

## Watson

5<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Hi to all members,

After the latest government announcements it appears The COVID-19 situation is much worse and we are now in a state of disaster and Regional Victoria is now in Stage 3 restrictions, just as we were starting to enjoy doing a few little things like going to a café, a drive and small outdoor gatherings for Tai Chi and Coffee club.

We have no option now but to suspend all activities until it is safe for us to have face to face meetings again, walking slowly will continue to meet. That is really disappointing for our 'catch up thermos club' we had a few turn up a fortnight ago and were looking forward to doing it again.



Pictured are Sheryl, Vittoria, Karena, Terry, John, Brenda & Marie. Thank you to Sharon for taking this photo.

Walking Slowly group are still meeting at Peppertree Park every Monday morning at 9.30am, wearing masks and walking in pairs as per regulations. Anyone interested in joining this group can contact Louise on 0415 105 655.

We are now at the stage, unfortunately, where all we can offer you in the way of U3A activities are Zoom meetings. If you haven't already tried Zoom, I can assure you it is very user friendly and we have a very gentle and patient Zoom technician that can get you connected and help you start up.

If you would like to give it a try, you may contact: John Spain – Zoom technician - by phone: 0468 453 340 or email [jspain3340@gmail.com](mailto:jspain3340@gmail.com)

It would be great if we could all stay connected even if it is via Zoom, until we are safe to meet face to face again and resume our normal activities.

Another event that we usually look forward to and participate in is the annual 'Senior's Week' festival. This year, the 38th Victorian Seniors Festival was moved onto the World Wide Web, through online performances, Zoom recorded interviews and storytelling. From May through to October 2020 they are posting weekly video performances and interviews. From July through October they are posting monthly radio entertainment. With physical distancing rules in place, the hosts meet and feature video performers from the comfort of their own homes. Radio content is recorded separately and put together by radio producers to adhere to physical distancing restrictions.

The title of this event is 'Victorian Seniors Festival Reimagined 2020'. Please click on the following link for more details on the website:

<https://www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/festivalsandawards/watch-now#.Xx4sQ7wt9xE.email>

If you click on 'Watch Now' it will take you to another page and on the right side of the page is a week by week guide. I hope you enjoy this as much as I have so far.

Last week John Spain and I had a Zoom meeting with Terecia Page from Apple 98.5FM to promote our U3A Bacchus Marsh. Due to our current COVID-19 situation, this was pre-recorded and we were advised that this will be broadcast on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020 between 9am-12.00, you may like to tune in.

We are still looking for expressions of interest from members that would like to partake in some fun games via Zoom as mentioned in last Watson. Please contact me on 0400 143 392 or email [president@u3abacchus.org.au](mailto:president@u3abacchus.org.au) . Many thanks to those who have expressed their interest previously.

If you or if you know of any of our members that may be housebound and need help with shopping for groceries or essentials please let either myself, Helen 0400 143 392 or Sharon 0407 480 207 know and we can organise assistance.

That is all for now. If we run into each other at the supermarket wearing masks, please forgive me if I don't recognise you and vice versa.

Please take care and stay safe, be kind and smile.

Any queries regarding the above, please contact either:

Helen Brown on 0400 143 392 or email [president@u3abacchus.org.au](mailto:president@u3abacchus.org.au)

Or

Sharon Moore on 0407 480 207 or email [secretary@u3abacchus.org.au](mailto:secretary@u3abacchus.org.au)