

WATSON

24th September 2020

As the stage 3 restrictions are slowly being lifted, it gives one a glimmer of hope that if all goes well we can start looking at starting up our classes once again. We still have a bit to go, but it's starting to look good. Darley Neighbourhood House remain closed and they will let us know when they are allowed to open again. Please see attachment for their latest Newsletter. The library's operations remain the same.

As we now able to meet in groups of 10 outside and the weather is starting to really warm up, there may be some activities that can start up again, perhaps at the Maddingley Park rotunda or the Evans Pavilion. There may be other outside venues that can be utilised safely.

If anyone, or if you know of someone that would like to start up a new group with outside activities for now or going forward for indoor activities in the near future when it is safe for face to face gatherings, please let Brenda our course co-ordinator know. Brenda can be contacted by phone 0438279893 or email bjanicer@bigpond.com

Coffee Club: Meet 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month. The past few Coffee club meetings were held via zoom, it was a little different but a lot of fun. The next meeting will return to usual coffee and chat on Wednesday 7th October 2020 at 10.30am at Vans Café, in Nelson St. beside the Darley Primary School. For further details contact Sharon on 0407 480 207.

Tai Chi: A date for your diary. Jan is hoping to start up again on Tuesday 20th October 2020, venue will be advised closer to that date. For further information please contact Jan 0417 917 969.

Discussion Group: Is still very popular, held on the 3rd Thursday of the month via zoom. If you would like to attend this group next month via zoom, contact Terry on 0412 939 935.

French: Team Leader is doing a great job providing the group with tasks and activities via email and online learning. If you would like to join this group, contact Lyn 0488 588 011.

Walking slowly: This group has not been affected by restrictions and has continued as usual. For further details contact Louise 0415 105 655.

Garden Group: Had a very successful zoom meeting, we were honoured with zoom virtual garden tours at Ian's, Rosa's and Wendy's beautiful, colourful and lush gardens. Mazi would like to organise visiting gardens again in the following months, there are two gardens that are being looked at, Eurambien at Beaufort and Mount Mitchell at Lexton. These are two separate events. There will be carpooling. A date has not been set as yet, if you would like to attend either or both of these garden tours please let Mazi know and depending on numbers a date will be set and interested persons will be advised. Please contact Mazi on 0409 245 881 to express your interest.

Thursday Book Club: This group started up again when books became available for collection from the library. Members are meeting monthly via zoom to discuss their read. For further information contact Terry 0412 939 935.

The above groups have been active either through gatherings, email or zoom while we have been in isolation.

Senior's Festival Reimagined: In the last Watson, we requested that any members that have been following Senior's festival reimagined online might like to comment on the online programme and write a few words in regard to this, we were extremely lucky to have received a response from Anneli, please see submission below. Thank you Anneli and well done. Hope others have had a chance to go online and enjoy this as well. If you would like to share your experience and write a few words you may email either myself president@u3abacchus.com.au or to Sharon secretary@u3abacchus.com.au we can include that in the next Watson.

That's all for now. 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

Or

Sharon Moore on 0407 480 207 or email secretary@u3abacchus.org.au

From Anneli

Hello my fellow U3A members.

Many of us have been wondering what is happening to our Victorian Seniors Festival and Moorabool shire Seniors Festival.

The answer is the Seniors festival reimagined -seniors online 2020 and our local radio station.

Our life is so different currently, but still it is refreshing to discover every day something new.

For the last few months many of us have discovered new ways to keep in touch with friends and to be entertained. Our computer skills have improved. In isolation it has been wonderful to explore the world and Australia. How nice to sit in your own home and listen to a full concert or opera and watch your favourite ballet. No hassle of booking tickets!

When the news came that Seniors Festival is online in 2020 and will be running over many months I was delighted. It is so nice to be able to share the experiences and skills of so many wonderful people. As well one can share the experience with friends. Why not to pick up a phone and ask a friend: have you been watching on the net the Seniors Festival programs?

Which is your favourite? It is a different way of celebrating seniors but there is something for everyone. You will be entertained, feel good and be inspired.

Why not to click on <https://www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/festivalsandawards>

Great news that our local community radio stations, including Apple FM in Bacchus Marsh, will broadcast the festival programs throughout September and October.

So tune in to Apple 98.5FM to hear all the programs until the end of October.

I hope you will enjoy the new experience.

Keep well and keep in touch with the family and friends.

Regards,

Anneli Rickards