



Benalla and District Inc.

Newsletter – March 2023

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

President's Report

Our Enrolment has continued to grow during February. We now have 345 members with 50 of these being members who have joined U3A Benalla for the first time. We have some quite large groups such as Garden Appreciation which has 77 members, Exercises for Fun which has 74 members enrolled and Wine Appreciation which has 66 on the books, including one person from Albury.

We have had good reports from the all the new groups which have started this year. There is a great photo on our website of the twenty members of the Ukes4Fun group sitting in a semi-circle around the overhead projector in the Auditorium learning their chords.



We are planning on having a Convenors afternoon on Monday 27th March at 2pm in the Auditorium of the Senior's Centre. The Committee want to hear what is going well, if there are any problems and what assistance you need. We are hoping that all Convenors will be able to attend.

The next **Meet and Mingle** which will be held **on Wednesday 15th March** in the Auditorium will be our **Annual General Meeting**. We have invited Mr Tom Arnold, Community Co-ordinator of Benalla Rural City Council, to speak to us on the proposed development of the Fawckner Drive Precinct. Election of office bearers will also occur at the AGM.

We are pleased to announce that a few days ago our replacement photocopier was installed. The previous one had been in use for more than ten years and needed several costly drums to be replaced if we were going to continue to use it. Please speak with either Geraldine or myself for the new code if you wish to use the photocopier.

The Committee would like to thank the Benalla Rural City Council who replaced the Sound Bar, which is located near the television, over the Christmas holidays. The Council are also arranging for a shelf to be installed directly below the television for the soundbar to sit on.

Margaret Jenkins, President

Group Reports

A Taste of Art

'A Taste of Art' sessions are now underway at the Broken River Painters studio. We will take a while to gather momentum, however the members who have joined in are enthusiastic and we'd like to encourage them to attend regularly. Our new members range from those who loved art at school who now have time to devote to it to people with a continuing passion for art and previous exhibition experience, who we hope will stay to inspire and encourage others in the group. If you are a U3A member with previous involvement in art classes, studies, exhibiting, teaching, we'd love you to paint with us and perhaps run a workshop or two in your area of interest. A reminder of our next sessions - 8th and 22nd March from 1.30 to 4 pm.

Carol Perry

Art Appreciation

Unfortunately, our last First Monday session at the Gallery had to be cancelled. We are confident all will be OK on the first Monday in March when the speaker will be Nina Machielse Hunt from Beechworth Contemporary.

Can I take this opportunity to advise everyone who has not seen the Ledger Collection to take the time to study every painting. The Ledgers were very generous in donating their collection to the Gallery and there are a number of interesting paintings on show. There is a higher proportion of paintings by females than is usual for one thing. And the paintings have been hung by the Curator to show them in their best light.

Please make the effort to view this exhibition before it closes.

Neville Gibb

'As Time Goes By' – Memoir Writing

Our February session began with an icebreaker as each member shared with another, early experiences of dance. Consequently, participants were invited to introduce their interviewees.

Bev then introduced the idea of a memoir by referencing a speaker some years ago at Benalla Library, Kevin Peoples, who recounted his experience as 'Bob Santamaria's salesman', and also referenced guidelines for the class in writing and sharing personal memoirs. In general discussion, Neville recommended 'Boswell and Johnson's Scottish Road Trip' on SBS.

We then moved into members' memoirs. Under '**New in Town**', **Heather H** explored her families move to Australia, inevitable challenges and occasional cultural misunderstandings. She concluded that moving to Australia, was the 'best idea' the family ever had. **Heather W** celebrated and acknowledged that her move to Winton provided an opportunity to expand and deepen her interest in motorsports. Through resilience and persistence, she has built a life for herself now in Benalla and in both settings, has utilized her natural and enhanced leadership skills.

A variety of memoirs were explored under the theme: '**The Season I...'**. **Bev** revealed her adventures learning to drive on ice and later, discovering herself at the top of a ski slope. With no idea how to ski to the bottom, she was 'lucky' to survive with a few broken ribs. Her teacher exchange in British Columbia gave her many lasting memories. **Michelle**, in 'Under Attack', shared with us a wonderfully lyrical account of the great Christmas Day water fight, twenty-five years ago. Although the years 'may have dimmed the accuracy of the detail', the unbridled fun of the battle stays clear in her memory.

Neville shared a cavalcade of images and experiences associated with particular seasons and noted how the seasons have changed over the years, not least because of changing perceptions, a result of the natural aging process. **Carmyl** introduced us to her friend Cat from Aceh province, the daughter of a former Colombo Plan student Carmyl and her husband Don, had supported while working in Aceh. Carmyl led us through a series of experiences as Cat learnt about the Australian way of life.

Barry introduced us to some of the challenges of a dry Summer on an Australian farm. Trucking water, challenges of 'bringing in the harvest' and the danger of fires when temperatures rose above 40 degrees.

Phil introduced us to scenes from an English dairy farm and shared his 'aha' moments, as he learnt about the life of a dairy cow. **Jill** took us back to the summer of 1967, relaying vivid memories of the harrowing impact on her family and community of both severe drought and the lead up to the hanging of Ronald Ryan. **Ray** shared how the encouragement of patrons of the country hotel in which he boarded as a young

single man in 1958 led him to become a competitive bowler, and described a final in which he participated, winning by match light. Finally, **Graham** introduced us to his personal paradigm shift in understanding seasons. He shared information on the six seasons identified by the Gariwerd peoples and a five-schema suggested by the CSIRO.

Our topics for Monday 20th March at 2pm are -

'Precious Objects' Tell us about a memento, an object (or a group of objects) from a time in your past that has been important to you, and why. You always carry it with you whenever you move and find it very hard to let go of. Maybe it has a story behind it, or it's been a powerful presence in your life. Bring along the item if you can, or at the very least, a photo!

Alternative topic - 'Failure' 'Write about a failure you've experienced – from the commonplace to the catastrophic – in 500 words'.

Graham Jensen

(An) Australian History

We have had good attendances at the first two units of a 10-week programme. The first unit was the study of the formation of the Australian Continent up until 100,000 years ago. Some did not see this as a part of history in the first instance, but most people were happy with the first unit. The second unit was a study of human occupation of the Australian Continent up until 2000 years ago. This was based on archaeological and anthropological studies which have occurred mainly since 1960. Unit 3 will discuss the first European, Asian incursions into Australia.

Brian Harker

Be Connected – Managing Money Online

Welcome to all *Be Connected* participants old and new. We began by signing in or signing up our 2023 participants to Be Connected. Our focus is managing money online and our first module was Internet Banking.

We've looked at

- What you need for Internet banking.
- How you bank online.
- Connecting to your bank online.

Jenny demonstrated setting up a new payee on her banking app. Our next class is on Monday 20th March.

Robyn Lukey & Jenny Sawyer

Bird Watching

U3A Birdwatching group will kick off for 2023 on Thursday 9th March with a visit to Mt Samaria.

We will drive to Mt Samaria and look for birds around the Samaria Wells campground at the base of the mountain and along the adjacent roadside. The area has a lovely mixed forest, with the chance of finding some cooler country birds we don't see in the Benalla area.

Meet in the car park at the rear of the Seniors building at **9.00am**. Note this is half an hour earlier than our usual meeting time. It's worth making the most of the cooler mornings at this time of year.

Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a water bottle and any food you need for the morning. If you have binoculars, they will add greatly to your birdwatching experience.

Kathy Costello Mobile 0447 625755

Bushwalking – Easy Walks

Wednesday March 1st: Corowa/Wahgunyah and Rutherglen

This walk of about 7km total was outlined in the February newsletter and on the Easywalks page on the website. We will leave the Seniors' carpark at 9.15am.

Wednesday April 5th: Plain Creek Loop, Merrijig

Plain Creek is a tributary of the Delatite River, and in this walk of approximately 8km we will go along its length until we reach the waterfall, turning and then making our way back in a loop to Carter's Day Visitor area for a picnic lunch. Walking poles and comfortable shoes are recommended, although at present the track should be dry. Traversing an old logging area which is now State Forest, it is a gully track lined with ferns, some metal bridges to cross, and evidence of the area's timber cutting history.

We will leave the Seniors' carpark, Fawkner Drive, at 9am. Please confirm with Julie by text, email or phone message on 0407823031 or juliemcneill55@gmail.com.

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

Our May walk will feature autumn leaves, either at Bright or Beechworth-watch this space for further details! As always, our walks can be impacted by weather extremes, so keep an eye on the newsletter and on emails in case of changes.

Julie McNeill

Cards '500'

It was encouraging to see newcomers at 'Cards 500' following the change of day from Saturday afternoon to Wednesday afternoon this year. Some exciting games were played, with one pair reportedly 'thumping' their opponents three times in hard fought games (all in good fun!). Marjorie came along from Cooina on her scooter as an observer to see if she would like to play, with Jim explaining the rules to her during the games. We will have two sessions in March – Wednesday 15th and Wednesday 29th March from 2 to 4 pm in the U3A Meeting Room.

Shirley Kelly

Chat n' Chew

Chat and Chew will take place at the **Benalla Golf Club** on **Friday 17th March**, commencing at 12 noon.

Chat and Chew group members, please let Lorraine know each month if you wish to attend. If Lorraine isn't available to answer the phone when you call, please leave a message—also, don't forget to include your name in the message, not just the phone number. Thanks!

If you wish to attend the March lunch at the Golf Club, please contact Lorraine on 0427 376 991 by Tuesday 14th March, 2023.

Lorraine Knox

Coin Collectors

Our first meeting for 2023 was held on Monday 27th February. Coin Collectors is now held on 4th Monday in the month at 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

Our 2022 group made their return as did two new members resulting in 8 people attending on the day.

The group discussed what its aims were for 2023 and agreed the 2022 format of "show and tell" was a key element to the success of the group and should be retained. In addition, more use will be made of various coin channels on YouTube, particularly the PJ's Coin Capers channel. One of our members has been in contact with PJ with the offer and likely acceptance, of coming to Benalla as our group's guest speaker. PJ's Coin capers has a huge internet following and is something to look forward to. The audience may be broadened to involve other community interest groups, conditional on availability of a meeting venue and insurances.

A large magnifying light will be brought along to meetings for members to see their coins up close.

A coin of the month segment will be introduced that will invite members to bring along their oldest, most unusual, colorful, valuable, ugly, largest, smallest, etc. coin, with the Coin of the Month voted on the day.

The Group agreed that the sessions were about self-education, enjoyment of the hobby and networking to build our collections.

Members were reminded that the free mobile phone app Coinoscope was an excellent and quick tool to self-identify your coins, particularly foreign coins.

Discussion was had on sourcing coins for noodling from local banks and that latest releases were often available at Benalla Post Office and on special milestones occasions through Woolworths Benalla.

In our show and tell session, circulated around the table, we saw:-

- Coins from Hong Kong, Norway, India, England, Norway and Saudi Arabia
- Tokens from Wrest Point Casino, Tivoli token Denmark, 1980 Telstra Tower entry token.
- PNC card of Vegemite coins including a colored \$1
- 2023 RAM Mint set
- Silver commemorative coins of QE2 and King Charles 3

- Bronze medallion of Walter Burley Griffin (1876 -1937)
- 2022 \$2 colored red poppy presented to one of our group for his 75th birthday. Extremely rare as only 66,000 were minted and highly sought after by collectors.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 27th March.

Doug Smith

Collectors

Recipe books were the theme for our February meeting. And, such a collection there was! Most were old with many previously belonging to grandmothers and mothers.

Amongst the books were a favourite – the PWMU cookbook with a very old edition, copies of the 1975 edition where the quantities had been converted to metric and a rather new edition to replace a worn out copy.

Books from school years also featured including Emily McPherson issues and those from local school fundraisers; as well as others compiled as various fundraisers. There were two copies, one old and one relatively new of Mrs Beeton's Good House Keeping Book – do you fancy a serve of minced cod liver?

The old grandmother's recipe book was over 100 years old with handwritten with printed recipes also included. "Hold your man with a wooden spoon and a rotary beater" or, "The way to a man's heart is through his stomach". Another family had compiled and bound family favourite recipes in large print for their mother who was finding it difficult to see.

Only problem – with all those recipes, nobody thought to bring anything to have with our cuppa!

The next meeting on 6th March has the theme 'china items featuring flowers'.



Janet Gourley

Community Singing

We had twenty-four at Community Singing for the first meeting for the year in February, and everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves. We welcomed back Marjorie Geeson, Ian Grace, Tomoko Fujie, Beth Hall and Judy Stewart who had not been able to be with us for a while.

Brian Greed did a wonderful job at the piano, playing a variety of songs by ear. For the first session Brian chose songs from a new song book which he had copied and stapled himself during the holidays. For the second session he chose songs from Sammy's Song Book Part 1 which had songs like Waltzing Matilda, Loch Lomond and Danny Boy in it.

The singers gave Brian a round of applause at the end to show their appreciation for his efforts in playing for Community Singing.

The next Community Singing will be on Thursday 23rd March 2023 at 10am at the Hub in Cooina. We have five Thursdays in March. Brian has offered to have Community Singing also on Thursday 30th March 2023.

Margaret Jenkins

Creative Writing

A great start to our new year of Creative Writing. Returning class members seemed pleased to be back together and we were very happy to welcome some new members to the class. There was time spent at the beginning with introductions, as well as talking about the way the class will work.

Hints: Our writing discussion was around the importance of starting stories so as to grab the attention of the reader. It is best to start the story with action rather than descriptions of background etc.

Our challenge: Everyone was asked to write about shoes. A description of their shoes, or a story about their shoes, or even a story about shoes. Great imagination was shown.

Our stories: We had a goal to write something every day during the Christmas break – just a few sentences or a paragraph. For January the idea was to choose one of the paragraphs and turn it into a full story to share for our first class in 2023. Many managed to write something several days. But it became

more difficult to choose something from their efforts to turn into a story. And some wrote something totally different.

In the past we often had some commonality in theme. For example, one month we had a couple of people independently writing about the circus. With no common set of prompts, this was not expected this month. But one class member pointed out that many of them had 'love' in one form or another as part of the story – love by an animal for a human; love of people; love of home; love cannot be avoided.

We had a variation on "Jack and the Beanstalk", where Jack entered a new world at the top of the stalk. No giant, but he became a writer of great stories when he returned to earth – perhaps we could use his magic beans to help our own story writing!

Prompts: The prompts for our 13 March class are:

- Some tunes bring back the wrong kind of memories.
- I'd thought the carpet was clean until my face made close and painful contact.
- I was beginning to wonder if driving a car was something I should be doing with a cranky Dalmatian in the back seat.

Joy Shirley

Demystifying Psychology Discussion Group

Our first 2023 gathering was held at the Benalla Bowls Club. The preparation and support from Daniel and his BBC team created an ideal start to our 2023 U3A program. Thank you so much to the BBC Team.

By way of a bit of background, the idea for this group arose during a discussion amongst the 2021 Demystifying Psychology course participants. With the U3A Committees blessing, a small Psychology Discussion Group gathered monthly during 2022. It was a casual "let's see how this works" style of group. In 2023 Psychology Discussion Group is now part of the U3A 2023 Course Calendar and will remain a casual "let's see how this works" style of group.

Welcome to the original "experimental" group, and welcome to the many 2023 new-comers to the 2023 U3A Psychology Discussion group. It's going to be a fascinating year.

Throughout 2023 expect to have fun as we apply a psychological lens to everyday events. To get the ball rolling and based on the 2022 "experimental" group's suggestion, 2023 opened with the only structured session for this program. The 2023 group thought it would be an idea to introduce participants to the many concepts referred to in psychology. This session was a bit dense with information. We looked at the history of psychology, the underpinning disciplines, what constitutes a psychological theory, who thought up some of these theories and how do psychologists maintain consistency in any diagnosis made.

The rest of 2023 will be considerably "fly by our pants", varied, and insightful. Expect casual, unplanned, and very interesting discussions. Participant's role is to share chat time about anything that interests you. The convener's role is to create links between the discussion content, psychological theories and frameworks, and ensure participants have an opportunity for discussion input.

If you think this is for you, and you missed the first session do not worry. It is the norm for participants in this group (including the Convener) to say "I have no idea" and for us to refer to Google.

Future gatherings will be held at the North Eastern Hotel, 2-4 pm, each third Thursday of the month. We meet indoors or outdoors depending on the weather, and cuppas 'n cake are available for purchase if we wish (cost unknown at this stage). **Next meeting:** 19 March 2023, 2-4 pm at the Northo.

Jane Rushworth

Enjoying the Internet

A group of 10 gathered for our first session. Our group use a variety of devices--Windows PC, Apple Mac, iPad & Android tablets, and iPhone & Android phones. After introductions we looked at some of the **basics** of using the internet, and some enjoyable bits of using the Internet.

We used the projector and the TV screen to share information.

Next session: We will look at some ways we use Internet for hobbies, live streaming, free software, google maps and more—for a good time, I hope.

Dawn Stephens

Exercises for Fun

It is very exciting to know there are so many members out there with good intentions of including more exercise in their lives. We have had extra good attendances at Exercises for Fun in February, which has created lots of noise and crowding, mainly during the Marching.



We are currently working on options such shortening the March where it is most congested. Hopefully we can sort something out, because we do want everyone who wants to do Exercises for Fun to enjoy the experience. We meet every Monday, in the Seniors Hall, from 9.30am to 11.30am. Have fun.

Helen Jeffree

Exploring the Universe

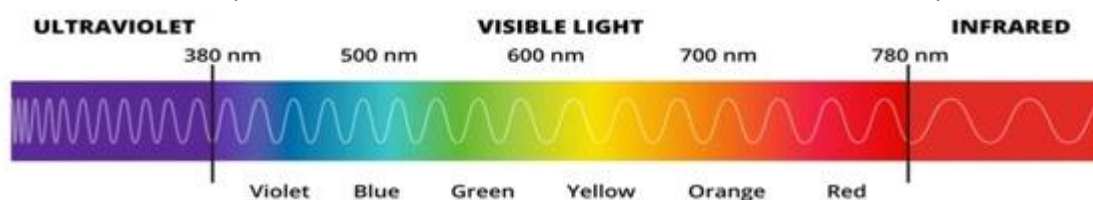
The Rainbow of Light and the James Webb Space Telescope

At our first session for 2023 we were delighted to welcome new members to 'Exploring the Universe.'

The Hubble Telescope has had what may be the greatest influence of all time of our new found knowledge of the Universe, but space is full of dust. It has been described "as strewn between the stars like an interstellar fog." It's not quite like the dust here on Earth. Some of it is more like smoke or soot. Then there are the minutest granules that over eons of time coalesced to form stars and planets.

Hubble sees mainly in visible light. It can't penetrate the dust and gas of vast nebulae and star nurseries and it's not powerful enough to see back to the light of the first stars. Another problem is the universe is expanding. The light of early stars is 'redshifted' to a longer wavelength and can only be seen in infrared light. The universe is 13.8 billion years old but has stretched to an estimated 41.6 billion light years in all directions. Plans were made for a more powerful space telescope. The James Webb, would "see" in infrared light.

The electromagnetic spectrum is just another name for all the different forms that light takes. Our eyes have evolved to the light of the Sun. They perceive only combinations of red, blue and green that comprise visible light necessary for our life here on Earth. Invisible light of the wider spectrum is accessible to technology and can be transferred to representative colours that we can understand. (Bees can see pollen in ultraviolet light!)



With the powerful James Webb Space Telescope still in its first year of operation we are entering a new era of space exploration. Webb has penetrated huge pillars of dust revealing star nurseries and even peering into the dusty cocoons of infant stars. It has revealed amazing galaxies in exquisite detail and early galaxies never seen before. We caught up with videos of some of Webb's latest discoveries. Also, films explaining the light spectrum. SOFIA The flying observatory that was decommissioned last September rounded off our afternoon.

Webb revealing the first Galaxies - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RQo6nDES7Lk&t=14s>

Behind the Webb: 100 points of colour - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHvem1iU1iQ>

Webb captures a fiery hourglass - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbbuHuj-veA>

Inside SOFIA NASA's flying telescope - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FzaY0QF1E0s&t=13s>

Bev Morton

Family Research

Family Research

The Family Research '4th Thursday' group started the year with 'Pains and Gains'. Mal described the laborious process of upgrading family gravestones and the impact of vague records on his search for his Herring family great grandmother. Graeme has located some certificates containing a wealth of information about his Portuguese ancestors, but these need to be translated. Wendy now has DNA confirmation of her father-in-law, resolving a family mystery. Wendy also displayed some travel diaries produced using the program 'Find Penguins'. Deb reported using My Heritage to prepare reports, sharing her pleasure at being able to gift a genealogical report to an elderly relative living in Benalla who had shared valuable family information with her. Our new member Sue explained that her focus area is to trace the life of her estranged father, while Bev described recent contacts with other family researchers.

David's power point presentation covered our monthly topic '**In Search of...**' and 'pains and gains' in trialling charting software including 'Charting Companion'. After considerable sleuthing, David found an ancestor's "first wife". This proved simple compared to the challenge ahead - to include the "first wife" in a family tree in a visually attractive A3 or A0 size tree chart in time for a family member's upcoming "Cousins Reunion". David currently has a tree scroll across 10 A4 pages that have been stuck together and plans to meet the "Cousin's Reunion" deadline with an A3 or A0 tree.



As always, the characters described in '**In Search Of...**' were as intriguing and interesting as the processes that were used by group members to search for a mysterious family member.

Bev knew a little about her 'Miller side' great grandmother Elizabeth Miller through family oral history and photographs, and went on to discover Elizabeth's parents, siblings, where the family originated from, travel records, mixed marriages, and much more.

Deb is searching for Mary Stuart (Stewart). Though different name spellings can be a researcher's nightmare, Deb has targeted her maternal great-great-great grandmother. Deb's search methods included shipping records, Scotland's People, Church records, and genuki.com. While 'when, where and how' Mary died remain a mystery, Deb has been able to locate Mary's 6 children with Adam Glen (snr).

Barry recounted finding his paternal grandparents records. While he found his grandfather's information quite easily, his grandmother's history was the familiar researcher challenge - finding data from an era when women's own stories were rarely recorded. Barry has since created his paternal grandmother's story by working backwards from her death certificate. He has found her parents, siblings, addresses and more. Her name was Eva Muriel Few and she had a story to tell!

'Time Travelling!' was the alternate topic for this month. Wendy described how she organized and immersed herself in 200-300 handwritten letters written to and from her paternal grandmother, covering the paternal grandmother's early 20s to nearly 60 years starting in 1937. The letters cover many topics, vividly describing the author's lives and thoughts related to these topics. It was no wonder Wendy described feeling transported back in time. And just to keep us intrigued and in anticipation, Wendy discovered gaps in the letter's timelines where Wendy's paternal grandmother had destroyed letters on topics she thought were not suitable for others to read.

Malcolm opted for a "Members' Choice" Master Class on his on-going project to update relatives' headstones and the many steps to achieve this. The Stone Mason's quote describes prices and the assorted options to choose from if you are thinking about doing the same.

Graeme is also caring for a relatives' grave. His soldier relatives' grave is near a significant First Nation site. Stay tuned as Graeme updates us on the many factors he will negotiate to ensure cultural respect for his soldier relative and the First Nations' site.

The 2023 National Trust's *Heritage Festival* will be held in Benalla from 3rd to 7th May. The theme is "Shared Stories", and the Benalla Heritage Network has planning well underway. The 2023 events calendar is larger due to an increase in participation by many history-based Benalla groups/individuals. The Benalla Heritage Network mantra is "highlight what we already do". If you or your group might like to participate in the festival or have queries about the Network, go to <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf/vic/> or call Jane on 0437 621 575.

At our next session, on Thursday 23 March commencing at 1pm, our guest speaker will be **Jim Burnell** on DNA - '**Why I am like I am**' and some recent developments in gene therapy.

Then, to celebrate International Women's Day, which falls in March, our family stories topics:

'Her Story' The chance to write about a woman in your family research you have come to admire; someone who has struggled and prevailed; perhaps someone who experienced a family or other tragedy, or multiple tragedies; someone who fought for women's stories to prevail; who participated in the woman's movement; who had a particular gift which she shared with the world or other theme which you feel pertinent.

Or

The 'G+' (female) Collection Add a new story your 'G+' collection. Write about a (great, great great, or even great, great, great) grandmother or aunt you haven't written about previously.

Jane Rushworth, Barry O'Connor, Bev Lee

Family Research – Beginners

Our first Thursday session was split into two, Bev and Barry meeting with new class members, while Judy facilitated an informal meeting of returning students at Rambling Rose, prior to their hands-on session on the second Thursday.

By the end of their first session new students had identified the four sides of their family at grandparent level, established a focus question/area of work to begin the year, watched ancestry.com and Scotland's people in operation, and more. They have also commenced one-to-one sessions – each class member is eligible for three one to one sessions early in the year. Finds in early sessions have included census information; family bible details; shipping list information; how DNA results feed into active ancestry.com accounts and more.

The continuing group had a busy hands-on session on the second Thursday afternoon, with reports on gains including adding photos to ancestry profiles; finding out about relatives who lived in India; finding the actual village in Northern Ireland in which a relative lived, and more.

Thank you to Judy Barry and Barry O'Connor for providing valuable mentoring support.

During March and April, new students will come in on the first Monday from 1 to 4 and have one to one appointments. Continuing students will meet at Rambling Rose for a coffee catch up with Judy Barry on the first Monday from 2 to 3 pm, then attend a hands-on session on the 2nd Thursday from 1 to 4pm.

Bev Lee

Film Discussion Group

As this was our first class for the year, with several new members joining, we spent the time introducing ourselves and talking about the films we enjoy. Sci-Fi was not a popular choice for many of the class, along with loud car chase and violent films. It seems that films with a story and depth are popular, along with musicals and comedies. Some people also mentioned biopics as enjoyable. Some favourite actors were mentioned, with some choosing films that involve these actors.

I also spoke about the process for future classes, describing a document I prepare each month giving details about the films screening at BPACC. It is this document we will use to select a film (or maybe two) for discussion at the following class.

For discussion at our March class, we have selected "A Man Called Otto". This stars Tom Hanks and is the story of Otto who has given up on life following the loss of his wife and wants to end it all. When a young

family moves in nearby, he meets his match in quick-witted Marisol, leading to a friendship that will turn his world around. It is a comedy drama. Some in the class have already seen the film and highly recommend it.

Joy Shirley

Garden Appreciation

Our first meeting of the year was a lovely day, meeting our new members and welcoming back 2022 members. Morning tea and Gwen's beautiful garden and fernery at the back of her Trinity Close unit were enjoyed by all. Thank you, Lin Ryan, your Garden is lovely with a number of rare plants. Our walk through St Joseph's Village was very pleasant, it was interesting to see all different court yards. Thank you, Shirley Kearney for arranging the visit.

March 23rd - Mansfield.

Meet at U3A carpark at 9.30am. BYO Morning tea. We are going to Mansfield to visit **Concepts Garden Art Work**, Crosby Lane, Mansfield and the lovely town garden of Helen Hookey. This will be followed by lunch at Delatite Hotel, Mansfield. Following lunch, you may like to visit the Mansfield Nursery.

April 27th - Bus Trip to Bendigo

Meet at Rose Garden, Benalla Royal Hotel, no later than 8.00am, to board the bus to visit **The Great Stupa Gardens** (12) peace park, and wander in this unique space. Accessibility: A Buggy is available if required for people with mobility issues.

The cost of the tour is \$68 which includes travel, entry, morning tea with cakes and slices and a 2 Course Lunch (main and sweets), at the Bendigo R.S.L. Drinks at own cost. The \$68 is to be paid by the end of March or early April. Please let me know if you have any Dietary requirements.

If you are attending any of our outings, Gwen needs to know numbers for the bus and catering. Contact Gwen on her Mobile 0438627010 or her email gwenturner243@gmail.com if you are planning to attend.

Gwen Turner

German

The new season has started very well. The group is very keen to learn and I'm very pleased to share my knowledge with them. We are continuing our tradition of having 'Kaffee un Kuchen' after class for special occasions, this month celebrating Barbara's birthday with a delicious cake made by Sophie.

Horst Gunther

Jane Austen Book Club

Our introductory session looked at both Georgian/Regency society 1780 – 1820, and Jane Austen's life.

Austen grew up within a changing social group of the County Gentry, a group of old rural squires but now, also rich newcomers renting or buying country properties, but with few understandings of how this county squirarchy had behaved for generations. Of the dozen or so local families that the Austen family visited, only two of the old gentry remained. This gave her a rich tapestry from which to satirically draw many of her characters: the frivolous and the worthy.

We watched Lucy Worsley's excellent UTube video in which she visited the many houses and towns the Austen family lived in after they shifted away from their original home in Steventon, where her father had been a rector in the local church for many years. She traced the changes of fortune that Jane Austen experienced in her life as an author.

In March we will talk about **Sense and Sensibility**, her first published novel in 1811.

If you wish you may read a fuller version of my introductory discussion notes by going to [Jane Austen Book Club Session 1 Notes](#).

Meg Dillon

In the Lap of the Gods

Our first class focussed on the little gods, the archaic peasant gods of Rome who were so central to everyday family worship. These originated from the Etruscans. The Etruscans gave Rome many of its early traditions. Few of these little gods had a face or even a body but sacrifices were made to them at every meal. Every god of Greece and Rome, big or little, was transactional. They expected sacrifices and prayers in order that they might give their favour.

The Lares were gods who were family ancestors or eponyms who gave their name to the family. The Penates were the little gods who protected a family's goods and stores. Rome had public Lares and Penates too. The worship of the public Lares and Penates was overseen by the Vestal Virgins under the supervision of the Chief Priest, the Pontifex Maximus. Most priests in Rome were not full time. Instead, they were members of the elite who governed, made war or ascertained the will of the gods, all as part of a day's work. For example, Julius Caesar was appointed as Pontifex Maximus when just a young man.

The ancient world was crammed full of these little gods. Every action or place had a Numen or Daemon, all needing propitiation. For example, Janus and five little gods watched over every household entrance.

Next time, we will deal with the big gods. These were the twelve or so anthropomorphic gods who lived on Mt Olympus in northern Greece.

John Barry

Investment

We welcomed new members to our first meeting of Investment on Monday 6th February and our group now numbers 18. We had a quick look at share market since December and looking forward into 2023 where experts expect a steady rise if China re-enters the iron ore and coal market.

There are 11 sectors in the Australian share market, and this is a big difference to the US. In Australia 48% of the market is made up for financials & materials. In the US IT & Health care make up 41% and financials and materials only 15%.

The members were asked to pick 2 stocks in each of the 11 sectors so we can see the results each month on a Bendigo Invest Watch listing that is live.

Everyone then chose their "monthly" short term stock for review at the March meeting.

John spoke of the importance of spreading investments. He then referred to the share market in which he has been involved since 1960, and different strategies for investing. John pointed out that he is not a stock picker but prefers the safety of the top 20 shares that pay 100% franked dividends which provide a regular income while also keeping an eye out for opportunities in times of market downturn.

We then investigated broker consensus and company dividends yields, finishing on self-education found at the bottom of the Market Index page.

Then finally, around the table members chose their Long -Term stock to be tabulated and reviewed each month in a spreadsheet.

Malcolm Sanders

Let's Talk Books

It was lovely to see everyone back and welcome some new members. Many books were read over the holiday period, some of those mentioned were *In Search of Moby Dick* by Tim Severin a British explorer and historian. *Finding my Voice The Peter Brocklehurst Story*, the autobiography of this talented tenor. Peter Fitzsimons wrote *Kingsford Smith and those Magnificent Men*, an aviation hero, this book was full of interesting facts for those interested in anything to do with flying. *The Dark Flood Rises* a very fluent writer in Margaret Drabble. *The Angry Women's Choir* by Meg Bignel is a heartlifting story about some remarkable women. Worth the read this one. *The Violin Conspiracy* by Brendan Slocum. Ray McMillan a black classical musician undeterred by the prejudice in the world of classical music. A couple of films enjoyed were *The Fablemans* a Steven Spielberg film and *The Lost King – Richard 111* whose body was found under a Leicester car park. An historical novel, *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis, named for the world renowned pair of marble lions that guard the entrance to the New York public library. *The Wife Stalker* by Liv Constantine was as the name suggests a bit scary as was *The Night Stalker*. *In the A-Z Guide to Humans*, George the cat brings us the hilarious guide for cats to navigate the world of humans. Another film enjoyed was *A Man Called Otto*. To join the latest 'Paris' bookshop stories was *The Forgotten Bookshop in Paris* a tale of love, loss and betrayal. *The Countess From Kirribilli* born in Sydney in the 1930's the literary writer captivated the literary circles of London and Europe. Writing under the pseudonym Flynn, Sydney Hopkins wrote *Mister God This is Anna* a mischievous 4 year old runaway. *Erna Walraven* gives us *Sunset In Spain* a couple's search for new challenges. *The Salt Path* by Raynor Winn a self-affirming tale of a couple who lost everything, a true story. *Elizabeth the First* the most educated royal, by Helen Carter, and whilst on the Royals *The Spare* didn't curry any favour, a load of hogwash and repetitive was the verdict. A few more to enjoy were *Arthur Phillip* by Michael

Pembroke, The Dover Café of War by Ginny Bell, the first book in the WW11 Saga series brilliantly written and researched. Suggested reads were *The Guncle* by Steven Rowley, and *Fury at Bent Fork* by B.S. Dunn. *The Art of Forgery* explores the intrigues of famous forgeries around the world. Riveting and page turning describes the crime novel *The Housemate* by Sarah Bailey. A local Benalla girl Sue Watts has written *A Lesson in Love* which has received good reviews. Sue also visits at the Freemasons Home in Benalla. Last but not least was *The Orphans* by Fiona McIntosh an historical adventure. Keep reading, see you all in March.

Geraldine McCorkell

Lifeball

With our numbers gradually edging up, we are keeping on our toes each week as we adjust the game to the players available. It was a novelty to return to a full court this week with a fast and enjoyable game being played.

Lifeball is a team sport played at walking pace and is great for anyone looking for a different way to keep fit. We are always happy to welcome new players and can be found at the Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre every Monday at 10am. Convenor Marlene Pitts can be contacted for more information on 0428210944.

Julie McNeill

Meet and Mingle

Our first Meet and Mingle in February was well attended. The Guest Speaker was **Charlene Donovan, Community Ambassador, National Broadband Network (NBN)**, Local North Eastern Victoria.

Charlene explained the various ways the NBN is supplied to its customers including fixed wire delivery and satellite. She also mentioned that NBN was the wholesaler and customers connected to the NBN through the retailers.

A number of questions concerning retailers arose which Charlene offered to come back and talk to those members affected. She suggested that they would need to bring in their mobile data and home data accounts, so that she could help them assess any problems. This will probably happen in the middle of March. Meet and Mingle participants will be sent an Email concerning Charlene's visit in March.



Meet and Mingle in March will be the venue for U3A Benalla's Annual General Meeting. This will be held on Wednesday 15th March in the Auditorium of the Benalla Senior's Centre at 10am. The guest speaker at the AGM will be **Tom Arnold, Community Development Co-ordinator, Benalla Rural City Council**. His topic will be the Fawckner Drive Precinct project. Everyone is welcome.

Margaret Jenkins

Music Appreciation

There is nothing like "starting with a bang", as they say. And so our programme for 2023 got under way with "Workers Union" - a modern composition by Louis Andriessen, a highly innovative contemporary composer known for his individualism, political activism, and creativity. He is considered the most important living composer from the Netherlands.

The piece was written for any combination of loud sounding instruments which was in keeping with the composer's desire to avoid standard instrumental combinations. Andriessen states that "This piece is a combination of individual freedom and severe discipline: its rhythm is exactly fixed; the pitch, on the other hand, is indicated only approximately, on a single-lined stave. It is difficult to play in an ensemble and to remain in step, sort of like organizing and carrying on political action. No two recordings of the work, it is claimed, are the same.

Mozart's Concert for Two Pianos – one of the most artful and ambitious works of all his piano concertos - served to quickly bring us back in time to the golden age of Viennese music. For what occasion Mozart wrote this piece is not known for certain, but it is claimed that he wrote it for himself to play with his sister. As youngsters the Mozart siblings often performed together. Fitting it was then that the performance our group watched was by two pianist brothers who had grown up from an early age performing together.

A trumpet concerto by Czech composer Johann Baptiste Neruda and a rendition of Gabriel Fauré's 'Cantique de Jean Racine', the latter performed by Australia's very own Gondwana Voices, closed out the session in complete contrast to its beginning.

Our second session was on the day of the anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Serendipitously the major work selected was Beethoven's 3rd Symphony originally conceived to honour Napoleon's victory over the combined forces of Russian and Austria. The dedication to Napoleon, however, was short lived. When Napoleon declared himself as Emperor of France, Beethoven, in fury that Napoleon showed himself as no better than any despot who had previously ruled in Europe, scratched his name from the title page and changed the dedication to "an heroic person". Hence today the symphony carries the title "Eroica", a title that many would want to ascribe to those involved in the defence of Ukraine today. The rest of the programme was given over to a series of short works by Ukrainian composers culminating in a presentation of lively and colourful dance routines by a Ukrainian national dance ensemble.

Notes for the music and links to the recordings can be accessed via the Music Appreciation page of our U3A web site.

Bill Squire

Page Turners Book Group

Our February book was the **Zookeepers War** by the Australian writer Stephen Conte; an ultra-realistic book about living in Berlin during the bombing raids by the Allies during WW2.

The Zookeeper, Axel and his Australian wife Vera, work with allocated slave laborers to feed the surviving animals in the ruins of the Berlin Zoo. While Axel is fixated on his responsibilities to the animals, he neglects the safety of his wife and her friend Flavia, an anti-Nazi actress whose many lovers offer her protection in the increasingly battered city.

Conte provides well researched descriptions of the privations of citizens who are reduced to living in cellars and the ruins of their apartments, all the time scrounging for food. No-one can be trusted as many people report anti-Nazi sympathisers to the Gestapo. Both Axel and Flavia refuse to leave Berlin in time before Russian soldiers liberate the city, even though they have forged travel documents that would have permitted them to go.

A dramatic and violent ending brings the book to its close.

March: **Demon Copperhead**, by Barbara Kingsolver.

Meg Dillon

Patchwork and Craft

A reminder that there will be three sessions in March – Thursday 2nd and 16th March at the regular time of 1 – 4 pm, with a longer '5th Thursday' all day workshop on the 30th from 10 am to 4 pm.

Dorothy Webber

Photography

It was great to see so many faces at the first session for Photography and to hear so many different reasons for joining our group.

During the session we discussed the nature of Photography and the use of the Photographic Triangle - ISO, Aperture and Shutter - to get the correct exposure. We also discussed the general nature of Landscape photography. We managed to get a few questions in, and I explained a few things I do regarding High Dynamic Range (HDR), as camera devices are not able to capture what the eye sees when it comes to everything being visible (taking a photo from a room with a window to outside light).

If you connect to the link [Session Resources](#) on the Photography page of the U3A Benalla website, there are some youtube videos as well as a quick overview of the Photographic Triangle.

As mentioned in a recent email, I would like to see a photo of your choice taken between classes which we can view and discuss briefly at our next class on Thursday 23 March at 10am. If possible, email it to me at rensmartphotography@yahoo.com. Also, please bring your camera devices to the session, as we will quickly discuss some of the general settings for most of them.

Rene Martens

Play Reading

Our play for February was **Hotel Sorrento**, by Hannie Rayson. Set around 1988, it was first performed in 1990. This was a vivid, moving and funny play which explores the concept of loyalty both to family and country. Three sisters come together after ten years: Hilary who lives in Sorrento with her father and son; Pippa visiting from New York where she works in advertising; Meg who returns home from England with her English husband after her new novel *Melancholy* is shortlisted for the Booker Prize. Unspoken aspects of their shared past, jolted by the autobiographical flavour of Meg's book haunts the reunion.

Marge, a teacher with a holiday home in Sorrento, reads the novel and finds it captured an Australia she knows. Her friend Dick is worried by Meg's expatriate status. This interest draws them into the family where the issues of culture, patriotism and using the past are battled out.

In the first act, the setting shifts between London and Sorrento. All the action in Sorrento in the second act. Relationships are well established in the play. The history of the different personalities and eventually some background as to why the two younger sisters left Australia comes through.

We enjoyed the play and talked about some of the cultural issues and differences between Australia and England that were raised. Are these still in play today? One point that was raised in discussion was the focus on the arts that was happening at the time of the play and that this has had a resurgence in recent weeks.

Our play for March is **Parramatta Girls** by Australian writer, Alana Valentine.

Joy Shirley

Politics and Current Affairs

During February discussion was held on the Voice and related subjects. The group also covered current affairs and political happenings since the group met last year. Our second session included an excellent presentation on the RoboDebt issue, its unlawful processes and its effects on those people who were most effected.

Heather Wallace

Recorder Group

A new year and new music to explore! All very exciting, with some challenges thrown into the mix. There are some high notes to get under control and some trickier rhythms to navigate while still staying together. The music varies from Renaissance recorder music to European and Australian folk music and anything in-between.

It's great to be playing together again!

Janet Douglas



Singing for Fun

Singing in 2023 has started with increased numbers of members, which is great to see. Our four leaders for the month chose a variety of approaches to their sessions.

Carmyl had the group singing rounds in February which everyone seemed to enjoy. She also had an International morning for one of her sessions, choosing songs from a variety of countries. Brian started off his first session with a Seekers medley which is always popular with the group. On another morning he brought a tin whistle and chose Pedro the Fisherman and played the tin whistle at the appropriate part.

"On the Road to Mandalay" was included by Margaret in one of her sessions, and she added some geography information about the song for us all. Kieran let the members choose their favourite song in one of his sessions, and this turned up a variety of songs.

We thank Gwen for the great musical accompaniment she has been providing for all sessions.

We were sorry to hear that one of our newer members, Tony Watson, was in Wangaratta hospital with septicaemia. Hope you are back with us soon Tony.

The next Singing for Fun will be on Thursday 2nd March at 10am in the Hub at Coinda

Margaret Jenkins

Sky's the Limit

Sixteen members attended the first session of The Sky's the limit where we enjoyed listening to our speaker for the day, Mark Carr.

Mark started his flying career with the RAAF and transferred to the navy where he flew fighter jets. It was interesting to hear his experience in landing a jet on a moving carrier in rough weather, not for the faint hearted that is for sure.

Following his military career Mark became a pilot with Cathay Pacific, flying the Jumbo 747's. Mark described the difficulty in landing at Kia Tak airport in HongKong, his computer images gave us some idea of how low over the buildings the aircraft needed to fly to safely land. Fabulous views for the pilots and passengers alike.

Mark has written a book called *Written In The Sky* telling of his life experiences in aviation.



We hope next session to visit Wangaratta airfield and take a guided tour around the hangar where old aircraft are being rebuilt and restored.

Claire Rudolph

Stock and Land

Graeme Hooper thought he would be a dedicated winter cropper on the family farm at Goorambat, but has increasingly dedicated himself to the Southdown sheep breed, his father established in 1928. In that year his then 15-year-old father bought stud Southdown ewes at a Telford sale, to withering comments from other buyers that he was too young to know enough.

Nearly a century later, the Hooper's Clear Hills stud, sells towards 100 rams at an annual auction, for an average of better than \$1500 each. Some Charollais cross rams, another breed at Clear Hills, maybe becoming Graeme's favourite when crossed with Southdowns, sell for about \$2500 each.

A telling story for Stock and Land participants was when Graeme said his father was almost imprisoned during WWII, for wanting to join the army. Twice he was rejected, the second time with a warning that if he tried again, he would be incarcerated. The reason: he was a talented shearer and was desperately needed to keep wool flowing into soldier's uniforms.

Pioneer John Hooper settled in Goorambat towards the end of the 19th century; the latest Hoopers, three grandsons of Graeme's, are the fifth generation there. "Hopefully at least one of those will carry on with the stud sheep," Graeme said.

Commercial Southdowns are also at Clear Hills and the Hoopers sell half lambs, ready to cook, for about \$250 each.

David Palmer

Sustainability

The Sustainability group kicked off the year on 3 February with a quick review of the issues we covered last year including reminding ourselves of what true sustainability means, being where we achieve sustainability across the three intersecting areas of the economy, society and the environment. We then discussed an article written by Valclav Smil who suggested nine things that would make the world a better place. It was quite a diverse list from a universal vaccine precursor, a cure for Alzheimer's disease, self-cleaning photovoltaic paint through to a global sunshade.

In our second session on 17 February we had the first of our new look sessions where group members bring along issues or articles and lead discussions about the issues raised. Among the issues discussed was a recent article demonstrating how far we actually have come in reducing carbon dioxide emissions globally and that the dire predictions of climate change of the early 2010s are no longer feasible. Additionally, we discussed the review of the Federal government's carbon offsets scheme and the report on it by a former Chief

Scientist, Ian Chubb, who found that not all was rosy in the offsets garden. The government is currently implementing his recommendations.

John Lane

Tech Advice

Anyone who is a U3A member can obtain some 'one on one' help in operating and using their mobiles, tablets or laptops you can book a time with either Jenny (Apple) **0409 545 182** or Robyn (Android) **0403 164 931** on the 2nd or 3rd Monday of each month - 12:30pm - 1:00pm.

Jenny Sawyer/Robyn Lukey

Tech Savvy Apple – Pages

We began our February session watching a YouTube presentation which was an [Introduction to Pages](#). And then we had to apply some of that information to our practical tasks.



We had two tasks to complete.

1. To create and name a Folder.
2. To create and name a document inside our folder.

Everyone worked very hard to achieve these goals.

A big thank you to Denise Jarvis for her individual assistance to many of the class members when they needed a helping hand.

Jenny Sawyer

Tech Savvy Android - Beginners

Members brought along a variety of mobile phones, tablets & laptops to our classes in February. We started out by learning (or revising) how to -

- Add our devices to the U3A WiFi Network
- Add a shortcut to our main page/screen – Be Connected & U3A website.
- Find a lost device.
- Use email
- Remove Spam from our Inbox
- Avoid Scammers.
- Block unwanted Emails & Messages
- SMS
- Allow Permissions with certain Apps

Thank you to our additional helpers Ruth, Janice & Lin.



Robyn Lukey

Tech Talks

Africa is not a place that immediately comes to mind when we think of new inventions. Likewise, it is not known for its innovative entrepreneurs. At least not examples that we know of. We all agree that the electric car is a thing of the future. We looked at a report about a young inventor from Zimbabwe who has invented an electric car that converts radio frequencies into energy. His claim is that he has developed the first car that can drive without needing recharging systems. Energy is being generated without using moving parts. He did not go into any further detail except to say he has not been able to patent the procedure. So, we can be a little sceptical. But with all new concepts something great may come out of the idea.

We also looked at a report about the development of toroidal propellers. These are an advancement on the old screw propeller and can both decrease the noise of a screw propeller and increase its efficiency by a significant factor. They are mostly being used in noiseless drones. The cost of converting ships to toroidal propellers has so far held up their use but it will happen.

In the first half of the session, we watched a BBC documentary on the history of Electricity entitled *Shock and Awe*. This covered the full history from the first example of watching the transfer of positive and negative charges that produce a spark to the realisation that electricity has some connection with the movement of electrons. The documentary showed examples of all the significant developments and we actually witnessed

how electricity was first produced inside a vacuum jar. The amazing thing was that you could actually see electricity. This, as you can imagine, was spectacular.

At our next session we will continue to follow in part the exploration of electricity.

Neville Gibb

Ukes4Fun

There has been a good response to this course, which covers learning to play the Ukulele from scratch, though there are some people who have played this instrument previously. A few of the Ukuleles have been sitting at the back of the wardrobe for a number of years.

We have been following a 10-week course available on You Tube which commences from the very beginning, how to tune, how to hold the ukulele, and basic chords. We even learnt "You are my Sunshine".

The following sessions have been a review of the first week, followed by learning one of the strumming patterns. We are also learning to use our chords to play some songs, it is so good to hear the group playing and singing together. We will be learning further strumming patterns in the coming weeks and when to use these patterns. We have also found that the best way to learn the ukulele is to have regular practice sessions at home, where we can learn to move from one chord to another with ease, without looking at the strings.

Heather Wallace

Wine Appreciation

Welcome to our many new members.

On one of the hottest days this summer, 35 of us made our way to Pennyweight Winery at Beechworth where the temperature was a few degrees lower, thank goodness. We sat out under their beautiful big trees in the paved courtyard and were looked after by Libby and Liam.

We tasted two reds and whites and their delicious, fortified *Pennyweight Gold* aged in old oak casks for seven years. It can be enjoyed chilled as a delicious aperitif, a dessert wine or as a mixer with tonic, ice and lime – sounded good on the day! As there was a little bit of time to spare before lunch, several members took the opportunity to peruse the shops before going onto lunch at the Stanley Pub.

Once again, we were seated under trees and umbrellas on their expansive lawn. The menu is predominantly Asian with some usual pub food. I can't speak highly enough of the staff who looked after us. They were always smiling and happy to help.



Our March 17th outing is to Gapsted Winery, 3897 Great Alpine Rd, Myrtleford with lunch at Café Fez located at 145 Great Alpine Rd, Myrtleford. There is a \$5 charge for the tasting. The tasting is booked for 11.00.

As usual we will meet in the car park behind Aldi at 10.00. Please RSVP by Sunday 12th either by return email or phone/text 0428 696 408.

Nicole McFarlane

Wise Guys Book Group

The inaugural meeting of the Wise Guys Book Group brought five men together to discuss favourite books and the direction the group might take. The group professed a preference for non-fiction although novels will not be excluded. More specifically, war stories seemed to strike a chord, highlighted by the presence of a war veteran.

We next meet on Wednesday 22nd March at 2pm in the U3A Meeting Room. New members welcome.

David Palmer

What's On

Wednesday, 1 March

Nomination forms for Committee due in today

09:15 Bushwalking - Easywalks - Corowa/Wahgunyah and Rutherglen

09:30 Play Reading - 'Parramatta Girls' by Alana Valentine

Thursday, 2 March

10:00 Singing for Fun

10:00 Tech Savvy Beginners - Android

13:00 Family Research - Beginners

13:00 Patchwork and Craft

Friday, 3 March

10:00 Sustainability

14:00 'In the Lap of the Gods'

Monday, 6 March

09:30 Exercises for Fun

10:00 Collectors - 'China Items Featuring Flowers'

10:00 Lifeball - Marlene 0407 240 943

10:00 Art Appreciation - Nina Machielse Hunt – Beechworth Contemporary

12:45 Ukes4Fun

14:00 Investment

14:00 Let's Talk Books

Tuesday, 7 March

10:00 Page Turners - 'Demon Copperhead', Barbara Kingsolver

10:00 Stock and Land

12:15 German

14:00 Sky's the Limit

Wednesday, 8 March

10:00 Recorder Group

13:30 A Taste of Art

14:00 Film Discussion Group - 'A Man Called Otto'

14:00 Tech Savvy Apple - 'Pages'

Thursday, 9 March

09:00 Birdwatching – Mt Samaria

10:00 Singing for Fun

10:00 Tech Savvy Beginners - Android

13:00 Family Research - Beginners

13:30 Executive Committee Meeting

Friday, 10 March

10:00 Music Appreciation

14:00 Australian History

Monday, 13 March – Labour Day

09:30 Exercises for Fun

10:00 Lifeball - Marlene 0407 240 943

12:45 Ukes4Fun

14:00 Creative Writing

14:00 Garden Team

Tuesday, 14 March

10:00 Politics and Current Affairs

12:15 German

14:00 Jane Austen Book Club - 'Sense and Sensibility'

14:00 Tech Talks

Wednesday, 15 March

10:00 U3A Benalla AGM & Guest Speaker Tom Arnold, Community Development Officer, Benalla Rural City

14:00 Cards '500'

Thursday, 16 March

10:00 Singing for Fun

10:00 Tech Savvy Beginners - Android

13:00 Patchwork and Craft

14:00 Demystifying Psychology Discussion Group

Friday, 17 March

10:00 Wine Appreciation – Gapsted Winery and Café Fez, Myrtleford

10:00 Sustainability

11:45 Chat 'n Chew – Benalla Golf Club

Monday, 20 March

09:30 Exercises for Fun

10:00 Lifeball - Marlene 0407 240 943

11:30 Be Connected - Managing Money Online

12:30 Tech Advice

12:45 Ukes4Fun

14:00 As Time Goes By - Memoir Writing

Tuesday, 21 March

10:00 Enjoying the Internet

12:15 German

14:00 Exploring the Universe

Wednesday, 22 March

10:00 Recorder Group

13:30 A Taste of Art

14:00 Wise Guys Book Group

Thursday, 23 March

09:30 Garden Appreciation - CAOS Garden Concepts, a Mansfield garden & the Mansfield Nursery

10:00 Photography

10:00 Community Singing

13:00 Family Research

Friday, 24 March

10:00 Music Appreciation

14:00 Australian History

Saturday, 25 March

17:00 Newsletter reports due

Monday, 27 March

09:30 Exercises for Fun

10:00 Lifeball - Marlene 0407 240 943

12:45 Ukes4Fun

13:30 Coin Collectors

14:00 Convenors Meeting – in Auditorium

Tuesday, 28 March

10:00 Politics & Current Affairs

12:15 German

14:00 Brain Games

Wednesday, 29 March

14:00 Cards '500'

Thursday, 30 March

10:00 Patchwork and Craft - All Day Session

Monday, 3 April

09:30 Exercises for Fun

10:00 Collectors

10:00 Lifeball - Marlene 0407 240 943

10:00 Art Appreciation

12:45 Ukes4Fun

14:00 Investment

14:00 Let's Talk Books