

# LIFE IS FOR LEARNING

**Your Committee, who work tirelessly to make U3A a success, are happy to answer any questions or take up any suggestions you may have. Please contact us:**

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I know it's winter because I've been spending time in front of the wood fire. You know that beautiful warmth of a slow combustion heater. Perfect for knitting socks!

I also know it's winter because many of our U3A members have "gone north". They'll come back again when it gets too hot and humid up there!

Despite the migratory pattern of our members the activities continue and I know our hard-working course co-ordinator, Anna, sent out the Terms 3 & 4 offerings before taking to the road herself. I hope you have looked at the activities scheduled to see what might interest you.

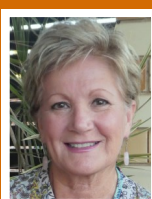
There have been some great "Out and About" stories including a trip to the SA Art Gallery and knitters' participation in the World Wide Knit in Public Day at Clare.

One of our own creative writers won the Bush Poetry competition at the Riverland Country Music Festival and I know from some of his prose writing that there is a book in the making.

Our artists have been busy preparing works for the

## FROM THE EDITOR

Diana March



SALA art exhibition currently hanging at the Chaffey Theatre. Our administration tasks should become easier with the acquisition of an "office" in the same building as our clubroom. With a little face lift this space will welcome any passers-by wanting to find out more about our U3A.

Residents at Moorook expressed an interest in learning more so a little "travelling show" .... minus magician ... met with local residents to see what activities could be run both for and by their immediate community.

Feel free to contact any of the facilitators to find out more about their activities. Dates for the remaining two terms are:

TERM 3: July 23—Sept 28

TERM 4: Oct 15—Dec 14

Remember that all the activities are listed on the website (address above). If you haven't visited it recently, jump online and have a look.



**Some activities are new while others are waiting to proceed because more participants are required. Facilitators have kindly offered their time and would welcome your participation in the following:**

### BEGINNING GERMAN

We are excited that Carmen Borowski is offering a new language class. Absolutely no experience with German is required. Classes will be held at U3A clubrooms from 2-4pm on Thursdays.

### DON'T BE A VICTIM- STAY SAFE PHYSICALLY

Designed to learn simple and effective techniques and confidence in a confrontational situation eg stay safe in situations such as theft of personal property, or learn to ward off a physical attack in public or at home. Suitable for anyone regardless of physical strength.

### BRIDGE

Brent Morrell is once again seeking expressions of interest from those who might enjoy playing this fun and challenging card game. Contact Brent via email on: [bkmorrell@bigpond.com](mailto:bkmorrell@bigpond.com)

### FRENCH RENDEZVOUS

This group is not suitable for complete beginners. Anyone who has basic French conversational skills and wants to enhance their ability to converse in a clear and effective manner is encouraged to participate.

### KNIT & KNATTER 2

A knitting activity for both beginners or experienced knitters who wish to work on any project, including knitting for charities. Bring anything you'd like to work on. Contact Marian Woodberry on 0412 649 766

### YOGA

Doreen Aspden is a senior herself and adjusts the exercises and poses to suit this age group. Subject to numbers, this activity will begin in Term 4 and be held at either Moorook or Barmera depending on interest. Contact Doreen on 85412192 if you are interested.



**IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR AN ACTIVITY PLEASE SHARE IT WITH US.**



Fifteen travellers braved the cold June morning in the name of art to journey to Adelaide to view "The colours of Impressionism" exhibition on display at the South Australian Art Gallery.

This exhibition gave us an insight into the world of late 19th century France, through works which captured the fleeting moments of everyday city life and the beauty of the countryside.

To stand amongst the works of the best loved Impressionist artists such as Renoir, Monet, Courbet, Cezanne and others, was special, so much so that the security guard in one of the rooms had to reprimand me about getting too close! Fancy expecting me to see the white lines on the floor, delineating viewing distance, when my attention was taken by the paintings on the walls!

It seemed most appropriate that the art works which attracted our attention on that very cold day were snow scenes—in particular "La Pie" or "The Magpie" by Claude Monet.

All our art excursions have been great experiences but this was particularly special because these masters were not being shown anywhere else in Australia before returning to the Musee d'Orsay in Paris.

A rare opportunity to see world class art—Daina Braddock



## THE COLOURS OF IMPRESSIONISM





# MEN do you know how to knit?



The community of “Knitting Men”, people of Taquile Island are living the lifestyle they’ve preserved for centuries. Taquile is an island on the Peruvian side of Lake Titicaca, 45km offshore from Puno.

It’s important for men on Taquile to have great knitting skills. When a man wants to marry, he needs to prove his worth by drinking water out of his knitted hat, known as a “Chullo”. If the hat is knitted so tightly that the water doesn’t drip, he has successfully proved his abilities.

Men wear brightly coloured, tightly woven woollen hats that resemble floppy nightcaps, which they knit themselves. Only men knit, learning from the age of eight. These hats are closely bound up with social symbolism: men wear red hats if they are married and red and white hats if they are single.

The Chullo’s are also characterized by the long, narrow pointy tail which, depending on the way it is leaning, indicates the individual’s mood. If the tail is to the left ... he’s worried. If it’s to the right side ... he’s happy. If it’s to the back it means he’s busy—which is normally the adopted position whilst knitting.

I feel sure that women reading this are thinking “Well, wouldn’t this make life so much easier!”

Women, on the other hand, have to weave two special belts for their men — the first belt they weave for their future husband is made from their own long black hair, which they have to cut for this purpose upon engagement. A young couple have to live together for two years before they are allowed to marry and it is during this time the women have to finish their weave. This hair belt serves as a padding for the second belt, a much more elaborate one, that males wear on top of the first belt and will have to last a lifetime.

Into the second belt, the future wife will weave her wishes from her soon-to-be husband – a rich harvest, children, a house, cattle, firewood, and the tools needed for their trade. This waistband will be organized much like a calendar, with each wish being associated with a certain season of the year.

[www.annees-de-pelerinage.com](http://www.annees-de-pelerinage.com)



## WORLDWIDE KNIT IN PUBLIC DAY

Three enthusiastic sock knitters from our U3A visited Clare for Worldwide Knit in Public Day on June 9 and were surprised by the number of people taking part. This unique, international event began in 2005 and is now celebrated in 57 countries.

It wasn’t a “women-only event” with one man proudly wearing the jumper he’d knitted and confidently knitting his next pair of socks. Another male, together with a young girl sat with their weaving looms. The weather was fantastic and it provided a great networking opportunity. We enjoyed meeting like-minded knitters over lunch and coffee.

There were other sock knitters but also people who were far more adventurous – check out the dress and coat that two young women had knitted. I don’t think I have the skills or the time! People came from far and wide and it was a lovely event. Keep an eye out for the event in 2019 and remember that some of the best knitters in the world are men!



Knitters & weavers gather in the courtyard outside the Knit, Spin, Weave shop in Clare for Worldwide Knit in Public Day on June 9, 2018





The SA Country Music Festival is the biggest and most important event on the South Australian Country Music Circuit and one of the Riverland's major events.

National artists along with the best South Australian talent appeared at some ninety shows over ten days.

The bush poetry competition, themed "40", was won by John Penna who is a member of the "Writing for Pleasure" group. Runner up was John Chase, also a U3A member. The reading of the poems was compered by Jill Wherry, an accomplished bush poet, who also presented prizes to the winners.

## FORTY YEARS ON

by John Penna

Wood smoke gently rises  
Mist settles on the lake  
Campers cooking barbies  
Beers from eskis take.

Music begins to sound  
Guitars quietly strum  
Singing starts around  
The camp begins to hum.

Twas Rocky Page they know  
A festival began  
Now forty years ago  
And very well it's ran.

Big stars from far and wide  
They come to play their songs  
Crowds old and young applaud  
Dance, sing and clap in throngs.

If Rocky is looking down  
A smile would surely glow  
To see the crowds that come  
To this fair country show.

## THE FESTIVAL

by John Chase

Is country music to your style?  
I thought I'd play around a while  
And see what comes to me  
As I ponder after tea.

Forty years I've had in Berri  
And still remember riding the ferry  
As I travelled to and fro,  
Always ready to say, "Hallo."

But when it comes to June, you see  
Barmera is just the place to be.  
The Festival's run forty years  
With lots of fun and, yes, some tears.

Much, oh so much, has been achieved.  
At the end, workers are quite relieved  
To see so many enjoy their stay  
As they listen to the music play.

Recall the days when Rocky Page  
Sang to the crowds from the stage.  
And countless others, then till now,  
None would ever throw in the towel.

So, enjoy this great, fortieth year  
As many artists will appear.  
All the Riverland will rejoice  
As they hear each amazing voice.



ARCTICIRCLECARTOONS.COM

Writing for pleasure



Above: The "Writing for Pleasure" group meets twice per month at the Renmark Community Centre. New members are very welcome to join.



Left: Winner of the Bush Ballad Poetry competition, John Penna with his prize (which he generously shared with the other writing group members)



A lunch to thank tutors was held at the Big River Tavern. Standing L to R: Judy Strachan, Jack Centofanti, David Bonnar, Diana March, Murray Goodes, John Penna, Daina Braddock, Helen Simpson. Seated L to R: Anne Chase, Judy Kelly, Pam Rule, Helen Cenko

Out&About



A small group of Moorook residents attended a short presentation about U3A with the focus on running some activities locally.



# MORE OF THE MASTERS

