

GOULBURN VALLEY University of The Third Age
Incorporation Number A0016950Y (For active semi-retired or retired persons of mature age)

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

APRIL 2018

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We sincerely thank the office of
Wendy Lovell for the printing of
this newsletter.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Barbara Brown

I'm very pleased to report that all the committee positions have been filled for the coming year. A warm welcome to our new committee members Vice-President Jan Maude, Secretary Anne White, Mary Heneghan and Ray Watt.



Back: Anne White, Greg Barnes, Ray Watt, Sally Parker
Front: Carole Trotter, Barbara Brown, Kerrie Midgely, Sue Walmsley

The Management Committee adopted the following policies:

1. No animals are to be brought into the Gvu3A Hall apart from genuine assistance dogs.
2. Members are not permitted to advertise private activities or activities run by outside organisations at meetings or in the newsletter unless it had been cleared by the Management Committee.

Rationale: It has been a long-standing practice to only advertise U3A matters at meetings and in the newsletter.

To clear up any confusion the practice has now been formalised as policy.

Message From the president continued:

Fee Increase:

The proposed recommendation to increase fees to \$60 per person was passed by a significant majority at the AGM. It will take effect from January 2019.

The Annual Trip to the Snowy Mountains leaves on Monday. We wish them a lovely holiday enjoying new scenes and social time together.

30th Anniversary Lunch and History Book Launch:

The Celebration Lunch is not set as yet but is scheduled to be between late June – late August. The history Book will be launched at the Lunch. If you are interested in helping to organise the Celebration Launch or assisting with gathering material for the History Book please contact me or any committee member. Any photos you have would be most welcome.

U3A Co-ordinators' Workshop: 6 May - 7 May

Don't forget to put the date of the U3A Co-ordinators' Workshop into your diary. Whether you are a current co-ordinator or just a general member of U3A there will be something of interest. I understand that you may also billet members attending from other U3A's.

Until next month.

WRITING4PLEASURE:

We have quite a few new members since the beginning of the year. What we all want to know is **where are all the male writers??** We still have only one and I am not sure why. Is it because there is no interest, or is Shepparton bereft of male writers? Now is the time to join if you have an inclination toward writing either family history, fiction or miscellaneous short stories. Everyone is welcome.

Our book for 2017 has been published and there is some very good reading in it. It is a limited edition but there are a few copies left. The price is \$15 dollars each. Our next meeting will be on 19 April. The topics to choose from will be- 'Wish you could see me', or 'Surprise. We meet on the third Thursday of the month, 1pm to 3.30pm.

Would you like to see some of our work online? Go to www.GVU3A.com.au Under courses you will find us and just click on WRITING4PLEASURE.

Mary Heneghan. 58316997, 0400573985

BIRDWATCHING

Our outing on Wednesday 18 April will be at Loch Garry and adjacent Lower Goulburn National Park Bunbartha. Please meet at the U3A car park at 9am.

This is a morning only outing. Please contact Don Roberts 58252404/0448889224 or Marg Clarke 0429350875.

CREATIVE CRAFTS



One of our members, Jacuealine Want, recently taught us how to do Japanese Sashiko Embroidery.

Though a very simple technique, it's beauty lies in the complexity, and creativity of its application.....We have some very creativity members!

A big Thank You to Jackie for sharing her expertise!

There are a number of You Tube videos available to allow members to further expand their skills – for example [Sashiko for Beginners](#) (If you are receiving this newsletter via email. Click on this link to go to the site).



We enjoy sharing ideas. We meet every Tuesday from 1pm until 4pm. We bring whatever project we happen to be working on, (and these vary greatly) and chat as we work.

New members are most welcome

Sonja Muir, Co-Ordinator.

Computers/Facebook/Photobooks

Sessions in these courses will go into recess from Easter while we travel to catch up with friends and relations.

Recommencing:

Computers - 30 April

Photobooks - 26 April

Facebook - 3 May

David Muir 0414881269

WALK AND TALK

On **Wednesday April 11** our walk will be led by Ray Watt to Paradise Falls, Cheshunt. Meet at U3A car park at 8.15am for an 8.30 am start in shared transport. Bring morning tea to share and wear very good foot wear and clothing suitable for the weather. There will be a lot of time in the car and the 30 minute walk to the Falls is a rather steep 500m down from the car park and would be best done with a hiking stick to give extra support. The view of the Falls is said to be worth the walk down especially if it has rained by then and then there is the walk up again! Morning Tea will be at Whitfield and lunch will be at the Powers Lookout after the walk. Barbecued sausages and bread and salad will be available for everyone, but if you have special dietary requirements please bring your own lunch. The return trip will call in at the Kelly Tree which marks the spot where the shoot-out occurred between the Kelly gang and the Mansfield police, then via Benalla to Shepparton.



Our March walk was excellently planned and hosted by Beris McKemmish at her home for morning tea and lunch time. Thanks to Beris, Marg Clarke for the bird identifications, and Gerry Goonan and Wendy D'Amore from River Connect for taking us through the Boulevard Reserve to the Fish Ladder and telling us about the gliders and bats that live there and other interesting features. Gerry and Wendy are shown in the photo pointing out the silver wattles which provide food for the gliders.

Christine Wilson 5822 1474 Mob. 0428 399 648

SCIENCE MATTERS

This month Ray Pearson will take us into the world of encryption with a talk on numbers and cyphers. So many of our recorded communications use letters and numbers. Occasionally, we want to keep those communications secret and we engage in all sorts of strategies to encode them. Mary, Queen of Scots was one who tried encoding her willingness to usurp Elizabeth 1 as Queen of England. She and her followers just weren't very good at it, and she lost her head as a result.

We will look at the properties of letters, language and numbers and how these have been used over the ages and in today's very sophisticated cybersecurity industry.

We will learn what 00111111 represents and what you need to do to ensure your passwords are not too easily hacked.

In May we will take a trip to Mars. It is time for you to do your own research on what it will take for Homo sapiens to set up a colony on Mars. Please contact me if you are willing to be a participant (not going to Mars, but contributing a talk on your findings!)

Contact: Allan Wilson 5822 1474

NATURAL RESOURCES

FRIDAY APRIL 6, 10am U3A Hall

GUEST SPEAKER: Merrill Boyd Murray Darling Basin Authority Regional Engagement Officer.

SUBJECT: Merrill has a background in water politics and stakeholder engagement from the southern Riverina and the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District.

The presentation will include discussion on the social and economic report expected out in late April and on the Goulburn Valley diversion limits.

FRIDAY APRIL 13, 10am U3A Hall

GUEST SPEAKER: John Pettigrew, President of Goulburn Valley Environment Group

SUBJECT: 25 years of GVEG, the changing community values over that time and some of the current campaigns and concerns.

BUS TRIP TO YEA, Friday May 11

Bus departs Ford's Bus Depot Telford Drive Shepparton 8.30am returns approx. 5pm.

Inspect King Parrot Creek Revegetation Project at Strath Creek and a guided tour of Yea Wetlands and visit Yea Discovery Centre

Buy own lunch in Yea

Cost \$45

Money required by May 4 Natural Resources and Regional Development meeting **Contact John Dainton ph. 0358213881 or mob. 0410549502**

HISTORICAL STUDIES

The activity for April 9 is the Local Tour organised by John Dainton as detailed in the March Newsletter.

Contact: John Lawry jrlawry@bigpond.com or 58231704

OPERA APPRECIATION GROUP

8 people in 2 cars recently travelled to Wangaratta for the film of L'Elisir d'Amore by Donizetti. We all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The quickest 3 hours ever.

The next production is La Boheme by Puccini on Sunday April 22. Please let me know [preferably by email] if you would like to attend and if you can take your car although a ride is always available. Details of theatre time will be sent to you in the days just prior.

Madeline Dyer [dyerm979@gmail.com](mailto:dyer979@gmail.com)

SOCRATES CAFE

On Monday April 23 at 10.00 am John Dainton will introduce the open discussion on "Free Will". All welcome

Contact: John Lawry jrlawry@bigpond.com or 58231704

CANINE CAPERS

Next "walkies" is on the 2 April - Meet on the western side of the lake past Aquamoves at 8.30. If you do not have a dog yet please feel free to walk one of my mine. We love to see other dog lovers and socialise the dogs.

Katie had her two baby boys by Caesarean Section on Saturday 24 February at 12.30. One black and white, one brown and white. Both have attractive blazes on top of their heads. They are doing exceedingly well and Katie was spayed. The first six giveaways, from Hannah, are having their third birthday on St Patrick's Day. Hannah is currently pregnant and due on 15th April. As there were six in her first litter I expect more than two. She is now 6 years old so she will be spayed too and I will be out of the baby business but I think I will keep Charlie entire for another year in case more lap dogs are required for the U3A or Probus and friends members. Lap dogs are rarely available from the rescue centres.

The average dog is a nicer person than the average person.
Janiene 0409 337 520

IPAD CLASSES

Ipad classes will resume on Friday 6 April 2018

1.30 - 2.30 PM Advanced,

2.30 - 3.30 PM Beginners

If you are interested in the Beginners group, please contact me after 28 March
Kiki Passenheim 0468 487 555

GOLD COAST BRIDGE CONGRESS

Nick Walsh and Derek Poulton recently played in the restricted teams competition in the Gold Coast Bridge Congress with Lisa Yoffa and James Thomas from Waverley. Languishing in 15th place at the second day of qualifying they stormed home to be top spot after the third and final day. The two top teams played off in head to final. Accommodation and fights were hastily rebooked. In the final they won 2 out of the 4 matches, but just lost out to the top seeded Van Weeren team from Sydney.

The gold coast bridge congress is the 4th largest congress in the world, and attracts entries from around Australia and overseas.



HANDS

The old man holds his dying wife's gnarled and wrinkled hands, speckled with dark age spots. He looks at them and thinks they are beautiful; remembering the day he met her. He had gone to try out with the local Amateur Theatrical Society who were staging a production of *Carousel*. He had a fine baritone voice and was trying out for the lead.

The war had not long finished and everyone wanted to enjoy themselves. He was 18 years old – too young to have seen the horrors of war.

As he got onto the stage to audition, he noticed the pianist. She was a young girl with long brown hair and beautiful brown eyes. But what he noticed was her hands. They were pale with long slender fingers and nails like pearls; and the way they moved over the piano keys was magical. She was so skilled and made it seem effortless.

He always wished he could play, but God had gifted him with a fine voice, but no other musical talents.

He spoke to her afterwards and complimented her on her playing. She complimented his singing. He was totally taken aback. She said that she had always wished she could sing, but was instead given the gift of playing the piano.

He had won the lead role, so he knew he was going to be seeing a lot more of this beautiful young pianist. Her name was Ruth.

This was the start of a wonderful friendship. They spent a lot of time together as her family had just recently moved into his street. So he would often find himself at her home for musical evenings where she would play and he would be called upon to sing.

This friendship eventually led to love. Their love of music was integral to their relationship.

He asked for her hand when he turned 21 and she was 18. She happily accepted and they were married in the town's little chapel one year later.

They both always wanted to live in the country, so they moved onto a dairy farm and there they worked side by side. It was a hard life, but they loved it and loved each other very much.

They were also very active in the nearest town's music society and played and sang in church every Sunday.

Soon their first child arrived after a horrific dash to the hospital in the middle of a terrible storm. But their little girl arrived safe and sound and they both instantly fell in love with her.

Sadly, they were not blessed with any more children, so they cherished little Emily, and took great joy in watching her grow.

He noticed that Ruth's hands were not as smooth and slender as when they first met. She milked cows, made butter, picked fruit, chopped wood and tended to a wonderful vegetable garden. She cooked and cleaned, and baked and made the most wonderful meals.

He remembered the way she held their child, the way she caressed his face. They were hands full of tenderness. And now they were gnarled and old.

He realised that although he loved her passionately as a young girl, the love had deepened and grown stronger over the years. And now he was about to lose her and he realised that her hands were more beautiful, than when they first met, because of all the beautiful, tender, loving things she had done with them.

As she took her last breath, he kissed those hands and cried, with joy for what they had had, but with grief. He did not know how he could go on without her.

Then looked up and saw his daughter and his grandchildren, gathered around the bed. And he knew, they were what he had to live for.

GLEENDA MAZUR

ENJOYING LITERATURE

We will be meeting again at our usual time of 2pm on Monday 26th March.

Last time we enjoyed watching the film version on Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath". We are now moving on to Tennessee Williams and "A Streetcar Named Desire". The plan is to read it through together and at a later meeting we will watch the classic film version.

All are welcome to join us, if possible bring a copy of the play with you!

Any questions, do contact me on phone numbers below

Helen West 58214802, 0411 457 462

MONDAY LUNCH DATES

The Monday lunch group will meet at 12 noon at the following venues. April 2nd The Sherbourne Hotel, April 9th The Goulburn Valley Hotel, April 26th The RSL, April 23rd The Last Straw and April 30th The Terminus Hotel. Everyone is welcome to come along, have a meal and enjoy a chat and a laugh. Gail Jelliff

COMING EVENTS

Date	Event
3 April	Social Morning - speaker Kim O'Keefe, Mayor, COGS
1 May	Social Morning - RACV 'Lifestyle -Healthy Ageing and Staying Connected'
6/7 May	Course Coordinators Workshop
25 May	Trivia Night
TBA	30th Anniversary Celebrations - venue and date to be confirmed
TBA	Melbourne Cup First Tuesday in November
TBA	Course leaders lunch = October
TBA	Xmas Lunch – first Tuesday in December

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 633 108 Account number 1277 42898

Trip account: BSB 633 108 Account number 1298 96049