



Benalla and District Inc. Newsletter – August 2016

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EDITORIAL *

Last week's Census was somewhat limited in the way in which it considered the question of voluntary work. There was one question which required a simple Yes/No answer related to volunteering – 'In the last twelve months did the person spend any time doing voluntary work through an organisation or group?' with a note which indicated 'voluntary work for sporting teams, youth groups, schools or religious organisations' could be included.

Many U3A members don't just do voluntary work, we do quite a lot of voluntary work, often across a number of organisations! Our U3A executive and convenors put in many additional volunteer hours, particularly those who are both on the U3A executive and convene one or more course activities. It was therefore most surprising to find there was no opportunity to estimate the number of volunteer hours we do.

The question relating to 'Unpaid Work At Home' distinguished between 'No', 'Yes, less than 5 hours; 'Yes, 5 to 14 hours; 'Yes, 15 to 29 hours' and 'Yes, 30 hours or more'. Perhaps volunteer work could have been measured in this way as well.

Then there is the question as to how the ABS would value each volunteer hour spent if they used an imputed cost to measure the value of the volunteer work by U3A members in the census. A recent U3A related paper which looked at this issue imputed a value of \$20 an hour.

Most of the unpaid work U3A members do as volunteers is not routine work, however, with members of the executive in particular carrying out complex roles

requiring managing programs, budgets and carrying out a range of negotiations.

The past year has seen our committee members, in particular President Terry Case, Past President Geraldine McCorkell and Vice President Dorothy Webber, responding to the insecurity engendered last year when the Centre suddenly abandoned its Barkly Campus and the role it had played in relation to U3A. Terry, Geraldine and Dorothy have spent many, many hours considering and engaging in negotiations looking towards a more secure accommodation for U3A Benalla over the longer term. This has not been without complications, but hearing about accommodation issues facing other U3A's at regional, statewide and national conferences, we are clearly not alone.

Negotiations are continuing and have been complex. Whatever the outcome, it is important to value the efforts which have been made by Terry, Geraldine and Dorothy (who are also convenors of course activities) in recent negotiations, and the long history of committee members who have worked on accommodation issues in the past. If we imputed the value of their efforts in terms of a paid work amount, the amount in dollar terms would be staggering.

Even if the census hasn't prioritized valuing volunteer work and the many hours spent across the organizational structure of U3A, we should.

Thank you Terry, Geraldine and Dorothy for all your hard work.

**Bev Lee prepared this editorial on behalf of the Newsletter/Website team. Terry Case will return with his President's Message next month.*

Vale

Terry Sydes 26-8-1942 – 7-8-2016

The Benalla Bushwalking Club and U3A walkers were saddened by the death of Terry Sydes.

Terry has been important in the promotion of bushwalking, skiing, canoeing and bike riding. For many years he was on the Board of Bushwalking Victoria, which required a drive to Melbourne, often returning home late at night. He was an educator, giving instruction in navigation and map reading and led camps and walks to encourage all ages.

His connection with U3A was through Margaret Walshe. During the 1990's Margaret asked if he would be willing to lead mid-week walks for members, to promote fitness. He agreed, and led popular walks for many years, until this activity was carried on by Margaret, Heather Sloan, Vaughan Cowan, and others.

A real asset to Benalla, he will be sadly missed.

GROUP REPORTS

Armchair History

Armchair History meets twice a month at W4. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday 9th September at 1.15pm.

Armchair Traveller

The next place to float our magic armchairs when we meet on *Tuesday September 20 at 10.00am till noon* has yet to be confirmed but we expect it will include a cruise to Croatia and the Greek mainland and islands. Bring along any souvenirs of Mediterranean cruising that you can find.

John Avery

Art Appreciation

On Monday 1st of August the Art Appreciation group were fortunate to listen to a talk by Benalla Art Gallery Director Bryony Nainby on 'The Salon', a collection of the Gallery's paintings that have been brought out of the storage area for exhibition in the Ledger Gallery. The paintings have been arranged in clusters—flowers, landscapes, people etc. — in 'salon' style and are mostly by Australian painters.



Bryony Nainby guiding the Art Appreciation Group

One of the flower paintings, by the influential painter and teacher Max Meldrum, is appropriately called *Japanese Vase with Flowers*. Bryony explained that Meldrum formulated a theory of color that had an impact in artistic circles and presumably this painting was done following his philosophy.

Bryony also spoke at length about a painting titled *Land Army Girls at Finchley* painted by Dora Meeson in 1919. This depicts a number of girls in Land Army uniform working on the summer harvest.

One of the paintings in the landscapes and animals cluster is a painting called *Full Swing on the Board* by Jan Hendrick Scheltema. This excellent painting depicts a shearing shed in full swing but has the misfortune to resemble Tom Roberts' *Shearing the Rams*. I believe this painting is of equal standard to Roberts' painting and is an excellent example of semi industrial rural life in Australia. It is unfortunate that it has not received more recognition.

Perhaps the most interesting painting in the exhibition is called *Of Excellence and Passion* by Lindy Lee. Bryony paid particular attention to this dark painting which has a figure vaguely showing through for the viewer to contemplate. Painted in 1988, its intention is to engage the viewer's mind. It does this.

We thank Bryony for her enjoyable and informative lecture. Bryony also announced that she will be endeavouring to bring more paintings out of storage for the public to view.

I would recommend all people attend the Gallery to view the current exhibition (which continues to 11th December) and subsequent exhibitions.

Neville Gibb

Art Appreciation meets monthly at Benalla Art Gallery. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 5th September at 10am.

Astronomy

Astronomy meets monthly at W4. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 20th September at 1.30pm.

Bird Watching

Kathy has been away during August however she will be back for the next outing which will be to Chesney Vale on Thursday 8th September.

The remaining outings for 2016 are scheduled for Thursday 13 October and Thursday 10 November.

Brain Games

As in the July newsletter, Brain Games will be held in September if enough people notify their intention to be there. The next meeting is planned for Monday 5th September.

If it's another scratching I'll return notification to any would-be participants by the same means they communicate with me i.e. text, phone or email. I apologise to the three who turned up on July 4th but can only recommend that we all read the Newsletter.

I can be emailed at elspethm1@gmail.com, sent a text on 0418 621 764, a 101 can be left (after a longish wait) on 57621700, or a message left in my pigeonhole at Benalla pool.

Bushwalking

Easy walk – Wednesday August 3

Four walkers enjoyed the sunshine as they traversed Dave's Hill, near Mount Meg at Thoona. We expected a muddy track, but found it was quite solid because of the elevation, and only encountered occasional springs and seepage areas. The views east to the Warby Ranges and west to Mount Meg were spectacular.

We lunched on the eastern side, overlooking green paddocks and grazing sheep. On return to the car, we decided to drive a bit further to visit Pine Gully and check out the falls. This was well worth the trip, as there was an exceptional flow in the creek and over the falls.



Enjoying lunch by Lex's Falls

Mid-week walk – Wednesday August 10

Based on Tiger Hill road Tatong, Irene and Rob Erskine and Meg the Jack Russell, led us along O'Dea's road in Sam's creek valley. This is a beautiful area with wooded hills each side, a good road, with limited traffic and Sam's Creek and tributaries meandering through. We had 11 walkers, all keen to get out in the open with no rain. On the way out we surveyed the cataracts above, and the main falls from the top, then walked on to meet John Knapper and Molly the Black Labrador who escorted us upstream to the base of the falls where we had lunch.

The falls are spectacular, especially as the Creek is not very large. We could have sat there longer enjoying the sun, but John had two more falls near his home to show us. These were smaller but no less attractive. Some of the group then walked back to the cars on the road, while the rest climbed up the side of two falls to follow the stream back to the road. A beautiful area. We had afternoon tea in the Erskine dining room overlooking the valley. Thank you Irene, Rob and John for a wonderful day.

Easy walk – Wednesday September 7

We will be walking part, or all, of the Friend's track, starting from Wenhams campground in the Warby's. It is a classic walk, and there should be quite a few flowers on display. We will leave Benalla at 9.30am.

There will be no easy walk in October, but the November walk will probably be in the Reef Hills.

Mid-week walk – Wednesday September 14

We will be exploring a loop walk in the Stanley Forest, starting from the Buckland Gap. It was on the list for

last year, but the weather intervened. Hopefully we will make it this year. All on roads or good tracks, but it might be slippery if wet. There should be wildflowers at this time of year.

We will leave the Centre car park at 8.45am. Please ring 5762 1980 beforehand.

Chat n' Chew

Come along and join us at the next Chat n' Chew. We will be at **The North Eastern Hotel** on Friday 16th September at 11.45 am. Everyone welcome.

Collectors

At our August meeting we had guest speaker *Carl Wantrup* in attendance. Carl's main area of expertise is Japanese and Chinese porcelain but he has a working knowledge of other items. Carl brought along some of his own collection to show and speak about.

He also looked at what members had brought along and gave us his opinion of them and an approximate valuation. Carl explained that collectable items go in and out of fashion and that effects their value. It was a very enjoyable session conducted with great good humour by Carl.



Cloisonné Bowl

We had many lovely items on the day and too many photos to include in the newsletter but they may be viewed on the U3A website. Thanks to Lin and Jeanette for taking photos on the day and to Carl for lending his phone to make this possible.

Our September meeting will be the last for this year and a Christmas theme is suggested. Members are asked to bring along an ornament, decoration, plate, table cloths etc. or anything else that they use at Christmas time. This is an option only and other items

can be brought along if preferred. It is planned to resume Collectors in February 2017.

Comparative Religion

The Comparative Religion group held its final meeting at W4 on Wednesday 3rd August. Prior to the group winding up, Jenny Geer offered to arrange a weekend at an ashram for those who might be interested.

Arrangements for an overnight stay at the Rocklyn Yoga Ashram on Saturday 10th September are now being finalised. If you would like more information or are interested in attending, please phone Jenny on 0429 433 745.

<http://www.yogavic.org.au/>

E Book Group

Nowadays, tourists fly over the continent of Antarctica on a regular basis, but not many will know the intimate details of Douglas Mawson's historic 1911 Australasian Antarctic Expedition.

A recent study of the subject *Flaws in the Ice: In Search of Mawson* by David Day. Based on meticulous and extensive research, the author reveals the enormous challenges of a journey into uncharted territory and makes some controversial claims about Mawson's ability as a leader, his conduct on the trek leading to the death of his two companions and his status as a hero.

However, it's easy to debunk a hero from a distance but Mawson was a man of his time and his contributions to the study of geomorphology, hardly acknowledged by David Day shouldn't be ignored. The real interest in this novel was not in heroics but in the description of the small but significant everyday routines of the team members and their skills in improvisation e.g. building a stove that worked and using it to prepare special meals for Xmas and birthdays. All in all a comprehensive study of an interesting subject.

Film and Literature

This month we watched an American Romantic Comedy – *10 Things I hate About You*. Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* served as the inspiration for the movie. The key characters in the play are:

- Julia Stiles as Katarina "Kat" Stratford, the antisocial, shrewish elder Stratford sister.

- Heath Ledger as Patrick Verona, the "bad boy" who is hired to date Kat and falls for her in the process.
- Joseph Gordon-Levitt as Cameron James, the new student at Padua High School who is smitten with Bianca and goes to great lengths to win her favour.
- Larisa Oleynik as Bianca Stratford, the younger of the two Stratford sisters, superficial and popular.

It was generally thought that this did not really reflect much of the story in *The Taming of the Shrew*, except for the basic plot of the older sister needing to be dating before the younger sister is allowed to date. One area of discussion was around American movies based in secondary schools. They depict the schools as very different from the Australian approach. They show very little education, and that shown is not very educational, with either or both the students and teachers behaving rather strangely. Of course, this is probably due to the plot of the movies. The main difference though is the number of students who are driving to school, which I suspect is possibly close to what happens. From my experience, fewer Australian students have cars and drive to school.

In general, it was agreed that the movie was enjoyable, although quite light.

Next month we will be looking at another episode in Alan Bennett's *Talking Heads* series. This time it will be *Miss Fozard Finds Her Feet*, a monologue by Patricia Routledge. We enjoyed the episode we watched in June and are expecting another great performance.

Garden Appreciation

Thursday September 22nd

Meet at 9.30am at **Rosie Archer's**, 28 Walker Street, Benalla for a cuppa. We will view the garden and then leave from 10 to 10.30am to go to 27 Kay's Lane, Glenrowan, home of **Jess Kay**. Lunch at the Glenrowan Hotel.

Thursday October 27th

Meet at the Flexible Learning Car Park at 9.30am, to travel to **Karn Station** to view the garden and enjoy morning tea. Lunch at Tatong Tavern.

Thursday November 24th – to be arranged.

All morning teas – coffee, tea, milk and hot water will be supplied. Please bring your own mug and a small plate to share. If you are attending, or for more information phone Gwen – 0438 627 010 or 5762 7017

Garden Team

We made ourselves as useful as we could in Lois's well kept, busy and organised garden with Bill's pruning earning the elephant stamp.

I also pass on the thanks of Rupe and Gwen for many tasks done there last month.

August 29th - Shirlie

September 12th - Kathy

October 10th - Jane & Bill / 31st - Val

November 14th - Elspeth

I can be emailed elspethm1@gmail.com; sent a text on 0418 621764 or a 101 can be left (after a longish wait) on 57621700.

Investment

The August meeting of Investment was chaired by *Peter Simpson* due to my family visiting from the UK.

Peter gave a talk on Indexes and handed out a chart showing the various Indexes and how they had performed during 2016. The Gold Index outperformed the other Indexes presented so far this year. Following this Peter showed two websites Anne McLeod had suggested at the July meeting and did a scan of shares paying good dividends. My thanks to Peter for his input into the August meeting.

The next meeting of Investment will be on Friday 2nd September at 1.15pm in W4.

Let's Talk Books

The next meeting of Let's Talk Books will be at the Benalla library on Tuesday 6th September at 2pm.

Lifeball



Lifeball is played every *Monday at 10 am* at the Indoor Recreation Centre. Why don't you help us to enjoy ourselves by coming along to see how much fun we have??

Phone Marg Merriman on 5762-1404

Meet and Mingle

U3A member *Neville Gibb* was our guest speaker in August. Neville took us on a very enjoyable tour of London and we each had a map of the London Underground rail system which we could follow as Neville took us from place to place. Our collective travel bug was well and truly awakened as Neville spoke of London which is full of history and has such a lot to offer the tourist. Students from the Flexible Learning Centre who are doing the Barista Course provided tea, coffee or hot chocolate for morning tea.



Neville Gibb speaking at Meet and Mingle

At our *September Meet and Mingle to be held on September 21st* the guest speaker will be *Chris Gill* from the Sentencing Advisory Council who will present a session called 'You be the Judge'. In the session details of an actual crime will be given and we will be the judge. Following our deliberations Chris will reveal whether the person was found guilty or not and the reasons why. A similar session to this was held several years ago but this session will involve an entirely different crime.

Music Appreciation

12 August 2016

John presented:

1. Max Bruch (1838-1920) *Violin Concerto #2* Violinist Maxim Fedotov Russian Philharmonic Orchestra.

2. Carl Maria Von Webber (1786-1826) *Der Freischutz Overture* Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra.
3. Max Bruch (1838 – 1920) *Violin Concerto #1* David Oistrakh, Soloist.
4. Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770 –1827) *Symphony #5* Concert Orchestra of Amsterdam

Music Appreciation meets twice every month. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday 9th September in W4.

Patchwork



First ever quilt made by Heidi - well done! A big thank you to all who helped her along the way.

On *Thursday September 1st* we are having a charity working day 10 am-4 pm . Quilts and/or toys can be made. We will also have our trading table as we are in need of backing fabric. Looking forward to a very productive day.

One of our group has lost or misplaced her large black and silver scissors could you please check your bags and boxes. *Phone Dorothy on 5762 2116* Thanks.

Play Reading

Our current reading is the very amusing play "Winter Glory" by Peter Coke. This play is one in a series by P. Coke involving the redoubtable quartet of Dame Beatrice and her lodgers – Nan, Hattie and the Brigadier- who feature in earlier comedies by Coke. This play may well be the last for the quartet because, in an unfortunate slip-up in their scheme to put a pathetic pet out of its misery and to help an ageing actress fade away at a peak of happiness, they also dispatch themselves heavenwards as well. Another fun play for our Group!

Coming up - 'Dinkum Assorted' and 'Twelve Angry Men'.

The next Play Reading meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 7th September at 9.45am in W4.

Politics and Current Affairs

Politics and Current Affairs meets twice a month at W4. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 13th September at 10am.

Rail and Tourism

The Rail and Tourism Course day on Tuesday August 2nd did not go ahead.

Our President, Terry Case, myself plus two others turned up. We decided on account of very low numbers – the class would not proceed. After we had a coffee and a chat we all went home.

It is most demoralising for tutors/conveners to have this happen. To all my class attendees – please make an effort to attend! I will ring some people before next course day!



Next course day on takes us further through the Canadian Rockies from *Revelstoke* to *Kamloops*. The DVD to be shown is of the Denver and Rio Grande railway in Colorado, Rockies.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 6th September at 9:30 am

Singing for Fun

Numbers have been increasing over the past few weeks and the sound is great. This is our eleventh year of singing and we have accumulated an amazing number of songs. We have over 300 main songs and over 200 warm ups and rounds. Our pianist and leaders need a trolley to carry their music books. Leaders have started to rehearse some of the songs for our end of the year

sing out which will include a varied selection of old favourites and some very interesting new ones, some of which are quite a challenge.

Tech Savvy

We met on the morning of August 10th, so the apparent problems with suspected hacking and inability to cope of the computers at the ABS on census night the night before were hot topics. It seemed relevant to choose another TED talk to begin the session, this time [The Economist's Kenneth Cukier's consideration of whether 'Big Data is Better Data'](#), selected from [Computer World's 10 TED talks for Techies](#).

Tech Savvy member Peter Simpson then engaged us in a fascinating presentation on changing technology in the television industry, drawing upon his extremely rich working life as a television engineer. Peter's informative presentation also provided an unexpected and memorable opportunity for us to reminisce as we had all been players, if at the other end of the television screen, in these changes over time.

A collector and aficionado of television clips from the past, Peter's presentation included clips from the Mickey Mouse Club, Happy Hammond's theme 'Happy Days are here again' and more!



After a late coffee break we broke into groups, with the Mentors checking out the latest handout on the 'Google Apps' course while the 'Tech Savvies' working group talked about topics for further investigation.

Our September meeting will continue the theme of changes over time in technology, with IT specialist Tim Shirley presenting on changes over time in the Gliding Industry.

Tech Savvy Drop In

August's first session for both groups looked at the 'Notes' features of the Apple and Windows/Android platforms. Margaret Walshe proved inspirational when sharing the many ways in which she uses 'Notes' on her iPad with iPad and iPhone users during the Apple session, while Bev transferred this application to OneNote in Windows during the Windows/Android session.

We talked about the many ways in which we keep notes, both paper based and using different features of our devices then moved on to the common features which included in their 'Notes' and 'OneNote', including inserting text, links, images and also drawing, which is useful if planning to renovate a room and more.



Our second theme for the month 'Online Banking' was presented by Margaret Jenkins, who has a particular interest in matters financial and staying safe online. Everyone had a story to tell about scamming! During our last Apple iPad session in September Jenny Sawyer will introduce the Apple group to the simple blog format she uses when travelling overseas while the Windows/Android group will have a look at Blogspot.

From mid September we will be changing to a shorter drop in format preceding the 10 week Google App course being presented by Terry Dillon. If you are interested in attending the 'Google Apps' course, put your name on the list on notice board in W4, or email Terry terry@greygygies.com.au. There has been a slight change in the timetable to remove the clash with Let's Talk Books.

Don't forget you can check out or revise TSDI resources via the 'Packages' drop down menu on the [TSDI website](#).

Towards a Sustainable Future



The Towards a Sustainable Future group continue to consider complex issues often frustratingly presented as 'binary' catastrophes, in black or white terms, by tabloid media outlets. Behind what some headlines suggested was an absolute catastrophe when wind/solar energy in South Australia needed to be supplemented by other power sources, was a more complex picture, a picture which became more evident as the COAG energy ministers meeting came closer.

We found ourselves confused by the binary position being taken by the Federal government on reducing the funding for ARENA as part of its Omnibus package, at a time when it has changed its own emphasis on renewable energy, including Turnbull and Hunt ordering a CSIRO U-turn. And we watched bemusedly on Q & A as a new climate denier Senator proclaims that there is no evidence of human induced climate change. Evidence continues to grow increasing our concern about the impact of climate change.

We always keep an eye out for positive developments—most recently the suggestion that renewable jet fuel is potentially growing on Australia's iconic gum trees; the development of solar panel recycling; and news of an iconic building tower in Melbourne which has undergone a decade long transformation to reduce electricity use by 40 percent.

Locally the interest in sustainable building of new homes and retrofitting of existing homes is evident in the high rate of attendance at recent Sustainable Building forums held by Benalla Sustainable Future Group and Benalla Rural City; the interest in BSFG and Sun Real's Environmentally Sustainable Building Award soon to be presented by Benalla Business Network; and the chance to visit sustainably built housing in North East Victoria, including a [Solar Skillion Sleepout](#) in Benalla, on Sustainable House Day on September 11.

Wine Appreciation

Wednesday 28 September 2016

Meet at the car park at the later time of 10.30am for the trip to Booth's winery at Tamminick. Lunch is at The Thoona Hotel

Wednesday 26 October 2016

Meet at the car park at 10.00am for a visit to Campbell's winery at Rutherglen. Lunch will be at Tuileries Café.

For more information phone Noel Meagher (5762 3149) or Keith & Heather Rogers (5762 4086).

Writing Workshop

It was most companionable meeting by the fire at the Northo on a very cold day to share stories and story ideas in early August. Pat took a very imaginative and engaging take on our upcoming topic '[What happened in \(eg\) Vegas](#)' – *Spill the beans on something from one of your holidays, something that just doesn't happen in every day life*, creating some very colourful characters who enjoyed some (probably too many) particularly interesting sounding drinks. Jenny took us with her as observers on a train trip; while for the topic '[Advice](#)' David shared advice he has been given including 'Wash your hands, Geoffrey', 'never pick up a book in daylight hours', and to 'wear your (his) hearing aids'.



[Advice](#) sharing continued at our regular meeting with Godfrey describing the best advice he has been given to 'stay away from the livestock carrying business' and Barry a range of advice including 'Never owe money on a depreciating asset'. 'What happened in Vegas' stories were also on the agenda, and will carry over, with '[Experiences of the Unexplained](#)' to both our café catch up and regular meetings in September. A reminder about the brief for Experiences of the Unexplained- Have you ever had a brush with the

spiritual world, a stay in a haunted house, a moment of psychic synergy? Make us shiver in our boots with your story of an otherworldly encounter. Tell us the story as it happened, and how you see it now.

Next Café Catchup Monday 5th September 2.30 to 3.30 pm or so by the fire at the Northo; regular session Monday 15th August from 1.30 to 3.30 in W4.

Program News

➤ Opera – Come over to the dark side!

Murder and mayhem; lost love and death! Yes, Opera takes the dark themes and weaves beautiful music around the fanciful stories. Join us to listen to four popular operas. You will recognise some of the music and get to see and hear some of the great performances on recent DVDs.

This program will be held on 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings 21 Warana Court, starting at 7pm.

Dates: October 12 and 26; November 9 and 23.

Presenter: Meg Dillon **Maximum participants 10.**

Enrolment: Contact Meg on 5762 6558 prior to July 25 and after September 1st to enrol.

➤ 'Google Apps'

'Google Apps' is an extremely versatile application, incorporating many free features including Chrome (web browser), email, contacts, docs (word processor), sheets (spreadsheet), calendar, photos, sites (create and maintain your own website). This course is applicable to Windows, iOS and Android users. Participants will be required to have their own tablet, phone or laptop, should be competent in basic use of their device and have a gMail account. Notes on creating a gMail account will be sent on enrolment.

Days: Weekly - 1st Wed; 2nd Tues; 3rd Wed; 4th Tues.

Dates: September 21 & 27; October 5, 11, 19 & 25;

November 2, 8, 16, 22, (29) **Time/Venue:** 2.30 to 3.30 pm in W4 (NB - Tech Savvy Drop In sessions will be held from 1.30 and 2.15 pm on these days)

Presenter: Terry Dillon **Enrolment:** Contact Terry's mobile 0419 343129; email terry@greygypsies.com.au, or add your name to the list on the W4 notice board.

➤ Tech Savvy iPad Lending Program

U3A members who would like to try their hand at using an iPad are able to borrow an iPad and receive some

support from the Tech Savvy group in the early stages. Please contact Bev on 5762 8171 if you are interested in borrowing an iPad.

➤ Ideas for new courses/activities

Chatting with others about possible new course activities, ideas such as 'From Paddock to Plate'; 'Demystifying Psychology'; 'Photography' and 'Mosaics' have been suggested for future follow up. If you have an idea for a course/ activity you would like to run, or have a suggestion for a course/activity, contact Terry Case 5762 1700, Bev Lee 5762 8171 or other member of the executive.

Newsletter/Website News

- Please check your Newsletter and the calendars, group reports and timetables on the website for updates and changes to scheduled meetings.
- If possible, please let your Tutor/Convenor know if you are unable to attend a meeting. Notification is appreciated so that topics/presentations can be adjusted accordingly.
- The next newsletter deadline is on **Monday 26 September** at midday.
- Newsletter reports will be uploaded to the website at the end of that week. Additional photographs for the web can be sent to bevlee47@gmail.com.

Freida Andrews, Newsletter Editor
Bev Lee, Website Manager

Around the Traps

➤ The 23rd Bald Archy Prize 2016

Have you seen the **Bald Archy's** yet? Don't miss the 23rd **Bald Archy Prize 2016** Swanpool Hall (2386 Midland Highway) on show until September 4th. 10 am to 4 pm daily. Dining room open every day for morning tea/afternoon tea and lunch. Enquiries 5768 2400.

➤ Office of the Public Advocate urgently requires volunteers.

Are you interested in a volunteer role where you can make a difference to the lives of people in your community and also hold a prominent volunteer role?

The Office of the Public Advocate is looking for people in the Benalla area to volunteer as Community Visitors. These are unique volunteer positions which are official Victorian Governor in Council appointments.

Community Visitors protect the human rights of people with disabilities by visiting accommodation facilities and monitoring and reporting on the adequacy of services provided.

Training and reimbursement of expenses are provided.

For more information contact the OPA Volunteer Coordinator on 1300 309 337 or at opavolunteers@justice.vic.gov.au

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

