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#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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



### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Barbara Brown**

By the time this newsletter arrives the Tasmanian travellers will have returned, Easter will be behind us and school will have resumed for Term2. Hopefully, there are happy memories for the travellers, lively times for others with family and grandchildren and a quiet break for others. There will be plenty of activity during Term 2 at U3A.

It is pleasing to see the improvements that Council has made to our parking area. It's certainly much easier to line up with the white dots and the bright black and yellow strips.

#### Changes to Trivia Night:

The Trivia Night usually held in May will be postponed until July. See course notes. Further details as they become available.

There are several reminders this month to ensure U3A's smooth running:

#### Course Leaders:

Could you check that all members of your group have given you their receipt numbers as proof of membership payment, please? Carole is keen to fully update the Membership List as soon as possible.

**New Policy (for your information):** President's term of office The Committee has passed the motion –

The tenure of the President's term will be for a period of 2 years. A person may be nominated for subsequent Presidential periods of office as long as they are not sequential.

#### Catering:

Thank you to those who put their names down to help the catering committee when required.

#### Courses:

Limited vacancies are available in Colin James "Conserving your Energy Costs" short course.

## Ethnic Tour March 22nd 2017

Approximately 85 people boarded 2 buses at 9 to begin a culture tour of Mooropna and Shepparton. First stop was Rumbalara (Rainbow) to be greeted by Uncle Leon and staff. Learning the history of the site and Uncle Leon's his personal history before a visited to an original concrete house. We witness a smoking ceremony accompany by beautiful sounds from the didgeridoo played by Robert.

Back on the bus again and around to the Turkish Mosque in Mooroopna, shoes off and scarves on, we were welcomed by the Iman and worshippers. Questions were answered, lots of delicious food served for morning tea and a lovely children's book on the Qur'an present to us on departure.

On the bus and off to the Afgani Mosque in Shepparton and made very welcome yet again. Shoes off, scarves on again and we learnt more on the faith and their history. Then it was lunch time and what a spread. Rice, chicken and goat all served along with naan-eAfgani (Afgani bread) plus platters of fresh fruit and all amazing and very much appreciated.

Off again and this time to the Sikh Temple. Shoes off and scarves on, we had a wonderful time listening to the speaker explaining the temple and how their doors are open at all time to feed people of all faiths, free food. No questions asked and no discrimination, just generosity. We were also served afternoon tea.

Our last stop was the Iraqi Mosque. We listened to Sheikh Yassim leader of the Mosque tell us that he had spent 10 years in prison under the reign of Saddam Hussein. He was able to laugh and smile and told us the Mosque was open at any time to answer our queries.

If you haven't had the opportunity to do this tour, then look out for it next year. Thanks to Barbara from U3A, Sam and Cindy from the Ethnic council of Shepparton for wonderful informative day.

Carol Evans U3A



## MULTICULTURALISM IN SHEPPARTON

The Course will run from 1.30pm – 3.00pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month. It will commence on May 8 and conclude on August 14. There will be no program on June 12, the Queen's Birthday Holiday, and the group will decide whether to continue the scheduled July 10 session which falls in the school holidays. It will conclude with an excursion to the Islamic Museum, Melbourne on August 14.

Session 1 - Introductory session outlining the recent history, approximately 2 decades of refugee and skilled migrant settlement in Shepparton and the surrounding areas.

Sessions 2 – 5: A closer look at the Iraqi, Afghani, Sudanese and Congolese refugee communities. This will take the form of speakers from the communities and will highlight historical, religious and cultural factors that smooth or impede the progress of settlement.

A useful pre-reading is the Community Profiles on the Ethnic Council site [www.ethniccouncilshepparton.com.au](http://www.ethniccouncilshepparton.com.au) . Click on About Us and select Community Profiles. The first four refer to the communities we will explore.  
Barbara Brown Ph. 5831 8447

## NATURAL RESOURCES

**Friday May 5,10am U3A Hall**

**GUEST SPEAKER;** Russell Pell. Murray Darling Basin Community Member

**SUBJECT;** update on the Murray Darling Basin Plan

**Friday May 12,10am U3A Hall**

**GUEST SPEALKER;** Jim Begley, Landscape Restoration Officer, GBCMA

**SUBJECT;** Sand Hills & Native Seeds in a historical context

John Dainton 58213881

## SOCRATES CAFE

On Monday 22nd May at 10.00 am the topic for discussion is  
" Ethics. How do we set behavioural standards for the community as a whole?"

All welcome to this open discussion session.  
Contact John Lawry [jrlawry@bigpond.com](mailto:jrlawry@bigpond.com) 58231704

For those who attended the last Socrates Cafe, when the subject for discussion was democracy, you may be interested in a book called "Can Democracy be Saved?: Participation, Deliberation and Social Movements" by Donatella della Porta. Arching Fung, in reviewing this books states: "In her new book Can Democracy be Saved? Donated della Porta brings her expansive command of contemporary social movements and democratic institutions to bear on her question of the future of democracy."

Thanks,  
Jan

## HISTORICAL STUDIES

On Monday 8th May at 10.00 am Bruce Lloyd will present a paper on John McEwen who in addition to his prominent role in the Country Party was a local federal member for many years.

All welcome. Contact John Lawry [jrlawry@bigpond.com](mailto:jrlawry@bigpond.com) 58231704

## COMPUTERS and PHOTOBOKS

Computer and Photobook classes will go into holiday mode from the first week in May and will recommence sometime in September. It is likely Photobook classes will be incorporated with the computer classes when we recommence. There may be couple of sessions in mid August and I'll be in touch with class members to let them know if this is going to happen.

We now have three 'new' computers. These have been received as a donation from the Shepparton City Council who have been updating their own computers. This means there are three computers available for free to any U3A members. They are old, and running an outdated operating system (Windows XP), but are still functioning. So if anyone wants one please contact Carole to arrange for collection – Each will include computer, monitor and mouse.

David Muir ph. 5821 4349 mob. 0414 88 1369

## PHOTOGRAPHY

On 13th April we visited the Woodturners of the Goulburn Valley to take some environmental portraits i.e portraits of people in their own environment. We felt very welcome and their facility and their skills are just amazing. Perrie gave us a conducted tour and insights into their achievements. They are quite happy for us to make a return visit when both us and them have more members able to attend. As well as environmental portraits it will be a good opportunity for us to try some "product photography" We should be able to improve our skills and provide the Woodies with pics for their website etc.

There be no U3A Photography again until 25th May



## **INDUSTRY TOUR**

**WEDNESDAY 24th MAY 10.00 am till approx 12 noon.**

“NEATLINE” TRANSPORTABLE HOMES, 7920 GV Highway, Sth Shepparton.

Meet in U3A carpark at 9.30 am for 9.45 am departure in our own cars.

See how they make “pop-up” houses.

20 persons max. Wear closed shoes. Cost: free.

There is a list in the foyer. Twelve names on it at the time of writing. I will not be present at the May social morning but can be contacted as below.

John Hetherington. Tel 0419 319 339

[jfh@mcmmedia.com.au](mailto:jfh@mcmmedia.com.au)

## **DVD LIBRARY**

At our last Regional meeting of U3As it was suggested that the N.E. U3A region (of about 17 U3As) would develop a DVD Library.

Member U3As would provide the Regional Representative (me) with a list of their DVDs they would be prepared to lend to other U3As in the region. I would then make the list available to GVU3A members and all U3As in the NE Region. The plan is that the U3A wanting a particular DVD would contact the owner U3A and request to borrow the DVD from them.

All borrowing/returning requirements would be organised between the lending and borrowing U3A.

If you have any DVDs that you would like to go on this list of DVDs and would be happy to lend out let me know.

Regards

Greg Barnes (0438 569 611)

[dngbarnes@hotmail.com](mailto:dngbarnes@hotmail.com)

## **BIRD WATCHING**

Our May 17 outing will be at the Lower Goulburn National Park Bunbartha. By that date we should be able to observe the winter migrants, the likes of Robins and Golden Whistler. Please meet at the U3A Hall at 9am.

Please contact Don Roberts 58252404 M0448889224 or Marg Clarke M0429350875.

## **CANINE CAPERS**

I will be away for May in the Philippines on a Rotary Friendship Exchange. Helen Bassani will be looking after my dogs and Jeanette will be team leader for May 1<sup>st</sup> Monday doggie do at the lake at 0830. Morning tea will be at the Miller Park Cafe as the Lake cafe has closed. Thanks to the granddaughter, Chelsea, of Joy Findlow now I have an entire male willing to impregnate my girls as the come on heat. So more of you can have the joy of a loving companion dog who will keep you living longer as "the powers that be" say is the truth.

Happy Autumn, Janiene. 0438 214 808

## Wrting4Pleasure

Wrting4Pleasure is still looking for new members even though we have been joined by several new people.

This month our aim is to write a poem or a letter, or use the following; 'The elevator stopped at level three'.

Our meetings are on the third Thursday of every month 1pm to 3.30pm

Mary Heneghan. 58316997.

### SPRING IN SHEPPARTON.

The blossom is blooming  
The river is rising  
The wood ducks revel in the fast flowing current  
Gliding into the brown, swirling water  
Wafting down the river like leaves  
Returning to the river bank, scratching for food  
Then off they go again, back into the rising river!  
The swallows swoop and dive as they build their nests  
Where have they been these last few years?  
A wallaby hops by! That's a first!

We've only lived on the river for forty-seven years,  
That's not long in an ancient land.  
There's a police car on the road opposite. Why?  
And then we see the dead wallaby, its eyes wide open,  
Its ears still standing to attention, we know why,  
The car stopped but it's too, too late.  
Flood waters can take their toll  
Now it's raining hard,  
Now it's blowing a gale,  
Now it's freezing cold,  
Now the sun's out, it's getting hot!  
The river's gone down, the ducks still waddle around  
It's springtime in Shepparton!

SELINA QUILTY

### SCIENCE MATTERS

**Monday May 15 1.30 pm**

Dr Harry Lee will present information and considered opinions on two important topics in preventive medicine. The first of these is about the effectiveness of common medications, such as vitamins and cholesterol lowering drugs. The second is the efficacy of screening techniques for common cancers (such as breast, prostate, bowel) and heart conditions.

Allan Wilson 5822 1474

## OPERA APPRECIATION GROUP

On Sunday 21 May we will travel to Wangaratta to view the Met Opera's 2017 production of La Traviata filmed live in HD. This is not a traditional production in period costume but a stylized production in black and white and red which was first played to great acclaim at the Salzburg Festival in 2007. The 2017 production has already been heard as a direct broadcast from NY on ABC FM and is first class as would be expected.



We will leave Shepparton about 11am in shared transport. (Time will be confirmed with the Cinema a few days prior to the film.) Please contact us if you intend to go so we can be sure there are enough seats and drivers in shared transport.

Christine and Allan Wilson 5822 1474 Mob. 0427 399 648

## WALK AND TALK

On 10 May we plan to travel to Mt Pilot and walk at Woolshed Falls then finish our day in Chiltern. Please meet at the U3A car park at 8.45am for a 9am departure in shared transport. Bring your own morning tea and lunch. We expect to explore Chiltern after lunch so we will be back in Shepparton about 4pm unless otherwise arranged. Wear shoes and clothing suitable for the weather on the day and perhaps bring a hiking stick. It will be helpful to know who is coming so we can arrange enough people to drive.



In April we walked 8km along the Great Victorian Rail Trail starting at Tallarook. Jan Maude's photos show us on the smooth part of the track and then at the crashed top of a huge old red gum which had come down in the fierce winds a few days before. U3A members climbed through the branches but a couple of horse riders had to turn back at that point!



Christine Wilson 5822 1474 Mob. 0428 399 648

Photos: Tallarook Rail Trail

### 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