
2023 JULY NEWSLETTER

From the President's Desk

We have a special session of Hot Topics planned for Tuesday 8 August at 1.30pm in the Oaks Room at the Racecourse, to which all U3A members are invited. A light afternoon tea will be provided. Our guest speaker, Dr Heather Wearne, is a volunteer educator with the From the Heart Group and the Yes Alliance. She has been presenting to other U3As to provide an opportunity for us all to find out about the issues involved before we need to vote at the Referendum on creating an Indigenous Voice to Parliament. Heather (born and bred locally) will present some information and will welcome questions and provide the opportunity for us to have a discussion around any concerns we may have. The sign-up sheet is in our rooms.

Erica Pike

Committee Corner

Committee of Management, 2023

Erica Pike - President

Sandra Bishop - Vice-President, Events Organiser, Housekeeper

Guy Robertson - Treasurer

Helen Wrigley - Secretary

Yve Weinberg - Publicity Officer

Pauline Moncrieff - Newsletter Editor, Facebook

Ian Wilson - Webmaster, Facebook

Chris Duyverman - Technical Support, Membership Secretary

Jennifer Price - Course co-ordinator

(Contact details for Committee members are on display on the noticeboard in our room)

Website help

U3A is looking for someone with an eye for Graphic Design or Photographer. We are planning to revamp our web site. We are looking for someone with a photographer's eye to take photos that are inviting to potential members.

Contact Ian Wilson 0409 894 255

Social outings

Members are encouraged to attend the **Seniors Lunch** at the Racecourse in Seniors Week. This is always an enjoyable social occasion, with entertainment provided, and no pressure to gamble.

There is now a permanent suggestion box on the table in our room.

Course Update

The class timetable is available on our website www.u3awangaratta.org.au

All Tutors are invited to send Pauline any information about forthcoming sessions. This is an excellent way to boost numbers in your classes.

If any tutors feel the need for technical training in using the equipment in our room, contact our Technical Support person, Chris, on 5722 1303 and she will be pleased to assist.

We would also be glad of any colourful photos of class activities, to enhance our website (see Ian Wilson's message above).

Are you interested in facilitating a course? U3A Network has a program of courses put together using Powerpoint presentations, guides and mentoring sessions. These can be facilitated by people who don't necessarily have the relevant subject knowledge. We have already run two of these, Scribblers and First Nations. If you want more details, contact Erica at u3awangaratta@gmail.com. Or if you have an idea for a possible new course, contact Erica or Jen (Class Co-ordinator)

Garden Plot (fortnightly, Thursdays, 10.30 am to 12.30 pm)

Contact Lorraine for any further enquiries, on 0448 387180.

Literature (fortnightly, Thursday, 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm.

First session 20 July

Philosophy (fortnightly) Wednesday, 11am to 12.30 at the North Eastern Hotel.

In semester 2 we'll be looking at the groundbreaking achievements of 'difficult women' who helped change the course of history.

26 July - Hildegard of Bingen, C12th Benedictine abbess and polymath.



Hot Topics

There will be a special session of Hot Topics on Tuesday 8 August, from 1.30pm, in the Oaks Room at the Racecourse. All U3A members are invited. Our guest speaker will be Dr Heather Wearne, who will answer your questions about the forthcoming Referendum on the Voice to Parliament. A light afternoon tea will be provided. The sign-up sheet is in our rooms. (See further details in *From the President's Desk*)

Book Circle

Thursday 27 July from 1.30pm, in the U3A rooms

Members bring books they have read and enjoyed recently, and take turns in talking about them to the group. We also discuss and recommend films or live performances we have seen. If you haven't read anything lately, come along anyway, and be inspired by others.

At the end of this session, Anne will give a short presentation on some of the best historic novels, and the ones to avoid. More members would be welcome, so if you'd like to join the group, email me at pauline.moncrieff@gmail.com.

First Nations

The **History of First Nations** course will continue into second semester and new members are welcome. **First session Friday 21 July.**

Anne Bittner

Refreshments

Tea and coffee are provided in our rooms for use by all classes, but biscuits or cakes are at the discretion of each individual group.

Community events

Wangaratta Library

Rural Women Online (Men are welcome, too). No bookings needed; just turn up. Wednesdays 10am -12noon.

Free help in getting the most from your computer, iPad, tablet or phone.

Wangaratta Arts Council's annual Literary Lunch, Saturday 12 August

Chris Hammer will speak about his latest book, *The Tilt*. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

Quality Hotel Wangaratta Gateway. 11.30am for a 12 o'clock start.

Cost \$58 Concession or Arts Council members. Full price \$63. Tables of 10. **If you would like to join the Book Circle table, mention this when paying.**

Bookings can be made at Edgars Books and News, 55 Murphy St, ph 5721 3758.

Celebration Concert at Holy Trinity Cathedral

Sunday 6 August from 3.00pm. Come and celebrate the restoration of the Willis organ. Tickets \$20, under 18s free. Bookings through Eventbrite.

<https://htcwfriendscelebrationconcert.eventbrite.com.au>

WPACC

The Barber of Seville, presented by Opera Australia, Saturday 2 September, 7.30pm. There are still good seats available for this, but be quick!

Scam Watch

Overseas travel scams

Public wifi. Be careful using public wifi. Banking transactions are particularly risky.

Taxi scams - wrong change or overcharging; unlicensed, fake taxis at airports.

Pickpocketing. Never let your handbag or backpack out of your grasp. In busy areas, thieves will create a diversion - a card game, a magic trick, etc, and someone in the crowd will pickpocket while you are distracted. Stay alert at all times.

Holiday bookings Beware of fake online travel agents. If a deal seems too cheap, the agent is averse to meeting in person, or reviews are too good to believe, beware.

Credit card skimming. Do not let your credit card out of your sight when making purchases. Never share your PIN or keep a copy with your card.

Visa scams Only apply for visas using links or organisations recommended by the embassy or consulate.

Carry My Bag scam. Never do it for a stranger; you could be in a lot of trouble. If it's someone you know, check that the items in the bag are allowed in by Australian Customs.

Member Benefits

U3A Tuesday Lunchtime Forums (Zoom) from 12.30pm. Current affairs, including local events, politics, science, the environment and international events. Register via forums@u3acanberra.org.au. More details at www.u3acanberra.org.au

Book Exchange

All members are welcome to borrow books from the library in our room.

Recently added: **Consolation, by Garry Disher**, gripping rural noir, set in outback South Australia.

The little wartime library, by Kate Thompson, about a public library service relocated to serve evacuees living in an abandoned Tube station during WWII. The library itself had been badly damaged in the Blitz. This is fiction, based on real events.

Edgars Books and News offers U3A members a 20% discount on all books. Mention your U3A membership before making your purchase.

Find us on Facebook (Wangaratta U3A). All members are welcome to share any interesting and relevant posts.

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