

CHATSHEET

The newsletter of the U3A Baw Baw

November 2023

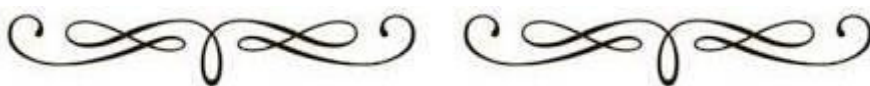
And here is a great photograph from our highly successful Literary Luncheon.



[Left to right] Kris Bernard, Kierin Murphy, Lea Naismith, Mandy Waters, Jeannie Haughton, John Black, and Rodney Williams

The group was made up of long term and new members to Off The Leash Theatre, and all were attracted to the work of Henry Lawson. Poet Rodney Williams was very familiar with his work but the rest of us remembered only the old school reader stories. It was a joy selecting and interpreting Lawson's work. Most of the audience declared the reading had inspired them to go off and read more of his work. The performance itself included poetry, short stories and two beautifully presented songs.

Photograph and words by Nigel Beresford



The Gathering

Booking is now open and is essential for the next Gathering on **Friday 10th November** 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 8th November**.

A Quick Note from the President

John Parker

U3A Bookcase in the RSL Hall

The wooden bookcase, which sits between the 2 storeroom doors, belongs to U3A and contains books and course notes that have been donated by U3A members. They can be borrowed by members. There is a small book to record the loan that should be on one of the shelves. Please record the book name, the borrower and date. When returned please make a note of the date. If the book to record the loan can't be found, please advise a tutor or committee member and they will check the top of the tall cabinets in the storeroom.

John



And a big welcome to our newest members –

**Lesley Wheeler, Mildred Lyon, Elizabeth Pike,
Donna Valentine**

Courses Report

Mary Howlett

A big thank you to all concerned. The Literary lunch was a successful event for U3A BawBaw and we would like to express our thanks to "Off The Leash" for tailoring the presentation to fit in with our requirements. They were very generous with scripting the performance and hours of rehearsal.

The staff of the Royal Hotel were also very accommodating and welcoming. Thanks also to the Baw Baw Shire for their sponsorship of the event with a generous grant to cover advertising as well as costs incurred in the performance.

Our own members, who promoted the event with posters, and their distribution, as well as through social media. Others spent hours organising the bookings, seating plans and name tags. In the words of the bard, "It was bonza, mate"

SOAPBOX 2024

The Course Committee have planned to present a "Soapbox" in Term One 2024. This was a popular course this year. Its success relies on the presentations by members. Please give some thought to giving a talk about a topic that you are interested in. If you require help to present with the aid of PowerPoint etc, we can assist you. You might like to bring an article of interest and simply talk about it. We will be putting up a timetable in the rooms and hope that many members will fill in a time slot

Mary

Treasures Roadshow Snippets

Virginia Rowley

Way back in 2020 we discussed an invention that changed the lives of millions of poor people in Mexico when \$150 of concrete was delivered to their homes: literally pumped in through their front door and smoothed out to make a clean, washable floor. These people no longer had to sleep on the dirt etcetera allowing them to eliminate parasitic worms that lived in the dirt and stunted their children's growth and made them sick. Children were able to go to school more regularly and their test scores improved. Parents in the program's households became happier and less stressed and there was less depression. All round, the economy of these poor neighbourhoods improved and within a generation, the economy of the nation seemed to be improving too.

However, beyond these poor neighbourhoods, concrete has an evil reputation, indeed it is a byword for ecological stupidity. It is made of sand, water and cement and cement takes a lot of energy to produce.

Onto the scene, as per *Landline* last week (or maybe the week before) burst a new product, *Hempcrete*, a building material made with hemp. It imitates concrete in several ways. Using the plant's wooden core, mixed with water and a lime binder it creates something that has fire resistant qualities and is an excellent insulator in cold climates. It is pest resistant too and naturally non-toxic; lightweight, strong and breathable and carbon negative! On top of this, it is highly durable as a building material

The only negative environmental impact during hempcrete production is the carbon footprint generated from making the lime-based binder. On the other hand, hempcrete can store significant amounts of carbon dioxide, minimizing the greenhouse gas impact. Additionally, no harmful toxins are emitted into the atmosphere by hempcrete.

Virginia

Science Course*David Ingham***SCIENCE PROGRAM IN TERM 4**

The Thursday Science program is about halfway through. We have looked at Earth systems, Electricity and Magnetism, Time and gears, levers and Pulleys. The program has been a combination of presentation and practical experiments.

John Parker and I have worked cooperatively to present the program. A real highlight has been John's demonstrations of Gears, levers and Pulleys. John has reacquainted us with his Malvern Star, with old fashioned pulleys and tools using gears.

We also have covered time and all aspects of the development of clocks and the chronometer. Included has been an examination of time zones and timetables, as well as looking at the relationship between time and latitude and longitude.

The course goes on to examine Light and Reflection, with Materials and Bridges to come.

This has been our first attempt at incorporating practical activities into our sessions. John and I hope the participants have enjoyed it. We do know that we have provided participants with activities with which to entertain their grandchildren!!

Special thank to John for his innovation and interesting additions to the program. Thanks also to Roy who has helped with the setting up and Lesley who has been our distributor of equipment and property manager. Special thanks to Sue Ingham for being the program preparation guinea pig and proof-reader. *David*

BOOK LAUNCH

Jim Connelly, in association with U3A Baw Baw, takes great pleasure in inviting you to the Launch of Jim's latest book, —

CALLING GIPPSLAND HOME

On Sunday, 3 December, 2023, at 2.30 pm. in the RSL Hall, Drouin.

Afternoon Tea will be served. *Calling Gippsland Home* will be officially launched by Cr Keith Cook, well-known community representative and historian. In a little over 40,000 words, the book tells the story of some of the nationally and internationally-recognised Australians who have lived in Gippsland.

The book will be available to purchase at the special Launch price of \$15.00*. Jim's earlier books will also be available at special prices*.

*(*Half of all proceeds are given to charity)*

Please regard this as your personal invitation. You are welcome to bring friends and family.

Science Course Snippets

Ruth Renouf

At the recent Science course on 26 October, our Science tutor David gave us an introduction and insight into the use of gears, levers and pulleys. President John provided the Malvern Star & Pulley to show us the practical use. I took some photographs but the comments are strictly the editor's!

Ruth



David is either learning all about pulleys and gears or how to hold a ladder



Nigel is either learning about pulleys and gears or how to change a tyre.



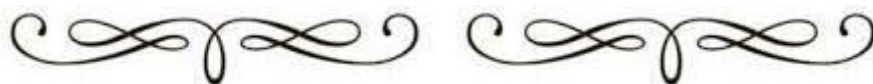
Ruth didn't tell me what this is but I wouldn't sit on it.

Thanks also to Vera Hartelt for these snippets

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today, it's called golf.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Ah, being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.



And also from Vera



The Chatsheet Quiz

Well folks, time to test the old mind again and try the quiz that has everyone at Mar-a-Lago talking, including Donald Trump. It may also increase your Mensa I.Q. This time see if you can recognize the well known dancer in the attached image. It is reasonably easy so, if you know the answer, just treat yourself to an M & M. The answer is at the bottom of the page. Is the dancer —

- A) Clive Palmer
- B) Scott Morrison
- C) Paul Keating
- D) Li Cunxin
- E) Anthony Albanese
- F) Robert Helpmann
- G) Warren Mundine








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

The answer is D) Li Cunxin, who was, of course, Mao's Last Dancer



BAW BAW
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

**LIVE LEARN
ENJOY**



Guest Speaker
Nigel Beresford
AWARD WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER
WILL PRESENT

**MOBILE PHONE PHOTOGRAPHY
AND EDITING**

- Learn how to improve your skills when using your mobile phone to take photos.
- Discover the hidden features in your phone
- Learn a few tips and tricks to improve your ability
- Take in some tips on how to edit your photos
- Understand the benefits of using a free app to edit photos
- Hands on exercises (bring your phone)
- Info will cover iPhone and Android phones
-

Date: Monday November 20
Time: 10.00 - 12.00
Place: RSL hall, Drouin.

Enrolments are required via the Baw Baw U3A website or contact Lesley at
courses@u3abawbaw.org.au or 0408 226 254

Thanks to Cristina Isaac for the flyer.