

### CONTACT DETAILS

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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**

With a very successful social morning under our belt we are off to a fine start for the year with 12 new enrolments on the day and a number of inquiries since. The garden club has resumed and David Muir is running 3 courses 'Communicating with computers', 'Creating photobooks' and a short course on 'Understanding Facebook'.

#### Understanding U3A:

It's been mentioned that new members might welcome information about how the U3A systems work. See the box later in the newsletter.

#### Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March: Gvu3A Annual General Meeting: Speaker: Professor Lisa Bourke, Uni Melbourne, Shepparton Rural Campus

A recommendation to increase the fees to \$60 per person will come to the AGM for voting by the members. If the motion is passed the fee increase would commence in the 2019 year. There has not been an increase since 2014. Along with other U3A's we have lost the ACFE funding of \$2000 as the government moves to a different funding model. Nomination forms are still available for positions on the Committee, especially a Secretary and a Vice President. Please give thought to nominating for one or other of these positions.

#### Updating Gvu3A History:

This year Gvu3A celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year and we are looking to update the previous history "The Score of our Years" was compiled by a team of Gvu3A members. Can we find members to form a team to produce a history of the last 10 years?

#### Gvu3A Website:

Remember if your newsletter is late or you've lost your timetable both can be found on our website under courses/timetable [www.gvu3a.com.au](http://www.gvu3a.com.au)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT (cont.)

### **Social Morning: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 10am**

Guest Speaker: Kim O'Keeffe, Mayor of the City of Greater Shepparton.

### **Memberships:**

A reminder that memberships are due now.

**Course facilitator for Singing for Pleasure:** A music/singing teacher is still needed. If you know of anyone please let Greg Barnes know on 0438 569611

### **Information for new and continuing members**

Our foyer is actually a hive of activity rather than a place to walk through.

**Sign In Book:** Always remember to sign in for your class. The book is on the lectern to the right. This is important should there be an emergency requiring evacuation. It also helps with compile accurate statistics useful if applying for grants.

**Need a name badge** – sign on the list on the table on the left-hand side as you come in. Name badges will be completed and placed alphabetically in the stand behind.

**Note:** a reminder to current members to pick up badges that are currently in the stand.

Please take your badges and leave them in the car so they are available to wear to classes as the table area is crowded.

There is a holder on the left-hand side above the cupboard if you wish to leave a message.

Payment of monies and completed forms for membership or trips should be placed in an envelope with your name and the activity it is for in the locked post box near the office door in the carpeted room (known as Room 2).

Members pay 50 cents for tea, coffee, a biscuit when they attend courses. Please place used items in the dishwasher. At the end of the cycle please empty the dishwasher so the process can begin again.

At each social morning we pay \$2-50 for an elaborate morning tea.

**Newsletters** – GVU3A has a monthly newsletter and there are boxes on the right-hand side of the foyer. With the increase in postage costs and slow mail deliveries you are encouraged to receive the newsletter by email. If you don't have email or for other reasons prefer a printed copy please try to pick it up when you are at U3A. Newsletters are left at the hall for a week before they are mailed to members.

Last minute changes are on a whiteboard inside the front door as you come in. Lost property is in a box on the left near the front door.

We have a library area with plenty of books to borrow, read and then return to the alphabetical shelves.

DVDs are also available for borrowing. Fill in the details in the note book kept next to the DVDs.

## **WRITING4PLEASURE:**

We are going from strength to strength already this year. We have welcomed new members and there are still core members who remain with us and are very enthusiastic. Now is the time to join if you have an inclination toward writing either family history, fiction or miscellaneous short stories. We make everyone welcome.

Our book for 2017 is in print and there is some very good reading in it. It is a limited edition but there are a few copies left. The price is 'a steal' at \$15 dollars each.

Our next meeting will be on 15<sup>th</sup> March. The topics to choose from will be- 'Free Time' or 'Parenting Forever.' I'm sure we all have something to say on either, or both, of these topics!!

We meet on the third Thursday of the month, 1pm to 3.30.

Mary Heneghan. 58316997, or Mobile; 0400573985.

## **SCIENCE MATTERS**

1.30pm Monday March 19

What would you choose? To win \$900 for sure or take a 90% chance to win \$1000?

These are the sorts of questions that are asked by research psychologists to tease out the way people make economic decisions under risk. These have large impacts for the choices people make about money matters, from entering lotteries, accepting settlements in law suits, to buying insurance and cutting losses on share purchases. Gains are viewed very differently to losses.

In this talk we will follow the outcomes and their implications as outlined by Daniel Kahneman in his book 'Thinking Fast and Slow'. Our intuitions often lead us astray.

Allan Wilson 5822 1474

## **IPAD AND IPHONE USERS**

iPad sessions started this month on Friday afternoons from 1.30pm, in the mean time we have a group of advanced iPad users, with a few open places.

We aim to start a Beginners iPad group on Friday afternoons from 2.30pm. The beginners group will familiarise you with the iPads various functions and buttons. We cover email, internet, text, photos, settings and much more, both advanced and beginners sessions are based on what You want to learn.

iPhones have the same functionalities as iPads, we include iPhones in our sessions!

Contact: Kiki Passenheim 0468 487 555

## **LUNCH GROUP**

This very social group meets every Monday for lunch at 12 noon. The venues change week by week and are always advertised in the newsletter. On March 5th we meet at the Sherbourne Hotel, on Monday 12th we meet at the Peppermill Hotel, on March 19th we meet at the Shepparton Club and on March 26th at Cellar 47. Any U3A member is welcome to join us. We look forward to meeting new members to the group. Contact Gail on 58211315 if you would like more information.

## WALK AND TALK

On Wednesday March 14 Beris and Denise will lead us on an easy local walk with a start of 8am.. to catch the birds.

Please meet at the U3A Car park at 8am, or you can go direct to 26, The Boulevard by 8.15am - there will be a flag out on the road.

Please bring water to carry, Morning Tea and Lunch to share. We will be following the Goulburn River in North Shepparton with Marg Clarke our bird expert, walking with the birds and wildlife on the various forest tracks. After stopping off for morning tea at No.26 we will continue with a River Connect guided tour of the Boulevard Bush Reserve before enjoying our lunch back at No.26. Do come and join us for lots of fun and an update on your local knowledge and history.

Our February walk was led by Bev and Tony Palma when we walked at Kinnairds Wetland, Numurkah on a cool and windy day when there wasn't much water about but beautiful trees as you can see in Marg Clarke's photo. After the walk, there was a round trip by car to Strathmerton and back to the Numurkah Bakery for lunch. A good day out. Thanks Bev and Tony

We are always keen to welcome new people to join our group so we hope to see you in March.

Christine Wilson, Co-ordinator 5822 1474      0428 399 648



## ITALIAN

**WANTED:** 2 copies of the Italian Text book *Ci siamo* for new members of the Introduction to Italian Language class.

If anyone happens to have a copy of this book or knows of an ex High School student who has one that they no longer need, please contact me and we will be very grateful. Our class has doubled in size this year!

Christine Wilson 5822 1474      0428 399 648.

## COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Members of U3A (or their family members) who shop at Fairleys IGA in Numurkah Road have the opportunity to support U3A by joining the Community Rewards Program. This is entirely voluntary. Go to the Information Desk and ask for a key tag, fill in the form and then show your tag at the cash register every time you shop. Points automatically get allocated to U3A and at the end of the year the group receives a cheque which is spent on improving facilities at the hall. Have a look at the large cheque on the wall in the main hall the next time you are there. We receive around \$600 a year which is very nice. For further information ring Gail on 58211315.

## INDUSTRY TOUR.

Wednesday 21st March 10.00 am. COGS Depot, Doyles Road, Shepparton. That is the complex at the end of a long driveway on the left just south of the large new roundabout at the intersection of the Midland Highway and Doyles Rd. Drive yourself; there is ample parking on site. If you need a lift please contact me. Wear closed shoes and please arrive promptly at 9.55. The tour will end at approx. 11.30 - noon. No charge. An opportunity to see something of what your rates buy.

John Hetherington

[mrjfh@me.com](mailto:mrjfh@me.com) [note new address]

0419 319 S339

## COURSE CO-ORDINATORS

We are off to a flying start this year with class sizes increasing in News and Current Affairs, Dance and Learn, History, Socrates café, Italian, French, Monday Lunch club and Strength and Balance.

Bill O'Hare is keen to get the **Astronomy** classes going again. The plan is to show some of the many excellent DVDs on this subject on our big silver screen in the hall. If you would be interested in these classes phone Bill on 5831 7721.

Nigel (science teacher at Notre Dame and ex geologist) and Belinda Liggins have been to Canada and Alaska. They will be showing and explaining various geological features and general information about this trip to the **Earth Science** (Geology) class on Friday February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10.00 am. If you are free, come along and have a look, you will be most welcome.

## 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

As you probably know this year is GVU3A's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

For our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary there was an historical booklet produced about the previous 20 years of GVU3A (1988 to 2008) which included its genesis, growth and life before and after acquiring our hall. There were photographs, stories and facts about the Course Leaders, members, and administration staff. The book was called "The Score of Our Years".

We thought we should add a further 10 years (2009 to 2018) of history to this book for our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

If you can get hold of any historical information, photographs, stories, and names of previous Course Leaders particularly from the last 10 years but even further back could you let me know? Also if you can think of anyone that should be on the new booklet compiling/ printing committee could you let Barbara or I know.

## NATURAL RESOURCES & REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**FRIDAY MARCH 2**, 10 am U3A Hall

**GUEST SPEAKERS**; Fabian McCloy, Head of Customer & Community Operations and Scott Wikman Dams Operations Manager South, Goulburn Murray Water.

**SUBJECT**; They will give an overview on the Recreation & Land Business within GMW and the connection between this work and the State Governments Water for Victoria Plan. They will also touch on the community engagement work that GMW does around storages via the Land & Water Groups.

**FRIDAY MARCH 9**, 10 am U3A Hall.

**GUEST SPEAKER**; Geraldine Christou, Director Sustainable Development COGS.

**SUBJECT**; What's happening in Shepparton, particularly in the agricultural sector and the SAM Project.

**Contact** John Dainton ph. 58213881 mob 0417 549 502

## SOCRATES CAFÉ

On Monday 22 March at 10.00 am John Hammond will introduce an open discussion on Marriage. The open discussion format operates under the Chatham House rule which secures anonymity beyond the actual meeting.

All welcome

**Contact: John Lawry** [jrlawry@bigpond.com](mailto:jrlawry@bigpond.com) or 58231704 for further information.

## HISTORICAL STUDIES

On Monday 12 March at 10.00 am John Dainton will present a paper on the Pine Lodge Station.

All welcome.

**Contact: John Lawry** [jrlawry@bigpond.com](mailto:jrlawry@bigpond.com) or 58231704

## HISTORICAL STUDIES COACH TRIP, MONDAY APRIL 9

Visiting some historic sites in the Rodney District

Departs Ford's Bus Depot Telford Drive Shepparton 9am returns approx. 4.30pm

**COST \$20**, buy own lunch Murchison Bakery

Money required April 3 coffee morning

**Contact** John Dainton ph. 58213881 mob. 0417 549 502

## OPERA APPRECIATION

Hello to the Opera lovers of the club. The next opera, L'Elisir d'Amore, will be screened in Wangaratta on Sunday March 4 at a time to be advised much nearer the date. Please let me know if you'd like to attend on [dyerm979@gmail.com](mailto:dyerm979@gmail.com) or 0417580025. I also need to know if you can take your car or need a ride. Madeline



## GARDENING GROUP

The GUV3A Garden Group has been resurrected by Jan Vibert. They will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 9.30 am. On Wednesday February 21<sup>st</sup> the group will meet at Jan's place [22 Gordon Drive Kialla](#). Should you get this newsletter in time you will be most welcome to attend this day. The garden visit in March will be decided at this February meeting and a note about the March meeting will be pinned to the notice board at GUV3A. Later visits will include gardens in Tatura, Congupna and a herb garden in Echuca.

If you are interested ring Jan on 5823 5433 or just show up on the day.

## BIRDWATCHING

Our first outing for 2018 will be on the 21st March at Gemmill Swamp Nature Conservation Reserve Mooropna. The wetland is 95% full at present so should have water when we visit. Please meet at the U3A hall for a 9am departure or at the scout/guide hall Echuca Road Mooropna at 9.15, this is a morning outing.

Please contact Don Roberts 58252404 0448889224 or Marg Clarke 0429350875.

## LEARN TO PLAY BRIDGE

At U3A bridge is played socially each Wednesday and also on Monday nights and Saturday afternoon. Bridge is the most popular card game in the world. You can enjoy bridge socially or go on to play at the many congresses across Australia.

If you would like to learn to play bridge, a four week course will start on Wednesday 7 March 6-8.30pm. After the 4 week course you will be invited to play supervised bridge on Wednesday (6-8.30pm), with experienced players available to assist. 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 first lesson. This allows participants to play bridge and have fun playing the cards right away. From week two 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.klp@gmail.com](mailto:dcp.klp@gmail.com), ph 58254112, [www.wix.com/sheppartonbridgeclub/2014](http://www.wix.com/sheppartonbridgeclub/2014)

## SNOWY MOUNTAINS TRIP 2018

Monday 19th March 2018 to Friday 23rd March 2018

27 members and friends have paid their deposit for the trip The total cost for the trip is \$915:00 with a Single Supplement of \$220:00.

The final payment of \$ 715:00 per person is due on Wednesday 28th February 2018 ,

Please advise me before departure of the tour if you have any dietary or room requirements, - such as being diabetic ,gluten free diets or allergies or single beds or the ability to negotiate stairs

Fords Coach will depart Fords Coach Travel Depot at [11 Telford Drive Shepparton](#) at 8:00am on Monday 19th March 2018 and return on Friday 23rd March at approx 6:00pm

Parking is available at Telford Drive

Payment can be made by cash, cheque payable to Goulburn Valley U3A or direct to the U3A Trip Account

Looking forward to seeing you on 19th March 2018

## BOOK GROUP 3

We currently have 2 book groups running and there is interest in forming a third group. We need 10 members to fill the group so if you are interested please ring Gail on 58211315 so we can get the group started ASAP.

## **CANINE CAPERS**

Had lovely walkies from the west side of the lake with lovely shade trees there. Doggies all went in for a swim at the boat launch site even the newbie, Charlie, from the puppy farm. He is coming on in leaps and bounds but still hesitates at being patted.

Katie's puppies are due on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February but this time I will charge for the initial vaccination from the vet as it costs circa \$200 a puppy. One new mother paid last time so I was only out \$1000 and can't do that this time again, sorry. There will be a vet fee for implantation of the device that can identify the dog and owner, microchip, and a second vaccination to be paid for as well. After that it is annual vaccination fee from the vet.

They do not cost much to feed healthy food. Remember they are mammals and if it is not good for you it is not good for them either. Also onion, chocolate and macadamia nuts are poisonous to them. I strongly suggest to delay the implantation of the microchip because they are so small and it is a painful procedure. I always get the vets to hold the puppy because I do not want the puppy to identify the pain with me in any way. If you want a puppy you will need appropriate fencing as they will not be road safe until trained.

March walkies will be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 0830 from the western side of the lake and all welcome especially those that want to walk doggies but do not have one also any potential puppy owners from Katie or another source.

**A DOG IS THE ONLY PAWSON THAT LOVES YOU MORE THAN HE LOVES HIMSELF.**

Janiene Sandford

0409337520

## **COMPUTERS / FACEBOOK / PHOTOBOKS**

All classes have (or about to) commence. Creating photobooks begins on Thursday February 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be held on the second and fourth Thursdays commencing at 3pm. Facebook sessions begin on March 1st (held on first and third Thursdays at 3pm). Participants for Facebook need to bring a device to access their Facebook account (laptop, phone or tablet/ipad). If you don't already have a Facebook account, we'll set this up on your first session.

There are still some places left for computers on Mondays.

David Muir 0414881369

## WEBSITE

Don't forget we have a website. If you miss a newsletter or can't find your timetable of list of courses on offer this year, they can be found there.

Course leaders don't forget you can always have something added to a webpage specifically for your course. You can add links to other sites, links to appropriate video clips, photos of your activities, references for leading into or following up from a session.

Please feel free to contact me about having this happen and learning how to do it yourself.

David Muir 0414881369

## THOSE WERE THE DAYS

Mingling with frantic Christmas shoppers, desperate and overtired, would have to explain why I was enticed into the blackened cavellike teenagers clothing shop with its psychedelic flashing lights and pulsating music. Through the smoke infused gloom, I found not the funky socks I had been searching for, but funky teenagers with tattooed, body pierced, spiked and purple hair. Feeling conspicuous and my seniority among this younger generation, I managed to weave my way through the gloom, nauseated from the stuffy unventilated cave, to escape with a sinking feeling of my senses being insulted.

Thoughts drew me back to the 1950's, the large friendly department stores, courteous shop assistants, well dressed customers in their immaculate suit and hat. Shopping was not a frantic scramble but a leisurely, friendly experience.

Those were the days! How many times have we heard the more mature person reminiscing about the simple, carefree and uncomplicated life compared to the busy life of today. Some refer to them as the good old days but were they? Nostalgia often gives us unrealistic pictures viewed through rose coloured memories.

School was different, learning to write on blackboard slates, emphasis placed on well formed and neatly sloped writing. The one reader we had for the entire year was very monotonous, especially for those who were eager for something more challenging. A complete contrast to the vast choices of the he techno-savvy children of this modern generation.

School teachers were respected and beyond reproach, although this was sometimes flaunted. We can all remember the black board duster whizzing through the air and making contact with a class chatterer. Followed by "Emily, you will remain after class and write I shall not talk in class one hundred times". Or when the boy, sitting behind a girl was tempted to dip her plait in the ink well. And the booming voice that followed "Jones, you have been warned before, out the front, NOW!! Hold out your hand". The class silent and cringing as the sound of leather against bare flesh, again and again.

Most children rode bikes or walked miles to and from school. In winter frost covered the grass and ice froze the puddles, toes and fingers tingled with the cold. The one open fire place did nothing or little to thaw the chill in our bones. No wonder chill -blanes were the bane of our

lives. The small milk drink bottles delivered to every school were never refrigerated. Today this would have definitely been against health regulations.

Our children are aghast at the thought of no television. "What did you do after school, or before going to bed." Shrieks when told of our nightly routines listening to Dad and Dave or Bob Dyer and Pick a Box on the wireless while sitting around the fire, or maybe we read a book.

At weekends, and unsupervised found us riding bikes, swimming in the river or playing with friends. Cars were fewer and the speed nothing compared to today, it considered safe to be on our own. Our lives were uncomplicated, we were content with the little we had, creating our own simple entertainment.

Parents were to be obeyed, their words were law and we paid the consequences if we did not cooperate. We possibly were more naive but with more common sense than compared to today's youngsters.

The depression following the war years was a struggle for many families, food and most items were acquired with saved coupons and many coped with little or no luxuries. Life for adults was harder, women scrubbed clothes by hand often in the cold outdoors, bucketing water from a near by tank and boiling in a copper. What child today would know what a flat iron or petrol iron was?

The outdoor lavatory and the sound of the night man on his rounds. Nobody missed that when sewerage and pulling the chain was introduced.

Sundays and everyone scrubbed, dressed in their best clothes and shoes and loaded into the family car to attend church. Not one member of the family dared to defy this sacred ritual and remain home.

Social events were rare and school picnics were high on the social calendar, everyone competing in the sack races and three legged race. Eagerly anticipated was also the end of year school break up concert, with Santa mysteriously appearing, supper served by the mothers with cream cakes transported in the big suitcase, cling wrap unheard of. Boiled milk coffee, raspberry cordial for the children. Not a pizza in sight!

Life was slower and each year seemed for stretch endlessly. Today's children and parents are consumed with busy schedules and after school activities and life seems to be whizzing by at an alarming rate.

Oh! I Yes the good old days! But then.....

I do not wish to forgo electricity or to use the dozens of appliances that make life easier. And no I will not relinquish my central heating or the cooling in summer.

There are so many pluses in today's society. Research into diseases and conditions that were deemed incurable has forged ahead in the last few years. Preventative vaccinations for the dreaded polio epidemic in the early 1950s and many childhood diseases are now compulsory for our young. Contraception, surgery skills, research laboratories, all advancing with new technology. Education has provided many with the chance to better themselves and obtain interesting vocations. Internet allowing information of any kind, communication by phones or texting, healthy economy, public transport, freedom to allow us to travel the world, social services and the list goes on.

This era life has never changed so fast with improvements every year and will be more so in the future. We could all debate the advantages and disadvantages and still not come to a compatible agreement.

In the midst of a working day, the boss may need you to work late leaving you with a hefty parking fine. The traffic is at a standstill, your children are waiting alone at the school gate, then to arrive home to find the dishwasher has flooded the whole house. You may sigh and say, "Oh! for the simple life." The older generation will remember when rules and red tape were not necessary, every day commodities more affordable and families happy to live with basics. Today society is forever needing more and more of the modern day trappings. We were happy and contented, not knowing any other life.

But the thoughts come and go as we hop into our car and head out to the local restaurant for an evening meal, or we peruse over maps, book flights and 5 star accommodation on the Internet for this year's holiday. Maybe hitch the caravan onto the new car and head North for the winter.

Our papers and media are crammed with increased violence, people afraid to walk streets at night. We would all love to see a more respectful society. A country that lived in harmony with their fellow man. That would be a dream of all decent responsible people but televisions reporting of the unrest in foreign countries and at home forever cause unease among peace loving people. Tonight I change channels in search of family entertainment but am dismayed at the violent films being aired for young vulnerable youngsters.

For a fleeting moment I am swayed by the thought of a quiet night on the couch, the wireless tuned to soft music, light the kerosene light and a good book but then, who wants to get into a cold bed without their electric blanket when the nights are chilly. I rest my case! Debate unresolved!!

Dorothy Grant  
18/2/18

#### **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