

Welcome to the October 2020 Edition of Baw Baw's Chat Sheet



From the President...

Dear Members,

It is hard to comprehend that we are in October and this very different year is close to ending.

I heard someone talking on the radio about the importance of hope and I was reflecting on how often I use that word automatically, "I hope you are well" or "I hope you have a nice day" or "I hope we can see each other soon." It is such a little word but it carries very important meaning. It really is the antidote to the worries and deprivations that the Covid 19 virus has caused.

By its very nature, Spring is the harbinger of hope with seemingly dear trees and plants in glorious blossoms and the blue skies and sunshine that we are now experiencing. My wish for all of you is that you do have hope and are able to look forward to enjoying all the joys that we have not been able to share over the past few months. {As a St Kilda supporter, I have had over 70 years of practising hopefulness and maybe?????)

Congratulations to all who contributed to the online courses in Term 3, U3A BawBaw can be proud of the program that we offered and grateful for the hard work that went into organising it.

As always, I want to take this chance to thank the Committee who have continued to work hard to make sure that we have a program for Term 4 and are able to keep in touch with our members. If you have any good news that you would like to share via this Chat Sheet, please let us know.

I sincerely hope that you all keep well and optimistic and that we will be able to gather together as soon as restrictions allow us.

With very best wishes Mary



COURSES NEWS

An increasing number of our members have joined our Courses on Zoom during Term 3.

John Parker's Course "Did You Know " was very popular and generated much interest and discussion. Thanks to John our knowledge of Zoom and Power Point presentations has increased dramatically.

Those of us who participated in " Did you Know?" On line during Term 3, enjoyed the many factual stories of world-wide physical phenomena. From Portsea to Paris, from Outback to the Antarctic and more; all there as part of John's repertoire.

However we also came away with a bonus, realising the potential of on-line learning due to John's willingness to maximise the visual and interactive capacity of Zoom.

Distance education has been something that committee has been grappling with for several years and it might just have taken Covid 19 to turn us to an alternative, ongoing method of Course delivery. One that could attract isolated members who might not otherwise travel to our venue in future.

I hope so. Russ Brown

U3A FINE FILMS FRIENDS Barbara Brown

Our virtual fine films group is going along well, the feedback is that our members look forward each week to receiving an email announcing which film has been chosen for us to watch the following week.



A movie is chosen by a different member each week to enable diversification in the type of movie we watch, which gives us quite an eclectic mix of films to review when we meet on our monthly Zoom.

We score our movies up to 5 points and it is quite rare to achieve a 5 out of 5. Looking back on our scores, these are the films which some of our members scored 5 out of the 5: **Angry Inuk The Telegram Man Rosalie Blum Mr Pip The Man Who Knew Infinity Midnight In Paris Incendies Promise At Dawn**

Only 8 movies out of the 21 we have watched since our VIRTUAL film group began back in April have scored one or more 5/5. That tells me we are fairly selective in our scoring. All the remaining 13 movies scored at least one 4/5. It's quite amazing to hear the variety of scores given for the same film.





Our Book Club has enjoyed much lively discussions and shared reading experiences of Geraldine Brooks and Tom Keneally's novels.

The Virtual Art Gallery excursions group have been exploring the lives and paintings of the Forgotten Women of the Heidelberg School. We are looking forward to visiting the Celia Rosser "The Banksia Lady" Exhibition being held in the Sale Gallery, when it reopens.

Our Introduction to Zoom Courses have continued this term, and we will offer these Courses as required in Term 4.



Please refer to our U3A Website u3abawbaw.org.au For information regarding our Term 4 Courses outlined in the Term 4 Courses Booklet. All our Courses are open for enrolment through our website, please come and join us on Zoom.

If you require any assistance enrolling in our Courses please contact: Steph Wellard. Mobile 0419509607 Course Co-ordinator
On behalf of The Course Sub-Committee U3A Baw Baw

[The Chat Sheet Quiz](#) by Robert Dunlop

Yes! It's the Chatsheet quiz again folks. The quiz that everyone in Melbourne is talking about! The quiz that Daniel Andrews reckons could save a lot of people from breaching the lockdown. Time to go back down memory lane, and check your knowledge of famous quotations.

Which famous Australian Prime Minister said:— *"Well may we say 'God save the Queen,' because nothing will save the Governor-General."*
Was it?

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| A) Ben Chifley | B) Tony Abbott |
| C) Kevin Rudd | D) Gough Whitlam |
| E) Julia Gillard | E) None of the above |

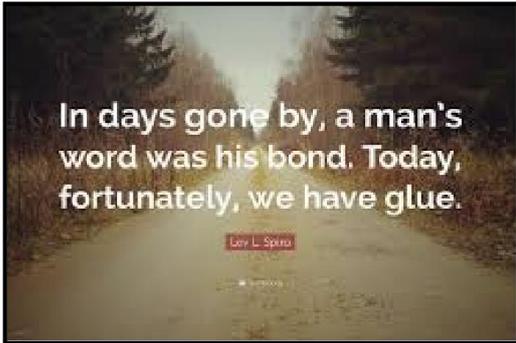
The first correct answer will go into the draw for a Lamington.





BAW BAW

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



MEETING WITH GOVERNOR GENERAL TO MARK INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

A few of us attended a Network gathering on Zoom on 1 October with the Victorian Governor, Linda Dessau, to mark International Day of Older Persons. There were over 100 U3A members from across the state present. As the patron of U3A, she spoke eloquently of her knowledge of U3A and acknowledged the volunteer nature of the organisation. She had heard of the challenges we are facing with COVID 19 as some of us struggle to master technology. Often our grandchildren are very helpful in this regard!! She finished by remarking, "Whatever our age we can still open our minds to new experiences and knowledge." Her husband Tony Howard remembered when they opened the house and grounds for tours given by him; he had 15 U3A bookings straight away.

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Network President Susan Webster outlined our current aim is to continue to contribute though this difficult period. Some of the strengths of the organisation are:

Friendship, Caring, Welfare of Members, Mental Stimulus, An emotional supporting environment.

We are now looking to replicate these strengths with the use of technology, not such an easy task.

Branches reported they are tackling this in different ways such as:

- On line courses (one large U3A has 20 per week!)
- Singing on walks
- Line dancing on line at home
- Karaoke on line
- Mahjong on line
- Joint connections to a concert in London
- Joint armchair travel
- Talk from the Flying Doctor Service on line
- Sharing lock down experiences through more regular newsletters via stories, poems etc
- Picnic in the park/BBQ for up to 10 people
- Tutors reaching housebound members and those in hospital, a feature they plan to continue after we can meet again.

As the President of Box Hill remarked we are very lucky, as our involvement in U3A will ensure we generally live longer, as it is proven if you keep your mind active the outcome is good.

It was an interesting and informative session.

Sally Alsop



Each year as part of the Victorian Seniors Festival Baw Baw Shire Council usually hosts a popular Seniors Walk at a picturesque location within the Shire. Unfortunately, this year’s event has been cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions on larger public gatherings.

In place of the event, Council is encouraging community members to take a walk outside and explore the diverse tracks and trails that the Shire has to offer at their own pace and time.



Baw Baw Shire is home to magnificent walking trails to explore. This spring, put your walking shoes on and enjoy some time in the great outdoors.

Easy walks to enjoy in Baw Baw

Loch Valley Tramway Walk, Noojee
This walk follows the course of one of the historic timber tramlines in Noojee through rainforest, ferns and Mountain Ash trees.

Nangara Reserve, Jindivick
This reserve has lots of short tracks to explore that feature art installations, interpretive signage and access to the Bunyip State Park.

Yarragon Trail
This trail starts and finishes in the heart of Yarragon and takes in beautiful farmland views. Toilets, picnic facilities and parking are available.

Walhalla Tramline Walk
Follow an old timber tramline along the contours of the Valley of the Gods with flora, fauna, historic gold mines and great views of Walhalla.

Looking for more information?

A range of printable walking maps are available on the Council website, ranging from easy town-based walks to more difficult bush walks. Visit www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/walksinbawbaw for details.

Editor Ruth Renouf

