



Benalla and District Inc.

## Newsletter – May 2023

U3A Benalla & District Inc

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Please send reports for the newsletter to [newsletter.u3abenalla@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.u3abenalla@gmail.com) by May 25, 2023

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## President's Report



Thank you to all the Convenors for attending the Convenor's afternoon in late March. The Committee values all the courses and the Convenors who run them. The feedback we got concerning how you are managing the increased group size this year was positive. We took on board the fact that a hearing loop could be of benefit in the Auditorium and will discuss this with the Council representatives in a few days' time.

In early April Geraldine and I attended the North East Regional meeting which was held by Zoom. We heard about some interesting online courses which can be considered for 2024. We reported our 10% increase in membership for 2023 and found that a 3% increase was deemed acceptable by Melbourne branches. Our latest membership is 371 which is very satisfying.

During the last fortnight a device has been installed in our photocopier so that we now have the facility to copy straight from a USB which can be inserted into the photocopier. This should assist several Convenors in preparing material for their groups.

We are investigating having someone from the Committee available to members in the U3A office half a day a week. Next month we should have more details available.

Following discussion with Cr Danny Claridge at our AGM, U3A were encouraged to submit a Submission to Benalla Rural City Council concerning the development of the Fawckner Drive Precinct area. U3A have requested that land directly behind the current Benalla Senior's building be set aside for future development of extra rooms for U3A and other senior activities. We have also asked that our request for extra rooms be placed on the Council Plan for consideration when Federal or State Government funds are available.

We have received a request from Carer Gateway to publicise their activities to support people who are caring for a person who has a disability, illness, addiction, mental health problem or who is frail due to age in Benalla. Whilst we are aware that many U3A members have caring responsibilities in their family, space in our newsletter does not allow the publication of all their articles. However, Carer Gateway can be contacted on [www.carergateway.gov.au](http://www.carergateway.gov.au) or on 1800 422 737

We have been asked to publicise members recently elected to the U3A Benalla Committee. The following form your committee.

President: Margaret Jenkins; Secretary Geraldine McCorkell; Treasurer Neville Gibb; Vice President: Anne Nelson; Immediate past president: Dorothy Webber; Membership Secretary Len Jeffers; Newsletter Editor: Heather Wallace; Publicity Officer: David Palmer; Assistant Treasurer: Corrie Witlox; Committee members: Lorraine Knox, Nicole McFarlane, Julie McNeill.

Hope you have all enjoyed the wonderful weather in late April for our U3A activities.

Margaret Jenkins, President

## Group Reports

### A Taste of Art

In previous newsletters we've featured photos of Gary Edwards, who is continuing to work on paintings drawing upon childhood memories of treasured places in his life. This time we're featuring photos of Asha, Marlies with mentor Josephine, and Kim.



A Taste of Art meets fortnightly at the Broken River Painters Studio, Barc Hut 11, Airport precinct. Convenor Carol Perry and mentors including Mike O'Connor welcome new members.

### Art Appreciation

At our last First Monday we listened to Tony Lloyd expand on the exhibition of his paintings that are on show at the Gallery. Tony's paintings are realistic portraits of mountains and landscapes and are deliberately just short of super realist. Tony's talk ranged over his career in Art and can be summed up in the statement - have paint brush will travel. Tony has travelled extensively and drawn inspiration from various parts of the world including the high country to our immediate north. He admits having been influenced by both Caravaggio and early moving film. Caravaggio is not immediately obvious but when explained by Tony one can see the connection and the slightly out of focus state of his mountain paintings have the same look as the soft focus that is evident in early moving film.

Join us on the first Monday in May at 10 am for an artist talk by Mike Nicholls, coinciding with his major exhibition *A Bird in the Hand*.

Neville Gibb

### 'As Time Goes By' – Memoir Writing

Our journey today was populated by friends and neighbours offering a wonderful kaleidoscope of characters and neighbourhood experiences that enriched our 'growing up' years. There was a commonality across rural and urban landscapes significantly impacting on who we are today.

Prior to experiencing this landscape, Bev introduced an engaging memoir titled, 'Finding Memories of a Distant Home Through Milo Toast'. We shared entertaining memories of 'what a difference' Milo made, particularly in how it was consumed, cold or hot, freely offered or surreptitiously sneaked, in powdered form or in solid balls. For most of us, Milo was an unforgettable early gastronomical delight.

Under the heading of '**precious objects**', Heather recounted the journey of a precious crystal cabinet, which holds special personal memories, particularly of her father. Neville, under the theme of '**failure**', philosophically and rhetorically delved into the experience successfully leaving us unresolved as to its nature and its weight against a high benchmark for success. Within the same theme, Carmyl described an academic journey where '**failure**' was a catalyst for a re-focused energy. Ultimately proving a winner.

Ray invited us to imagine the unappealing nature of **Easter** in Ballarat for a child who had not yet found his 'family'. On the other hand, Barry took us on a 'first class' Easter journey to the Mallee and revealed the

special significance of family time at Easter. Finally, Bev enchanted us with stories of the Molyullah Easter weekend, past and present. Via the theme of **Anzac Day**, Graham shared his anticipation of standing beside his grandfather, father and brother, at least in spirit and memory, this Anzac Day.

Then populating our galaxy of 'Friends and Neighbors' were Carmyl's 'Bet and Jess', both unexpected visitors and subsequently long-term friends, and Carmyl's mum, who was not to be reckoned with if you preferred pineapple over custard and stewed apple. Heather acknowledged that it was the kids who often made the first friendships with new arrivals and reminded us of shared television watching in the main street of our towns and suburbs. Barry recounted the early history of Lalor, his family involvement and the unfortunate history of supply shortages and administrative mismanagement. Trish reminded us of spinning wheels, prizes and a family tragedy that reinforced the value of precious neighbours. Phil transported us to the close knit and 'wonderful' little village of Bishops Itchington and a personal validation of his own integrity. Graeme introduced us to London and Auntie Beatie, sea worm grasping and meeting 'the Mob'. Finally, Phiona introduced us to the delightful, petite and quiet Misses Brooks and then led us to experience a series of locations and next door friends, teaching Phiona the value of accepting differences in culture, religion and lifestyles. Thank you all.

Coming up on May 16 - '**Learning from History**' "History is a marvellous thing. We cannot change it, we can only learn from it. Tell us about significant life lessons you have learnt from one or two incidents in your past?" Alternative topic: **Shaped by Childhood** Describe a formative experience from your childhood, and how it helped shape the person you grew up to be. It could be a treasured family ritual, an early friendship, an influential teacher or your first experience of losing a loved one. Think about an experience or person that's influenced you and share this with us.

Graham Jensen

## Australian History

The Australian History class has been moving steadily through Australia's history. At our first session in April we looked at the opening up of Victoria, NSW and South Australia and the creation of their capital cities and the initial setting up of the administration of NSW.

Our second session covered the period from the gold rushes of the 1850's to the boom time of the 1880's and considered Victorian architecture of that period.

Neville Gibb will be running the group for the next two months while Brian is away.



Brian Harker

## Be Connected – Managing Money Online

This month we spent some time navigating the Be Connected website. We all now Sign in using our email address and password. By doing so we are able to check on our progress through the different courses.

By looking at our own individual progress table we can click/tap on a unit 'In Progress' and pick up from where we had last been working.

We are still working through 'Internet Banking'.

Jenny paid her car registration bill via her banking app and used the BPAY option. To record the transaction complete with receipt number you can

- screenshot
- hand write the receipt number on to your bill with date paid
- have an email sent to you

Next time we will be looking at PayPal. Our next class is Monday 8th May.

Robyn Lukey & Jenny Sawyer



## Bird Watching

### Report of visit to Reef Hills State Park

The Birdwatching group made the short drive to Reef Hills State Park on the southern edge of Benalla for their April outing on the 13<sup>th</sup>. This 2400 hectare park hosts a large variety of birds and is well worth a visit. Some Grey Box is flowering heavily at present, drawing a number of honeyeaters to feed. We spent our time birding along Wattle Road, and after a quiet start saw a good number of small birds. Many were attracted to puddles in the road.

We had great views of 2 pairs of Scarlet Robins. The males were chasing each other, perhaps in a territorial dispute. There were a lot of Grey Fantails, with pardalotes and thornbills often heard but difficult to see. Fuscous and Yellow-faced Honeyeaters were feeding in the Grey Box blossom and a flock of Red Wattlebirds flew overhead.

Thanks, Jim Burnell for the lovely photo of one of the Scarlet Robins.

Here is the link to our list on eBird

<https://ebird.org/australia/checklist/S134920973>

*Please note there will be no outing in May, as I will be away on a birding trip to the Gulf of Carpentaria. Instead, there will be an outing on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June. Details to be advised.*

Kathy Costello



## Brain Games

The neurobics class worked so well at the end of March that they could afford to have the afternoon off for Anzac Day. We'll crank up the cerebral circuits again in May.

Elsbeth Maconachie

## Bushwalking – Easy Walks

### Myrtleford Mosaic Walk

A late need to change plans saw us return to this interesting and popular walk. Twenty-one walkers set off in brilliant sunshine from Myrtleford's Apex Park, walking along the Ovens river and collecting many photos of surprisingly hidden mosaics along the way. Crossing the Barwidgee Creek, we continued along the Rail Trail towards Gapsted before returning through Rotary Park and back to Apex Park for an enjoyable picnic lunch beside the river. Completing 7.5km altogether it was great to enjoy some autumn sun as the leaves begin to turn.



### Wednesday May 3rd: Lake Sambell, Beechworth

Again, we will be chasing some autumn colour as we enjoy a walk of approx. 7km around Lake Sambell and along the Rail Trail. Starting at the Lake Sambell picnic area, the walk will include the Chinese Gardens and the sculpture trail as well as avenues of autumn toned trees. After a picnic lunch at Lake Sambell, we will take a short drive to the historic Chinese Burning Towers and graves at Beechworth cemetery, for a gentle walk through the town's past.

Meet at the Seniors' carpark at 9am, with prior confirmation to Julie by text, email or phone message on 0407823031 or [juliemcneill55@gmail.com](mailto:juliemcneill55@gmail.com).

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

### **Wednesday June 7th: Winton Wetlands**

With the Wetlands currently brimming with water, we will be taking a walk of about 6km return along the dam wall to see the Mokoan ponds at their best. This will be followed by a picnic lunch and a shorter 2km walk around Green's Hill before adjourning to the Hub cafe for afternoon tea.

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

Julie McNeill

### **Cards '500'**

If you want to laugh, have a good time and play cards then come along to Cards 500. We had 8 players at our April meeting, a little down on our March meeting of 13 players; probably affected by the school holidays and visiting grandchildren. A new player joined our session and like so many of our group renewed her interest in cards, which she had played in her younger years.

Cards is so interactive and provides a social medium for many who are perhaps not able to be as involved in other activities as they would like. If you have played previously or never played, we invite you to come along and join in as we dispense the fun and enjoyment as we shuffle the pack.

Doug Smith

### **Chat n' Chew**

Owing to unforeseen circumstances we couldn't go to Ella Goose in April, so we went to *Farmers Basket*, where we were welcomed and looked after. We were all delighted with our meals and will definitely go there again. Next Chat & Chew will be at the *Benalla Bowling Club* on 19th May at 12noon. Deadline for bookings Monday 15th May. SMS or call me on **0427 376 991**. Thanks everyone.

Lorraine Knox

### **Coin Collectors**

We had 5 members attend our meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> April with several apologies. Light on for our normal monthly attendance but no doubt affected by the school holiday period.

Our newly introduced segment "Coin of the Month" (April was Most Attractive Coin) has fired up members to revisit their collections and make some hard noodling judgements. We saw some magnificent coins presented including:-

- English 1993 bi metal 2 pound coin
- Alaskan rodeo Palmer Dollar
- Australian 2000 Olympic Games \$5 coin
- English set of 3 \$1 coins depicting the QE 2 Coronation, beautifully coloured.
- Australian Centenary of Federation 201 6 coin proof set which contained a startling coloured 50 cent piece of the Australian Coat of Arms.



The winner was the QE2 coronation coins, who duly received the Coin of The Month prize. (see image).

We again ran our exclusive Coin Trivia quiz of 8 questions, with a handout answer sheet at the end of the session. The session stimulated further discussion on the answers provided and in doing so fulfills the objective of continuing education for our members in the field of numismatics.

Our show and tell segment was presented with the \$2 coloured coin commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War. Also presented was a complete folder of 60 coloured \$2 coins covering the first release in 2012 to the present. A very desirable collection envied by coin collectors.

Our Coin of the Month for May will be the *smallest size dated coin*.

Doug Smith

## Collectors

An interesting array of dolls arrived for our 'Toy' themed day in April.

One, needing a hospital stay, was dressed in a red knitted outfit made by the owner's grandmother. Lorna was found in an op/shop and has a full wardrobe of clothes for all seasons. Beautifully handmade, dolls and bears by Marj. A 70-years old car and wooden train. A book that opened to reveal the secret life of Bears. A doll I made 30 years ago and the toy Sewing Machine I received for my seventh birthday.



You can find more photos on the Collectors' page on the website.

The theme for May is 'Buttons'.

Dorothy Webber

## Community Singing

Over 20 members enjoyed Community Singing with Brian Greed at the piano in April.

The Community Singing group have been invited to sing at Freemasons on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May, Cooina on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June and Estia Health on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June, all at 10am.

Brian chose the Tram Song Book for April as a preview of how Community Singing will go at all three Aged Care facilities. Brian had printed more copies of the Tram book so that the residents at Freemasons, Cooina and Estia will be able to join in the singing. As well as this Brian had printed three Seekers songs, which are always enjoyed by the group, and we slotted these in about halfway through. Thank you, Brian, for organising the program so well.

Everyone participating in the singing at Freemasons, Cooina and Estia is required to do a RAT test at home before they arrive, must bring the RAT test with them and present it at the door. RAT tests will be given out at Singing for Fun the week before each Community Singing at Freemasons, Cooina and Estia.

As we are Singing at Freemasons on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May there will be no Community Singing at the Hub at Cooina that day. Any queries please give me a call on 5762 6944.

Margaret Jenkins

## Creative Writing

A reminder of the prompts for May's class, by which time convenor Joy will have returned from overseas:

- It was a square cardboard box resting quietly in the "free box" section at Bunnings.
- I was staring at the ordinary little photograph for some time.
- She found it in the middle of the road and it changed her life.

## Demystifying Psychology Discussion Group

The following article popped up the day before we gathered and was sent out as a conversation starter .. if we needed such a thing! I emailed it anyway. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-04-18/succession-logan-roy-narcissism-abusive-parent/102231658>

It describes the plight of a TV series family in which the adult children try extraordinarily hard to appease a difficult .. often abusive ... parent, to no avail.

The article also included many excellent links to the various theories about this familial discord – including a link to "Schema" (not schemer) theory. This was a new rabbit hole for us .. and down we went for a look.





By the time we had explored “Schema” theory and its application to some day-to-day examples, we discovered we were discussing the potentially confronting topic of gender, sex, and transitioning. Having been raised in a gender binary, and more likely to hear the term “fluidity” in a Form 4 science lab, gender fluidity and cultural change became the day’s topic.

Two hours later we had discussed DNA, sex, gender, chromosomes, parental responses to gender fluidity, parenting and supporting a transitioning child, social responses to transitioning children and adults, challenges in sports, the relatively short history of a binary world, historical and cultural attitudes to gender diversity, the social and economic reasons for some of these attitudes and much more.

It was time to depart.

Then .. a [“History of multiple genders”](#) on Tick Tok popped up on my facebook .. a fascinating chat, though not to be quoted in respected science journals.

*(The drawing down the side of this report? It’s an Adobe Stock visual of the evolution of our group discussions.)*

Ps ... Many thanks to Glenys and to Andrew for May’s topics:

- Leadership, and
- Writing your own obituary.

Next Psychology Discussion group: Thursday 18 May 2-4 pm @ Ruby Blue Café – Nunn St.

Jane Rushworth 0437 621 575

## Enjoying the Internet

Nine people attended our third session in April. We used both PC and projector display on wall, and iPad and TV. During the session we looked at

*Online Shopping* – delivery, returns, payment options, security, including purchasing groceries online and clothing/shoes not available locally; using Ebay and viewed a video on [Online Shopping Advice](#) on YouTube.

*Online Banking* - we looked at checking all movement in and out, paying accounts, transferring payments, knowing what limit you have set for withdrawal/movement. Tips included grouping banking apps such [Stocard](#) (all your loyalty cards in one app) and *Wallet* (to securely store credit and debit cards, transit cards, boarding passes) on your mobile devices.

*Communication* – included discussions about *E-mails* (Right clicking, blocking senders, Flags, marking as unread, forwarding, BBC, security, Attaching Pictures-size etc.); *Social Media* -Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, Dating Apps; *Telehealth* – HotDoc; *Zoom* video meetings <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>

We discussed communicating *using SMS* on phone (or tablet, or Mac) and using *Facetime* on phone. (for medical consultations, friendship chats etc.)

During the session we also discussed applying for the current \$250 Power bonus (available to all) by completing the online application form at <https://powersavingbonus3.energy.vic.gov.au/> or contacting Victorian Energy Compare on 1800 000 832

Further details about the Videos and tutorial links for this session are available in the lesson notes on the Enjoying the Internet page on the **U3A website**: <https://u3abenalla.weebly.com/> last session is up for your review Look under the **Col-G** tab & click on **Enjoying the Internet**, then the links to our various sessions



Dawn Stephens

## Exercises for Fun

We have been doing some online research for different Exercise Ideas and Videos suitable for our group to try. It is challenging but enjoyable. There is nothing like a change to keep our minds and bodies active. We meet every Monday at 9.30am in the auditorium of the Seniors Community Centre. Have fun!

Helen Jeffree

## Exploring the Universe

### Jupiter's Icy Moons Explorer

On April 14<sup>th</sup> an Ariane V Rocket launched into space from French Guiana. Its payload was a very special spacecraft from the European Space Agency. 'The Jupiter's Icy Moons Explorer', or simply 'Juice' will study the gas giant planet Jupiter's largest moons, Europa, Callisto and Ganymede that are thought to be 'Water Worlds.'

The Sun's light is 25% fainter at Jupiter than here on Earth. In this low temperature Jupiter's moons having a solid surface are covered with a thick icy crust. Subsurface oceans were detected by the Galileo spacecraft's magnetometer which recorded field disturbance during flybys between 1995 and 2003.

Europa and Ganymede have been found to be geologically active. Beneath their icy surface there is a possibility of deep liquid oceans that may have hydrothermal vents. On Earth these vents harbour strange sea life in the deep dark oceans far away from the Sun's light. 'Juice' will search for signs of life and habitability.

This is the most massive scientific payload ever to be flown to space. Juice's lasers will take precise measurements of the topography to see if there is a tide swell, which on Ganymede could be as much as 10 metres!

Radar will penetrate the structure of the ice for around 10 km. There are visual cameras and spectrometer to study the geology and composition of the surface of the moons, the interior of Ganymede and the magnetosphere of Jupiter.

With ten instruments Juice is the heaviest spacecraft ever and will need the slingshot effect of gravity assist from 4 planetary flybys that will give it the energy and velocity to fly to Jupiter. A journey of 8 years. Later it will be joined by NASA's Europa Clipper Mission and at times they will work in tandem.

We enjoyed the videos of Ocean Worlds and especially Launch Pad Astronomy's interview with Dr Olivier Witasse, the Project Manager of the Juice Mission.

References: ESA, Launch Pad Astronomy, Christian Ready, NASA.

Jupiter's Icy Moons Explorer Launch Pad Astronomy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ljh2BKdjpmE>

<https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/resources/2601/ocean-worlds-the-search-for-life/>

Bev Morton

## Family Research

There were only five participants available to join Bev Lee for this month's session. Some were away on holidays, some felt unwell, and others had alternate activities.

'Pains and Gains'

David: had been attempting for some time to get a program that would show his family tree in a compact, but readable format. He came across a program called 'edraw' which he has modified to suit his requirements.

Andi: unearthed some buried information, after "Upotipotpon station" was advertised for sale a few months back. Visiting the Real Estate agent hoping to visit it, the fellow she spoke to asked, did she have a family connection? Andi said yes, her great-great-great-aunt died there.

Barry: did not have any further information on his family history, however he did uncover some very interesting information about Arthur Baird. In 1942 Arthur encouraged a young staff member to continue their studies. As a result of this Connie Jordan became the first female licenced engineer for QANTAS.

Deb: found details from the death certificate of Mary Stewart, which led her to a number of family graves in Box Hill cemetery. This discovery has led to further details about the family.



Dawn, who has been working on her husband's family history, brought along copies of family history books prepared by family members from her family that appear to contain some detailed history which will be useful to her as she moves on to explore her own paternal and maternal family history.

Our family stories were mostly on the 'ANZAC' theme:

Bev: focussed on the war service of her father Anthony 'Tony' Lee who was assigned to the 7<sup>th</sup> Division Signals and served in the Middle East and later New Guinea. Bev also circulated a copy of a listing from the National Archives which gives details of medals, and when and where they were awarded.

David: presented details of the Hall and Dillon families who served in both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> World Wars.

Deb: had researched and written thoughtfully about the wartime experience of her Grandfather and his three brothers who all enlisted in September 1915, and also spoke of his two sons who had fought in WW2.

Barry: had previously written about the aftermath of the wars, however during more detailed research on the family history, uncovered a detailed account of the units that his father served with during WW2. This was as story very similar to Bev Lee's father, as they both served in the Middle East initially, and were then transferred to New Guinea.

Almost all of the recollections of returning servicemen highlighted war related physical and mental health issues, often suffered for many years.

Andi chose the 'Traits' topic and gave details of how DNA results impacted on various family members.

Topics for our next class -

**The clue or evidence that opened up my family story...** Describe a piece of evidence which, when found, resolved a problem or enabled your family research to move on or consolidated it in some way. If you can remember the details, share your process in doing so with us and the avenues it opened up.

**"Out of my usual comfort zone..."** Write about a branch of your tree which (or an ancestor who) has taken you out of your comfort zone (and perhaps current subscription level) into international records or a rather remote source of records. What did you discover that led you on this new journey, what committed you to pursuing it, what did you find out if anything? How did this help 'round out' your family tree. Was the journey worthwhile?

Barry O'Connor

## Family Research – Beginners

Easter Thursday afternoon affected attendance in April, however Shirley, who has been working one to one on family trees set in New Zealand and Scotland, came to her first small group meeting, joining Phil, who arrived keen to learn how to put photographs on his tree. We worked through the process of downloading a Gedcom file from Shirley's practice tree then uploading it on to her own ancestry.com account - job well done! Phil had a beautiful photo of his mother on his phone, it wasn't long before this was on his family tree. Both went home planning to spend hours over Easter on family history!

The 'continuing beginners' group came in for a hands-on session on the second Thursday. All members described making progress in journeys typified by individual approaches to documenting their family trees. With Anzac Day approaching we had a look at the war records of Benalla nurse Sister Hilda Knox, who died of meningitis in France in 1917 and is listed on the Roll of Honour in Canberra. We also completed a search for '*Sister Hilda Knox, Benalla*', using Trove, previewing articles developing some of the events we had noted in the records, with knowledge about her also shared by group members. With DNA results featuring more regularly in discussions, the group showed interest in three videos recommended by Deb Saunders on understanding DNA results. Records from India where English ancestors did military service and had families featured in both DNA results for Helen's family (5% Indian) and in Robyn's current search for ancestors. Robyn learned to use Pay as You Go credits to open records from India in ancestry, then Judy helped her to locate similar records using our new My Heritage account. Val worked on adding photos and images from Trove to a family story she is writing in Word, and Mary made first steps in to learning how to use Trove.

In May, one to one sessions are coming to an end for most beginners. We now move to Stage 2, with a second 'hands on session' for new members and a changed time slot for our new 'intermediate' group.

*1<sup>st</sup> Thursday* – 'new beginners session 1', a session focusing on learning new skills and developing a deeper understanding of the possibilities of family research.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday*—'new beginners session 2' – hands on session (bring your laptops/other devices used)

*3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday*—‘intermediate’ group, which will also be held from 1 to 4pm – a hands on focus, but with a ‘pains and gains’ catch up and theme for the day. Intermediate group members can also attend the new beginners’ session on the first Monday where relevant to their learning needs and the guest speaker component of the advanced group.

*4<sup>th</sup> Thursday*—‘advanced’ group—this already tech savvy group meets to review progress over the past month through sharing of ‘pains and gains’, shares family stories on topics selected to encourage a deeper look at their family history, and listens to guest speakers on topics of interest.

Bev Lee

## Film Discussion Group

As Joy was overseas for the April class, the decision was made by class members to each talk about any films they had seen during the month, rather than focus on a specific film. A reminder to members that this will also be the process for the May class.

## Garden Appreciation

The April Garden Appreciation outing was a bus trip to Bendigo to visit the **Great Stupa of Universal Compassion**. On arrival at the Visitors' Centre, we were informed that a power outage meant morning tea by candlelight and no coffee! On a brighter note, the light drizzle cleared in time for a stroll around the extensive **Peace Gardens**, photographing its many and varied sculptures representing different religions. Inside the amazing Stupa itself, we received detailed information on Buddhism tenets and the history behind the erection of the Stupa, built with generous donations as well as a Govt. grant. The interior and exterior decorations are a work in progress. After lunching at Bendigo R.S.L., Gwen allocated time to visit Bendigo Pottery on the way home. Thank you, Gwen Turner and Bendigo Bus Lines for an interesting day out.



Bev Thornell

**Coming up on Thursday 25 May –‘Two Town Gardens’.** Meet at the U3A Car Park at 9.30 am. The first garden we will visit is at the home of Glenice and Bill Broderick, 71 Grant Drive, Benalla - a beautiful garden set back off the road. The second garden and morning tea is yet to be arranged. Lunch will be at the Benalla Golf Club. Please let me know if you are planning to attend for hospitality purposes - 0438 627 010 or email [gwenturner243@gmail.com](mailto:gwenturner243@gmail.com)

‘Lost & Found’ - Left at my place at the February ‘Small Gardens’ visit - 1 white dinner plate. Contact me on the number above and I will get back to you.

Cheers!

Gwen Turner

## Garden Team

A few holiday apologies but we still had an effective planting and pruning team at Tulip St on Easter Monday. Well done the secateurs seven! Another enjoyable afternoon.

Elsbeth Maconachie

## German

The German group happily assembles every Tuesday at midday and eagerly absorbs the new lessons and vocabulary presented. Humorous commentary delights everybody and helps to contain good pronunciation. If there is any interest in what is presented, try to see our U3A Weebly site, where all lessons are kept thanks to the great help of Bev Lee. Unfortunately, you miss the homework which all members digest. I am happy and delighted that I can still share my German knowledge with this keen group.

Horst Gunther

## Jane Austen Book Club

*Sense and Sensibility* and *Pride and Prejudice*

At our April session we finished watching the film *Sense and Sensibility* and discussed the similarities and differences in these two books drafted much earlier but revised together during Austen's later creative period.

Austen explores the difficulties of choosing a life partner in these two novels. Women without dowries were almost unmarriageable and formed the larger part of governesses and companions in middle class households. Younger sons too, who did not inherit the larger part of a family estate had to search for a woman with a substantial dowry that could keep them both as a priority for financial survival. Dowries of £30,000 enabled the pair to buy an estate and create an income for themselves.

While Austen celebrates the pairs in these novels who were able to marry for love, she doesn't deride those who chose a marriage of convenience and suggests that some of her characters made a good showing of their choices.

Next month we will watch the film of *Pride and Prejudice* and conclude our look at this novel.

Meg Dillon

## In the Lap of the Gods

There is no report for April as our session fell on Good Friday. Our next session - Friday 5 May, 2 to 4 pm.

John Barry

## Investment



At the April meeting we had a full room of members and had a short look at the March 2023 drop in share values across the 11 sectors. AXO was down **-1.4%** for March. We ran a short introduction on the U3A website on how easy it is to see notes on Investment and news on all groups.

Wende Sturgess gave comments on 'Critical Rare Earth Metals' and where the world is heading as most of these are sourced from China and countries are now realizing alternate supply is required. Tesla has already steadily reduced the rare earth materials required to build its EV systems by approximately 25% since 2017. Lockheed Martin's F-35 stealth fighter uses 920 pounds of rare earths per plane?

Lithium is also major mineral now in all EV and storage batteries and Australia holds some 80% of the world reserves. Natural graphite, used in cathodes of lithium-ion batteries needs a mere 600% increase to its current production to meet future demand. Lontown Resources shares rose 60% last week as a result of a takeover offer, the shares are now trading steady at around \$2.50. Our Long-term listing; Neville Gibb is leading with his selection of ALK with a positive of \$1,951. Our Short-term monthly listing Val Allen leads with her choice of EHE which was positive \$2,796. The listings were mostly negative with 14 of our members in the red.



After the break John spoke on the Lion Town offer from American Co. Abermail which resulted in a 68% rise in share price and the reasons for a possible sale.

Reference was then given to the bank collapse of Silicon Valley and smaller banks in America and Credit Suisse in Europe and was purchased by UBS, which had a negative effect in world share markets – did it create a buying opportunity?

Focus turned to Short Selling with Hindenburg Research targeting Block-SQ2 and Webit Nano- WBT, a newcomer to the ASX shorted on its entrance price on listing.

We then re-assured ourselves by viewing market statistics which revealed since 1900 the market has returned 13.2% P.A. average with 23 negative years and 99 positive years.

The next meeting of Investment will be on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 2.00pm in our U3A room No.1.

John Hanlon and Malcolm Sanders

## Let's Talk Books

Our group in April were entertained by Patsy reading a poem *Reflections at Dawn* by Phyllis McGinley. Phyllis captures the mood of suburban housewives perfectly. Dorothy also read a lovely letter from a friend saying how meeting Dorothy led her to a better life. So, we don't all have to read great books to come to our group. Among books enjoyed this month were *Daughter of the Home Front* by Jennie Jones, young women who had the misfortune to be taken advantage of and the consequences. *Alice in Prague* by Tanya Heaslip, showed how war affected people's thinking and *The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart* by Holly Ringland was a very different read. Ann Patchett didn't disappoint with *The Patron Saint of Liars*, whilst Thea Cooper's book *Butterflies* was enjoyed. *The Butterfly Room* by favourite author Lucinda Riley filled a spot and on a more serious note *Australia's Great Depression* by Joan Beaumont was heavy reading. Of course, *The Spare* by 'Harry' has been dissected and the verdict decided that the book was not well written and he comes over as very childish and needing help. *Death Row at Truro* by Geoff Plunkett, a dark true version of sad events. A very different book *Before the Coffee Gets Cold* by Toshikazu Kawaguchi, four visitors each hoping to make use of the café's time travelling offer, this has to be completed before the coffee gets cold. From Japanese writer Soseki Natsume, 'And Then', a very insightful book. Some good reads were Haruki Murakami who has written many essays and short stories, *Peggy Guggenheim Collection*, a very important art museum in Venice. *Lessons in Chemistry* by Peggy Garmus, a funny well written story. *Silent Invasion*, a 2018 book by Clive Hamilton on the growing influence in Australia of the Chinese Communist Party. Lionel Schriver has written *We Need to Speak About Kevin*, whilst Ian McEwan has beautifully written *Lessons*.



What a grand mix of reading covering so many stories and informative reads for our group.

Geraldine McCorkell

## Lifeball

Our numbers continue to remain steady enough that we can count on a fun and challenging game each week, although sometimes (rovers, anyone?) our concentration is tested!

While we can adapt the game to the number of players each week, we are always happy to see new interest in the game, which is a great way to continue enjoying a team sport in a safe environment. We play at Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre each Monday at 10am, and convenor Marlene Pitts can be contacted on 0428210944 for more information

Julie McNeill

## Meet and Mingle

The April Meet and Mingle saw an impromptu program when our invited guest speaker did not appear.

On extremely short notice, our Vice President, *Anne Nelson*, gave us a resume of how she became a Justice of the Peace by Qualification in Queensland, gaining 99% for the examination she sat. When Anne transferred to Victoria the process for being a JP was much less onerous, the person only having to show that they were of good character.

Anne, who is very community minded, is available at Annabelle Cleeland's office by appointment to witness documents as a JP for members of the community. Anne also mentioned that she is a marriage celebrant.

Following Anne's interesting talk, *Ray O'Shannessy* told us how he became an accountant several decades ago. Ray originally worked for 16 years for Victorian Produces Pty Ltd, organising many cattle and sheep sales in North East Victoria. This entailed long days as the sales had to be manually entered into ledgers, and then the amount realised by the sale had to be paid to the owners.

Ray was persuaded that his accounting skills could be put to more satisfying use by studying to become firstly an accountant, and then a chartered accountant. He joined a local accountancy firm, and later progressed to becoming a partner of that firm.

Thank you to both Anne and Ray for interesting accounts of their working lives.

The guest speaker for May will be *Ian Maver* of Wangaratta. Ian is a member of U3A Benalla and part of the Australian History, Tech Talks and the Sky's the Limit groups. Ian will speak about his working life in the Aircraft Industry in Indonesia, Malaysia, United States, and the UK. Hope you can come and hear what should be a fascinating talk.

Margaret Jenkins

## Music Appreciation

When is a symphony not a symphony? When it's an overture! Maksym Berezovsky (the Ukrainian Mozart) composed a Symphony in C lasting all of nine minutes, which also doubled as the overture to his one and only opera "Il Demonfonte", and also as the 'overture' to our first session for April.

Friedrich Nietzsche, a highly poetic philosopher was all the rage in Germany when Richard Strauss was a young man. Strauss set to music a wildly rhapsodic book of his called Thus Spake Zarathustra, which was the major focus for our group this session. The work isn't really about Zarathustra at all. Nietzsche simply used Zarathustra as a spokesman, a sort of prophet—hero, into whose mouth he put his own philosophy. Strauss' "Zarathustra" is a music picture of man's greatest problem—his mortality, the grim fact that he must die. This painful problem is shown in terms of a conflict—the struggle between Man's tremendous need for immortality, and his equally strong need to accept the fact that he is mortal. It's a struggle we all share .

A little bit of Russian fairytale by way of contrast - Stravinsky's Firebird Suite - completed the morning. As an encore the Pas de Deux from the Firebird ballet was danced courtesy of the Mariinsky Ballet Company.

The 'Overture to get session two underway came from the pen of Robert Schumann in the form of his "Overture, Scherzo and Finale". Written in the wake of his marriage to Clara Wieck (after a long and tortuous courtship made difficult by Clara's father), it is essentially a symphony without a slow movement. Schumann initially named it "Symphony No.2" before settling for the title "Sinfonietta".

When war broke out in August 1914, Edward Elgar was not among the enthusiastic. He had serious forebodings, and after the cataclysm that effectively eliminated an entire generation of English youth, he plunged into despair. His Cello Concerto (the major work for this session) is completely the reflection of a heartfelt response to the national tragedy. It's an unconventional concerto, but it is a masterpiece. It is not only a reflection of the forever altered world of Britain in 1919, but also the deep and apt expression of great composer facing his own old age, and for that matter, an audience that soon saw him as an anachronism.

When Rachmaninoff, wizard of the piano, meets Paganini, wizard of the violin, the result is the notoriously difficult Rhapsody — 24 variations on the 24th of Paganini's Caprices — encompassing everything from knuckle-busting runs to the terrifying Day of Wrath medieval chant and the swoon-worthy 18th variation. Said to be Rachmaninoff's finest work for piano and orchestra, it brought down the curtain on our April music excursions. Full notes and links to the recordings used can be found on Music Appreciation page of our U3A website.

Bill Squire

## Page Turners Book Group

*Edge of Solid World* by Daniel Davis Wood

Misogynist? post traumatic stress disorder? introverted? selfish? a fantasist? insensitive to others' griefs? All these labels could fit the Narrator [unnamed] as he slipped from the reality of the death of his newborn baby into his own world of angry sorrow. Although always a misfit wherever he was, this incident catapulted him into excessive introspection as he obsessively explored as many tragedies as he could locate on the internet. He speculated about these incidents, inventing feelings and explanations for the participants' tragedies that mirrored his own distorted views.

Was it the author's intention to explore what grief can mean to a man when men are supposed to be strong and unemotional about tragedies? Or was this a picture of a person deranged by grief, who needed psychotherapy to re-enter the real or solid world?

Our group was divided about these issues which resulted in a very lively discussion. It's a tough read for anyone thinking of tackling this book. Half of our group did not finish the book.

Our May book is *Stone Sky, Gold Mountain* by Mirandi Riwoe.

Meg Dillon

## Patchwork and Craft



The array of work being produced by the group is amazing.

It has been wonderful to see members helping one another, we are going from strength to strength.

Keep bringing your work for 'Show and Tell'!



Dorothy Webber

## Photography

Well, another month has passed by. We had a great session in April which went slightly over time - sorry about that! We went through all the photos that were sent in with those that were there. I missed two by Terry Dillon, so will discuss them at next class. We then watched two videos on Photo Editing Applications (iPhone and Android) before breaking for coffee.

The break was followed by a video about 5 common 'mistakes' some people need to avoid. This was interesting as I could relate to all these! We stopped the video a number of times to discuss different aspects shown in the video. I didn't have time to go through the last link I wanted to discuss with the group about Landscape tips from Canon Australia - it is in the 'Session Resources' link on the website for group members to follow up. All in all, we seemed to enjoy the session. Until next month.

Rene Martens

## Play Reading

'84 Charing Cross Rd' proved to be a charming, funny and poignant play for the April Play Readers.

A love story unfolds through a series of letters between Helene Hanff, a freelance writer in New York, and Frank Doel a used book dealer at 84 Charing Cross Rd. in London.

Over two decades, they exchange gifts, recipes, ideas about books and current world events brought together by their mutual love of books, stories and words. Whilst never meeting in person, and being separated both geographically and culturally, they develop an enduring and charming relationship, encompassing friends, workmates and family members.



Through the dramatization of their letters, we are able to get a picture of the political, economic and social conditions of both countries as well as the two main characters as they develop over the twenty years of letter writing.

It was interesting to find that the play was based on real events and a real book shop.

An enjoyable read, we found ourselves so wanting Helene and Frank to meet. Spoiler alert! They never do!

Our next play is a comedy, *'Alphabetical Order'*, by Michael Frayn.

Pat Treleavan

## Recorder Group

We are enjoying a wide range of music — folk songs from around the world, music from over hundreds of years, a number of tunes with a summer theme, which have fitted well with our Indian summer weather.

There are always some challenging bits, but there is also a great sense of wellbeing and achievement when it all comes together beautifully.

Janet Douglas



*An atmospheric photo titled 'Janet explains' sent in by Andi Stevenson.*

## Singing for Fun

During the last month the U3A Singing group have been asked to sing for residents of Freemasons, Cooina and Estia Health Aged Care facilities. It is wonderful to see that our concerts late last year were appreciated by the Benalla community.

After careful consideration we have decided to take Community Singing to Freemasons on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May, to Cooina on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June and to Estia Health on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June, all at 10am.

During April we have had some great singing sessions. One Thursday Kieran asked Joyce Borschmann to choose the songs which she did. Carmyl has had us singing rounds as well as a great variety of different songs. Brian included several Seekers songs one morning whilst Margaret has chosen songs from various shows, and has often told us who played in the various roles. Thank you to Gwen who has been providing wonderful accompaniment for all our Leaders.

The next Singing for Fun will be on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 10am in the Hub at Cooina.

Margaret Jenkins

## Sky's the Limit



For our April meeting we visited the *Benalla Aviation Museum* at the airport and several in the group signed up to be members. Mark Carr welcomed the group and made himself available for questions as the group went around the museum. Doug Williams, our previous speaker in March and member of the group, is also a fount of Benalla aviation information and he too provided valuable information to group members.

The Sky's the Limit speaker on Tuesday May 2 at 2pm will be another group member *Andrew McFarlane*.

David Palmer

## Stock and Land

Goorambat Wagyu's *Dom Bayard* talked us through some pretty complicated in vitro cattle breeding techniques at our April meeting. Trading as *Global Reproduction Systems*, Dom and wife Joanne, produce embryos from their own Wagyu cattle and brought in beef and dairy females and bulls, which they implant into cows on the farm, or freeze and sell locally and around the world.

In fact, they sold so many embryos to China alone, with Dom visiting the country about a dozen times, that they were able to buy their Goorambat farm. Since the advent of lifetime ruler Xi Jinping, that market has completely stopped though.

The Bayards run about 350 of their own high end Wagyu's on the 400ha Goorambat farm.

Our next Stock and Land session will be on Tuesday, May 2 at 10 am at the property of Benalla sheep farmer and irrigator *Peter Holmes*. Peter has suggested that we meet on his farm as he has a number of interesting things to show us. We will meet at the U3A carpark at 9.30 am for carpooling and proceed to Peter's farm, about 9k from Benalla, from there. If you will need, or can provide transport, let me know beforehand or on Tuesday – SMS or phone 0408 470 468.

David Palmer

## Tech Advice

Anyone who is a U3A member can obtain some 'one on one' help in operating and using their mobile, tablet or laptop by booking a time with either Jenny (APPLE) **0409 545 182** or Robyn (ANDROID) **0403 164 931**.

2nd or 3rd Monday of each month - 12:30pm - 1:00pm

Jenny Sawyer and Robyn Lukey

## Tech Savvy Android – Beginners

During April we discussed the pros and cons of shopping on eBay, Marketplace & Facebook and what to look out for. We also worked on

- Downloading on-line forms.
- Filling out on-line forms once downloaded.
- Finding a suitable app to read and edit pdf format.
- Finding out where documents are saved to once downloaded eg Documents, Downloads etc.
- Downloading pictures from phone to lap top.
- Transferring business cards to our phone using Stocard app.
- Freeing up space in your wallet eg. Woolworths reward card, Library card etc.
- Reviewing Google Maps.

Robyn Lukey





## Tech Savvy Apple – Pages

This month we learnt how to insert photos from the photos app into a Pages document. Everyone found at least four photos and arranged them onto their blank document page. The best part was each person could screen mirror their photo page on to the TV screen via the Apple TV device. An interesting array of photos! Everything from donkeys to old slide digitised photos. We then searched the internet to find an Easter picture which we then screenshot, thereby sending it to the photo library so that we could edit it. We then tapped the + to send the photo to a Pages document.



Jenny Sawyer

## Tech Talks

At our April Tech Talks session, we welcomed a new attendee. We began by discussing the recent Formula 1 Race. Our discussion centred around the surprisingly small size of each engine. It is hard to believe that so much power can be extracted from engines smaller than the average domestic car.

NASA has announced that it is planning to send probes to the outer edges of the Solar System and beyond and new methods of powering the long-term probes will be required. It will not be possible to power these craft with solar panels. They will have to be powered by nuclear power packs of Plutonium. As we know Plutonium is an unstable dangerous element and needs to be treated with respect. The Plutonium that will make up the power packs comes to the manufacturing process as a liquid and has to be refined. This is a very complicated affair. We were acquainted with the manufacturing process which takes place behind thick glass and inside liquid oil. All done by using mechanical hands.

We then turned our attention to gold. As we know gold is not manufactured inside our solar system. Our Sun only produces lighter elements and heavy metals can only be manufactured when vulcanisation occurs in Supernovae explosions when a star collapses or when neutron stars collide. Extreme heat is required. Gold has had to come to the earth in asteroids. Gold nuggets are found on the surface of the earth in specific areas and is not scattered randomly. Nor is it found in the earth's core. It could not have been present when the earth formed and its molten core was established. If gold was present, being heavier than most other elements it would have sunk to the bottom.

We then watched a video showing the gold vault of the Bank of England. This is quite a large room full of gold ingots. Both the UK and other countries gold reserves are held in this room. An interesting piece of information is to calculate just what a human being would be worth if they were valued at their weight in gold. One kilogram of gold is worth \$95346.00.

We also saw a report on the planned expansion of high-rise buildings in Melbourne's CBD. If anyone has been surprised at the number of recent new high-rise buildings in Melbourne, then please note many more have been approved.

Neville Gibb

## Ukes4Fun

Now that we have learnt to strum and practised our Chord Progressions we are singing songs such as Tom Dooley, On Top of Old Smokey etc. If you have 5 minutes, log into the U3A Benalla webpage, open the Ukes4Fun page and watch the clip of the group singing Tom Dooley. John Barry conducted a session on playing the same section of music in various keys and how to achieve this through Chord Progression.





Some of us have only been playing for a few weeks! It is such a pleasure watching members of the group develop their ukulele skills.

Do you have a spare tambourine in a cupboard that needs a home and would like to become part of our ukulele group? We'd love to hear from you.

Heather Wallace 0418 353 244

## Wine Appreciation

A perfect Autumn day with the trees in all their glory was the setting for our drive to *Francesco Winery* at Cheshunt. Jacob was our friendly host along with his Nona, Maria, who kept us supplied with salami, cheese and biscuits to enjoy with their delightful wines. There was a good selection of wines and many a box was carried out at the end of our tasting!

Lunch was in the garden at Whitfield's *Mountain View Hotel* where we all enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and good food.



Next month, 19<sup>th</sup> May, we will be off to *King River Estate*, 3556 Wangaratta-Whitfield Rd, Edi. The tasting is booked for 11.00 with a \$10 tasting fee refundable on the purchase of two bottles of wine.

We will then move on to the *King River Cafe*. If there are more than 20 of us attending lunch, there will be an alternating main course with tea or coffee at \$28.00, and dessert if required on order for \$9.00.

As usual we will meet in the car park behind Aldi at 10.00. If you prefer to drive direct, please let me know. RSVP by Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> either by return email or phone/text 0428 696 408.

Nicole McFarlane

## Wise Guys Book Group

Brian started the meeting with a summary of one of Tom Cole's best seller autobiographies, *The Last Paradise*. It is mostly about Tom's life in the 1950s and 1960s, shooting crocodiles across New Guinea's south coast and his later establishment of a coffee plantation in the highlands.

Neville recommended four nonfiction books: *The Golden Mile*, a history of Prague by Richard Fidler, *A Short History of Almost Anything* by Bill Bryson and *The Happy Isles of Oceania* by Paul Theroux. He also recommended the novel, *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantell.

David highly recommended Alexander McCall Smith's recent collection of stories about espionage and intrigue, *The Private Life of Spies*, and rated it highly entertaining.

Keith said Colleen McCullough's six novels, which started with *The Thorn Birds*, captured his reading for about two years despite them each being about 800 pages. He also liked *The Queen and I*, a political satire by Sue Townsend, describing it as one of the funniest books he had read.

*Growing With Autism* captured Graham's imagination as had Terry Pratchett's writing.

David Palmer

# What's On

## Monday, 1 May

- 09:30 Exercises for Fun
- 10:00 Collectors – 'Buttons'
- 10:00 Lifeball - Marlene 0407 240 943
- 10:00 Art Appreciation - Mike Nicholls 'Bird in the Hand' exhibition - Artist Talk'
- 12:45 Ukes4Fun
- 14:00 Investment
- 14:00 Let's Talk Books

## Tuesday, 2 May

- 10:00 Page Turners - 'Stone Sky Gold Mountain', Miranda Riwoe
- 9:30 Stock and Land – Excursion to property of sheep farmer and irrigator, Peter Holmes
- 12:15 German
- 14:00 Sky's the Limit - Speaker - Andrew McFarlane

## Wednesday, 3 May

- 09:00 Easywalks - Lake Sambell, Beechworth
- 09:30 Play Reading - 'Alphabetical Order'
- 13:30 A Taste of Art

## Thursday, 4 May

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

## Friday, 5 May

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

## Monday, 8 May

- 09:30 Exercises for Fun
- 10:00 Lifeball - Marlene 0407 240 943
- 11:30 Be Connected/Managing Money Online/Pay Pal
- 12:30 Tech Advice
- 12:45 Ukes4Fun
- 14:00 Creative Writing
- 14:00 Garden Team

## Tuesday, 9 May

- 10:00 Politics and Current Affairs
- 12:15 German
- 14:00 Jane Austen Book Club: Pride and Prejudice
- 14:00 Tech Talks

## Wednesday, 10 May

- 10:00 Recorder Group
- 14:00 Film Discussion Group
- 14:00 Tech Savvy Apple - 'Pages'

## Thursday, 11 May

- 10:00 Singing for Fun
- 10:00 Tech Savvy Beginners - Android
- 13:00 Family Research - Beginners
- 13:30 Executive Committee Meeting

## Friday, 12 May

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

## Monday, 15 May

- 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, 16 May

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

## Wednesday, 17 May

- 10:00 Meet and Mingle – Speaker: Ian Maver
- 13:30 A Taste of Art
- 14:00 Cards '500'

## Thursday, 18 May

- 10:00 Singing for Fun
- 10:00 Tech Savvy Beginners - Android
- 13:00 Family Research - Intermediate group
- 13:00 Patchwork and Craft
- 14:00 Demystifying Psychology Discussion Group - 'Leadership' and 'Writing your own obituary'

## Friday, 19 May

- 10:00 Wine Appreciation – King River Estate, Edi; lunch at King River Cafe
- 10:00 Sustainability
- 12:00 Chat 'n Chew – Benalla Bowling Club

## Monday, 22 May

- 09:30 Exercises for Fun
- 10:00 Lifeball - Marlene 0407 240 943
- 12:45 Ukes4Fun
- 13:30 Coin Collectors - Coin of the Month 'The smallest sized dated coin'

## Tuesday, 23 May

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

## Wednesday, 24 May

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

## Thursday, 25 May

- 09:30 Garden Appreciation – 'Two Town Gardens'
- 10:00 Photography
- 10:00 Community Singing - Freemasons Aged Care
- 13:00 Family Research
- 13:00 Patchwork and Craft
- 17:00 Newsletter reports due today

## Friday, 26 May

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

## Monday, 29 May

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

## Tuesday, 30 May

- 12:15 German

## Wednesday, 31 May

- 13:30 A Taste of Art
- 14:00 Cards '500'

## Thursday, 1 June

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