

2022 January Newsletter

Happy New Year to all members!

We all hope that it's going to be a better year than 2021 and for our U3A, it has certainly started well. There are nearly 50 enrolments already. Including several new members, and the new courses are well subscribed. Our room is being cleaned ready for our occupation and the 10 new chairs are waiting to be unpacked. Members should check-in either manually or by QR code for each class and our Terms and Conditions of Membership stipulate that all members must be double vaccinated unless they are only joining online classes.

Annual General Meeting Thursday 27 January at 10.30 am Maple Room, Wangaratta Turf Club

All the documents for this meeting are attached to the email including a nomination form. Members are encouraged to nominate for the Committee of Management so that they can contribute to the development of the organisation. Nominations should be in the Secretary's hands by 20 January.

Constitution/Rules

The Committee has decided to update the Rules by which the organisation is governed under the Incorporations Act. The suggested Model Rules have been developed by Government in line with this Act. The mission statement is very important because it indicates objectives of the organisation in such a way that it can be used in grant applications. The Model Rules will be presented to members in draft format at the 2021 AGM and, if approved, will be adopted at the 2022 AGM.

Tech Talk – Friday 28 January at 2.30 pm

U3A has acquired a new computer and a new modem which, unlike the previous one, only requires only one switch to work.. We have also acquired a new technology support person who loves writing manuals!!!! These new resources will be demonstrated on Friday 28 January at 2.30 pm in our room for tutors, course representatives, and any one who would like to know how to use our technology.

Defibrillator Training

The defibrillator arrived at the beginning of 2020 as a result of a grant submitted by Lorraine. Now is our first opportunity to be trained in its use. Ian Wilson is qualified to train members and intends to offer dates and times after the first COM meeting.

Course Update

Beginners Italian has 5 students at the moment so, given the excellence of the tutor, more interest would be welcome. Tell your friends.

More than Music – Wednesday 1.30 pm

4 February: *Les Misérables: The Dream Cast in Concert* (1995) is a concert version of the 1980 *Les Misérables* which was based on Victor Hugo's 1862 novel, produced to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the West End production. It was filmed in October 1995 at the Royal Albert Hall.

18 February: Ray Charles An American Icon

Charles pioneered the soul music genre during the 1950s by combining blues, jazz, rhythm and blues, and gospel styles into the music he recorded for Atlantic. He contributed to the integration of country music, rhythm and blues, and pop music during the 1960s with his crossover success on ABC Records. The DVD contains 15 songs, mostly from one of his last performances but also an early rendition of "Georgia on my mind".

The Garden Plot – Friday 10.10 am

4 February What are you growing in your garden? What would you like to learn about plants and gardens?

18 February: A presentation about the fascinating world of fungi.

Smorgasbord

Friday 25 February 10.30 am

Narelle Martin from the Regional Change Agency will tell us about Building hope in a warming world. <http://regionalchangeagency.com.au/>

Must See

Wangaratta Art Gallery - *Tamworth Textile Triennial Performance, Interaction and Material Futures* until 15 February.

Tension[s] 2020: Tamworth Textile Triennial acknowledges that the world has long been a place under various tension[s], both harmonious and dissonant. In order to bear witness to, contribute to and respond to these tensions, the triennial will focus on the future of people and place through textile as a material and human experience as materiality.

Of Interest....

Dr Kerry Pike, who gave us a talk about Memory last year, sent us the following information:

Dementia Training Australia will hold a free workshop in Wangaratta on **Creating Supportive Environments**. Wednesday 2 February 9.30 – 3.30 at the Gateway.

You are welcome to register for and attend the morning session, afternoon session, or both.

Morning session: This workshop presented by DTA will address ways to more effectively use buildings and gardens to support people living with dementia, as well as strategies for achieving change and creating better environments.

Afternoon session: This workshop presented by Dementia Services Development Centre (DSDC) will look at how finishes and fixtures can have a positive or negative impact on people living with dementia.

Register by clicking the link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/creating-supportive-environments-and-selecting-products-wangaratta-vic-tickets-221232752117>

Anne Bittner, Secretary , U3A Wangaratta Inc