



The U3A Crier

NEWSLETTER OF NATURALISTE
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE INC

Winter 2021

FROM the EDITOR

Winter already! Time, as usual, seems to be flying by. Thanks to Course Leaders who have sent in a contribution to the newsletter. On this occasion I haven't been able to include all the photos forwarded but think there is a reasonable representation from those sent.

Thanks also to those involved in proof-reading and particularly to Deirdre Chell for doing the Topical Talk flyer.
Joan Parke

FROM the CHAIR

During the recent Volunteers' Week, volunteer groups in Busselton were invited to send 2 representatives from their group to the City of Busselton's 'Thankyou to Volunteers' event. Brenda Pirrit and I were to represent Naturaliste U3A. Unfortunately, Brenda was unable to attend but I was able to participate in an enjoyable evening on our group's behalf!

There were a number of groups represented – some from well known organisations such as the Busselton Hospice, the Citizens Advice Bureau, Church and sporting groups but these few examples were only the tip of the iceberg of volunteer groups and individuals within the City of Busselton.

Nola Marino MP, Libby Mettam MLA and Grant Henley, Mayor of Busselton, each spoke and highlighted the huge commitment that volunteers make to the Community. Statistics about the 'manhours' that volunteers put in, in a huge range of ways, were quite staggering and certainly made the audience aware that not only were they making a difference, so were numerous others, often not noticed or acknowledged. All those present would likely agree that they don't volunteer in order to be noticed but the Thankyou event was appreciated.

Bringing this to a comment on Naturaliste U3A, the evening emphasised to me how our organisation has much to appreciate in the way we have volunteers in a number of capacities: the Committee, Course Leaders, and members who do such things as giving lifts to those who may no longer be driving, setting up rooms for classes, preparing refreshments, and many little things that help us to present courses contributing to life-long learning and social involvement. Thankyou to you all - and I am pleased to say we have a volunteer to do our printing, thanks Pauline!

Committee Matters, in the last Crier, I mentioned that some changes were in process in the Committee. It is some time until the AGM when these changes will actually occur, but by letting you know in advance it will give members time to think about any contribution they can make. With some 230 members we have a wealth of skills and experience to draw on!

The vacancies that are expected are: the President and I am retiring from the Committee, the role of Secretary, and Cathy Oldman is also retiring from the Committee.

Expressions of interest, or for further information, please phone Joan on 0410 667696. If you would like to know more about the Committee you can arrange to attend a meeting as an observer. We look forward to hearing from you.

AROUND the COURSES

LEARNING TO READ MUSIC & UNDERSTANDING MUSIC THEORY

Leader: Shane Venema

This 10 week music course began on 11th February this year and finished on 15th April. This was the first time I had presented it to adults in this form so I didn't know how it would be received. I remember the first week when the ladies arrived, not knowing what was going to be expected of them. Or just what they were going to get out of this course! None of them really knew that much about music.

What was a semibreve? Why did a quaver have a stem plus a tail? Why did we need rests anyway and why did everything have to sit on 5 lines and 4 spaces? What in the wide world were leger lines, semitones, accidentals and ties? As for music timing ... what was that and why did we need it anyway? Anacrusis? Scales? Musical intervals and chords? Tonic triads and transposition? They came knowing very little on week 1 and after just 10 weeks, each of them was able to write a melody on manuscript paper, complete with a key signature, proper bars, notes and rests that made sense. They were so chuffed and so was I! Shane

TIZZY UP YOUR GARDEN POTS Leader: Brenda Pirrit, Co-Leader Joan Parke

Although we only had a small group on this short (three 2 hour sessions) course, everyone got busy tizzying up their pots. We had terracotta and plastic pots to work on with a range of materials to either collage with, make patterns with stencils or paint with either paint pens or acrylic paint. So much to choose from!! Members were enthusiastic to repeat this class.

Brenda



Painted terracotta



Up-cycled terracotta



Georgie Eichenberger using acrylic paint on a plastic pot

EMBROIDERED FELT Leader: Helen Wheeler

During the 6 weeks from mid-March to the end of April, a group of 5 lovely ladies met for a creative couple of hours working with felt, thread and a variety of stitches to produce an amazing, colourful variety of items. We had a couple of bags (one literally a 'hand' bag), a couple of circular wall hangings (one depicting a wolf complete with hairy coat and the other a water lily), a wall hanging made from deconstructed jeans, a book cover, a mug wrap and more.

We began with lots of inspiration: examples and patterns of things that could be made and plenty of felt and threads supplied. After being shown how to get from pattern to felt design on a background fabric and being shown a variety of stitches that could be used, participants chose their own project and worked at their own pace.

Feedback has indicated that everyone was happy with this approach, although for some a sampler of stitches at the outset could have been useful. Most also suggested they would have liked longer sessions as our 2 hours disappeared very quickly, so some helpful suggestions to incorporate for future classes if/when they are offered. Helen



Selection of embroidered pieces



Busy hands, beautiful work



Literally, as mentioned, a 'hand' bag

REFLECTIONS and REMINISCING Leader: Elaine Hogan

This is a group meeting in The Courthouse, opposite Artgeo, once a month. Small groups are randomly formed no more than five to a table and interchanged at halftime.

The idea is for Elaine Hogan, (Course Leader), to give a topic (which is changed at halftime), to kickstart our conversations, which often take us to wherever! Where we start is never where we end up! It can cause much hilarity as people tell their stories. There are often bursts of laughter from the tables!

To date, we have used such topics as
Why is the past important,
What is something you've always wanted to do. What has been your best moment.
Your favourite song and why. Your biggest challenge

There is no pressure for anybody to talk, but it is such a relaxed, easy atmosphere that everybody soon joins in. Coffee etc, is available at the Lock Up cafe next door, which is served at halftime. Elaine

FRENCH CONVERSATION Leader: Elizabeth Horne

This clever acrostic poem, submitted by Elizabeth, written by course member Val Russell, reflects this course perfectly.

Groupe Francaise

People sharing the same interests	G ens partageant les mêmes intérêts
Filling the room with laughter.	R empilissant la pièce de rire.
Open to each other	O uverts les uns aux autres.
United in purpose	U nis dans le but.
Perfectly comfortable.	P arfaitement confortable
Stars of our world	É toiles de notre monde.
Brothers and sisters	F rère et soeurs
Meeting every week.	R éunion chaque semaine.
Friendship with a coffee or a tea,	A mitié avec un café ou un thé,
Food for the soul.	N ourriture pour l'âme.
Tellers of stories	C onteurs d'histoires
Accessible to all.	A ccessible à tous.
Childhood images remembered with a	I mages d'enfance rapelées avec des
Sense of humour.	S ens de l'humour.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN BIODIVERSITY? Leader: Patrick Prett

Biodiversity comes alive as The People Place turns into a science laboratory. Hand lenses fixed in eyes, long fingernails handy for dissection, identification manuals open and the need to collaborate as students share the precious material. Banksia flowers were kindly donated by Jennine Frost, an ardent super star of Biodiversity courses.

The animals did not miss out when 100 beetles fell out of Kathy's banksia cone. All part of a busy schedule with a humorous side, at least Wendy thought so.

Eyes open biodiversity students. **Biodiversity for Everyone** is coming. There is a good chance it will be on later this year. Topics include local reserves; gliders of the gum trees; water rats, tortoises and mice; bioluminescence at the marri reserve, dibblers on island refuges, the Whicher Range and Proteaceae; Australian carnivores past and present. Keep Wednesday at 2.30 available for yet another exciting experience! Patrick.



A study in concentration! All the pieces of equipment Patrick mentioned in use!

SEMESTER 2 (July-December) COURSES

It is often a bit tricky offering and planning courses for the winter months, as many in our age group are keen to head north to warmer weather. However, there are certainly plenty of us staying put and looking forward to this semester's course offerings. An email went out recently asking for potential new leaders – if you are interested but haven't made a decision yet, there is still time to discuss your ideas for offering a course or Workshop by contacting Don, our System Administrator, admin@u3anaturaliste.com.au or Joan on 0410667696 for further information prior to submitting your proposed course to him by **4/6/21**.

REMINDER to members

If you enrol in a course then find you can't attend it is important to let the Leader know as there are often members wait-listed who could then get into the course. Costs involved and preparation are also dependent on numbers so it would be appreciated if you make contact as soon as possible. Thanks.

******CALENDAR******

SOME IMPORTANT DATES FOR THIS COMING SEMESTER

***Course Enrolment Dates**

*Semester 2 commences on July 19th (in line with schools). If you have enrolled in a year long course you **DON'T** need to re-enrol for this Semester.

*If you are enrolling in a short course you **DO** need to enrol for this Semester.

*Enrolment dates for those **enrolling in person** are -

Wednesday 30/6/21, 10.00 -11.00 am at Nova Village (502 Bussell Hwy)

Friday 2/7/21 1.00-3.00pm at THE PEOPLE PLACE (19-21 Kent St, Busselton)

*Enrolments **online** on our website (www.u3anaturaliste.com.au) are open from the **30/6/21** and available for viewing in UMAS from **20/6/21**

Course Booklets will be emailed or posted to members approximately 17th June.

*Course Leaders' Information Workshop

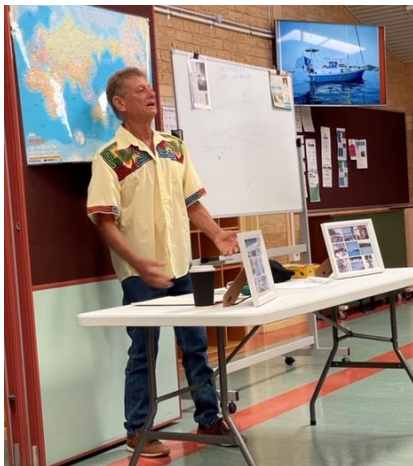
***Friday 18/6/21, 11.00-12.00am.** This one-hour information workshop will go through basic course procedures, tips for preparation etc as well as looking at the UMAS system to ensure that Leaders are familiar with their access. Information on privacy issues related to our technology will also be given. This is a good opportunity to ask questions you might have.

Intending/new Leaders are encouraged to join us and current Leaders are very welcome to come along and share their experiences and also the chance to brush up on any UMAS and privacy concerns.

RSVP to secretary@u3anaturaliste.com.au or President on 0410667696 by 12/7/21

TOPICAL TALK

Peter Lewis: 'Sailing Single Handed Around the World in a Yacht'



Our first Topical Talk for the year was well attended and the audience enjoyed Peter's tales of the adventures - and mishaps- he encountered as he sailed single handed around the world.

Obviously this was a topic that brought out the adventurous among us and Peter had plenty of questions from those attending at the end of his talk.

A donation from our gold coins and raffle was given to the Busselton Hospice, and gratefully received.

TOPICAL TALK: Upcoming

FRIDAY 9th JULY

Please see details in the included flyer (last page) for this upcoming Topical Talk and mark the date on your calendar! Previous information in Talks from the Hospice has been well received, as will be that presented by Kylee Anderson, Community Outreach Services Coordinator in her **Home Visiting Service** Talk.

The Busselton Hospice Inc provides a much-needed service, one that as Seniors in the Community a number of us may need to use. It is most helpful for us to be aware of the support they offer. Much of this is provided by volunteers, a number of whom are Naturaliste U3A members.

We have made donations to the Busselton Hospice, raised from a number of our Topical Talks each year, and will do so again at this Talk. As they do not get Government funding, every little counts, even our gold coins.

Suggestions and contributions are welcome and can be forwarded to the Editor atadmin@u3anaturaliste.com.au or posted to P.O. Box 1792, Busselton WA 6280



TOPICAL TALK

Busselton Hospice Care Inc.

**You are invited to a Topical Talk presented by our guest speaker:
Kylee Anderson, Community Outreach Services Coordinator**

Busselton Hospice Care Inc is one of Busselton's longest running **volunteer** organisations and were recently the winner of **Outstanding Organisation** and recipient of the **Douglas MacAdam Perpetual Trophy** for Excellence in Palliative Care at Palliative Care WA's inaugural Awards 2019.

We are very fortunate to have Kylee come and update us on the organisation's new **Community Outreach Service** and what the organisation is currently doing with their **Home Visiting Service** which adds further support to members of the community who are living with a life limiting illness.

Please join us for what promises to be a very informative and interesting Topical Talk .

DATE: Friday 9th July 2021 TIME: 1.30 - 3.00pm
VENUE: The People Place, 19-21 Kent St, Busselton.

Kylee's talk will be followed by light refreshments.

Gold coin donations are invited and will be donated to Busselton Hospice Care Inc.

Please RSVP if attending to: secretary@u3anaturaliste.com.au or Joan Parke (President)
0410667696



Busselton Hospice Care Inc.

AT
Geographic Bay
CENTRE

Our community supporting end of life care