

U3A Update Term 1 2021

We would like to wish all U3A members a Happy New Year. Fingers crossed 2021 is less challenging and less restrictive than 2020. We hope that everyone enjoyed the festive and holiday season and have been able to gather with family and friends over this break.

The 2021 U3A year will begin with enrolment day at **9:30 am on Monday 1st February**.

We are holding a Special General Meeting at 10:00 am. Information as to the proposed motion has already been sent to members. To vote at this meeting you must be a financial member. If anyone cannot be in attendance and requires a "Form of appointment of a Proxy" please contact one of the executive.

Our Enrolment Day Guest Speakers are **Craig Wilson, the owner/ editor of the Ararat Advocate** and his mainstay journalist **Tammi Sladdin**.

The Ararat U3A Committee determined that due to all the interruptions last year that financial members from 2020, would only be required to pay **\$20 for membership in 2021**. All new or lapsed members would be required to pay \$35 for membership in 2021. Due to our digital record keeping, we only require Membership Enrolment forms from new members, or current members whose details have changed,

The Annual Fees are due on enrolment day, or can be deposited directly to our Bendigo Bank Account : Ararat & District U3A BSB 633000 Account 138617667. If you do this please remember to include your name as reference on the deposit.

The majority of our regular sessions are resuming, and we are continually very grateful for the commitment made by each activity leader. If you have any queries regarding any of the oprograms please contact the relevant leader....details are on the back

At this point I wish to give a big thank-you to Mary Alp, whose indigenous history program " The First Australians -The Untold Story" was very enthusiastically received by all who attended last year. Mary is offering her program again, once in Term 2 on Wednesday afternoons and once in Term 3 on Thursday afternoons. She is capping her audience for each of these groups at 20 for discussion purposes. It will be important that you indicate your interest on enrolment day to avoid disappointment. There is already a waiting list held over from last year.

Janine Adams and Pam Brennan will continue to provide mentorship in the **Be Connected** Program sessions at both 10am and 11am on Tuesdays for members who wish to enhance their digital skills on mobiles, tablets or laptops. The highlight will be the session in which Margaret Wright will show us all how to successfully paint on an iPad.

Alan Grant has volunteered to lead a gardening interest group on Wednesday mornings, initially to tend to and revamp the beds at the entrance to Melbourne Polytechnic Training Centre..but to also follow the interests in whatever direction the keen participants take.

It is fabulous that the Singing group will be able to reconvene this year. It has been sorely missed by many.

We must also thank Wendy Lewis who is initiating knitting and crochet sessions on alternate Thursday afternoons, a venue for sharing patterns ideas or just chatting while you work on your own projects.

On the alternate Thursday afternoons remember that Phil Goudie is willing to challenge you to any Board Game! There may be an influx in avid Chess players from any members addicted to the Netflix series The Queen's Gambit.

Anne Hedgeland is offering to share with you her favourite slice recipes on Friday mornings at the Ararat College Trade Training Centre. \$10 is required for venue hire and ingredients...the reward will be delicious. Please bring your own slice tray!

Due to popular demand Linda Heard will resume her sewing group on Tuesdays during Term 2.

Margaret Farrar is offering three walks for our Bushwalking enthusiasts this term. For all those keen on joining meet at the Ararat Bowls Carpark at 9am.

The Friday morning Lake Walk is the popular constitutional on the U3A calendar! Doing laps at the Alexandra Gardens, you will always certainly meet a friendly face and as a reward can partake in a coffee at the Gardens Cafe.

The U3A committee thought it may be fun to have the opportunity to gather socially on occasions, and have subsequently set aside two dates in Term 1. A dinner at **Sicilians on Tuesday 2nd March at 6:00pm** and an afternoon tea at the **Vines on 29th March at 2:00pm**. Of course it will be important that you RSVP if interested for venue booking purposes.

If you are unable to attend Enrolment day, we ask that you email your interests to u3aararat1@gmail.com

We continue to offer Excursions, meeting in the Carpark near Ararat Bowls club to organise carpooling.

- An excursion to the newly expanded Grampians Estate Winery has been thwarted twice due to lockdown restrictions! Third time lucky!

GRAMPIANS ESTATE WINERY		Friday 19th February	1:30 pm Carpool
1:45pm	1477 Western Highway, Great Western Owners Tom & Sarah Guthrie will give us a history of their former Garden Gully ' St Ethels' vineyard property, and an explanation of the management of their business, which also includes a. Mafeking vineyard. They are also an outlet for many local products		
	Wine Tastings		
	Coffee & Cake		Own Cost
Website	www.grampiansestate.com.au		

- Bendigo Art Gallery will present Mary Quant: Fashion Revolutionary, a retrospective exhibition on the iconic British fashion designer Dame Mary Quant. Quant personified the energy and fun of swinging London and was a powerful role model for the working woman

MARY QUANT EXHIBITION.		Friday 26th March	8:30 am Carpool
10:30 am	Bendigo Gallery 42 View Street, Bendigo An exhibition organised by the Victoria and Albert Museum, London		\$22 Seniors
	Own arrangements for lunch		
	https://www.bendigoregion.com.au/bendigo-art-gallery/exhibitions/mary-quant-fashion-revolutionary		

We are always looking for members who are willing to become involved on the U3A committee. Do not wait to be approached, we are very keen for members to volunteer if interested!

Our **AGM is scheduled on March 1st at 1:30pm** and we are very fortunate to have Anthony Kumnick, the owner of the Great Western Granary as our Guest speaker

I repeat the regular plea for new ideas for guest speakers, presentations, excursions, and new programs. Do not hesitate to get in touch if you have a skill or an experience you would like to share! 😊

If you have any enquiries or suggestions regarding our program do not hesitate to contact one of our executive.

President	Lynne Wilson	0417524054
Secretary	Pam Brennan	
Treasurer	Carmel Stringer	

Please remember at all times to remain **Covid Safe!** Keep your distance, wear a mask if you cannot social distance, maintain hand hygiene and record your attendance at sessions. We do have a QR code for use.

U3A Contacts & Tutors

Time	Frequency	Class	Contact/ Tutor
MONDAYS			
10:30 am	weekly	MEDITATION	<i>Kevin Free</i>
1:00 pm	weekly	WOODIES	<i>David Mitchell</i>
1:30 pm	monthly	BOOK GROUP	<i>Pam Brennan</i>
1:30 pm	x 3 term	U3A BIG SCREEN	<i>Margaret Burbidge</i>
TUESDAYS			
10:00am	Weekly	ART	<i>Erin Waite Ballinger</i>
11:00am	X3	Be Connected Digital Literacy	<i>Pam Brennan Janine Adams</i>
1:00pm	Weekly	SOLO	<i>Alwyn Kitchen</i>
WEDNESDAYS			
10:00 am	weekly	FINSKA	Wendy Lewis
1:00 pm	weekly	CRAFT	Wendy Lewis
THURSDAYS			
10:00 am	weekly	SINGING	Pat McAloon
1:00pm	weekly	BRIDGE	Anne Marshall
1:00pm	Fortnightly	KNITTING & CROCHET	Wendy Lewis
1:00 pm	Fortnightly	BOARD GAMES	Phil Goudie
3:00 pm	weekly	PILATES. \$10	Zaiga Watts
FRIDAYS			
9:00 am	scheduled	BUSHWALKING Carpool at Carpark	Margaret Farrar
10:00 am	weekly	LAKE WALK meet at Alexandra Gardens	Margaret Burbidge
10:00am	X3	Scrumptious Slices Ararat College TTC	Anne Hedgeland
EXCURSIONS			
Check Term Grid			Pam Brennan