



## LAKES ENTRANCE

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A Lakes Entrance Inc.

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### 2023 News Letter - Autumn Edition

#### President's Report

The year got off to a good start, with all work completed at the Lodge in time for 2023 commencement. Lodge members worked hard to make sure we would not be inconvenienced and I thank them for that. There was quite a bit of consultation. Their next project I believe is solar panels, which will be to our benefit as well.

The Special General Meeting held in December was very well attended and a membership fee of \$85 was agreed to. Let's have as good a turn out at the AGM later in the year.

Unfortunately our numbers have not recovered post-covid. In fact numbers are down. I contacted past members and of those who responded, quite a number had not rejoined because of the increase in membership fee. Most stated it was hard to justify if only doing one course. On a brighter note, there has been an encouraging uptake of new members.

The Committee continues to work hard and this term all Policies were updated and ratified and have been uploaded to the web site. Rhonda Biddle has resigned from Committee due to health issues, so there is a vacancy on Committee. Thank you Rhonda for your contribution.

No doubt there will be the usual exodus to the north in coming months and I wish them well and look forward to them returning for Term 3.

Spare an occasional thought for us down here in the cold.

**BarbarDecker**

*Happy Easter*



#### Acknowledgements:

This newsletter is proudly printed as a free community service by the office of **Tim Bull MP**.

143 Main St, Bairnsdale Vic 3875. Tel. 5152 3491 Fax. 5152 2032

We would also like to acknowledge the assistance of *REG FM*, Lakes Post and the Lakes Entrance Library for their continued support of U3A Lakes Entrance

### Course Co ordinator

All courses are progressing well with the exception of Poetry. It looks as though it will not be going ahead in the near future.

On the other hand, our new Bird Watching group is enjoying learning about the birds of the area.

I think we have all been surprised and impressed by the variety of birds we do have here.

Always looking to get new courses started. Anyone who has a skill they would like to share is always welcome to put their ideas forward.

**Barbara Decker**

Committee Members 2023		
President	Barbara Decker	0414 739 617
Vice President	Peter Sindrey	0418 117 998
Secretary	Val Halliday	0419 600 625
Treasurer	Di Dixon	0412 020 611
Membership Officer	Di Dixon	0412 020 611
Course Co-ordinator	Barbara Decker	0414 739 617
Publicity	Judy Davies	0405 246 655
Newsletter	Margaret Sawyers	0499 109 836
Almoner	Jenny Visser	0405 730 853
Social	Margaret Berlingeri	0487 654 521
Lodge Liaison		
Committee Member	Chris Gilbert	0408 083 350
Assistant Treasurer	Val Halliday	0419 600 625

**Librarian:** Joy Wilmhurst 0427 323 910

### Pickle Ball

Pickle Ball is a sport which originated in the US and is taking off world wide, including Australia. It is aimed at older people although anyone would enjoy it and is something which would appeal to ex tennis and badminton players.

Played on a badminton size court with a bat instead of a racquet. The ball is light weight and the net is lower than a tennis net.

The Lakes Entrance Tennis Club is working hard to promote Pickle Ball. This is an activity which would be extremely well suited to U3A members and in fact quite a number of U3As are already running this programme.

A come and try day was conducted recently and was great fun.

If it can be organized (possibly later in the year after the winter) it would be a great addition to our programme.



## **Course Reports**

### **Criminology**

This year has started with a very enthusiastic group – some new faces and some who have ‘repeated’ the class on several occasions. It is great to have a good cross section of participants with varying degrees of knowledge and experiences. Some participants are eagerly following some criminal case through the courts and some are conducting research and case studies on their chosen topics.

We started the year, as usual, with some challenging questions about crime and criminals and an investigation of the three major criminological theories – legal, medical and social perspectives. A recent class had a look at the role of the community in crime prevention projects and we also considered the impact of the media on our understanding of crime.

We now move on to examining the role of police, courts and corrections and their respective roles in the criminal justice system. In second term, we will further examine the allegations of corruption and Royal Commissions into misbehavior in the criminal justice system

**Judy Pillinger**

### **Bird Watching**

Our bird watching group started off with a short walk around the reserve adjacent to the Lake Tyers Angling Club where we got to see a few of the local birds, hone our binocular skills and practise the different skills needed to correctly identify the birds seen. We discussed the different books and available apps for our phones to help with identification. Our second outing was to the lovely reserve at Oneonta in Lake Tyers. Here we did an official bird survey and logged 15 different species, including the lovely white headed pigeon (pictured). The group decided that we will visit a different spot each month and have some morning tea after our bird watching to discuss the birds seen over a cuppa.



**Sue Grima**

### **Playalong**

It has been a short term but not short on enjoyment for the Playalongers. This class has been running for about 8 years now and fortunately if I am away then someone graciously puts up their hand to run it. We have welcomed a new member who plays the violin. So nice to have a new instrument in our midst.

Do you hanker to pull out that school recorder or your drum set but feel nervous? Well many of us have learnt our instrument or have dusted it off, in our retirement. In this robust group if you hit the wrong note, we don't hear it or we are very forgiving.

How nice to make music at the end of the day! Pop in and see us if you are curious!

**Carol McDonald**

### **Mahjong**

Mahjong is in full swing again for another year. It was nice to see our regulars back and we have one new lady who has come from Bairnsdale group to us. We are only a small group and would welcome any new players. Looking forward to another fun year.

**Rhonda Biddle**

## **Ukulele**

Welcome back to all our experienced uke players. This year we have a very strong group of 16 members who have been playing for a number of years, so this year I hope to try some more challenging ideas.

As mentioned at the end of last year we have been learning how to play the song melody (this is called TAB) rather than just strumming along. It takes a lot of concentration and coordination, but we are really doing well with this skill.

Another very rewarding experiment we are working on is to perform two songs at the same time with half the group playing one song while the other half play a different song but using the same chord sequence. It has resulted in some beautiful harmonies, and we hope to add this to our performances.

We have a few bookings ahead of us, at one of the Aged Care facilities and another at the Lindenow South Art Show in May. Coming up in early April "The Wild Women of Anywhere Beach" will be returning to East Gippsland to offer workshops and a concert in Bairnsdale and some of our members will be attending - have a wonderful time!

I am currently caravanning so our classes have finished for term one, giving our musicians lots of time to practice before we start our performances.

Wishing everyone a very Happy and restful Easter.

**Sue Wilson**



## **Garden Group**

Great to have new members joining the garden club. Many thanks to those that moved the tan bark onto the paths around our garden beds.

This is the time of year for picking lots of veggies, beans carrots tomatoes and red beets etc.

We are now beginning to prepare our garden beds for winter planting.

Looking forward to autumn rain to help things along.

**Gwenda Bland**

## **Rock on**

Term 1 has gone really well, with a good core group of attendees. It's great to have Peter Whitty back now that he has seemingly retired and ready to play some music. Everyone is continuing to learn new songs and all appear to be enjoying the challenge.

**Leigh Davies**



## Beginners' French

This term we have concentrated on our pronunciation and listening skills.

Most letters of the alphabet are pronounced quite differently in French and so we have practised saying them properly. We have also learnt phrases used commonly by French people in normal conversation. Stories of everyday life are valuable to listen to. For example a visit to the doctor, working in the garden, calling an ambulance and other everyday tasks.

It is surprising how much we can understand - if spoken slowly. After all sixty percent of the English language comes from French!

**Irene Yeats**

## Craft

I have been absent for most of the term but now enjoying being back with our craft group. We seem to get smaller each year but it is always so nice to go along and enjoy each others company while being productive with our individual projects. We would really love to have more members join our group so please - if you would like to come along you know you are most welcome

**Margo**

## Scrabble

Ten Scrabble players have met at the Bowls Club each Tuesday this term, enjoying a chance to have a coffee and keep our vocabulary skills alive.. Thanks to the Committee we were able to purchase the new edition of the Scrabble Dictionary to keep us up to date with the 500 new words added.

High word scores have been recorded, and our two most impressive words were played by Edwin (86) and Ann (88).

A very exciting word was played last week by Annette and Sue (see pic).

It began as convent, then convention, followed by conventional and finally unconventional!

How clever is that?

Our group is at a maximum at the moment but as the weather cools and members seek the warmth we will have vacancies for a few months. Scrabble is a perfect Winter activity so come and have a game with us. Beginners are more than welcome.

**Jude Everett**



## Shabashi

It has been a good term with a full class most weeks. Shabashi is very gentle and has any benefits, relaxation being one of them.

We welcomed a new member, Melva, to our group.

**Andrea**

## Free Dance

An excellent activity, good exercise and great company. No partners needed, just dance how ever you want to. Welcome back to Edwin and to Noleen who has just joined us.

This class keeps you active and fit.

Happy Dancing

**Andrea**

## Book Club

We have welcomed three new members who will bring some fresh perspectives and new ideas to the group.

*Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus was our first book for the year. A rather quirky and unusual book. It also covers some complex issues about gender roles, sexual assault and society's attitude to women. Most of us found the characters engaging and the content thought provoking. There were also some really humorous aspects and dialogue. There is also another rather surprising inclusion in this story. If you would like to read about a very unusual TV cooking show and a strong and resilient female main character this book may be for you. It was popular with most of our members.

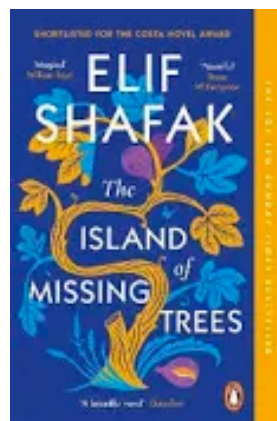
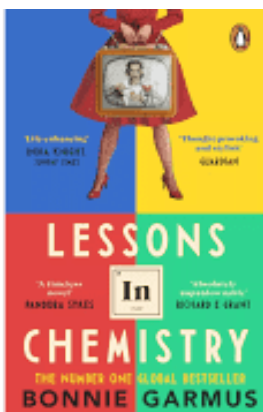
This month we read

*The Island of Missing Trees* by Elik Shafak.

It certainly expanded our understanding of the trauma that the people of Cyprus have endured and the ongoing ethnic conflict which tears communities and families apart. Most of us needed to fill in considerable gaps in our knowledge of the fraught history of that area. Woven around that setting was the love story between the two main characters, one of Greek parentage, the other Turkish and the complications and confusions which arise. The author also covered many environmental and social issues. A central theme was the deep and abiding love that all inhabitants have for the earth, particularly their mother land and the interdependence of all those living things. As usual we had various views but this book was mostly well received with many really loving it.

Our next book is *The Hand That First Held Mine*.

**Beth Harrison**



## Library

Welcome to our new members. For your information the U3A Library is situated between the two classrooms at the Lodge.

There is a wide range of books that members may borrow, no time limit but please remember that others may want to read the books you have.

Happy Reading.

**Joy W**

## Quiz

What makes this number unique: 8,549,176,320?

Answer below

U3A Lakes Entrance Inc.

**Course Schedule for Term2 2023**  
**24<sup>th</sup> April – 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

<b>Monday:</b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b>Facilitator:</b>	<b>Contact Ph:</b>	<b>Venue/Room:</b>
History	10.00-12.00	Jennie Towan	0407 550 306	Room 1
Film Group(not 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon.)	1.00-3.30	Anna Carter-Pearse	0429 978 587	Room 1
Folk Guitar	1.30-4.00	Bruce Wilmshurst	0456 611 416	LTB Angling Club

**Tuesday:**

Walking Group	9:00	Val Ryan	5155 5870	Outside
Shibashi Qigong	8.30-9.00	Andrea Edwards	5155 4914	Room 1
Criminology	9.00-10.00	Judy Pillinger	0427 323 667	Room 1
Craft and Sewing	10.15-12.00	Margo Short	0408 357 378	Room 1
Scrabble	10.00-12.00	Jude Everett	0409 528 070	Bowls Club
Mahjong	1.00-3.00	Rhonda Biddle	0416 035 564	Room 1
Ukelele (1st&3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues)	3.30-5.00	Sue Wilson	0409 389 658	Room 1
Sessions Tunes (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues.)	3.30-5.30	Barbie Roach	0402 117 540	Room 1

**Wednesday:**

Gardening	9.00-11.00	Gwenda Bland	0490 700 723	Baptist Church
Cryptic Crosswords	10.00-12.00	Gary Chapman	0438 501 023	Room 1
Discussion Group	1.00-3.00	Gary Chapman	0438 501 023	LTB Angling Club
Getting into Guitar	12.00-1.00	John McMillan	0428 546 094	Room 1
Rock On	1.00-4.00	Leigh Davies	0457 317 993	Room 1

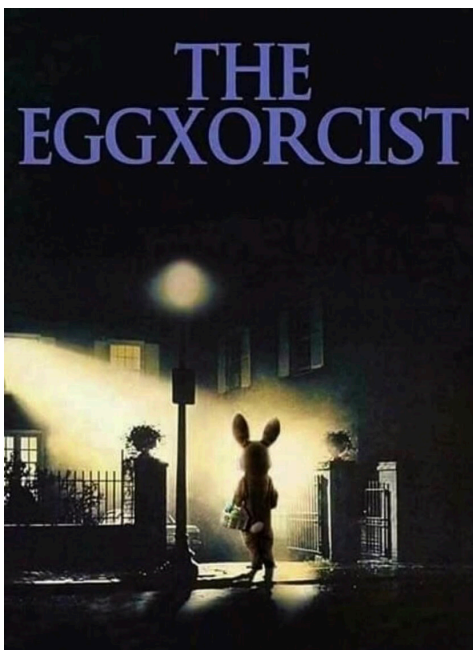
**Thursday:**

French for Beginners	10.00-12.00	Irene/Sandy Yeats	0417 547 944	Room 1
Book Club	11.00 -1.00 (last Thurs.)	Beth Harrison	0409 012 726	Room 1
Celtic Plus	3.30-5.30 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs.	Barbie Roche	0402 117 540	Room 1
Play-a-long Music	3.30-5.30 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs.	Carol McDonald	0429 383 909	Room 1
Free Dance(not 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thur)	2.00-3.00	Andrea Edwards	5155 4914	Room 1
Bird Watching	9.00-10.00 1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs.	Sue Grima	0427 281 445	LTB Outside

**Friday:**

Walking Group	9:00	Val Ryan	5155 5870	Outside
Line Dancing	9:30 - 12:00	Judy Collins	0418 677 560	Senior Citizens
Photography	10.00-12.00	Bruce Wilmshurst	0456 611 416	Room 1
Canasta	1.30-4.00	Joy Wilmshurst	0427 323 910	Room 1

**All classes at Masonic Lodge 10 Rowe Street Lakes Entrance unless otherwise specified.**



**Quiz Answer**

Numbers are in alphabetical order



*Happy Easter!*