



Our daring bushwalkers

Due probably to a contagious outpouring of post-Christmas enthusiasm, the Bushwalkers broke the U3A Castlemaine all-comers' record for the most enrolments - 53 when voting closed!

But the wisdom of hindsight and some colder weather has brought the number back to a regular 20 or so. Still an excellent number and with new members joining all the time.

A most significant advance this year has been the development of our excellent website. For it we thank Tricia Balmer and Bruce Carruthers. By and large everything we plan to do, do, have done, and wish we hadn't done, is captured on the website. The website is our members' first port of call for information and reminiscing. To check out the website go to <http://www.u3acastlemaine.com/bushwalking.html>

From the U3A website - [u3acastlemaine](http://www.u3acastlemaine.com) → Subjects 2017 → Bushwalking Group

The photographs from our walks (including those from previous years) are especially valuable. They are an important U3A record. As well, they clearly illustrate what we promised in our Prospectus blurb. We mentioned improving fitness [especially balance!], meeting others, having fun and drinking coffee. We didn't promise map-reading and navigation skills, but these have been an added extra.

And by the way, on our first 13 walks we have covered just over 150 kms and only been rained on once!

Kevin, Tricia, Keith and John

Kevin Vallence 0497012103



Tarilta Gorge



↑ Negotiating a difficult creek crossing – Glenluce



← Crossing the Campaspe at Malmesbury



↑ Walking to Chewton Day 1

Photos by Tricia and Bryan Balmer

U3A Castlemaine Contact Information

President	Win Jodell	0423 423 247	u3acm.pres@gmail.com
Vice President	John Pizzey	0419 118 360	mjpizzey@bigpond.com
Secretary	Monique Thomson	5474 2290	u3acm.secretary@gmail.com
Treasurer	Joanne Thompson	0457 388 344	u3acm.treas@gmail.com
Courses Contact	Phil Fletcher	5472 2249	u3acm.courses@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Robyn Yeoman	0412 565 559	u3acastlemainenews@gmail.com
Imm Past President	Max Clarke	5475 1220	u3acm.pastpres@gmail.com
Office Coordinator	Hilary Beckett	0418 287 065	u3acm.office@gmail.com
General Committee	John Waldie	0400 858 581	papajohn3002@gmail.com
General Committee	Sue Albert	0405 317 276	sue@suealbert.com
General Committee	Elizabeth Brown	0433 548 777	eli.bro@bigpond.com
General Committee	Sue Tomkinson	0411 806 339	ninoum48@gmail.com
Venues Coordinators	Russell Annear Elizabeth Brown	0407 346 334 0433 548 777	u3acmvenues17@gmail.com (no dot after cm)
Network Rep.	John Waldie	0400 858 581	papajohn3002@gmail.com
Other Positions			
Events Coordinator	Joe Scoglio	5472 2396	u3acm.events@gmail.com
Assistant Secretary	VACANT		
Assistant Treasurer	Anet McDonald	5470 6497	anetandme@gmail.com
Membership	Bev Tozer	0409 481 216	bev@imageinsight.com.au
Property / Equipment	Jim Blain	5472 4230	jim.blain@bigpond.com
Cake Roster/Raffle	Beryl Leavesley	5472 3182	berylleavesley@hotmail.com
Trading Table	Ruth Wilson Harvey Jacka	5472 3604 5470 5079	rmjjwilson36@gmail.com marionandharvey@gmail.com
Kitchen	Marie Twyford	5472 5450	mltwyford@gmail.com
Kitchen Backup	Veronica Hurley	5472 1383	
Celebrations/Tributes	Barbara Bunton	5472 3186	wil2bar@impulse.net.au
IT Support	David Sime	5472 3756	daveju@gmail.co
Website Manager	Bruce Carruthers	5472 3900	bruce@keepingitsimple.com.au
MYU3A Support/Help			myu3ahelp@gmail.com

U3A Castlemaine Office Details

The Office is located at the 'Octopus' opposite the Castle Motel in Duke Street, Castlemaine

Office Hours:

Monday to Thursday 9.30-11.30am

5472 2249

P.O. Box 792, Castlemaine 3450

u3acastlemaine@gmail.com

Hilary Beckett is away until end August

August contact is Julie Roberts 0419 394 254

**NB: The office phone is working again
thanks to Jim Blain**

www.u3acastlemaine.com

MyU3A: go to U3A Castlemaine website and click on MY U3A LOGIN At the top of the page

Friday Coffee Mornings are held on the first Friday of the month, unless otherwise advised, 10am at Church of Christ, Blakeley Road, Castlemaine.

August Speaker: Judy Coram,
Medecins Sans Frontieres

August Hosts: *Issues of Concern* and
First Tuesday Book Club

September Speaker: Michael McMahan, (CADARG)

September Hosts: *French I Part 2* and *French II*

**OCTOBER: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and
Special General Meeting**

November Speaker: Helen Bodycomb, Mosaicist

Go to our website to read *Third Thoughts* in colour –

The deadline for the SEPTEMBER issue is FRIDAY 18th AUGUST

Send items to u3acastlemainenews@gmail.com AND robyn.yeoman@gmail.com

President's Report

Hello all members

Well, the winter solstice has passed but the days remain cold and often dark. Our gardens will have appreciated the small amount of rain, however I notice the unwanted plants are making a strong comeback! Do keep rugged up and if you are unable to attend your classes/activities please advise your Class Leader who will have spent time preparing your sessions despite the weather.

I believe there are at least seven new members who have joined in the past month. Welcome to you all and I trust you will make the most of your investment in our wide range of offerings to keep you physically fit, mentally engaged and able to meet people with similar interests. Our U3A is known for being friendly, inclusive and supportive of new or quieter members – but I would gently remind longer-term members that if new people turn up to your sessions, it can make such a difference to them if you make them welcome. It is so easy to rush in and immediately engage with friends already made.

A good way to get to know other members and generous people would be to join a Working Group. See the notice elsewhere in this edition. The Working Groups are interesting because that is where the discussions take place and decisions are put to the Committee of Management as recommendations. These groups largely inform the committee.

Your Committee of Management has been a bit short on numbers due to people being away in warmer parts. Lucky ducks! I will be away for the September Coffee Morning and this will give you a chance to meet Vice President John Pizzey; his profile was in the July Newsletter. John is a man with a lot of energy who is keen to learn about every aspect of our U3A. It has been good to have fresh ideas and energy on the Committee this year with seven new members.

On the day of our AGM in October there will be a Special General Meeting beforehand to make small alterations to our Constitution in line with using a data base to renew memberships and enrol members on line. Do not worry! The usual Enrolment Day or Days will still be held. Dates and venues will be announced.

There is currently a dilemma about January Coffee Morning as our preferred date is also a public holiday. School term commences 29 January. Members will have abundant notice of the changes necessary. Can you imagine Coffee Morning on a Wednesday ... what a shock! But flexible we must be.

Win Jodell

u3acm.pres@gmail.com

0423 423 247 or 5472 3792



Positions Vacant

We are a volunteer organisation and really appreciate members who take a role however small. It is well known that after retirement volunteering in something that interests you can be most beneficial both for your general health and your mental health. One gets to meet people with similar interests, it is rewarding to make a contribution and can add a 'feel good' factor to your day. Could you think about offering to help us with one of the following positions that are currently vacant. You will get training and lots of support. Come on! Give it a try. Or call me if you have some questions. **Win Jodell 5472 3792**

Office Manager

- Roster volunteers to staff office
- Ensure maintenance of office supplies
- Ensure printer maintained

Membership Officer

- Register new members and send welcome packages
- Update member records as necessary
- Provide labelled envelopes for monthly newsletter mailout

Assistant Secretary - Minute Taker

Assist the Secretary by taking minutes at the monthly Committee of Management meeting.



Course Coordination Working Group

We are pleased to announce that *Russell Annear* will be the Course Coordinator for 2018, and welcome *Margaret Griffin* to the working group. Well done to both for stepping up!

Places are still available in the following courses – courses in bold are new and commence in third or fourth term.

Armchair Travel – Mondays 4th monthly, commencing again in August, 4-5.30pm all year

Bridge - Tuesdays weekly 1.15-4.15pm year long

Chess - Thursdays weekly 10-11.30am year long

Choral: Singing Together – Tuesdays weekly 3.30-5.30pm all year

Cosmic Philosophy and the 'Numinous' - Tuesdays 3rd and 4th monthly 10-11am 19th Sept to 19th Dec

Fabulous Friday Flicks - Fridays 3rd, 4th, 5th of month, commencing again in August, 9.30-12.30pm

German Through Reading – Tuesdays 4th monthly 10.30-11.30am 24th October to 19th December

Movies of Merit - Thursdays weekly 10am-1pm all year – **enrol at the Theatre Royal any Thursday.**

Ottoman Empire – Tuesdays 3rd and 4th monthly 10-11.30am 15th August to 28th November

Peace Education Program 2 - Fridays weekly 10-11am 29th September to 22nd December

Recorder Playing - Mondays weekly 2-2.45pm 7th August to 18th December

Table Tennis – Wednesdays weekly 9.30am-12noon all year

Tai Chi (two groups) - Mondays weekly 9.30-10.45am all year

Treasures of the Earth: Geology - Thursdays weekly 10-11am 7th September to 21st December

Warm Water Exercise for Arthritis - Tuesdays and Fridays weekly 11-1.30pm all year

Log on to MyU3A to enrol in any of these courses, or to obtain contact details for the Course Leader.

Robyn Yeoman

On behalf of the Course Coordination Working Group

u3acm.courses@gmail.com

Network Council Meeting June 21st 2017 Report – Win Jodell

The new U3A State funding arrangement (I reported on in June Newsletter) has had many changes. It will revert to ACFE not TAP among other things.

No instruction has been received by Network regarding funding application guidelines. Though President John Parker did suggest volunteer hours will not be part of the process.

Network suggested politicians and local government do not understand who U3A is or what we do. I was able to advise them that Lisa Chesters, Marie Edwards and Darren Fuzard of MAS know us well and are aware of our acute accommodation needs.

Online learning was suggested as a project to attract funding. I did contribute the fact that our *Survey of Members (2015)* showed social isolation as being a primary reason for both joining and enjoying U3A in Castlemaine area. Besides offering *Coursera* courses, with limited success, we have not pursued online learning.

Grants: The PGSF grant for which we have successfully applied over many years ended 30th June. There might be a new grants → next column

scheme but the name will change.

Policy and Planning: Susan Webster (Network) spoke at length about VMIA Insurance and who is covered: all volunteers; committee and sub committee members; tutors; facilitators; caterers and individuals with responsibilities are covered.

Network position is that ordinary members are not covered and must rely on their personal insurance or the public liability of the venue.

Only two U3As in Victoria have pursued personal limited liability insurance for their members, Bendigo (at \$5 a head) and Dandenong (\$2?). Network says question is, why did they do this? (I think Bendigo took up insurance because of several large walking groups.)

A new Accommodation Handbook will soon be published. We will read carefully and advise the Shire of any thing pertinent.

Anne Thompson from the Network Education Committee thanked Bendigo for running a successful workshop on Tutors and Courses.

Harry Dobson, retiring in eight weeks, thanked the regions for support over many years. He

Continued Page 5

Getting to know you ... **meet Secretary, Monique Thomson**

I was born in Holland a long time ago and immigrated here as a small child. We settled in the bayside suburb of Edithvale which unlike today was quite rural, and I so was fortunate to



be able to spend my childhood mucking about on farms with cows and horses, climbing trees, and of course playing on the beach. I suppose those experiences gave me the love of the outdoors and open spaces so that I now live on a rural property in Harcourt.

My working life was varied. I've been a teacher, a veterinary nurse – when my two children were young and I wanted part-time work – a manager of a volunteer program in community health and a community development worker around problem gambling.

U3A Castlemaine has been the perfect way for me to learn and to meet some interesting and wonderful people, and in gratitude I am now on the committee of management as secretary, a satisfying job that I really enjoy. The committee is essentially about working together as a team, and I would really love someone to join us on the committee to take the monthly meeting minutes. It is a stimulating way to be involved and you'll get a real insight into how our vibrant and important community organisation works. You can contact me on 5474 2290 and I shall be pleased to speak with you.

From Page 4

suggested at least 24 U3As receive Local Government funding for their ongoing expenses. Mount Alexander Shire needs to be aware of this.

Elsie Mutton – other Network business:

Victorian Conference 4 & 5 September 2017

Need photos for promotion

Seniors week in Federation Square, should we take a stall?

Our choir invited to join BMW Edge combined U3A performance during Senior's Week.

...meet **Volunteer Coordinator, Sue Albert**

I became involved in U3A Castlemaine when Eva Haarburger, a member, suggested I join. I became a member of the Committee of Management in 2016, and my role is to meet members who have offered to volunteer when needed, and determine their strengths. My working background is in Nursing and Pathology, and my favourite hobby/interests are gardening, walking, bicycle riding, sewing and travelling Australia in my motor home.

My memories of growing up are holidays in Belgrave and riding on Puffing Billy and my most memorable holiday was hiking in Peru and Petra in Jordan. My favourite cuisine is Middle Eastern. I would like to tell you about volunteering with Blazeaid in Australia, and building fences so the Cambodians can have a cow. Perhaps in another newsletter!

If you would like to know about volunteering with U3A Castlemaine contact me on 0405 317 276 or at sue@suealbert.com

Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Societies (ADFAS) Trip to Archibald Prize in Geelong

Thursday 9th November

Leaving Kyneton at 8.30am

U3A Castlemaine members are invited to join an ADFAS excursion by bus to the Geelong Gallery to view the exhibition. You would pay the non member registration fee - to be determined, but approximately \$40 plus Gallery entry of \$12 - on a first come first served basis.

Lunch can be purchased from one of a few cafes in the precinct and there is a park next to the gallery for those who like to eat outdoors.

If you would like to part of this excursion be at Kyneton well before 8.30am on 9th November (first come first served), or contact Suzanne Harding 0409 878 103 ariete.sdh@gmail.com

Invitation to members of U3A in Victoria

I would like to invite you to join author and journalist Dava Sobel and Vice-Chancellor's Fellow Dr Elizabeth Finkel as they discuss women in science and Dava's new book, *The Glass Universe*. Please come along and bring your friends!

Thursday 10 August 2017 12pm – 1pm

La Trobe University, Union Hall, Bundoora

The event is FREE and you can register here:

www.eventbrite.com.au

Dr Natasha Weir

Research Gender Equity Project Officer Diversity & Inclusion

Elmore Field Day

Tuesday 3rd October 2017

U3A Castlemaine gives you the opportunity to join other members in a ride to the *53rd Elmore Field Day*, that's right you don't need to drive and hunt for your car amongst the hundreds in the car park.

The website is www.elmorefielddays.com.au where the 2016 program is still available, so in the future you can find the planned 2017 program. In 2016 *Bunnings* did a gardening presentation, you could have watched a *Thermomix* cooking demonstration, and the usual *Ag Art Wear Parade* happens @ 11am and 2pm. Or if so inclined watch the ploughing demos.

The CWA and other food people offer a good variety of food and drinks throughout the site, which is very large so do remember the comfortable walking shoes. If walking is a problem and you'd still like to attend **there are mobility scooters available for hire**, and even I have envied the riders after so much walking all day.

There are about 723 exhibitors for all sort of items, viz. tractors, 4 WDs, cars, fashion, sheep shearing, CWA, soaps, jewellery, clothing, hats 'n caps, plants, tanks, garden hoses and fitments, garden and workshop tools, mower blades, virtually anything you could imagine wanting.



I usually buy shrubs by the 20, as we try to develop some interest in our rural Walmer garden. Our other buy is usually 12 leather gardening gloves, so much cheaper by the dozen!

We aim to leave Castlemaine around 9am from the Uniting Church car park, returning I'd expect by about 4pm.

There is a travel fee of \$15 per person (bus hire and to replenish the fuel), to ride in one of the two Community buses, limited to a total of 22 passengers. The entry fee is \$20 for the day.

Book and pay \$15 travel cost at the office or at August and September coffee mornings – remember **cheque or correct cash only**.

Maxwell Clarke 5475 1220
u3acm.pastpres@gmail.com
for the Events Working Group

Queen Victoria Market

🎆 **CHANGE OF DATE** 🎆

'The Ultimate Foodie Tour'



When: Friday 22nd September

Meeting: 10.15am outside the Meat & Fish Hall on Elizabeth Street

NOTE: Catching the 8.06 train from Castlemaine is perfect for the tour starting time.

Time of tour: 10.30am - 12.30pm (approx)

Cost: \$40 to be paid to U3A by September 11 (***Pay with correct cash or cheque at the office or at coffee morning**)

This is great value (next year the price is set to rise by 50%!) and in fact we are able to offer a price that is \$9.00 less than we paid last year. So we recommend that this is the year to enjoy the visit!

Immerse yourself in the sounds and stories of this historic market – certainly an icon for Melbourne and one of the most varied and interesting markets in the world. The diversity of produce reflects our multicultural population and tastes in food.

You will be offered many tastings that will cover lunch and as well there are very interesting items in the show bag you are given at the start.

Those who visited the market on this tour last year will agree that there is so much to learn about that even two or three tours would still only scratch the surface. Finding out about the source of the produce is one aspect of the tour, but also learning the history of the market and meeting some of the families and personalities in charge of the stalls all make for a fascinating experience.

Further info: contact Sally at sallykaptein@gmail.com

The Salvation Army Heritage Centre

Excursion – Colleen Smith reports

On Friday 30th June a group of 12 members of U3A Castlemaine took the 8.06am train into Melbourne and made our way by tram up to the Salvation Army Heritage Centre in Bourke Street.

We were welcomed by Lindsay Cox, the Territorial Archivist, who after giving us morning tea showed us a short video and then took us on a tour of the Museum and fascinating Limelight (photographic and cinematographic) Attic Studio. Lindsay was the perfect tour leader as, in addition to the factual information he gave us, he kept us enthralled and amused by many snippets and anecdotes about the things we were looking at.

The Museum, although small, holds an impressive collection of photographs, medals and awards, artefacts, memorabilia, musical instruments, and the uniforms worn by past and present members. It has a fascinating collection of articles, photographs, personal letters and records of the involvement of the Salvation Army personnel in peacetime and wartime. In addition it has historical information about all aspects of the work the Army does in the Australian community and in many parts of the world. All of the exhibits are beautifully displayed and maintained.

The Limelight Department was the Salvation Army's pioneering film production and presentation unit in Australia. Between 1892 and 1909 it produced many productions, including 300 films and the major multimedia presentations *Soldiers of the Southern Cross* and *Heroes of the Cross*. The unit also documented Australia's Federation ceremonies in 1901.

Australia's first dedicated film studio was created by The Salvation Army at 69 Bourke Street, Melbourne in a room that still stands preserved much as it was at the turn of the century.

The Heritage Centre has been an important Salvation Army building since 1894 and has a proud history. A fine piece of Victorian architecture it is heritage listed by Heritage Victoria and has functioned as headquarters, temple, social and counselling centre, programme and outreach centre for the Army's work in Australia.

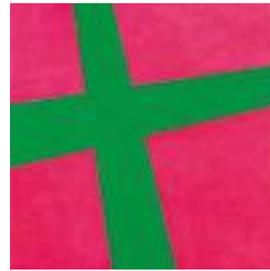
On 28th September 2015 the Heritage Centre greeted its 5,000th visitor since opening in August 2011.

www.salvationarmy.org.au

This was a great event and one worth repeating, and it was all free!

Heide Museum of Modern Art

Exhibitions: Albert Tucker and Fred Williams, the Boyd family, Sidney Nolan, *Constructivism and Australian Art*



1. Gunter Christmann, Red/Green Cross 1966, oil on composition board, 122 x 122 cm, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Purchased 1992 © Estate of Gunter Christmann and Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

Tuesday 15th August 2017

We will be using community buses. Therefore, there is a maximum of 24 people, including volunteer drivers. This excursion is dependent on a volunteer (with a car licence) to drive each of the two buses. Volunteer drivers will have their \$15 refunded.

Cost of transport: \$15 (to be paid when signing on – **pay deadline is Monday, Aug 7**)

Cost of entry: \$18 adult, \$16 senior, \$14 pensioner (to be paid at the museum)

Meeting place and time: 8.30am in the Uniting Church car park. Leave Heide at 2pm and arrive home around 4pm.

Enquires: Joe Scoglio
u3acm.events@gmail.com

Art is the elimination of the unnecessary.
Pablo Picasso, painter, and sculptor
(1881-1973)

Coffee Morning Cake Raffle

Margot Ryan made a fruit cake for the July coffee morning. It looked and smelt delicious. Kate Orr, a visitor who came to our meeting to tell us of the problems associated with the widespread use of plastic shopping bags was the lucky winner.

Beryl Leavesley
berylleavesley@hotmail.com



Around the classes 2017

OBE Lunch Group

On Wednesday, August 9th we will meet at the *Dove Cafe* on the corner of Doveton and Hargraves Street at 12:30pm

Apologies to Eileen Park on 5472 5213

Solo Group

Our get-together for August will be on the 19th at the home of Dot Henshall from 12.30-2.30pm.

I hope everyone will have left their winter ills behind and we'll have a happy get-together.

Eva's phone 5472 3391. Dot's phone 5472 5108



Angela Sye is offering a course on **Recorder Playing** commencing Monday 7th August to 18th December 2017, weekly 2pm to 2.45pm. This is a beginner's course. No knowledge required. You must have your own recorder and music stand.

Angela Sye 0434 201 701

email angelasye@hotmail.com

Michelle Fortuna is unwell – Relaxation classes are suspended for now.

Excursion to Vic Market – date changed to Friday 22nd September. See Page 5 for details.

Photographic Competition Reminder

U3A Network Victoria is looking at updating its marketing material. We would like to reflect what happens in our member U3As. We do not want general photos but rather photos of any classes, outings, events etc, offered by your U3A, that will help promote U3A. Any member photographed will need to give their written permission for their photo to appear in U3A publicity. The competition closes on 22nd September 2017. A registration form will need to be completed by each participant and returned to Network office along with a copy/copies of their photos. The photos need to be of high quality and will become the property of U3A Network Victoria. Forms available from your local U3A office.

Lets Use our Free Travel Vouchers

The class of five enjoyed a trip to Kerang on an initially wet Friday 21st April visiting a coffee shop, the Op Shops and the Visitor Information Centre before lunch, and returning by coach to Bendigo, before a train back home to Castlemaine.

A second trip on Saturday 17th June had eight members taking the train to Echuca. A sunny winter's day saw us enjoying a pleasant lunch before watching the paddle Steamers on the river. The train back left just after 4pm.



The last planned trip is on Sunday 20th August to Swan Hill.

I do wonder how many of 35 enrolled class members will join us? Sunday allows a

train ride both ways and gives us nearly 3 ½ hours to wander around the town. **Any U3A**

Castlemaine member is welcome to join us at the station, for a departure just after 10am, arriving in Swan Hill by 12.54pm. Return train departure is at 4.23pm, back at Castlemaine by 7.03pm, just in time for dinner at the Railway Hotel.

Maxwell Clarke

mnc3463@gmail.com or 5475 1220

Playing Ukulele and Guitar Playing

We met during the school holidays as we enjoy playing together. On 30th June sixteen of our players had an afternoon playing together at the home of George and Rosalind Gray. We were greeted by Lily, the resident cat, who was sitting by the lovely warm log fire. Rosalind and George provided us with tea and coffee and we all took a plate of eats to enjoy after playing for an hour, with a programme set out. It was a good experience to play with such a large group and we all enjoyed the fun, laughing at the few mistakes now and again. Thanks from us all to Rosalind and George.



We shall be going out to a few venues to play a few songs, now that we have a good selection at our fingertips.

We shall keep strumming.

Angela Sye 0434 201 701

Dog Walking Group

The 4th July saw our intrepid dog walkers set off in the misty rain from the Muckleford Railway Station to walk a section of the Castlemaine Maldon Rail Trail. After walking about 40 minutes we retraced our steps as the misty rain became heavier. On reaching the shelter of the Muckleford

Station we had hot drinks before heading back to Castlemaine.

The next walk was beside the Loddon River in Newstead. The weather was good for walking and it was

interesting to see the height of the levee banks.

Back to light rain for our walk beside the Campbells Creek on the 18th. We were all prepared for the weather conditions and most of the dogs were also sporting their wet weather gear. This time a hot drink at *Tonks* was appreciated before returning to our cars.

Jill Collier
5474 8232



Singing Together

We decided that we would continue during the school holidays and have learned a variety of easy songs from yesteryear, and enjoyed easy singing for a couple of weeks.

Now as we start the third term, we will work hard at learning our songs with harmonies, as we prepare for the *Choir Extravaganza* in the Castlemaine Town Hall in October - not far away.

A group of our members sang at Ellery House on 28th June and how pleasing it was to see how the residents responded in the best possible way they were able. It makes us feel good to give an hour of singing to cheer up the day for the residents and staff.



We have a booking to sing for a respite day centre in Harcourt North in August and then a visit to Maldon Hospital in October.

We shall keep singing together to bring joy to the community.

Angela Sye 0434 201 701

Table Tennis

Seniors Week 2017

Another "Come and Try Day" is planned for Wednesday 12th October 9.30am to 12 noon during seniors week. Coaching and a cuppa provided at no cost for new players. All welcome.

A defibrillator is an important safety provision. We have been successful in our council grant application for a defibrillator to be installed in our venue at the Camp Reserve. **Thanks** to the Castlemaine Table Tennis Association for their encouragement of the grant application for and their commitment to having the defibrillator installed and maintained. For their support in our application thank you to our president Win Jodell for her endorsement, Max Clark, our immediate past president for help, Carol Waddington, Castlemaine Health, Debbie Hamilton, Camp Reserve committee, Doctor Griffin, Margaret Green, Castlemaine Table Tennis Association and Castlemaine Lions club.

U3A Bendigo Table Tennis

We recently enjoyed a social day at the Eaglehawk Table Tennis Stadium with → next column

U3A Bendigo. The top-class venue accommodated both groups with tables to spare. The groups shared the cost of the venue and Castlemaine members provided lunch this time. Our Castlemaine group runs every Wednesday morning 9.30 to 12noon, all year, except during Castlemaine Show and a Christmas break. All welcome.

More Table Tennis?

The Bendigo group invite applications to their waiting list.

Trevor Wheeler 5476 2286
trevorpots@gmail.com



Photography and Digital Imaging

With winter upon us we decided on 'water' as our theme for the month of July. It initially seemed we wouldn't see much in the way of rain and would have to focus on lakes and dams rather than flowing rivers and waterfalls. We had an outing to Cairn Curran on a cold and windy, but fine day with an interesting ever changing sky.

Following another dry week we had an indoor session where armed with lamps, torches, bowls, glasses, jugs, fruits, food colouring, etc we attempted to photograph pouring water, droplets and splashes etc. Much fun, and with high speed capture, hundreds of photos resulted of which about three were worth presenting - speaking for myself that is! This week we've had rain so our planned outing to the Cascades at Metcalfe should provide some great opportunities for photos with flowing water. Here's hoping for fine weather for the occasion.

Then for the final week of the month, as usual we each show around five photos, have a critical appraisal and vote for the overall best. Watch this space to see the winner in the next newsletter.

Pam Connell pamconnell27@icloud.com



The month of June U3A Castlemaine Photo Group's theme was "capturing movement". This composition is of the Harcourt viaduct with Mt Alexander in the background. The speeding train going over the viaduct was taken on the fourth attempt over a two hour period of waiting for trains. The camera was set on a tripod and the timing of the shutter was critical, three of the four attempts produced results too early or too late. Another complicating element was the changing light conditions over that period due to the time of day and the passing clouds. Neil, a local farmer, gave me some history of the bridge. Apparently, the foundations were started on wool bales sunk into the creek bed because there were problems with wooden trusses sinking into the mud. **Mike Forsyth** 0467 505 113

Understanding Opera

12th July, and full house for our viewing of *La Traviata*, an opera in three acts by Giuseppe Verdi, written in 1853. It was a lavish period production of Verdi's best loved opera, featuring two fabulous performers, American soprano Renee Fleming & Mexican tenor Rolando Villazon. The tragic love story of the courtesan Violetta and her young admirer Alfredo Germont is set to some of the most popular music in all opera, including the irresistible *Brindisi* (drinking song). For this performance at the Los Angeles Opera house in 2006, baritone Renato Bruson sings the role of Alfredo's father. This is a beautiful love story of a man and a woman and the love of a father for his son.

I have to personally thank Peter Morris for opening my eyes and ears to the joy of opera. I, along with the entire group, am enjoying our Wednesdays immensely. Thank you, Peter.

Helen Wakeling

Petanque

Our players have surpassed themselves - both in offering hospitality to U3A Port Phillip players and in playing the skilled Maldon Petanque club in the annual autumn competition.

Thirteen players from U3A Port Phillip travelled up by train to enjoy lunch with us at *Togs*, and then we transported them to the piste in Campbells Creek where we had a pleasant afternoon of petanque played in glorious sunshine. We felt we had made 13 new friends and have planned a visit to their piste in September.

Our match against Maldon is always a litmus test for us in determining whether we are improving our skills. This time we were soundly beaten (11 games to five) but we still felt we provided real competition for them. This match involved a total of 34 players - a record number!

There is no doubt that interest in this game continues to grow - and we always welcome new players.

Sally Kaptein

sallykaptein@gmail.com



National Family History Month August 2017

Castlemaine Library

Goldfields Libraries are offering a range of family history sessions across the region during August. There are numerous sessions in Bendigo, however in Castlemaine -

Beginner's Guide to Ancestry

Tuesday August 29 from 2pm to 3pm.

Delve into your family's background in this introduction to the library's family history eResources including *Ancestry*.

Please note this session finishes at 3pm, not 4pm as advertised in the printed program.

FREE - BOOKINGS REQUIRED Phone: 5472 1458

Also presented in **Kyneton - Thursday August 10** from 2pm to 3pm. Free but bookings required.

For the full family history program check the link below, or call in to your local library.

[Family History Month Goldfields Library](#)

Other events in August at Castlemaine Library:

Jennifer Ackerman: *The Genius of Birds*

Thursday August 31 from 5:30pm to 6:30pm

American science writer and New York Times bestseller Jennifer

Ackerman talks about

her latest book 'The

Genius of Birds'. She

explores the latest

scientific research,

giving us a new view of

birds as cunning, playful,

clever, artistic, and

socially and technically

adept - they are an affirmation of the astonishing

complexity of our world. Don't miss this unique

opportunity to hear from an international bird

authority!

FREE - BOOKINGS REQUIRED Phone: 5472 1458

Are you aware of the services provided at the library, apart from lending books, DVDs, CDs, etc ?

eLibrary Collection

Two public internet computers

WiFi access with a Goldfields Library card

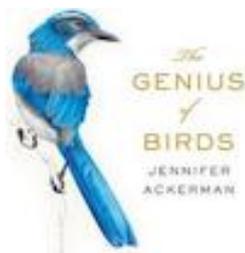
Colour copying and printing ([charges apply](#))

Three children's sessions weekly during school terms - [see timetable](#)

Regular literary events – see above

Weekly free one-on-one IT help sessions

[Castlemaine Seed Library](#) Next time you're thinking about starting a vegetable garden, or adding to your established veggie patch, pop into [Castlemaine Library](#) and borrow some seeds!



State Library Victoria

Family History Feast

21st August 2017 – 10am – 4pm

Meet at Entry 3, La Trobe Street

Has wheelchair access

FREE – BOOKINGS REQUIRED

Phone: 03 8664 7099

Email: inquiries@slv.vic.gov.au

State Library Victoria hosts its 14th annual Family History Feast during [National Family History Month](#) in August. This year, the program turns to the subject of researching maps and land records. Enjoy free information sessions on a range of subjects based on this year's theme, and learn how Victorian government agencies can help family historians. Also hear Dr Charles Fahey deliver this year's Don Grant Memorial Lecture, organised by the Victorian Association of Family History Organisations (VAFHO).

Pod Play at the State Library

Play Pod is the Library's program for children aged under eight years, packed with activities to read, create and play. With a new theme every season, Play Pod is always changing, fun and interactive, so children are free to explore and engage with the support of their parents and carers.

***Penguin problems* — from 7 June to 5 September**

Waddle across the snowcaps in this winter-themed Play Pod inspired by Jory John and Lane Smith's hilarious *Penguin problems*. Discover the day-to-day hiccups of being a penguin!

Open 10am–4pm daily in the Courtyard

Free – bookings *not* required

Castlemaine Community House

Chair Yoga – free course begins 16th August

Designed for mature adults who may have some mobility issues.

Wear loose comfortable clothing

Wednesdays 16th August – 6th September

10–11am at CCH 65 templeton street,

Castlemaine. Bookings essential 5472 4842 or reception@cch.org.au

Yoga offers many benefits for older people. The practice increases oxygenation and circulation, develops flexibility, strength, agility and balance. It also improves posture and helps reduce stress.

<http://www.cch.org.au/workshops/chair-yoga/>

New and renewing members May, June, July

Howard and Denise Anderson

Frances Burton

Judith Ewing

Brier Johnson

Christine King

Penelope Lacey

Ria Lawson

Robyn Lee

James Mau

Doug Mitchell

Susan Murphy

Kate Orr

Paul Puttifoote

Marjorie Theobald

Dianne Tooby

Welcome to U3A Castlemaine and
enjoy your time with us!



Stevie, our reformed scammer, wants to show you how scams work, so you can protect yourself and warn others.

Be wary of online sellers offering goods and well-known brands at extremely low prices.

Do not provide an up-front payment to a stranger via money order or wire transfer.

When selling items online, do not follow the links in a payment notification email to check whether the payment has arrived - log into your account directly.

With online dating, do not send money to someone you have never met, even if you have spoken to them or received gifts.

Always inspect a property you want to rent before sending any money.

Be wary of unsolicited emails, phone calls or letters saying you have unclaimed funds or are owed money.

Do not let anyone pressure you into making quick investment decisions.

Never send off money or bank details to claim a prize.

Consumer Affairs Victoria 1300 55 81 81

2017 Volunteer Champions Nominations



Nominations for the 2017 Victorian Premier's Volunteer Champions Awards are now open, closing 5pm Monday 14 August 2017.

The Awards formally recognise, celebrate and thank volunteers for their extraordinary and selfless contributions to Victorian people, communities, culture and environment.

To acknowledge the significant number of Victorians who generously give their time and skills this year, up to 60 volunteers will be recognised with awards.

We want to hear from you about volunteers who fit the following categories:

Leadership

Impact

Service

Teamwork

The Premier's Volunteer of the Year, Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Award, will be chosen from recipients across all categories.

Award recipients, their nominators and guests will be invited to a celebration and ceremony in December 2017 in Melbourne.

Find out more and nominate outstanding volunteers today. Go to www.volunteer.vic.gov.au/awards

Hobo Playhouse presents its 2017 production – *Encounter*, which features three one-act plays: *Upwardly* a short comedy by Mark Cleary, starring Michelle Zintchenko

Tuesdays are for Bill a very funny play by Paul Hannah, starring Susan Casey, Belinda Winthrop, Steve Cooper & John Piggott

A Poster of the Cosmos a powerful drama by Lanford Wilson, starring Mat Greenaway

Encounters will be presented for two shows only in Castlemaine at St Mary's Hall, cnr Hargraves & Lyttleton Streets, Castlemaine on

Saturday 9th September at 8pm and

Sunday 10th September at 2pm.

There will be limited general admission seating. Tickets \$25/\$15 with refreshments provided. The show will then tour the Dandenong Ranges the following weekend.

www.trybooking.com/RCSN