

# Goulburn Valley



**GOULBURN VALLEY University of The Third Age**  
(For active semi-retired or retired persons of mature age)

GVU3A Hall: Esson Street, Shepparton. Postal: PO Box 14, Shepparton 3632 Phone: 58213333

**WE'RE ON THE WEB - [www.gvu3a.com.au](http://www.gvu3a.com.au)**

**MARCH 2020**

## CONTACT DETAILS

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Carole Trotter 0407 231 348

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello to all Members

It has been great to see the enthusiasm of our many classes during February. The new 500 card class had 24 on its first day, Uke3A is full of enthusiasm ahead of its first gig at Mercy Place, Natural Resources attracted a full room and Strength and Balance has been filling the hall. Just a few of the events that I have observed at our U3A recently.

That enthusiasm has extended into our ongoing planning. A Trivia night has been earmarked for the evening of Friday May 29<sup>th</sup> (add that date in your calendar), the catering for our Christmas lunch booked for Dec 1<sup>st</sup> (only 306 days to Christmas!) and new blinds are being installed on the bare windows in the main hall.

That brings me to the next social morning on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The drawcard, apart from the delicious morning tea, will be the Deputy Mayor, Cr Dinny Adem, who will be our guest speaker for the morning. After that we will hold our AGM – a necessary piece of business for the year. The most important item there is the election of our office bearers for the next 12 months. At this stage we have nominations for many of the positions, but not for vice President. If you think that you might be able to fill this important role to support the President, please give me a call.

The GVU3A Committee manages the overall business of the organisation. However, it is the special interest class groups that provide our main impetus and act as informal social groups. Whenever there is celebration, illness or bereavement it is these class groups that are in the best position to, give hugs, make calls and write cards as they see appropriate. Some classes have informal social secretaries. I encourage you to make sure that you know everyone within your group.

This will be my last message as President, so I take this opportunity to thank the many contributors to GVU3A for their good work and support throughout the year.

Allan

## UKELELE GROUP



Lorraine Taylor and Greg Barnes shared the monthly Uke3A Award for February. Lorraine for her enthusiasm and persistence with practising chords and Greg for his "Walk up" rendition of Me and Bobby Magee. Congratulations.

## WRITING4PLEASURE

Our January meeting was attended by a smaller number of members, but those present who wrote on the topics, produced some great stories.

We, at the WRITING4PLEASURE group, extend a warm welcome to any members who feel they would like to join us and have a go at writing. We meet on the **THIRD THURSDAY** of each month. **Time - 1.00 to 3.30 p.m. Venue - Shepparton Library meeting room.**

Each month, a different member of our group provides two topics for us to use in a story or poem. We keep the word count to approximately **500 words** or less. This enables each member to read their story on the day.

**TOPIC FOR MARCH: WRITE ABOUT YOUR FAVOURITE WRITING INSTRUMENT IN THE 1<sup>st</sup> PERSON, (AS IF YOU ARE THE PEN, PENCIL, COMPUTER, ETC.)**

A small donation of \$2.00 per meeting/per member will continue and go towards the cost of printing our end of yearbook. At the last check, our end of yearbook was at the printers, but may be available for writing group members at our next meeting. If you have ordered a book, please bring along your \$15.00 to cover the cost.

If any U3A members would like to purchase our book, there will be a few copies available. They can be purchased on a **Wednesday, at U3A hall**. Please see Mary Heneghan at the Art Class, or phone me on the number below.

**QUOTE for the month;** *"I can shake off everything as I write, my sorrows disappear, my courage is reborn".* - **Anne Frank**

**CONTACT:** Lyn Austin. **Phone - 0468 312 602**

## HISTORICAL STUDIES

**MONDAY MARCH 9, 10am U3A Hall**  
**PRESENTER; John Dainton**

**SUBJECT;** "Update of research on early squatters along the lower Goulburn River."

John Dainton 58213 881 or mob. 0417 549 502

## BIRD WATCHING

Our first outing for 2020 will be on the 18th March, the venue being Cussen Park Tatura. This is a morning only outing so please meet at the U3A car park for 9am departure or at Cussen Park 9.20

Please contact Don Roberts 58252404 or 0448 889 224 or Marg Clarke 0429 350 875.

## INDUSTRY TOUR

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 DECA.** 145 Wanganui Rd. Shepparton. 10.00 am.

We will start off with a drive around the course but this is not driver education for us; rather it is a look at what they do today and how they do it. If arriving from the highway the entry is via the second gateway set amongst trees and marked "Cars Only". Drive in as far as the 2 storey building and report to "Reception". There is ample parking. Some walking, but not far. Some optional stairs. Car-pooling should work OK. Please contact me if you need a lift.

Please add your name to the list in U3A foyer.

John Hetherington [mrjfh@me.com](mailto:mrjfh@me.com) Tel 0419 319 339

## U3A WALK & TALK

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March Bobby Dohnt will lead our walk and talk to Barmah, to check out the old Ferry then onto the Old Stockyards. Meet at U3A carpark at 8.45am for 9.00am start in shared transport morning tea at Barmah then lunch by the Murray River in the forest.

On February 12<sup>th</sup> the walk and talk group went to Seymour, leaving the U3A car park around 9.00am meeting at the picnic area of the



Australian Light Horse Memorial Park for morning tea. Leaving the picnic area we set out to walk up to ANZAC Hill for our first rest and to take in the view of the surrounding ranges. We then walked down hill to the information centre which had a history of the Australian Light Horse. Then lunch at the Goulburn River Park for lunch, our last stop was the Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Walk before leaving for home. Arriving at U3A at about 3.00pm Thanks to Tony and Bev Palma who planned the day

Photo: The group at ANZAC Hill - thanks Marg Clarke

David Taylor 0412802427

## MONDAY LUNCH GROUP

In March there are 5 Mondays so we will have plenty of opportunities to catch up with friends and enjoy a meal together. We look forward to meeting new members who might like to join our happy group.

On Monday March 2<sup>nd</sup> we will meet at La Porchetta in Wyndham Street. A week later we will meet on the 9<sup>th</sup> for a meal at The Shepparton Club. Then we will try a new restaurant on the 16<sup>th</sup> when we meet at Degani at Riverside Plaza. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> we will get together at Eastbank - another new venue for 2020. On the last Monday, the 30<sup>th</sup> we venture across the river to Bill and Beats in Mooroopna. If you would like a ride to Mooroopna please meet at the hall at 11-45 and we'll take you across the river and back again.

Please ring Gail on 5821 1315 if you would like more information.

## BOOK GROUP NUMBER ONE

There are 2 vacancies in this group. If you are interested, please ring Gail on 58211315 and the format will be explained to you. The group members are very welcoming and enjoy reading a variety of books.

### NATURAL RESOURCES & REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Friday March 6: 10am U3A Hall**

**Guest Speaker:** Jenna Bishop, Communications Officer Goulburn Valley water

**Subject:** Water scarcity- every drop counts

**Friday March 13: 10am U3A Hall**

**Guest Speaker:** Barry Croke, former Principal Dookie College

**Subject:** Energy and water interaction

John Dainton ph.58213881 or mob. 0417 549 502

### OPERA



3 cars travelled to Wangaratta this month for Akhnaten and were rewarded by a very different experience. We saw lavish costumes and heard amazing singing which included a counter tenor as Akhnaten. We saw the legendary Nefertiti and Tutankhamen. Over it all resonated the mesmerising music of Philip Glass. Amazing.

Next month Alban Berg's Wozzeck is to be our experience. It is described as a 20th century shocker with staging set in an apocalyptic wasteland. Something to look forward to! We are certainly being stretched, but Porgy and Bess is coming up soon and all will be right with the world once again.

As usual contact me if you would like to join us. Rides can usually be arranged if you are a non or limited driver. Madeline Dyer 0417580025.

### SOCRATES CAFÉ

Those keen to think about what is important in their lives, and of course that of others, should join us for Socrates Café on Monday, March 23, at 10:00 am.

The topic for this month is: "Is it better to be a big fish in a small pond or a small fish in a big pond?"

Remember it was Plato, quoting Socrates, who said "The unexamined life is not worth living". So, join us on Monday, examine your thoughts and make your life, and that of others, just that little bit better.

Robert McLean at 0400 502 199.

## Q3A QUIZ

It was great to see 19 eager members at our first quiz for 2020. Our next session is on Monday 16th March from 10am to 12 noon. Any U3A member is welcome to join our friendly group, and you do not need to attend every month, just when you are available. We are often surprised by what we remember, learn some interesting facts, and always have a laugh at some silly answers. Maybe we will see you for an enjoyable challenge next month.

Susan McCarten 0437 215 130

## LEARN TO PLAY BRIDGE

Would you like to learn to play bridge? Classes start at 6.30pm Wednesday 18 March, and will run over four weeks, for about 2 hours each Wednesday night.

In the beginner's class, players start playing 'minibridge' in their first lesson. Minibridge is a simplified form of bridge that allows the class to start playing and enjoying the game. From week 2 we teach players how to bid their hands, based on the standard American system, and using Paul Marston's book 'Introduction to bridge - 5 Card Majors'. Copies of the book will be provided at a reduced cost to participants.

Bridge is a great card game for people of all ages. We are a friendly crowd at the bridge club. Bridge is great mind food and a great social game. We play bridge 3 times a week, and once you have learnt the basics new players are welcome to come along and enjoy any of the sessions.

For further information contact Derek Poulton email [dcp.klp@gmail.com](mailto:dcp.klp@gmail.com), phone 5825 4112 or on the web [www.wix.com/sheppartonbridgeclub/2014](http://www.wix.com/sheppartonbridgeclub/2014).

## SCIENCE MATTERS

**Monday March 2 at 1.30 - Chemistry in the Marketplace: Nigel Liggins** will continue with his talks on the Chemistry of everyday things we use in the household. The emphasis at present is on Cosmetics.

**Monday March 16 at 1.30 - Modern Information Warfare: deception, surveillance and altered reality.** In this talk, Professor **Bill Hutchinson** (Edith Cowan University Perth) will outline how future technologies, such as artificial Intelligence, robotics, total networking and big data, have the potential to manipulate politics and consumers, and how this might influence our trust in information. This talk is open to all members.

Contact: Allan Wilson - 5822 1474

## 500

**Tuesdays 4.00 - 6.00.** The "500" classes have started. Many of the players have played "500" before but want to refresh their skills. Some have never played before. So far we have covered some basic rules and last week learnt about "No Trumps" Next week we will study "How to play Misere". 500 is lots of fun and not difficult to learn.

It's not too late to start so come along.

Contact: Harry Lee Ph 0400 770 972

## **MESSAGE FOR GROUP LEADERS**

From the next newsletter, the committee has agreed that articles can be submitted to the email address, up to the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month. The newsletter will be produced on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month.

## **REMINDER**

Members are reminded that your fees of \$60 per member are now due. See below for bank account details if paying online. Otherwise, payment can be made by cheque. Place in an envelope with your details and put in box near office.

If there have been any changes to your details registered with U3A, for example, new address, phone number, or email address, please advise Carole Trotter.

Following many years of being assisted with the printing of the newsletter at no cost to U3A, we are now in the position where we have to do the printing ourselves. If you are receiving the newsletter by post and have an email address to receive the newsletter, please let Carole Trotter know.

### **BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS**

If you want to pay your membership fees or trip fees through the internet please use the account numbers below and use your name as the reference.

General account: BSB 633 000 Account number 127742898

Trip account: BSB 633 000 Account Number 129896049