

CHAT SHEET

AUG 2022

THE GATHERING

Booking is now open and is essential for the next Gathering on **Friday 12 August** commencing at 12.30pm. Please contact Steph Wellard at Courses@u3abawbaw.org.au or phone 0419 509 607 if you wish to attend. Bookings close on Wednesday 10 August.

And speaking of Gatherings, how about the last Gathering when we got together to sing the rousing *Les Marseillaise* as part of our celebration of Bastille Day. Now, isn't this a fine photograph of our choristers singing in harmony. Note how Clive doesn't need sheet music. There is another article by Ruth Renouf further along that will hopefully be published in the Gazette.



*John Parker***President's Report**

What a great Gathering we had on July 8 with about 55 people attending. It was also great to see members bringing visitors along. Many thanks for all those who participated in organising the afternoon, including the guest speaker, Prof Peter McPhee, and the singalong at the end.

For those who are attending the RSL Hall you will notice part of the ceiling has been removed due to a leak in the roof. It may remain like that for some weeks in the hope the Shire can determine exactly where the leak is. Classes will not be affected. Some of you may have seen an article in the Age recently, about U3A Melbourne City having issues with the City of Melbourne finding accommodation for classes. At the moment they use 13 different venues, for their 1100 members, who pay \$95 a year, the bulk of which goes on paying rent. It demonstrates how fortunate we are with the relationship we have with our Shire and the importance of maintaining that relationship. The Shire has ensured our gas heating systems are working and kindly waived the invoice we received earlier in the year for last year's rent.

It is gratifying to see we have a couple of large courses of over 30 members registered attending classes in the RSL Hall, however Committee is concerned about the increasing number of Covid 19 and flu infections in the community coupled with our heating systems and poor air circulation. At the same time Government is urging all educational institutions (of which U3A is one) to wear masks.

We do ask if any members have flu or cold like symptoms and are coughing and sneezing to not attend a class. The Committee has agreed that, if it is observed that someone is attending with such symptoms, the tutor may ask the person to leave or close the class.

Personally, I would urge everyone to wear a mask while attending an U3A inside event. Take care. Stay safe.

John

*Stephanie Wellard***Courses Report**

Welcome to August the last month of winter, so I hope some nicer weather will be coming our way. Our Third Term Courses are well underway and have had very good attendances. As you are all aware our Covid and Flu numbers continue to increase in the Community, as Winter progresses. To keep everyone safe and Covid free as possible, please bring your masks to class with you and do not attend if you are unwell with Covid or flu like symptoms.

Attention to all Mystery History Lovers!

There we were thinking we were over the worst. What's that? You might well ask. A long story perhaps, so here we go:—

As you are aware, my husband and I are finally travelling again and that is why Mystery History is being offered for a few weeks in term 3 in the RSL Hall (and a very big thank you to everyone who enrolled for the course). We were also anticipating a four-week period of term four to continue in true Mystery History format. Well... that offering is still on offer but back to Zoom

Before you say, "sigh, I don't want to do that," let me explain. Because of the run-away flu season and exploding Covid numbers, my cautious doctor (whilst doing a vaccination for South America) carefully explained unnecessary risk to me - He asked if Jim and I were intending to isolate for the month before we travelled; I said that I would be doing weekly lectures for U3A. He asked the age group of the attendees and then looked at me and said just four words, "I don't think so". And there we have it.

Rather than cancel, I have offered the Course Committee the option of Zoom lectures. These will be back to the old format of just one hour each on a Tuesday morning at 10am in Term 4 for four weeks.

These are the topics, in no particular order: — Byzantine Empresses, Stonehenge, Tulip Fever and Robin Hood.

I hope to see you in a few weeks' time (still in term 3) commencing on Tuesday 23rd of August at 10am, in our U3A Club Rooms, for Mystery History. (Please don't forget to wear your masks during the class).

Virginia Rowley, Course Tutor, 0406 855 349

HISTORY OF SCOTLAND

Members attending this course have been immersed in political intrigue, Roman ruins and beautiful scenery that is part of the story of Scotland. Warm up exercises to the sound of the bagpipes or 'The Proclaimers,' set the scene for each session. The coming weeks will include the great battles of the Scottish Nationalists as well as the stories behind the great cities, music and poetry and the inventors who have given so much to the world.

Mary Howlett, Course Tutor

Art History and Gallery Tours has an excursion to the 20 Melbourne Art Exhibition at the Caulfield Town Hall planned for Monday 22nd of August, details to be arranged. Please contact Steph Wellard on 0419509607, if you are interested in joining this Gallery Tour.

There is still time to enrol in our Courses for Term 3, please contact the Course Tutor or Steph Wellard at courses@u3abawbaw.org.au or phone on 0419509607 if you require assistance to enrol via our website.

Steph Wellard, Courses Co-ordinator

The Editor

A View from the Bunker

The following two articles may also be of interest to members. The first article has been written by Ruth Renouf and has been sent to the Gazette for publication in that esteemed paper. The second article, by Jenny Hall, is an invite to visit Melbourne to attend an exhibition by Melbourne Artists.



Celebration of Bastille Day at the July Gathering



Emeritus Professor Peter McPhee gave a riveting PowerPoint presentation on the French Revolution in relation to two amazingly talented female painters - Adélaïde Labille-Guillard and Elisabeth Vigée-Le Brun. Beautiful portraits of Marie Antoinette were amongst a wonderful display of outstanding art embedded in a clear explanation of the revolution and its effect on these two artists.

The occasion concluded with 2 rousing renditions of La Marsellaise.

Term 3 has begun: Further details and the full program of courses for Term 3 are available at www.u3abawbaw.org.au under Courses and Activities. For all further enquiries re U3A, please phone 0438 115 693.

It was mentioned at the gathering that U3A first started in France by a group of retired University professors. Which is why U3A has University in its name, but it is not a university as we know them today.

Ruth Renouf



List of singers following:—

Singers from Left to Right: Gerhard Theile, Sue Ingham, Rod Wellard, Mary Howlett, Glenys Marriott, Clive Alsop, Donna D’Arcy, Stephanie Wellard, Leslie Anstee. **On the Key Board:** Jenny Hall

Art Appreciation Group – Excursion to the Twenty Melbourne Painters Annual Exhibition

The Twenty Melbourne Painters Society was originally established in 1918 when the group split from the Victorian Artists Society to follow the tonalist Max Meldrum. Membership is restricted to 20 and is upon invitation only. The society follows the traditions of realist, tonal and impressionist painting. Past members include well known painters like Clarice Beckett, Sir John Longstaff, Rupert Bunny, AME Bale, Ernest Buckmaster and Sir William Dargie.



When: Monday 22nd August
 Where: Glen Eira City Council Gallery, cnr Glen Eira and Hawthorn Rds, Caulfield.
 Entry: Free
 Transport: Car pooling as there is no direct public transport.
 Departure: Approximately 10am
 Return: Approximately 4.30pm
 Lunch: We will meet for lunch at a location near the venue

Guided tour: There is a guided tour by one of the artists at 2pm.

I am really looking forward to seeing what the current 20 Melbourne have produced during our lock-downs, especially Hermann Pikel and Joseph Zbukvic (worth Googling if you don’t know them). The Twenty Melbourne has their own website: twentymelbournepainterssociety.com.au

Please let me know if you would like to register your attendance, and if you are a driver or a passenger. All are welcome!

Jenny Hall 0458 186 121

Cartoon & Comical Corner

Nigel Beresford



A man bought a new fridge for his house. To get rid of the old one, he put it in his front yard with a sign. "Free to good home. You want it, you take it." For three days the fridge sat there without anyone looking twice. He eventually decided that people were too mistrustful of this deal and changed the sign "Fridge for sale \$50." The next day someone stole it!

And finally to wrap up this month's Chat Sheet, your editor came across this pearl of wisdom on Twitter: —

Did you know that 4 out of every 3 people struggle with mathematics?

U3A Baw Baw is grateful to Gary Blackwood MP and his office staff for printing this Chatsheet. You may visit our website at www.u3abawbaw.org.au