



U3A Granite Belt Inc Newsletter November 2017

Volume 13 Number 10

November Calendar

- 2nd TED Talks
- 2nd Gallery Talk
- 9th Excel Course
- 11th Queen Mary Falls Walk
- 14th Mosaics
- 14th Music Night
- 15th Garden Group
- 16th General Meeting
- 21st Book Group
- 23rd Excel Course
- December**
- 1st Christmas Lunch

See Page 4 for details of times and places of Activities

*You cannot always
have happiness but
you can always give
happiness
Unknown*

From the Editor's Desk

Proposed By-Laws

By-Laws for an incorporated organization supplement the Model Rules by providing guidelines for the operation of the group. A set of proposed by-laws has been sent to members for feedback. The by-laws will be discussed and decided upon at the General Meeting on **19th November**. If you are unable to attend the Meeting and want to have some input into the discussion, please contact Calvin on 4681 4774 or winksce@outlook.com before **10th November**.

Christmas Lunch Friday 1st December Mason Winery

Yes it is that time of the year already. The Christmas lunch invitations will be sent out at the beginning of November. This year, menu choices and payment will be made prior to the day.

Publicity

The Management Committee have approved the purchase of a pull-up banner to be used to promote U3A in the community. The banner can be used by any group and during other promotional activities. 3 A2 size laminated

banners will be used by the Ukulele Group when they are performing in the community. The Management have also applied for funding (up to \$400) from the U3A Network to assist with the cost of the banner.

Guest Speaker

The guest speaker at the November Meeting will be Richard McCarthy of DRUG Arm. Richard is based in Warwick and is delighted to be invited to our November Meeting.

Thanks

Many thanks, Oriel and Mary Clarke for solving the question re Stewart Marion. This was a extremely sad story that must have impacted on a

large number of people in the community.

The mystery rock photo in last month's newsletter is


on the way up to Mt Marley and was taken on a walk to Mt Marley - and yes all the group made it to the top!

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Volume 13 Number 10

A Ukeing Good Time!

The Graniteers continue to be in popular demand throughout the Granite Belt with 2 performances coming up next month. November sees the group performing to TenFM's Music in the Vineyard on **5th November** and Market in the Mountains on **12th. November**.

New songs will be showcased at these performances.

The last week-end in October the Ukulele Festival at Mountview Wines provided a perfect opportunity for anyone who has wanted to learn the ukulele. The Graniteers are currently working hard to master some Christmas songs and



hopefully, you will see them around Stanthorpe playing and having a ukeing good time.

You can like the Ukulele at the Winery Facebook Page and keep up with their activities. Call Angela on 0431 817 646 anytime for more information

Book Group

Fran Tabir



Our book of the month was *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. It was written in 1984 but it is still relevant today. It is a dystopian tale set in the future. The setting is the north eastern states of US, called Gilead in the book.

A drop in the fertility rates of the citizens has resulted in a take over by the right-wing religious fundamentalists. Men are back as the top group in the population. Women are put into their rightful place, according to Old Testament teachings. The women are not allowed to read or to have a bank account. They are totally dependent on the men. Within the women there are the wives, the breeders, the serv-

ants, the wardens (called "the aunts") and the old women who are sent to contaminated sites to clean up the waste, which is usually nuclear. This is a death sentence for the older women.

The main protagonists are Offred, a breeder and Fred, a Commander and his wife Serena Joy. Offred is a fertile woman and a servant belonging to Commander Fred and his infertile wife. Every month at her fertile time, Offred must submit to the Commander who, in effect rapes her. If a child results from such a union it becomes the child of Fred and his wife. (The fertile women become the property of the

Commanders, hence their title)

Canada is not affected by this regime and many of the Gilead women and some of the men try to escape across the border to Canada.

It is a disturbing book, with such a bleak future portrayed but despite this, it is an interesting and easy read.

Next Book Group

**Tuesday 21st
November**

***Our Soul's at Night*
by Kent Haruf
At 17 Teale Road
The Summit**

News from the Stanthorpe Art Gallery

Thursday 2nd November At 10.00am

Come to the Art Gallery to hear Maggie Brockie

talking about her work that is currently on display at the Art Gallery. If you have been to the Gallery and seen the

magnificent snake that Maggie has created, her talk will be of enormous interest to you.

Aims of U3A Granite Belt Inc

To provide members with affordable education and learning activities covering a wide range of different subjects

To provide members with the opportunity to study and learn in a relaxed environment

To nurture the minds bodies and souls of members

Group Reports

Garden Group

The outing to Montview Rose Garden was cancelled due to the inclement weather. The end of year garden group will be at John and Chiyoko's at 1623 Texas Road, Greenlands.

Walking Group

We continue to explore Stanthorpe on foot and are considering becoming the swimming group when the weather heats up.

Craft Group

A small but dedicated group meet at the CWA

Rooms every Monday.

Jonola

8 or 9 members meet at the RSL on Monday afternoons.

Mosaics

Members continue to create objects for the house and garden.

Book Group

Continues to grow and have hearty discussions about the book of the month. Some selections have been made for next year's reading list.

German

The group meets at the CWA Rooms, irregularly, on Tuesdays. Beginners and more advanced learners of German are welcome.

Excel Course

This is proving challenging for Calvin, our tutor and for the learners. The course would be much easier if all students had the same computer operating system!

Next Garden Group

15th November

At

10.00am

John and Chiyoko's Garden

Please bring morning tea and lunch to share.

Please bring a chair.



Activities for 2018

Some suggestions were discussed at the October Meeting.

- * Publisher Course
- * Mahjong
- * Field Nats Walks (these would be bush walks with a field naturalist answering any questions about flora and fauna) probably about 4 - one

during each of the seasons.

- * French (if we can find a tutor)
- TED Talks, local history group and other groups will continue in the New Year.
- Planning for the garden group and local history group will begin in February.

Art Gallery talks will be organized again next year and advertised in the newsletter. Franco Arcidiacono is hoping to organize about 6 talks next year. These are very informative talks and really expand one's appreciation of art.

If you would like to suggest other activities, please contact Carol 4681 3495.

Excel Course

Calvin is tutoring the course and it is challenging for him and for the 4 "students". None of the "students" have the same computer operating system and this provides an additional challenge for Calvin and members of the group.

The 4 "students" also have differing levels of knowledge and understanding of computers and of Excel.

The course may yet need to be repeated until the students become more used to the opportunities Excel provides in relation to budgeting, calculating bank interest and com-

pound interest and countless other uses that Calvin has not yet explained to us!

The course would be much easier for Calvin if all "students" had the same operating system.

Does this demonstrate the need for U3A Granite Belt to apply for funding to purchase 4 computers?



Many thanks, Calvin for volunteering to tutor the Excel course. Hopefully, other members who have great computer skills could share their knowledge with other members.



U3A Granite Belt Inc Activities

November 2017

Weekly Activities

Monday 10am - 12 noon

Sewing/Crafts CWA Rooms, Victoria Street

Contacts: Anita Knight 4681 0942 (sewing) Dot Stewart 4681 1334

Monday 1.30pm

Jonola, RSL Marsh Street

Contact: Dot Stewart 4681 1334

Friday 1.00pm

Ukulele Group Mountview Wines

Contact: Elaine Winks 4681 4774

Mon, Wed & Fri 6.30am

Walking Group Meet at Zest

Contacts: Julie 4683 2823, Carol 4681 3495

Occasional Tuesdays 10am

German Language

CWA Rooms, Victoria Street

Contact: Irene 0437 373 929 for details

Monthly / Fortnightly Activities

1st Thurs (2nd) 10.00am

TED Talks: Venue: Learning Centre

Contact: Julie 4683 2823

2nd Thurs (9th) 10.00am

Excel Course Venue: Learning Centre.

Contact: Calvin 4681 4774

2nd Tues (14th) from 9.00am

Mosaics: Venue: Pete's Playroom at Margy's

Please bring a plate to share for morning tea.

Contacts: Margy 4681 0102, Kerrie 4681 1737 for more details

2nd Tues (14th) 7.00pm

Music for Pleasure: Venue: Carol's

Topic: Composers, or Artists whose surname begins with "K"
Please bring a plate to share for supper.

Contacts: Carol 4681 3495, and Silvia 4681 1771

3rd Wed (15th) at 10.0am

Garden Group: Venue: John and Chiyoko's 1623 Texas Road, Greenlands

Please bring morning tea and lunch to share, a chair, and a mug

Contacts: Carol 4681 3495, Leon & Kerrie 4681 1737, Elaine 4681 4774

3rd Thurs (16th) 10.00am

General Meeting: Venue: Learning Centre Guest Speaker Richard McCarthy Drug Arm

Please bring a plate to share for morning tea

Contacts: Julie 4683 2823, or Carol 4681 3495

3rd Tues (21st) 10.00am

Book Group: Venue: Julie's

Book for Discussion: *Our Souls at Night* by Kent Haruf

Contacts: Mary Courtney 4683 7103, Esme 4693 3324

4th Thurs (23rd) 10.00am

Excel Course Venue: Learning Centre

Contact: Calvin 4681 4774

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