

U3A Sapphire Coast

June 21 Newsletter



Welcome

New Members:

Diana Gleeson
Tricia Michelin
Melanie Weckert
Christina Schaffer
Vivienne Griff
Robert Robilliard
Bruce Dunlevie
John Weckert

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello everyone



Winter is here but fortunately still with our lovely coastal sunshine most days. We also have more freedom (so far) in our state than we did this time last year but the current Covid outbreak in Melbourne is a reminder that we can't yet completely relax. Our Covid rules for using the Tura Beach Centre remain in place and we urge you to follow the Covid guidelines provided by other venues that you might be using. If you have any questions about U3A's Covid

management please contact Barbara Simmons at u3asoffice10@gmail.com.

Meanwhile, our U3ASC is thriving again and the Tura Beach Centre is again almost fully booked. Most of the games groups are once again meeting and our members are involved in many physical activities from line dancing to yoga. Other groups are meeting to share a huge range of interests from books to movies to writing, music and arts and crafts. I think everyone is enjoying the face-to-face social contact, which is such a big part of the U3A experience.

There's not a lot to add about new courses or one-offs. James Nichterlein's Zoom course on the world our grandchildren will inherit, beginning in Term 3, is still looking for participants. Also please note that Trivia Quiz will be back on 17 August and each Tuesday from 10.45 - 12.45 NOT Wednesday as advised in the previous newsletter.

Sue and Linda, and the rest of the Program Team, are always looking for suggestions about new courses - either continuing courses, or one-offs or short courses. Even more, they are seeking people prepared to share their skills and knowledge with others and who are prepared to volunteer as course leaders. Please contact Sue or Linda at programs.u3asc1@gmail.com and also join me in thanking the Program Team for all the work they do to keep our program full, and to support all of our course leaders. As well as Sue and Linda, that's Carolyn Smith, Rosie Bunton, Elizabeth Stacey, Sandy Coates and Kym Moggeridge.

You'll find lots of reading and photos below about what our U3A'ers have been doing. Until the next newsletter in July, stay warm, stay active and stay learning.

All the best,
Sue Fowler, President, U3ASC

MONTHLY MIDWEEK FILM CLUB (NEW NAME!!)



Our small enthusiastic group really enjoyed watching *Jesus of Montreal* at our session in May. The film highlighted many issues relating to a compassionate and moral society as represented in a reinterpretation of a *Passion Play* performed by a group of actors in the grounds of a Catholic Church in Montreal. As the religious authorities try to close down the performance, a disaster follows as the audience, when protesting, inadvertently create havoc and dire consequences for the cast. That will be the final film we'll watch by the Canadian director Denys Arcand.

After a group discussion it was decided to change the date and time of the session to the last Wednesday of each month commencing at 5.00 pm in the U3ASC Tura Beach Centre with our next session now on Wednesday, 30 June 2021. We'll soon send details of the movie the group has chosen to watch. Please enrol online if you'd like to join this group of dedicated film watchers.

Kaye Separovic, Wal Wolzak and Sylvie Dubrulle.



Julie and some of her divas dancing "Jerusalem"

LINE DANCING 2021

Well, it is great to be back dancing once again. It is especially wonderful to see all my divas back enjoying themselves in 2021. I personally missed them all so very much. So, we are back and dancing up a storm each and every week and it feels great. Here's hoping we are over the bad times so we can get on with the great times ahead.

Julie Walker, Course Leader, Line Dancing

A NEW SCRABBLE GROUP is starting in BEGA



This new group is listed on the U3ASC website under Current Courses A-Z, SCRABBLE be Social @ BEGA. The Course Leader is Anne Ducray who attends Jenni Smith's Sociable Scrabble group in Wolumba and with Jenni's recommendation was inspired to start her own group which she will run at her home in Bega. Anne enjoys challenging the computer at Scrabble but would prefer your company so why not accept her offer and enroll?

Email Anne to find out more aducray@bigpond.com

Anne also enjoys her Rotary Club and her garden, as well as two small dogs - Cully and Lucy - who will greet you enthusiastically when you arrive before settling down. She is a former Public Service Librarian and Salvation Army envoy and has lived in the Bega Valley on and off for fifteen years, first in Candelo and then in Bega.

RUMMIKUB

Our Rummikub Group meets each Friday at Club Sapphire in the Meeting Room. There are between 18 to 22 ladies who play each week (apart from Public Holidays). Our oldest player, Val, (see at the front of the photo below) is 98, and she is as bright as a button. Another of our players, also called Val, is a Life Member of U3A being one of the original instigators of U3A in this area. We all come along for the friendship and fun.

Everyone has to pick a numbered card off a table, and this tells her which table to sit at for her game. This alleviates any 'cliqueiness', and everyone mixes very well. About half way through the afternoon, we go up to the Bistro at Club Sapphire and have a quick coffee etc. and a chat! Then back to the games! When we have finished our games, there are always ladies willing to help me clear up.

Once every 6 weeks or so, we have a luncheon at Club Sapphire. We support the Club as the Club staff look after us very well and are always willing to help in any way they can.

At present I have a waiting list of 6 ladies. (We did have a couple of men players at one time but I think they may have been 'overwhelmed' by the number of ladies and they never returned to Rummikub).

Joan Callaway
Course Leader, Rummikub Group



EXPLORING LONG AND SHORT POINT, MERIMBULA, WITH JEFF HAYNES



On 13 May, a small group of regular walkers met at Merimbula Wharf on a beautiful sunny morning to explore the waterways of Short Point and Back Lake. As this walk had been postponed due to heavy rain the week before, the original route was modified slightly as the high tide excluded some rock clambering. Nevertheless, we managed to find some watery tracks to leap over and through — which was a good test for the waterproofness of footwear.

Jeff led the 7.5 km walk from the Merimbula Wharf along the northern section of the older walking track to Bar Beach, where we left the track to walk along the new **Djirringanj People's Walk** on Lake Street to Rotary Park. We returned along the same route to Wyebo Street and traversed through the somewhat boggy bushtracks in greenspace below the houses coming out again onto Cliff St. From here we crossed a laneway between Collins and Lakeview Streets and continued down to the water on to a track that led us around Back Lake back to Short Point. We had lovely views of the lake on this section of the walk. We

stopped to take in the stormy ocean and continued on to Short Point to view the sweeping views and the swell on the rock platform. From here we walked back along Cliff Street dropping back down to the Wharf Restaurant for coffee, scones and cake.

This month marked the 10th anniversary of the U3A Adventure Walking Group. Jenny Johnston initiated the group, organised and led all the walks for the first 7 years before handing the reins on. We now have a number of people leading the walks and we continue to explore our picturesque local area.

Helen Stevenson
Admin, Adventure Walking

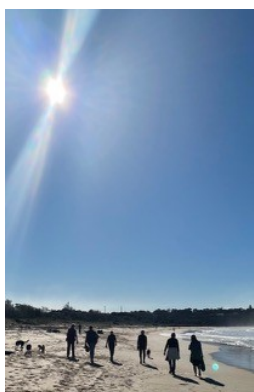


TUESDAY MAH JONG



Our Mah Jong Group meet on Tuesday mornings 9.30–12.30 at the Anglican Church Hall, Merimbula. Mah Jong is a tile-based game that was developed in the 19th Century in China although we play the Western version. We are a friendly group who love playing this game which aims to keep our brains active. We are so pleased to be back playing again after such a long absence and to be catching up with old friends. We welcome beginners and more experienced players.

Patricia Witton, Course leader, Tuesday Mah Jong Group



A WALK IN THE PARK

Wonderful Autumn days for dogs on the beach and U3A members. Please note: a date change for A Walk in the Park schedule: 16 June (long weekend) has changed to 21 June at Lions Park Pambula. Let your dog(s) bring you along for a little mayhem!
Fleur Dwyer
0418629488

THE POETRY APPRECIATION GROUP

meets on the first Saturday of each month.
Time: 10.00 - 2.00.
Venue: Tura U3A Centre.
The theme for Saturday 4 July is the **Poetry of Clive James**.
Enquiries to Bridget O'Hanlon 0421 796 422.



Paul Daynes'
UKULELE GROUP



Both ITALIAN FOR BEGINNERS classes celebrated La Festa della Repubblica (2 June) with delicious lemon and ricotta torta made by one of the class members, Fiorella.



CRITIQUING CINEMA

We now have fifteen members in our Critiquing Cinema group. We've seen and discussed some very interesting films over the past three months.



In March, we had five members for **Nomadland**, a docu-drama (Academy Award - Best Picture, Best Director - Chloe Zhao, Best Actress - Frances McDormand), about a growing number of Americans who, mostly out of necessity and some by choice, live as van-dwelling modern-day nomads, travelling and working across the United States.

In April, eight of us saw **The Father**, a psychological drama (Best Actor - Anthony Hopkins) about an elderly man resisting his daughter's efforts to place him in a nursing home.

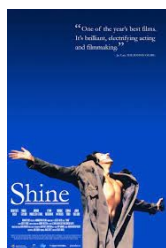


In May, we had a group of five for Australian film, **June Again**, a drama/comedy starring Noni Hazlehurst. It's the story of June, who suffers from dementia, but experiences a temporary period of lucidity in which she is determined to sort out her estranged adult children, get the family business back on track and perhaps even reconnect with an old flame.

Three very different films, all thought-provoking, and giving us much to discuss.

Looking forward to more wonderful films in the coming months.

Exciting news! To celebrate the inaugural **WinterSun Festival Merimbula**, there will be a number of events to enjoy over the June Long Weekend. One of those events will be a special evening screening by The Picture Show Man cinema of the feel-good classic Australian film, **Strictly Ballroom** on **Saturday 12 June**. Choc tops, popcorn and mulled wine, will all be on offer. Also, on **Sunday 13 June**, there will be a screening of another classic Aussie film, **Shine**. (Screening times for both films will be available closer to the event). Why not join in some of the activities on offer, and help to make the first WinterSun Festival a success for our community. Visit <https://www.escapetomerimbula.com.au/wintersun> for all details.



Lorraine Young, Course Leader, Critiquing Cinema

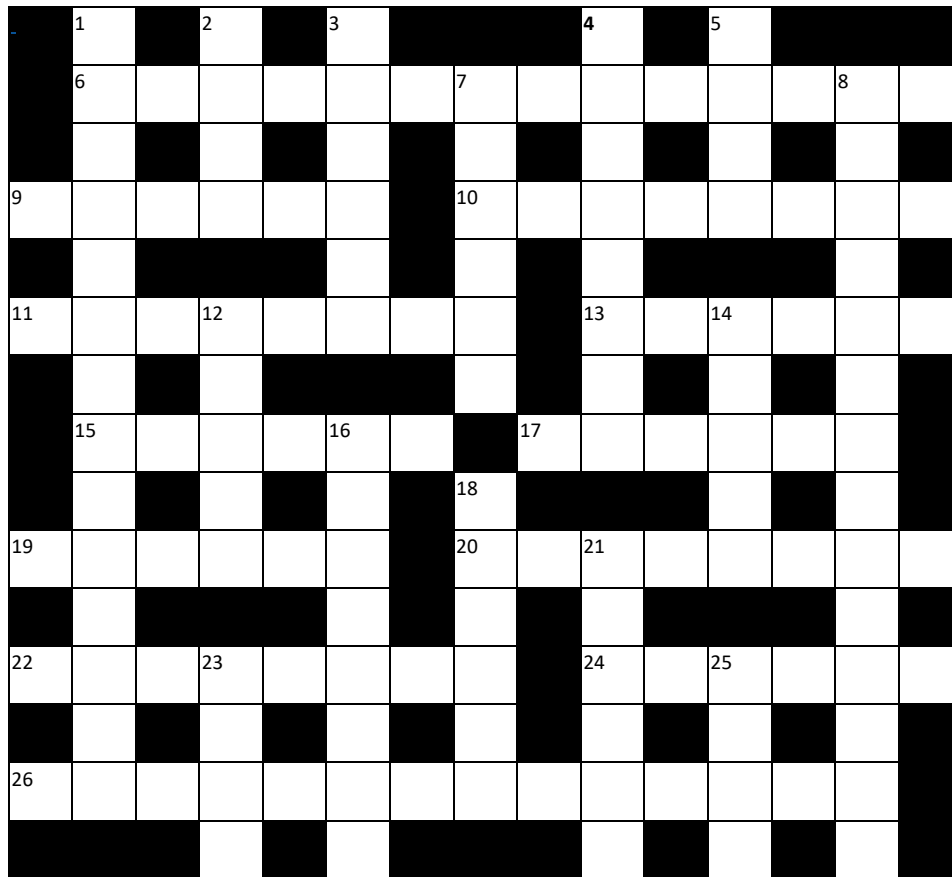
ONE-OFF – CHINA: THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY

Twenty-five people attended the Tura Beach Centre for a well-received talk by Paul Strutynski on 2 June. At the one-off talk U3ASC participants were given the interesting opportunity of putting themselves in Chinese shoes to view the current falling out between Australia and China. For example, they were asked how they would feel if Darwin or Tasmania had been stripped from Australia, as Hong Kong and Taiwan had been from China by foreign powers, and whether they would favour Darwin and Tasmania's eventual reunification with Australia.

"If most Australians would want reunification of our country in those circumstances, it's also a fair bet most Chinese would feel the same way about Hong Kong and Taiwan", the presenter, Paul Strutynski, suggested. Paul said he wanted to present the other side of the story to that reported in our media so people could develop a more balanced understanding of the issue.

Some people who were unable to attend expressed interest in a replay later in the year. If you're also interested, please let Sue O'Loughlin know at sue.oloughlin@gmail.com.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD 206 by JOHN SCRIVENER



CROSSWORD 206 CLUES

ACROSS

6. Dragged wood lot for place of highly competitive behaviour (3,3,3,5)
9. Purpose in temporary house (6)
10. Hot with right inside current (8)
11. Lone at Gallipoli but nee tripe (4,4)
13. Produces documents while I said "SE Asian on a ski run without energy" (6)
15. I compose a poem even though I heard I was on charge with an offense! (6)
17. Concealment of the gravel on a mountainside to the north (6)
19. Pushcart by second able-pointed missile (6)
20. Wise sayings are for action words (8)
22. Lighted early effect and with speed educated (8)
24. Begin to grow short special utter defeat (6)
26. Do the hard part first like the entry of the accomplished swimmer to the pool! (2,2,3,4,3)

DOWN

1. I make a depression if I use family pet and an electrically charged atom. Use your driver's licence for this (14)
2. Horrible blood monster! (4)
3. Does the noise of tiny feet cause you to speak rapidly? (6)
4. Unbeliever gains cot (8)
5. French king swallows square and flat bread (4)
7. Trembling with muddled tired first house (6)
8. Erratic bell sound, grit and limits moving forward rapidly (5,3,6)
12. A bird uses 25 with first ibis (5)
14. Food for church portion (5)
16. Shop watt required beside canals (3,5)
18. Diffuse drapes! (6)
21. Jousted without front evicted (6)
23. Transformed seat consumes (4)
25. Will the backward animal eat this grass? (4)

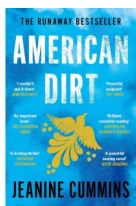
TRIVIA QUICK QUIZ by BRIDGET O'HANLON



1. How many wings does a flea have?
2. How many countries are larger by area than Australia?
3. 'Tilting at Windmills' is an expression that comes from which literary character?
4. Which US President was nicknamed 'Mr Nice Guy'?
5. Gado gado is a dish from which country?
6. Rami Malek won the Best Actor Oscar in 2019 for portraying which Pop idol?
7. Who preceded Bob Hawke as leader of the ALP?
8. What does a trichologist study?
9. Which river flows through Baghdad?
10. What is the Latin for 'Seize the day'?

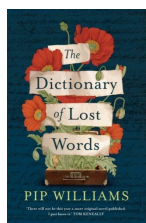
Book recommendations from the 4th WEDNESDAY BOOK GROUP

Our group has recently been reading two books which were published in 2020 to general acclaim and success. Both these books inspired diverse opinions from our group members as well as some interesting discussions about our responses to their themes and characters.



The first, ***American Dirt***, by American author Jeanine Cummins, was well reviewed and recommended by Oprah Winfrey which usually guarantees instant success but the author also caused much dissension after publication.

The book is essentially a thriller about a bookstore-owning Mexican woman whose journalist husband falls foul of one of the Mexican drug cartels resulting in a memorable violent opening sequence. She and her young son then spend the novel trying to escape the drug cartel by travelling to the United States of America as undocumented immigrants. The story has strong emotional descriptions of the people they meet, their own responses to the dangers and trauma of their situation, and their frightening experiences as they travel. It is fast moving and exciting and explained the plight of the illegal immigration of so many people (particularly children) from Central America to the USA from a perspective that many of our group had not necessarily considered before. The issue of the author not being part of this cultural group raised protests about cultural appropriation from authors and other Latinos and we discussed this aspect and its implications for writers and their fictional stories in general.



In May we read ***The Dictionary of Lost Words***, a first novel by South Australian author, Pip Williams, which has sold well both domestically and internationally and has also received good reviews. It is a fictional story woven into the real history of the development of the first Oxford English Dictionary under Dr James Murray. Among real characters such as Murray, his family and household, his team of lexicographers and the people gathering, editing and printing their words, Williams creates the story of Esme, the young daughter of a widowed lexicographer father, who grows up around the Oxford "scriptorium," a garden shed where the dictionary is being developed. Her fascination with the words and their meanings

develops as she grows up and understands and gathers the meanings of words as they differ for females and also from a lower class perspective through Lizzie, the young illiterate servant of the Murray household who is her carer and friend. Most of these gathered meanings and many of these words are not included in the official dictionary in which final decisions are made by men. The story is set from 1886 and reflects the issues of women's place in all roles and levels of society, their fight for the vote and their experiences during World War 1 and beyond, paralleling Esme's experiences as she becomes an adult whose life is also bound up in the dictionary's development.

Our discussion ranged over many issues often reflecting our differing views though, as avid readers, most of us found the process of the dictionary development fascinating and admired the way the story was woven around the meanings of words and their impact on society.

Elizabeth Stacey, Course Leader, 4th Wednesday Book Group.

CROSSWORD 206 ANSWERS

ACROSS

6. Dog eat dog world 9. Intent 10. Tropical 11. Pine tree 13. Typist
15. Indite 17. Screen 19. Barrow 20. Proverbs 22. Literate
24. Sprout 26. In at the deep end

DOWN

1. Identification 2. Ogre 3. Patter 4. Agnostic 5. Roti 7. Dither
8. Leaps and bounds
12. Eider 14. Piece 16. Tow paths 18. Spread 21. Ousted
23. Eats 25. Reed

TRIVIA QUICK QUIZ ANSWERS

1. None
2. Five Russia, Canada, USA, China and Brazil
3. Don Quixote
4. Gerald Ford
5. Indonesia
6. Freddy Mercury
7. Bill Hayden
8. Hair and scalp
9. Tigris
10. Carpe Diem



Contributions & Feedback to the Newsletter
can be sent to the Newsletter Team by the 1st week of every month. Send by email to either:
Trish: u3ascoffice8@gmail.com or
Elizabeth: eastacey@bigpond.net.au



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