

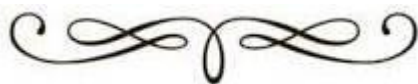
CHATSHEET

July 2023



Photograph courtesy of the Gazette thanks to Cristina Isaac

Past President Mary Howlett OAM



And a big welcome to our newest members –

**Faye Parke, Jackie Croyle, Bronwen McDonald
and Helen Ebzery**

President's Report

John Parker



Discussions have continued with the consultant for the Shire on the Cultural and Connection Precinct – Library and Learning Centre in Warragul. From what has been discussed so far, there will be facilities that U3A Baw Baw can use for classes.

You will have seen that the two new courses for term 3 are open for registration, together with the next Gathering and the Literary Lunch. We are looking forward to having the Mayor, Annemarie McCabe as our guest for the Gathering.

We have recommenced presenting to Fairview Village in Warragul some of our previous presentations that have been made over the years. Our plan is to present one each fortnight. We are continuing to experiment with recording some of our classes, that can be made available to U3A members either locally or across the world.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next Gathering. In the meantime keep warm.

Courses Report

Mary Howlett



An exciting new concept is opening for your treasures! Treasures Roadshow (with a Baw Baw U3A twist) is coming to our Clubrooms in Term 3, and we hope you will be a part of it! When I opened a cupboard the other day, I saw a 'nick-knack' given to me by an aunt, who had received it from the man who lived next door to her when she grew up. He told her it had come all the way from Poland when his family escaped 'The War'; and there it was in my cupboard and the only people who knew about it were my immediate family – what a waste.

We all have these sorts of things in our cupboards!

Things we treasure and would like to share with others – treasures that have wonderful stories that have made fascinating journeys. Bring them along (please, nothing big enough to require a trailer or hefty young men to lift it) and tell us a story... We love a good story – and a cup of tea! Join us on a Tuesday morning for an hour of yarnning and fun

Just a reminder that the new series of "History of Ireland" will be presented in Term 3 on Thursday mornings. Jim Connelly will be presenting the history sessions, and I will be leading an exploration of Irish Culture, Literature, Music and Architecture. Pat O'Brien and Cath Connelly will also be presenting sessions. I mentioned this course in the June Chatsheet.

Historical Teaser

Virginia Rowley



In 2021, during the Covid lockdown, when we were doing Zoom sessions for Mystery History, we discussed the Ice Maiden of Ukok in the Altai Mountains in today's Russia. This 5th century BC, princess was discovered in a frozen tomb and archaeologists dug her up and took her body for investigation.

The local people believed that the earth tremors and climate changes that happened after her body was taken from the area were all the fault of the archaeologists. In the end her body was returned. Scientists have worried about climate change affecting these frozen tombs (kurgans) ever since and they were right to worry.

Many local herders have reported foul smells emanating from the graves of these frozen princes and princesses and arguments fly about whether to dig the bodies up and preserve them or to let them rot as the ground slowly warms up and the ice retreats

The picture is just one of the golden treasures found in the grave of the princess.

Industrial Titbits

David Ingham

Second term saw a nine-week course outlining the impact of the Industrial Revolution on modern society. This look at a pivotal period of history charted the impact of the development of technology, science, industry, travel, medicine and societal change on the world. Topics also included justice, politics, sanitation and all the things that we now regard as basic requirements for modern society.

In the end the most influential invention that revolutionised the world was the steam engine which has applications in opening up vast areas of the world in Australia, the Americas, Europe, Russia and Africa. Steam ships created world trade and allowed the free transfer of goods from country to country. This allowed countries to sell what they produce to the world and buy what they need.

Medicine was also a feature looking at vaccinations, medical technology and the impact of modern medicine on life expectancy. We also explored the development of agriculture and the vast increase in productivity the agricultural revolution brought allowing the planet to support 8 billion people. Participants managed nine weeks of Industrial Revolution, but in the end we all ran out of steam!

Thanks to John Parker for his weekly technical assistance and the participants for their kindness and patience over quite a difficult topic.

The Gathering

Booking is now open and is essential for the next Gathering on **Friday 14th July** commencing at 12.30pm. Bookings are essential for catering purposes. You are able to book online by logging into u3abawbaw.org.au as you would for a course. If you prefer, you can email courses@u3abawbaw.org.au or phone Lesley Anstee on mob 0408 226 254

Bookings close on **Wednesday 12th July**.

Cartoon & Comical Corner

Nigel Beresford

At the airport Paddy was passing through customs carrying a large bottle. "What have you there?" said a suspicious customs officer.

"Tis Lourdes' holy water. I am bringing it home with me", said Paddy.

The officer took the bottle and tried some. After a short splutter he said "that's Irish whiskey."

"Lord Bless me." said Paddy, "another amazing miracle."

Gentle Lessons in Life

Vera Hartelt

He who hesitates is probably doing the right thing.

Did you ever notice: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are 'XL.'

If you think there is some good in everybody, you obviously haven't met 'everybody'.



The U3A Quiz

Time, once more, for the U3A Quiz: the quiz that has Network baffled, the quiz that has UMAS scratching its head; the quiz that has the Donald hiding behind security boxes in Mar a Lago. Which famous or prominent person said — "***There are known knowns, there are known unknowns and there are unknown unknowns.***" Was it?

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| A) Nick Kyrgios | B) Novak Djokovic |
| C) Barnaby Joyce | D) Jeff Kennett |
| E) Pauline Hanson | F) Donald Trump |
| G) Donald Rumsfeld | H) None of the above |

The first correct answer will go into the draw for a doughnut. The answer is at the bottom of the this page.

A View from the Bunker

The Editor

I was browsing through Twitter the other day when I came across a snippet of historical information in a magazine called Conversation that I thought was rather interesting and which could apply to today. Apparently the ancient Greeks were very concerned about democratic politics and the chance that some dangerous, narcissistic, hotheads could be elected to parliament; the Greek equivalent of say Donald Trump or Boris Johnson. So, they decided to introduce **Sortition** into their parliamentary system. Now, we know what sortition is. We call it a Referendum. Apparently the ancient Greeks used sortition a lot to arrive at decisions approved by the majority of people.

Maybe, if we started at looking on referenda in a more favourable light, and started using them more frequently and less argumentatively, we might end up with a happier populace? Just a thought!



Answer: G) Donald Rumsfeld

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