

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

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Bayside U3A facebook group - **members only.** To join, follow the link above and click on the join button and enter your name and member number. Your application will show as 'pending' until it is processed.

NEWSLETTER Special Edition No. 7 July 2020



Coronavirus Notice:

Bayside U3A Closed until further notice

FROM THE PRESIDENT:



Dear Members

It certainly feels like it's the time we have to muster and bring out our resilience and fortitude! Not forgetting sanguinity and forbearance (no I haven't been 'at' dictionary.com – it's a measure of how many crosswords I've helped with lately!). I'm a Sudoku person myself. I used to play online solitaire just to stop myself rushing into yet another (Bayside U3A) task – but now we're virtually back to self-isolation and it's too cold in the garden, I find I need to pace things out! At least I'm back at golf twice a week – and I sincerely hope you're all finding or have 'things to do'

that are keeping you moderately happy and sane and have lots of friends, family and/or classmates you're keeping in touch with.

This is a long-winded way of saying that the current 'spiking', second-wave etc means that we will not be back in the classrooms for some time – probably not until Term 4. We were hoping to allow outdoor classes to officially resume – and we (the reopening/restarting subcommittee) are still meeting every week and working on the issues and tasks that are needed to clear the way.

Stay safe and keep involved. Let us know if you have any tips on keeping engaged during these difficult times.

Tony Aplin

U3A Signpost

U3A Signpost is an international newsletter published on the first day of every month for U3A members and kindred groups anywhere in the world.



Click on this link to access the June edition - June 2020 edition

Also check out GEMS for enquiring minds:

<u>GEMs</u> is a free monthly email newsletter sent by U3A Online to any interested person in any country.



You don't need to join U3A Online to receive GEMs. They won't send you anything unrelated to this newsletter so go ahead and <u>Subscribe to GEMs</u>.

COURSE NEWS - Sue Steele (Course Co-Ordinator)

Existing Zoom classes will continue through Term 3, and during the break if individual tutors and classes wish. All Zoom bookings have been updated and the class links will continue to work.

We're delighted to announce additional online classes for Term 3, available to book right now.

Morning Meditations –Start the Day Well

Zoom class. Monday to Friday 7:30am - 8am. Starts Monday 13th July. Course Code 20168

Every week-day morning at 7:30am members are invited to join Stephen Le Page for a half-hour meditation and well-being program. A variety of meditations will be featured. People may attend regularly or as they find time.



Israeli Dancing for Beginners

Zoom class. Saturdays 2:30pm. Starts Saturday 18th July. Course Code 20169

Richelle Arber is offering online classes for beginners. Israeli dances include circle, line, and individual dances.



We would also like to share the below series of discussions with you:

Life beyond the coronavirus: the expert view

This is a series of six COVID-19 video updates from Melbourne University's Dean of Medicine:



♠ Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

Episode 1: Flattening the curve Episode 2: What will it take to end isolation? Episode 3: The race for a vaccine Episode 4: Are the kids alright? Episode 5: The Future of Work Episode 6: Preventing the next pandemic

And a reminder of this self-paced online course in case you missed it in Newsletter Special Edition 4:

Readings in Australian History - The History you were never taught - Course 20166

Self-paced online course.

Retired Social Worker Jim Poulter has developed this online course to help us better share and take pride in our rich Australian Aboriginal history and heritage. Jim has delivered courses and talks to U3As and schools, and writes a monthly column 'Birrarung Stories' for the Warrandyte Diary Community Newspaper.

Exploring Meaning in the Beatles' Lyrics - Bob Mason (Tutor)

On 10th July we will be starting our second series of sessions on the Beatles. We use Historical Method to analyse the Beatles' lyrics, showing how their songs tell the story of their lives, their personalities and the things that were most important to them. We are building the story in the sequence in which they recorded their songs. Our theme is 'A private conversation in a public domain'.

So far we have covered the Decca sessions, the first two singles 'Love Me Do' and 'Please Please Me', and all but 2 of the songs on the first LP 'Please Please Me'. In this coming series we expect to cover the last two songs of the LP, the next two singles (the big UK breakthrough with 'From Me To You' and 'She Loves You'), and the second LP 'With The Beatles'. The review will necessitate a dip into the early solo years as well as an elementary introduction to Music Theory - notes, intervals, chords, keys and modulation.

The first series delved into the importance of John Lennon and Paul McCartneys' mothers and their impact on the Beatles' story. This series will look at homosexual aspects and the sexualisation of society that followed in the wake of the Beatles. As Philip Larkin so wittily wrote, 'Sexual intercourse began in 1963 (which was rather late for me), between the end of the Chatterley ban and the Beatles' first LP'.

Each session takes approximately 90 minutes. Original plans to run these sessions in person have been put aside and they will be conducted via Zoom. Anyone wishing to join can be provided with an introduction to Zoom.





Creative Conversations - Sandra Groves (Tutor)

The Creative Conversations group continue to produce.

These items were knitted by Alison Barnett and are currently winging their way to Queensland.





Sue Steele made these lovely knitted pieces. Sue knits for charity so eventually these will go to KOGO





Sculpture Group - Roy Bird (Tutor)

The sculpture group has continued to work at home and share their creations by email. Janice Richardson has finished her mosaic, titled Gaja (means elephant) looking very 'Bollywood'; Tanya has completed her bust; Janice Lawton created a clay air dried duck; Roy has produced a trio of flying duck plaques; Eitan created a 3D Star of David from concrete and Cerise has made some masks.



Gaja





Bust of young girl





Duck



Masks

Flying Ducks

The Lake by Peter Lucas

What are we waiting for by the lake in night air? I ask what you feel and you say nothing at all. Are we strangers or friends? We have known so much death you and I and it seems after a while its nothing at all.

We had something once in the pain but it slipped away like a lost friend. The faces we knew are painted in halls of memory and I close my eyes on them like it's nothing at all.



I'm safe here by the lake, death out there in the depths. I hold my breath...and I feel what it is to hurt, to love. The dead have nothing and everything.

If you go, I'll wait for a time between what began and what ends. I'll let go, hold to nothing, no mysteries to find, just stillness and hours I'll pray go fast and remember you said "Death is nothing at all"



Bayside U3A Writers Group New Website

An exciting event for members of the Bayside U3A Writers Group will be the launch of their new website by Bayside U3A Course Convenor Sue Steele on Monday, 6th July. The website link is https://baysideu3awriters.org/

The new website will provide an online opportunity for the Bayside U3A Writers Group to publish their literary works of varied genres, including poems, short stories and radio plays.



In addition, war-themed poems, short stories and radio plays will be transferred from the Bayside U3A Writers Group Armistice Tribute site, which will soon cease operation.

PDF versions of all the radio play scripts will be available on the site for audiences to follow while listening to the recorded productions, performed by local actors.

Initially the new website will contain 23 stories, 16 poems and 14 radio plays and these 52 works have been written by 23 different authors. The group expects to continuously add new works and readers are invited to revisit the site regularly.

The Bayside U3A Writers Group is indebted to member Dr Martin Playne, for his tireless, excellent work in constructing the new website. Thanks also to Jan Storey for her editing assistance.

This new website will give the opportunity for the diverse works of our talented local poets, short story authors and playwrights to be published online for the enjoyment of a broad readership.

https://baysideu3awriters.org/

Brighton Wine Appreciation - Stewart Burn (Tutor)

Well, who would have thought that you could have a wine tasting using Zoom. The Brighton group has had two and they were well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Even if it was just to get together and have a chat. We have also had a challenge, where you drank a bottle over six nights and observed how the wine changes.

The first Zoom meeting was pretty simple, everyone just chose a bottle and discussed what they were drinking. It ended up being a very enjoyable night. For the second, four suggestions were given and you chose one bottle from the list with some accompanying cheese. It was interesting how the wine changed according to the cheese you choose.

We will continue these virtual tastings until we are all allowed back together.



Thank You to Our Tutors

A special thank you to all the tutors who are offering Zoom classes and keeping in touch via email with our members.

A very special thanks to Helene Redding for her amazing contribution of five Zoom classes every week - three Stretching Classes and two Balance and Bones.

The below was received from Karen Hall:

'Helene runs every class with the same energy and enthusiasm as the last one. We are made welcome to attend one or all of the classes as suits our needs (personal calendars being somewhat empty at the moment). Such a great way to start the day in the comfort of our own homes! My hand weights are limited to cans of baked beans given the scarcity of 2kg dumbbells anywhere. Luckily this is not particularly obvious in my tiny Zoom window.

Thank you Helene for an outstanding effort in maintaining the ever growing/changing distribution lists and individual email requests! We all love your classes'.



Current restrictions

For the most up to date information on Victorian restrictions, please visit <u>coronavirus.vic.gov.au</u>.

Many restrictions that were due to ease during July have been postponed due to the ongoing outbreak in Victoria.

Some restrictions have been reinstated. Currently, restrictions include:

- Up to 5 visitors at a home and a maximum of 10 people at outdoor gatherings
- Gyms, cinemas and theatres are allowed to open with a maximum of 20 people in a space
- Cafes, restaurants and pubs may have up to 20 people in a space
- Community spaces and libraries are also limited to 20 people per space.

Find out more at <u>DHHS</u>.

If you leave your home, practice <u>social distancing</u> and good hygiene. This means keeping 1.5m between you and others and washing your

hands frequently. Many businesses will offer hand sanitiser on entry. The Victorian Government is issuing spot fines for people breaching these conditions. If you are **at all unwell**, you should **stay at home**.



Classical Music Virtual Class No 13 - David Peake (Tutor)

The final episode of the splendid BBC dramatised biography of Beethoven starts this week's class. Some time soon, I'll get round to watching all 3 episodes in full, but I know that they have been appreciated by many of you.

BBC The Genius of Beethoven - Faith and Fury (Part3/3)

Instead of presenting more of Beethoven's music, this time I thought that it would be a good idea to offer you some music by his contemporaries. I have chosen 3 of them - Carl Maria Von Weber (1786-1826), Johann Nepomuk Hummel (1778-1837) and Luigi Cherubini (1760-1842). Weber and Hummel were virtuoso pianists and Hummel in particular was a performance rival of Beethoven. Beethoven admired Hummel's playing and compositions. Cherubini spent most of his life in Paris and is best known as the composer of some 20 operas and a considerable amount of church music. He was a friend of Chopin although some 50 years older and is buried almost next to Chopin in the Père Lachaise cemetery in Paris. Beethoven considered him to be the greatest of his contemporaries.

So, let's run through my offerings. In his short life, Weber was quite prolific and versatile. His Bassoon Concerto is well established in the instrument's repertoire and is given a fine performance by the French soloist and the Venezuelans in 2009.

CM Von Weber bassoon concerto, Laurent Lefèvre bassoon

Hummel's concerto for piano and violin gives equal prominence to each soloist, ably supported by one of the many German radio orchestras in June 2019.

Johann Nepomuk Hummel - Konzert G-Dur

The last 2 items are of Cherubini works. The first, the overture to his opera 'Anacreon', is often performed and recorded - with good reason, it is a lovely piece. This performance dates from 1986.

Luigi Cherubini : Anacreon

The last item is the finale of his only Symphony composed in 1815. It is not hard to see why Beethoven regarded him so highly.

Cherubini Symphony in D: Finale

As usual, just click on to each of the underlined titles and you will go direct to the youtube video.







6

58:48

20:14

32:20

10:04

5:35

CLOC Musical Theatre – Priscilla, Queen of the Desert - POSTPONED

Sadly, the divas and drag queens are going to have to put the frou-frou, feathers and sequins back into storage for a little while longer. While CLOC had hoped to present Priscilla, Queen of the Desert in October 2020, the continuing restrictions, uncertainties and health risks resulting from COVID 10 have forced.



restrictions, uncertainties and health risks resulting from COVID-19 have forced them again to postpone the show.

CLOC is hopeful of staging Priscilla in the first half of 2021, with Jersey Boys to follow in the second half, but this, and the precise timing, will remain dependent on an easing of the social distancing requirements.

Members who paid for tickets for the 2020 production will be given a refund. Email to Deb Stephenson on padstephenson@ozemail.com.au to request your refund (include your bank account details).



U3A Online is an individual, independent and autonomous U3A. U3A Online provides short courses for older people who enjoy learning but prefer the freedom to study where and when they choose. It also offers many other useful resources for older people, especially those who are geographically, physically or socially isolated.

Use this link to go to the website U3A Online.



The Florey Institute has a new lecture coming up - online through Zoom:

Wednesday 15th July @ 11:00am Ageing & Alzheimer's Disease: the search for the cure

Read more information and book via the Eventbrite website. .

NEWSLETTER

Thank you to all our members who have helped to create our great newsletters through the years. It is always a delight to receive your articles and photos.

We have been producing a newsletter every 2 weeks since the beginning of April and hope to continue to do so until face-to-face classes recommence.

Any contributions, feedback or ideas for future newsletters will be gratefully received.

Please email to baysideu3a@gmail.com - attention Newsletter Editor.

The feedback we receive from members is much appreciated:

Thankyou everyone. So grateful. Nancy de Keijzer

Many thanks to you Deb - bet you hadn't expected the massive effort required for the additional newsletters when you signed up for the job. You have made the newsletters informative and interesting - I look forward to reading every one of them.

Karen Hall

