



Benalla and District Inc. Newsletter – May 2016

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The guest speaker for the May Meet & Mingle was not available, but the Flexible Learning Team offered to host a coffee morning allowing students to practise their catering skills. A pleasant session ensued. I filled in with one of my DVDs of old Melbourne street scenes and Dorothy's quiz had members guessing: "What's his name?" seemed popular.

As the newsletter goes to press the first of John Barry's Legal Matters is due. The two sessions were quickly filled. We hope John can run more sessions next year.

We are waiting news of a Federal grant that we sought with the Council. As we are now in election mode the government is in slumber, oops caretaker mode and no decisions can be made till after the elections. Just in case you start grumbling think of the Americans as they struggle through a year of Presidential Primaries before elections!

I have had terrific feed-back on new classes this year and we have been complimented on the wide variety of courses on offer. Two of our members have offered their home for a series of short evening classes for small groups. We will be interested to see how this works out. In June we will host a Regional U3A meeting and that is another opportunity to find out about courses that have worked at one of our neighbouring U3As.

I hope you are enjoying the change of weather as we move into our winter season. I certainly have enjoyed the recent rain after such a dry autumn.

*Terry Case,
President*

Newsletter News

- The Semester II timetable complete with dates is included with this Newsletter.
- 'Program News', a new section in the Newsletter (refer back page) begins this month. Next month it will include some exciting news about the short courses Terry mentioned in his report. Check it out!
- The Newsletter contains important information regarding scheduled meetings. Please check to ensure that you are aware of any changes.
- A message for convenors – while obviously desirable, it isn't compulsory to submit a group report each month. If reports are not received by the newsletter deadline it will be assumed that a report is not required for that month.
- The next newsletter deadline is on **Monday 27 June** at midday.

*Freida Andrews,
Newsletter Editor*

GROUP REPORTS

Armchair History

We now move to studying the Saxons, who seem to have a bad name for murder and plunder; but maybe they were misunderstood!

The first Saxon settlers were retirees from the Roman Legions, which often had Saxon contingents. Saxon retirees stayed in Britain when the Legions pulled out. An English King was so impressed by the Saxons' fighting skills he hired them to help ward off Pictish invaders. Those dastardly Scots were evidently a greater threat to the English.

The Saxons decided England was not a bad place to stay and invited their friends to come over, just like one of those mad Melbourne parties you read about where gate crashers terrify everyone and the police are outnumbered. The next day everyone wakes up with a headache and promises never to drink again... or mess around with Saxons armed to the teeth.

However recent DNA testing results are showing that maybe only 6 - 8% of the English population can trace their ancestry to those evil Saxons, so perhaps the English are not Anglo-Saxon after all?

Armchair Traveller

John & Reina were traveling so Bill & Jane Parris together with Jan Andrews provided the travellers' tales for our May meeting.

Bill and Jane entertained us with their personalised tour of Taiwan, South Korea and Japan where they were either part of a small group or traveling by themselves with a guide. They had the bad luck to travel in the aftermath of a typhoon in Taiwan and the rain seemed to be shadowing their every move. Marj Law wanted to know if they had webbed feet!

Jan showed us some beautiful scenery from the Austrian Alps and then surpassed it with photos of the Australian High Plains country in summer with a focus on Australian wildflowers.

A superb session from our travellers.

Art Appreciation

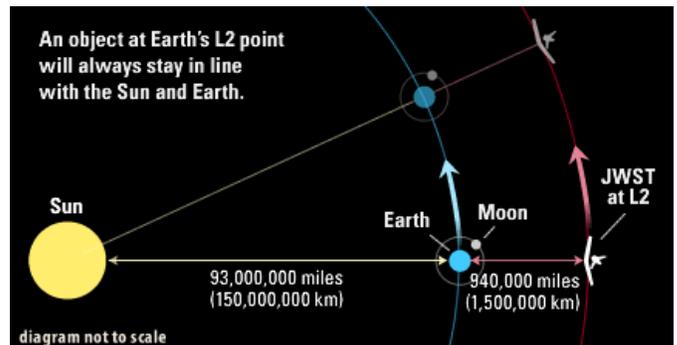
At the last gathering of the Art Appreciation group we sat down for a film which is showing at the Simpson Gallery. The film is a fascinating selection of shorts, newsreels, and propaganda together with feature films produced by the developing local film industry during the First World War. A selection of international content is also included. Well worth a visit.

Our next Art Appreciation visit to the Benalla Art Gallery will be on Monday June 6th at 10:00 am. We will have a tour of the Visa Exhibition of North East Artists in the Bennett Gallery. Please remember your \$2 which goes to the Gallery at the end of the year.

Astronomy

The bright planet that we have seen in the eastern early night sky lately is Jupiter, the giant gas planet. Viewed from a telescope or strong binoculars four of its moons are visible." Io, Europa, Gannymede and Callisto". At our last meeting, Martin spoke on the 67 moons of Jupiter. They are of varying sizes, some of them have been passing asteroids captured by the planets strong gravity. Bev added information on the composition of Jupiter, its molten metal core and gravitational field. An unmanned space ship is scheduled to arrive to study Jupiter in July.

Dick has been studying the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) which is due to be launched on an Ariane 5 rocket in 2018. It will unfold itself and go into orbit 1,500,000 km from Earth at Lagrange point 2. No chance to fix this one! Its primary goal is infrared observation and scientists aspire to look back to the very early universe. We followed this talk with a film titled The Future of Space Astronomy, featuring the James Webb's capabilities.



Jan rounded off our afternoon with a thought provoking article which drew much discussion. *NASA discoveries show that there may be tens of billions of Earth like planets in the Milky Way. A simple conservative equation shows that there must be between tens of thousands to millions of intelligent civilizations in our galaxy.*

If there is intelligent life on other planets they would have thought of interstellar space travel and developed it. So where is everyone? Have their civilizations been destroyed before they reach this goal or are we just too far apart to know of each other's existence? Which keeps bringing us back to the question: Is there really anyone else out there?

Bird Watching

Eleven members of the group visited Reef Hill State Park, 5km south of Benalla, on Thursday morning 9 June. Rain threatened but we stayed dry while doing several walks from the picnic area on Reef Hills Road. Birding was pretty quiet. A few Grey Shrike-thrushes flew into the trees above us, and a White-throated Treecreeper landed nearby. It took some time, but most of the group finally got a look at a male Scarlet Robin. We also had distant views of 2 large groups of White-winged Choughs.

At our next meeting we will visit a property on the Broken River 5 km out of Benalla on the Shepparton Road. Thanks to Carole and Godfrey, whose son and daughter-in-law own the property, and who have arranged our visit to this lovely spot.

Thursday 9 June - Meet at the Barkly St car park at 10am.....and please bring your ideas for semester 2.

Kathy Costello

Brain Games

The next meeting of Brain Games is scheduled for Monday 6th June at 1.30pm in W4.

Bushwalking

**Easy and Mid-week walk - Wednesday May 11
Huggins Lookout - Bright and Wandiligong.**

Twelve walkers met at the old tennis courts to set off for Bright on a rather cloudy morning. It started raining when we reached Myrtleford which was rather ominous, but we drove on and had a morning tea stop at Centenary Park in Bright. The rain stopped and we drove to Deacon Avenue to start the climb to Huggins Lookout. The view over the township was great, with quite a lot of autumn colour. After a lot of looking and chatting we went back down to the cars.

Then on to Alpine Park, Wandiligong where we had lunch before setting off for the Wandil Wander. It started at the footbridge over Morses creek, up to School Road where we had great views over the township. It was interesting to see an orchard of persimmons, the trees loaded with lovely golden fruit. Walking south we continued over the Royal Bridge to the "Diggings" where we visited the new building on the site of the old Joss House, and in the opposite direction to the Chinese Bridge. Then on to the Swing

Bridge and back to Alpine Park for afternoon tea. The rain started again just as we were leaving to come home. As Vaughan was unable to come on this great walk we had many leaders which created a lot of talk.

Marion

Easy Walk - Wednesday 1 June

The Spit in the Winton Wetlands. With the cooler weather, there should be less snakes, so we will do a short version of the Spit walk in the Winton Wetlands. It is an interesting area with historic geological importance. *We will leave Benalla at 10.00am.*

Midweek walk - Wednesday 8 June

Sue Pendergast will be leading the walk on the South Blue Range near Mansfield. We walk along the conglomerate ridge with great views of the Alps to the East and Lake Eildon to the west.

Ring Sue on 5768 2403 or 0428 401 690 for details.

Easy walk - July 6 will be on the Sunrise track, Warby Ranges. On the sunny side of the range, there is a climb for a start, with good views. *Ring Vaughan Cowan 5762 1980. We will leave Benalla at 10.00am.*

Chat n' Chew



The May Chat 'N Chew was a great success, with 42 people taking up two long tables at the Benalla Golf Club's restaurant.

Coming up:

Friday June 17th, 12.00 noon at KIMWAH RESTAURANT
Bookings/To cancel - prior to Tuesday 14th. Phone Margaret 5762 5109 (Shirley and Gwen away cruising in northern and western Australia. Wow! Be good, will see you in July.)

Friday July 15th, 11.45 am at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL
Phone: Shirley 5762 6768

Collectors

Once again we had a wide variety of items including fountain pens, dolls, jugs, painted rocks, hats, a brass camel, black wedgwood and peg dolls. The stories attached to these collections are sometimes as interesting as the collection themselves.

Shirley brought along scales which she bought at an auction in a very old and mouldy cardboard box containing lots of black objects which she recognised as scales. Now beautifully polished, with a missing part they make a lovely display.



The scales came from Mrs. Sherwill's Fruit Shop in Carrier Street, Benalla. Some members' were able to remember this shop in the 1950's which was next door to Rossmore Private Hospital which is now occupied by Edspace.



Bev and Janette with the toy electric stove

We were pleased to welcome Bev's sister Janette who brought along their mother's toy electric stove, complete with a tiny oven in which she remembered cooking cup-cakes as a child.

Next month guest speaker Graydon Johnson from GW Gadd Antiques of Avenel and Chiltern will attend.

Comparative Religion

Our discussion subject this month was on the Quaker movement – more correctly known as the Society of

Friends, sometimes shortened to Friends. While many people know that they are pacifists, we found that their other beliefs and approaches interesting. They have a very strong belief in equality. This transfers across all aspects in their lives and is demonstrated in their services.

Their weekly gatherings are called meetings, where everyone is equal. They have no priests or ministers, no ceremonies or rituals, they sit quietly, often in a circle as no-one is superior. People may stand and provide brief comments on their thoughts, but this is not mandatory. They do elect elders to manage the business of the group, and have a more business related meeting once a month. In marriage, both partners are equal, not one superior to the other. This even applies to same-gender relationships which have been accepted in the movement for many years. In Australia, there is a large group of Friends in Hobart. They established a school around 1886. This is the largest Quaker school in the world, spread across three campuses in Hobart. We were pleased to have another U3A member who had been a student at the school for 9 years, visit us for the session. She provided valuable information about the school and the movement, although she was not a member of the Society of Friends. The school is open to all, another example of the deep sense of equality in the movement.

Important Note: For all members of the Comparative Religion Group, there has been a change to the plans for our June session. The visit to a mosque in Shepparton will not take place until later in the year, so our June session will take place as usual on the first Wednesday of the month – 1 June. It will be a mixed bag of subjects which may include DVD's about the Sacred Sites of Britain and some study of the principles of Islam in preparation for a cultural/religious tour to Shepparton later in the year.

E Book Group

Our novel for May was *The Harp in the South* by Ruth Park, first published in 1948. The edition we had on our Kindles included the three inter-related novels: *Missus*, *The Harp in the South*, and *Poor Man's Orange*. These follow the lives of the Darcy family from the Outback to the inner urban slums of Sydney. Filled with intriguing characters and beautiful writing which describes the family's relationships and struggle to find their place in

a world of poverty and violence, they are great novels in the social realist tradition.

Film and Literature

There has been some confusion about the start time for Film and Literature. *To avoid further confusion, let's start the session at 1:00pm.* This will allow us to watch some longer movies, and still have time to discuss the movie afterwards.

If you have any questions or ideas for future movies, give Joy a call on 0417 065 351.

Garden Appreciation

The late April trip to Coombe Cottage in the gardens of Dame Nellie Melba's home at Coldstream was a great success. A slide show of photographs can be viewed on the website.



Photograph – Sandie Chrimes

Thursday June 23rd

Meet at the Flexible Learning car park at 10am, then on to Lou's at 14 Church Street, Benalla. Lou has two new green houses in her back yard and will have perennials and plants grown from seed from all around the world. Lou will talk about growing from seed and plants will be for sale. Lunch at the Commercial Hotel, Benalla.

Thursday July 28th

We will have our meeting at Benalla's Sir Edward Weary Dunlop Learning Centre. Guest speaker **Janice Mentiplay-Smith** will talk on Birds, Plants and much more. Morning tea at 9:45am. Lunch at Rustick Cafe. Park in the car park near the Library.

August – Our winter break.

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 Glenrowan.

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. For more information phone Gwen - 0438627010 or 57627017.

Garden Team

Very welcome heavy rain saw our usual second Monday in May cancelled. As there are five Mondays in May we are able to work in Violet Town on Monday 30th. The June meeting will be scheduled for the Monday after the Queen's birthday - June 20th, venue to be decided.

Investment

At the May meeting of Investment we had an interesting talk by one of our members Graham Mitchell. Graham told us about the involvement of the former Investment Group 1 with the Age Share Race in the Sunday Age up to the end of 2015. He spoke about the short time – namely two days that participants were given to choose their stocks, and how his involvement in the competition spanned many years. Thank you, Graham for an interesting talk.

As it was coming to the end of the financial year we also looked at record keeping for a share portfolio. The other aspect that we discussed were some small value stocks which had made very significant gains since the beginning of 2016.

The next meeting of Investment will be on Friday 3rd June at 1.15pm in W4.

Let's Talk Books

The highlight of our group this month was Shirley Vickers, telling us the story of how she came to have a book of children's poems written by a friend who had passed away. It was beautifully illustrated and we enjoyed Shirley reading *Morning Magpie* to us.

We then meandered on through *Room* by Emma Donohue which was shown as a movie at Swanpool, *The Last Song* by Nicholas Sparks – a family saga, and *The Lucky One* a story of Iraq that was also made into a movie. *Brooklyn* was enjoyed as a film but our reader enjoyed the book as well along with *Ralph* the story of a therapy dog at the RCH. Fiona McIntosh's *Perfume Secrets* was not enjoyed as much as her previous book *The Lavender Keeper*. Catherine Cookson made an appearance with *Desert Crop*. I think we have all read Catherine over the years.

On listening to ABC radio in April, a new biography of Charlotte Bronte was mentioned. This gave rise to much discussion on the Bronte's and their various skills in writing. All in all a very enjoyable afternoon.

See you all on the 7th June at 2.00pm at the Library.

Lifeball

Lifeball is played every Monday at 10am 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

Morning tea at Meet and Mingle was this month provided by students' from the Flexible Learning Centre who are doing a Barista course. They served cappuccino, flat whites, long blacks and tea. A big thank you to those concerned.

We also had a quiz with pen and pencil provided. No-one got all 20 questions correct, but it provided some thought provoking fun and reminded some of us to brush up on our general knowledge in case there is another quiz at future meetings.

Following this Terry showed some very old sections of early movies. The one of Ned Kelly was badly damaged but was all that could be salvaged from a much earlier era. Another showing scenes from early Melbourne provided much comment as members recognised buildings and commented on the fashions of the time. A picture of a train at Richmond station with Dimmy's building in the background provided much interest.

Music Appreciation

13 May 2016

Freida presented the session. She chose the classical guitarists, the Grigoryan Brothers. Slava, born 1976 in Kazakhstan (the then USSR) and Leonard, born in 1985 in Australia, after the family emigrated.

They played *The Seasons*, by Pytr Tchaikovsky – a set of twelve short character pieces for solo piano. Each piece is the characteristic of a different month of the year in the northern hemisphere.

Freida narrated the poems relating to each month of the year – prior to the music.

Patchwork



Photograph: Dorothy Webber

Progress is continuing to be made on quilts, with these quilts among those shared during 'show and tell' in May. Patchwork group members regularly make and distribute beautiful to organizations including the Benalla Hospital, Children's Hospital and respite services—some for fundraising, others to be put in use. This month the group participated in a longer session to work on patchwork quilts for refugee families with children who are currently being settled in Albury/Wodonga. Patchwork will meet at The Hub, Cooina on the 2nd and 16th June.

Play Reading

Background: In the summer of 1893, Oscar Wilde began writing *An Ideal Husband*, and he completed it later that winter. After being initially rejected the play became very successful at the Haymarket Theatre giving the theatre the success it desperately needed. Of interest, after opening on 3 January 1895, it continued for 124 performances. In April of that year, Wilde was arrested for 'gross indecency' and his name was publicly taken off the play.

Themes: Many of the themes of *An Ideal Husband* were influenced by the situation Oscar Wilde found himself in during the early 1890s. They stressed the

need to be forgiven of past sins, and the irrationality of ruining lives of great value to society because of people's hypocritical reactions to those sins. This is the case in the play when Mrs. Cheveley attempts to blackmail Sir Robert to support a fraudulent scheme to build a canal in Argentina. As it turns out, Sir Robert gained inside information on the Suez Canal when he was quite young and made his enormous fortune as a result. Now he could be ruined for life. Wilde may have been speaking to his own situation, and his own fears regarding his affair (still secret). Anyway, Sir Robert's wife is inflexible regarding her morals and attitude to life and insists that Sir Robert is "an ideal husband". That soon changes when she finds out about Robert's past. She could not forgive him! However, Lord Goring, something of a playboy, convinces her to forgive him and Robert remains the "ideal husband" once again.

Other themes include the position of women in society. In a climactic moment Gertrude Chiltern "learns her lesson" and repeats Lord Goring's advice "A man's life is of more value than a woman's." Often criticized by contemporary theatre analysers as overt sexism, the idea being expressed in the monologue is that women, despite serving as the source of morality in Victorian era marriages, should be less judgemental of their husband's mistakes because of complexities surrounding the balance that husbands of that era had to keep between their domestic and their worldly obligations.[3][4] Further, the script plays against both sides of feminism/sexism as, for example, Lord Caversham, exclaims near the end that Mabel displays "a good deal of common sense" after concluding earlier that "Common sense is the privilege of our sex."

A third theme expresses anti-upper class sentiments. Lady Basilton, and Lady Markby are consistently portrayed as absurdly two-faced, saying one thing one moment, then turning around to say the exact opposite (to great comic effect) to someone else. The overall portrayal of the upper class in England displays an attitude of hypocrisy and strict observance of silly rules.

The play was read over two meetings and our group had lots of laughs and delightful opportunities to overact. The issues raised stimulated our group into lengthy discussion for some time after the reading ended. In all, a most enjoyable experience.

Our next reading is the Australian play *Summer of the 17th Doll* by Ray Lawler.

Politics and Current Affairs

Indi seems to keep getting in the news, we are seeing Federal Party leaders in the electorate, Barnaby Joyce being the most recent visitor, anything to do with a marginal seat?

The American Presidential campaign makes our "long" Federal election look a bit tame. Having spent the first half of the year battling to be their Party's nominee the two successful candidates will press on till November attacking each other. I wonder if they'd vote for a constitutional monarchy!

Rail and Tourism

At our May 3rd meeting, we covered three areas. Firstly Bill took us to the former Kettle Valley Railway in south west Canada. One of the reasons for building was to try to keep James J Hill's Great Northern Railway out of Canada. Then he moved to the USA State of Oregon - Bill's favourite State! The town of La Grande was covered. Le Grande (Population 9,000) is in the Blue Mountains, which cause the Union Pacific Railway severe operational problems each winter!

The third area covered was the Mt St Helens Volcano, just over the border in Washington State. Bill followed the build up and eruption on May 18th 1980. His last day in USA 1999 was spent on a day tour to Johnston Ridge Observatory, 5 miles from the caldera. The observatory commemorates David Johnston who was blown up in the eruption. This observatory is buried under snow for months each year! The DVD shown was *Winter Blues* on how the UP Railway copes with all the snow of winter!

Next meeting is on Tuesday 7th June at 0930.

We start our trip through the Canadian Rockies, going from east to west, over 4 sessions. The first segment is from Calgary to Field. Bill does not have a DVD of the area but will show a terrific DVD on the famous Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad in Colorado and New Mexico.

Singing for Fun

There was a great article in the Age recently about singing and music. Recent studies suggest that singing just doesn't just make us happy, it also reduces stress. Choirs provide a natural antidote to feelings of isolation and loneliness. Perhaps we should call ourselves *Singing for Fun and Well being*.

We've been singing with great enthusiasm especially when we sing - *I love a piano, a grand piano!*

Tech Savvy

The worldwide U3A movement incorporates the concept of reciprocal lifelong learning, with members as far as possible being both teachers and learners.

This was very positively demonstrated at Tech Savvy's May session when photography buff Ken Jenkins gave a most informative presentation on developing the understanding required to make an informed choice when buying a camera. Ken drew upon on his extensive collection of cameras and accessories when discussing cameras from today's mobile phone cameras through to the cameras, lenses and accessories used by keen amateur and professional photographers.



Ken Jenkins with his cameras

After the break the 'Techsavvies' working group discussed topics including 'screens and sleep deprivation' and the recurring question of whether to install Windows 10. Apart from behavioural changes required to restore healthy sleep patterns, there are apps for shifting the colour temperature of screens away from the blue end towards a warmer colour and reducing the intensity of the blue light. One manufacturer produces a 'low blue light monitor' for pcs. Things to watch out for with Windows 10 include making sure whether you need a 32 bit version or 64 bit version.

The 'Mentors' working group and some interested others worked with Terry Dillon on further developing understanding and skills in using Drop Box.

During the session Bev presented a 'quarterly briefing' on the development of the Tech Savvy Drop In program and the Google Apps ten session course commencing in mid September. Terry Dillon will present on photography related computer skills as part of our June session. Tech Savvy will continue its monthly sessions as planned in Semester II.

Tech Savvy Drop In

May's 'Drop In' sessions focused on 'Sharing' – sharing of photographs through messaging and emails; forwarding of emails in which others have sent links and an introduction to the use of Drop Box for file sharing. 'Apps' for Word puzzles 'Bonza' and scrabble-like 'Words with Friends' continued to be added to participants' devices and we've had reports of uptake at home. Jenny Sawyer introduced her 'Three Pillars' for iPhone users – "keep your Apple ID password handy; develop a comprehensive 'Contacts' list and keep a notebook of passwords as so many Apps require them". The Android group also took a look at passwords; using devices as GPS; and file storage on mobile phones.



Tech Savvy Drop In (Android) break out group working with Terry Dillon on using GPS function in mobile devices.

Planning is already going ahead for next semester. From mid September the TSDI format will change slightly, with an informal 'Drop In' component in the first half of our timetabled sessions. In the second half Terry Dillon will be running a ten session 'Google Apps' course on the many free features available through Google Apps. Resources continue to be added to the Tech Savvy Drop In website – see for example www.u3abenallatsdropin.weebly.com/sharing.

Speaking of on line word puzzles, did you know that there's a daily crossword on Victoria's Seniors Online

website at

<https://www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/services-information/games/crossword?>

Towards a Sustainable Future

With the elections coming up members of our group are busy monitoring how the major parties and local candidates are responding in terms of recognition of 'human induced' climate change and sustainability issues.

It seems that human beings faced with uncertainty, such as about climate change, have a psychological tendency to wishful thinking; that they are more likely to change views about topics such as climate change when they have personal meaning. Noticing incremental changes as part of daily living –switching on our main heating source later than usual; heavy wool coats and jumpers rarely used; changes in our gardens –can be important first steps in becoming concerned about climate change.

Our farming community is particularly involved in monitoring climate on both a daily and an incremental change basis. Scientists who are skeptical about human induced climate change are a very small minority, but they have an impact by increasing uncertainty in the community.

The sustainability 'wise old owls' in our class are certainly looking out for informed leadership on this topic. We continue to find the Coalition government response rather mixed and be more optimistic about our State and local government response. Benalla Rural City council has published two important documents related to climate change and is clearly receptive to community feedback. This month our facilitator, John Lloyd, presented a BSFG proposal to council on developing a community energy project for Benalla. This proposal incorporates current thinking on many of the topics we have discussed in class. A copy of John's presentation can be found on our webpage.

As a bit of fun, at our last session John introduced us to 'Jobson Growth' who has been featuring in The Age letters page recently ...May 6 'A few years ago I taught a little boy who wrote that he liked Jim Nastics. I assumed it was a little Greek friend until I found out he liked exercising. Now I want to meet Scott Morrison's friend Jobson Growth'. ...May 13 'when will the libs

introduce the wife of Jobson Growth, Laura Norder?' and May 17 'Dr Jobson Growth and his esteemed CSIRO colleagues have been sacrificed on the altar of Ignor Amus....' It was good to have a laugh together!

Wine Appreciation

Wednesday 22nd June 2016

Meet at car park at 10.00am for travel along three chain road to Bullers Rutherglen. Since our group last visited there nine years ago the business changed ownership in 2013 so expect changes and new varieties. Lunch at Tuileries restaurant.

Wednesday 27th July 2016

Meet at car park at 10.30am to proceed to Moyhu and hear of Merkel Wines - a new label - before lunch at the Moyhu Hotel.

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

Writing Workshop

Our May topic 'Shaped by Childhood' resulted in the sharing of thought provoking stories on how influences such as particular teachers; attending ballet classes and recognition of sporting prowess have shaped our lives.

The topic for the 20th June session, 'Faking It', is rather quirky and relates to the saying 'Fake it till you make it'. It involves writing about a time when you had to appear more accomplished or at ease with something than you actually felt! Here is the brief for '[Faking It](#)' from the ABC's 500 words project: *Have you ever inflated your credentials to land a coveted job, told a silly lie to save face in front of a new acquaintance or felt well and truly out of your comfort zone when you tried something new? Perhaps faking it helped you gain the experience or tools necessary to bring about real change, whether you were pretending to the world or just deluding yourself. How did you feel at the time, and how do you feel about it now? Did your fakery ever get found out? Did you surprise anyone, even yourself?* Alternative topics include an unrepresented topic; a topic from the alternative topics sheet; 'The Year that Made Me'; or 'Desert Island discs' – describe five pieces of music you would like to have with you if you found yourself alone on a desert island and why.

Our next cafe catch up will be on the 6th June from 2.30 to 3.30 pm in the back room of 'Somewhere' cafe, next door to the new Council offices. Bring along 'alternative topic' stories; unshared stories (e.g. if you

wrote two versions of one topic); stories from missed sessions; writing of your own you would like to share/discuss. At our last meeting we agreed that if we find our selected cafe is not open when we arrive, we will meet at Rustick cafe.

Program News

The general pattern of timetabled classes for Semester II remains largely the same as Semester I. A detailed Semester II timetable has been included in this newsletter.

A number of short courses have been timetabled later in the year, including

➤ '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 to participants on enrolment. It has been scheduled in the second hour of the Tech Savvy Drop In timeslot for 10 weeks.

Presenter: **Terry Dillon** 5762 6558

1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays and 3rd Wednesday – 2.30 to 3.30pm in W4.

Dates: September 21 & 27; October 4, 11, 19 & 25; November 8, 16, 22, 29

News of two other short courses, including an exciting new 'Opera Series', will be included in the next newsletter.

Around the Traps...

U3A Art Appreciation at the Gallery



There is always a group of stayers in the cafe after the Art Appreciation session at the Benalla Art Gallery!

Chat 'n Chew at the Benalla Golf Club



Forty two U3A members attended Chat 'n Chew at the Benalla Golf Club in May.

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

U3A BENALLA

TIMETABLE FOR SEMESTER TWO 2016 – July-November

No classes on Public Holidays / School holiday classes in W4 shown in brackets, tutors note!

| Course/Activity | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Convenor |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Armchair History: 2 nd &4 th Friday 1.15-3.15-pm | (8 th) 22 nd | 12 th 26 th | 9 th (23 rd) | 14 th 28 th | 11 th 25 th | Terry Case 5762 1700 |
| Armchair Traveller 3rd Tuesday 10 – 12.00 July and November | 19 th | | | | 15 th | John Avery 5762 1818 |
| Art Appreciation Benalla Art Gallery 1 st Monday 10 - 11 a.m. | 4 th | 1 st | 5 th | 3 rd | 7 th | Carole & Godfrey Marple 5762 6165 |
| Astronomy 3 rd Tuesday 1.30-3.30pm | 19 th | 16 th | (20 th) | 18 th | 15 th | Bev Morton 5764 1245 |
| Birdwatching 2 nd Thursday 10-12.00 | 14 th | No class | 8 th | 13 th | 10 th | Kathy Costello 5762 5755 |
| Brain Games 1st Monday 1.30-3.30 | (4 th) | 1 st | 5 th | 3 rd | 7 th | Elsbeth Maconachie 0418621764 |
| Bushwalking Meet in car park 2 nd Wednesday all day | 13 th | 10 th | 14 th | 12 th | 9 th | Vaughan Cowan 5762 1980 |
| Chat n' Chew Varied venues 3 rd Friday. 11.45 - 1.45 | 15 th | 19 th | 16 th | 21 st | 18 th | Shirley Kearney 5762 6768 |
| Collectors 3 rd Monday 10-12 | 18 th | 15 th | (19 th) | | | Judith Borthwick 5762 3442 |
| Comparative Religion 1 st Wed 1.00 - 3.00 to 3.30 pm | (6 th) | 3 rd | 7 th | 5 th | 2 nd | Mike Larkin 5767 2323/ 0428273613 |
| E Book Group 1 st Tues. 10-12noon Benalla Library | 5 th | 2 nd | 6 th | 4 th | (*Cup Day/TBA) | Helen Scheller 5762 3937 Meg Dillon 5762 6558 |
| Easy Walks 1 st Wednesday all day (meet in car park) | 6 th | 3 rd | 7 th | 5 th | 2 nd | Vaughan Cowan 5762 1980 |
| Film & Literature 2nd Wednesday 1.00 - 3.00 /3.30 pm | 13 th | 10 th | 14 th | 12 th | 9 th | Joy Shirley 0417065351 |
| Garden Appreciation (meet in car park) 4 th Thursday all day | 28 th | 25 th | 22 nd | 27 th | 24 th | Gwen Turner 5762 7017 |
| Garden Team 2 nd & 5 th Monday 2 – 4 p.m. | 11 th | 8 th 29 th | 12 th | 10 th 31 st | 14 th | Elsbeth Maconachie 0428621764 |
| Investment 1 st Friday 1.15-3.15 pm | (1 st) | 5 th | 2 nd | 7 th | 4 th | Margaret Jenkins 5762 6944 |

| Course/Activity | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Convenor |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| Let's talk books 1 st Tuesday 2-4 pm Benalla Library | 5 th | 2 nd | 6 th | 4 th | (*Cup Day/TBA) | G McCorkell 5762 2134 L Knox 5762 1531 |
| Libeball Indoor Rec. Centre 10 am every Monday 90 mins. | 4 th 11 th 18 th 25 th | 1 st 8 th 15 th 22 nd 29 th | 5 th 12 th 19 th 26 th | 3, 10, 17 24, 31 st | 7 th 14 th 21 st 28 th | Marg Merriman 5762 1404 |
| Meet and Mingle 3 rd Wednesday 10 a.m. – 12 noon | 20 th | 17 th | 21 st | 19 th | 16 th | Dorothy Webber 5762 2116 L Knox 5762 1531 |
| Music Appreciation 2 nd & 4 th Friday 10 a.m. – 12 noon | 8 th 22 nd | 12 th 26 th | 9 th (23 rd) | 14 th 28 th | 11 th 25 th | John Avery 5762 1818 |
| Opera 21 Warana Court 2 nd and 4 th Wed at 7 pm | | | | 12 th 26 th | 9 th 23 rd | Meg Dillon 57626558 |
| Patchwork The Hub, Cooina 1 st and 3 rd Thursday 1-4 p.m. | 7 th 21 st | 4 th 18 th | 1 st 15 th | 6 th 20 th | 3 rd 17 th | Dorothy Webber 5762 2116 |
| Play Reading 1 st Wednesday 9.45-12.15/30 | (6 th) | 3 rd | 7 th | 5 th | 2 nd | Keith Rogers 5762 4086 |
| Politics & Current Affairs 2 nd & 4 th Tuesday 10 – 12 noon | 12 th 26 th | 9 th 23 rd | 13 th (27 th) | 11 th 25 th | 8 th 22 nd | Terry Case 5762 1700 |
| Rail & Tourism 1 st Tuesday 9.30-12.00 noon Final Class - October | No Class (5 th) | 2 nd | 6 th | 4 th | No Class (Cup day) | Bill Dewing 5762 5883 |
| Singing for Fun (Baptist Church 57 Bridge St W) 1 st & 3 rd Thursday 10-12 | 7 th 21 st | 4 th 18 th | 1 st 15 th | 6 th 20 th | 3 rd 17 th | Joyce Borschmann 5762 5013 |
| Harmony Group (Baptist Church) 2 nd Thursday 10 – 12 noon | 14 th | 11 th | 8 th | 13 th | 10 th | |
| Tech Savvy 2 nd Wed 10-12 | 13 th | 10 th | 14 th | 12 th | 9 th | Bev Lee 5762 8171 |
| Tech Savvy Drop In (Microsoft/Android Users) 2 nd & 4 th Tues 1.30-3.30pm | 12 th 26 th | 9 th 23 rd | 13 th 27 th *G | 21 st & 27 th Sept; 4 th , 11 th , 19 th & 25 th Oct: 8 th , 16 th , 22 nd and 29 th Nov - TSDI 1.30 to 2.15 pm; Google Apps course from 2.30 to 3.30 pm. | Bev Lee 5762 8171; Terry Dillon 5762 6558 | |
| Tech Savvy Drop In (Apple Users) 1 st & 5 th Tuesday and 3 rd Wednesday 1.30 to 3.30pm | (5 th) 20 th | 2 nd 17 th | 6 th (21 st)*G | | Bev Lee 5762 8171; Terry Dillon 5762 6558 | |
| Towards a Sustainable Future 1 st & 3 rd Friday 9.30 – 11.30 a.m. | (1 st) 15 th | 5 th 19 th | 2 nd 16 th | 7 th 21 st | 4 th 18 th | John Lloyd 5765 2476 |
| Wine Appreciation Meet in car park 4 th Wednesday all day | 27 th | 24 th | 28 th | 26 th | 23 rd | Noel Meagher 5762 3149 K & H Rogers 5762 4086 |
| Writing Workshop 3 rd Monday 1.30-3.30pm | 18 th | 15 th | (19 th) | 17 th | 21 st | Bev Lee 5762 8171 |
| Executive 2 nd Thursday 1.30-3.30 | 14 th | 11 th | 8 th | 13 th | 10 th | Terry Case 5762 1700 |