



the BULLETIN

February 2023

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CLASSROOMS

BALLARAT NORTH CAMPUS, BNCC

702 Walker St, Ballarat North 3350

EASTWOOD LEISURE COMPLEX

20 Eastwood St, Ballarat 3350

HUT 48, AIRPORT

SELKIRK STADIUM

989 Norman St, Wendouree 3350

OFFICE

BALLARAT NORTH CAMPUS, BNCC

Tuesday 9.30 – 11.30

Wednesday 10 – 12:00

Thursday 1.00 – 3.00

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COMMITTEE MEETINGS

BNCC 9:00 am

1st Wednesday, Feb to Nov

BULLETIN LEE ALBERT

u3aballaratbulletin@gmail.com

Next issue deadline: March 3 2023

WANTED

MORE TUTORS!!

OUR WAITING LISTS ARE TOO LONG!

CAN YOU OFFER A COURSE?



Isn't it great to be back again in our classes, see all our friends and get our brains going again!!!! I do hope new U3A members have enjoyed their first U3A class – it is always daunting to go into a group of people who may have been meeting in a class for some years. Don't be put off as everyone in the class is there for a purpose - the same purpose as you, so there is a lot of common ground to talk about. That I find is the wonderful thing about U3A classes – there is always something you can have a chat to someone about – even if it's to discuss how fit you will be tomorrow after an activity class – always a worry until your body gets used to the unusual activity!!

If you have not been accepted into a class yet, please don't panic as often members realise they have been a bit ambitious in their class selection and find they can't fit everything in, so vacancies occur. It's always a good idea to contact the tutor also. If you only joined to get into that one class and now find it's full, please try and find something to have a go at – I did that when I first joined and couldn't get into a class I really wanted – so I did something quite outside my comfort zone and stuck at it for a number of years and really enjoyed it.

Our Tutors came together for an information session on Monday – it was wonderful to see a hall full of Tutors and Class Reps preparing for their year. Without these dedicated people we would not have a U3A. So be kind to your tutor!

We are proposing to run a Summer School next January and would love someone to put their hand up to volunteer to organise it. Helen is willing to assist but obviously will have enough on her plate organising normal classes for the year. So, if anyone would like to take up the offer please see Helen or myself. We also would like members to offer sessions at the Summer School – could be a one hour session on flower arranging, organising a walk, a travel talk, sessions on how to play a card game etc. If you would like to volunteer please let us know.

I have been asked about mask wearing – this is discretionary – we cannot mandate it but would highly recommend that when you are in a classroom you wear a mask. There are members who have health situations which makes them very vulnerable to COVID, so be thoughtful for these members. Open classroom windows and even though we do not have to have seats spaced out, we still need to take care.

This month we have some of our activities open to all members starting. These open activities are a chance for us to come together outside our classes and meet members from our large membership. They are great fun also! I will be spending all day today (Saturday) practising with the Quinta Recorder Group for our concert on 23 February. We have a travel talk coming up, a film luncheon, and more happenings in March. Don't forget the New Members Morning Tea on the third Wednesday morning of each month.

The good news we received is that our 'Shed' is a few more steps towards being built – the soil testing was good and the agreement with the Education Department has been signed. So hopefully we will see some action on the Specialist School site very soon. I am sure the woodworkers, mosaics and jewellery classes will be very pleased.

With all good wishes for a really successful and happy year.

Nina ninan06@bigpond.com

What's coming up??

New Members' Morning Tea Wednesday 15 February

BNCC 10:30-11:00

Come and meet others, both old and new members. All welcome!



Cappuccino and Chat! February 16, 10:00 am

Well, it's definitely time to get together again. There is undoubtedly a lot to catch up and so much to talk about. So, let's do it! President Nina will be there, along with a bunch of friendly U3A Ballarat members.

All members are welcome and there is no need to RSVP – just rock up, order a coffee and join the chat. Prospective members are also welcome. The sessions are a U3A Ballarat activity, but one for which no enrolment is necessary and there is no limit to the number of participants. (Though, despite the size of the Selkirk Stadium café, it might be a bit squishy if all 1000+ members turned up.)

The café is big and airy, and as such as Covid safe as we can make it. We are usually the only people present. Feel free to wear a mask if so desired.

Selkirk Stadium is at 989 Norman Street, Wendouree. It's easy to recognize, just look for the huge glass walls of the café. There is plenty of car parking in the grounds.

Phill Grant

grantphillip@hotmail.com

QUINTA –
U3A BALLARAT RECORDER QUINTET –
AND FRIENDS
invite you to attend
a
MUSIC
SOIREE
at BNCC (Ballarat North Community
Centre, [cnr](#). Walker and Armstrong [Sts](#), Ballarat
North)
on Thursday
February 23, 2023
at 2.30pm
with refreshments after

Our first Armchair Travel Talk on Iran

Wednesday March 1

Meadow Gardens Country Club, 10:00- 11:00

18 Cooina Dr, Delacombe.

Can you offer a talk? We'd love to hear from you!

Email u3aballaratbulletin@gmail.com



Swap Tables at BNCC



Saturday March 4 at BNCC 10:00-11:00

Bring anything you have grown or made; take anything you like!
No money needed!

Marvellous Melbourne Walk

Tuesday 7th March

Journey along the 'The Golden Mile' of Collins Street and experience 185 years of iconic Melbourne places. Explore iconic architecture from the 1850s gold rush to the 1880s land boom to the 2000s.

When visiting writer George Sala coined the term 'Marvellous Melbourne' in 1885, the 'Queen of the South' was the biggest and wealthiest city in the British Empire after London. Terms such as *New Gold Mountain* and the *Land of the Golden Fleece* described a city only 50 years old yet bustling with palaces of commerce, theatres, hotels, vaults, cathedrals, galleries, banks, artists, and stock exchanges.

The tour is led by experienced guide, historian and author Meyer Eidelson. You will be standing and walking for 2 hours, so need reasonable fitness.



Meeting Point: Tuesday 7 March, 10:45am at the corner of Spencer and Collins St outside Southern Cross station. The tour finishes near Parliament House near the corner of Spring and Collins St.

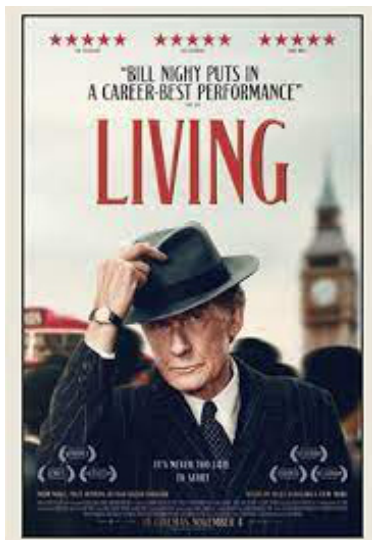
This two-hour walking tour of Melbourne is open to all U3A members and will cost each member \$25, to be paid on the day. **Places are still available, so contact Anne now.**

We will travel to Melbourne together on the 8:44 train (8:38 from Wendouree), arriving at Southern Cross at 10:11am. There should be time for a toilet stop and quick takeaway coffee before gathering at 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.

If you want to join the walk, email Anne Ottrey at ottrey@ncable.net.au or phone 0422 963 985. Please provide a contact phone number and email (if available).

Followed by.....



A great movie lunch opportunity!!

The Regent Cinema is offering us "Living" with Bill Nighy, on **March 22**

To book a seat, email

u3aballaratbulletin@gmail.com



To SECURE your seat, pay \$24 at the office.

NB: Arrival time is 12:00, screening time is 12:15

It is a little cold at first but you know, when it opens up, I cried, and I have no shame about that.

February 1, 2023 | Rating: A | [Full Review...](#)



tt stern-enzi
WXIX-TV (Cincinnati, OH)
★ TOP CRITIC

A little movie about big topics, Living takes on nothing less than life itself and features a quiet, note-perfect performance from Bill Nighy.

January 27, 2023 | Rating: A- | [Full Review...](#)



Adam Graham
Detroit News
★ TOP CRITIC

The quietly powerful Living defies expectations at every turn.

January 26, 2023 | Rating: 3/4 | [Full Review...](#)



Max Weiss
Baltimore Magazine
★ TOP CRITIC

Living is even further removed from the The Death of Ivan Ilyich than Kurosawa's film. It is even smaller and more intimate, and much of its suppressed wonder comes from a career-best performance from Nighy.

January 26, 2023 | Rating: 4/5 | [Full Review...](#)



Richard Whittaker
Austin Chronicle
★ TOP CRITIC

Hermanus' film is as reserved as its main character. It draws us in by viewing Williams at a respectful remove, in the same way a whisper encourages us to lean in to hear.

January 20, 2023 | Rating: 3.5/4 | [Full Review...](#)



Chris Hewitt
Minneapolis Star Tribune
★ TOP CRITIC

What I appreciate about this movie is how it's really about inertia... and it doesn't pretend inertia is easy to defeat.

January 18, 2023 | [Full Review...](#)



Amy Nicholson
FilmWeek (KPCC - NPR Los Angeles)
★ TOP CRITIC

Wow!! There is SO much on....Your social calendars will be full!

There are **more** opportunities for social outings at the talks listed on our second last page.



Now for some Admin Matters:

Classes have begun! I am sure that those of you like me who have started classes for 2023, are very pleased to be back. It is so good to see “old” and “new” faces arriving at the various venues to start the New Year. Make sure you are familiar with your venue and the location of the important things like the First Aid Kit, the EXIT doors etc. and, of course, the tea and coffee supplies.

And don't forget to wear your badge to class.

Enrolments

We now have 1059 enrolments. And just out of interest, **259** of those are men and **764** are women.

Normal Office hours will resume this week.

- Tuesdays 9.30 – 11.30
- Wednesdays 10.00 – 12.00
- Thursdays 1.00 – 3.00

Tutors please note:

- Your photocopy pin is the same as your ID number.
- Timetables for all venues are on the website on the Members Only page.
- The Tutor Portal button has been re-instated on the Members Only page of the website. It is also available on the Front Page of the website.

Other News The office has a new look. Drop in sometime and have a look! The Blue Room is looking more “lived in” with hangings on the wall made by members.

Mary Maloney. Admin and Membership Coordinator.



CLASS NEWS

Dining Out Group March 3 lunch is at the Brown Hill Hotel 385 Humffray St Nth at 12:00 noon

RSVP rosalind.wilkie49@outlook.com

Walkers and Coffee Tutor Chris Cullen Class Rep Ruth Nunn Mob: 0419 418 504

Walks start 10am sharp 1st and 4th Wednesdays 10am - 12 noon

February 22 Buninyong Gardens Scott St, Buninyong

March 1 Midvale Shopping Centre, Geelong Rd, Mt Clear

March 22 Golden Point Hotel, Cnr Main Rd & Elsworth St, Ballarat

NEW CLASSES

Ross Priddle has offered to take a Science Class. I have not yet received a description of the course but it will commence on Wednesday March 8th and be held on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 11:10-1:10 in Blue Room at BNCC. It will be on-line shortly.

Ross has also offered to conduct a Harmonica class. Details are still being arranged.

CLASS ALTERATIONS

Writing For Pleasure has moved to BNCC Blue Room on 2nd, 4th and 5th Tuesdays from 9:30-11:30

Printmaking has moved to ELC Room 1 on 1st and 3rd Thursdays and divided into two groups:

9:30-12:30 and 1:00-4:00

Amiamo L'italiano is now two classes: Class "Verde" is weekly on Monday in Red Room at BNCC from 3:30-5:00

Class "Rosso" will be weekly on Wednesday in Red Room at BNCC, time unconfirmed at present

If you have any questions regarding these groups contact the tutor or class rep

Helen Slater

Class Co-ordinator

So you think you'd like to be a tutor?

That's great to hear! New tutors are certainly welcome. New and old subjects and activities are also welcome.

Tutors may be experts, or teachers. But, bear in mind, the role of a tutor might also be that of an organizer, or a coordinator, or someone who wants to get together with others having a similar interest or hobby.

A friendly chat about being a tutor will be held on **Tuesday 28 February, 3:30 to 4:30 pm in the Yellow Room at BNCC** (702 Walker St., Ballarat North)

The purpose of the session is to talk about the different ways of being a tutor and how a class or activity might be started. There's no pressure – individuals might decide to start a class or activity, or the decision might be to dismiss the idea.

Phill Grant

grantphillip@hotmail.com

Language Tutors – a thought bubble – an invitation to express an interest

If U3A Language Tutors were saleable items, for example, like houses, they would command very high prices at the moment, based on the rules of 'supply and demand'. There just aren't enough of them. What can we do to meet the demand for language tutors?

It would be great if a flock of them suddenly appeared at the front door, offering to set up some more language classes.

Now, here's a 'thought bubble', one that is just begging for members to offer an opinion. Could we form one or more classes based on online or computer-based language learning software?

Let's deal with the bad news first. It could involve a cost to participants. To mention just two examples, **DuoLingo** has a free, online version of its software, in various languages. There is also a 'paid version'. **Rosetta Stone** is an example of language learning software which participants must pay to use.

The good news is that it might be a way of providing a chance for members who can't get into a U3A language class, to start or continue learning a language, in conjunction with other members.

How might it work? A group of members could decide to form a language class based on either a free or paid version of language learning software. During the week they would use the software to build up their language. Once a week they would meet to talk about what they have done, and perhaps to use the language they have learned.

Well, that's the 'bare bones' of the idea anyway. It would be great to hear from anyone who has an opinion to offer, or who might like to express an interest in being involved.

Phill Grant grantphillip@hotmail.com



We are currently seeking volunteers for ongoing, regular weekly shifts between 7:30am – 3:30pm.



We anticipate the minimum shift will be approximately 4hrs per week.

<https://www.travellersaid.org.au/support-us/volunteer/>

or contact

Lynda Russell Ballarat Site Supervisor Mobile: 0475 231 526

Travellers Aid Australia Ballarat Railway Station Lydiard Street North

Understanding Dementia Course

UNIVERSITY of TASMANIA



Dementia Research and Education Centre

It's FREE and you can enrol today

Course opens on Tuesday 7th February 2023

Duration is 7 weeks, with an estimated effort
of 3 hours per week

You can study day or night, on your smartphone, tablet or computer and receive a personalised certificate on completion

Course content includes how the brain is affected by the diseases that cause dementia, symptoms, diagnosis, stages and management, and personal and carers' perspectives of living with dementia.

Enrolments are now open at mooc.utas.edu.au

Could you spare some time to help serve breakfast to kids in need?

Carolyn Leach writes: Many children are sent to school without food for breakfast or lunch and it is contributing to the children not gaining an education as they are hungry and then inattentive and grumpy. This is extremely sad and sets the children up for a life of difficulty without gaining a great education that is at their fingertips.

I have ample food donations, I just require volunteers to help serve the food and manage it for only 45 minutes a day.

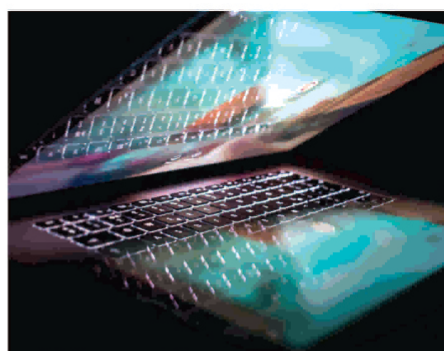
If you feel that this is help you could offer, contact Carolyn at: carolyn.l8@bigpond.com

FREEBIES

Help yourselves to RAT kits and masks from BNCC foyer!!

Our Tutors and Reps Information session was held on Monday Jan 30: great turnout!

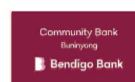




2023 Twilight Talks



Brought to you by: **Community Bank Buninyong**



Wednesdays at 5.30pm | 8 February – 8 March 2023

8 February – *The Red Planet & Ballarat's Lady Astronomer* | Greame Hood & Dr Anne Beggs-Sunter

15 February – *A regional Commonwealth Games & creating great teams* | Steve Moneghetti AM & Gerald Fitzgerald

22 February – *History: The Ballarat Club & Trades Hall* | Dr Phil Roberts OAM & Jenny Beacham

1 March – *Making a difference to Ballarat's homeless* | Ballarat Future Shapers & Michael Poulton

8 March – *Your data and how to protect it* | George Fong & Dr Omaru Maruatona

Tickets FREE | Bookings essential

ballaratmi.org.au/events

P: 5331 3042 | E: library@ballaratmi.org.au
117-119 Sturt Street, Ballarat



**BALLAARAT
MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE**

Word Diversion for February

A new year and new words, but first let's catch up with the kudos owing from last year's final diversion. Loads of kudos to Michelle Parker for solving Warwick's spreadsheet. The solutions dragged from the spreadsheet are BILATERAL and TRAILABLE. No solutions were received for Aunt Jessie's scrambled challenge, so she felt quite happy sipping an extra celebratory glass of champers, knowing that she had produced at least one word that defied the efforts of our expert unscramblers.

Shall we attempt to drive more people to distraction this year? Why not? Flushed with success (and champers), Aunt Jessie suggests R G E F A N A C R
Warwick submits the following spreadsheet.

N	K	G
S	C	L
I	B	A

NKGSCLIBA

Solutions please to Phill at grantphillip@hotmail.com

Prizes? Perhaps this year we should offer a sheep station? Perhaps a plaque to casually place on the dining room table as the guests arrive? Certainly kudos and smug self-satisfaction are on offer.

Remember: Masks & social distancing help keep us all safer!!

