

CHAT SHEET

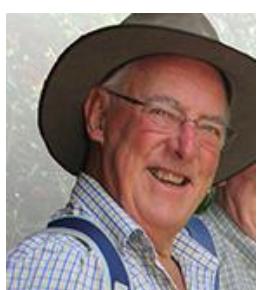
NOV 2022



After a fabulous literary lunch it is time for the committee to pose for our trusty photographer, Nigel, to take the snapshots, and of course you recognise Leslie, Ted, Jenny, Ann, Professor Peter, Donna, David, Stephanie and Rodney.

President's Report

John Parker



A very successful Literary Lunch was held on 21st of October. To all those involved, many thanks.

As you are aware we will be losing another two committee members, Steph and Rod Wellard who are moving to the Bellarine Peninsula later in the year. This opens up positions on the Committee for any members who may like to be involved in participating in the management of our U3A.

If you would like to know more about the committee positions please contact me or any of the current committee members.

We have been fortunate in obtaining a grant from the Baw Baw Shire for a digital piano and accessories. This will provide opportunities for courses that require a keyboard. Thank you to the Baw Baw Shire.

Some members of Committee attended the U3A Network Conference in Bendigo in early October, where we were able to pick up a lot of ideas that will help us take our U3A forward. Until next time.

John

Courses Report

Mary Howlett



An important function of the U3A Committee is the Courses Committee, as it is through this that the programs for each term are devised and organised. Steph Wellard has chaired, encouraged and motivated this Committee over the past years and has been responsible for keeping the Courses “alive” by enabling the use of zoom throughout the past difficult time. We owe her an immeasurable debt of thanks and wish Steph and Rod every best wish as they start a new life on The Bellarine Peninsula.

I have assumed the chair of this committee until the AGM in March and look forward to working with them.

Term four has commenced with enthusiasm. Mystery History was presented by Zoom for four weeks and will resume “live” on Term One 2023. The Science Course is both informative and entertaining with topics as varied as Electricity, Flight, Bridges and the Science of surveying. Geology, Rocketry, Space and Sound are some of the further topics. Presentations are inclusive; those without a Science background are enjoying learning about the amazing role Science and Technology play in our daily lives. And those who understand the mysteries of Physics, e.g. Logarithms and variable co-ordinates, are enjoying sharing their knowledge.

There is good participation in the long- term Courses; What’s the Matter, Film Club, Scrabble, Book Club, Cryptic Crossword Club and Art History. The visit to The Archibald Prize Exhibition at Narre Warren was enjoyed by the Art History Group.

All Courses are open for enrolment. If you require assistance, please contact the Course Tutor or email courses@u3abawbaw.org.au or phone Mary Howlett on 0499 221 993 or Lesley Anstee on 0408 226 254.

Mary

Gazette Article*Jenny Hall*

U3A's contribution to Seniors' Week was their 18th Literary Lunch, attended by 100 people recently at the Royal Hotel, Drouin.

What a buzz there was in the air, as members and visitors intermingled, dined and listened to the brilliant Emeritus Professor Peter McPhee, AM, author of several books on the French Revolution, including some he has written in French! He is a most engaging speaker. He spoke about the effect of the French Revolution firstly on farmers, secondly on the life of Robespierre and thirdly on the physical characteristics of the French countryside. We learnt many fascinating facts from his presentation.

U3A Baw Baw is very grateful to all who made this event possible, especially the Community Bank, Drouin and District, the Royal Hotel, Drouin, and of course, Professor McPhee.

The lunch concluded with cake to celebrate the 90th birthday of one of our founder members, Gerhard Theile. If you would like to join our ranks, please go to our website, u3abawbaw.org.au or phone 0438 115 693

Rob Hutchinson, Branch Manager,
Community Bank, Drouin and District

Katie Slater, Assistant Branch Manager,
Community Bank, Drouin and District

**The Gathering**

Booking is now open and is essential for the next Gathering on **Friday 11 November** commencing at 12.30pm. Please contact Steph Wellard on mob 0419 509 607 or Courses@u3abawbaw.org.au if you wish to attend. Bookings close on Wednesday 9 November

Our special Guest Speaker for the November Gathering is Peter Ware. Peter was Baw Baw Shire Citizen of the Year in 2019.

He dedicated his time & knowledge volunteering with groups including: Meals on Wheels, gardening for older people, reading to people with limited vision, as well as working with Friends of Drouin Trees Group.

Peter has a long time interest in our Garden Birds, and indigenous plants in the Baw Baw Shire. He is a passionate advocate of the preservation and regeneration of natural public spaces within the Drouin Urban Area. I thought I would take some photos of visitors to my garden!

Ruth Renouf



A View from the Bunker

The Editor

And what a great day it was for our beloved member Gerhard Thiele who celebrated his 90th birthday with his friends at U3A. And to show his appreciation, Gerhard has penned a few words of thanks that now follows with this photograph by our intrepid photographer, Nigel:—



Thank You Everyone for help celebrating my birthday, on the day which quite co-incidentally fell on the day of the 2022 Literary Luncheon. However, I was only a supporting act; the Emeritus Professor's name was on the billboard for the day.

I could not have imagined in my dreams that on my 90th birthday there would be more than that number of people helping me to celebrate.

Although I had a wonderful day out with my close family the following Sunday, I thought it fitting to have my extended family of friends of U3A, and some extra guests there, wishing me well.

My special Thanks to Donna, Lesley, and some other unseen French Elves, who just made it all happen. Merci beaucoup, tout le monde,

Gerd Theile.



And a big welcome to our newest member –

Pam Harrison

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