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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our Annual General Meeting and election of office bearers is on March 1 at 10.00 am. At the time of printing we had a full list of nominations. There is still time to nominate for the major office bearers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) and the committee members but make sure your form is in the hands of Secretary Candy by February 23. Either the Mayor of Shepparton Cr **Dinny Adem**, or Cr **Fern Summer** will be the guest speaker and their subject will be "What local council does for the aged".

The **annual trip** to Broken Hill has 45 participants. The cost of the trip has now been set at \$925. For those that have not paid the balance owing please contact Marie O'Hare and arrange payment by Wednesday 02/03/2016 or earlier if possible.

Renewing your membership can be done on line using internet banking. Use your name as the reference and pay into General Account: BSB 633 108, Account number 1277 42898. The membership fee is \$50.

We now have a **Defibrillator** in the hall. Don't be afraid to use it as the instructions are very straight forward. Also we have 10 places available for a free lesson for regular attendees of GVU3A. Just let one of the committee members or your course provider know if you are interested.

Our **GVU3A web site** is now active and has lots of useful U3A information with more being added all the time. Take a look at www.gvu3a.com.au and give us some feedback.

The Positive Ageing Advisory Committee of Council will be having their monthly meeting in the U3A Hall on April 8 at lunch time. It is not a closed meeting, so if you have an issue relating to older people this is your chance to bring it to the council's notice. You could join the meeting say at 1pm.

Greg Barnes

MAH JONG

A most enjoyable time was had when several members of Deniliquin U3A Mah Jong team joined us for lunch at the hall. Afterwards we had a most exciting afternoon of Mah Jong.

We all soon found out that not every club plays the same way, so the afternoon was a good learning curve for us all, and enjoyed by all. A return trip will be planned for us in the near future.

So all who are interested in learning, or wanting to play Mah Jong, do come along and join us. You'll be most welcome -- every Tuesday at 1 pm.
Barbara Duncan



GARDEN CLUB

Keep 25th February 2016 free. On this date we will meet at 10am at the Riverside Nursery on Melbourne Road (near the airport). Larry Smith will talk about and show us, the new releases in plants. After this we will have a coffee at the bakery and discuss the excursions members might like to take and what interests us. I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone. If you need a ride please phone me beforehand.

The Garden Club meets on the fourth Thursday of each month. Everyone welcome.

Claire Blake 0402 308 858

NATURAL RESOURCES

Friday March 4; 10am U3A Hall

GUEST SPEAKER; Peter Egglestone; Manager Connections Value Engineering, GMW Connections Project.

SUBJECT; Peter will provide an over view of the project, current status, project objectives and current achievements.

Friday March 11; BUS TRIP TATURA IRRIGATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE

This will be the first of a combined "Industry Tours" and "Natural resources" event.

The trip includes a visit 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.

John Dainton 5821 3881

LOCAL INDUSTRY TOUR

The first tour is going ahead on the 11th of March to Tatura Research Institute, in conjunction with Natural Resources, as outlined in the previous article. We have 38 takers as this is written. This is the pilot trip for a series of visits to local workplaces. The idea is to look behind the scenes at activities which make the Goulburn Valley's economy tick. They are likely to be for fewer members - a minibus full for a morning only visit to somewhere close at hand.

The intention is to have four or five of these throughout the year - at two month intervals. Details will appear frequently in the Newsletter. For the March trip there are still some vacancies because we are using a full sized coach, so sign up and pay at the March Coffee Morning. Following the morning visit the coach will take us into Tatura where there are several possibilities for lunch, before we continue with John Dainton's "Natural Resources" trip in the afternoon.

John Hetherington

SOCRATES CAFE

To avoid holding sessions on Easter Monday and Anzac Day it is proposed to change the dates from Monday 28 March to Monday 4 April, and from Monday 25 April to Monday 2 May

The topic for Monday 4 April is "Reconciling our Materialist Ambitions with the Constraints imposed by the Natural Environment" 10.00 am

The topic for Monday 2 May is "Our Common Humanity" 10.00 am

All welcome to these open discussions on topics of contemporary interest. John Lawry 5823 1704

EARTH SCIENCES

Earth Sciences resumed in February with guest speaker, Graeme Murgatroyd who was a miner for 35 years and was consultant to various mining companies. Graeme spoke about aspects of mining in Broken Hill, which was a terrific introduction for the forthcoming Annual Trip to Broken Hill.



The photo brings back memories of one of our previous bus trips in April 2014, when we were fortunate to have the expertise of Bruce Cochrane telling us about the ancient river system of the Goulburn Valley. Chris Morom 0428 997 150

ENJOYING LITERATURE

Our group resumed on Monday February 8 when we had a lively discussion about our individual reading during the break followed by our collective reading of the first scene of Summer of the Seventeenth Doll. Our readers slipped into the characters seamlessly!

We will continue with "The Doll" for the next two meetings. Our theme for the first half of the year is Australian literature so some Australian poetry has been suggested when we have finished our reading of "The Doll".

We are meeting on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month from 2pm until 3.30pm.

"New" and "old" members welcome! Helen West, 0411 457

PHOTOGRAPHY

Judi Gillam from both the Art group and the Photography Group poses for a photo shoot with our studio lights. Many members of the Art Group contributed by wiping their paint brushes on Judi's Art Smock.

The Advanced Photographers are meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month and the Beginners group on the 4th Thursday. Both groups meet at 2pm.

Lex Neville 5821 2846



BIRD WATCHING

Our first outing for 2016 will be on March 16 at Gemmill Swamp, Mooroopna. Please meet at the U3A Hall at 9am or the car park in front of the Mooroopna Cemetery at 9.15am.

Please contact Don Roberts 5825 2404 or 0448 889 224 or Marg Clarke 0429 350 875.

WALK AND TALK

On March 9 we shall meet at the U3A car park at 8.45am for a 9am start. We will share transport to Mooroopna, and park in the Mooroopna Aldi car park. Ray Watt will then be our guide walking upstream along the river towards Rumbalara, stopping en route at his house for refreshments. No need to bring anything except good walking gear for hot weather and water to carry,

Thanks to Ray also for transporting our gear to the Fishway behind the Golf course so we could walk there in February from Tarcoola and back. Photo shows where the group found some shade to rest before the return trip. Thanks also to Beris for letting us use her house as a convenience stop en route.

We hope some new members will join us on our next walk.

The April walk is due during the U3A Broken Hill trip so I am floating the idea of a shared transport trip to Bright in the first week of April either April 4 or 6.



Contact Christine Wilson Ph. 5822 1474 Mob. 0428 399 648

HISTORICAL STUDIES

Monday 14 March; John Hetherington presents his second session on "Medicine over the last 80 years from Myth and Magic into the Sunlight". 10.00am

Monday 11 April; John Lawry will discuss "More on evidence" 10.00am -

John Lawry 5823 1704

SANDRA'S KEEPSAKES

On Tuesday March 15, members are invited to the hall at 9 am to make this 6 drawer tall unit. It would look great on a desk holding drawing pins, paper clips, rubber bands and other stationery items. It could also be used by young girls to hold hair bands, hair clips etc.

If you would like to make this great item you must ring Sandra by Tuesday March 8 on 5821 0231 so she can order the necessary wooden kits.

The cost of the activity is \$34. This covers the wooden kit, paint, paper and embellishments. Please bring along the correct money on the day. Both male and female members can attend the class. You will need to bring a cutting mat, a paper cutter and a glue stick. These items can be bought from a craft shop or from Sandra.

Gail Jelliffe



WRITING4PLEASURE

Our aim is to encourage members to begin, and continue, writing. Any type of writing is acceptable be it family history or fiction, poetry or prose. They are then invited to share their work in a relaxed, informal environment.

Come along and enjoy the afternoon with us. New members will be made very welcome.

Time: 3rd Thursday monthly, 1pm-3.30pm.

Contacts: Mary Heneghan 58316997 or Bridgette Brisbane 582713

ON THE TRAIN

Friday April 22, 9.00am. This is a trip with a difference – we are going by **BUS** to Bendigo to the **MARILYN** exhibition at the Bendigo Art Gallery. Our bus leaves Shepp station at 9.00am and we get home at 7.30pm. Use your free concession pass on the bus. At the Exhibition tickets cost \$20 concession and are issued with a timed entry. You can buy your own ticket. If we have a group of 10 or more we can have a group booking and choose 1.30pm as our entry time, with payment of \$20 required by 16/3/16.

All are welcome and if you are interested please put your name, phone and **mark yes** if you want group booking on the sheet on the wall above the entry “sign in” at the hall, immediately.

Beris McKemmish. 0403 089 347, 5831 5484

BIG ISSUES FROM SCIENCE

The Big Bang is our topic for the next class on March 21 at 1.30pm. Cosmologists have concluded that space and time were created in these first few minutes of the universe, some 13.7 billion years ago, followed by the fundamental forces of gravity and electromagnetism, etc. This was the first big threshold, when these physical constants were made that allowed the universe to hold together and be just right for later life. What was there before the big bang? Come along and find out. No prior science knowledge necessary.



Allan Wilson 5822 1474

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

The photo is of our choir at the GV Christmas Party in December. This happy group has resumed on Wednesdays at the hall, 9am.
Contact: Elva Reddin 5832 7294



COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Our U3A group members have the option of raising money for our group by joining the Community Rewards Program run by Fairleys IGA. This is a voluntary program. Members fill in a form at the front desk at IGA and nominate Gvu3A as the nominated beneficiary.

Members receive a key tag which they show at the register every time they do some shopping. Reward points are allocated to the group. At the moment our U3A group has 48 registered tags with 40 of them being used regularly. Members can check their docket each time they shop and see how much they are helping our group. In the first year we received \$300 for our group. Last year we received \$525. The money was used to improve facilities at Esson Street eg. new blinds in the main hall. At the moment we have \$320 and the chance to build up the total some more in the next 5 months.

If you would like to join the program you can see the staff at the desk at IGA and nominate U3A as your reward group. If you would like to know more please feel free to ring me on 5821 1315.
Gail Jelliff

LOST AND FOUND

Two items of Cast Iron Cookware (new – still in their boxes) have been found in the office. Can the person who left them there please tell us what they wish us to do with them?

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Entries for the April newsletter should be emailed to gvu3anewsletter@gmail.com by March 18. It is easier for us if you type your entry into the body of the email, rather than as attachments, but we accept both. We each have different computing systems, so there is less conversion work that way. Your Newsletter team: Derek Poulton, Denise Leffler, David Muir, Allan & Christine Wilson.

DIARY DATES

Now	Payment of Annual Subs of \$50. Retain receipt number for entry on course enrolments
March 1	Annual General Meeting – to be addressed by either The Mayor, Cr Dinny Adem, or Cr Fern Summer
April 11-16	Annual Trip to Broken Hill. Final payment due by next coffee morning

Bank Account Details

If you wish to pay your membership 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