



July –December 2022

Number 24

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Everything is going along well with our excellent speaker program on Tuesdays and members seem to appreciate now having their Special Interest groups at the same venue, resulting in increased participation in some of the groups.

We no longer have restrictions in the numbers who can fit into our hall and masks are now optional. However, we shall still provide hand sanitiser and masks if required.

At our AGM in March we didn't fill sufficient positions to run our U3A in its entirety. However, we have had members who have volunteered to take on tasks without committee involvement, they are Freda and Jane (Guest Speakers), Don Wright (Newsletters), Sandra and Steven Carr (U3ASA Delegates), and Nancy Deering who takes photos and regularly adds them to our website. In addition, we have invited Convenors of our Special Interest groups to attend our monthly meetings. We have been pleased that several have attended and their input has been greatly appreciated.

We have one challenge I wish to share with you. Our annual contract with the church has been up for renewal, resulting in the church hire fees being raised. We haven't increased our fees for some years as, before we moved to the church, we didn't pay any fees at all, resulting in a very healthy bank balance. It became very apparent that we would be best served by having our Special Interest groups meet at the same venue, which has resulted in additional costs. Your Committee is therefore tasked with developing a strategy to raise enough revenue to meet these costs. As a result, it will be necessary to increase our fees next year and hopefully we can find other ways to add to our revenue.

Another challenge is to increase our membership to maintain our numbers as inevitably they tend to fluctuate each year. Meryl Thompson has taken on the task of trying different ways of publicising our U3A to the community. We can all contribute by talking to friends and others and inviting them to come along as a guest to see if U3A would interest them. Also, Meryl would welcome any suggestions of organisations we could target, as well as strategies to get our message across.

Colin Levy

CONTACT DETAILS

Email: u3acharlessturt@hotmail.com

Website: www.u3acharlessturt.com

Phone Number: 0402 063 994

Guest Speaker Meetings:
Tuesdays: 1:30 – 3:00
Fulham Uniting Church Hall
Madeline Cres, Fulham

Special Interest Groups Meet at
Fulham Uniting Church
Madeline Cres., Fulham
and
Botanic Gardens, North Tce, Adelaide

OFFICE BEARERS

President: Col Levy
Vice President: Meryl Thompson
Treasurer: Aldis Auliciems
Secretary: Pauline Lane
Public Officer: Pam Fidler

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Joan Thomas
Melva Tripodi
Cherie Levy
Michelle Peake

Guest Speakers: Freda Beresford,
Jane Frankham

Outings: Cherie Levy

Website/Records: Pauline Lane

Photos: Nancy Deering

Caterers: Cherie Levy and Melva Tripodi

Publicity: Meryl Thompson

Newsletter: Don Wright

Auditor: Allan McDonald

U3ASA Delegates: Sandra & Steven Carr

GUEST SPEAKER PROGRAM

Co-ordinators: Freda Beresford & Jane Frankham

Freda and I have been getting into the flow of speakers required weekly. We have been entertained by a medley of topics ranging from Adelaide's history, building and sailing a yacht and navigating the River Murray in a small boat. The involvement in the Para Olympic Games and learning about advocating for disabilities by people with disabilities. Afghanistan issues have been raised and recently we heard more of our hero, Sir Hubert Wilkins. What a man. We hope the members are enjoying the talks; with our diverse membership maybe not everyone has enjoyed all of them. We have old favourites returning in the third term; Sue Garfield is doing a series of talks on the history of the Olympics. Please let us know your thoughts on the talks/speakers. We welcome suggestions from our members, and also would enjoy hearing our members talk. We all enjoyed Kerry McFie with Sheba's dance.

Every Tuesday, 1.30 – 3.00pm @ Uniting Church Hall, Madeline Cres, Fulham

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

In addition to the weekly guest speaker, U3A Charles Sturt has seven interest groups that meet monthly. If you have an interest that you would like to pursue with several other members please contact the committee.

POETRY APPRECIATION

Convenor: Terry Paterson

The poetry group continues to grow from strength to strength, Membership is 12 and so far we have had a 66% attendance rate.

Attendees recognise the mental health benefits that poetry reading provides them.

Readers encounter unique speech patterns and ideas via syntax and metaphor, etc that are not only entertaining but also give them food for thought and new ways of looking at things.

Members are welcome at any time to attend our meetings either as readers or listeners.

1st Thursday of the month 1:30 – 3:00pm @ Fulham Uniting Church Small Meeting Room, Madeline Cres. Fulham

BOOK CLUB

Convenor: Annette Day

The Book Club members enjoyed discussing Julia Baird's book, "Phosphorescence" on awe, wonder and things that sustain you when the world goes dark. Her beautiful, descriptive writing takes the reader with her as she swims with the cuttlefish and is mesmerised by their changing colours and becoming phosphorescent.

Each chapter of her book is complete in itself so doesn't have to be read chronologically.

"Syria's Secret Library" by Mike Thomas, an English journalist who had worked in the worst war-torn places for over a decade was a harrowing read. The senseless bombings, starvation, lack of medicine and hospital care, lack of clean water and disruptive power supply was soul destroying. Despite all this, Mike was able to make intermittent contact with some young rebels in Daraya, Syria who managed over the years to set up an underground library which grew to have over 15,000 titles, which were lovingly cleaned, repaired and catalogued with name of owner (if possible) and address where found amongst the bombed buildings. The library became a sanctuary where trusted people could read for enjoyment or study. Classes were formed and it brought joy and hope to many.

4th Thursday of the month 1:30 – 3:00pm @ Fulham Uniting Church Small Meeting Room, Madeline Cres. Fulham

CREATIVE WRITING

Convenor: Ann Edwards

Creative Writing Group has certainly undertaken a wide range of subjects, ranging from The Most Interesting Person I have Met to The Rake. However, we were presented with a golden opportunity to hone our skills by the police interrupting our session to tell us they had to search the church and environs for an escapee from a drug bust!! We were all safe and after being given the all-clear by armed police officers, and told the escapee was a man in a white t-shirt, our next topic was crystal clear – you guessed it – The Man in the White T-shirt and we all knew of one from Freddie Mercury to strangers with tattoos. Next topic is a German proverb “Love your neighbour but do not pull down the hedge.”

2nd Thursday of the month 12 noon – 1:15pm @ Fulham Uniting Church Small Meeting Room, Madeline Cres. Fulham

HISTORY

Convenor: Nancy Vasileff

1 Semester 2022

Our history group explored South America this semester, discovering Brazil is the 5th largest Country in the world and Machu Piccu means old mountain! We then took in Canada before currently looking in to the West Indies. Visitors are always welcome!

2nd Thursday of the month 1:30 – 3:00pm @ Fulham Uniting Church Small Meeting Room, Madeline Cres. Fulham

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Convenor: Pauline Lane

As a small group, we enjoy a lot of banter, however, we find these discussions to be intellectually stimulating, thought provoking and have broadened our knowledge.

All members are welcome to attend and join in the discussion - or just listen if they wish.

So far this year we have discussed the following topics:

17.2.22

Bullying by Politicians – Nicole Flint

Novavax Vaccine for Covid 19

Plastic Waste and how to deal with it

Bats invading the Botanic Park and Hills

What we used to do - recycling and re-use to reduce waste

17.3.22

Hydrogen

Ramping at hospitals

Flooding in Adelaide also in Qld and NSW

Public Trustees

Rod Marsh and Shane Warne – deaths

19.5.22

As I was absent on 19.5.22, Current Affairs was cancelled.

18.8.22.

Power and vegetable costs rising

Nadesaligam family return to Biloela

Facial Recognition

Gun Laws in USA, Monkey Pox, Putin war and China

3rd Thursday of the month 1:30 – 3:00pm @ Fulham Uniting Church Small Meeting Room, Madeline Cres. Fulham

BOTANIC GARDENS WALKS

Convenor & Guide: June Littleford (0403 107 215)

Garden walks were conducted 14/2, 11/4, and 9/5 and were attended by a small group of members and sometimes their friends. We visited topical areas of the garden, chatted about the plants, and shared our experiences with nature. All amazing for mental health.

I hope to see more participants on 12th Sept. at 11.00 o'clock from the main gate. (No walk on 8th August)

**Botanic Gardens Walks are held on 2nd Monday of the month 11:00am -12 noon
Meet at the North Terrace Gate Botanic Gardens, Adelaide
A donation of \$2.00 is appreciated by the Gardens.**



COFFEE AND CHAT

Convenor: Col Levy

On average about 12 members meet for informal social gatherings each month at the Lockleys Hotel. It is a good opportunity for our members to get to know each other and everyone is welcome to attend - the numbers are not restricted.

Friday 19th August; Friday 16th September; Friday 21st October; Friday 18th November

3rd Friday of the month at 10:30am @ Lockleys Hotel, Entrances from Henley Beach and Tapley's Hill Roads

U3ASA

Representatives: Sandra and Steven Carr.

There was a Zoom meeting at the end of April, which I did not participate in and I have not received any information about this meeting.

Any member of U3A Charles Sturt can go online and search for information about other U3A's in the State and Interstate.

MUSIC APPRECIATION

After seven years Jane Frankham has stepped down from her role of convening the Music Appreciation group and we are very keen to have someone take over. Jane will give her full support to help get started. Also we are aiming to increase our overall membership, so if there is anyone out there who would like to join our U3A group and guide us through the world of music, please don't hesitate to make contact.

OUTINGS

Co-ordinator: Cherie Levy

Our first term outing in April was to the **Army Museum** at the Keswick Barracks.

I suspect that our visit to the Army Museum brought on mixed feelings of the horrors of war, the lives lost, the sacrifices, the years taken out of young men's lives. On the other hand, it was fascinating to view the examples of the conditions soldiers fought under, the weapons, medals, uniforms, tanks and missile launchers, etc. It was a visit enjoyed by all. May museums always remain.

Bryan Dyke



DUNLUCE CASTLE VISIT

On Monday 27th June, 16 members braved the cold morning and ventured down to Brighton and visited historic home, Dunluce Castle.

Dunluce is a private residence, being maintained in the style of its origins – building commenced in 1904 and it was inhabited in 1910 by the Macully family. There have been seven owners of the property in total. We were warmly welcomed by the current owner, Sarah, whose husband was a local lad who always said he would buy the house someday! Many years later, his dream came true.

We were then ushered into a lovely, period dining room for a morning tea of scones, jam and cream, tea and coffee. Sarah had many fascinating stories to tell about the collection of furniture, art work and antiques on display in the dining room and around the house, many of them donations from well-wishers.

A pictorial presentation on the history of the Macully family, their descendants, and the Brighton surrounds of the 1920's was a wonderful insight into life in that era. The morning finished with a tour of the upstairs bedrooms, and the surrounding balcony, with more stories of the acquisition of the period pieces that decorate these areas, and the work that Sarah has done to make the house such a wonderful representation of times gone by.

Ros Emms



NOTICE BOARD

This new “Notice Board” is intended to provide the opportunity for any of our members to place a notice of interest to our U3A or any like organisations

It has been suggested we start an **Out & About Group**. This group would meet monthly to attend functions/activities decided by the group members i.e. Theatre, galleries, exhibitions, gardens, shopping centres, meals together etc. Are you interested? Please let one of the committee know.

RECYCLING BOXES

You will notice that there are 4 boxes in the foyer for recycling particular items.

PLASTIC BREAD TAGS - will be sent to Robe to be made into bowls

PENS etc - felt tip pens, biros, batteries, mobile phones, ink cartridges will go to Office works (Batteries & mobile phones can also be left in a bin at Woollies).

ORAL HYGIENE - are posted free to Colgate. Toothbrushes, brushes only from electric toothbrushes, Interdental brushes, floss containers, washed out toothpaste tubes with the lid on. (Cut off the bottom of the tube for easier cleaning).

BLISTER PILL PACKETS - will be sent to Terry White Pharmacy in Melbourne Street, North Adelaide.

Recycling information about other items.

- Any soft plastic can be taken to the supermarkets, this includes biscuit wrappers.
- Only Glad, Coles or Woolworths Essential cling wrap can be recycled (returned to supermarket). Others go in landfill bin.
- Any foil including foil lolly wrappers are to be squashed into a ball about the size of a tennis ball and then put into your recycling bin.
- Plastic lids must be put into a plastic container with a tight-fitting lid. A plastic milk bottle with a flap cut high on one side is a good way to do this.
- Metal lids (e.g. tuna cans) need to be in a metal container. The lid can be washed with the tin then placed inside the tin & the sides slightly squashed to keep it there before putting in your recycle bin.

MERCURY CINEMA 13 Morphett St, Adelaide - (08 8410 0979)

Mercury Cinema is a not-for-profit organisation with a 30 year history of sharing screen stories and bringing audiences together. They aim to connect senior audiences with entertaining cinema, including organisations, such as U3A. If any of our members are interested, movies screen on Fridays at 10.30am and 2pm, preceded by complementary morning and afternoon teas. View the latest program on their website and click SILVERSCREEN.

SAVE THE DATES

13th Anniversary Luncheon

Please keep Monday 8th August free for our 13th Birthday Lunch at the Lockley's Hotel. An email/letter will be sent with further details. Please register your interest for this lunch.

Christmas Lunch - Tuesday 13th December 2022 - 12.30pm More information later in the year.