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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Welcome back after the break but I know some of you never actually left the place.

Jan Maude has been beavering away making sure the **Course Leaders** are organised. I know one of the book clubs has its book list distributed so it seems to me many of you are fired up for another year of learning and socialising.

With regard to GVVU3A **courses** the committee of management are inviting members to lead a group in 2016. If you would like to lead a class or have an idea for a class please contact Jan Maude.

The **annual trip** committee require the balance owing by participants to be paid by Wednesday 02/03/2016 or earlier if possible. Please contact Marie O'Hare to arrange payment.

The next social morning at the GVVU3A hall is on Tuesday 02/02/2016. On this day we will be introducing the courses for 2016 and renewing members' registration. Feel welcome to bring a friend to the social morning or forward on newsletters to those you believe would be interested in U3A.

Renewing your membership can be done on line using internet banking. Your receipt number will be required for each course you enrol in.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 1 March at 10am. Nomination forms for the committee will be available at the social morning. If you wish to nominate for the committee make sure your nomination form is in the hands of secretary, Candy, one week before the Annual Meeting. If you are unable to attend the AGM but are happy to accept nomination or wish to nominate you must submit an apology to the secretary and indicate in writing you are happy to accept nomination to a position or wish to nominate to a position.

The GVVU3A web site has been redeveloped, so go in and check it out. The web site address is unchanged www.gvu3a.com.au. Thanks to David Muir and Alan Wilson for the new web site.

Greg Barnes

SANDRA'S KEEPSAKES

Our first project for 2016 is a lovely decorated crate ideal for holding Easter eggs or an Easter gift to give to someone special in your life. If you would like to make this crate you will need to phone Sandra on 58210231 by Tuesday February 9th so the supplies can be ordered. Members will gather at the hall at 9 am on Tuesday February 16th to make the crate. The project will cost \$23 which you will need to pay on the day. You will receive the wooden crate pieces, some paint, 2 enchanted paper pages, 2 dew drop paper pages and collectibles to decorate the crate.



You will need to bring a cutting mat and knife, some glue and sandpaper or files. The project will be finished by 12 noon. If you have any queries please ring Sandra and she will answer your questions.

LEARN TO PLAY BRIDGE

There are many good reasons to play bridge. First and foremost, it's a fun game to play. That's why bridge is the most popular card game in the world.

If you want to learn bridge, a five week course will start on Wednesday February 10. The course is suitable for those with no previous experience and also for those seeking to refresh their bridge skills.

The course will be run by Derek Poulton, assisted by members of the Shepparton bridge club. Players start playing 'minibridge' in the first lesson. This allows participants to play bridge without the need to bid. From week 2 we teach players a simple way to bid, 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. For further information contact Derek Poulton email dcp.kip@gmail.com , ph 58254112 or on the web www.wix.com/sheppartonbridgeclub/2014.

BRIDGE NEWS

Our bridge players are back on Monday nights and Wednesday afternoons. At our meeting, it was agreed to start play on Monday nights at 7pm sharp, with all people to be seated BY 6.50pm. Problems with the scoring system seem to be behind us, and generation of hands using the dealing machine is working well. We are looking forward to welcoming new players from the night class in November.

There is interest in playing competition bridge during the day, and we are working with Jan to find a suitable slot in the U3A program. Nick and Derek went to the Canberra Congress in January and won both the rising stars and pairs and teams events, over 3 days of bridge. Nick has been playing competition bridge for the less than 12 months, so a great achievement. So bridge in Shepparton is growing both in numbers and stature. If you would like to play bridge, see details in the article 'Learn to Play Bridge' above. Derek Poulton ph 58254112.

ENJOYING LITERATURE

Our group will be resuming on Monday February 8 from 2pm until 3.30pm. Please note this is a little later than in previous years as members agreed that 2pm was more convenient.

At this stage the plan is to continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. For those who are unsure about our group we discuss all forms of literature and the aim is really to share the things we enjoy reading and learn from each other. In this way we expand our horizons.

At our first meeting we will talk about our holiday reading and begin our first project for the year which is reading through together and discussing Ray Lawler's play from the 1950s, Summer of the Seventeenth Doll. Do feel free to come along and check us out! Helen West, 0411 457 462

NATURAL RESOURCES

Friday February 5, 10am U3A Hall

GUEST SPEAKER; Lisa McKenzie, Executive Officer Greater Shepparton Lighthouse Project

SUBJECT; Presentation will outline findings from our 1,000 conversations project and our plans to redefine how our community supports young people for improved social and economic outcomes.

Friday February 12, 10am U3A Hall

GUEST SPEAKER; Denis Flett, Chairperson Victorian Environmental Water Holder

SUBJECT; Denis will provide a brief introduction to Victoria's environmental watering program including current challenges and opportunities – particularly for Northern Victoria. He will speak about the benefits being pursued and achieved not just for the environment but also for the recreational, social, cultural and economic outcomes. Denis has worked as the Chair of the Victorian Environmental Water Holder since its inception in 2011 and has some interesting stories to tell about the journey.

Friday March 11. 8.30am BUS TRIP TATURA IRRIGATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE

This will be the first of a combined 'Industry Tours' and 'Natural Resources' event

Below you will find information about a new series of Industry Tours during the year. The first of these will be to the Tatura Research Institute where staff members will talk about Entomology and research into various aspects of horticulture, including soils. This will take the morning and then the coach will travel to Tatura where you will have the opportunity to buy your own lunch. In the afternoon will visit a GMW Connections Site and hopefully a demonstration by the "Z" Boat.

Departs Ford's Bus Depot Telford Drive Shepparton, 8.30am, returns approx. 3pm. The cost is **\$15**. Money required by March Coffee Morning or March 4 Natural Resources Meeting.

INDUSTRY TOURS - NEW COURSE for 2016.

This new course has been suggested by Keith Smith who realized that there is a lot of industry essential to our financial and social stability in the Goulburn Valley. It may well be technically interesting and/or of great value but it goes on behind closed doors so we do not know. Keith and our President, Greg, have asked me to lead such a programme. This is a great idea which should provide something of interest to all. It is envisaged that there will be about five outings at approximately two month intervals during the year. The venues will probably be in or close to Shepparton and the visits will occupy a small group for a morning. But we are starting off bigger than that with a visit to the Tatura Research Station on 11/3/16. Details are published above and I will be at the February social meeting to answer questions and take suggestions. I am thankful to John Dainton who is assisting me with the logistics and finer points of coach travel as well as piggy backing a Natural Resources outings on to the first "Industry Tour".

JOHN HETHERINGTON

CRAFT

Welcome to 2016 and Happy New Year to everyone. Looking forward to another successful year of craft. We welcome anyone to our Tuesday afternoon 1pm – 4pm with whatever they wish to do; or ideas to show and share with everyone. As I announced last year that I would be standing down from co-ordinator this year and I hope someone will step up. It is not a difficult task, as the group runs itself. The club needs a contact person for the record. Looking forward to catching up with everyone and we always welcome new members. Diane Courtie 58215394

WALK AND TALK

14 members of the Walk and Talk group began our 2016 activities with an 8am January walk around Lake Victoria before the temperature rose to 44°C that day. Well done!



Our walks are always on the second Wednesday of the month and on **10 February** we will walk downstream along the Goulburn River from Tarcoola. Meet at the U3A Car Park at 8.45 for a 9am start. Depending on the temperature, we will walk or drive down to the river. Come with sensible shoes, sun protection and water to carry. Also bring your own morning tea requirements and a chair and we will get them transported to the morning tea end of the walk so we don't have to carry them.

Thanks to Ray who transported our goods to Jackson Park for our December walk and special morning tea. New members will be very welcome to join our walking group. We don't do difficult walks and we do a lot of talking so it is a good way to get to know people. We have lots of interesting places to go in 2016. Christine Wilson 5822 1474 Mob. 0428 399 648

INTERMEDIATE ITALAIAN

The Intermediate Italian class is delighted that our teachers Lelia Amadei and Ignazio Fantone are returning to teach us Italian grammar, conversation and culture in 2016. Intermediate Italian will be every Thursday at the U3A hall at 10am to 11.30am, **starting on February 4**. (This is not a beginners' class any more!). Christine Wilson, contact person. 5822 1474.

iPAD

Hope everyone enjoyed the Christmas/Summer break. iPad sessions will resume in 2016 on Friday 29 January. iPad sessions 2016 will run every Friday afternoon (except summer and winter break) for all levels of ability. Please contact Kiki Passenheim if you like to join, 5823 1694.

CANINE CAPERS

NEXT MEETING 1ST OF FEBRUARY

First Monday of the month, meet with your doggies at The Lake Cafe end of the lake at 10am, maybe end with a coffee on the outside deck. Water is provided for the dogs. My six give-away puppies have found loving homes and I will endeavour to breed some more Maltese/Shih Tzu puppies for the folks who missed out. The puppies were perfect and extremely healthy with a Joi de vie. Waggy ,waggy ,waggy! The recipients love them to death and consequently they have all gone to loving homes. I would love to catch up with them all at the lake and with the other loved doggies of members of U3A.

Contact: Janiene of Canine Capers. 0409 337 520

HISTORICAL STUDIES

Sessions are held on the second Monday of each month at 10 am.

February/March	John Hetherington	“Medicine over the last 80 years - From Myth and Magic Into the Sunlight”
April	Bill O’Hare	“A family history”
May	John Dainton	“Hats off toe Tanner”
June	John Lawry	“More on evidence”
July/August/September	Greg Barnes	“Some aspects of Australian Aboriginal History”
October	Keith Smith	“Wireless History”
November	John Lawry	“Historical Studies - An Update”

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

SOCRATES CAFÉ

Sessions are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 10 am commencing with an introduction by Pat Cruden.

February	Reconciling our Materialist Ambitions with the Constraints imposed by the Natural Environment
March	The Way Australians Speak
April	Defining and Achieving Well-being
May	The Making of a Nation
June	There goes the Neighbourhood : Australia and the Rise of Asia
July	The Search for Positives in Australian Life
August	Globalism
September	New Trends in Mental Health Care
October	The Role of Volunteers in Modern Life
November	To what extent do Market Forces Determine our Choices?

CATERING

2016 February social morning is coming fast. It is a day a big crowd is expected as everyone wants to know what the new year will bring. I hope that I have enough helpers for that day and we will be kept busy. A big thank you to everyone who has helped me over the past 2 years as morning teas would not happen without those helpers. U3A would not run without someone stepping up to take control of what happens in the kitchen so there is always the ingredients for morning and afternoon teas for various groups. Thurlie Pearce

Thurlie Pearce

BIG ISSUES FROM SCIENCE

1.30pm Third Mondays from 15 February

In 2016 we will use video clips by the world's eminent scientists, historians and communicators to chart the origins of mankind and civilisation from the beginning. This is the "Big History" course, devised by Macquarie University Professor David Christian that asks how it is that we are here, with our great culture, when the chances of it being so are so infinitesimally small.

Backed by stunning illustrations, David Christian narrates a complete history of the universe, from the Big Bang to the Internet. This is an enlightening, wide-angle look at complexity, life and humanity, set against our slim share of the cosmic timeline. We will sample the extensive range of material made available free on the internet for High School students, courtesy of Bill Gates who described its interdisciplinary approach integrating physics, geology, biology and many other fields of study as "a framework for all knowledge".

You can see the promo for the course at
with more detail at

<https://www.youtube.com/user/bighistoryproject>,
<https://www.bighistoryproject.com/home>.

There are eight segments, one for each month, plus a beginning on the underpinning concepts and an ending that looks to the Future. The eight topics, or *thresholds*, are: The Big Bang, Stars and Elements, Our Solar System and Earth, Life on earth, Early Humans and what makes humans different to other species, Agriculture and Civilisation, Expansion and Interconnection and finally Acceleration: the Modern Revolution.

Allan Wilson 5822 1474

MONDAY LUNCH GROUP

1st Sherbourne Hotel; 8th King City; 15th Last Straw café; 22nd Pepermill Hotel; 29th Victoria hotel.

All welcome Joy Markey ph 58216387

DIARY DATES

DIARY DATES	
2 February	Social Morning, and brief course outlines
1 March	Annual General Meeting

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