

Goulburn Valley



GOULBURN VALLEY University of The Third Age
(For active semi-retired or retired persons of mature age)

GVU3A Hall: Esson Street, Shepparton. Postal: PO Box 14, Shepparton 3632 Phone: 58213333

WE'RE ON THE WEB - www.gvu3a.com.au

JUNE 2021

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(Entries close on 21st of each month)



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to Members.

CATERING: Welcome to our new catering coordinator Julie Dainton. Julie very kindly offered to take over the Catering role. Serving of food and drinks may not be quite the same as pre covid but Julie will have a few treats in store for you. Julie has worked previously in Catering and has safe food handling certificates. The Committee were delighted to meet her on Wednesday.

SOCIAL MORNING. Tuesday June 1st. We have someone a little different this month as our guest speaker. Keith Twigg has nothing whatsoever to do with health matters or ageing. He comes highly recommended by a couple of members as an entertaining and interesting speaker. He will talk about his life in the 1980's living and working on the Nullarbor Plain. He currently lives in Barooga and is coming to U3A specially to talk to us. Please come and listen to a fascinating story from Keith. Morning tea will be expanded courtesy of Julie.

COVID Issues The most common question at the moment is "Have you had your jab yet?" Everyone is being encouraged to become immunised for COVID and it is great to see so many of our members have been lining up. From May 31st the Victorian Government is also becoming more fussy about QR codes. If you have a smart phone, please download the "Service Victoria" App. For more info follow this link: <https://service.vic.gov.au/check-in/> It is free and will be used statewide. It is easy to use once you have it loaded on your phone. The paper sign- in book will remain available to those of you who do not have a smartphone. Alternatively, a friend can also use their app to sign you in with your name.

COMING UP: A trivia afternoon is being discussed. More information next month.

Come and have a good time at the social morning, hoping to see you there on the 1st of June

Liz

UKE3A

Uke3A Members are now enjoying a welcome return to GVU3A Esson Street Hall after 400 plus days of restrictions. The delivery format of the one hour Session on Mondays has been adjusted to allow for the increase of participants confidence, musical knowledge and ukulele competency skills. These skills were progressively developed during our weekly Zoom sessions. Uke3A welcomes new members who joined us during the lockdown period. Our sessions begin with a welcome and warm up skill. Participants are then encouraged to perform a song of choice (individually or with others) to the group. They then enjoy a “jamming session” with various songs selected from the Ukulele Songbook- Hal Leonard. If you feel this program may fulfil your needs, give John a call/text to arrange a visit. On the 4th Week of the month, we have a cuppa and chat for half an hour after our session. Uke3A hourly Monday sessions begin at 12:15pm. A masterclass session is held once a month catering for music topics of interest ranging from beginner’s tuition to demystifying musical language.



John Canty 0497264504

SCIENCE MATTERS

The Science Matters talk for June (21st at 1.30) will be presented by Harry Lee on **The Nature of Time**.

Harry will first look at the physics of time: how Einstein saw it as the fourth dimension with clocks in different parts of space-time running at different speeds. How the thoughts of later physicists led into the world of quantum mechanics and the idea of multiple universes. He will then take a light-hearted look into the physics of the future- (perhaps some time travel!). The second part of the talk will be on understanding how we perceive time, dividing events into the past, present and future. Harry has a special interest in 'Black Swan Events' - those supposedly rare happenings that upset all our forecasts of the future (The appearance of black swans upset the European conclusion that all swans are white). But are they really that rare?

Contact Allan Wilson 0427 399 648.

PHOTOGRAPHY

So much for predicting a show and tell at our first May get together. However, what could be better than our guest speaker, Kerry Short, a well-known and now retired school teacher, with a passion for photography and in particular the use of photoshop. Kerry not only gave us an introduction into aspects of basic photography, as he would with his year 8 students, he also had many images produced by his later students to show.

Wow, their artistic use of the camera, and photoshop, was inspiring to say the least. We are now ready to take the next step as artistic photographers. Just need a couple of models to strip off down by the river. Parasols will be provided, discretion assured.

Thanks a lot Kerry, greatly appreciated. So were the scones, jam and cream Gordon.

Previously we had ventured to Emerald bank where Autumn was showing its face. We wandered around, hither and thither, taking shots where we fancied, under Lex's guidance. Giverny, France, it was not quite, but still interesting. A lot of serious photography, along with a bit of tom foolery, made for a pleasant afternoon.

Here's a couple of shots taken by Lex at Emerald bank starring Kay, Richard and Muna



NATURAL RESOURCES & REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY JUNE 4, 10am U3A Hall

GUEST SPEAKER; Steve Wilson, Land & Biodiversity Team Manager GBCMA,

SUBJECT; After 6 years of research in East Java, I have completed my PhD on studying the ecology and conservation of the Javan White Rhino.

FRIDAY JUNE 11, 10am U3A Hall

PRESENTER; Barry Croke

SUBJECT; "Energy in our daily lives." The discussion will examine our personal energy requirements, then explore energy use in the wider world with some facts to help evaluate alternatives.

John Dainton mob. 0417 549 402 Barry Croke mob.0488 058 231

WALK AND TALK

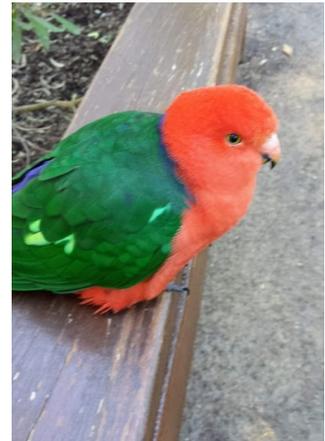
Benalla 9/6/21

Our next Walk and Talk will be to Benalla for a walk around the Lake and a walk around the CBD to see the wall art. We will depart from U2A at 9.00am and meet at the Benalla Botanical Gardens for morning tea before the lake walk. On our return to the gardens, lunch will be a BBQ sausages and bread provided and cooked by David. If you wish to bring your own sausages etc, I will be happy to cook them. After lunch, we will walk around the town to see the wall art. Some may choose to have a coffee at the Art Gallery before returning home.

Bendigo Botanic Gardens and Lake Weeroona

Leaving at 9.30am, nine of us arrived in Bendigo at the Botanic Gardens for morning tea. The weather was perfect for a walk through the gardens with plenty of stops for photos. The Bird Aviary was a one of many highlights with a number of parrots. We continued on to the "Garden for the Future" with two main themes: the "Around the World Garden", and the "Around Australia Garden". There is a stage, capable of hosting audiences of up to 2,000 people. Returning to our cars we drove to Lake Weeroona for lunch. We then had a 45 minutes' walk around the lake before heading home. Thanks to Denise Leffler for her leadership. We all had a great day.

David Taylor mobile 0412802427



WRITING4PLEASURE

Our writing group will meet in the Shepparton Library Meeting Room, as per usual. The numbers allowed to attend the Meeting Room have now risen from ten to twenty. Therefore, we welcome anyone who would like to join us. Our JUNE meeting will be 17th, starting at 1.00.

JUNE topics, provided by LYNDA, are:

1. DREAMING
2. MY FAMILY or – THE FAMILY
WORD - PERSPICACIOUS

QUOTE FOR THE MONTH:

"ONE DAY I WILL FIND THE RIGHT WORDS AND THEY WILL BE SIMPLE."

- Jack Kerouac

CONTACT: Lyn Austin. (Phone : 0468 312 602)

MONDAY LUNCH GROUP

On all four Mondays in June i.e. the 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th we will be dining at The Groove Train at 12 noon. The Groove Train is opposite Officeworks and backs onto the railway line. There is plenty of parking. Our group will meet in a quiet area at the back of the venue. Looking forward to seeing you there. Please ring Gail on 0400 531 856 if you have any queries.

BRIDGE NEWS

Bridge has rebounded well after COVID with good numbers on Monday Wednesday and Saturday afternoon. We are having a Lasagne night on Monday 31 May, 6pm start – 7pm for bridge.

Nick and Derek are playing at the VCC and Moonee Ponds super congress with friends from Ballina. This is the first face to face congress we have played in for over 18 months.

Our dealing machine has been serviced and now seems to be working well – and cards sets are all having a clean. We think the hand sanitiser is resulting in the cards becoming dirty and sticky – some more regular cleaning is required.

Derek has been holding youth classes at the library as part of the cards and chess for kids program.

We plan to run a class for new bridge players in September. We already have some interest for this class. Anyone that would like to learn to play bridge please contact Derek Poulton on 0418 559 263 or dcp,klp@gmail.com.

CREATIVE CRAFTS

It is great to see so many members coming to craft each Tuesday and willing to share techniques and knowledge of the many crafts available to us these days. There is also a lot of chatter and friendship. On May 11, we had 7 members have a go at English Paper Piecing - a patchwork technique. All seemed to have enjoyed themselves and I know a couple are going to extend their learnings. On June 1, Leonie is going to show us how to make Braided Rag Rugs. This is a great way to recycle old clothes and fabrics. You will need to bring: fabric scissors, small scissors, a crochet hook - Size 3 to 4 is best and any fabric (although stretchy and thicker fabrics are harder to work with). The photo gives an example of what you can do.

We meet each Tuesdays, 1 pm to 4 pm

Gael Thompson - 0458 215 794.



ECOLOGY AND FARM CONSERVATION

The Answer Lies in the Soil. Ecology continues on 23rd (10am) June with a look at what is going on below the surface. 'The Answer Lies in the Soil' was the satirical answer to any question in the radio comedy "Beyond the Ken", which some may remember. There is some truth in that. We now know that forest trees can be connected through their roots and thus transfer nutrients from one to the other. Some trees form an association with fungal Mycorrhizae to extract scarce minerals from the soil. Conservation of nutrients is an essential part of the ecology of our natural grasslands and woodlands.

Contact: Allan Wilson 0427 399 648

U3A QUIZ

Thirteen members enjoyed our May quiz, with the highlights being Judy's cryptic book titles and a music quiz. With clear playback via Bluetooth, we can enjoy more musical puzzles, so brush up on your favourite TV show themes. Guest quiz masters add exciting variety to the usual format, and regular members are encouraged to set us some different challenges. New members are always welcome. Our next session starts at 10am on Monday 21st June.

Susan McCarten 0437 215 130

You might be interested in this - Literature, Writing and Bookclub Groups

Bloomsday, Melbourne's Annual James Joyce Festival is returning, Covid permitting, to a grand mansion, Villa Alba, in Melbourne from 15-27 June. Audiences will be held to 18, to be in strict compliance with Covid rules.

Bloomsday in Melbourne returns to live theatre with a new immersive play, *Love's Bitter Mystery: The Year that Made James Joyce* written by Joyce buff Steve Carey. Set in the atmospheric post-gold-boom mansion and gardens at Villa Alba in Kew, the production focuses on a critical year in the young author's life and how he used episodes in his own life in his novels, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* and *Ulysses*. The play centres on a crucial period in the young author's life, 1902-1904, during which Joyce exiles himself from Ireland, travels to Paris, but is called home to spend time with his sick mother, and eventually, on the streets of Dublin and against the odds, meets Nora, the love of his life.

Bloomsday has once again secured Jennifer Sarah Dean of the Melbourne Shakespeare Company as Director. 'I'm so excited by the setting,' says Dean. 'You really feel you're right there in the room with the young Joyce and his fictional alter ego, Stephen Dedalus, as he experiences some of the most dramatic, formative, moving and intimate events of his young life.'

The play is part of Bloomsday in Melbourne's 28th annual celebration of Bloomsday, 16 June 1904, the date on which the action of Joyce's notorious novel *Ulysses* is set. There is also a seminar and an annual dinner on 16 June.

More information about the play and the festival is available at <https://www.bloomsdayinmelbourne.org.au>

BIRD WATCHING

Our June 16 outing will be a morning outing to the Wunghnu Common. Please meet at the U3A hall carpark for a 9am departure. Please contact Don Roberts 0448889224 or Marg Clarke 0429350875

The April outing was at the Goulburn River walk, west of the Vic Park Lake towards the junction of the Broken River and little further on to the railway bridge. We observed 35 species some of which were, White-browed Scrub-wren very uncommon in Shepparton, Brown and White-throated Treecreepers, Brown Goshawk, King Parrot, Little and Rainbow Lorikeets, Striated and Spotted Pardalotes, White-breasted Wood-swallows and Grey Butcherbird. Our May outing was at the Lower Goulburn National Park Bunbartha where we observed 26 species including Australian Shelduck, Jacky Winter, Peregrine Falcon, Weebill, Brown and White-throated Treecreepers, Grey Fantail, Spotted and Striated Pardalotes and Little Pied Cormorant.

Here are some photos from the U3A birdwatching group outing to the Lower Goulburn National Park at Bunbartha on the 19th of May.

The birds in the tree are female and male Australian Shelduck, the other a Jacky Winter.

The group is standing near a Silver Banksia, *Banksia Marginata*, one of several planted some years ago. It was good to see their growth since our last visit.

Marg Clarke



500 CARD GAME

Five hundred (500) will be running for a further 4 weeks on Tuesday afternoon at 4.00pm-6.00pm. We have had a great attendance so far with up to 4 tables at a time. It would be good to boost the numbers even further, so please feel free to come down and refresh your card playing skills that may be lying dormant.

Harry Lee 0400 770 972

U3A ANNUAL BUS TRIP

After a call for interest in a U3A trip for 2021, only 9 people responded, which is an insufficient number to arrange a trip.

Therefore, at the committee meeting on Wednesday the 19th it was decided to suspend the annual trip for this year.

As an option, Cardwell's Bus Company in Numurkah have some good trips on offer for this year. This would be an individual choice and not connected to U3A.

Thank you to those who responded with interest.

Regards
Ray Watt
Trip Co-Ordinator

SOCIAL MORNING

When: June 1st 10.00AM

Where: GV U3A Hall, 14 Esson Street.

You are all invited to hear Keith Twigg.

Keith is the son of a soldier settler in Yarroweyah. He left home to go rodeo riding at a very young age and became one of the best bull-riders in Australia. Keith returned to the Murray Valley where he married and had two children.

During the 1980's Keith took up the job of a professional fox shooter and spent many years working across the Nullarbor.

After retiring from fox shooting, he went into the building trade and vineyard contracting. Today he lives very happily in Barooga NSW.

Morning Tea \$2.50

COMMUNICATING WITH COMPUTERS

Whilst the title is "Communicating With Computers", I am also helping U3A members with phones, iPads and other tablets. Monday class numbers are quite variable, and there are sometimes places available. If you are having any issues, please contact me.

I thought the following might be of interest considering the large number of phone calls, text messages and emails I have been receiving lately. We've all had them. There are many people out there who are trying to prey on everyone else – **SCAMMERS**.

I have adapted the following from the Telstra Website. It mainly deals with phone calls, but also applies to emails and text messages. Have a read:

What is a scam phone call?

Telephone-based scam callers often claim to be from well-known organisations such as Telstra, the Government, or other brands or organisations you are likely to have heard of.

These scam callers will often try to convince you of the urgent need to follow their instructions. Sometimes they will try to convince you to give them access to your computer remotely, such as when pretending to be a Telstra employee. Often, they will apply inappropriate pressure, including threats and potentially inappropriate language, as part of their scam.

What to look out for:

- Calls from people impersonating employees from well-known organisations, such as the Government, or familiar brands and companies.
- Calls seeking financial details, such as your credit card or banking details, in order to process a refund or other 'overpayment'.
- Call quality may be poor, and the caller may be difficult to understand.
- Callers which attempt to apply a lot of pressure, urging you to take immediate action to address a problem.
- Calls offering to place a number on the Do Not Call Register for a fee. This is a free service.
- Callers advising that your computer has a virus or is attacking others.
- Please note, organizations won't call you for a service or technical matter unless you contact them first. To find out what Telstra will contact you for, refer to our verification page.

Example of scam phone calls:

- Calls imitating the Australian Federal Police that require your assistance to help them track down criminals and partake in criminal investigations. In these calls you're often asked to transfer money overseas using international money transfer services.
- Calls asking for bills to be paid via prepaid gift cards – such as iTunes and Westfield – on behalf of a credit agency representing Telstra or the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).
- Calls imitating support desk staff looking to access your computer by pretending to know your CLSID. This is a non-unique identifier which scammers try to pass off as something only a legitimate support person would know.

What to do next:

- If you are not sure that the person on the other end of the phone actually is who they say they are, hang up and call the organisation by using their official published contact details.
- If the caller is claiming to work for any organization, **do not** share your personal information, credit card or online account details over the phone, **unless you made the call and the number you called came from a trusted source**, such as the contact details provided on your bill.
- **Do not** respond to missed calls from numbers you do not recognise. Calling back may result in instant charges in excess of \$20.
- Be wary of phone numbers beginning with '190'. These are charged at premium rate and can be expensive.
- Be careful of being tricked into calling expensive international phone numbers.
- If you think something is not quite right, just hang up. If it is an SMS or email, delete it and do not reply.
- Report it. Submit a Report Misuse of Service form and include as much detail about the call and caller as you can remember.

Make sure you have a good virus checker on your computer. If in doubt, or it causes you stress, hang up or delete. **Do not respond to anyone you don't know!**

David Muir

0414881369

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 633 000 Account number 127742898

Trip account: BSB 633 000 Account Number 129896049