

U3A

## Third Thoughts

Castlemaine Inc (Est. 1988)

Volume 25 No 7

August 2011

Reg. A0017409G

### *AT THE JULY COFFEE MORNING...*

Our invited guest speaker Karen Quinlan gave a most interesting talk on the Bendigo Art Gallery. She told us about herself and her committed devotion to her job, starting out in museums at the National Gallery of Victoria working as curatorial assistant in the fashion and textiles department, and her gradual rise to the position she now holds as Director of Bendigo Art Gallery.

Her talk was accompanied by a power-point presentation which ranged from the early history of the Bendigo gallery, its subsequent renovation to remove unsympathetic facades which had seemed appropriate over the years, to its recent restoration which has beautified and opened up the approaches to the gallery, more in keeping with the historic streetscape of View Street, as well as opening the new P.O. Gallery, a refurbished space in the 1887 post office building on Pall Mall. The Art Gallery now has a thriving shop and café too which seems to be a popular meeting place for a coffee and chat before or after viewing the gallery's fine collection.

Perhaps by some standards the Bendigo gallery is fairly small but it houses an extensive and important collection, and still it grows, so that storage space has become a priority. Plans are moving ahead to develop this much needed extra space. As it is at the moment, displays have to be rotated on a regular basis, or even stored away completely when special exhibitions are to be shown.

This was the case when space was needed to house *The Golden Age of Coutour* in 2009. Karen was instrumental in bringing that prestigious and highly successful exhibition to Bendigo from the London based Albert and Victoria Museum, thereby forming a mutual friendship between the two galleries, leading ultimately to the world premier in Bendigo of another V & A exhibition, opening this coming week, *The White Wedding Dress: 200 Years of Wedding Fashions*, curated by Edwina Ehrman. This exhibition will be in Bendigo until November 6<sup>th</sup> and I believe will not be shown anywhere else in Australia before returning home to the V&A in London.

~ Barbara Bunton ~

### COMING EVENTS

**Monday August 8<sup>th</sup> - 10.45 am**

at Castlemaine's Theatre Royal, the fourth showing of John Waldie's "Movies of Merit"

~ oOo ~

### Past Events

**Friday July 29<sup>th</sup>** Castlemaine U3A Founders Luncheon. What a lovely event that was and how nice to see so many, 30 or more, able to accept the numerous invitations that went out.

Sadly of course there had to be several apologies, but unanimously all those who were there declared it a delightful happening. And judging by the chat and laughter and the wonderful array of edible goodies there, I can definitely say, "that's so". Jenni and her crew of willing helpers did a sterling job of catering the delicious food, setting up with white cloths and pretty crockery, serving, and entertaining. Well done all of you. See the photos on page 15.

### August Coffee Morning Guest Speaker

**Rita Erlich**

**Originator of 'Epicure' in The Age**

Widely respected as a food writer and critic, as a food historian, and for her help in shaping the food scene in Melbourne, Rita has recently published another delightful cook book on Luscious Chocolate Cakes which also features one recipe from our own Sally Kaptein.

## U3A Castlemaine's information Web Page: [www.u3acastlemaine.com](http://www.u3acastlemaine.com)

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### U3A OFFICE DETAILS

The Office is at the Uniting Church Complex,  
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Office Hours are:

Mondays, 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm

Tuesdays, 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm

Wednesdays, 10 am – 12 noon

Phone: 5472 2249

Web Page: [www.u3acastlemaine.com](http://www.u3acastlemaine.com)

### Current 2011 Subscription Fee

**\$40.00** + \$10.00 for mailing of newsletter if required.

Members joining after June 30 pay 50% of the  
subscription fee.

**PLEASE INFORM THE OFFICE  
OF ANY CHANGE IN YOUR  
CONTACT DETAILS**

### Friday Coffee Morning Roster

5<sup>th</sup> August: Bloomsbury, Writing Your Life

2<sup>nd</sup> September: Family History, Bridge

Coffee Mornings are held on the first  
Friday in the month at 10.00 am  
in the Uniting Church Hall

### Committee Meetings

are held on the third  
Tuesday in the month at 1.00 pm  
in the Kindergarten Room,  
at the Uniting Church Complex.

## From the President

On Friday the 29th of July we are holding our Founders' Day morning tea for those members who joined in the first 10 years. I hope that around 30 of our older members will attend.

Like all occasions of this type it will be bittersweet as many will remember friends who are no longer present.

It seems every month I hear of members who have died or who, because of age or infirmity no longer attend classes. It occurred to me that with every passing month the human story of U3A Castlemaine is falling silent. To tell their story and our story becomes increasingly urgent. It's time to record our first two decades.

As you know over the last few months Betty Henchman has been talking and listening to our pioneers and recording their stories. Now it's YOUR turn. I'm asking for volunteers to join a working group to supplement the work Betty has done, to combine it with our archives and to translate the whole into a story about U3A Castlemaine and its people.

If that is not your interest then how about the roles of Course Co-ordinator or Treasurer. Win Jodell and Sue Turner must stand down from these important positions in October in accordance with our Constitution. The Committee has worked very hard over the last few months to simplify, and clarify their roles and all our other positions as well (a big thank you to Elizabeth Rider for her leadership and prodigious work). Win and Sue will talk about their roles at the August Coffee morning. If you have even a modicum of interest talk to them after the meeting. If you can't attend the meeting I know they will welcome your phone call or e-mail.

I recently browsed our web site for the first time in a few weeks and I can't close this contribution without again acknowledging the marvellous work of Bruce Carruthers.

### Office Doorbell

We have now installed a doorbell on the outside door to the U3A office. This is because CADARG requires the outside door to be locked at all times for health and safety reasons. Even if we don't lock it, CADARG will. The consequence is that members must ring the doorbell when attending classes in the office, or to visit during office hours. This may be inconvenient but while we continue to use the Uniting Church Parish Centre we have no choice.

*Judy Sime – U3A Office Manager*

### RECORDED!!

You may remember that last month I had a notice in requesting no more corks please - **disregard that!**

A U3A member has made me aware of "FOTZ" (Friends of the Zoo). They collect corks and sell them to a recycler to raise funds for the Elephant Enclosure. I am happy to continue collecting these for the elephants! FOTZ will also accept plastic stoppers, so save those as well. You will find me at the

Trading Table. With thanks, *Marie Twyford*

**Deadline for the September Newsletter is 3 pm Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August**

## U3A Network Victoria

*Council meeting held June 2011 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.*

As your representative at these meetings it is always interesting to hear the new ideas and concerns of other U3A groups. The emphasis at this meeting was on strengthening the regional partnerships between U3A organisations. The 70 members present at the meeting divided into workshop groups to discuss how we could make the interaction stronger.

Castlemaine is grouped with Bendigo, Echuca, Heathcote, Kyneton, Macedon and north based areas of Kerang and Mildura.

The idea of the Regional Networks is to share ideas and also events when appropriate. Our group decided that websites for each of our regional organisations should have links to each other so that all members can find out what 'is going on'. Our group also felt that special events and special speakers should be highlighted around the region – we wondered whether secretaries could do this via posting the information on the website and through the newsletter.

We also agreed that the possibility of visiting other U3A's in our region is worth pursuing.

On a more general note it is interesting that in Australia we now have over 67,000 members belonging to U3A organisations.

If any member is interested in attending either a Network meeting in Melbourne or a Regional Meeting (held in Bendigo) please contact Peter Stephens or Sally Kaptein. If you come, you will meet a number of dynamic people who are committed to the mission of U3A. The Network meeting is held in a pleasant room close to the Queen Vic Market AND the meeting does not go over 1 1/2 hours

Sally Kaptein

~ oOo ~

### Castlemaine revisited

Fifty years ago my husband and I were travelling by caravan with our eight month old daughter and we stayed in the Castlemaine Caravan Park. At some stage we visited the Castlemaine Botanic Gardens where I took this photo under the wisteria/maybe rose arch?

I have to admit that all I could remember about Castlemaine as the years rolled on, was that "I'd like to go back some time". Little did we realise that when we did return it would be to stay and fall in love with the place.

Now it's your task to guess who this young (U3A) dad is.  
Perhaps there'll be a prize in it. Who knows?



## ***Australia on the Dole***

**A One-off Hypothetical presented by Michael McNeill**

**Castlemaine Uniting Church Hall, 13<sup>th</sup> October, 9.30 am – 12.30 pm.**

***Terrified That Your Brain Will Congeal Into A Mouldy Mush? That You'll Actually Start to Regard 'Neighbours' and The Biggest Loser' As Quality Television?!***

Well, rest easy my friends for the hypothetical ***Australia on the Dole*** is coming. You, in your capacity as an important/famous Australian expert in your specialized area (come on, be honest, you've always thought, 'if only I were so-and-so...') will be instrumental in resolving the moral/ethical/practical crises which befall us as we wage our desperate war against Australia's fiscal/societal/environmental/etc. maladies in **our year 2041**.

What is a hypothetical you ask? Is it like that thing Geoffrey Robertson used to do on television? Nope, not at all. My hypotheticals (which I've been creating and running for over 35 years in various community settings) are all genuine think-tank experiences. I provide a fixed Scenario for you to read and study (this one, *Australia on the Dole*, is 9 pages in length) and Instructions (4 pages) on how the "game" functions over the three hours. My hypotheticals are a lot of fun but if you're seeking celebrity status forget it – there's no audience! It involves both small group and large group discussion and planning work. Everything in this **one 3 hour** period is tightly structured and everyone contributes (no wallflowers).

### **Joining the hypothetical:**

15 - 20 people (comprising the "Save Australia Organisation"\*) are required (detailed 'course' material, including Secret Resumes, will be supplied – see sample Secret Resume on your noticeboard or e-mail me for it). **No**, again, there is no audience: **no**, there is no acting experience required: **yes**, you have some "study" to do in preparation for the Hypothetical: **yes**, again, it's a great deal of fun. Sign up on an Expression of Interest sheet and please indicate your availability for 13<sup>th</sup> October. Don't bother signing up if you don't have an e-mail address; I live in Bendigo – snail mail wouldn't be good enough for what we'd need to communicate about. If I can't get at least 15 people it won't go ahead.

You may contact me on 5444-3755 or e-mail me on [mdhjmc@bigpond.com](mailto:mdhjmc@bigpond.com) to receive detailed "course" information and/or to sign up. Get those synapses crackling! Save your brain before it is too late!

***Michael McNeill***

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**The music and opera appreciation classes would like to advise members of the following performances at the Theatre Royal in August:**

The late academy award winning film director Anthony Minghella's critically acclaimed production of Puccini's classic opera.

Giacomo Puccini's ***MADAME BUTTERFLY*** Saturday August 13 and Sunday August 14

## Musings from the Course Coordinator

I am very pleased to advise our members that Christobel Comerford's most engaging course offered in Term I will be repeated, this time on a different day of the week, later in the year. I have attended this course and can thoroughly recommend it, no science knowledge required to be totally enthralled each week. Details below.

Due to the popularity of "Electromagnetic Pollution" in Term I Janobai has agreed to offer it again in Term IV. It will be offered as 2 sessions so everyone has a chance to use all the meters. It will be on a different day this time to give others a chance to join this topical class. Details below

By the time this goes to print **Movies of Merit** will have commenced. Members will have the opportunity to see an excellent film each **Monday 10.45 am** at the **Theatre Royal**. There has been a good enrolment and I am sure this will be a most successful venture in partnership with David Stretch at the Royal. It is hoped participants will buy a drink and a snack to support our town theatre.

Enrolment for these classes at the U3A office, see details below.

A lot of work has been occurring behind our U3A scenes. The job descriptions have been inspected, thought about and finally rewritten. I will be talking about my position, and how we plan to rationalise it, at the August Coffee Morning. After two years in post I will be standing down at the AGM but will remain on the Committee a further year and certainly be there to hand over this rewarding job to the next person. Various systems are now in place to make the tasks easier, it should "just roll on" as they say! I am sure there will be an adventurous person out there who will rise to the challenge. When I did I discovered, about a week later, that 300 people knew who I was! What a wonderful way to integrate into this marvellous country town. Rewarding indeed.

It is without doubt a very wintery winter, all the rain will do wonders for our gardens in spring, in the meantime dress warmly and enjoy some of the wonderful offerings from your Castlemaine U3A.

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### **LIVING CELL: the spice of life - 4 sessions**

Course leader: Christobel Comerford 5470 6230

Course outline Cytology – The living cell

1. The generalised cell, its structure and function.
2. Differences between bacterial, plant and animal cells
3. Cell specialisation – a range of particular examples.
4. Introduction to cell genetics.

(With a view to a subsequent but not sequential course – "It's all in your genes".)

Entry criteria: None - Meeting time Four sessions: 2 PM Thursdays: 22nd & 29th September, and 6th & 13th October - Venue: Uniting Church Complex

## **ELECTROMAGNETIC POLLUTION ISSUES**

**Course Leader:** Janobai Smith 5473 4153

**Course Outline:** “You cannot see it, taste it or smell it, but it [electromagnetic radiation] is one of the most pervasive environmental exposures in industrialised countries today.” C. Sage, BioInitiative Report, 2007.

These two sessions focus on the sources of electromagnetic pollution we are exposed to, how we can identify them, and what we can do to lessen our exposure to them. We will also look at why, from the viewpoint of our health and the environment, it is important to minimise exposure levels.

There will be an opportunity during each session to break into groups and try out various meters, including a Milligauss meter (for measuring magnetic fields), Volt Detector (for detecting electric fields), STETZERiZER meter (for measuring ‘dirty’ electricity within a building), Body Voltage kit (for measuring the difference between a person’s voltage and the ground outside), and Radio Frequency Field Strength meter. Participants are welcome to bring along any particular item whose field they might wish to test (for example, a clock radio or notebook computer).

Entry Criteria: None. Meeting Time: 10 am to 12 md, 18th and 25th October  
(session length 2 hours) Venue: Fellowship Room, Uniting Church Hall

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## **BEFORE CASTLEMAINE – How our land was formed.**

**Course Outline:** A run-down on Earth History as it relates to our region; seas; strange animals now extinct; earthquakes; massive volcanoes; ice sheets and great rivers. We’ve had them all! The rocks preserve records of ancient environments and incredible diversity. The ongoing message is change. Climate change is just one aspect.

**Entry Criteria:** Free curiosity and an open mind. Participation in 2 half-day field visits.  
**Venue:** 35 Campbell Street, Castlemaine.

**Commencing:** 2pm on 11th of October and running until 29th November every Tuesday  
(session length 1 hour).

***Enrolment forms are in the U3A Office so do call in, phone 5472 2249 or email u3acastlemaine@gmail.com so your name and details are on the list for any of the classes above.***

## **U3A CASTLEMAINE THEATRE ROYAL PARTNERSHIP**

A very happy group of 30 people gathered at the Theatre Royal on Monday morning 18<sup>th</sup> July for the commencement of film appreciation. “Movies of Merit” is being taken by movie buff John Waldie (see his course description and photo on page 11). David Stretch of the Theatre Royal offered U3A a partnership of mutual support which was readily taken up. U3A supports our local theatre in showing live performances of Opera and Ballet and also art house movies.

It was pleasing to see members snuggled into David’s new leather couches, sipping coffee and chatting before the movie. After, there was a discussion where many and varied opinions were shared while enjoying a good Royal Lunch! The group will learn to sharpen their appreciation skills each Monday over the coming weeks while enjoying “Movies of Merit”.

## AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

GEOFF WALKER 5470 6652

The two sessions in July continued the theme on the squatters in the 19th century. Alan Robinson completed his discourses on the Kerr family who settled in northern Victoria, and Graeme Quinn gave us an insight to the Henty family in south western Victoria. We welcomed a couple of visitors to this session.

In August our theme is about travel and transport. At the first session Lisa Hales will lead us on a trip with Cobb & Co Coaches, and at the second meeting Geoff Walker will introduce us to the development of rail travel. The sessions will be at 2.00pm at the home of Geoff & Beth Walker, on Monday 8th and Monday 22nd August.

## BUSHWALKING

CAROLE INGERSOLL 5474 2372

The Malmsbury reservoir was completed in 1877 and water channels excavated to supply water to Castlemaine and Bendigo. This was a major engineering achievement. Branching off the main channel to Bendigo were channels to supply water to towns, sometimes passing through tunnels and with many off-shoots for horticulture and mining purposes. Also there were private races for sluicing out gold bearing soil.

Our most recent walk was along part of the Poverty Gully Race. We started from Wheeler Street near the Senior HS Campus. Heading south on a track just east of Dead Horse Gully we soon intersected the track beside the race & headed east. We were surprised at the depth of the race in places especially as much of it passes through rock which would have had to be blasted or pick and shovelled. It was a dull day after rain with a threat of more which heightened the contrasts in the colours of rocks, leaves & bark and made the mosses, lichens, wild flowers and wattles stand out.

There is a dam and 3 major diversions from this part of the race. Soon after reaching the Eureka Reef area we arrived at Eureka Street, Chewton and began our shuttle back to the start, via the Wesley Hill Bakery, of course.

Our next walk on 27 July will start from the Eureka mine area and we intend to have a bit of adventure tracing the Coach Road that leaves from the Cobb and Co holding yards and goes east to Taradale. As usual we will assemble in the Uniting Church car park at 9 am.  
~ Frank Pederick



## DABBLING IN HISTORY

PETER STEPHENS 5472 3904

We have now finished the fascinating study of the African American struggle for equality from the end of the Civil War to the 1970s.

Molly Angel will be leading discussion of our next topic - modern Cyprus. If you would like to know more about this divided island which in some ways is a symbol of the gulf between the west and the Middle East join us at 10 am on Wednesday 3rd August in the Uniting Church kindergarten room.

## ENGLISH LITERATURE

DENISE JEPSON 5473 4470

Just a reminder that the **August 12<sup>th</sup>** session will begin at **9 am** for this one month only. We'll discuss Patrick White's "Riders in the Chariot". And also that Felicity is to bring the milk while Kaye has promised some biscuits. Thanks for that ladies.

## FAMILY HISTORY

VERONICA HURLEY 5472 1383

Here's a little reminder that Family History will continue for the rest of the year on the **Fourth Monday** of every month. We still have one vacancy. If you would like to join please phone Veronica.

## ELECTROMAGNETIC POLLUTION ISSUES

JANOBAL SMITH 5473 4153

*Disconnect*, a recently released book by Dr Devra Davis, is a fabulous read for anyone interested in the effects of mobile phone radiation. The book has the makings of a thriller at times, as Davis delves into the murky politics behind the making of the standards that are supposed to protect us. As an epidemiologist and founding director of the toxicology and environmental studies board at the United States National Academy of Sciences, she has an in-depth understanding of the complex issues involved in mobile phone radiation. She also has the ability to articulate these issues, making them readily accessible to the public. She warns that children's skulls can absorb double or more the radio frequency of adults' heads. She also points to evidence showing a ten times higher rate of broken DNA with the new 3G phones. Suggestions on how to minimize exposure are included.

I'd have to agree with the blurb on the back cover: This book is a must-read for parents. (Make that grandparents, as well!).

The October short course on Electromagnetic Pollution Issues has been expanded to two sessions, to allow more time for everyone to experiment with the meters. It was difficult getting the groups to part with their meters in our last session! Contact the office to enrol.



## FRIDAY MORNING GARDEN GROUP

SHIRLEY CURNOW 5472 1729

The July gathering was our good deed for the year; we met at the rose garden in Victory Park in Mostyn Street and pruned the roses. It was a very pleasant and enjoyable occasion, and our visitor for the morning was Cath Polinelli who was the organiser of the group for 22 years.

In August we shall have a quiet time (the weather for August is usually awful) and we shall watch a DVD/Video or two on some such topic as the Chelsea Garden Show, and (perhaps) how to produce the sweetest lemons. We shall meet at the home of Shirley Curnow, at 10am. You will be most welcome. Ring Shirley for directions to her home.

## ISSUES OF CONCERN

CAROL DORMAN 5472 4429

Two new members have joined us recently – welcome to Fred and Noela. Discussion has been wide and vigorous on many subjects during the last month. We were told of an organization funded by the U.S Congress called National Endowment for Democracy. This organization works to bring democracy to the world – Libya is next on the list apparently and has a 1000 projects underway.

Closer to home is the matter of cyclists and motorists coming into violent contact – it was felt that paved paths separated from traffic are sorely needed.

The carbon tax was felt to be a necessary step toward reducing our carbon emissions – per capita - the highest in the world. An article on the New Matilda website claims we have carbon taxes already, namely petrol and diesel excises which earn \$13.2bn/year for the Federal Government. Then there is the Petrol Resources Tax which is a royalty on oil and gas extraction in Australian Federal waters.

An Issues member asked the question "Does Australia have a free press". This led to lively discussion. Our press is not censored by the Government but is it free when there are restraints imposed on it by the economic power of advertisers, privately owned media having to think of their shareholders and legal restraints by security agencies?

We have had a Q & A session with Vic Say on Sudan. Vic showed a short video of his visit to Sudan in January. Travelling between two villages involved a very shallow boat that took on water at the slightest movement of the occupants and wading through swamps. The referendum for separation was conducted reasonably fairly with the ballot paper being designed for a population that is largely illiterate. There is a 30% quota allowed for women in the South Sudanese government and the currency has recently been launched. Some government members have a low level of education and only a few of computer literacy. China and foreign companies will no doubt play a large part in South Sudan's development which will undoubtedly be fertile ground for corruption. President Kiir's Independence speech urged his people to forgive but not forget the past and to unite and work hard for a bright future for South Sudan.

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***Say Hello and Welcome to New Members***

Veronica Andrew

Jill Barclay

Rosalind Gray

George Gray

Helen Long

Robert Long

Shane Merry

Beverley Orgill

Phillip Orgill

~ oOo ~

***Breaking News ...***

Before she jetted off to visit her daughter in Ireland, Elizabeth Rider has been negotiating with the *Shire Council Positive Ageing* worker, Heather Chapman, organizing a bus to the Bendigo Race Course on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October, which falls during Seniors Week, 2011. On arrival at the Race Course it is free entry and race book for seniors and a special price of approximately \$20 pp has been arranged for this day. So if you are interested in going put your name on the expression of interest list at the August Coffee Morning. But be quick. This day is for other seniors as well, not just U3A. Further details will be given in the September Third Thoughts.

~ oOo ~

Thank you everyone for your photos this month. Just a request please. Could you send them as *an attachment*, and give me *names of the people* featured in them. Thanks so much, that would be a help. ~ BarB

# MOVIES OF MERIT

JOHN WALDIE

Welcome! I'm delighted that you have elected to participate in this new course, held in Castlemaine's prestigious Theatre Royal.

So why has this course been so successful at U3A City of Melbourne – and what can you expect to see and hear at Castlemaine?

The genesis of the course was the development of a large database of movies rated highly by international reviewers in printed publications. By consolidating these ratings, it was possible to come as close as possible to a list of "best" films. It also revealed a large number of films which had so far been neglected in the multiplexes, and which I felt would be appreciated by those who value quality in film.

In the course, we will try to evaluate film in two strands. Firstly, we attempt to understand why people either like or dislike any particular film – which is of course a very personal, subjective view. But secondly, it can be very revealing to study films more analytically for, for example, cinematography, editing and direction. This will become more clear as we look at more and more films as the course progresses, and I will give you a handout on these more objective elements to help you.

How do I run the course? Basically, I select a film from my own collection, we look at it together and then we discuss. All participants will be expected to offer comments and a rating, which I will consolidate and present two or three times a year.

We've learnt not to telegraph the titles of films. I've heard many times from attendees that, had they known what was coming they would not have attended – either because they'd seen it before or didn't like that particular genre – and then they were so glad they did see it!

Many of the films I will be showing are sub-titled, for which I won't apologise, as there is a very rich source of truly exceptional films from non-English speaking countries out there. In fact, seven out of the "Top 10" films fall into this category.

On the other hand you won't be seeing any formulaic, predictable Hollywood blockbusters! However, I would like to ask one favour of those of you attending this course. Could you please let me have a list of your top three favourite films? This will help me to gauge the "mood" of the audience, and past lists have helped me to identify some film gems which I hadn't considered before. I'm really looking forward to seeing you next Monday



*John Waldie, Win Jodell and David Stretch at the first showing of "Movies of Merit" and some of the expectant audience settling into those lovely new leather sofas*

## OPERA – AN OCCASIONAL EVENING SERIES

VIC SAY 5472 1841

**August 5th 7 pm** – Boito's Mephistofele, the last of our 3 Faust operas

**Sept 2nd 7pm** - Moussorgsky's Boris Godunov

**October 7th 7pm** - Beethoven's Fidelio

## REQUIEM AND THEN...?

VIC SAY 5472 1841

Winter took its toll in late July with only 4 of us gathering to enjoy the afternoon of music and a cuppa at our second July session. Never mind. The coming programs will all be requiem. We will continue the cycle of listening to an early work, a middle period work and then a modern work - Dvorak: **Aug 5**, Sculthorpe: **Aug 19**, Gille: **Sept 2**. We listened to one version of this work in July. Three of the four of us really enjoyed it and all wanted to hear the other version . . . . so we will, in September - a work new to the group.

## SIGNPOSTS IN ENGLISH: HISTORY OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

DIANA COLLIER 5443 0137

There will be no meeting in August, but the next sessions will continue with the transitions from Middle English and Shakespeare's English (Shakespeare – a catalyst in his own right) to the standardization of English by "accepted" grammar/structure and, with help of dictionaries for new words, meanings and customary pronunciation, towards modern and present day English. Comparison with other Indo-European languages families will be included.

**We meet in the U3A office each 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday every month at 12 noon – 1.30 pm prompt. Next: 27<sup>th</sup> September.**

## SINGING TOGETHER

RAE HAWKINS 5472 3446

July was a rather disjointed month. First we had a two week break and then my hospital visit turned out to be longer than anticipated. Then we were asked to make changes to our regular time schedule in the UCA hall to accommodate a local dance group.

However, in the end, it was all sorted out and John our accompanist, held the fort while I was away. Barbara and Beryl helped greatly with the reorganisation. So thanks all round.

John will be away for part of August so that will be an opportunity and challenge for us all to practise our a cappella singing. We will miss him. What doesn't stop us makes us stronger. We shall be looking for invitations for us to perform. Please U3A, make use of your choir. We work so hard.

## SOLO GROUP

BETTY HENCHMAN 5472 2139

Our next get-together will be at the home of Eva Haarbuerger  
on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August at 1.00 pm.**

Please ring Betty Henschman for directions to Eva's home.

# WAGNER'S RING CYCLE – A SHORT COURSE OVER THREE YEARS

VIC SAY 5472 1841

August session/s will be at Vic and Felicity Say's for those who have not seen the Rheingold DVD. Email and phone calls will notify all enrollees of details. A September session will be scheduled once Peter and Barry settle in to their new house.

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## June Special Events - Vic Market and the Aquarium

How lucky we are to have these opportunities to try out new experiences. Disappointingly only eleven participants appeared at the station when 17 were expected.

As an “old shopper “at the Vic Market I was not expecting to learn much. How wrong was !! I did not know that the market and car park covers 17 acres and that the row of brick buildings along the southern edge on the West side are the remains of the old cemetery wall. Seems the well known pioneers, including John Batman, were exhumed from the market site to hopefully rest more peacefully in the present Melbourne Cemetery.

The tour lasted two hours and featured delicious tastings of produce along the way. The tour took us through the market layout and provided a wealth of information that included tips on best value, food preparation, specialty products and stalls which made going back to buy at excellent prices a must do for all.

The afternoon visit to the Aquarium saw only four people attend. Sally had worked hard to negotiate an entry fee of \$17.00, but this was not possible with the significantly reduced numbers. Those of us who were there had a great time. The displays are excellent. The highlights being the penguins (I now have no need to go to Antarctica) and the afternoon feeding by divers of sharks, rays and a myriad of other fish which ranged from giant snapper to schools of smaller fish. The experience of these fish swimming over our head, let alone at eye level, was breathtaking.

All in all a wonderful day out! Special thanks go to Sally for her excellent organisation and I hope she is not so disheartened that other events will still be offered in the second part of the year.

~ Carole Ingersoll

“We saw mouth-watering cheeses from all over the world! We sampled delicious Greek dips and melt-in-the mouth smoked chicken and rabbit. There was crispy fresh bread, chocolates and good wine to taste. Our guide was very informative. Imagine the huge carcasses coming in on the overhead rail for the butchers to start their day at 4.30 am! And imagine what it was like before refrigeration, when there was plenty of ice and cold air pumped around the dairy and butcher and fish sections! Thanks to Sally Kaptein and the Special Events Working Group for organising such a stimulating day”.

~ Elizabeth Rider

## ***U3A COMPUTER CLASSES for 2011***

Monday	Apple Mac Computer Help with ... Coordinator <b>Michael Smith</b> ..... 5470 6638 Presenter <b>Bruce Carruthers</b> ..... 5472 3900  Every Monday of the month 10 am – 11 am Weekly topics are listed on the U3A web page: click on the heading <b>Apple Mac Computer Help</b> to find details (see <b>Computers</b> under <b>Subjects 2011</b> ).
Monday	Family History/Genealogy with <b>Veronica Hurley</b> ..... 5472 1383 Fourth Monday of the month 11 am – 4 pm
Tuesday	Picasa with <b>David Sime</b> ..... 5472 3756 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm
Wednesday	Computer Club with <b>Shane Doyle</b> (by Appointment) ..... 5472 4017 1.30 pm - 4.30 pm
Thursday	Digital Imaging Group with <b>Trevor Wheeler</b> ..... 5476 2286 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm (1st, 3rd, 4th Thursday of the month)
Thursday	Photography with <b>Trevor Wheeler</b> ..... 5476 2286 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm (2nd Thursday of the month)
Friday	E-Mail/Internet/Word with <b>Lyn Hall</b> ..... 5472 2316 9 am – 12 noon
Friday	Microsoft Word with <b>Betty Johnson</b> ..... 5472 3834 9 am – 12:30 pm, <b>excluding</b> Coffee Mornings

Apple Mac classes are held in the Salvation Army Hall, Kennedy Street  
(adjacent to the Railway Station).

All other computer classes are held in 'The Octopus' (the old Information Centre),  
Duke Street (opposite the motel).

*Inadvertently the 'Mac' computer class roster was left off the list last month, so  
here is the complete and up-dated list. Thank you Shane Doyle for this.*

~ ~ oOo ~ ~

Congratulations must surely go to our own Life Member Valorie Anderson who has written an engaging family memoir which begins with the saga of the Nelson family, John Milbank Nelson and his family of nine children. Their connections with the Milbanke family of Durham England and also to Lady Anne Isabella Byron, wife of the infamous poet.

John's contribution to the new colony whilst working at both the Melbourne University and the Working Men's College, and the son who helped to establish the suburb of Thornbury while establishing a prominent hardware business which lasted for over 60 years.

Val will have her quality product for purchase at the next Coffee Morning.

*“THE EARLY BIRDS”*

*Happy snaps of the group attending Friday mornings Founders' Day Morning Tea. Not all those invited could attend for various reasons. We wish those on the sick list all the best for a speedy recovery and please, do let us know of anyone who needs a cheery "Thinking Of You" note.*

## *Something to think about...and smile!*

Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.

If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a leg to stand on.

Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.

If you can't be kind at least have the decency to be vague.

When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

Accept that some days you're the pigeon and some days you're the statue.

Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.

Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

We could learn a lot from crayons.....Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have weird names, and all are different colours, but they all have to live in the same box.

## §

### ***The Editor's Dilemma***

Getting out a journal is no picnic.

If we print jokes people say we are silly.

If we don't they say we are too serious.

If we take things from other magazines, we are too lazy to write them ourselves.

If we don't we are stuck on our own stuff.

If we don't print every word of all contributions, we don't appreciate genius.

If we do print them "the columns are filled with junk".

If we make a change in other peoples articles we are too critical.

If we don't we are blamed for poor editing.

Now as like as not, someone will say I swiped this from some other source.

Well, I DID!!!