

THIRD THOUGHTS



May 2018

So MUCH going on in April..! Hope you all made time to keep up with your U3A classes and remembered to send your apologies if you had to go away for Easter or play with the grandkids!!!



Social Dog Walking with 'the pack'!



Digital Photography Group. See inside for the winning photo

Barking Owl, Newstead

Birdwatching Group



Striated Pardalotes at Muckleford



New Members 'Welcome'



Punters Day-Out @ Flemington

The thirsty **Bushwalkers** sipping mineral water at Jubilee Lake



COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT REPORT

I am sitting writing this report bathed in beautiful autumn sunshine. Can you believe that it is already May? Where does the time go and haven't we had some strange unseasonal weather over the past couple of months?

Our U3A year is progressing strongly and your Committee of Management continues to work hard to ensure everything runs smoothly. The Committee met on the 24th April to review and discuss a number of items including our Organisational Structure, Position Descriptions for Committee Members, and Roles and Responsibilities of Working Groups. This is an ongoing project and as items become finalised we will inform the membership of the outcomes.

As you will be aware there has been a request for volunteers to fill two **vital** financial roles. Our Treasurer, Jo Thompson, will be away for all of June and most of July and Assistant Treasurer Anet McDonald will be standing down from the position after four years of tireless and invaluable service. I am very pleased to announce that we have been able to fill these vital roles. Alan Harris will take on the day to day role of Treasurer whilst Jo is away. When Jo returns she will complete the financial statements for the end of the 2018 Financial Year and will assist Alan into the full role of Treasurer ready for the coming year. From August, Sue Murphy, one of our newer members, will be taking on the role of Assistant Treasurer. We wish to thank both these members for their help and support of our organisation in these essential positions.

We are **still** calling for volunteers to fill other important vacancies. Currently the positions of President, Vice President, Volunteer Coordinator, Communications Coordinator and Publicity Officer are vacant.

As Terry mentioned last month we operate solely as a voluntary organisation. **We ask everyone to consider what they might be able to contribute. Our AGM is only 5 months away and the goal is to see all these positions filled.**

We have an opportunity to apply for funding for projects aimed at improving the delivery of learning and services to our members. U3A Bendigo has been conducting a project on creating and running a Wellbeing Committee. U3A Prom Coast has conducted a project trialling distance education techniques for delivering U3A courses. Your Committee is looking forward to seeing the report on the U3A Bendigo project particularly.

The Committee of Management is now seeking ideas for projects from *members*. The ideas can be fully-formed or back-of-the-envelope, but we'd expect the project proposer to be involved in developing the idea

and the funding application, running the project and writing the report.

Projects that other U3As received funding for in the last round are: a tutor training guide; collecting and performing radio plays; documenting how to set up a bike group; and how to get your U3A more physically active.

Send your ideas to :

u3acm.secretary@gmail.com using the subject line : "Project Idea" , or to: U3A Castlemaine Project Ideas, PO Box 792 Castlemaine 3450 **by the end of May**. There are no bad ideas! The Committee will shortlist ideas to be further developed toward a formal application.

Members' personal belongings are being left behind after Coffee Mornings and classes. Please check that you have all your belongings before leaving. A 'Lost Property' box is available at the Octopus for any items that have been found.

We would also insist and encourage members to submit their apology for any class they are unable to attend. It is very important for the Class Leaders to know who will be attending a class. The commencement of the class may be delayed a short time if the Leader knows someone is coming but has been held up. If members do not apologise and do not attend the class the Leader is in the dark and may delay the start to the detriment of others.

It can be very disconcerting and worrying for Leaders and members of a class if a member does not turn up and an apology has not been received. We may wonder whether the member is ill, has had an accident or even **something more serious**. **PLEASE remember to apologise either online through MyU3A or directly to the Class Leader or Class Rep.**

A new function initiated in MyU3A: when a member enrolls in a class an email is automatically sent to the member to notify them that they have been accepted into the class. If a member is moved from the waitlist into a class they will also receive an automatic email confirming this, as will the Class Leader. This will alleviate any confusion members have now knowing whether they are actually part of a class or not!

I hope you continue to enjoy this wonderful autumn season and that we receive some much needed rain in the not too distant future.

Russell Annear

For the Committee of Management.

**CUT-OFF DATE FOR NEWSLETTER
SUBMISSIONS : 25th May**



Friday Coffee Morning (...always held on the first Friday of each month)

When: Friday, 4th May

Time: 10.00 am

Where: Church of Christ 66 Blakeley Road Castlemaine

4th May - Speaker: Witnessing worrying burnout in her doctor husband, **Lucy Mayes** went on a quest to find out what is really going on behind the scenes in medicine. Doctors' stories of reclaiming hope, heart and healing in medicine.

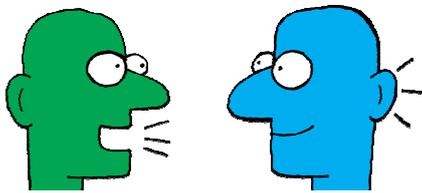
Lucy will also be speaking at the '[Books at the Brewery](#)' event, Tap Room on 24th May.

Coffee Morning Duty

May: Understanding Opera, Art Workshop and Ballet Appreciation

June Coffee Morning Duty:

Social Dog Walking, Aboriginal History, Chess



Armchair Travel

We have had some terrific sessions recently. In March Simon Duffin told us about his mission to swim in all the sea pools in NSW. Wow! What a feat. Such an interesting talk about a very diverse collection of NSW sea pools, many of which have fascinating back stories. Thanks, Simon.

April's class took us to northern India / Rajasthan compliments of Sally Kaptein and Ruth Forbes. Their talk provided us with a valuable overview of the history, culture and scenery of that colourful region of India. Thank you, Sally and Ruth.

Vacancies exist! Contact the tutor, Bev Orgill on 0459 324 455, if you'd like to join us - 4th Monday each month at 4pm - 6pm at the Chapel, Uniting Church, Lyttleton Street, Castlemaine.

Digital Photography Group

An excursion recently started at Taradale continuing on to Lauriston Reservoir, Tylden, Glenlyon, Daylesford, Cricket Willow and finishing at Guildford. The theme was to photograph autumn colours, especially those of the deciduous trees that are abundant in this region. This year again seemed to have a late Autumn and many trees had not changed to what was hoped for. However, we now know what the potential of this area is and can return in time to photograph and visit the cafes and restaurants. The appreciation by the group was unanimous and that the tour organised by Rodney Marchant was successful and enjoyable.

Pam Connell was the winner for the best print, Eremophila sp. The theme for the month was "Green"



Fabulous Friday Flicks

This year we have explored three of our themes: documentaries, some forgotten Australian gems and contemporary Italian cinema. An excellent film was shown about Ingrid Bergman entitled "Ingrid Bergman: In Her Own Words" with information drawn exclusively from her own diary entries, letters, photographs and films she shot. "Obit" and "Between the Folds", both very recent documentaries which explored the obituary writing department at the New York Times newspaper and the art and science of Origami respectively. Both films by Vanessa Gould.

Forgotten Australian gems we saw were "The Big Steal" (directed by Nadia Tass and David Parker and starring Claudia Karvan and Ben Mendelsohn) and "Innocence" by Paul Cox, starring Bud Tingwell and Julia Blake.

These were followed by two terrific Italian films - "Pranzo di Ferragosto" (the Mid August Lunch) and "Mia Madre" a 2017 award winning film by director Nanni Moretti. Next month, we will see 2 more Italian films before moving to our comedy and animation themes.

If you'd like to join us on a 3rd, 4th or 5th Friday each month, please contact the class tutor: Bev Orgill 0459 324 455

Golf Croquet - an Introduction

Class dates: 7/5; 11/5; 14/5; 18/5; 21/5; 25/5;

Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm

Venue: Croquet/Bowling Club, Berkley Street.
If you have enrolled we look forward to welcoming you. It is not too late to enroll!!

This group is friendly and fun. Keep the brain and the muscles active!

For more information:

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Peter Batten 5472 3664 /

Kevin Hurley 5472 1383



NEW COURSE!

History of Technology

Class dates: 7/8; 14/8; 21/8; 28/8;

Time: 10:00 - 12:00 pm

Venue: Uniting Church Manse Rm 3

This course will examine how Technology has influenced and impacted Australia and the local area where relevant. Each session will commence with a presentation of the general and scientific history of the time to put it into context. It will include demonstrations, working models and will encourage audience participation. Even though the talks are technical they are accessible to everyone.

Mike Stambrey: I was trained as an electrical/electronic engineer at Thames University, London, but have also studied physics. More recently I have started to look at the history of technology, how it has developed and how it is used in, and impacts, our everyday lives.

Moving to Malmsbury about 7 years ago I discovered that a local Doctor and Mayor of the town, back in the gold rush period of the mid 1800s, invented the relay. I used Davy as my starting point to put together talks to the Malmsbury Historical Society. It seemed a shame for all this work to be sitting on my laptop – having only been aired in public once. U3A seemed like an ideal next victim for my passion for engineering, science and history!

I try to make the talks accessible to anyone who wants to come along. Yes, I do touch on some mathematics and of course, the subjects are technical. But I think Einstein was absolutely right (lets face it, who am I to disagree with such a mind !!!) when he said 'Nothing is so complex that it can't be explained in simple terms' – and that's what I try and do.

Musicals

Our first musical for 2018 was "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" movie released in 1953 and 4

starring Marilyn Monroe, Jane Russell, Charles Coburn. Entertainers Dorothy Shaw and Lorelei Lee head for Europe on an ocean liner encountering several mishaps and adventures on the way. For Lorelei, the trip will provide a necessary break from her fiancé Gus Edmond Jr. whose very rich father disapproves of their relationship. Gus's father is convinced that Lorelei is just after a rich husband and sends a private detective on the trip to keep an eye on her. All of this and several song and dance numbers make for an enjoyable movie. The last words in the movie, a quote by Lorelei to Gus's father "Don't you know a man being rich is like a girl being pretty. You may not marry a girl just because she is pretty, but my goodness, doesn't it help".



Over Eighties Luncheon Group

When: Thursday, May 10th

Time: 12.30pm

Where: Five Flags Hotel, Campbell's Creek
Apologies: to Eileen Park on 0478 218 765

Russia 1900-1924

The aim of this course is to use pictorial, cartoon and recollections materials to assist in explaining the causes, events and effects of the events of the two Russian Revolutions of 1917. The role of leading figures such as the Tsar/Tsarina, Rasputin, Trotsky, Lenin and Kerensky will provide a frame work for discussion. Some background knowledge of nineteenth century Russian history would be helpful but not essential. Tom Comerford

Class Dates: 6/9, 13/9, 20/9, 27/9, 4/10

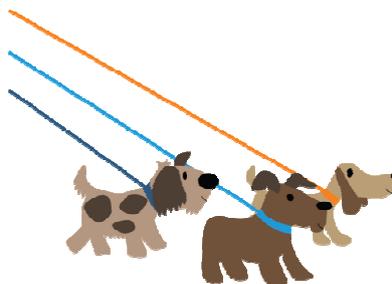
Time: 3.30 - 5.00pm

Venue: Uniting Church Fellowship Room
Enrolments now open on line through MyU3A or at the Office. Places limited.

NEW COURSE!

Social Dog Walking

It is the Chinese Year Of The Dog and the 'dog pack' have welcomed several new members. The number of owners was originally set at 8 but it was decided we could accommodate extras with all new dogs fitting seamlessly into the pack! Our walks commenced at 9.30 to beat the heat of summer, and this warm autumn has been great for walking. We have walked many sections of the Rail Trail, the Malmsbury Botanic



Gardens, Campbells Creek area, Eureka mine site, Chewton Bushland to name just a few. On most walks we can find a place for a coffee but sometimes a member volunteers to provide morning tea. Several members have led walks and we recently did a wonderful walk around Lake Daylesford, then onto Jubilee Lake for a coffee.

Solos Group

Next get-together:

Time: 12.30 - 2.30 pm at the home of Betty Henschman, BYO lunch!

Apologies/queries: Eva 5472 3391



Sorry Day & Reconciliation Week 2018

A busy time is coming for members of our U3A "Aboriginal History - Our Shared History" class and all others who offer to volunteer to help supervise the Reconciliation Stall and display.

Our local commemoration of Sorry Day is being planned for 11am on Saturday 26th May outside the Information Centre\Market Building on the lawn on the IGA side.

A local Aboriginal leader will speak to us from her heart, in an event triggered by the 'Bringing them Home Report', detailing the history of the stolen generations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. Please join us.

Reconciliation Week will open with an official ceremony being planned for the following Monday, 28th, at 11 am.

This will be inside, with finger food prepared by the Murnong Mummas using Australian bush food flavourings. The Reconciliation Week display will be mounted inside the Information Centre and available all weekend starting immediately after the Sorry Day commemoration on Saturday 26th, through until the end of the day on Sunday 3rd June.

Vital help is regularly offered by U3A members throughout this week and people have always been pleased to have been involved.

Please come along and join us. Vic Say - 5472 1841/sayvf@castlemaine.net

New Members 'Welcome'

New U3A Castlemaine members were officially welcomed by Secretary Terry Murphy at a function at Buda Garden Room on April 19.

"I really hope you'll embrace the ethos of U3A and enjoy the sharing of knowledge and passion that is at its heart," Terry said. "We look forward to seeing you around the Shire and getting to know you. And we offer you a very warm welcome to U3A Castlemaine."

The Events Working Group, led by Joe Scoglio, put on a wonderful function, and a great time was had by all. Big thanks to Joe and his team.

Fabulous Flemington Day Trip!

On a fine March morning, 12 of us boarded the bus and headed to Melbourne for a



'behind the scenes' tour of Flemington Race Course. What an amazing place!

Our terrific tour guide, Marina, was so knowledgeable and shared many stories about all

the objects, photos, clothes - a raffia dress anyone!? - and trophies on display in the Heritage Centre. A great museum of memorabilia from Flemington's first race meeting in 1840 and enshrining of course a fabulous collection of the different styles of the Melbourne Cup over the decades.

In Saintry Place, named for his favourite horse, we were also bedazzled by just some of the trophies won by the legendary Bart Cummings...Fabulous!

We took a selfie next to his statue of course, then on to 'The Track' ... well, not quite, it was under restoration! But we walked under that famous black wrought iron arch, through the mounting yard and looked down the long walk those superb horses take on their way to the barriers.

The roses were blooming, Melbourne city a wonderful backdrop - and even on a non race day - the atmosphere was electric.

We were then glad to head to the bistro for a very welcome and tasty lunch.

Great to share the table with such an interesting group, swapping their experience and enjoyment of the day. And a special hearty thank you to Paul Puttfoot, Driver Extraordinaire, who delivered us safely there and back again.

Bits and Pieces!!



Hamer Singers : The Falling of the Leaves

3:30pm ~ Saturday 28 July

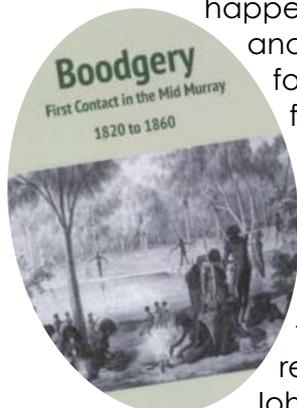
Works by Ugis Praulins, Jacob Handl, Giovanni Luigi Da Palestrina, Andrea Tarrodi, Johann Johansson and Ēriks Ešēvalds

Venue: Anglican Parish of Castlemaine Christ Church, 8 Mostyn St, Castlemaine

Book online: <https://www.hamersingers.com.au/concert-info.html>

Interesting reading...

U3A member and author John Lay has written and self-published 'Boodgerly', which recounts the 'first 40 years of European occupation of the Mid Murray area of Victoria. This area has always had a relatively large population of Aborigines, however the details of what



happened here and their short and long term effects is largely forgotten or unknown. Taken from European sources this book recovers much of this sorrowful history'.

Rather than a possible expectation of it being dry and boring this book is in fact a thoroughly good read.

John Lay was born and raised in Swan Hill completing an Arts degree at the University of Melbourne in the sixties. He has always had an interest in Australian history. We are hopeful that the book will be available through the U3A Trading Table at the monthly Coffee Mornings. The published price is \$25.00. \$5 from sale of each copy will be donated to Castlemaine U3A.

Clive Sharplin

Contemporary Textiles Exhibition

Sunday 28th July - Saturday 11th August 2018

Since its inception at Buda in 2008, the Contemporary Textiles Exhibition has developed into a biennial event of national importance on the calendar of embroiderers and fabric artists, making Castlemaine a centre for the display of excellence and innovation in contemporary textiles.

Community Bus trial...what do you think? It could support U3A members to reach the Coffee Mornings or other activities around Castlemaine

- There are no eligibility requirements – it's for all members of the community.
- The service is door to door, passengers just need to book their spot by calling 5475 2093 at least the day before.
- The service runs on Tuesdays and Fridays and will take people around Castlemaine between 10.15 - 11am, and 11.55 - 1pm.
- **We are hoping to extend the trial for a further 6 weeks. The more people who use the service the more likely it is to be continued.**

What's On @ Theatre Royal

Special selection for International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia in

partnership with local Queer arts event ISH. Three amazing films that will be screened in full HD.

- * **Thin Red Line** - May 2
- * **Badlands** - May 9
- * **Beau Travail** - May 16

Mic Conway 50th Anniversary Tour- From Captain Matchbox & Circus Oz til Now



Date: Fri 18th May: 7.30pm

Venue: The Guildford Family Hotel

Victuals: Meals available from 6pm next door at the hotel. Bar open in Music Room

Bookings: Kellie 0438 881 985 and [On-line](#)

Pre-book: Adult \$25, U16 \$10, Family \$50

Extra \$5 on door - Subject to availability

Guest Artists: Jan 'Yarn' Wositzky, Sue Ingleton, Marni Sheehan, Teena Amor

Clunes Booktown Festival

5 - 6 May 2018

Headline authors this year include Clementine Ford, the Hon. Tim Fischer AC, Hannah Kent, Kate Grenville, A.S. Patric and Annie Raser-Rowland.

Along with author talks and panel discussions, festival-goers can discover the largest collection of rare, out-of-print and collectable books in Australia, go inside heritage buildings, listen to live music, watch street performers, maybe even take a horse and cart ride and try their hand in a scrabble tournament.

Camperdown's Robert Burns Scottish Festival

18 - 20 May 2018

Come and experience the Scottish heritage of the area and learn about the man that was and the statue that is the great, Robbie Burns.

Mallee Birds - Paul Oswin @ Swan Hill Regional Gallery

23 March - 6 May

This exhibition of birdlife uses expressive marks and bold colours to capture the bird's physical likeness, character and the impression of its environment.

His approach shares similar philosophies to sumi-e painting. Sumi-e painting is a Japanese style of monochromatic painting using ink, brush and paper that aims to depict the spirit of the subject, rather than a detailed resemblance of it.

CUT-OFF DATE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS : 25th May

'We Fought the Good Fight'

Date: 1st April – 30th May

Venue: Echuca Historical Society Museum, 1 Dickson Street Echuca

Time: Daily - 11am till 3pm

The letters and stories of Echuca-Moama's soldiers in 1918...The Australian forces were exhausted and depleted after the mud and ice of Passchendaele. Germany held the upper hand. What did our local soldiers write home about?

The effects of the war at home meant women were increasingly assuming the physical and financial burdens of caring for their families.

What was happening in Echuca-Moama? In pictures and words, the Echuca Historical Society attempts to answer these questions. Groups welcome to arrange a time to suit.

Further information 5480 1325/AH 0408 505 662

Tomatoes: the fruit that keeps on giving

And it seems we have a glut of green tomatoes in Castlemaine, so to help you owners of green tomatoes out, Eva passes on her recipe:

'I have made this jam years ago with just half the amount of ingredients'.

8lbs toms red green or mixed
8lbs sugar. Put sugar over toms and let stand overnight

6 large cooking apples

1 tbsp. powdered ginger

6 lemons. Peel lemons

Boil cut up lemon peels separately in a bit of water

Add pulp and skins to tomatoes

Boil 2.5 hrs

Test to see if ready. Voila!



'Simply Tomatoes' from Boort

Not many people would have heard of Boort, let alone considered it one of the most vital tomato centres in the region that produces and distributes green tomatoes across Australia.

In addition to farming between 40 to 60 tonnes green tomatoes per acre, Simply Tomatoes also creates a range of goods using its own produce.

Tomato lovers can visit and purchase green tomato dressing and green tomato spread, while also taking advantage of the farm's barbecue and undercover entertainment areas.

The town of Boort also boasts lakes, olive groves, museums and the Spanner Man's sculpture garden for those that are keen to see the sights of the local area.

Get your flu shot!

This year people aged 65 and over are getting a specially designed vaccine that gives potentially increased protection, especially against a strain which is more common and severe in the elderly.



The flu is a highly contagious viral infection that can cause severe illness and life-threatening complications, including pneumonia. The flu is spread by contact with fluids from coughs and sneezes.

It is estimated that flu contributes to over 3,000 deaths in Australia each year.

For more information talk to your doctor, and remember flu shots are free for people aged 65 and over.



After four decades together, well-known U3A member and tutor, Peter Morris, and Barry Heaysman have finally got hitched under the nation's recent marriage equality legislation.

In tying the knot in March, the long-time couple are thought to have made local history by becoming the first Mount Alexander Shire men to wed.



AND LOST again!!

Max Clarke and Margaret (née) Thomas inadvertently met in the Five Flags recently after 50 years!!

They were so excited that contact numbers were not swapped!!

Margaret, please contact Max on 0428 824 782

CUT-OFF DATE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS : 25th May



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