

BALLARAT

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

April 2019

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CLASSROOMS & OFFICE

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CLASSROOMS: EASTWOOD LEISURE COMPLEX,
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BALLARAT, 3350

Public Officer: Ros McArthur 14 Aryvale Avenue, Lake
Gardens 3355
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ABN 3371 3445 856

MEETING DATES

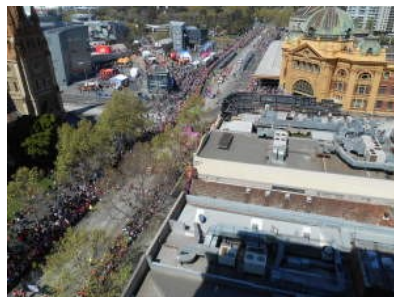
EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

monthly on the **1st Wednesday**
9.30 am; Feb to Nov. BNCC

DIARY DATES 2019

Fri Apr 5	School Holidays Begin
Tues Apr 23	Term 2 Commences
Fri Apr 26	Melbourne Rooftop Walk 8:13 Train—FULL
Mon May 6	So You Want to be a Tutor 3—4 pm BNCC
Tues May 7	Coffee/Tea/Chat with Phill 10 am Café InExterior
Wed May 15	New Member Morning Tea 10:30-11:30 am BNCC

Melbourne Walks – On Top of Melbourne – Friday 26 April



ADVENTURE to historic high points of Melbourne, to discover hidden places, forgotten stories and rare views from high places. Access is often by mysterious routes, such as atriums, art deco buildings, galleries, car parks, attic studios, hotels, rooftop bars, office blocks – or wherever we can get to on the day.

The tour is led by experienced guide, historian and author Meyer Eidelson – we did this walk some years ago, and it is back by popular request. You will be standing and walking for 2 hours, so need average fitness, capacity to climb some stairs, and tolerance to lifts. This tour, not surprisingly, may not be suitable for height sensitive people. Regrettably this tour is not wheelchair accessible.

Meeting Point: Friday 26 April, 10:50am Bourke Street Mall in front of the GPO corner Elizabeth St.

This two hour walking tour of Melbourne is open to all U3A members and will cost each member \$25, to be paid on the day. Places are strictly limited and will be allocated on a first in basis. We will travel to Melbourne together on the 8:18 train (8:01 from Wendouree), arriving at Southern Cross at 9:39am. There should be time for a toilet stop, cuppa and tram to the meeting point. After the walk we can have lunch together before returning to Ballarat, or you can go your own way. All participants pay their own train fare.

The walk is full, but if you want to put your name on the waitlist, email Anne Ottrey at ottrey@ncable.net.au or phone 0422 963 985. Please provide a contact phone number and email (if available).

Bulletin Editor Elena Tommasi: Please send submissions by May 1 to elena.U3A@gmail.com.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



That volunteering is the core of U3A is one of the defining features and strengths of the organisation. It means that people are involved because they want to be involved. Regardless of the role, be it as student, tutor, office volunteer, Bulletin folder, committee member, everyone is a volunteer.

Tutors and activity leaders in particular play a pivotal role. They are the people who guide learning and participation. Often the task requires considerable preparation before each class or activity. For some of our tutors and activity leaders, the role of being an educator or an organiser is as natural as breathing. For others it's quite an effort to feel sufficiently prepared to face a class or activity.

Fortunately there are rewards for being a tutor or activity leader. They include the enjoyment of sharing an interest or passion, the enjoyment of working with appreciative students, and the appreciation of committee members and U3A members generally. So, while it is not appropriate to 'hug a tutor today', the 'catchiness' of the idea expresses a sentiment; it is appropriate to show your appreciation and support. A not-quite-so-catchy slogan might be expressed as, 'smile at, say hi to and thank a tutor today'.

Of course, the opposite is also true. Tutors or activity leaders do not need and do not deserve rudeness, grumpiness or unpleasantness. Criticism and nastiness are not helpful. In most cases, issues can be solved cooperatively, collaboratively and in a friendly manner in the class. If not, have a chat to the President or a Committee Member. (The President and Committee Members are, in effect, another U3A class. One of the roles of that class is to support tutors and students. That role is handled cooperatively and collaboratively within our U3A Ballarat Committee.)

Now, to return to a theme that readers may well have gleaned from previous Bulletins; we can always cope with more tutors and classes. Indeed, with our increasing number of members, a greater number of classes and activities would ensure that all members might have the opportunity to join their first-choice classes and activities.

To have been in the field of education before retirement is not a prerequisite for being a tutor. What is required is to have knowledge of or skills in or an interest in or a passion for a topic that can be shared with others who also want to learn or share that topic. Keep in mind that there is a range of ways of being a tutor or an activity leader. For those interested in being a tutor or activity leader, the next *So, you would like to be a tutor?* session will be on Monday 6 May in the Yellow Room at BNCC, from 3.00 to 4.00 pm.

The next opportunity for a casual coffee/tea and a chat in Café IneXterior (corner of Mair St. and Doveton St. North) will be Tuesday 7 May, at 10. am. Of course, anyone interested in chatting to the President before then can simply telephone (and even arrange a special coffee/tea/chat time), though with school holidays, I guess many will have 'grandparent duties' to enjoy.

In the meantime, enjoy the break and keep in touch with fellow U3A Ballarat members; at the time of writing this, it is only 'twenty three more sleeps' until U3A classes restart for the second term.

TERM 1 HOLIDAYS 6th April to 22nd April.
Classes resume on Tuesday 23rd April.

Check with your tutor for class arrangements during this break. Most classes do not run, but some do continue during the holidays.

Remember that roof works will be taking place at Ballarat North Community Centre and that the building won't be available.

There will be no activities at all at Ballarat North Community Centre during the holidays.
No classes, no New Member's Morning tea and no Office during this time.

Easter

We do not have classes at any venue on Good Friday and Easter Monday.

Anzac Day

There are no U3A classes at any venue on Anzac Day.

Class changes

1. **Current Affairs** has moved from BNCC to Eastwood Room 2.
2. There is a new Genealogy class – **Genealogy Group 2** to be taken by Miriam Peck in the Red Room at same time that John Olsen has his group in the Blue Room. That class started at the end of April.
3. **Ballarat History** which is to be run by Jack Engwerda will change from the originally scheduled Monday mornings Weeks 2 & 4, to Friday mornings Weeks 2 & 4, in the BNCC Hall, starting at 9.30am in Term 3 in July.

New classes.

1. **Jazzercise or Jazzalong** with Jen (Title to be confirmed). Will start in Term 3.

Do you find getting enough exercise is boring? In this class we use jazzy steps to music to make exercising enjoyable. You will be taught the steps and routines as we go, and you will get as much help as you need to learn them. However, the number of places is limited. This class also caters for people with limited mobility as the steps and routines can be adjusted to accommodate anyone who cannot stand up to do them.

For further information please call Robyn (Class Rep.) on 0433593271 or Jenny (Tutor) on 0418572228.

Enrolment will be via MyU3A or the Office soon.

2. U3A PERFORMANCE CHOIR with Geoffrey D'Ombra, Musical Director

The Tutor: Geoff D'Ombra holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Melbourne Conservatorium of Music and has had a lifelong career as a performer, composer, choral director and teacher. For many years he taught at Melbourne High School and later was appointed as Head of the Music Department at Melbourne State College (now part of the University of Melbourne) where he worked tirelessly as a music educator. In this role, he developed many innovative classroom and instrumental teaching programs to train specialist secondary music teachers. His later work at Pirra Arts Centre near Geelong included the creation and staging of many diverse performances and workshop events within the community. These events embraced music, dance, theatre, poetry, puppetry and the visual arts. Geoff has a passion for contemporary and electronic music, but is also a talented multi-instrumentalist and singer, and performs regularly in a variety of media and venues.

The Course: Weekly rehearsals will focus on learning SATB choral works across a variety of genres and will include both *a capella* and accompanied pieces. The aim is to build a repertoire of works to a proficient standard and to present these in regular performance situations within various settings in the Ballarat area. The intention is that the class will be both challenging and rewarding, as well as being a fun activity, and may also provide opportunities to link forces from time to time with other musical groups.

This course will commence on **Tuesday 30th April 2019**. It will be held every Tuesday during term time from **11.30am to 1.00pm at the Ballarat North Campus, BNCC, in the hall.**

Prerequisites for Performance Choir membership: Because of its performance emphasis, this class is intended for experienced SATB singers who have sound music-reading ability. As part of the enrolment process for this course, each member will be asked to submit a completed Background Questionnaire (available preferably by emailing Judy, see email address below, or if you do not have access to email, by ringing Judy 0421 339 439 between 2pm and 4pm only please), and may be required to pass an audition.

You can enrol at the U3A Office, or online at MyU3A after you have contacted Judy and have been accepted into the choir.

For initial inquiries, please contact Judy D'Ombra at: jdombrain@bigpond.com

Some people may wish to join both choirs so long as they satisfy the prerequisites.

3. How to Write Computer Programs (retired Computer Engineer here) - Ken Morrissey

The course will cover how to analyse real-world situations so they can be translated into a computer program, how to develop the logic, and how to code that logic into a computer program. It will be very hands on, not theoretical, so we will be creating programs right from the start, and it's not just about computing, it's also about critical thinking, logical planning, and a systematic approach to problems.

We would use the programming language Python, initially through internet web sites, but leading to the ability to write programs on your own computer. People would need to have a proper laptop, Linux, Windows, or Mac doesn't matter, they would all work, but tablets would not be suitable. They would need to know the basics of how to use it (ie. these aren't help sessions like Kerry's 'Computing'), but they don't need any previous knowledge of programming techniques or languages. Some basic math skills would also be helpful, just basic stuff like they know the difference between 'multiply' and 'add'. And there will be 'homework'!

This class will begin in Term 3 - day, time and venue to be advised. Look out for the course on MyU3A. It will be added in a few weeks.

4. There will also be a class coming up soon about Financial Matters for retirees. More information in the next bulletin.

Reminder of the other classes that will commence in Term 2.

These classes are already on MyU3A and students have already enrolled.

These include Knitting and Crocheting (23rd April), Lead Lighting (8th May), Genetics (4th June), Human Evolution (14th May), Cultural Capital (2nd May). Yoga Beginners (24th April)

New Term 2 groups will commence for Retrosurbia (29th April), Introduction to iPads (23rd April in the Red Room at BNCC), Bates Method of Vision Improvement (24th April)

Accompanist for our U3A Choristers.

Would you like to join our U3A Choristers by becoming their accompanist? You need to have had experience in accompanying choirs on a keyboard. If you are interested, please contact Denise Grant deniseu3a@hotmail.com

Enrolling in classes

If you wish to enrol in a class, please do not contact Denise Grant. To enrol you either do it online through MyU3A or you visit the Office at Ballarat North Community Centre in Walker Street North Ballarat (opposite the Golf Hotel).

Denise Grant

Class Coordinator

Deniseu3a@hotmail.com

Wanted - ACCOMPANIST for U3A CHORISTERS

The U3A choir is seeking the services of an accompanist . Rehearsals are Tuesdays 2pm till 3.30 followed by afternoon tea .

If you have good piano skills and love playing this will be a great opportunity to work with Constance Coward Lemke one of Ballarat's experienced musicians .

The choir are all enthusiastic and young at heart who enjoy their singing

Please contact Connie 0407860334 to have a chat or email constance.lemke@bigpond.com

Tutors...

- Do get your role on MyU3A up to date for the end of term. Remember that if you have a new member join during the term and you add them to MyU3A now, they will only appear on the Term 2 role. This is why we urge you to add new members to your class as they arrive.
- Also delete any members who are on your role and have not appeared at all during their term – unless, of course, they have apologised.
- If you want assistance doing any of this, the office will be open on April 29. Or you can email me – ninan06@bigpond.com

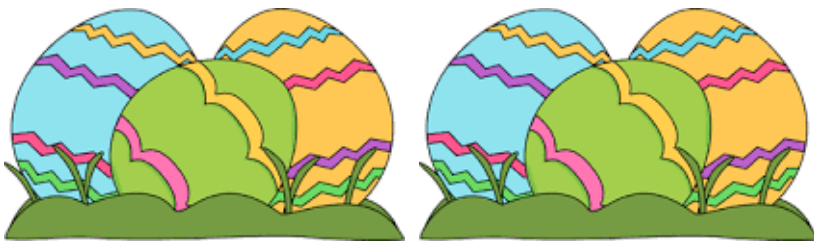
Members....

- Flu season coming around again – make sure you have your flu injection. If you have a cold and a cough, please don't go to classes. However, if you have a perpetual cough as a result of a previous cold, explain this to the class so they know you are not infectious.
- Our numbers continue to grow – 1,213 is the latest count! It is wonderful that we keep having members willing to take a class – so the number of classes is growing also – 145 to date!
- Please help your Class Reps by apologising if you are unable to attend a class, and also check, if your class is the last in BNCC or another venue where we have to lock up – that someone stays with the 'key' person until they have locked up.

A very big welcome to all the new members We hope you are enjoying your classes.

If you haven't collected your lanyard and name tag or your welcome morning tea letter, please call at the office. You should wear your lanyard and name tag to all classes as it lets the other people using the building know you are 'legitimate'.

This also applies to long time members whose name tag sometimes inextricably disappears, or gets washed or the dog ate it etc etc.



too many Easter Eggs

Enjoy your Easter break and don't eat

Nina Netherway

PO Box 1184

Bakery Hill 3354

Ph: 5309 1771

Ninan06@bigpond.com



CoB putting the final touches on the blue metal base in the carpark today 5 April - next the bitumen to finish the job



Just add water - and the BNCC carpark is ready for the final layer of bitumen 5 April



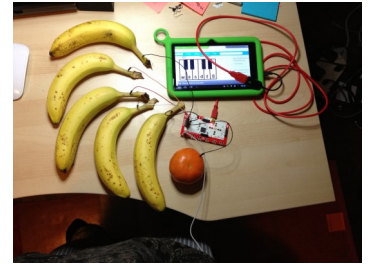
One project ends and the next begins on Monday 8 April - the removal and re-roofing on BNCC

'BEYOND THE HORIZON' TECHNOLOGY SESSION

Mt Clear College Earth Ed Centre has offered us the opportunity to participate in an '**Earth Ed Technology session**' on Weds 22 May between 2.30 and 3.30 pm at the Mt Clear College Earth Ed Centre, Olympic Ave Mt Clear. This will be a 'hands-on' session introducing our members to advanced technology that is currently being offered to the younger generation in these technology centres. The group size would be limited to 18 members enabling three groups of six people to be introduced to three major areas of technology:

- Virtual Reality
- Robotics and coding robots
- Creating a controller using a Makey Makey*

***Makey Makey:** An Invention Kit for Everyone is an electronic invention tool that allows users to connect everyday objects to computer programs. Using a circuit board, alligator clips, and a USB cable; it uses 6 to send the computer either a keyboard stroke or mouse click signal. This function allows the Makey Makey to work with any computer program or does not exist)" webpage that accepts keyboard or mouse click inputs.



DIVERSION FOR APRIL



There were no winners for the last diversion which was in November and so long ago I can't remember what it was. This is not that difficult so I expect answers!

To win the pleasure of solving a puzzle, the question for April is: **where in the world is?** Answers can be sent to Elena Tommasi at elena.u3a@gmail.com

ANOTHER DIVERSION FOR APRIL

Congratulations to our successful un-scramblers for working out the word ANCESTRAL. Another solution was LANCASTER, but on deferring to our mystery word mangler it seems that place names are 'on the outer' as far as solutions are concerned. Luckily, the person who created 'Lancaster' also had 'ancestral' as a solution. The successful un-scramblers are: Tania Gaunt, Michelle Parker, Alison Owen, Esther Field, Pauline Quirk and Annie Watson.

Now, for March and for the glittering glory of success, this month's word is

C I L F N E L E U

To be in the running for absolutely no fabulous prizes, just the glory of solving a puzzle, solutions should be sent to grantphillip@hotmail.com

Do you have a U3A Choir scarf or bow tie?

The choir will be performing at the Ballarat Choral Festival, so if any former choir members still have their scarf or bow tie, I'd really appreciate it for our new members. Either drop it in to the office, at choir (Tuesdays BNCC 2pm-3.30pm) or contact me, Elizabeth Bren at quilthog@hotmail.com Thanks.

U3A LIFE MEMBERSHIP (2019) – BACKGROUND & PROCESS

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

To be eligible, a nominee must have been a member of, or have had a close association with U3A Ballarat, for at least 10 years and Life Membership, is highly selective and restricted in any one year. It is intended that a maximum of 2 Life Memberships be awarded in any AGM or within the year between AGMs.)

The process for nominating a member for Life Membership would be open to any financial or Life member of U3A Ballarat.

A Life Membership Sub-Committee of 4 members, made up of 2 males and 2 females from the Ballarat U3A Committee would consider and recommend to the whole Committee, worthy recipients for Life Membership.

a) Procedure for Nominating & Granting Life Membership

- i. Nominations for Life Membership, on the appropriate form (see form attached), need to be fully completed and lodged with the Committee Secretary, no later than Weds 7th May 2019.
- ii. Completed Nominations forms are passed on to the current U3A President, chair of the Life Membership S/C.
- iii. The S/C must consider each Nomination against the Life Membership criteria. (The S/C may request additional information from the nominator to assist deliberations.)
- iv. The S/C may determine in any one year to recommend there be no Life Memberships awarded, under the circumstance that none of the nominations have adequately met the criteria.
- v. At the Committee meeting of 3rd July, the S/C should make its recommendations to the full Committee, together with reasons for specific recommendations. A recommendation for Life Membership requires majority support from the Committee.
- vi. It is imperative, that all discussions at both Committee and S/C levels, regarding specific recommendations for Life Membership, are conducted in strict confidence.

b) General Principles to consider in granting Life Membership

- i. Life Membership is a great honour; it should not be treated lightly and should be awarded sparingly, with a maximum of 2 awards at any AGM or within the year between AGMs.
- ii. Life Memberships should not be considered as a competitive matter and nominees must be considered individually on their personal attributes and achievements.
- iii. Life Membership should be reserved for those whose contribution goes beyond the ordinary or even the excellent, for an extended period of time.

c) Criteria for Selection of Life Membership

Granting Life Membership is a balancing exercise. While criteria are provided for guidance, it is the overall contribution of the nominee that must be evaluated. Each nominee's strengths against the criteria will vary. Life Members do not have to meet all 6 criteria; it is up to the Life Memberships S/C to weigh up the strengths of each candidate.

- i. A minimum of at least 10 years membership of, or equivalent association with U3A Ballarat.
- ii. An exceptional contribution in positions or responsibilities held over an extended period. (It is essential here, that a nominee's ***conspicuous distinguished voluntary service*** is clearly and specifically identified.)
- iii. A demonstration of the extent to which a nominee has worked actively and positively in the best interests of other class members and/or the broader membership of U3A Ballarat.
- iv. The extent to which the nominee has contributed in an exceptional manner to the growth and public perception of U3A Ballarat, over an extended period.
- v. The nominee will have provided outstanding leadership at the class, function or wider organisation level.
- vi. The nominee has represented U3A Ballarat with distinction on a range of community groups.

As there are limited places for this session, it is essential that you register your interest with me, John Olsen on 0409372200 or olsen44@bigpond.net.au as soon as possible. A great opportunity to see something of the next generation of computer technology, beyond the experience of most of us.

Note: Years of membership, attendance and class participation, in themselves would not make a member eligible for Life Membership; the above criteria emphasise the extent to which a nominee has worked on behalf of the promotion and operation of U3A Ballarat.

d) Benefits of Life Membership

- i. Unlike all other categories of Membership, Life Memberships do not lapse at the end of each calendar year.
- ii. Life Members are entitled to all benefits of full financial members, including the right to vote at all U3A forums.
- iii. For the term of Life Membership, the recipient pays no annual enrolment fee, but is to be regarded as holding the same rights as members who have paid fees.

e) Examples of sustained and conspicuous distinguished voluntary service

Note that this service, which may have been in many different forms, should have been sustained over an extended period of time.

Such service may include – as a tutor, class representative, Committee member, as a holder of responsibility at any level of the organisation, representing U3A Ballarat on local, regional and State forums, etc. (The service should reflect the notion of working on behalf of others within the organisation; mere Important Dates in the Process:

- Early April Bulletin: Call for Nominations to Life Membership
- Weds 7 May: Close of Nomination period. Completed Nominations should be in the hands of U3A Secretary, Ros McArthur.
- May/June: Nominations considered by Life Membership sub-Committee.
- Weds 3rd July: Recommendations of Sub-Committee brought to full U3A Committee for consideration.
- Weds 7th Aug: Committee - Further consideration of recommendations (only if required).
- Thurs 22nd: Awarding of Life Memberships at 32nd AGM.

If you would like to nominate someone for a Life Membership, please fill out and submit the form on the next pages.

COMPLETION OF A NOMINATION FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

To be eligible, a nominee must have been a member of, or have had a close association with U3A Ballarat Inc., for at least 10 years and during that time rendered sustained and conspicuous distinguished voluntary service.

Instruction:

- Please print clearly.
- Attach additional information or supporting evidence if required.

Criteria which need to be addressed:

- i. A minimum of at least 10 years membership of, or equivalent association with U3A Ballarat.
- ii. An exceptional contribution in positions or responsibilities held over an extended period. (It is essential here, that a nominees' *conspicuous distinguished voluntary service* is specifically and clearly identified.)
- iii. A demonstration of the extent to which a nominee has worked actively and positively in the best interests of other class members and/or the broader membership of U3A Ballarat.
- iv. The extent to which the nominee has contributed in an exceptional manner to the growth and public perception of U3A Ballarat, over an extended period.
- v. The nominee will have provided outstanding leadership at the class, function or wider organisation level.
- vi. The nominee has represented U3A Ballarat with distinction on a range of community groups.

Privacy:

These personal details are being collected by U3A Ballarat Inc. for the sole purpose of assessing the nominee's eligibility for Life Membership. This information will be disclosed to the U3A Committee for the same purpose. These details will not be disclosed to any third parties and you have the right to access the information held about you by U3A Ballarat Inc.

This Nomination for Life Membership of U3A Ballarat Inc. is being made on behalf of:

Full Name of Nominee:

Proposer:	Proposer's Signature:
Seconder:	Seconder's Signature:

Summary of Nominee's sustained and conspicuous distinguished voluntary service

In the space below, please summarise the nature of the Nominee's *sustained and distinguished service*, using the criteria as outlined on the previous page. (Be specific re the Nominee's contribution to U3A Ballarat.)

Office Use Only

<u>Nominee:</u>	<u>Proposer:</u>	<u>Seconders:</u>
<u>Recommendation of S/C</u>	<u>Affirmative/Negative (Circle)</u>	<u>Date:</u>
<u>Resolution of U3A Committee</u> <u>Affirmative/Negative (Circle)</u>	<u>President's Signature:</u>	<u>Date:</u>

Completed Nomination Forms must be handed in to U3A Secretary, Ros McArthur by Weds 7th May 2019

VALES

Jill Craggs

Members, past and present, were saddened to hear of the death on Feb 6 of long time member Jill Craggs. Jill had lived with Diabetes and its complications for many years but always remained positive and philosophical. She brought the benefit of her experience as a well travelled trained nurse to our meetings and her frank, insightful and often humorous contribution to our discussions will be missed. Every book has a last page but we all regret reaching "The End" of a particularly good one. These, like Jill, we remember.

Viktor Sheludko

We were also saddened to hear of Viktor Sheludko's passing. Vicktor was a U3A Ballarat member of the Science Class, and an enthusiastic contributor to the Ballarat community. He will be missed



Chris Hindhaugh putting the finishing touches on the cables and cords at BNCC



Terry Dixon doing his "woodworking magic" installing the new shelves in the BNCC Yellow and Green Rooms Friday 5 April



Anne Ottrey organizing Meryl McLeod's donation on the new shelves at BNCC



Beginnings of a woven paper basket project from the Book Folding and Paper Crafts class.

CLASS NOTES

The next Bulletin deadline;
Wednesday 1 May 2019 to
Elena Tommasi, PO Box
2058, Bakery Hill, 3354 or
elena.U3A@gmail.com

BALLROOM DANCE Lorraine-Amour Chambers, Class Rep

Please note. There will be NO new enrolments term two.

The Ballroom Dancing Classes, both Beginners and Improvers have really taken off with the learning of new dances each week with the teaching of our very capable tutors.

As our dancing improves, we become more confident about attending local dances, which opens up a whole new opportunity to meet new people.

Twice a year a Tea Dance is held at the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre Hall.

The Ballarat U3A have joined with the Creswick U3A to enjoy this bi-annual Tea Dance Over the past four years the proceeds from this event, have made it possible to purchase new blackout blinds for the hall, which makes dancing much more pleasurable without the sun blaring into our eyes. Well done to the organisers.

We encourage everyone to come along and enjoy these Tea Dance afternoons, a fun filled time and an afternoon tea fit for a queen is ensured.

The next two will be held on Saturday 25th May and Saturday 26th October. 2pm - 6pm at the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre hall.

Entry \$10 (includes 6 raffle & door prize tickets) A plate of afternoon tea to share please.

“To be shure, to be shure.”

Having our class a day after St. Patrick’s Day didn’t prevent our spirited U3A Dancers from celebrating the great Irish tradition. Our tutors had us adapting our normally sedate Palma Waltzes and Evening 3 Step to “proper” Irish capers.

Lots of fun. No Guinness though.



BEGINNER RECORDERS, Mary Melcherts, Tutor 5338 4654

We have three places in the Beginners Recorder and we welcome new members. Some instrumental experience and some sight reading are a big help. Remember we are only reading the Treble Clef. The group is making great progress and the newcomers in 2019 have some time together before the second year group arrive and we have an overlap. The arrangement is working well. We have a lot of fun and we mostly make musical music! We join in with the Friday U3A group for the last day of term, give them a short recital and join in the large ensemble with some pre-prepared work.

BOOK CLUB 2, Yvette Nesire-McNeil, Facilitator 0434 630 456, Helen McDowell, Class Rep 0407 347 779

In March we reviewed, *Bring Up the Bodies*, by Hilary Mantel.

This book is the sequel to *Wolf Hall* and describes the Court of Henry VIII during the last nine months of his marriage to Anne Boleyn, as seen through the eyes of Thomas Cromwell, the King’s Secretary General. There are uncanny parallels between Henry’s Court and the intrigues and fluid loyalties of today’s political leaders. An enjoyable read though somewhat challenging, given the multitude of characters.

A tad slow initially, it eventually picked up pace and carried the reader along at the almost indecent haste that mirrored the last three weeks of Anne’s life.

The writing style is descriptive, the story complex, characters well fleshed out and credible, literally and historically. Definitely a book for lovers of historical novels.

Recommended read. 8/10



Phill Grant’s German Class

This month we reviewed, *Reading Lolita in Tehran* by Azar Nafisi.

This book is a memoir of Azar's life whilst teaching Western Literature at several Universities in Tehran during the period leading up to, and including, the Islamic Revolution and the war with Iraq. Expelled for disobedience from The University of Tehran, Azar continued to meet with seven of her brightest, female students in her home where they discussed the forbidden novels, *Lolita*, *The Great Gatsby* and *Pride and Prejudice*.

Azar argues that it is the power of literature that provides an "imaginative space" for the students to question the world in which they live and we soon discover an undercurrent of courage, anger and rebellion, evinced by small acts of defiance, resentful compliance and, through these books, a taste of "The Great American Dream".

Whilst sometimes weighed down by literary references and intellectual self indulgence, this book invites the reader to examine the parallels between the Islamic world and the Western world view, and is a pertinent reminder of how precious is the right to choose and the ordeal that freedom and choice bring.

A challenging but informative read. 7/10

Our next book is: *Kings in Grass Castles*, by Mary Durack.

BUSHWALKERS Laraine Gunning and Lynne Fenton, *Class Rep*.

May 9th--Woodend. The walk is a loop which is partly in town streets and partly on walking tracks at the edge of town. It is mostly flat but there are a couple of small hills. The distance is 7 kilometers. Code B. Leaders David and Bill.

Bring morning tea and lunch.

May 23rd--Skipton Rail Trail. This will be led by Joyce, Michael and Greg. Details will be on the Blog at later date.

Note---Meet at Llanberris Netball Courts parking area 9.20 A.M for 9.30 A.M start

Code A-- easy, approx 5 to 7kms mainly flat. Code B-- medium, approx 7 to 10 kms undulating. Code C hard, steeper ascents and descents. B/L bring lunch. For walk details and photos from past walks please go to our Blog at: <http://bushwalkersu3aballarat.blogspot.com.au>

CLASSIC CINEMA Kerren Thorsen, *Class Rep* 5338 2607

April 30 The Flavour of Green Tea Over Rice 1952 Japan Dir: Juzo Yasujiro 110 mins

This fascinating film depicts a variety of marriages in post-war Japan

May 14 Guess Who's Coming to Dinner 1967 USA Dir: Stanley Kramer 103 mins

A classic story of interracial romance in 1960s USA, considered by many to be a masterpiece of modern cinema. An all -star cast including Sidney Poitier, Katherine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy.

Please be seated ready for a 1.30 start

DINING OUT GROUP Anne McKee 0403 079 216 or anneianmckee@ozemail.com.au

The May lunch will be held at the Barkly restaurant, corner of Main Road and Barkly St, Ballarat. on Sunday 19th May. Please let Anne or Ian know if you are or are not coming on either 0403 079 216 or anneianmckee@ozemail.com.au by Friday 17th May. And please remember to wear your name tags.

HIKING GROUP

18th April Nolan's Creek Picnic Ground to Specimen Hill

2nd May Specimen Hill to Blackwood.

This group currently has 38 enrolled and has two vacancies.

LITERATURE, Robyn McKnight, Tutor 03 5334 4753

Our class will be meeting only on 4th April this month due to school holidays and Easter. Members are asked to bring along a book they have enjoyed and recommend. This class will be lead by Helen Currucan.

NORDIC (POLE) WALKING, Pat McCarthy, Tutor 0467 852 759, Mike Maloney Call Rep 5330 1334

In April we are walking along part of the Yarrowee River Trail. We meet at the car park just over the bridge on Springs Road, off the Ballarat-Dean Road.

In May we will continue along the Trail, to the Gong Reservoir. We will meet at the first car park in the Gong reserve.

For more information call Mike Maloney 5330 1334 / 0413 971 951 or email: maloney28@southernphone.com.au

RETROSUBURBIA, Stephen Burns, Tutor 0409 551 539

The U3A Retrosuburbia book club is a discussion group focusing on practical sustainability. We have multiple copies of David Holmgren's new book Retrosuburbia which are loaned to members for the term. (David was one of the co-developers of permaculture in the 1970's and lives in Hepburn). Each week, we read a few chapters of the book then discuss questions raised by those chapters. Topics have included food growing at home, community gardens, produce swaps, efficient housing and transport, seed saving, social structures, renewable energy and personal behaviour change. We also watch great short YouTube case studies (mostly from Victoria), talk about what we are each doing at home and share hints & tips, plus information on local groups or events. Each club runs for one term only, so please consider booking in for next term!



Walkers and Coffee, John Elischer, Class Rep 0421 341 288

Walks start 10am sharp. 1st & 4th Wednesdays

24th April Midvale Shopping Centre front of coffee shop

1st May I Made It Cafe 113 Albert St Sebastopol

22nd May Lake Esmond, Larter Street - coffee Zagames

5th June Victoria Park, cnr Russell & Eyre Sts - coffee Bluestone cafe, Cnr Drummond & Urquhart Sts



More pictures of Phill Grant's German class. Das macht Spaß und wir lernen so viel!

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U3A

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Bakery Hill, Vic 3354

U3A BULLETIN

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