

Myrtleford MAGPIE



MYRTLEFORD & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Welcome to the September 2018 edition of *Myrtleford Magpie* – edition # 08

The power of sharing

MANY thanks to U3A Myrtleford and District's great group of tutors, who have made it possible to offer so many varied courses in such a short time.

Part of my role as a tutor co-ordinator has been to compile a folder of *Guidelines for Tutors*. It contains information and the aims of U3A Network Victoria (which we are part of), and also includes responsibilities of tutors and students. There are some added teaching strategies and ideas to assist the learning of mature age students who may have physical restraints.

Another job of a tutor co-ordinator is to make sure that tutors have the necessary forms, such as attendance sheets and incident report forms, and any other requirements.

I have a background as an educator and I am happy to offer support to tutors should they have any questions or issues related to the running of their classes. I know Denise Kennedy, also a tutor co-ordinator, would be happy to do the same.

It has been very rewarding being on the committee and taking part in the planning for a

U3A in our town and surrounding area. It has been exciting to see so many members enjoying the courses. I have met some lovely people through U3A and I have learned a lot. We never stop learning!

If you have a skill or an interest you are willing to share, and you would like to become a tutor please contact us:

Judy Pitts 0408 236 342 or Denise Kennedy
0429 405 740.

Judy Pitts
Tutor Co-ordinator

Victorian Seniors Festival – October

OCTOBER is all about celebrating Senior Festival month with the main celebrations centred on the week starting Sunday, October 7.

U3A Myrtleford and District's committee is offering two activities to help the community to celebrate this week in Myrtleford:

Monday, October 8

Myrtleford Piazza, 10:00am

Finska tournament – a game similar to skittles, which originated in Finland, is to be played and is open to anyone in the district.

After a play-off – and Finska is a fun game that anyone can play, with no special skills required – there will be coffee and/or a light lunch at nearby Café Fez.

Participation in the 'tournament' is free and the only cost will be for coffee and food that may follow.



Friday, October 12

RSL Hall, off Smith Street, at 2pm

Cousins share their stories

MUDGEGONGA farmer and autism awareness advocate Judy Brewer AO and Cathy McGowan AO MP – who are cousins – will be U3A Myrtleford and District's guest speakers at our Seniors Festival afternoon tea on October 12.

How lucky are we to have both of these amazing women share their stories at the same time?

Judy's chosen topic is *'Normal is just a setting on a washing machine'*.

She is well known to many people in our community, but how many of you have had the pleasure of hearing her speak?

Judy is a Mudgegonga farmer and married to author and former deputy prime minister and diplomat



Tim Fischer. One of their sons is on the autism spectrum and Judy has become a leading advocate of autism research and awareness.

Come along and be inspired by what Judy has achieved.

Federal Independent Member for Indi **Cathy McGowan** will also talk about her life as a politician and the importance of 'staying connected and learning as we get older'.

Cathy needs no introduction. She was elected to federal parliament in 2013 and re-elected in 2016.

She was born in Albury and educated in Beechworth and Melbourne.

She later became a rural teacher and electorate officer before taking a job with the Victorian agriculture department. She also farms in the Indigo Valley.

Since her election to federal parliament she has been a member of the House of Representatives' standing committee on agriculture and transport, select committee on regional development and decentralisation, and joint House-Senate select committee on constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Please tell your friends and family and encourage them to attend. This event is open to anyone in the community.

Coffee and afternoon tea will be provided.

A gold coin donation would be appreciated.



New courses in term 4

WE'RE pleased to offer new courses for U3A's term 4. These include:

- **Flower arranging**
- **Calligraphy**
- **Mathematics**
- **Know your smart phone**
- **Beekeeping**
- **Woodwork**
- **Gypsy Tribal Caravan Bellydance**
- **Wine appreciation**

I hear people saying "that would be an interesting course to do – perhaps I'll do it next time".

But if courses are not well patronised it is difficult for U3A to maintain voluntary tutors' interest, so I'd encourage you to express your interest by joining in.

We also hope to be offering another mosaic course and look out for a date for the tour of the Old Beechworth Gaol in November.

Details of these new and on-going courses are available at www.u3amyrtleford.org.au or call Jan Mock on 0401 064 030.

Recent activities

Snow and history



COOL SUNSHINE: Snow-shoeing on the Mt Hotham and Dinner Plain Trail, which took in 'JB Hut' – a historic cattleman's hut on JB Plain.



HISTORIANS: John Taylor (right) and Chris Wicks, tutors for U3A's local history course '1930 to 1960', in Myrtleford's Historical Society's Old School Museum.

Gardening course blooms into spring

Myrtleford Senior Citizens' Centre Smith Street, at 10am

U3A Myrtleford and District's ever-growing gardening course group will host a plant, cutting and bulb swap to open term four after a four-week break.

The exchange is to be held on **Thursday, September 27**, because the usual course day

(every Friday fortnight) this year falls on Victoria's Grand Final Friday public holiday.



VOLUPTUOUS: Tree peony 'Etienne de France', pink with a splash of pigeon's blood red, is about to flower again.

The gardeners will return to their usual course pattern on **Friday, October 12**, when they visit Darrell and Cheryl Perkins' Buffalo Native Plant Nursery at Merriang South.

Course leader Jamie Kronborg said other highlights of the term included a proposed day trip by bus to visit gardens at Strathbogie and Terip Terip. The date is yet to be set and there will be a fee for bus hire.

Enrolled course participants will have precedence, but if there are spare seats and other U3A members are interested in joining the tour, then they should email jamiakronborg@me.com for their names to be waitlisted.

The gardeners have this year visited four gardens and taken part in a fruit tree-pruning workshop at Buckland Gap.

They've also viewed videos and heard podcasts about the late English gardener Christopher Lloyd and the Prince of Wales's 'Highgrove'.

Moroccan Feast at Café Fez

Thursday, October 18, 6pm

JOIN us for a Moroccan feast at Myrtleford's Café Fez. Come along, meet new people and enjoy the food and ambience.

Ticket: \$30 per person.

Let Jan Mock know if you would like to attend by calling or texting 0401 064 030.