



# U3A LOWER NORTH

*Sharing Skills and Experience with Friends*

SEPTEMBER 2011 🍷 TERM FOUR

University of the Third Age Lower North Incorporated

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

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## *Dear Members,*

Greetings from my transitioning-to-Spring hollow in the Clare Valley. The mower had a complete physical collapse the moment it was shown the 'lawn' and the Willie Wagtails are showing the cat who is boss.

Our **U3A Art Exhibition** at Gally's, Farrell Flat, is now finished. The proprietors turned on wonderful catering for the opening and the Crabtree Wines were excellent and distributed liberally. It had the makings of a great party and our best-ever opening but unfortunately numbers attending were very low. At our first exhibition all the artists attended the opening with proud families but now it seems everyone has become very blasé about it all. Next year we must strive for more involvement so it returns to being a showcase U3A event, a source of pride for all and producing lots of positive publicity.

Term Four brings a few changes to the curriculum. **Furniture Restoration** has finished for the year with Barrie Smith off to America.

**Artists Studio Visits** is undecided. They may or may not spend a day visiting the various Kapunda studios. Some enrolments should encourage further planning.

**Plant Propagation** with Ian Roberts is making one of its periodic returns. Millie Nicholls will take **Botany** if there are sufficient enrolments to justify a group. This class is only offered in fourth term each year to coincide with seasonal flowering so if you miss this term it won't be offered again for a full year.

The new **Current Affairs** discussion group got off to

a shaky start but has now developed some momentum. Depending on weather, the venue is either outside Paris Chat or in the Clare Library.

Both **Film Group** offerings this coming term show how childhood scarring can last a lifetime.

On **11 October** we will have a chance to view the critically-acclaimed *Oranges and Sunshine*. Top English and Australian actors (Emily Watson, Hugo Weaving, David Wenham) enact the true story of the thousands of children who were transported to Australia in the post-war period. It is a moving tale told in a restrained, unsentimental way.

The **8 November** French movie, *My Afternoons with Margueritte*, despite the sub-titles, was a natural U3A selection with themes of age and self-education. Gerard Depardieu plays the semi-literate Germain who discovers you are never too old to learn when he meets Margueritte (played by 95-year-old actress Gisele Casadesus). There is a credibility gap with Germain's much younger and better-looking love interest, Annette, and some awkward editing but it is a sweetly sentimental movie. So good to have the title character acted by someone of the right age.

**Mosaics** is flourishing and almost bursting at the seams. Some of Halima's pieces appeared in the Art Exhibition. Both **Coffee & Chat** and **Book Group** were also at about full capacity this term.

Plenty of room for more in many other groups. Monday morning's **Walking Group** is a great way to start the week, **Scrabble** and **Chess** always welcome

new players, and **Mah-jong** should be grabbed while we still have the benefit of tutor Jocelyn Macrow.

Our language groups: **Chinese, French and German** are all small but dedicated and share the same venue at the U3A office, at the Domain, Clare. Ron Bevan is still accepting total beginners for Mandarin. Both French and German require some previous experience of the language (be it ever so rusty).

## **Burra**

The **Jewellery Making** class continues in the comfort of Catherine Marsson's dining room behind the Nobs & Snobs antique shop in Burra North.

Burra IT professional, Steve Royal has really gone out of his way to help us use the Burra school laptops but it certainly hasn't been plain sailing circumnavigating the Education Dept security system.

Given the need to look at alternatives plus lack of available Fridays this term, **Burra computing** will not resume until next year. We may need to source alternative computers or encourage members to bring in their own laptops.

## **Annual General Meeting**

Beth Smith has been hard at work organizing the AGM so it was all finalised before her big OS trip. Mondays are now so crowded with classes that this year's AGM will be held on a Friday. More precisely, Friday 11 November. Remembrance Day so we can't forget: 11/11/11. Don't forget the photo contest either.

We will be back in central Clare at the BJ Long Room at the Clare Town Hall. The other break with tradition is the committee's decision that **all nominations should be in the hands of the secretary one week prior to the AGM**. Nomination forms are in this newsletter and available from the secretary. No nominations will be accepted from the floor of the meeting unless there has been no prior nomination. This is a system which has been used by some other U3As with great success: everyone comes to the AGM without fear of being press-ganged into service.

We are looking for the services of a new treasurer after Garry McDonald advised us that it would be necessary for him to stand down at this AGM. If you would like to serve on the committee and have any basic bookkeeping ability, we can assure you that the books will be handed over in tip-top condition. Garry has been a stickler for doing things right and has impressed on us all the importance of keeping proper paperwork so we are quite house-trained.

We only have 8 committee meetings a year (2 each term) and the pub lunches afterwards are fun but

optional. The treasurer receives lots of support from others on the committee. If you have any talent in that direction, or know someone who does, please have a word with Lynton or myself and we can give you more information about what is involved.

The same applies if you would like to help in any other capacity, be it on the management committee or a sub-committee or as a group leader. U3A is all about sharing your experience and sharing responsibilities.

## **End of Year Breakup: Lunch & the Red Dog**

Friday 9 December is that one day of the year when all U3A Lower North members have the opportunity to share lunch, and catch up with friends before we close for the summer holidays.

We will meet 12 for 12.30 in the supper room behind the Blyth Hall. Please bring a plate of finger food suitable for sharing. (Each group to provide one kitchen helper.) Then it's on to the cinema for *Red Dog*. There will be great temptation to see this movie earlier but Ian Roberts is bringing it back especially for us so do try to hold off and enjoy the experience together. We like to get a bloke-friendly movie for each December and *Red Dog* certainly fits the bill. Based on a true story it depicts the Pilbara of the 1970s and a dog that was everyone's mate and became a local legend, inspired 3 books, this movie and many a campfire yarn.

## **Term Dates & Dues**

**Term 4:** Monday 17 October to Friday 9 December, another 8-week term. We resume in February 2012.

New members joining this late in the year have the bargain basement rate of \$15 for the rest of 2011.

If you are ever unsure of term dates or events, they are on our website: [www.u3alownorth.webs.com](http://www.u3alownorth.webs.com).

We have mentioned that 2012 will probably allow for one annual enrolment but, until that happens, Val needs to hear from everyone wishing to re-enrol. Members who just turn up because they were enrolled the previous term can cause admin headaches.

Some groups have low numbers so do recommend them to your friends and enrol by due date. It would be sad to lose any through lack of enrolments.

If leaving cash payments with a group leader, place exact money in envelope clearly marked with your name and amount. Please make it easier for our busy group leaders.

*See you back in the classroom,  
Claire*

### Want to blow your own trumpet?

The Clare Valley Concert Band was established over thirty years ago and still performs at various venues including Laura Folk Fair; Burra Antique Fair; Clare, Crystal Brook and Jamestown Agricultural Shows.

Over the past few years, however, numbers have been dropping for various reasons and they desperately need more band members.

If learning an instrument is something you wish you had done, or you did but you need a refresher course, the band members are willing to teach potential new members an instrument.

Trumpet, trombone, flute, clarinet and saxophone

players are required to help expand these sections of the band. They have a few instruments available to lend, and a greater number which the band can hire for a nominal fee, probably about \$20 per term.

“If you feel that gaining enough proficiency to join the band may be a bit daunting for you, let me assure you that adults make wonderful students, and also that much of the music we play has three parts to cater for different skill levels,” said Rae Kuss.

It's great fun for you, and will help the Clare Valley Concert Band to bring its numbers up to full strength.

Please contact Rae on 8847 2796 if you wish to learn an instrument or have any queries.

## Friday 11 November

# U3A Annual General Meeting

Starts at 2 pm, Barbara J. Long Room, Clare Town Hall

Guest speaker: Fr Bryan Pipins SJ

Afternoon Tea to follow

## Friday 9 December

# U3A End of Year Lunch & Movie

Starts at 12 for 12.30 pm, Blyth Supper Room

Movie *Red Dog* to follow at Blyth Cinema



**U3A** LOWER NORTH INC.

## 2011 AGM Nomination Form

Office: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

I accept this nomination. Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

# 2011: FOURTH TERM ACTIVITIES

- Art Tutorial**, Gerald Moore, Tues. & Wed., 9.30 am -1.30 pm, starts 18/19 Oct., 5 weeks, Auburn .....
- Art Group**, Tuesdays 9.30 am -1.30 pm, on non-tutorial days, starts 9 Nov., Auburn .....
- Artists Studio Visits**, Anne Weddle, tba .....
- Book Group**, Greta Handmer, alternate Thursdays, 10.30 am - 12 noon, starts 20 Oct., Clare Library .....
- Botany**, Millie Nicholls, if sufficient enrolments, tba.....
- Chess**, Mondays 4 pm, starts 17 Oct., Janet & Peter Witham's Solsken, Spring Gully Road, Clare .....
- Chinese** (spoken Mandarin), Ron Bevan, Mondays 10 am, starts 17 Oct., Domain. Beginners welcome..
- Coffee & Chat Club**, Val Tilbrook, Wednesdays 10.30 am, starts 19 Oct., venue t.b.a.....
- Computing Clare**, Sue Mayfield, Wednesdays, 10 am - 12, starts 19 Oct, Domain \$30 room hire .....
- Contract Bridge**, Eleanor Thomas, Thursdays 3 pm, starts 20 Oct., St Barnabas' hall. No beginners. ....
- Cryptic Crosswords**, Greta Handmer 8842 2065, alt. Thursdays, 10.30 am, starts 27 Oct., 25 Edward St
- Current Affairs**, Tuesdays 10am-12 noon, starts 21 Oct., Paris Chat / Library .....
- Film Group**, Val Tilbrook, second Tuesday of month, 1.30 pm, Blyth Cinema.....
- \*French Back to Basics**, Claire Eglinton, Thursdays, 12-1.15 pm, starts 20 Oct., Domain.....
- \*French**, Claire Eglinton, Thursdays, 1.30-3.30 pm, starts 20 Oct., Domain.....
- \*German Conversation**, Gunther Bayha, Mondays, 2-4 pm, starts 17 Oct., Domain .....
- History: local & Aust.**, Val Tilbrook, Fridays, 10 am - 12 noon, starts 21 Oct., Tafe .....
- Jewellery**, Alice Keane, Tuesdays, 10 am - 12, starts 18 Oct., Burra.....
- Mah-jong**, Jocelyn Macrow, Wednesdays 2-4 pm, starts 19 Oct., St Barnabas' Hall.....
- Mosaics**, Halima Northeast, Fri. 10 am - 1 pm, starts 21 Oct., 9 Kingfisher Drive, Clare .....
- Petanque**, Malcolm Weddle, Mondays 1.30 - 3.30 pm, starts 17 Oct., Catford Garden .....
- Plant Propagation**, Ian Roberts, 2 Fridays 10 am - 12 noon, 21 & 28 Oct, Blyth, \$10 fee .....
- Scrabble**, Carol Stewart, Mondays 1.15, starts 17 Oct., St Barnabas' Church Hall. ....
- Walking Group**, Greta Handmer 8842 2065, Mondays 8 am, starts 17 Oct., meet east end Lennon St ...

\*French and German groups presume some prior learning.

Venues: 'Domain' is Domain Internet Café, 202 Main North Road, Clare; 'Tafe' is Clare TAFE campus, 155 Main North Road, Clare; 'Auburn' is Auburn Recreation Park rooms, Saddleworth Road, Auburn



**TO ENROL: return this section to Course Co-ordinator, Val Tilbrook, before Monday 10 October at P.O. Box 480, Clare SA 5453, or phone 8842 2465, mobile 0448 183 748, or email valtil@bigpond.com.**

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).

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