



U3A LOWER NORTH

Sharing Skills and Experience with Friends

DECEMBER 2011 🍷 TERM ONE 2012

University of the Third Age Lower North Incorporated

🍷 Post Office Box 480, Clare, South Australia, 5453 🍷

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Dear Members,

Greetings from an abnormally noisy hollow in the Clare Valley ringing to the peace-shattering thump of the builders' radio permanently tuned to DIN FM.

Thank you to everyone who attended our AGM and all who helped make it such a success. Photo competition entries looked great projected onto the wall and gave an insight into the wide variety of U3A groups.

Judge Pat Ballantyne selected Sue Mayfield's snap of the Cryptic Crosswords group describing it as a beautiful composition with a peaceful, companionable atmosphere: a good advertisement for U3A activities.

Closing off nominations prior to the AGM helped for a speedy but dignified election in the expert hands of Millie Nicholls. Jan Slann, popular member of Scrabble and Mosaics groups, has joined us at last and some others have undergone a job reshuffle.

We will miss the company of our previous treasurer Garry McDonald but Lynton has bravely stepped forward to fill the void. Assistant Secretary/Treasurer for 2011 and organiser extraordinaire, Beth Smith has been elevated to Secretary and Pat Ballantyne, who joined us on a spur of the moment decision at the 2010 AGM, volunteered to be Assistant Secretary.

With all the business taken care of within 30 minutes, our first-rate guest speaker, Fr Bryan Pipins, took the floor. Fr Bryan has an interesting military background but his topic was refugees. Anecdotes of his experiences in East Timor immediately after the

Indonesian scorched-earth withdrawal made us realise the enormity of the situation and the toughness and ingenuity demanded of aid workers. It was no place for naïve do-gooders.

The AGM ran so smoothly that it only took an hour before we moved on to a cracking good afternoon tea. Thanks to all members who thoughtfully brought a plate to supplement the committee's efforts. (Perhaps it was a vote of no confidence in our catering ability.)

End of Year Lunch & Film

Friday 9 December will be our final day for the U3A year with lunch, 12 for 12.30, at the Blyth Hall supper room. Bring a generous plate of finger food suitable for sharing. We will provide the punch and fruit juice. BYO booze if you prefer.

After lunch and a chance to mingle (please wear name tags), it's on to the air-conditioned cinema for "Red Dog". This film has taken off like wild fire so is a must-see or see-again. It is a nostalgic snapshot of a quintessentially Australian life in outback mining communities of the 1970s and will clutch at the heart of anyone who has ever loved a dog.

This opportunity to catch up with everyone and thank group leaders who will be our guests is an excellent way to round off the U3A year.

All the committee are looking forward to seeing you there, so **please get your bookings to Val as soon as possible** and mention if you need a lift. (This year there is an option to just attend the lunch.)

NEW GROUPS

Quilting

There are fully fledged, specialist quilting clubs but if you would just like to put your toe in the water and see if you like it, we have a **Quilting for Beginners** group starting on a Tuesday or Wednesday. Still looking for a suitable venue with enough power points for sewing machines.

Lesley Bray, secretary of Clare Quilters, will be the tutor so you will be in expert hands. Each session will be three hours and Lesley has the first planned as a show and tell session.

Watercolour Painting

Burra artist, Glenys Christopher has kindly arranged a **Watercolours for Beginners** class in Burra. It will be 3-hour sessions on Monday mornings. The venue will be Lis Jones Ingman's Art Space in Burra. Enrolments are strictly limited to 6 places. (First 6 who book and pay.) \$30 for the term covers venue hire and tea/coffee. What art supplies you may need to buy will be discussed at the first class but in the meantime students are encouraged to bring whatever water-colour paints, brushes and paper they may have. In addition students will need a board on which to rest their paper, water jar, 2B pencil, a white plate to act as palette and some paper towel.

Craft in Burra

It started off with a few of us learning the basics of bead jewellery this year in the comfort of Catherine Marsson's dining room. Now it is expanding to cover whatever crafts people wish to demonstrate for others to learn. Whether it continues in the cosy cottage behind Nobs & Snobs Antiques depends on numbers.

New member Marj Wride has offered to teach **card-making** and Alice Keane will once again be helping with **bead jewellery**. What crafts follow in future terms will be guided by group interest.

This is an ideal group for anyone wanting to learn a new skill, share their knowledge or just keen crafties who like the idea of working on their own projects in the company of other like-minded people.

While discussing Burra, we thought it good if locals had more input in what is happening so if you would like to join a sub-committee to decide new courses and venues, please phone Catherine on 8892 2743.

We are currently investigating our options for laptops so chances for a Burra **computer course** in Term 2 are looking good. We might also have a **Mosaics** workshop one weekend. Do register your interest.

Leader needed for Classical Music

Anyone interested in leading a **Music Appreciation** group, with an emphasis on classical music?

U3ALN member and classical music 'tragic', Moira Kleinig, has had a lifelong interest in and appreciation of this music and would like to see a group started within U3A. "Part of my pleasure would be for other people to love classical music, too" Moira said.

Though not able to be a group leader, Moira would give as much support as she could. She has a huge collection of recordings and books on classical music which she would readily make available to a group.

Moira thought that as a group activity, a selected piece or pieces of music could be listened to and then it and its composer discussed.

Anyone with the ability and interest to take a group in 2012, please contact Val Tilbrook on 0448 183 748 or 8842 2465, or call Moira Kleinig on 8842 4104.

ODDMENTS

The History Group has an **outing**, either bus trip or car pooling, most terms and any U3A member is welcome to join them. The first for 2012 will be on Friday 16 March: Polish Hillriver Museum, St Mark's and John Horrock's cottage at Penwortham perhaps with morning tea at the cottage. Book with Val.

oOo

Blyth Short Film Festival will hold a **black-tie fundraiser dinner** in late February or early March. Do you enjoy dressing up in your glad rags but have no one to go with? If interested in booking a joint U3A table, phone Claire on 8842 3939.

oOo

Concerned about hygiene in the **Domain** kitchen, we supplied mugs and tea towels to be kept in our office. If they are left in the mousey kitchen after use, it rather destroys the purpose of the exercise.

oOo

For our lunch, each group has been asked to provide a **kitchen helper** to spend 20 or 30 minutes clearing up under the guidance of Jan Slann. We would like the list to rotate every year so everyone takes a turn. The committee all have other duties on the day and no group leaders either please as they are our guests.

oOo

Happy holidays to everyone but do fill in those forms now so we can continue planning a great 2012.

*See you at Blyth,
Claire*

2012 Enrolments

Do remember we are trialling 'whole-of-year' enrolments. This means if enrolling in one of the on-going classes (except those requiring payment each term), members are considered enrolled for the whole year.

While this frees us from having to re-enrol each term, it also means we need to advise the group leader or course coordinator if quitting the class.

Please let your group leader know if you are going to be absent, especially in small classes.

Annual Membership Fee

Still a modest \$25, membership fees fall due in February. Enclose payment with your enrolment or end-of-year lunch booking and you won't need a reminder in the New Year. Payments can be made at the lunch before 12.15 (place exact money and completed booking slip inside an envelope); OR post cheques made out to 'U3A Lower North' to PO Box 480, Clare, 5453; OR the treasurer will be in the Domain office on Friday 27 January 2012, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm accepting payments in person.

2012 U3A Calendar

At the first meeting after our AGM the committee was straight into planning mode and set our calendar for the coming year. It is based on 8-week terms to allow group leaders and committee some down time to refresh, take holidays and generally make sure their U3A duties are always a pleasure rather than a burden.

If meeting outside these dates please inform the committee for insurance reasons.

Newsletter deadline: fifth Monday of each term.

Dates to put in your 2012 diary:

TERM 1: Monday 6 February to Friday 30 March

Group Leaders Evening: ___ Monday 27 February

TERM 2: ___ Monday 30 April to Friday 22 June

TERM 3: Monday 23 July to Friday 14 September

TERM 4: Monday 15 October to Fri. 7 December

Annual General Meeting: ___ Friday 2 November

End-of-year lunch & movie: ___ Friday 7 December

Friday 9 December 2011

End-of-Year Break-up Lunch & Film

Blyth Supper Room & Blyth Cinema

Lunch 12 for 12.30 pm (Payments before 12.15)

Please bring a generous plate of finger food to share

Film: 'Red Dog'

\$10 a head, contact Val or Beth to book
(mention if you need transport)

\$2 option for those who just want to stay for lunch

Booking over page as part of enrolment slip

2012: FIRST TERM ACTIVITIES

- Art Tutorial**, Gerald Moore, Tues. & Wed., 9.30 am -1.30 pm, starts 7/8 February, 5 weeks, Auburn.....
- Art Group**, Tuesdays 9.30 am -1.30 pm, on non-tutorial days, Auburn
- Book Group**, Greta Handmer, alternate Thursdays, 10.30 am - 12 noon, starts 9 Feb, Clare Library
- Chess**, Mondays 4 pm, starts 6 February, Janet & Peter Witham's, Solsken, Spring Gully Road, Clare.....
- Chinese** (basic spoken Mandarin), Ron Bevan, Mondays 10 am, starts 6 February, Domain. Beginners accepted...
- Coffee & Chat Club**, Val Tilbrook, Wednesdays 10.30 am, starts 8 February venue t.b.a.
- Computing Clare**, Sue Mayfield, Wednesdays 10 am – 12 noon, starts 8 February, Domain \$30/term.....
- Contract Bridge**, Eleanor Thomas, Thursdays 3 pm, starts 9 Feb., St Barnabas' hall. No beginners.
- Crafts (Card Making & Bead Jewellery)**, Catherine Marsson, Wednesdays 10-12 starts 8 February, Burra.....
- Cryptic Crosswords**, Greta Handmer 8842 2065, alt. Thursdays, 10.30 am, starts 16 Feb, 25 Edward St.....
- Current Affairs**, Sally Robertson, Tuesdays 10.30 am, starts 10 February, Paris Chat café
- Film Group**, Val Tilbrook, 2nd Tues. of month, 1.30 pm, Blyth Cinema. 14 Feb: *My Afternoons with Margarette*
- *French Back to Basics**, Claire Eglinton, Thursdays, 12-1.15 pm, starts 9 February, Domain
- *French**, Claire Eglinton, Thursdays, 1.30-3.30 pm, starts 9 February, Domain.....
- Furniture Restoration, etc.**, Barrie Smith, Wednesdays 10 am - 12 noon, starts 8 February, Lakeside.....
- *German Conversation**, Gunther Bayha, Mondays, 2-4 pm, starts 6 February Domain
- History: local & Aust.**, Val Tilbrook, Fridays, 10 am - 12 noon, starts 10 February, TAFE, Room 6B.....
- Mah-jong**, Jocelyn Macrow, Wednesdays 2-4 pm, starts 8 February, St Barnabas' Church Hall
- Mosaics**, Halima Northeast, Fri. 10 am - 1 pm, starts 10 February, 9 Kingfisher Drive, Clare.....
- Petanque**, Malcolm Weddle, Mondays 1.30 - 3.30 pm, starts 6 February, Catford Garden
- Quilting for Beginners**, Lesley Bray, Thursdays, 10-1, Clare venue tba
- Scrabble**, Carol Stewart, Mondays 1.15 pm, starts 6 February, St Barnabas' Church Hall
- Walking Group**, Greta Handmer 8842 2065, Mondays 8 am, starts 6 February, meet east end Lennon St.....
- Watercolours for Beginners**, Glenys Christopher, Mondays 9.30-12.30, starts 6 February, Burra \$30/term

*French and German groups presume some prior learning. Venues: 'Domain' is Domain Internet Café, Main Street, Clare; 'Tafe' is Clare TAFE campus; 'Auburn' is Auburn Recreation Park rooms, Saddleworth Road.



PLEASE RETURN lunch & film bookings to Course Co-ordinator, Val Tilbrook, by Tuesday 6 December at P.O. Box 480, Clare SA 5453, or phone 8842 2465, mobile 0448 183 748, or email valtil@bigpond.com. Enrolments accepted until Monday 30 January 2012.

Enrol me in the following group/s: _____

Name: _____ Current Member? Yes [] No []

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____ Year of birth: _____

Please tick to receive future newsletters by email [] (only if you have not done so before).

Suggestions: _____

All information kept in accordance with U3A Lower North Inc. privacy policy

2011 END OF YEAR LUNCH & FILM

I will be attending the U3A lunch (12 for 12.30) & film on Friday 9 December with _____ guests.

If paying at event (before 12.15 please), put this slip and exact money in envelope to speed processing.

Enclosed is total payment of \$ _____ This is for (put number of people in the brackets)

\$25 membership []; \$10 lunch & film []; \$2 film only []; \$30 computing []; \$30 watercolours []