

U3A Altona Newsletter

Issue 67

Term 2, 15 April to 28 June

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We welcome the many members who have joined Altona U3A in 2024 and hope that you find a course or an activity you want to join. We welcome suggestions for new activities and for guest speakers and of course we would love to hear from members who are prepared to facilitate a new course. You may have skills to pass on, or you may just be willing to take a session or two to discuss a video or documentary from a wide range of online options. We are limited only by lack of volunteer tutors. If you have any suggestions or would like to propose running a new course, please drop in at our office at the Beryl Hevey Centre or contact us by phone or email.

Our office is open from Monday to Thursday, 10am-12noon, except during public and school holidays. We are currently in need of a volunteer to help out in our office on Tuesday mornings between 10.00 am and 12.00 pm. Full training will be given but someone with some computer and office experience would be preferred. If you are interested, and like to socialise and meet new people, please contact the office and include your contact details.

Altona U3A belongs to Western Region U3A which provides support for us to organise new classes, train volunteers and has a range of online courses which members of Altona U3A can do individually at home or a few members could get together and share a class.

Ann Nicol
President

Mini Bus Trips Pick up is at 10.00 am at the Civic Theatre at the Hobsons Bay Civic Centre, 115 Civic Parade, Altona, where there is all-day parking. This is also the drop off point after the trip.

Hobsons Bay City Council provides the council buses and a volunteer driver for our trips, Council will also send an account for \$4.00 for each trip which you can pay at a Post Office or online or at the Council office.

To qualify for community transport with Council, members need to be 65+ and be registered with My Aged Care for transport. Members who receive homecare packages do not qualify. It is up to their agencies to provide transport which is covered with their package.

BUS TRIP 1. Thursday 23 May

Australian Flight Museum, Moorabbin - The Museum has one of the most significant collections of aircraft and engines in Australia. You will have time to walk around the Museum and then stop for lunch, returning by 3.00 pm. There is an admission fee of \$10.00 or \$7.00 for Concession holders.



BUS TRIP 2. Thursday 27 June

Queens Park, Moonee Ponds - Queens Park was originally a water reserve for travelling stock. It was also the first camping ground on the way to the gold diggings and Burke and Wills camped near here. There are plenty of cafes to have lunch including one in the park itself.



Term 2 Classes

When the space in the Hall is fully occupied by active physical movement classes, please enter and exit the U3A classes held in the Lounge or Boardroom via the external door in the Lounge

Current Affairs—Starting Monday 15 April, 10.30am-12pm. BHC Lounge

Stephen and Sharon present information about recent events in the local and global world. We invite participants to bring information about issues that have caught their interest.

We often debate topics, watch short videos and try very hard to stay relevant, focused and positive. Coffee usually follows at a local café.

Knit n Sip - Starting Monday 15 April, 1st and 3rd Monday of the month, 1pm-3pm. BHC Lounge

We will continue to knit/ crochet for charity OR you can bring your own knitting to do Or just come along for a chat and a cuppa. There will be patterns and wool for those knitting for charities.

Italian Conversation – Starting Monday 15 April, 2-3pm. BHC Boardroom

This weekly course is for people with a good working knowledge of Italian, both written and spoken, with all the basics of grammar, irregular verbs etc. The class will choose a topic/activity/theme from week to week, from the selection offered. The tutor is bi-lingual and an accredited NAATI translator (IT) since 1990. Barbara lived in Italy for 27 years and has several years of experience in teaching Italian, and teaching English to Italian-speakers. She uses both languages regularly.

Book Club #1 meets 4th Monday of the month in BHC Lounge, Book Club #2 meets 3rd Thursday of the month in BHC Boardroom.

Altona U3A has two Book Clubs of enthusiastic readers who enjoy a get together once a month to discuss what we have read. Ideas and opinions often vary but this makes for a good discussion. The facilitator may lead the group to talk about the author, the story or the themes and perhaps how it relates to our own life. There are ten meetings held during the year from February to November.

Ukuleles for Beginners with Bob – Starting Tuesday 16 April, then fortnightly, 10.00am-11.30am. BHC Boardroom

This is an opportunity for you to learn the first three chords of this very versatile instrument. These first chords are enough to have you singing along to lots of songs. Music is supplied. If you are looking to extend your ukulele skills we would love to hear from you.

If you want to see if the ukulele suits you first, we have several that can be borrowed term by term.

All Things Film – Starting Tuesday 16 April, 1-3pm. BHC Boardroom

Join us to watch, share and discuss all things film. Perhaps you have a DVD/Blu Ray collection that you'd love to share, or there's a youtube clip that's caught your attention, or there's a film, TV program or documentary that's haunted you for years. The weekly program will be set by the group.

Tai Chi - Starting Wednesday 17 April, 10.00-10.40am. BHC Hall

A very popular weekly activity that keeps participants healthy and active. Tai Chi develops many skills including focus, balance and relaxation and harmony. Suitable for beginners and continuing students. Participants should wear loose comfortable clothing and suitable footwear.

Advanced Mahjong – Starting Wednesday 17 April, 1.30-3.30pm. BHC Lounge

Mahjong is a popular Chinese game played with sets of tiles. It is a game of skill, strategy, and calculation, which also involves a degree of chance. It offers enjoyment and challenges. **This class is for skilled players.**

Electric Guitar Group – Starting Wednesday 17 April, 6-8pm. BHC Hall

“Rockin’ Oldies” are now part of Altona U3A. They are an Electric Guitar Group and were formed by Clive Pattie in 2018. They have performed at Altona Men’s Shed, Laverton Bowls Club, Western Bulldogs Men’s Health Group, and at Altona Meadows Uniting Church. They have even toured as far as Castlemaine. Most of the players learned as beginners and have progressed to the band. New players are always welcome.

The guitar group extends an invitation to all members to attend their last rehearsal session of each month. There is no need to enrol for this event.

Learn Spanish – Starting Thursday 18 April, 1.30-3.30pm. BHC Boardroom

Come along and learn Spanish for beginners with an experienced teacher. Students will begin with the most common words and phrases needed for common situations. We have multiple copies of popular Spanish textbooks to work through. Why not give it a try? The Tutor, German (pronounced Herman), is a Spanish speaking Chilean with a wide variety of work experiences and interests.

All Things French – Starting Friday 19 April, 10.30am-12.00pm BHC Lounge

Jerome and his group meet regularly to enjoy speaking French, giving students the opportunity to retain French language skills and share and enjoy French culture. A basic knowledge of French is required for this course.

First Australians – Friday 19 April-Friday 7 June, 10.00am-12.00pm. BHC Boardroom

First Nations is a course which takes us from 70,000 years ago to today. The 8-week course gives the history of the Australian Indigenous people from the Day of Creation to the landing of Captain Cook, ending with the Uluru Statement from the Heart. Videos showcasing the Indigenous voice (such as First Australians, directed by Rachel Perkins) followed by discussion, are at the core of the program.

Trivia - Friday 31 May, 1.00-3.00pm. Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre

Come along and test out your general knowledge at this fun afternoon at the Louis Joel Community Centre. Teams of three or four people answer questions (or not) delivered by our quizmasters Dorothy and Carole. After stretching your brain, join us for afternoon tea provided by our members.

Let’s do Lunch – Wednesday 24 April, 12.30pm

We invite members to get together to meet and share lunch. **Crème** (now renamed The Forester) restaurant is a very suitable venue as we have space to move around and talk, as well as offering a wide variety of meal options. The Forester is in Pier St. Altona.

Should you require transport to and from the event please let the office know and we will arrange to have you picked up.

Let’s do Dinner Tuesday 7 May, 6.30pm

We invite members to get together to meet and share dinner at **Koorungal Golf Course**, on the corner of Queen Street and Wilga Avenue, Altona. If you would like to join us for an evening meal and meet some of the other members of Altona.

Let’s do Indian Dinner Thursday 6 June, 6.30pm

This is a new venue for a get-together in Term 2. The **Spice Yard** at 75 Pier Street, Altona, is a friendly Indian restaurant and provides a great atmosphere for discussion over a shared meal. BYO wine. This activity is a good opportunity for new members to meet others in U3A.

DISCLAIMER: Members need to be aware that they must accept responsibility for their own welfare when attending any U3A Altona classes or social activities

If you are unable to attend class, please advise the office or tutor prior to class.

2024 LONG AND SHORT COURSES

| DAY | COURSE | TIME | FREQUENCY | START DATE | VENUE |
|-------|-----------------------|-------------|--|------------|---------------|
| MON | Current Affairs | 10.30-12pm | Weekly | 15 April | BHC Lounge |
| | Knit n Sip | 1.30-3pm | 1 ST & 3 RD Monday | 15 April | BHC Lounge |
| | Italian Conversation | 2-3pm | Weekly | 15 April | BHC Boardroom |
| | Book Club 1 | 1.30-3pm | 4 TH Monday | 22 April | BHC Lounge |
| TUE | Beginners Ukulele | 10-11.30am | Fortnightly | 16 April | BHC Boardroom |
| | All Things Film | 1-3pm | Weekly | 16 April | BHC Boardroom |
| WED | Tai Chi | 10-10.40am | Weekly | 17 April | BHC Hall |
| | Advanced Mahjong | 1.30-3.30pm | Weekly | 17 April | BHC Lounge |
| | Electric Guitar Group | 6.00-8.00pm | Weekly | 17 April | BHC Hall |
| THURS | Book Club 2 | 12-1.30pm | 3 rd Thursday | 18 April | BHC Boardroom |
| | Learn Spanish | 1.30-3.30pm | Weekly | 18 April | BHC Boardroom |
| FRI | First Australians | 10am-12pm | Weekly | 19 April | BHC Boardroom |
| | All Things French | 10.30-12pm | Weekly | 19 April | BHC Lounge |

TERM 2 - ONE-OFF EVENTS



Let's Do Lunch - 24 April

Electric guitar rehearsal - 24 April

Let's Do Dinner - 7 May

Bus Trip 1 - 23 May

Electric guitar rehearsal - 29 May

Trivia - 31 May

Let's Do Indian Dinner - 6 June

Bus Trip 2 - 27 June



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