



Benalla and District Inc.

Newsletter – August 2023

U3A Benalla & District Inc

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

President's Report

The U3A Benalla Committee has started to think about courses for 2024. We have the offer of a *Social Chess* group from Doug Smith as Convenor. *Social Chess* could start this year if members are interested and would be an alternative to people playing Chess online. For players of all levels, those playing would be matched with a partner of a similar level, be it experienced, intermediate or beginner where numbers allow. If you are interested, please contact Doug Smith on 0417 527 171.

The second course being considered for 2024 is *French Conversation*. Our German group has thrived under Horst Gunther, which makes us think that a French conversation group could be worthwhile. We have a probable Convenor for this group, and more information will be available later in the year.

The third course we are investigating for 2024, *Pickleball*, was prompted by Judy Amery, who attended a recent 'come and try day' in Benalla. Pickleball can be played either indoors or outdoors on a court similar to a badminton court. It is flexible in numbers with groups of 4, 8 or 12 for doubles. Singles can also be played.

The Committee are interested to hear about any other ideas for new groups in 2024.

It is envisaged that the U3A office will be open half a day a week, as from early January 2024. There will be a roster which we hope will be filled not only by members of the committee, but also other U3A members. Some training will be available on policies and procedures, equipment and so on. The value of having the office open is that members of the public can ask about our programs, get a tour of the building and obtain membership forms. If you are interested in helping with this opening of the office, please contact me on 5762 6944.

We have applied for a Get Online Week grant from the Good Things Foundation. We are planning on holding a BBQ on Wednesday 18th October at 12 noon, and hopefully enjoying lunch on the veranda of the Benalla Seniors Centre. More details in our next Newsletter.

U3A Benalla have been notified that we have been granted a speaking slot at the meeting of Benalla Rural City Council on 30 August. This will allow us to make our argument for an increase in the number of meeting rooms available at the Benalla Senior and Community Centre in Fawckner Drive. We are well aware that we have very limited capacity available in these rooms for future increase in programs.

Margaret Jenkins

Group Reports

Art Appreciation

On Monday 4th July we listened to a talk given by local elder and artist Desiree Walker.

Desiree Walker is an Auntie within the Indigenous Community and has devoted herself to learning how to make authentic indigenous products and handiwork as they were in the past. She has made herself familiar with weaving techniques used in basket making and fish traps. She has used this knowledge to not only to

reproduce artifacts but to also use these methods in the production of artworks that stand on their own. Her work is on display in the Gallery under the title *Interwoven: Stories of Country from North and South*.

The title for the Gallery's next 'First Mondays' on 7th August is '*Cooper and Spowart Artists Talk*'. Local Benalla artists Victoria Cooper and Doug Spowart 'traverse themes, both personal and political, in the investigation of 'site' and 'place' in the Australian landscape....Their work is resolved as visual narrative in the form of online media, wall works, artists' books or photobooks.' Join other members for coffee and a chat at the Munro & Sargent Cafe after the session.

Neville Gibb

'As Time Goes By' – Memoir Writing

This month we welcomed back Jill from her overseas travels.

Responses to Bev's invitation to write a brief paragraph on the theme of childhood hobbies varied from those who could list a variety of hobbies sampled, those of us who had difficulty identifying a childhood hobby given the nature of our childhood and those whose hobby became a lifelong passion or interest.

Thus, to our individual memoirs: Graham shared his addiction to Catan under the previous theme of "I quit" and Barry disclosed why he quit after 'deep and meaningful' discussions with his US based managing director who had revealed significant changes in remuneration.

Within the theme, '*What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas*', Heather wowed us, recounting a time she was the only female scrutineer at the 1985 Grand Prix in Adelaide. In a very masculine environment, Heather was able to create a comfortable niche among the scrutineers and their families when she reassured the men that 'what happens in Adelaide stays in Adelaide'.

Neville took an alternate track and discussed what historically happened in Vegas. He introduced us to a colorful description of its history and Frank Sinatra's role in breaking down the colour bar in a very segregated town. Bev intriguingly acknowledged caution in sharing 'Vegas' moments from visits to Kings Cross and Bangkok. Looking forward to the unexpurgated memoir!

Jill's '*True confession*' memoir found her in the pink! A very welcome pregnancy 'blessed' by her husband's tears of joy, as Toby revealed his gender to his dad and a very surprised mum. Writing in the third person, Ray brought into view the source of his early inferiority complex. Originally very self conscious and shy, Ray celebrated how far he had come from this child with all his accomplishments and public recognition through an OAM.

Heather, '*changed her mind*', particularly as we followed her intriguing, and ultimately very successful career path across national boundaries and occupations. Will her retirement follow a similar path? That is for another memoir.

Under the general theme 'Member's Choice', in '*A Steep Learning Curve*', Carmyl engaged us with the challenges and adventure of becoming a youth worker at the age of 50. From opening a youth centre, to abseiling, to motorbike riding, Carmyl led us through a cavalcade of experiences that many of us could only imagine. Finally, in '*My Family and Other Animals*', Phiona entertained us with a variety of four-legged family pets which populated her homes in Melbourne and on King Island and educated her through farm stays. She also revealed the challenges of returning pet lambs to a larger flock expecting them to submit to the will of an assertive sheep dog.

Next month's topics : Topic 1 '**Retirement**' - Retirement is a transition which can be quite complex, involve a range of losses, be dreaded, involve celebrations and be looked forward to, indeed all of the above! ... Share the story of your retirement from a role which was important to you at some stage of your life – how did you negotiate it? How did you feel about the transition at the time? How do you feel about it now? or

Topic 2 '**An item of clothing which symbolizes a time in my life**' - Write a story about an item of clothing you still have (or have a photo of) which symbolizes a time or event in your life. Tell the story surrounding the clothing, the context in which it appeared in your life, significant moments which occurred while wearing it, what it means to you, why you find it hard to let go. Try to bring along the item of clothing, or a photo of it, if you can!

Graham Jensen

Armchair History

July's sessions included Melody's focus on post Federation (1901) to World War One. The political, social and economic conditions of the time were explored. Topics included the three political parties and their

ideologies that formed the first parliament. The white Australia policy, Aboriginal Protection Acts of the States, voting rights, working conditions, child labour laws, vagrancy laws and unemployment also featured. The thinking and ideological perspectives of the time were also discussed in terms of their relevance today.

Jane also contributed during July, providing two short presentations on Bruce Pascoe's controversial book "Dark Emu: Black Seeds" and Henry Reynolds' seminal work "Truth Telling". Jane described finding both books, which view old information through a different lens, energising in this year of a Referendum related to Australian First Nations people and the Constitution.

Melody Finnerty and Jane Rushworth

Be Connected

While the Semester I *Be Connected - Managing Money On-Line* and *Tech Savvy Apple - Pages* courses have finished, Robyn's *Tech Savvy Beginners - Android* class continues to draw upon [Be Connected Topic Library](#).

If successful in receiving a Good Foundations grant, we will be holding a BBQ on Wednesday 18th October at 12 noon, and hopefully enjoying lunch on the veranda of the Benalla Seniors Centre.

'Tech Advice' one to one sessions for members experiencing problems operating mobiles, tablets or laptops continue to be available by appointment during Semester II. Contact Robyn (Android Devices) 0403 164 931 or Jenny (Apple Devices) 0409 545 182*.

The Be Connected Team – Margaret Jenkins, Robyn Lukey and Jenny Sawyer

Brain Games

Mental flexibility, lateral thinking, word manipulation, ambidexterity and visual acuity... we're building on all of these. Perhaps you'd like to test us with a sudden question or a poser to solve?

Elsbeth Maconachie

Bushwalking – Easy Walks

Eldorado Loop

Once again, we studied the rain radar intently, with 13 walkers setting off from tiny Gunhouse Park in the centre of Eldorado. The track to the Eldorado dredge winds through town and then moves onto parklands, and the dredge itself, as always, was a spectacular sight surrounded by high flowing creeks. Our photographers were busy, and the sun even came out for a while! Walking back to the park for a picnic lunch, we then walked down to the old heritage bridge across Reid's Creek, and its more reliable replacement. Watching and listening to the flooding creek under the causeway finished a very pleasant and interesting day.



Wednesday 2nd August: Winton Wetlands

Previously delayed by rain, this walk will take us out along the dam wall to see the Mokoan Ponds, and then a walk at Green's Hill accompanied by a BYO picnic lunch. After a total of about 8km, we will reward ourselves with afternoon tea at the Hub Cafe.

Meet at the Seniors' carpark at 9.30am with 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 6th September: Kinnairds' Wetlands, Numurkah

With over 145 bird species recorded, this walk located on the outskirts of Numurkah will take in several short trails through the mostly red gum forest fed by flows from the Muckatah catchment. Stopping initially in Numurkah, we will then drive on to the Wetlands, returning to Numurkah Park for a BYO picnic or takeaway lunch. Meet at the Seniors' carpark at 9.30am, with confirmation to Julie as above.

While the weather forecast always adds some uncertainty, our final two walks for the year will see us out looking for wildflowers, firstly on the Friends' Track in October, and the Killawarra Forest Walk in November. We will hope for fine weather!

Julie McNeill

Cards '500'



The change to running two sessions per month, commencing in July, is proving popular with good attendances of around 10 players. We have had two new players join us recently which is great to see.

The cards are getting a bit sticky so I will arrange the purchase of some new packs.

Players have been querying the rules in recent games particularly those applying to when misere and open misere are played. I have researched this and will add some updates to the printed rules we currently use.

To all our players please try and get to the sessions so play can commence at 2.00pm. Recently people arriving late has meant the games had to be stopped and teams reconfigured to include the late arrivals. If you are going to be an apology and you regularly play, a brief text/email would be appreciated.

Keep shuffling.

Doug Smith

Chat n' Chew

The next Chat and Chew will be held at **Zeus** on Friday 11th August at 12.00 noon. I look forward to seeing U3A members at this event.

If you are attending please let me know by Monday 7th August as I have to finalise catering numbers by that date. My mobile number is 0427 376 991.

Lorraine Knox

Coin Collectors

Our new segment, Coin of the Month, continues to challenge our Coin Collectors group. The July Coin of the Month was to bring along the largest diameter dated circulating coin.

We were presented with an array of large coins including:-

Persian (Iran) 1925 5 Rial	37mm dia
US 1 Dollar 1891	38.1mm
Australian Crown 1937	38.5mm
UK 1980 Queen Mother 80 th birthday coin	38.61mm
Australian \$5 2008 Scouts Centenary coin	38.74mm
Australian \$5 1988 CBA celebrating opening Parliament House by QE2	38.74mm
Australian \$1 1993 silver kangaroo	40.60mm
Comparison Australian 50 cent piece	31.65 mm



The winner of the largest circulating coin was Australian Crown at 38.5mm. Runner up was the Australian \$1 silver kangaroo at 40.60mm, because it was a commemorative coin and not a circulating one.

You would need strong pockets to be carrying these large coins around which were also very heavy. The Crown weighed 28.27gm, Silver \$1 kangaroo 31.6gm compared to 50 cent piece at 15.55gm.

A check of the internet shows a number of coins claim to be the biggest in the world. This is Australia's biggest gold coin but obviously not a circulating one.

The largest gold coin, pictured above, weighs 1,012 kg, measures 80 cm in diameter, 13 cm in thickness and is made from bullion with a purity of 99.99 per cent. The legal-tender coin was introduced on 9 February 2012 by the Perth Mint (Australia), with a face value of AUS\$1 million. Featuring a Kangaroo, the "1 Tonne Australian Kangaroo" coin was created to promote Australia's official Kangaroo Gold Bullion Coin series.

Our August Coin of the Month will be *the most attractive non-circular coin*.

Happy noodling!

Doug Smith

Collectors

It was almost a case of “I’ve been everywhere man” with the variety of tea towels presented. Many countries and many themes/topics: Wales, York, Scotland, London, the Cotswold’s, Northumbria, Sydney, Iceland, Finland, Sandringham House (UK), Ireland, Benalla, Greenwich Cutty Sark, Melbourne, QANTAS and the list goes on.....

Themes included cats, Irish quotations, elephants, hens, lavender, sheep, military tattoo, Australian animals, London buses and Harrods, Ned Kelly, hand embroidered with kitchen/herb themes, recipes and the Richmond Football Club.

One enterprising collector had sewn tea towels together to make a picnic tablecloth.

Collectors will be taking a break in August. The theme for the meeting on Monday 4th September at 10 am revisits a previous topic: *“Something from The Shed”*.

Dorothy Webber



Community Singing

What a wonderful morning we had at Freemasons! Probably 25 singers there plus somewhere near 50 residents of Freemasons. We were able to catch up with Gloria Banks, also Faith Hicks who used to be a Leader for Singing for Fun. Many of the residents told me afterwards that they had really enjoyed the morning, and hoped we would come back soon.

Thank you, Brian for the fantastic job you did playing the piano for us. We had a bit of a tricky start, but once the electrics for the piano were sorted, it was full steam ahead. Thank you also to Margaret Merriman for acting as MC for the morning.



Our thanks to Freemasons for providing us with a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit. All around, it was a great morning.

In August there are five Thursdays. Brian has kindly offered to have Community Singing at the Hub at Coinda on the 24th and the 31st of August. Hope to see you all then.

Margaret Jenkins

Creative Writing

More stories, more laughs and more hints as to how to improve our writing.

Hints/Challenge: This month we had a discussion around grammar, particularly the importance of punctuation. Wrong punctuation, or punctuation left out can totally change the meaning of a sentence or phrase. We also explored the “Oxford comma”. This is placing a comma in a list before the “and”. For example, “red, white, and blue” rather than “red, white and blue”. Most writing does not use the Oxford comma, but there are places where it can help the sense of the sentence.

We then went on and looked at a list of phrases or sentences where punctuation was necessary, including some Oxford comma examples:

I want to thank my parents, Tiffany and God This could be read as Tiffany and God are the parents. Adding an Oxford comma before the 'and' would help clarify it is a list of things.

Let's eat Grandma Unless 'Grandma' was the meal, a comma is needed before 'grandma'.

I'm sorry I love you Something is needed after 'sorry', either a comma or an exclamation mark.

Our stories: The prompts for July were:

1. The dog glanced over her shoulder and trotted off down the path.
2. "It wasn't a 'p', after all - it was a 'y'! That made all the difference."
3. The candle flickered in its final attempt to stay alive but alas the room was left in total darkness.

The first prompt seemed to be the favourite, with only one person accepting the challenge of the second prompt. This involved mis-reading the name of a town and ending up in Puçón in Chile instead of Yukon in Canada. It apparently took some research to find the two similar towns!

One class member managed to submit an apology for not submitting a story, involving a very creative message covering all three prompts:

"Unfortunately, I have no story this month. I lost all my light when the candle ran out. Then the rotten dog ate my homework. I last saw him trotting down the path calmly as you please. Not that the story was much chop. I kept getting the p's and y's mixed up in my best dyslexic style. Must try harder next month."

This message was the only mention of the third prompt.

Prompts: The prompts for our August class are:

- The swans bobbed up and down at the edge of the lake.
- It was the summer when the chickens went on strike.
- That part of the city always brought back memories.

Joy Shirley

Demystifying Psychology Course

This monthly course is content rich and includes some time for questions and group discussion. The purpose of the course is to introduce some basic psychological concepts, and then have fun applying some of these to our everyday life. It's not too late to join in!

July's Session 1 presentation [Welcome to Demystifying Psychology Course \(DPC\)](#) is available on the website and can be downloaded as a PDF. Topics covered included:

- What is Psychology - See slides 9 (video) and 10.
- Theories- what qualifies as a theory, some notable theorists. Slides 13, and 28-31
- Measurement in psychology - including pre and post measurement - "[Feedback Template 2023](#)" and slides 15,16 and 18
- Ethics and psychology part 1 - Slides 25 and 26

We look forward to Session 2 when we will consider:

- Pre and post measurement results,
- History of (Un)ethical psychological research,
- Overview of Preferred Coping Styles,
- Individual preferred Coping styles (see [2017 Preferred Coping Style - Inventory](#)),
- How various coping styles work effectively.

Session 2 will be held from 10 - 12 noon on 15 August in U3A Classroom 1 at Benalla Senior Citizen Community Centre in Fawckner Drive. Late enrolments are welcome at this class.

The remaining sessions will be held on the 3rd Tuesday from 10am to 12 noon on 15 August, 19 September, 17 October, and 21 November. A casual course review will be held at Ruby Blue Cafe (67 Nunn Street) on 28 November 10:00 to 12:00 noon.

See you next month with your completed "[2017 Preferred Coping Style - Inventory](#)".

Jane Rushworth

Demystifying Psychology Discussion Group

Though many of the group have "escaped" to warmer climates, the group was still a good size for hearty discussions. We thought of a T-Shirt slogan for us "hardy" souls that declares "*Old, bold and survived the cold*". It is, however, certainly not cold in the cosy Ruby Blue meeting room. Thanks again to The Ruby Blue Team. Please note that due to our lower numbers we will end the next two months at 3:45pm and return to 4:00pm in October.

First, it was wonderful to welcome Heather back to the group and looking so wonderfully healthy.

This month discussions were as varied, interesting, and mind stretching as ever. In hindsight, the theme that developed could be described as "*strategies for difficult conversations*" with topics including:

Keeping your energy during difficult discussions in the work/volunteer space, and/or with friends and family. Renowned Social Worker Tony Morrison (1954 - 2010) developed an [interview model for Social Workers](#). The model is circular, has five distinct phases, and encourages the person with the problem to design and implement solutions to their problem. Though the language of the model reflects a professional setting, I found that it can be adjusted for everyday settings. Its effectiveness is two-fold. First the listener is efficient in their role, and second, the person with the "problem" is guided to express that problem and to take responsibility for their solution. The model has been adapted from Tony Morrison's – "Supervision in Social Care" (3rd edition, Pavilion, 2005), "From Strength to Strength: A guide to facilitating the Development of Supervisees" (Pavilion 2005) v.19_11_2019.

Australian Referendum - the process, and "Yes" and "No" information. The referendum can be the subject of much confusion, so we focused our discussions on the processes, the role of the constitution, key players, and resources that will assist put the topic into a framework. Handy places to go for this information include:

The Weary Dunlop Learning Centre - Benalla Library has booklets and flyers.

["What is the Indigenous Voice to Parliament? Here's how it would work and who's for and against it."](#)

Boost your understanding of Referendums: address misconceptions & increasing awareness. Stay informed on Referendums. Explore AEC's site for resources and updates. <https://www.aec.gov.au/referendums/>

See you at our next meeting: Thursday 17 August 2:00 - 3:45pm, at Ruby Blue Cafe - Nunn Street. Bring a topic to get the ball rolling ... and let's again enjoy what arises.

Jane Rushworth

Exercises for Fun

Regular exercise improves our fitness and strength, so don't be one of the 60% of Older Australians who aren't doing enough exercise. Come along and join our group every Monday at 9.30am sharp, in the Seniors Auditorium.

Have fun and keep moving!

Helen Jeffrey

Exploring the Universe

The James Webb Space Telescope Enters Second Year Observations.

With the first year of observations under its belt The James Webb Space Telescope has surprised scientists with some of its findings.

The early galaxies are larger and more developed than were anticipated! There are more investigations to be done there. We as observers are also in new and very exciting territory. Very like when spacecraft Juno arrived at Planet Jupiter and the previous theories of Jupiter flew out of the window!

The naysayers have been trying to get on the bandwagon since the first images were published. They can seem very convincing with professional publications, and we need to screen media very carefully.

We continued with the program of "Opening the Infrared Treasure Chest" with John C Mather, the Senior Project Scientist for the James Webb Telescope, who showed great images produced from the data of the first year of observations. He explained scientific data clearly and simply without all the hype that usually accompanies most videos. "Every class of object has been looked at and now the anticipated excitement will be from those that hold a surprise." he said.

16,000 submissions were received for use of the telescope in its second year and several hundred have been chosen.

We delved into the creation of space dust with science from Science Nordic, Aarhus University of Denmark. When a giant star has used up all its fuel the power of gravity becomes so strong that it explodes into a supernova. Gas and basic elements that have been created in the heat process are blasted into space. A process of shock waves slows this explosion. The compressed gas cools and when approximately 1700 degrees C. it condenses and creates 'cosmic dust'. This starts as carbon rich soot that later coalesces into ultra superfine granules. Over many millions of years this is the catalyst for stars, planets, ourselves and everything!

A nebula is a vast cloud of gas and dust. The Orion Nebula, sometimes called the Great Nebula is the nearest large Star Nursery to Earth.

Resources:

Unfolding the Universe with Webb (The Space Institute) <https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/14347>

Dust Drama in the Orion Nebula <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7Vs4HiMBIq>

Bev Morton

Family Research – Beginners

At our 'First Thursday' session in July we had three apologies, three mentors and one already very wise participant. Val reported working on a French born great great grandfather who seems to have been "an inveterate liar, schemer and bigamist". Finding around 1000 articles mentioning him in Trove, Val found herself speculating whether they were based on a 'truth or a lie'.

Stories were shared of finding mentions in Trove of forebears being SP bookmakers, often when hotel or general store owners. We reminisced about fathers, grandfathers, great aunts and even retired priests reading form guides and placing bets, and our own 'pre-TAB' memories of family members heading out to surreptitiously to place bets with the local SP bookie!

Deb drew upon Judy's knowledge of resources available through the Melbourne Library and the State Library of Victoria. They also had a good scout around the PROV website searching for Wills. Judy shared knowledge of Land Titles based on 30 years working in the Titles Office, demonstrating where to find information on titles, planning documents and maps. The screen in the small room 'comes into its own' at times like these!

With fewer beginners attending this semester, we have decided to reduce the session time from three to two hours, with the new time slot 2 to 4pm. Sessions will continue to provide support with problem solving and hands on tasks, with Judy Barry mentoring on the 1st Thursday from 2 to 4pm and Deb Saunders mentoring on the 2nd Thursday from 2 to 4pm.

Bev Lee

Family Research - Intermediate

'Pains and Gains' shared by the intermediate group in July included Helen using family photographs to demonstrate the way in which DNA from Indian ancestors has carried down in at least one member of her husband's family. Val described working solidly on writing up the Abley side of her family history, gleefully reporting she can envisage completing 'both sides' in the foreseeable future.

In a story related to the topic 'Family Traits', Robyn linked discovering a famous dairy farmer amongst her Rigby forebears to her lifetime dream, and eventual reality, of becoming a farmer. Her story led to a rich discussion on how milk may have been kept cold in the early decades of the 1900's in England; possibly in cellars with marble shelves and ice blocks cut from the snow during winter. Robyn also shared a book of prompts for writing about family history '*Dear Mum, from you to me...journal of a lifetime*'.

The theme *Recipes* led to reminiscing about recipes passed down through our families. Robyn and Helen, whose husbands had forebears who had lived in India, reminisced about how they had been taught the traditional way of making hot curries. Memories were also shared of meals with links to England - strongly remembered from travelling or living in England, "fish and chips with mushy peas!" Bev demonstrated how searching for '*Recipes from County Roscommon in Ireland*' resulted in a recipe for Roscommon Rhubarb Pie; '*Recipes from Bath in the UK*', the 'Bath Bun' often associated with Jane Austen, and more. We also checked out Family Tree Magazine articles on [collecting and sharing recipes](#) and [making a recipe Book with your collection of family recipes](#).

Time allocated for 'hands on' work saw Val formatting her family history docs on Word, reviewing how to cut and paste and delete 'headers' not needed any more; Robyn used our My Heritage account to search for

information on ancestors which may not have been in Ancestry; while Helen followed up a '10 Hint' list in ancestry.com for a grand uncle who had died in World War I.

Bev Lee

Family Research - Advanced

'Pains and Gains' proved once again to be a fascinating segment as members raised issues which led to lots of discussion, sharing of ideas, fact checking and 'practice wisdom'.

Deb has been given access as a guest to the Stewart side of her family on an ancestry tree and has been diligently copying from that tree to her own ancestry tree, learning new skills which she is happy to share. Deb is also a direct DNA descendant of King Robert 3rd ... a celebrity amongst us!

Sue reported receiving DNA results after her test needed redoing and is looking forward to exploring the results and what might emerge. Later in the session Sue fact checked a question relating to transferability of DNA results, finding "My Heritage" says it is possible to upload DNA data from another provider for free.

Andi described a current gain as having paid for a 6-month Ancestry account, enabling her to dip into her research whenever she finds a moment to do so. Jane expressed the pain of misplacing a document related to her intriguing "Aunty Hilda" story, while David P reported being a bit discouraged since he transferred Ancestry GED.com to My Heritage as he has received many error messages.

Our Family Stories segment this month focused on 'Inheritance' whether through Wills or traditions. Deb traced the origins of an inherited and strong love of music across generations in her story "*MUSIC – tracing the inherited love of music through my family tree*". Deb's grandfather was a much-lauded musician and earned many important medals. David H's presentation "*Food Music and Home life in the 50's and 60's*" proved wonderful reminder of delicious ... and avoidable foods and sharing songs around a record player! In "*Inheritance – Ferry good money from the Derwent*", David P described a contrivance in late 1700's to get to Australia for free. A hive of bees, an uncle who was a sentencing magistrate, and committing a crime to achieve this. A rollicking story.

Andi wrote about inheriting an old photo from her mother which led to a mystery to solve when a second photo almost the same was discovered during Andi's research. Always on the lookout for publishing ideas, during the session Bev shared information about ancestry.com's 'Create a Keepsake' link to [My Canvas](#), which draws from ancestry.com family tree data to produce posters, calendars, books and other keepsakes.

August's Topics –

'Correspondence 1' Time to delve into your email/other records and find a letter/other missive you wrote to make contact with someone in relation to a family tree, or someone wrote to you. You'll need to add a brief introduction to contextualise it, and a brief conclusion summarising 'What Happened Next'!

'Correspondence 2' Write about some correspondence from the past involving your ancestors which revealed something of particular interest to you and helped to shape your research. Who wrote the correspondence? Who to? About? Tell us about the difference it made, the value it added, to your research.

Jane Rushworth

Film Discussion Group

There were fewer film screenings during July because of the Benalla Theatre Group's performance of "**The Drowsy Chaperone**". So, we decided to focus on discussing the performance by our local actors.

This was a play that was new to many, unlike the performance of "Mamma Mia!" which was so familiar to everyone. It was a different approach from most musicals. The story was told by a narrator, with the characters coming on stage acting according to the narration. A lot of twists and turns created an entertaining comedy.

The show was a musical, with some good performances, accompanied by a live band. Having live music was enjoyable but at times the music seemed to overpower the dialogue.

Performances by some of the actors were noted during our discussion. These include those playing the roles of Adolpho and the chaperone. Good stage presence was a common comment from many in the class. Of note was the performance by the narrator, who did an excellent job as he plays a recording of the fictional musical, telling the story. The set was good, simple but effective. And there were some positive comments about the costumes.

An entertaining live performance. This was not a film, but we did provide a rating as around 4/5.

Films watched during the month were:

“The Last Daughter” which was found thought provoking but left unanswered questions. Rated as 3.5/5.

“The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry” which started slowly, but did involve a long walk, so this was appropriate. Overall enjoyable and rated as 4/5.

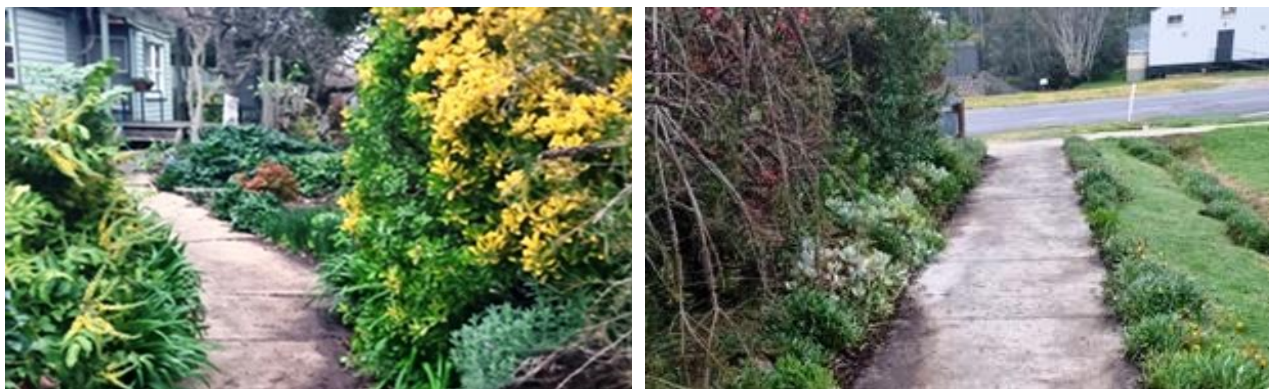
“The Book Club: The Next Chapter” a piece of whimsical and frivolous entertainment with a feel-good ending. It was also a great travelogue, being set in Italy. Rated as 3/5

Our film for discussion at our next class on 8 August is “Sweet As”. And as usual, we will discuss any other films watched by members of the class.

NOTE: The film class will move to the U3A room from August

Joy Shirley

Garden Team



Bill has provided photographic proof of the spick and span of our crack team. Unfortunately, much of the crack is in our backs and knees, or we'd be hiring ourselves out!

Elsbeth Maconachie

German



The German group can often be found after class in the kitchen celebrating birthdays with coffee and cake, and Horst's 90th birthday in early July was no exception.

This photo of group members who had stayed behind with Horst to tidy up was taken just before they were leaving – Horst for a two-week cruise, a birthday gift from his children, the class members for a two-week break.

Congratulations and best wishes on turning 90, Horst. You are amazing!

Bev Lee

Jane Austen Book Club

Mansfield Park

This month we finished watching the last three episodes of *Mansfield Park* produced by the BBC. Well almost finished, as time ran out before we could see the last of the series. Not to worry, most of us had dipped into the book and knew that the cousins, Edmund and Fanny, eventually got married, while Henry Crawford and his sister Mary had their hopes of love dashed even though they were a lively pair and somewhat unconventional and ahead of their times.

Was Fanny too harsh in rejecting Henry Crawford when he proposed? After all, she had only seen him kissing her cousin Maria, an engaged girl, when they were rehearsing a play. Still, back in the 1820s such behaviour could never be tolerated by some of the insular members of the country gentry, even though times were changing.

We will conclude by watching films of the last two of Austen's books: *Emma* in August and *Northanger Abbey* in September. These are both excellent British productions of under 2 hours length and each will fit into one

session. *Anyone who is not enrolled in the course is also invited to come along and watch these films on the big screen in the U3A room.*

Meg Dillon

In the Lap of the Gods

Class 5 of 'In the Lap of the Gods' saw us review stories of the first three great Heroes – Perseus, Theseus (pictured) and Orpheus.

In the times of the Romans and ancient Greeks, almost every writer wrote about the heroes. In many ways, their stories were the equivalent of our 'Home and Away' or 'Neighbours'. Their stories were at least as tangled and just as much soap opera as any modern soap opera. These stories were mass entertainment when there was little other entertainment.

A hero in the ancient world did not just mean a brave person. Heroes were demi-gods, mortals with supernatural powers. Their stories tend to follow a standard formula – a boy was born of one mortal parent and one divine. Heroes were always male, except Atalanta. She sailed with Jason.

A hero undertook prodigies as a child, went on a quest forced on him by a jealous king or god and achieved great deeds. When he returned, he was recognised as a king usually by some oddity of his clothing. The hero meets his wife on his quest but is utterly faithless towards her, fathering children everywhere. He eventually dies in a way related either to his infidelity or as a belated consequence of his quest.

If you like a good yarn, there is nothing more entertaining than the stories of the heroes. I guess that it is why these stories have been retold for millenia and are still being told today in the form of books or films.

The group decided that we would spend another class on the great heroes. This time, we will look at Heracles/Hercules, Aeneas a Trojan prince who founded Rome long before Romulus and Remus, and Jason and his Argonauts in quest of the Golden Fleece. Even Atalanta will get her own story.

John Barry

Investment

At our July meeting we had a quick look at US market and its flow on to the Australian market. The Australian market remains flat - some days it recovers but overall, no change for the month. LTR shares are holding their rise of June which indicates the takeover is likely to proceed. In our Bendigo 11 sector "Watchlist" only Lumos Diagnostics Holdings (LDX) stood out, with a rise of 500% from the start of trading during the day of our 3rd July meeting.

We looked at analyst's report reviews by Bell Potter on Bega (BGA), CSR, Azure (AZS), and 4DMedical (4DX).

Our review of our monthly short-term selections saw Val & Margaret J still leading by a good margin.

Our long-term selections Margaret J led the month with XRF. Everyone was able to change their long-term selections and absent members were able to email or phone in a change.

After the break we learned of scams on Facebook and Instagram where artificially generated reproductions, known as deepfake, are used to swindle victims by impersonating prominent business people and trusted brands. A generated deepfake of an image of Matt Conyn, CEO of Comm Bank, recently appeared urging people to invest in certain funds by thereby exposing personal bank details.

The ASX200 is up 9.7% for 22/23 compared with – 10.2% the previous year.

We then viewed Morning Wrap on [Market Index website](#) with an in depth look at TLX, also AGL with a forecast of doubling profit next 12 months. On lithium we looked at LTR and AKE.

The session finished by comparing the Dogs of ASX200 of 2023 with the Dogs of 2022. A copy of the table was emailed out after the meeting to all.

The next meeting of Investment will be on Monday 7th August at 2.00pm in our U3A Classroom 1. Margaret Jenkins will lead the group as both John & Malcolm will be on holidays.

John Hanlon and Malcolm Sanders



Let's Talk Books

Our murder mystery reader this month has read *Death Sentences: Stories of Deathly Books*, containing 15 short stories with an introduction by Ian Rankin. *The Caxton Lending Library and Book Depository* by John Conolly a delightful short story winner of literary awards. Karen enjoyed an ebook version of *The Kennedy Curse*. A winner of the Stella Prize and nominated for the Miles Franklin was *Exploded View* by Carrie Tiffany. *The Bookbinder of Jericho* is doing the rounds of our group and enjoyed. An avid watcher of the TV show *Vera*, our reader found Anne Cleeves the author of the series hard to read but did draw comparisons between *The Scandalous Exile of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor* by Andrew Lownie and the current debacle with Harry and Meghan. As always Lucinda Riley was appreciated in *The Murder at Fleet House*, also *The Girl on the Rocks*, and whilst on Lucinda Riley, the much-anticipated final book in the Seven Sisters saga written in collaboration with her son Harry Whittaker *Atlas: The Story of Pa Salt* has begun to circulate around our group. Found in Benalla Library was *From Windmills to Wangaratta*, the autobiography of Corry Jacobs who immigrated from Holland. Our own Corrie told us of her experiences arriving as a newlywed to our shores. *Not Just the Wife of the General Manager* by Sally Warrinder, her story of life on an outback station in the 1980's and condescendingly referred to as 'just the wife' is a good read. Written by Australian author Sarah Schmidt is *See What I Have Done* a look inside the mind of Lizzie Borden accused of murdering her father and step mother in 1892. We then had a vigorous discussion on the making of compost, a lot of advice and laughs. A delightful read was *The Red Dog* by Louis deBernieres, described by our reader as a jolly little book. *The Ladies of Missalonghi* by Colleen McCullough. A crime novel *The Man Who Died Twice* by Richard Oman and *A Glorious Way to Die* by Russell Starr were good reads as was a collection of short stories by Ann Crawford *Women of Spirit*. A parent's worst nightmare *Saving Zali* by Lisa Venables was a sad one, but worth reading was *The School Teacher of Saint Michel* by Sarah Steele a story of hope in the USA during WW11. Enjoy your reading on these cold winter days and see you all in August.

Geraldine McCorkell

Lifeball

Lifeball continues its winter recess, with a return to play on Monday September 4th. When the mornings are not so frosty, we play weekly at 10am at the Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre. New players who would like to try this modified basketball game are always welcome, and convenor Marlene can be contacted on 0428210944 for more information.

Julie McNeill

Meet and Mingle

Benalla Council's Tom Arnold explained the latest developments for the Council's Fawckner Drive Precinct master plan on July 19. Tom previously spoke about the basic masterplan at U3A's AGM. But after quite extensive landscape architect consultations and public input, the changed plan was officially launched on July 3. Further public submissions can be made until August 11.



At the AGM some concern was expressed for retaining the trees on the site. Now all existing trees will be retained and something like 30 new ones will be planted.

Another part of the new plan could see nearly half of the library car park replaced with a lawn. As well, the Saturday market area would likely expand from 55 to about 84 potential sites in a new area.

There was a well expressed need at the meeting, for a new toilet block, which Mr Arnold acknowledged. It appears a likely site might be just to the south of the senior Citizens building. But he emphasised that

building one was so set about with Victorian government regulations, that it was no easy or inexpensive building operation.

He said the previously proposed north east extension of the Senior Citizen's building, to better accommodate U3A, would not now proceed because of the steepness of the site and the need to retain existing trees.

Overall though, the master plan has been developed through a team of expensive consultants, so that if and when external funds became available, the plan could be implemented expeditiously.

But Mr Arnold emphasised there would be significant competition from say Wangaratta and Shepparton and other councils for similar funding.

The guest speaker at our August Meet and Mingle will be **Alex McKenna**, CEO Coinda, who will speak on the building project underway at Coinda in 2023.

David Palmer

Page Turners Book Group

'Horse' - Geraldine Brooks

Brooks cleverly juxtaposes two narratives: a story about an American slave boy -Jarret and; museum workers in our times researching the history of 'Lexington' – one of the great American race horses trained by Jarret. Jarret's father, a freed slave, trained racehorses at the stables of some of the very rich slave owners. He passed on his skills onto Jarret who then endured both good and bad masters until he gained his freedom by escaping to Canada during the American Civil War. Brooks explores the resilience needed by slaves to survive the cruel work expectations and punishments they received under this blighted labour system.

In the 2000s Theo, a black PhD student, picks up an old painting of a horse from a dumpster and shows it to Jess, an Australian working at the Smithsonian Museum in Maryland. She reconstructs animal skeletons for display and between them they discover it's a portrait painted of Lexington with Jarret, his groom, beside him. As well Lexington's forgotten skeleton is discovered in one of the museums storerooms.

Brooks sensitively explores the world of slavery in the American south in the 1850s, keeping readers in suspense about Jarret's eventual fate. She also presents a fascinating picture of the research undertaken to discover the identity of the horse, the picture's painter and the eventual restoration of Lexington's skeleton for display in the museum with a full history of its origins.

A good read that holds your attention even if you are not interested in horse racing or a history of slavery.

Next month's book: *Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson.

Meg Dillon

Patchwork and Craft

We will be holding on all day workshop on Thursday 31st August 10am- 4pm.

We are also going to have a paper Quilling Workshop - more details to come.

Don't forget to bring along your work for *Show and Tell* - it can be something you did yesterday or something you did years ago!



Dorothy Webber

Play Reading

Our play for July was "*Chaim's Love Song*" by Marvin Chernoff.

Chaim Shotsky is a retired mailman in Brooklyn, an American Tevye who tells his life story to Kelly Burke from Iowa. His story includes interaction with a philosophical baker who is a Holocaust survivor with many secrets, his son and daughter, a matchmaker to end all matchmakers, movie star pigeons, and a host of Israelis. Chaim's story is a love song for life. It is full of innocence, tragedy, struggle, humour, humanity and ultimately triumph.

The play is set in a very small city park in Brooklyn. When he meets Kelly, she is at first suspicious of his intentions. Gradually as he tells his story, she relaxes and she talks about her loneliness. They become friends. Kelly's up tight persona changes, even reflected in the way she dresses, with her costume an important part of the play – it could even be considered an extra "character". It certainly reflects her growing relaxation. Chaim also finds comfort in development of his relationship with his wife.

The play is predominantly about the two of them with the characters Chaim talks about appearing at the side of the stage or just voices from off stage. It takes place mainly over four consecutive days, with a short scene at the end of the play set three weeks later.

The group enjoyed the play, finding it a "feel good" story. With some of the characters, particularly Chaim, being Jewish, reflecting the correct accent was a challenge, with one member of the class doing a good job. We did change our "players" for the second act to give Chaim and Kelly a rest, and others an opportunity for a larger role.

Our play for August is '*The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*'. We read it a few years ago but have a few new members now and are looking forward to reading it again.

Joy Shirley

Politics and Current Affairs

At our last session I went through an incident that allegedly occurred several years ago, detailing the facts that the public have slowly become acquainted with since the incident allegedly occurred. These have been ventilated at length in the media. Hoping to promote thought, I then compared this incident with other similar incidents that occurred earlier in our history.

In the last part of our session, we worked through the ten main issues that currently are in the minds of the Australian people. As expected, this provoked a great deal of discussion - we did not get to even halfway through. We will resume discussion about the issues we did not get to at our next session.

Neville Gibb

Singing for Fun

Our numbers at Singing for Fun have been on the increase during July, which is great to see. We have welcomed Veronica, Hans, Shirley and Charlie and hope you all enjoy your times with us. Currently we have almost 30 people enjoying Singing for Fun each week.

Kieran had one morning where he chose alternate Australian and Irish songs, whilst Brian selected some Seekers songs which are always enjoyed. Margaret had one session where she had us singing several rounds, which everyone joined in with loud voices.

Thank you to Gwen for accompanying whatever is chosen. Also, our thanks to Gwen and Col for providing slice and chocolates for the morning tea to celebrate Joyce's birthday. Joyce and her late husband Bob founded our group 18 years ago. Our singing of Happy Birthday that morning was also for Wendy and Milvi, who were also celebrating their birthdays in the same week.

The next Singing for Fun will be on Thursday 3rd August at 10am at the Hub in Coinda

Margaret Jenkins

Sky's the Limit

Benalla Aero Club secretary and aircraft owner *Tony Schneider* spoke about the club and his flying experiences this month. The club owns a two seat Tecnam T92 Super Echo aeroplane and a hangar to keep it in.

Currently the 30-member club does not employ an instructor due to difficulties in employing one. Tony said that could be overcome if the Civil Aviation Safety Authority was a little less strict in demanding expensive to attain full instructor qualifications. He felt that once a potential pilot had achieved the basic flying skills with

a full-blown instructor, a lesser qualified instructor could take over.

Tony said CASA were focussed just on the safety of aviation to the detriment of the industry. He said the US general aviation sector was much healthier, because as well as safety, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), concentrated on making the industry viable as well. The redoubtable Dick Smith tried for years as chairman of CASA, to humanise it, but just hit a brick wall. This writer knows of at least one well qualified local flying instructor, who has been grounded by CASA since surgery that made him fit again, because CASA doctors said he was not fit.



Tony Schneider (Left) with Sky's the Limit Group, July session (Roly hidden, David taking photograph)

Coming Up: Our excursion to *Drage Airworld* Wangaratta on Tuesday 1 August has been confirmed. Louise will be our guide and is looking forward to showing us around. As most of you are aware we will meet at the old Coles carpark (next to Mitre 10) on Sydney Rd on Tuesday at 1.15 pm. The plan is for us to carpool to Wangaratta. Looking forward to seeing you there.

David Palmer and Claire Rudolph

Stock and Land



David Burness, a lifestyle farmer on 15 acres at Tatong, took us through his 24 years working in a SA bank, five years for an Adelaide law firm and 14 years working for Deakin University in Brisbane, before buying his Tatong farm in 2007. But before he went to live on the farm, he married an eastern Russian called Maria, when friends told him couldn't farm without a wife. But no regrets on either front, because she has taken him to visit numerous relatives around Vladivostock, which while experiencing a vastly different culture, he has enjoyed greatly.

David initially bought for the farm, a couple of Square Meater beef cattle, a Murray Grey derivative. But they ended up with 13 head on the property which he allowed was a little over stocked. That included bulls Thunder and Hoover, one of whom lifted him over a high fence with David's shoulders subsequently requiring surgery. Now only a couple of Alpacas remain to supply fibre for Maria's spinning needs.

In the second hour, a first for Stock and Land and rather out of left field, David reflecting on his Deakin days, engaged us in an 80 question learning styles questionnaire, to psychologically evaluate whether we were activists, reflectors, theorists or pragmatists. I and a couple of others were definitely rated as pragmatists.

Our guest speaker on Tuesday 1 August at 10am will be *Luke Marple*, local farmer and stock and station agent.

David Palmer

Sustainability

At the sustainability group sessions in July, we covered a wide range of issues. At our first session we focussed on household energy savings tips; mostly common-sense ideas such as using LED lighting, turning down our heating thermostats in winter and turning our cooling thermostats up in summer; not heating or cooling rooms that are not being used; using ceiling fans in summer; shorter showers, and more. Tips can be found [here](#). We also briefly considered Australia's former Chief Scientist, Ian Finkel's new book setting out what needs to be done to transition to a sustainable energy future - a formidable, but not impossible, task according to him.

Our second session was more of a free-for-all discussion about a range of issues including Australia's waste and recycling problem, particularly for those 'soft' plastics that we use to be able to drop off at supermarkets. We also discussed videos and articles on a wide range of topics, from sustainable flying to Sweden's new battery mega factory - a first for Europe, to the northern hemisphere's summer of climate-related woes, and others.

John Lane

Tech Savvy Apple – Pages

The July Session was the final Apple Pages class for Semester 1 and the year.

The challenge was to use some former Pages knowledge and make an invitation to a possible Christmas celebration.

A new function we used was the Text wrapping function in the tools bar at the top. We tapped on the Shapes icon then found the word Text.

We've come a long way with our skills and confidence using Pages. I hope everyone who attended will be confident enough to undertake making a Pages document post classes at home.

Any Apple computing device has access to the Word Processing Program 'Pages'. There are no costs involved in either running the program or keeping it on your device.

Jenny Sawyer

Tech Savvy Beginners – Android

Janice ran our first session in July, introducing how to use WhatsApp. WhatsApp Messenger is a free instant messaging app available on **both Android and iPhone**. It allows you to send text messages to other users. (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Hlr_IpSBEQ). WhatsApp Messenger is similar to Messenger in Facebook, but you don't have to have a Facebook account.

Ruth ran our second session with lots of revision. There are many ways to manage your pictures eg sorting, downloading, creating folders to store pictures & choosing where to safely store pictures.

Thanks to our helpers Ruth, Janice & Lyn. See you all 1st & 2nd Thursday in August.

Robyn Lukey

Tech Talks

At our July Tech Talks we discussed a report on the history of computers. Computers were first built using refined light globes that switched on and off. There were not a lot of these computers manufactured because they were extremely large and complex and difficult to run. They had a large component of mechanical parts as well. Computers were developed by applying Boolean Algebra to electronic gates. Boolean Algebra was a new concept to me but was well known by a number of our group.



We also discussed the submersible that perished investigating the Titanic. The submersible was a deceptively simple machine and was built of special materials. These materials were thought to be able to withstand enormous pressure. The video explained the building of the submersible and the hopes it had in exploring the sea floor. At our next meeting we intend to discuss the jet engine.

Neville Gibb

Ukes4Fun



At our first session in July, guest presenter John Canty, founding convenor of the U3A Ukes group in Shepparton, introduced the group to jam session 'walk ups' in which individuals or small groups offer to play something they have been working on, add their name to a board and are called out to perform for an audience. In a practice run (pictured), Neville, Phiona and Claire worked as a group and performed their first 'walk up'!

Ukes4Fun was also led by a couple of its members during July, learning new songs and reviewing the four chords which are the basis for the majority of the songs written and sung these days – Chord C, Am, F and G7. Over recent months we have been fortunate to welcome experienced musicians Neville and Hans who are happy to lead the group when necessary. It is so rewarding to see how far this group has developed, from beginners to being able to sing, play and enjoy our music together.

Heather Wallace

Wine Appreciation

A very intimate and cosy wine tasting was held at *Piano Piano Vineyard* for our group in July. The vineyard is situated in the Everton Upper area where the climate is perfect for the many varieties of grapes grown – from a delicious 2021 Chardonnay and Pinot Grigio to a Reserve Merlot and Shiraz. Marc and Lisa were very generous hosts with Marc being the winemaker. Lunch followed at our popular King River Café in Oxley.



On Friday 18th August we are off to *Maygar Hills Winery*, 115 Longwood-Mansfield Rd, Longwood East. The tasting is booked for 11.00 and lunch for 12.15.

Lunch is at the *White Hart Hotel*, 63 Hill St, Longwood. They are not doing lunches at the moment, however, for our group they are happy to open up. We need a minimum of 25 – **so early RSVPs please** – it will be alternate main drop for \$30 with dessert, tea/coffee extra. **RSVP by Sunday 13th** to nicnakmac90@gmail.com or phone/text to 0428 696 408. Meet in the **Seniors Car Park at 10.15.**

Nicole McFarlane

Wise Guys Book Group

At our meeting in July, Graham talked about the *Palestine Laboratory* by Antony Lowenstein. The book investigates how the Israelis have perfected the architecture of control, using the occupied Palestinian territories as a testing ground for weaponry and surveillance technology, that they then export around the world. Another book Graham, a Vietnam veteran, liked was *Black Horse Riders* by Philip Keith. It records the efforts of rescuing a small US Army unit which discovered a Viet Cong stronghold.

Neville talked about *The Diaries of a Welsh Swagman (1869 – 1898)* by Joseph Jenkins. Jenkins wrote of three characteristics peculiar to the Victorian colonial farmer: 'exhausting the land, abusing the horses and bouncing men.' The diaries were bought by the State Library of Victoria and are one item of only 21 in the Library's Treasures and Curios collection.

David spoke about *Nuts and Bolts* by Roma Agrawal, who looks at the impact and development of nails, wheels, springs, magnets, string and pumps on our lives.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 23rd August from 2 to 4pm. More 'wise guys' welcome!

David Palmer

Remembering - Graham Mitchell

A founding member of U3A Benalla and convenor of 'Investment Group 1' from 1996 to 2015, Graham Mitchell recently passed away in Geelong, where he had moved to be nearer his children. Helen, Graham's wife, a founder of Benalla U3A, passed away in October 2019.

In 1996, an enthusiastic group of likeminded people began to meet in the community under Graham's leadership to research and hone their skills studying the Australian share market. This group became an integral part of U3A Benalla, with Graham continuing in the role of convenor for its entire 19 years. In the early years the group depended on data gained from investment journals and other sources, however over time began to employ computer programs in their research. Under the name "U3A Benites", the group was a regular contestant in the Sunday Age "Shares Race" competition, winning the competition on several occasions, much to Graham's delight. Graham made a highly valued contribution to U3A Benalla. "The group believes its continued success can be attributed to Graham Mitchell. A unique meeting format and good fellowship" (U3A Newsletter Report, November 2015). Our condolences go to Graham's family.

What's On

Tuesday, 1 August

- 10:00 Page Turners - 'Black Cake', Charmaine Wilkerson
10:00 Stock and Land - Luke Marple, local farmer and stock and station agent
12:15 German
13:15 Sky's the Limit - Drage Airworld, Wangaratta (Meet at old Coles Car Park next to Mitre 10)

Wednesday, 2 August

- 09:30 Bushwalking - Easywalks - Winton Wetlands
09:30 Play Reading - The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie
14:00 Cards '500'

Thursday, 3 August

- 10:00 Singing for Fun
10:00 Tech Savvy Beginners - Android
13:00 Patchwork and Craft
14:00* Family Research – Beginners (*New Time)

Friday, 4 August

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

Monday, 7 August

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

Tuesday, 8 August

- 10:00 Politics and Current Affairs
12:15 German
14:00 Jane Austen Book Club - 'Emma' (Film)
14:00 Tech Talks - 'The Jet Engine'

Wednesday, 9 August

- 10:00 Recorder Group
13:30 A Taste of Art
14:00 Film Discussion Group - 'Sweet As'

Thursday, 10 August

- 10:00 Singing for Fun
10:00 Tech Savvy Beginners - Android
13:30 Executive Committee Meeting
14:00* Family Research – Beginners (*New Time)

Friday, 11 August

- 10:00 Music Appreciation
12:00 Chat 'n Chew – 'Zeus', Bridge Street
14:00 Armchair History

Monday, 14 August

- 09:30 Exercises for Fun
12:45 Ukes4Fun
14:00 Creative Writing
14:00 Garden Team

Tuesday, 15 August

- 10:00 Demystifying Psychology Course - Session 2
12:15 German
14:00 Exploring the Universe

Wednesday, 16 August

- 10:00 Meet & Mingle – Alex McKenna, CEO Coinda, 'Coinda Building Project 2023'

- 14:00 Cards '500'

Thursday, 17 August

- 10:00 Singing for Fun
13:00 Family Research - Intermediate group
13:00 Patchwork and Craft
14:00 Demystifying Psychology Discussion Group

Friday, 18 August

- 10:00 Wine Appreciation
10:00 Sustainability

Monday, 21 August

- 09:30 Exercises for Fun
12:45 Ukes4Fun
14:00 As Time Goes By - Memoir Writing

Tuesday, 22 August

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

Wednesday, 23 August

- 10:00 Recorder Group
14:00 Wise Guys Book Group

Thursday, 24 August

- 10:00 Community Singing
14:00* Family Research – Advanced (*New Time)

Friday, 25 August

- 10:00 Music Appreciation
14:00 Armchair History
17:00 Newsletter reports due

Monday, 28 August

- 09:30 Exercises for Fun
12:45 Ukes4Fun
13:30 Coin Collectors – Coin of the Month - 'Most attractive non-circular coin'

Tuesday, 29 August

- 12:15 German

Thursday, 31 August

- 10:00 Patchwork and Craft - all day session
10:00 Community Singing

Friday, 1 September

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

Monday, 4 September

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

Tuesday, 5 September

- 10:00 Page Turners - 'Lessons in Chemistry'
10:00 Stock and Land
12:15 German
14:00 Sky's the Limit

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 Referral on will be suggested if necessary.