

GOULBURN VALLEY University of The Third Age
Incorporation Number A0016950Y (For active semi-retired or retired persons of mature age)

WE'RE ON THE WEB - www.gvu3a.com.au

June 2017

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We sincerely thank the office of
Wendy Lovell for the printing of
this newsletter.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Barbara Brown

What an amazing autumn we've enjoyed in recent weeks. A long calm has brought blue skies, bright sunshine, an increasing nip in the air early in the morning and the glorious colours of autumn leaves unspoiled by rain. It has been ideal for the many outdoor activities that have taken place and I hope you have all found ways to make the most of it before winter sets in.

News:

Those attending courses over the past week or two will have noticed several changes in the hall. A rather noisy carpet layer disrupted the peaceful sessions on a recent Wednesday afternoon but all for a good cause. New, good quality tiles have replaced the stained carpet and should last us for a good many years. Two trolleys also arrived which will be used to stack the tables rather than lifting them onto the tables. They can be moved easily in the main hall and will reduce the amount of lifting and carrying. There are 2 or 3 tables that are no longer needed. If you are interested in buying one or more at a low cost - Contact Kerrie Midgely on Mob. 0439 511 928

You may also have noticed an extra refrigerator in the kitchen. The cost was shared between U3A and the Bridge Club. Thanks to the Bridge Club for their contribution. It will be useful when we have larger gatherings such as the Trivia Night, Melbourne Cup Day and the Christmas Lunch.

Safety:

The Committee also discussed safety issues for those working around the hall and outside in the grounds. They plan to make available ear muffs and safety glasses for use by the volunteers.

Little Boxes:

Have you noticed the new boxes in the foyer? These will assist the sorting of the newsletters and collection by members. Thank you to David Muir who did the construction and attaching to the wall.

Shepparton Library Display:

Anne Blaski and I have installed a display in the Shepparton Library so look out for it when you go in and encourage your friends to have a look. It's tucked away near the children's section. The display will remain in the Library until the end of May.

Social Morning:

The speaker for the next Social Morning, Tuesday 6th June will be Sean Cronin, Registrar, Operations Manager, Shepparton Law Courts. He will speak on the work of the courts and tell us about the new building.

Course:

Colin James "Conserving your Energy Costs" short course has been so popular that Colin has agreed to run a second one commencing mid to late June. Put your name down or let Colin know if you missed out last time.

WALK AND TALK

On Wednesday 14 June we will travel to Yarrawonga in shared transport. If the weather is suitable, our plan is to walk across the big bridge to the Pioneer Museum in Mulwala and back to the Clock Museum with its 400 clocks in working condition. After lunch there will be a choice of driving to the Byramine Homestead or another walk along the lake. I will let everyone know nearer the time of any definite plans that require us to make bookings. Please meet at the U3A car park at 8.45 for a 9am start. Bring your own morning tea, and lunch if you wish. Otherwise you could buy lunch in Yarrawonga. New members will be welcome, but please contact the number below so we have your contact details.

Our May walk was in perfect weather and we can be seen in the photo at the top of Mt Pilot. Thanks to Frances Newbound for her help with local knowledge of the Chiltern-Mt Pilot area.

Christine Wilson 5822 1474

0428 399 648



CREATIVE CRAFT

Welcome to another year of craft. We have had a good attendance for 2017 with a few new members. We always welcome new members, maybe with new ideas of crafty projects.

We meet each Tuesday at 1.00pm. Everyone is welcome to come and have a social chat and a cuppa. Sonya is away at present, so you can contact Di Courtie if required. Look forward to catching up with our old members.

Di Courtie 58215394

OPERA APPRECIATION GROUP

On Sunday 18 June we will travel to Wangaratta in shared transport to view Mozart's opera Idomeneo, filmed live in HD at the Met in New York recently. This opera, set in the aftermath of the Trojan Wars, is not one that is commonly produced, but is certain to be excellent. We will leave Shepparton at 11am, or just before depending on when it has been scheduled by the Cinema.

It is necessary to contact us if you would like to go, so we have enough transport for everyone. Bring your own lunch to eat in the park before the show or inside the theatre if the weather is bad. (Take-away rolls are nearby and coffee is available at the Cinema.)

Christine and Allan Wilson. 5822 1474 0427 399 648

BIRD WATCHING

The June 21st outing will be at Upotipotpon, a new venue for our group. It is a small bushland reserve on the Nalinga Violet Town Road. We should see Robins, Thornbills, Whistlers and other bushland species. Please meet at the U3A Hall at 9am.

For further information please contact:

Don Roberts 58252404 M 0448889224 or Marg Clarke M0429350875



ON THE TRAIN

ON THE TRAIN is off for a great day in Melbourne. On Friday 16th June, leaving on the 6.31am train, we are going to visit the National Gallery of Victoria to view the 'VAN GOGH & the SEASONS' EXHIBITION, plus other activities of our choosing. NO PRE- BOOKING is necessary for the Exhibition and we can choose to come home on either the 4.31pm or 7.08 pm train.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED please sign the sheet in the foyer

TO GROUP BOOK train tickets: Meet on Tuesday 13th June at 2pm at the station. If you book separately we sit in carriage B. IF YOU DON'T KNOW Melbourne, still come, we'll look after you and you'll have fun.

Beris McKemmish 0403089347. 58315484.

NATURAL RESOURCES

FRIDAY JUNE 2, 10AM U3A HALL

GUEST SPEAKER, Christine Glassford, River Health Officer GBCMA

SUBJECT: Discuss funding to save the Macquarie Perch and an update on efforts to save threatened native fish in some of our catchments.

FRIDAY JUNE 9, 10AM U3A HALL

GUEST SPEAKER, Pat Feehan, U3A member and Natural Resources Consultant

SUBJECT: Third Reedy Lake Bypass Project.

The Third Reedy Lake is one of Kerang Lakes and is used as part of the irrigation delivery system. The project aims to remove the lake from the irrigation system and restore it to a more natural water regime.

John Dainton 58213881

HISTORICAL STUDIES

On Monday June 12th at 10.00 am Allan Wilson will present his paper on the history of Darraweit Guim.

All welcome Contact John Lawry 58231704 or jrlawry@bigpond.com

SOCRATES CAFE

On Monday June 27th the topic "Violence". Mindless violence seems to have become a dimension of public life in countries throughout the world.

How can we best cope with it?

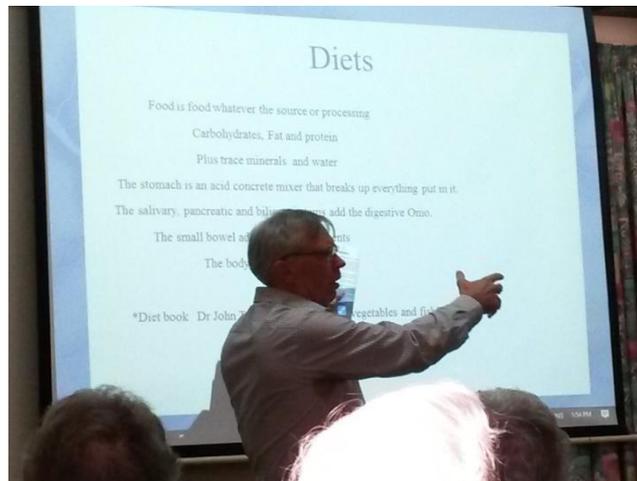
All welcome Contact John Lawry 58231704 or jrlawry@bigpond.com

SCIENCE MATTERS

MONDAY JUNE 19, 1.30pm

In June we will explore the structure of **DNA** and use this knowledge to explain how cancer occurs in the body. This will be based on a chapter from the book "*The Society of Genes*". It will be a bit technical in the DNA part, but once that is over the cancer bit will be easy to understand. The cells of our body replace themselves from time to time and in doing so sometimes make a copying mistake. Some of those mistakes can lead to new cells that don't have the normal controls to stop the new cell at a single replacement, so they keep growing. That is cancer. This is not a talk about the medicine of treating cancer.

In May we had a lively talk from Harry Lee about some common medical myths, on matters such as diets, screening for cancers and the value or otherwise of vitamins. The photo shows Harry making a salient point on diets.



WRITING4PLEASURE:

They say that everyone has a story to tell and I'm sure this is true. Not only one story, but many. If you would like to write yours, come along to our group. You will be made most welcome. We meet on the third Thursday of the month, 1pm to 3.30.

Next month's topics are; If you could choose, in what era of history would you have liked to live and why or; "the wait was worth every minute."

Mary Heneghan. 58316997.

The following is a poem written by **LYNDA COR**

A FINE ROMANCE.

***Daylight's gone,
The moon is hung,
Come on brothers,
Let's sing our song.***

The local she cat's in full bloom
And one of us will have her soon.
There are two of us so we'll have to fight,
We don't care if it takes all night!.

Two cats crouched on a high brick wall
Steadfastly set up their squall,
In anguished tones they rent the air,
Each would have his lady fair.

Throughout the night they hissed and spat
While their alley queen just smugly sat.
Her stomach full of garbage dinner,
She serenely waited for the winner,

Hours passed. The howls were long,
In feline harmony they screeched their song,
Then the black cat moved and the fight began
In earnest. The tabby had the upper hand.

Bristling fur, outstretched claws,
Jagged teeth, lashing paws,
Up and down the wall they fought,
But sadly was the battle short.

A window opened, buckets clashed,
Our fearless pussies soon were splashed,
Drenched with water head and tailed,
Slunk away, mission failed.

Meanwhile Giles, a pedigreed prize,
The vicar's cat and small in size
Made use of opportunity
And here doth end this little ditty.

For while the fighters dried their fur,
Giles stepped in and quenched his ardour.
Thus when the assailants did return,
Their romance antics she did spurn.

Nine weeks later, early one morn
The alley cats elegant litter was born.
Which proves that if you don't make fuss,
You have a chance to get your puss.

iPAD CLASSES

Our classes have been running smoothly since March with an average weekly attendance of about 7 - some weeks more , some weeks less. Unfortunately a couple of our beginners suffered some health issues and were unable to continue. New people are always welcome.

There is only 2 more weeks to go before the usual winter recess, finishing on May 26th. At this stage, classes will resume on Friday September 1st, 1.30pm for Basics and 2.30 to 3.30pm for more advanced users group. If there is any change to this there will be a notice in the August Newsletter.

Carmel Naughton.

OUR 9 DAY TASTE OF TASMANIA TOUR 2017

On Wednesday 5th of April twenty-three U3A members left Shepparton with Ford's Coach Travel, making their way to Station Pier to board the Spirit of Tasmania 1 at 5pm. Departing at 7.30 pm, all had twin berth cabins, both with lower beds. Overnight bags were taken to the cabins with the heavy luggage remaining on the coach.

We arrived at Devonport at 6am after purchasing a light breakfast on board. After disembarking we made our way to Sheffield, a tourist town known for its many murals. Sheffield sits in the shadow of Mt Roland and the Western Tiers. After morning tea we continued on through Elizabeth Town and then to Deloraine, arriving on the outskirts of Launceston. There we visited Entally House, one of Tasmania's most historical trust houses. We finished the day with a visit to Cataract Gorge and a ride on the chair lift.

On Day 3, Friday, we made our way south to Longford to visit Woolmer's Estate and then on to Ross. This is one of Tasmania's finest heritage villages where we admired the convict built bridge. We then travelled back through Campbell Town and over to the east coast to Scamander, via Fingall, for the night.

On Day 4 we continued down the east coast to Hobart, where we bought lunch and had time to browse the Salamanca market, which has around 300 stalls that are set up by artists and crafts people. In the afternoon we enjoyed a drive up Mt Nelson.

On Day 5 most of our group travelled via Eaglehawk Neck to Port Arthur, while some of the ladies stayed in Hobart to visit the renowned Mona Museum of Old and New Art, which they enjoyed.

Our Port Arthur group enjoyed a cruise on the harbour and being taken back with the stories of the early days of the penal settlement. This was the only day on our trip where we had some rain to contend with.

On Day 6 we travelled to Queenstown, stopping on the way at Russell Falls in Mt Field national park. We then went on past Tarraleah power station to Derwent Bridge, where we stopped to view the wall in the wilderness. This wall is a work in progress that when completed will measure 100 metres of brilliant art work. From there we travelled to Lake St Clair, Australia's deepest natural freshwater lake. Then on to Queenstown past the Gormanston football ground, which has been upgraded with a layer of sand over the rock.

On Day 7 we went on to Macquarie Harbour for a cruise and a visit to Sarah Island where Marcus Clarke's 'For the Term of his Natural Life' originated. The cruiser we were on had a screen showing all the statistics of the cruise and the fuel usage was 500 litres per hour at full speed.

On Day 8 we travelled on the Murchison Highway to Devonport. We had a morning tea stop in the Helyer Gorge and then on through Yolla to Wynyard on the north-west coast. Then along to Stanley for lunch, with some of our members taking the chairlift to the top of The Nut for the view.

We then travelled through to Burnie to visit The Maker's workshop and headed back to the boat at Devonport, stopping at Penguin for a group photo. For dinner on board that night we had tables reserved for the U3A tour group.

On Day 9 we arrived in Melbourne, with a wake-up call at 5am, ready to leave at 6. We travelled to Wallan for breakfast and were home in Shepparton at 10.30 after a great holiday with a wonderful group of people.

Kevin Jordan



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 633 108 Account number 1277 42898

Trip account: BSB 633 108 Account number 1298 96049