip to Shadforth Reserve is an extra in our program, as promised during our visit to Reef Hills in April.

Shadforth Reserve, on the northern outskirts Violet Town, supports an interesting variety of birdlife. One reason is that it contains a nice mix of grassland, some very old Grey Box and River Red Gums, a planted Community Forest and a few dams. In a past life, it has been a racecourse and a golf course. One bird I am especially looking for is the Grey-crowned Babbler, a known resident of the reserve.

Please meet in the car park behind the Seniors Building at 9.30am on Thursday 8th June, for the drive to Violet Town. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water and any food you need for the morning. I am hoping we will also have time for a coffee in Violet Town after the walk.

Kathy Costello

Brain Games

The usually bustling U3A room takes on a Bletchley Park like hum on the fourth Tuesday of the month as finely tuned minds tackle relatively pointless code cracking.

Elsbeth Maconachie

Bushwalking – Easy Walks

May report: Lake Sambell, Beechworth

The great Billy Connolly has said that there is no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothing, and a group of intrepid walkers certainly put that to the test as we dodged intermittent showers in our search for some autumn colour. Our first attempt sent us rushing back to Beechworth Bakery to thaw out, but we had more success after that, with a long walk along the Rail Trail from Albert Rd, and after a chilly lunch at the Lake picnic area, a walk through the Chinese Gardens and the sculpture trail.



The autumn leaves against the grey clouds were stunning, and a walk through the historic cemetery finished a pleasant day, with a total of 8.5km walked.

Wednesday June 7th: Winton Wetlands

This will be a walk of approx 6km return out along the dam wall to see the Mokoan ponds at their best, followed by a BYO picnic lunch and a shorter 2km walk at Green's Hill. We will then adjourn to the Hub cafe for some warming afternoon tea!

Meet at the Seniors' carpark at 9.30am, with prior confirmation to Julie by text, email or phone message on 0407823031 or juliemcneill55@gmail.com.

Remember drinks and a picnic lunch. Car sharing is usually available for a small contribution.

Wednesday 5th July: Eldorado Loop

This walk of approx 8kms will take us around the historic village of Eldorado, known for its gold mining past, including the huge Eldorado dredge. We will follow walking trails surrounding the town, which is well signposted with information about its interesting past. Lunch will be a picnic in the intriguingly named Gunhouse Park, either BYO or something hot from the general store opposite. Adjacent to the store is Victoria's smallest pub, the McEvoy Tavern, which may also attract our interest.

Meet at the Seniors' carpark at 9.30 am, with confirmation to Julie as above. Our walks can be impacted by weather, so keep an eye on the newsletter/webpage and emails for any changes.

Julie McNeill

Chat n' Chew

Could I just say how much I appreciated the lovely cards, phone calls, and chauffeuring I received in the last 5 months. It's great to be back though. Our next Chat & Chew will be at Kim Wah on 9th June, this is second Friday. Chat n' Chew will now be held on the second Friday of each month. Thank you, Dorothy, for filling in for me earlier this month. 🌸🌸

Lorraine Knox

Coin Collectors

This month was a little light on for Membership, with only three members attending.

1. We saw a good collection of Australian & International notes. Au \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10 & \$20. The \$5's & \$10's covered all four series. International notes from Fiji, China, Poland, Nicaragua, Guagua, Indonesia, Japanese WW2 Dutch Indonesian, Mozambique, Brazil, Ecuador, Bhutan, Zaire, Libya, Argentine & India.
2. 2015 six-coin proof set, with a gold 50c coin & a 2019 50th Anniversary set of the 50c Dodecagon coin, each of the five coins featured a different effigy of Queen Elizabeth.

We then tried something different, Noodling sheets we handed out and a noodling session was held, with \$100 worth of 50c coins, with one member having his first experience of Noodling.

David Lowing

Collectors



Buttons was the theme for the May meeting. Many and varied and they came from many sources – mothers, mothers-in-law, grandmothers and aunties as well as special buys in collectibles and button shops and at garage sales.

There were buttons with many themes represented: buttons from military and police uniforms, the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II and other commemorative occasions, animals, flowers, trains, covered buttons and those made from leather or mother of pearl, flowers, smiley faces – an almost unlimited range of designs and shapes.

Also featured was a framed topiary tree made out of beautiful buttons.

Some smaller collections were shown on the table, another lot in a big box and another large collection systematically stored by type in plastic trays.

Brooches is the theme for the meeting on June 5. You are welcome to join us for a fun time.

Janet Gourley

Community Singing

Community Singing for May was going to be at Freemasons. However, due to Covid cases associated with Freemasons, our Community Singing at Freemasons has been re-scheduled for Thursday 27th July at 10am.

In June Community Singing will be held at Coinda on Thursday 22nd June at 10am, and also at Estia Health on Thursday 29th June at 10am.

Margaret Jenkins

Creative Writing

It was good to be back together after missing a face-to-face class in April.

Hints/Challenge:

We discussed the issues that help us enjoy writing, and things that challenge us about our writing.

One of the ideas shared around enjoyment was finding out what would happen in the story – how the characters developed. A class member talked about how the characters fought her, wanting to go somewhere other than where she had planned and found this fun. Part of this discussion led to the difference between “Pantsers” and “Planners”. We discussed this last year, but it was new for people who had joined the class this year. “Planners” map out their story in advance, with the structure and characters defined at the start. “Pantsers” have a vague idea and then let the story unfold, with characters and structure finding their own way. Although all writing has a bit of each of these approaches.

One of the common problems was finding the right word. The thought is there, but it can be difficult to find the word they want, sometimes resorting to a thesaurus (on-line or hard copy) to find the best fit to create the picture or thought.

Our stories:

All our stories this month were good and from a writing perspective enjoyable, although not always having a pleasant topic or a happy ending. In each case though they worked for the story. A common theme for some was around religion, particularly religious hypocrisy. Others had a touch of humour or covered current events.

Prompts:

The prompts for our June class are:

- She didn't notice me watching her.
- My shoes are talking about me.
- We'd always agreed on the important things until ...

And now it is time to start writing for our June class, using one (or more) of these prompts.

Joy Shirley

Demystifying Psychology Discussion Group

Our group meets to discuss issues of psychological interest to the group and to apply psychological theoretical overlays as a way of understanding more about the topics.

Meeting at Ruby Blue gives us a private discussion space, opportunities to buy excellent coffee and cake, and enjoy fabulous care from the Ruby Blue team. Thank you to Daniel and Team.

Andrew's suggestion we prepare our obituary prompted varied responses and a full two hours of discussion. Some in the group spoke about what they would include if they did write their obituary. Some wrote and chose to keep that to themselves, and some wrote and shared.

We could relate to the simplicity of Andrew's intent to "walk softly in life" and Brian's "I did my best" – and all agreed neither aim is straightforward.

Thank you to Margaret who researched "Advanced Care Plans" on Benalla Health's website. It addresses the various aspects of this topic including Chris Thorne's 10-minute video on "Taking care of Dying Time ...". The Benalla Health site has references to similar Victorian government organisations that can also be found by googling Advance Care Planning Victoria. It is important to include Victoria as "legislation varies slightly from State to State."

Our page on the U3A website has more information on this session, including interesting references.

Next meeting – Thursday 15 June 2023 @ Ruby Blue Café (Nunn St) – 2:00pm to 4:00 PM. Note - Demystifying Psychology Discussion Group continues through to November 2023.

Starting on 18 July 2023, **Demystifying Psychology** "A five-session light-hearted course introducing psychology in everyday life and some of the theories that try to explain how and why we do things." Third Tuesday, 10 to 12, U3A Meeting Room. Recommended for those keen to join the Demystifying Psychology Discussion Group down the track!

Jane Rushworth 0437 621 575

Enjoying the Internet

At our May session we explored some more examples of how we use and enjoy the internet. There were nine of us and we used the iPad & phone with the U3A Wi-Fi and the TV screen to look at:

Entertainment. —ABC Listen App <https://help.abc.net.au/hc/en-us/sections/360000198495-ABC-listen-app> Various TV stations, iView etc You will need to log in, Smart TV, or older TV's using Chromecasts--plug into your TV via the HDMI port and it works with all major streaming apps like Netflix and Youtube; Netflix <https://www.netflix.com/au/> You will need to log in & have a subscription; *Music and Streaming services*--you can look at this guide by clicking on the link: [The Ultimate Guide to Every Australian Streaming Platform.](#)

Health - My Health – MyGov <https://my.gov.au> - you will need to sign in and will be sent a code to either your email or phone via SMS; *Access to blood tests, vaccinations etc*—my Health record- Are all doctors using it? Filing your Advance Care Document.

We also looked at some apps you may enjoy using your watch and/or phone for health, for example:

- o *Steps*—likely to have this App on your phone, (connected to a watch!!), for convenience and portability.
- o *Exercises* maybe you use YouTube or an App?
- o *Yoga* maybe YouTube or App?

QR= Quick Response Codes – We discussed QR codes and how to make them. We use QR Codes for flight tickets, theatre tickets. E-tickets can be printed out or saved to phone for scanning.

Photo books – We discussed <https://www.snapfish.com.au/store/home>, <https://www.vistaprint.com.au/>

We also looked at several useful Apps available on mobile devices. Compass, Mirror; magnify glass, Light, recorder, stop-watch, alarm, calendar, banking Apps, Stocard, Wallet.

Finally, a reminder that the full session notes for May (and previous session notes) can be reviewed on our page on the U3A website <https://u3abenalla.weebly.com/enjoying-the-internet>.

Dawn Stephens

Exercises for Fun

As Winter is approaching, some of our members are slowly opting to travel to warmer climates, and our Class numbers are reducing. Elly Smith, our Music Maker, has done a wonderful job organising our new tunes to use in our Class, including videos with new dance moves, and I thank her so sincerely. All members are welcome to join us every Monday in the Seniors Hall at 9.30am sharp. Have fun,

Helen Jeffree

Exploring the Universe

Catching up with the 'James Webb'

The James Webb Telescope has been in operation for nearly a year and in that time we have been presented with wondrous images. We have seen massive star nurseries cocooned in space dust, penetrated by the light of some of the brightest stars. But JWST has shown us there is sometimes a cuckoo in the nest. Areas of dust that protect these younger stars and their infant planets can be blasted away by powerful solar winds from young hot stars nearby that will inhibit stellar growth.

It was time for us to 'catch up' on some of the latest shared discoveries.

1. The *accelerated evolution of seven early galaxies* that are coming together to form a galaxy cluster, a mere 650 million years after the Big Bang!
2. *The Cosmic Seahorse*. Many early galaxies are scattered on the black background of space, mainly white oval shaped or red spiral galaxies. In the foreground is the distorted vision of an older galaxy cluster of around 6.3 billion light years away, that has been brought forward by gravitational lensing. This occurs when massive objects cause a curvature of the light of space time.
3. *Pandora's Cluster*. An image that shows nearby stars, distant galaxies 4 billion light years away and beyond.
4. *The Planet Uranus*, 7th in the Solar System, is a gas giant that rotates on its side with 27 moons and a spectacular ring system. A brilliant image captured by Webb.

These images amongst others are providing scientists with new areas of research.

We finished the afternoon with video of the startling first launch test of Elon Musk's Starship. The world's largest and heaviest rocket, Starship was successfully launched but malfunctioned after 4 minutes of flight and was blown up. The 17 million lbs thrust of the rocket dug a crater through the launch pad and hurled concrete boulders up to 500 metres. Sand rained down on the nearest town 10 km away. The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration is being sued by five environmental groups.

In contrast NASA have a somewhat amusing new invention, a snake robot that can handle difficult terrain.

References: NASA, JPL, Elon Musk, James Webb Telescope, ESA.

Take a tour of Pandora's Cluster. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aq3E4qFn3Dc>

Pan of Cosmic Seahorse. <https://esawebb.org/videos/potm2303a/>

Testing out JPL's New Snake Robot. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifCIDT4X9AM>

Bev Morton

Family Research - Beginners

One to one sessions have now come to an end for most beginners. Our first Thursday session continues to cover genealogical topics and skills while our second Thursday 'hands on' session provides mentoring and support for those who

- find it difficult to find time during the week to work on their family tree
- have a problem they would like help with,
- would like to practice something new covered on the First Thursday.

May's hands on session began with report backs, followed by the watching of an ancestry.com video 'Common Mistakes in Genealogy Part 2'. Group members felt this video was worthwhile and worth watching again. Group members had brought their devices, and after identifying the problem they wanted to work on, did so supported by mentors Deb and Bev.

The theme at our 'First Thursday' session in June will be using resources from the National Library, with a particular focus on Trove.

Bev Lee

Family Research - Intermediate

Our newly badged 'Intermediate' group, now meeting on the Third Thursday afternoon, has a hands-on focus, but with a 'pains and gains' catch up and theme for the day in terms of theory/practice

'Pains and Gains' in May included mentor Judy Barry's miraculous discovery of postcards from ancestors in a collectables/opp shop; Julie's gains and recommendations regarding Robert Kee's *'Ireland - A History'*, the book and the 12 part televised series available through You Tube; and Robyn's work and developing confidence in using ancestry.com 'Pay as You Go' credits (\$10.99 for 10 records) in tracking ancestors who worked with the English police force in India and their families. Robyn also read her story 'Anzac Day', recently added to her Family Stories collection.

In the last hour of the session, guest speaker Deb Saunders gave a fascinating presentation on 'The Earl Grey Scheme'.



Deb explored the context in which the scheme was set, then drew upon records documenting the processes it involved to highlight the possible experiences of her ancestor, Bridget Cain.

Bridget, an Irish orphan, sailed from Plymouth on December 31st, 1849, on the *Eliza Caroline*, arriving in Port Phillip on March 31st, 1850.

Deb, thank you so much for the thought and effort you put into your most informative presentation and the engaging way in which you delivered it.

Mentor Judy's queries to follow up this month include helping Mary to resolve a problem - were there two James Shortis's with different wives, or was there one James Shortis with two wives? With many children involved, there is scope for much duplication and confusion on ancestry.com if this is not resolved. Our next problem solving, hands on 'Third Thursday' session is on 15 June – 1 to 4 in the small classroom.

Bev Lee

Family Research - Advanced

With Bev and Barry unwell, along with lots of other apologies, Jane took on the full leadership role for the small but keen group of family researchers who arrived for class on the fourth Thursday. In Pains and Gains, Malcolm shared news of family history connections renewed and information gained while on a two-week family research focused trip to South Australia, while Sue described the gains she has made since joining the class in February. Barry had also sent in a rich list of Pains and Gains. In '[Unlocking a Puzzle](#)', her story in response to May's topic '*The clue or evidence that opened up my family story*' Deb described how taking another look at a Marriage Record, noticing the word 'Park' at the end of the line and wondering about its

significance opened up a family story for which the Beatles song 'Mull of Kintyre' could well have been the soundtrack. There was also time for Deb to share her research on the Earl Grey Scheme for Irish Orphans, among them her ancestor, Bridget Cain. By all accounts, the group had a great afternoon.

The topics for May's 'Family Stories' can be carried over to June if people were away but would still like to present them. June's topic - **Creatively writing family stories.... 'using the left side of your brain'!** Decide upon a person who is central or fairly central to your family history and an event or stage in their life which is particularly significant... Research into the period of time to add breadth and depth to the context in which you will be telling a story of a brief but significant time in their life... write it as a story using the tense/style of ['Elizabeth Pulley Sets Sail'](#). or from Graham Jensen's ['Leaving the Shore'](#).

Alternative topic 'Music and My Family Story...' Tell us about 'music' which has featured in your family story or which on hearing it helps you to explain your family story in some way. If you can, bring the music to play for the group – YouTube is a wonderful source! Explain how it relates to a particular family branch or member, their experiences, the historical period at the time.

Of course, if these topics don't excite you, there is always the 'member's choice' option!

Jane Rushworth

Film Discussion Group

We had no specific film to discuss this month. Instead, class members talked about a film they had watched during the month. When more than one person had seen the same film, this added to the depth of the discussion.

"Living" is a drama, starring Bill Nighy. In 1950s London, a humourless bureaucrat decides to take time off work to experience life after receiving a grim diagnosis.

Everyone who had seen the film found it excellent and worth seeing. Bill Nighy came across as living the part, not just acting. There is more dialogue than acting. The film gives a good impression of London in the 1950s. One of the other characters, Aimee (played by Margaret Harris), came across as charming and pleasant. Her role was as an ordinary young girl and which was appreciated.

One member of the class was able to catch up with **"Fabelmans"** which had been screened last year. It is a well-made film, with a useful message for teens – you can do this.

"Allelujah" is a drama, set in the geriatric ward in a small Yorkshire hospital threatened with closure. Some believe it a little confronting for an older demographic. The story has a bit of a twist towards the end. Jennifer Saunders takes on a much more serious role than she is often known for and plays a major character in the storyline. Others include Derek Jacobi and Judi Dench.

Performances were good, and it was an interesting depiction of an aging hospital. It is unclear as to when it is set, although after the closure of the hospital, one of the characters is seen in a more modern setting during the COVID period.

"Fisherman's Friends 2: One and All" is a comedy and drama. Following the success of their first album, the Fisherman's Friends struggle to adjust to their new-found fame and work towards a second album. It was a good entertaining film, with some great singing.

Finally, **"80 for Brady"** is a comedy that will screen at BPACC at the end of May and early June. It is light entertainment with some relevant messages. Stars are Lily Tomlin, Jane Fonda, Rita Moreno, Sally Field, so it cannot be all bad.

There are several films members of the class are interested in during May. These include **"AIR"**, the story of the development by Nike of the Air Jordan brand; **"John Farnham: Finding the Voice"**, a documentary; and **"Polite Society"**, a comedy about Ria Khan who believes she must save her older sister Lena from her impending marriage. Our focus for our June class will be **"Polite Society"**, although we will also discuss any other films watched by members of the class.

Joy Shirley

Garden Appreciation

On May 25th we visited 'Two Town Gardens' in Benalla. The first was the garden of Corrie Witlox. Corrie has many unusual plants in her garden, including an Orange Rhododendron Beautiful!

After morning tea, we visited the gardens of Glenice and Bill Broderick in Grant Drive (pictured below). Large trees and garden beds. Wonderful! Their home is on the market - we wish them well in their new home.



Lunch at the Benalla Golf Club concluded a great outing on a beautiful late autumn day with nice people.

On June 22nd we are heading to Violet Town, visiting the Garden at the Library as well as the Southern Aurora Memorial Garden Mural by Benalla's Tim Bowtell. We will meet at the U3A car park at 10.30 am. Please note the later start time. Lunch will be at Jackson's Produce Store and Café, 20 Cowslip Street. This is a family run business with home cooked meals. If you are interested in attending, please contact me on gwenturner343@gmail.com or 0438627010.

To those who are off on your winter holiday, have an enjoyable time; to those of you who are unwell, take care and get well soon!

Gwen Turner

Garden Team

Other than weaklings who cowered from covid or who fled to northern climes, an energetic team enjoyed a new garden out Lurg way. Our other country venture is out Goomalibee Road on May 29th.

Elspeth Maconachie

German

The German group is making good progress. The combination of beginners and advanced students is working well. It is pleasing to share my knowledge with such a keen to learn group.

Horst Gunther

In the Lap of the Gods

What did the Romans ever do for us? Apart from bringing us law, roads and plumbing? However, the Romans lost interest when it came to stories about the origins of their gods and stories about creation. Ever the intellectual, Cicero attempted to write stories about the primordial gods, but his heart was just not in the task. Being a secret atheist also did not help his enthusiasm.

So, the Romans adopted creation and origin stories unchanged from the Greeks. The Romans always regarded the Greeks as slippery, devious and far too clever for their own good, but the Romans acknowledged that they knew a thing or two.

According to the Greeks, the gods emerged out of darkness and chaos. First came Gaia (the Earth), Eros (Love) and then Tartarus (the Underworld). Gaia produced Uranus (the Sky) and Pontus (the Sea). She lay with Uranus and produced eighteen children. Six of them were useful monsters. She lay with Pontus and produced 3,000 Oceanids or sea nymphs.

That is only the start. It got more twisted and bizarre as it goes on. Castration of Uranus; birth of the Giants from his blood; birth of Aphrodite from the foam thrown up from his testicles when they landed in the sea near the island of Cythera, birth of Athena fully grown and fully armoured from Zeus' head after he ate her mother.

No wonder the Romans left these sorts of things to those clever Greeks.

The Romans even adopted a universal flood story from the Greeks. Deucalion and Pyrrha were the only survivors who survived by building a chest after Deucalion's father, Prometheus, warned them of the coming flood. But he would, wouldn't he. Prometheus' name means 'forethought'.

When the waters rose, 82-year old Deucalion and his wife Pyrrha climbed into the chest. After the floodwaters subsided, the two repopulated the earth after being instructed to cover their head and throw

the bones of their mother behind them. I have always thought that a very oblique reference indeed. However, Deucalion knew rocks meant the bones of mother earth. The rocks thrown by him turned into men; the rocks thrown by Pyrrha turned into women.

Next time, we are going to visit the minor gods of place and purpose and I can promise plenty of interesting Roman weird as we visit my favourite minor gods and their priesthoods.

John Barry

Investment

At our May meeting we had a quick look at the share market, which has been up and down for the month, with some gains and some losses. The big gain was XRF Industrial Group that manufactures and markets precious metal products, specialized chemicals and instruments for the scientific, analytical and mining industries. The XRF share price rose from \$1.02 to \$1.34; a 31% increase.

Les Rogers spoke of the prospect that coal will remain a major source of energy worldwide beyond 2050. Coal usage will need to decrease by a factor of 20 and solar & wind energy will need massive increases in output if the targets for net zero emissions are to be achieved. This will have impacts on the share market. (Article referred to by Les: Vinichenko, Cherp and Jewell (2021) Historical precedents and feasibility of rapid coal and gas decline required for the 1.5°C target. One Earth 4 1477-1490 October 22, 2021.)

Our 11 sectors selection made in February in the Bendigo Watchlist is still negative by some -\$31,000 or 9% negative. This is reflected by all stocks that were purchased in early February when the All Ords Index was 7745 now the index at 1st May is 7501 down 3% in 3 months.

In the monthly short-term listing, Les Rogers's selection of XRF gave a profit of \$3,131 and in the Long Term listing Margaret Jenkins with XRF had a profit of \$4,172. This result was rewarded at the end of the meeting with chocolates for both Margaret & Les.

After the break we re-visited the matter of short selling which has recently been attracting media reports. As short selling can have a very negative effect on a company's share price it's a matter of being aware.

Broker Consensus was discussed with opinions as to the pro and cons of taking their advice with attention as to the date of this advice.

Scams have increased 80% in the past year and with banks only compensating 2 to 5% according to the ASIC, are of great concern. Discussion took place on how we may protect our assets from this scourge.

The next meeting of Investment will be on Monday 5th June at 2.00pm in our U3A room No.1.

John Hanlon and Malcolm Sanders

Jane Austen Book Club

The Jane Austen book group watched the film version of *Pride and Prejudice* in May. Although it omitted a lot of nuances from the book, it was an enjoyable watch.

In June we will be discussing *Mansfield Park* and watching excerpts from the film. Austen starts to dissect some new behaviours that are beginning to break down the strict rules of her social class.

Meg Dillon

Let's Talk Books

Patsy once again delighted us with a poem, *St. Bridgid The Giveaway from Reflections at Dawn* by Phyllis McGinley. Patsy also had a beautifully illustrated book *Wine Dogs of Australia*. Enjoyed among our group were *Calabrian Daughter* by Tania Blanchard set in the mountains above the Ionian Sea, *The Jam Queen* by Josephine Moon, a warm inviting story about a Barossa Valley café owner, published in 2022. Another book by Tania Blanchard *Suitcase of Dreams* inspired by a true story. A family leave Nazi Germany at the end of the War and arrive in Australia in 1956 looking to start a new life. *The War Nurses* by Anthea Hodgson is based on her own family story showing friendship and courage during the Bangka Island Massacre, a sad story but one to never be forgotten. *The Stranger Beside Me* by Ann Rule is the biographical true crime story of serial killer Ted Bundy. *To Love a Sunburnt Country* by Jackie French is a tale set during the War in 1942. *Lucinda Riley, Girl on a Cliff*, doesn't disappoint. Much enjoyed was the Peter Brocklehurst story *Finding My Voice* whilst *So, Anyway* by John Cleese didn't rate a mention. *Kokoda* by Peter FitzSimons is a gripping story of brave young men. Some ancient history *Troy: The Siege of Troy Retold* by Stephen Fry was a little different whilst *The School* by Brendan James Murray brought us back to present day. *Before the Coffee Gets Cold* by Toshikazu Kawaguchi was written in his own inimitable style and *Lisa* by Lisa Curry is her own story. Back to

crime, *Silent Death: The story of Julie Ramage* by Journalist Karen Kissane, whilst *Catch 22*, a satirical novel by American Joseph Heller, received a tick of approval. On the humour side *Men are from Wagga and Women Wish they Weren't* by Steve Myhill and *Dinkum Dummies Down the Back* by Fred Hillier, bought out some memories from our group. We finished off with the story of *Peggy Guggenheim* the American Art Collector, and *The Traitor King Edward the 8th* by Andrew Lownie. Keep reading and see you all on Monday 5th June.

Geraldine McCorkell

Lifeball

Our weekly games continue to be a source of much laughter with some great game strategies on display, and some very active play in the chilly stadium. Numbers have continued steady but with the onset of the cold weather, we have decided on a winter recess, as people plan to travel. Our last game for now will be on Monday 12th June, with a return date of Monday 4th September.

Lifeball is a great way to continue enjoying team sports, and we always welcome new players. Convenor Marlene Pitts can be contacted on 0428210944 for more information.

Julie McNeill

Meet and Mingle

Our guest speaker for May was Ian Maver from Wangaratta. Ian is a member of U3A Benalla and attends the Sky's the Limit, Tech Talks and Music Appreciation groups.

Ian, who originated from Scotland, spoke on his time in the Aircraft Industry in the UK and his subsequent qualifications as an Engineer in America and Australia. These qualifications led to an interesting working career in Australia and Indonesia.

The guest speaker for Meet and Mingle on Wednesday 21st June at 10 am in our U3A room will be Lou Sigmund who will speak on "Inventions – Successes and Failures". Lou has retired to Warrenbayne after managing an international company which marketed Inventions. We look forward to seeing you all!

Margaret Jenkins

Music Appreciation

It has been said that "the most glorious works of art, the ones that bring the purest joy – perhaps they need not be touched or known, but seen only with the heart". Both of the major musical compositions for the month of May can be understood as "masterpieces in their own way. Debussy's 'La Mer' – an impression of the sea as seen from the heart - is regarded today as a masterpiece of musical impressionism, although that wasn't always the case. The premiere of the work in 1905 was met with a mixture of boos, whistles and restrained applause. There were no boos and whistles as our group listened to it, and neither was there an enthusiastic reception overall. Masterpiece or not, impressionism is clearly not to everyone's taste. Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24 was regarded by Brahms as a "masterpiece of art, full of inspiration and ideas. Beethoven remarked to a pianist friend "we'll never be able to write anything like that", while some scholars and musicologists claim it to be one of the greatest piano concertos ever composed. Yet this concerto is written in the minor key - unlike most Mozart compositions – and so for other listeners a work not easily recognisable as belonging to Mozart. Such was the case with our group's listening experience. For those reading this, then, perhaps you can listen to each and form your own opinion. It's all there (recordings and notes) on the [Music Appreciation](#) page of our U3A website. While you are at it, why not check out the rest of the month's music selections: - something a little more recognizable, such as Mozart, some Mendelssohn and Haydn, Tchaikovsky and, of course, given the other big event of the month, some Coronation music.

Bill Squire

Page Turners Book Group

Stone Sky Gold Mountain. Mirandi Rewoe

An historical novel about life on the Palmer Goldfields in Queensland and in the rough small nearby towns.

Told from the point of view of Chinese brother and sister Lai and Ying, Rowoe documents their lives of back-breaking work, starvation, and discrimination. They eventually leave the gold fields to try and find work in May Town. Here they become part of a Chinese underclass that merges with outcast Whites including sex worker Sophie and her servant Meriem. While some Chinese help their fellows by employing them and assisting them, others tempt them into gambling and opium abuse. Brother Lai falls into despair, loses the money he saved and commits suicide. This grim tableau is lightened by Ling's ability to find work with a

Chinese shopkeeper and her friendship with Meriem, an Anglo girl who has been rejected by her family because she had a child while unmarried.

Described as a “post-colonial” novel, it marks the emergence of stories from marginalized groups in Australia who describe the dominant Anglo culture as discriminatory. It gives a different view of how we see ourselves.

June selection: *'One Last Secret'*, Adele Parkes

Meg Dillon

Patchwork and Craft



We have a 5th Thursday in June, so on the 30th we have our group session **10am - 4pm**.

May has seen a few people away and some not well. Hopefully everyone is on the mend soon.

Please remember to bring your 'Show'n'Tell'.



Dorothy Webber

Photography

On May 25 I explained to the group that it would be my last class before a break, however that I would be returning in September. We began by going through the **photo submissions** sent in by some class members this month. It is interesting to see the progress they have made and observe the way they are thinking through the processes involved. We then watched three Youtube videos - ['Better Photos from any Camera'](#), ['Take Amazing Photos'](#) and ['Take Better Photos with your Smartphone'](#) and discussed some of the aspects presented in each of them. (**May Session Resources**)

I stressed again the importance of 'thinking' about their photography rather than just taking a photo. We also talked about using the Photography pages on the U3A website - Home / Session Resources / Photo Submissions –to review the sessions held so far this year & jog their memories about the things we discussed. At the end of the class, I reiterated what we had covered in the course so far, as well as advised the class that I would review the basics again when I get back in September.

Our next session will be on Thursday 28th September from 10 to 12 in Classroom 1.



May submission – panorama, David Blore

Rene Martens

Play Reading

“Alphabetical Order” proved to be a comical and engaging play for the May Play Readers. Set in the library office of an English provincial newspaper, this play by Michael Frayn explores what happens when a young efficient assistant is employed to help the disorganised manageress and assorted office workers who work in a state of permanent and utter mess and confusion. The easy and warm atmosphere of the chaotic office is soon transformed, the key words now being “ordered” and “soulless”. The problem is somewhat resolved when the office takes over the running of the newspaper, but not before we have met some memorable and entertaining characters. There’s a lot to be said for English humour!

Our play for June will be *“Morning Sacrifice”* by Dymphna Cusack, set in the staff room of a Girls’ High School just before the 2nd World War.

Pat Treleven

Politics and Current Affairs

At our last session we considered, amongst other topics, the conflict in The Ukraine. We talked about the history of the Soviet Union - its conception and its breakup. Ukraine as a country has only existed since 1992. Its existence has always been precarious. Is it an area or a country that no one recognises. Napoleon invaded Russia through the Ukraine. The Nazis invaded the Soviet Union through Ukraine. Is Russia seeing history repeat itself by claiming that NATO is coming to Russia through the Ukraine.

We will continue to consider relevant current events over the next few months.

Neville Gibb

Recorder

At our last session this month, the group was introduced to music's very good friend "anacrusis", (or Ana Crusis, as we like to think of her). She is a strong presence in music, as she is there when there is only a partial bar at the start of the piece. This happens frequently, so she is very well-known and the group were pleased to meet her. This helps to reinforce the wonderful social aspect of playing together.

Janet Douglas

Singing for Fun

The first session in May started off with our pianist being unable to come. However, Brian Greed made a list of all the songs he was able to accompany, and we had a great session. A big thank you to Brian for playing the piano for the morning, and also to Rae for providing morning tea that day.

Gwen was able to return for our second and third sessions in May which was good. The flexibility that our Leaders provide is remarkable. Margaret Merriman chose the "Instrument Song" one morning, and whilst the five parts could have been a problem, it turned out to be very well handled by the group. Thank you also to Kieran for his Al Jolson theme one session which was also very enjoyable.

Our congratulations to Ray O'Shannessy on turning 91 during May. Also, many thanks to Sue Dwyer for morning tea on the third Thursday.

Everyone in the group helps where they can. Thanks to Brian Colman for arranging the chairs in the morning for the sessions, and to the guys for rearranging the chairs after each session. Also, thanks to Wendy for putting the books away each week.

The next session of Singing for Fun will be on Thursday 1st June at 10am at the Hub at Cooina.

Margaret Jenkins

Sky's the Limit



Andrew McFarlane, a member of the Sky's the Limit U3A group, told us about his several decades as a flight attendant with Qantas International.

As he described it, quirks in Qantas's recruitment schemes, enabled him to become a flight service director at just 26. He loved the life, particularly flying Boeing 747s to in some cases relatively remote destinations like Tahiti and Mexico City, which were serviced once a week and so required weeklong stopovers.

As flight service director he had the power, including baton and handcuffs, to arrest difficult passengers, a power he used every second or third flight.

Andrew also became enamoured with parachuting and helped develop an Australian made parachute, which far exceeded the quality of alternatives and became widely used by civil and military parachutists as well as the CIA.

David Palmer

At our next meeting on Tuesday 6th June, we are going to the Benalla Gliding Club, looking at motorless flight and 'having a go' in the club's flight simulator. Please note the venue change and the **time change to 10 am** not 2pm.

Claire Rudolph

Stock and Land



This month eight of us visited Peter Holmes' sheep farm off the Benalla to Badaginnie road. He runs about 3200 Merino ewes producing about 4000 lambs annually.

A superior NZ made sheep handler places individual sheep to be weighed or rotated to almost any position for treatment like drenching, ear tagging or dagging. That makes handling of even the biggest sheep not at all exhausting.

Similarly, he has equipped his shearing shed with air conditioning for shearers and wool handlers, which is quite unusual. When Peter asked a shearer what he thought of the aircon, the reply was, "About time".

We also saw a relatively new 12.5mm a turn centre pivot irrigation system, which draws water from a hole which yielded 100,000 cubic metres of gravel when the Hume Freeway was duplicated. A seasonal pumping licence enables Peter to pump into the dam from the adjacent Four Mile Creek.

Libby Skilbeck, cattle manager at Alpine Angus at Porepunkah, will be our next speaker on Tuesday June 6 at 10am in Classroom 1.

David Palmer

Sustainability

At the first Sustainability Group meeting in May we discussed a wide range of items based on news and other media.

Neville had found a great video of an 'accidental' bush rehabilitation project which resulted from the illegal dumping of 12,000 tonnes of orange peels in Costa Rica. Informative and amusing.

At our second session we looked at the Australian Government's ongoing development of its community well-being measures which are intended to provide a better way to determine the overall sustainability of our country rather than just relying on the traditional economic or dollar-based measures such as gross domestic product.

We also watched a video on the development of geothermal-based electricity generation that can essentially be installed anywhere based on new 'closed-loop' boring technology. A replacement for base-load electricity generators which, in Australia, are reliant on fossil fuels.

John Lane

Tech Advice

Did you know you can make an appointment for a tech problem solver session providing 'one on one' help in operating mobiles, tablets or laptops?

Contact - Robyn (Android devices) **0403 164 931** or Jenny (Apple devices) **0409 545 182**.

Available to all enrolled U3A members. 'One on One' appointments are held in Classroom 2.

Robyn Lukey/Jenny Sawyer

Tech Savvy Apple – Pages

This month it was all about tables.....

In the Pages App we used the table icon and made two tables.

One was portrait with four columns and the other was a landscape table again with four columns.

We learnt to add rows, add a title, type inside cells and to export our documents. Even though written instructions were prescriptive there was scope to personalise each table. Jenny printed each person their masterpieces which they could use to fill in at home. Of course, the next step is to actually type in data on your device. And Graeme already had a table which he had programmed to compile his data into graphs.

Everyone worked very hard and it's great to see everyone's confidence using Pages grow. The June session is being postponed and our next Pages class will be on Wednesday 14th July.



Jenny Sawyer

Tech Savvy Beginners – Android

Our May sessions have come & gone with some interesting topics discussed. We learnt how to -

- Download QR reader/scanner (handy for Footy tickets & Theatre tickets)
- Create a Group in Contacts.
- Use Translator site when travelling overseas.
- Check our details on My Gov.
- Apply App Permissions
- Use 'Contacts' for a lot of other uses than just name & mobile no.
- Avoid Phishing Scams.
- Set up a Pay Pal account.
- Using Android Wallet.

We also had a look at the nature and implications of AI (Artificial Intelligence).

Thanks to our helpers Ruth, Janice & Lyn. See you all 1st Thursday in June.

Robyn Lukey

Tech Talks

At our last Tech Talks Ian Maver acquainted us with developments in Vertical Take off and Landing airplanes by the Lilium Company. There has been a lot of development recently and hopefully it will not be long until we can easily transport ourselves short and medium distances through the air. Small vehicles that carry 4-8 people are close to production. These have a new system of propelling themselves. Essentially power comes from using a number of electric jet fans - maybe 32 - to provide the power to take off vertically and then move the vehicle through the air with more efficiency that is provided with either internal combustion or conventional jet engines. Lilium has developed a novel electric ducted jet engine that integrates smartly with the wings of the aircraft. The success of this powerful technology not only will allow Lilium to achieve all the performance objectives of the flight profile, but also could help the aviation industry in the transition to affordable emission-free intercity air travel. All jet fans can be manipulated separately, and this allows maximum efficiency.

With the increase in Global Warming, we are all interested when a new battery concept is released. The biggest battery company in the world has released details of a new battery concept that has increased efficiency to the extent it will make electric driven jet engines possible. 500 Watts per Kilo is the magic number. These new batteries should give electric cars a range of 1000k. These are condenser batteries and not solid state. They have a high energy cathode and a new anode and they are apparently a real game changer.

ChatGPT has been developing Artificial Intelligence for some time. Great claims have been made for the future of AI. New chatbots are now becoming available to the public. These chatbots are capable of many things and time will tell if their development leads to a greater use of digital science. ChatGPT could become the most used tool on the internet. We watched several videos showing their uses, but we also watched a

video of one of the developers advising that there are dangers involved in allowing artificial intelligence to develop without regulation and he is uneasy about his involvement.

At Tech Talks I like to range over a number of subjects. We finished by looking at a film of Melbourne In the 1920's. It was more or less the same as it is now but with a few differences. The streets have not changed and the buildings are still recognisable. There were a limited number of cars. Hardly any. There were still some horses and carts. Out of the CBD there were no traffic lights. The streets looked empty. Trams ran well out of the city.

Neville Gibb

Ukes4Fun

Ukes4Fun have been travelling along quietly. John Barry led one of the sessions during the month during Heather's absence. The group was shown the benefits of using "play along ukulele" songs, which helps with timing and use of chords, as well as a sing-a-long with the chosen song. This has been a most enjoyable exercise.

Heather Wallace

Wine Appreciation

A glorious day had 29 of us travelling to King River Estate Winery for this month's tasting. In a delightful setting, Karen, one of the owners, led us on a 'how to make wine' trip which proved fascinating and informative. We tried many varieties of reds and whites, some of which had been produced from grapes grown on their Flying Duck vineyard next door. Lunch followed at the King River Cafe where once again, we were well looked after.



Next month, Friday 16th June, we are off to Rutherglen. **Andersons Winery, 1619 Chiltern-Rutherglen Rd**, followed by lunch at **The Pickled Sisters Cafe, 121 Main St, Rutherglen**.

If you will be coming, please let me know by the latest Sunday 11th June on nicnakmac90@gmail.com or text 0428 696 408. Meeting in the car park behind Aldi at 10.00.

Nicole McFarlane

Wildflowers of North East Victoria

The previously advertised short course, *Wildflowers of North East Victoria*, focussing on our amazing spring wildflowers will now be folded into the Easywalks program for October and November. With some shorter options for those who don't feel up to our usual hike, we will explore the Friends' Track in October, and the Killawarra Forest in November, accompanied by cameras and identifying brochures. Both walks will show local wildflowers in the Warby Ranges at their best. New walkers, strollers and wildflower enthusiasts are welcome!

Julie McNeill

Wise Guys Book Group

To highlight Shakespeare's work, Neville played on the screen, a string orchestra and vocalist's rendition of *As Steals the Morn*. A delightful left field rendition. Keith recommended *How Much Are You Making on the War Daddy* by William D Hartung, a book about war profiteering during the Bush administration and Graeme, *Flight Command* by John Oddie, a book about Air Force life. Neville had read *North Korea* by Paul French but could not recommend it, while Graham had read and liked *Outlaw*, about Sydney bkie gangs. David highly recommended two in the *Thursday Murder Club* crime fiction series by Richard Osman.

David Palmer

What's On

Thursday, 1 June

- 10:00 Singing for Fun
- 10:00 Tech Savvy Beginners - Android
- 13:00 Family Research – Beginners - 'Trove'
- 13:00 Patchwork and Craft

Friday, 2 June

- 10:00 Sustainability
- 14:00 'In the Lap of the Gods'

Monday, 5 June

- 09:30 Exercises for Fun
- 10:00 Collectors - 'Brooches'
- 10:00 Lifeball - Marlene 0407 240 943
- 10:00 Art Appreciation
- 12:45 Ukes4Fun
- 14:00 Investment
- 14:00 Let's Talk Books

Tuesday, 6 June

- 10:00 Page Turners – 'One Last Secret', Adele Parkes
- 10:00 Stock and Land – Libby Skilbeck, Cattle Manager, Alpine Angus, Porepunkah
- 10:00* Sky's the Limit – Gliding Club *NB Time Change
- 12:15 German

Wednesday, 7 June

- 09:30 Easywalks - Winton Wetlands
- 09:30 Play Reading – 'Morning Sacrifice'

Thursday, 8 June

- 09:30 Birdwatching – Shadforth Reserve, Violet Town
- 10:00 Singing for Fun
- 10:00 Tech Savvy Beginners - Android
- 13:00 Family Research – Beginners – 'Hands On'
- 13:30 Executive Committee Meeting

Friday, 9 June

- 10:00 Music Appreciation
- 11:45 Chat 'n Chew – Kim Wah
- 14:00 Australian History

Monday, 12 June

Kings Birthday – please confirm with convenor

- 09:30 Exercises for Fun
- 10:00 Lifeball - Marlene 0407 240 943
- 12:45 Ukes4Fun
- 14:00 Creative Writing
- 14:00 Garden Team

Tuesday, 13 June

- 10:00 Politics and Current Affairs
- 12:15 German
- 14:00 Jane Austen Book Club – 'Mansfield Park'
- 14:00 Tech Talks

Wednesday, 14 June

- 10:00 Recorder Group
- 13:30 A Taste of Art
- 14:00 Film Discussion Group – 'Polite Society'

Thursday, 15 June

- 10:00 Singing for Fun
- 10:00 Tech Savvy Beginners - Android
- 13:00 Family Research - Intermediate Group
- 13:00 Patchwork and Craft
- 14:00 Demystifying Psychology Discussion Group

Friday, 16 June

- 10:00 Wine Appr'n – Anderson's Winery, Rutherglen

- 10:00 Sustainability

Monday, 19 June

- 09:30 Exercises for Fun
- 11:30 Be Connected - Managing Money Online
- 12:30 Tech Advice*
- 12:45 Ukes4Fun
- 14:00 As Time Goes By - Memoir Writing

Tuesday, 20 June

- 10:00 Enjoying the Internet
- 12:15 German
- 14:00 Exploring the Universe

Wednesday, 21 June

- 10:00 Meet and Mingle – Lou Sigmund, 'Inventions – Successes and Failures'
- 14:00 Cards '500'

Thursday, 22 June

- 10:30 Garden Appr'n – Violet Town Library's garden & Southern Aurora Memorial Mural; Lunch Jackson's Produce Store & Café, 20 Cowslip St.
- 10:00 Community Singing - Coinda Aged Care
- 13:00 Family Research - Advanced

Friday, 23 June

- 10:00 Music Appreciation
- 14:00 Australian History

Sunday, 25 June

- 17:00 Newsletter reports due today

Monday, 26 June

- 09:30 Exercises for Fun
- 12:45 Ukes4Fun
- 13:30 Coin Collectors
- 14:00 Garden Team

Tuesday, 27 June

- 10:00 Politics & Current Affairs
- 12:15 German
- 14:00 Brain Games

Wednesday, 28 June

- 10:00 Recorder Group
- 13:30 A Taste of Art
- 14:00 Wise Guys Book Group

Thursday, 29 June

- 10:00 Patchwork and Craft – all day session
- 10:00 Community Singing - Estia Aged Care

Monday, 3 July

- 09:30 Exercises for Fun
- 10:00 Collectors
- 10:00 Art Appreciation
- 12:45 Ukes4Fun
- 14:00 Investment
- 14:00 Let's Talk Books

Tuesday, 4 July

- 10:00 Page Turners - 'Horse', Geraldine Brooks
- 10:00 Stock and Land
- 12:15 German
- 14:00 Sky's the Limit

Wednesday, 5 July

- 09:30 Easywalks – Eldorado Loop
- 09:30 Play Reading

Tech Advice** – one to one sessions by appointment for members experiencing problems operating mobiles, tablets or laptops – Contact **Robyn** (Android Devices) **0403 164 931** or **Jenny** (Apple Devices) **0409 545 182