



Moorabool University of the Third Age

History in Moorabool

August 2009

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Is there history in Moorabool shire? Is Moorabool U3A part of history? Is history part of Moorabool U3A?

Probably the answer to all three questions is Yes.

Taking them in the reverse order, history is part of Moorabool U3A's activities, Australian History, that is! Gail D'Elton successfully started her Australian History group in this the third term. By all reports the participants were pleased with the presentation and are looking forward to their next segment.

As to the second question, History is only as the name implies, a story, originally His Story. Time will tell if Moorabool U3A will become part of the longer term history of the area.

Is there History in Moorabool Shire? Yes there is. WikiAnswers.com states that the meaning of history as *anything that is past recorded, whether about culture, food or people*. Also history is *about all the remaining facts of past time that is extincted*

to this day.

There is geological history, the story of the earth's past. In Moorabool shire there is a small reserve in Tramway Lane Darley, previously called The Council Trench. The reserve's Committee of Management set up in 2003, decided that it should be known as Triassic Park.

The Geological Society of Australia reports the site as *Victoria's only known*

Triassic aged, sedimentary outcrop. It remained reserved as a site of interest to those of geological persuasion from about the 1870s, and in 1980 it was granted 'State' geological heritage status. More of this interesting story can

be read on the Bacchus Marsh Visitor Information web site as well as on the Geological Society of Australia web site.

Moorabool U3A Tea Time Talk for August will also be History based with Bob Reid speaking on some more local history. See page 4.

**History -
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Visit Jewish Museum

Expressions of interest is being sought for a visit to the Jewish Museum in St Kilda.

See back page for details.

Craft Workshops

Moorabool U3A is seeking expressions of interest in small craft workshops. Workshops are to include card making and scrapbooking, and bead worked Angels and woven bracelets are amongst the proposed

workshops to be held. We are arranging for group leaders to show us their skills.

It is proposed that a rotating group of instructors take different craft groups in sequence.

The only additional cost will be for materials and venue gold coin donation.

We anticipate that this activity will be held on a Thursday. Afternoon.

Register now with Gail on 0413 569 709.



Dolls Houses and Miniatures — Course Leader — Jackie Matters

Monday 10:00 to Noon

Dolls Houses—An Adult Interest with a fascinating history.

The history of dolls houses dates from the 1600's or 1700's, when merchant traders returned home with miniature samples of the furniture and furnishings, and to bring the full sized item on their

next trip. In order to show the miniatures, people in Holland and Germany built special cabinets to house them, and are now the dolls houses we have today of one twelfth scale.

Jackie reports that the group have used polymer modelling clay to make tiny

cherries, daisy flowers, arum lilies, and a 'little yellow duckie' All items were cooked in Jackie's portable oven.. They also are making mini boxes and baskets out of mock wickerwork. Jackie also hopes to arrange an excursion to the Melbourne Miniatures Exhibition in July 2009

Card and Board Games — Group Leaders — Jean Adams & Marian Harvey

What a handful four aces presents. Card games like Bridge, Crazy Whist, Euchre, Canasta and a range of other card games are on the agenda.

Together with Board games of Backgammon, Monopoly, and Scrabble, these games can be played concurrently



with players choosing their choice of game including Dominoes

Bridge — Course Leader — Alex Smith

Tuesday 10:00 to Noon

Contract bridge, or just **bridge**, is a trick-taking card game of skill and chance. It is played by four players who form two partnerships; the

partners sit opposite each other at a table. The game consists of the auction (often called bidding) and play, after which the hand is scored.

(Wikipedia)

We need more people to register with Gail for this group to start.

Mahjongg — Course Leader — Jan White

Monday 9:30 to 12:30.

Mahjongg originated in China dating to over two thousand years ago. Jan will teach us the basics of learning the 'Western'



version of Mahjongg i.e. the Australian version. Students will need to purchase a book which sets out the moves

and the terminology of the game. Reports indicate that the group are enjoying the experience of this engrossing game.

Reading Group — Course Leader — Yvonne Daws

Tuesday 2:00 to 4:00PM.

This group meets for the simple pleasure of reading books, talking about books and finding ways of locating and getting hold of books. Yvonne reports that in our first meeting the group enjoyed a highly satisfying exchange of favourite authors and their work. We followed

that up with a gentle stroll to an "Op-shop" where we found some old favourites and new attractions, and all at a very reasonable cost. Bacchus Marsh has a good supply of both readers and books and the local Library is very willing and able to secure loans of any books requested.

In all, this is a promising start for our group, and with time we expect a few more members to come along. We have no set books to read, just those currently being enjoyed. We expect also to occasionally lend or exchange books amongst ourselves.

Computer Studies — Course Leader — Eric Daws

Tuesday 2:00 to 4:00PM

Because of the varied levels of knowledge held by the many participants of this course, the course has morphed into a self help group. The more advanced assisting

with the beginners in the fundamentals of using the mouse and keyboard, whilst the more advanced studied advanced topics.

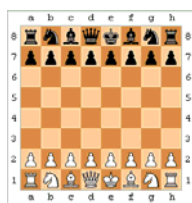


During August Eric will be absent for a while. We have arranged for Ross Alcock to take the group while Eric is away.

Chess — Course Leader — Peter Matters

Tuesday 10:00 to Noon.

Chess is a fascinating and competitive game played between two players. The current form of the game emerged in Southern Europe during the second half of the 15th century from similar,



much older games of Indian and Persian origin. Today, chess is one of the world's most popular games, played by millions of people worldwide in many varied locations. Come along and be involved in this

engrossing game. Demonstrations are being held at the Bacchus Marsh Village shopping centre on the second Saturday of the month. With its success, lessons are now being carried out by Peter Matters.

Australian History — Course Leader—Gail D'Elton

Wednesday 2:00 to 4:00.

In this class, we will look fleetingly at the early explorers from Europe, England, Asia and the Islands. Then we will go on to study how and why Australia was settled.

We will look from the time of the First Fleet, and our first Governor, Captain Arthur Phillip to subsequent Governors until Federation. We will study how some of those sent out to

this country in the early days abused their positions. We will learn of the 'Rum Rebellion' and Captain John Macarthur and his merino sheep.

We will also study the original inhabitants of our land. The legends of the Koori people some say began 50,000 years before the birth



of Moses, before Celt, Pict or Saxon. We will look at some of the epic journeys of the early explorers. The tragedy of Bourke & Wills' last journey, the triumphs and disappointments of men such as Hume & Hovell, Mitchell, Sturt, Eyre, Oxley, Leichhardt, McDougall Stuart and others.

Conversational German — Course Leader — Peter Matters

Monday 10:00 to Noon

Australia is now a multicultural country of people from many places. The German class at our U3A is for people who speak only English. Our German class

improves ones knowledge while the classes are informative and those whom attend find them good fun.

The aim of our class is to master

the art of conversation in German which requires learning a certain amount of grammar. We find this to be a new and challenging experience

Clutter Busting — Course Leader — June Fryer

4th Term

This course is designed to be conducted across two or three sessions on separate days.

Unnecessary clutter in your house and your life can cause distress! Come along to a



lively and fun discussion group and learn how to organise yourself and your life through a series of tips and suggestions. Try out some ideas and come back to the next session to discuss

how it worked. Learn how to say "no" to anyone who clutters up your life. Time will be allowed for individual problem solving.

This course has been deferred until the spring.

Quilting Group — Course Leader — Judy Alcock

4th Term

This course is scheduled to start in the fourth term and will be conducted around machine quilting techniques.

Bring along your sewing machine

and learn the skills of patchwork and quilting while making a quilt that can go to a good cause.

We will start with a traditional pattern and explore ways of choosing

and enjoying colour.

Fabric and batting will be supplied or you can bring your own fabric to make your own quilt.

A Shakespeare Group will start in the first Term 2010



Tea Time Talk

The first Tea Time Talk will be held on Monday 17th August at 2PM. We have arranged for Bob Reid, local Historian, Conservationist and Heritage worker to be our guest speaker. Tea Time Talk will consist of a guest speaker and afternoon tea and will continue on the 3rd Monday of the month even during term holidays.

The September Tea Time talk will have our local Veterinarian, Peter Shilton, discussing the taking care of ageing pets. This will be on the 21st September.

The October 19th Tea Time Talk speaker will be Mirko Cugura of Retirecare Personal Wealth Management who will discuss with us some financial issues.

Please support our guests.

Don't forget the Tea time Talks are being held on the 3rd Mondays at 2PM at the Baptist Church followed by a cuppa and social chit chat..

Visitors are also welcome.

Proposed Visit to the Jewish Museum.

Moorabool U3A has received an Invitation to visit the Jewish Museum in St Kilda. We are asking for Expressions of interest to attend. It is proposed that we will go by train to Melbourne and tram to St Kilda. Entry to museum \$8, Pensioner/Concession \$5. All other costs are your own including transport and food.

Once we know approximate numbers, more details will be made available. It is proposed to go on Saturday the 31st October 2009. Please reply to Marion Ingram Social Organiser.