

**President's thought for the month.**

“Because a thing seems difficult for you, do not think it is impossible for anyone to accomplish, but whatever is possible for another, believe that you, too, are capable of it.

*(Marcus Aurelius)*

**President's message**

As you should all be aware of we have a General Meeting coming up on the 23rd June and it would be nice to see you all here to discuss any issues you may have and to learn about different things that have been happening.

As most of you would have heard that Nola who took on the position of treasurer had to stand down due to undue circumstances, but Carol has kindly taken on this important position until the AGM in September. I want to say a big thank you to these two ladies and a big thank you to all members that helped at the birthday luncheon.

Joy- President

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**From the Secretary**

Another busy month has passed and the school holidays are almost upon us once again. Kathy excelled herself in organising our 18th birthday party and I am sure those of you who haven't had the opportunity to thank Kathy personally will join me in thanking her for the huge effort she makes on behalf of the members for their enjoyment. The food from Ready Roasts was fabulous and came in great variety - and who can forget the tiramisu? I am sure those who experienced a slight delay in their group starting after the party felt well recompensed by the opportunity to share in the abundant leftovers.

For those on their own or couples, Ready Roasts provide a cheaper alternative to cooking a roast dinner at home. Single serves are available for \$8.90 and for couples, if you ask for a large serve at \$15.90, I am told this is the equivalent of two single serves-a savings of \$1.90.  
 ~ Merlene



**Caring for each other**

Occasionally we have a member fall ill, move into residential care, or even pass away, and we do not hear about it in time to give a timely response. If you hear of any news regarding the welfare of a member please pass this on to Marion Small, our Welfare Officer, who will make an appropriate response. Sharing news with other members ensues we can all offer support and well wishes

It with sadness with note the recent passing of our past member Len Richards. Len was a popular member of U3A Melton and will be sadly missed by all her knew him.

## **The Times of our Lives**

The first issue of the new U3A Melton journal will be published this month and introduced following the general members meeting on June 23 when copies will be available for sale. At just \$5.00 per issue the 56 pages are jam packed with good reading, poetry, jokes and articles, and we congratulate Carolyn Hogg on the fabulous job she has done in editing and publishing this journal. A special feature of this issue will be a general knowledge quiz, with a Kmart voucher offered as first prize for the first correct entry drawn at the Christmas in July morning tea on July 27 at the Melton Country Club.

## **Calling all writers**

The editor is now gathering material for the next issue of the journal and invites submissions of original work from all members of U3A Melton. With a more varied content in the new magazine you have a greater choice in what you submit, the only stipulation is it must be your own work and accompanied by a signed submission form. You will find these in a tray on the editor's desk along with specification guidelines. Please speak with Carol if you have any questions.

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## **Victorian Seniors Card**



A Seniors Card gives you access to thousands of discounts from a variety of businesses throughout Victoria and special public transport concessions from Connex and V-Line also apply. To be eligible for a Victorian Seniors Card, you must be:

- 60 years of age or over
- Retired or working less than 35 hours per week in paid employment
- A permanent resident of Victoria
- Individuals who have been on Workcover for more than 6 months are also eligible.

You are not eligible if:

- You are an interstate or overseas visitor
- On long service, recreational or sick leave from paid employment

You can apply for a Seniors Card by

- picking up an application form from any Australia Post office
- Downloading from a link

Forms must be sent to Seniors Card GPO Box 4316 Melbourne VIC 3001. All application forms require a statutory declaration which must be authorised. It is an offence to declare false information.

You can replace your Seniors Card or change your address details online or by calling 1300 797 210.

<http://www.seniors.vic.gov.au/>

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## **Amendments to last month's advice on office procedure for the treasurer**

With another change of treasurer the advice regarding office hours for this office bearer, as stated in the May newsletter, no longer applies. Please also note the wooden drop box has been returned to its previous position in the desk drawer. We apologise for any inconvenience or confusion that resulted from this.

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## U3A Melton Library News

### Episodes of a Fractured Childhood

I recently had the privilege of reading **Episodes from a Fractured Life** by Rosemary Howden, © 2008, Ginninderra Press, ISBN 978-1-74027-479-1. Rosemary is the sister of Kay Kennedy, a U3A Melton member, who has kindly donated a copy to our U3A library. Thank you Kay.

This memoir covers the first fourteen years of the writer's life; a life that began with an abundance of love and security before change in circumstance turned it into one of neglect and emotional and physical deprivation that left her to find survival on the fringes of acceptable society. While it is a compelling read, this book is much more than a well told story and I willingly lost myself in the nostalgia of a past age where pathos and humour merged against a background of rarely told, everyday social history. From the excitement of fireworks on Empire day to the housing experiment of Camp Pell, I followed Rosemary's journey, admiring the wit and resilience that saw her overcome obstacles many others would balk at. I highly recommend this book to anyone who appreciates the rawness of truth in history and who admires the strength that shines from the darkest places.

### Joe – our Diamond Hill Hero

by Thelma Fear © 2004, ISBN 0646428705

I am pleased to say this book is also back in our library This beautifully written and presented family history covers the life of Joseph Davies; an ordinary life that became extraordinary overnight by an act of bravery that resonated from the goldfields of Bendigo to the national capital of Australia. Feted by politicians and persons of note, the reluctant and humble hero sought only to live his life as he had known it. This book stands as testament to the writer's determination to provide and accurate account of Joe's life, which is shown through her meticulous attention to detail in research and the abundance of archival documents and photographic illustrations that resurrect the period for the reader. This book is for lovers of history and those who just appreciate a good read.

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Recent addition to the library have included donations of some novels and Australian history folios from Carolyn McGavin. Thank you Carolyn.

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Other changes you may have noticed in the library has been the setting up of new computer equipment to enable the editor, Carolyn Hogg and the publishing group to produce the new magazine, *The Times of our Lives*, with the first issue offered for sale at the general member's meeting June 23.

A reminder to all members who have an interest in history our subscription to the *Australian History* keeps it on our shelves for the enjoyment and learning of all.

If you have any questions about the library or wish to reserve a book please see John Hilbert our librarian.



## June Birthdays;

Margaret Savage, Mary Chapman, Sandra Tadday,  
Nari Klein

## Around the groups

**Cards**-Norman Bond leader-a good happy group with regular attendance. There is always room for more company and what better way to spend the winter afternoon than in a warm room with good company.

**Reading for pleasure**-Noel Clarke leader- good regular attendance each Friday.

**Australian History**-Carolyn McGavin leader- a very jolly group shares the Thursday morning exploration into Australian history,

**Genealogy**-Ann King leader- Ann reports six to eight members attending each week, all with a tale or two to tell, with all making great progress in their search. Off campus activities include regular trips to the Melton library where there are excellent family history facilities, with a research field trip planned for June; activities much enjoyed and appreciated by all. More people are welcome to come along and find out about their ancestors, however, it would be good idea to check before coming along just where this group will be on the day.

**Tai Chi**-Basil Wurf leader- steady attendance at both the Tuesday and Thursday sessions.

**Billiards and snooker**-Noel Ker - no reports from this group but a reminder there is always room for more.

**Computer Hardware**-Basil Wurf leader- small group operating off campus

**Desktop Publishing**-Carolyn Hogg leader- this group has been put on hold for the time being as Carol prepares *The Times of our Lives* for its first publication and her duties as caretaker treasurer.

**Friday computers for fun**-Basil Wurf leader-a small but steady group participate in a range of computer based activities.

**Tuesday computers**- Merlene Pugh leader- since starting out as Computers for Beginners at the start of the year this group has become multi dimensional, covering everything from Word to Excel, tables to graphics, email attachments to plain old trouble shooting. Members with their own laptop are encouraged to bring this along so they can gain greater benefit and put what they learn into immediate practice at home. With a waiting list for this group we hope to offer another time slot next term at a time to be advised.

**Scrabble**-Ann Wright leader- no report

**Water Colour/pastels**-Gaye Boltong leader- no report

**Oils/acrylic painting**-John Birmingham leader- no report

**Let's Chat discussion group**-Marian Sidwell leader-*Let's Talk* is up and running - a small but happy group conversing across the table on subjects great and small. If and when new subject matter is required it is just a case of someone diving their hand into the lucky dip box for something new and exciting to talk about. The notice board in the cosy room is filling with anecdotes, jokes and other interesting morsels for members to read at leisure. It is hoped the group will grow over the coming weeks as news spreads that it is a happy place to be.

**Creative Writing**-Merlene Pugh leader-steady attendance and diversity in writing adds to the fabric of this group. Member's written offerings continue to surprise and entertain and many of these will be shared with you through **The Times of our Lives** when it is offered for sale later this month.

If you would like to let people know about the activities of your group please give the information to the secretary in time for inclusion in the next newsletter.

## **The next newsletter will be in July**

If you have any news you feel should be included  
please have copy to the secretary by Friday 3 July

**Please note**

**There will be a General Member's Meeting 23 June.**

**We look forward to meeting you there, sharing recent developments and discussion time with you.**

**Genealogy Talk**

**See Kathy's Korner for full details**

**Preliminary notice of AGM**

**September 8 has been set as the date for the  
2009 Annual General Meeting**

**Now is the time to begin thinking about nominations for the next U3A Melton committee. All members are encouraged to stand for committee positions and details of the office bearer duties will be published in the July newsletter for your interest.**

Photos from the birthday party will be posted on the notice board toward the end of the week beginning Monday June 8—see Kathy's Korner for more details.

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We wish any member who has been unwell a hasty return to health and are pleased to report Margaret Savage is on the road to recovery after her recent spell in hospital.

# COMPUTERS QUESTIONNAIRE

We are currently reviewing the role and function of our computer groups with a view to making better use of the resources in this room and we would like your input to ensure your needs are being met in this area. If you have an interest in this computing, or if you are currently attending one of our computer groups, please fill out the following brief questionnaire and return it to the office.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in learning to use a computer?      Yes            No     

Are you interested in leading a computer group?      Yes            No     

Have you attended or are you currently attending any of our computer groups?

Yes            No     

Do you have a computer at home?      Yes            No     

Would you like more information about computers?      Yes            No     

**What are you interested in learning?** (number one or more in order of preference)

- Playing games on the computer
- Word processing
- Desktop publishing
- Graphics - working with pictures
- Understanding how a computer works
- Understanding the internet and email
- Computer hardware – the manual side of how it works

**Other comments:**

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We will be clearing out all unused computers and equipment by the end of this term to make room for newer equipment and would like to see these go to a good home. If all you need to start learning is a computer of your own then yours is the type of home we are looking for – otherwise they will be quietly euthanized at the local tip.

Please return the completed questionnaire by June 23 so we can plan ahead for the next term.

Thank you-Merlene

# K A T H Y ' S K O R N E R

The birthday party was a great morning with lots of laughter and chatter. Winners of the raffle were 1<sup>st</sup> Prize –Helga Biezen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize-Pat Walsh, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize-Basil Wurf.

See Noticeboard for photos. Copies can be purchased.

## **COMING EVENTS:-**

**JUNE 23<sup>RD</sup> Tues**- General Meeting followed by a Morning Tea and Presentation from Leader Ann King on Genealogy. (Ann's class on a Monday morning is very popular and enjoyed by all who attend). Door Prize – Genealogy Pack.

**SO COME ALONG AND LEARN A LITTLE ON RESEARCHING YOUR ANCESTORS.**

## **July 27<sup>th</sup>-Monday-** CHRISTMAS IN JULY.

Devonshire Morning Tea and Show featuring The Christmas Crooners.

Venue- Melton Club. **Refer list for further details. Members and Non Members welcome \$10.00 per person. Note: Optional booking for lunch which is at your own expense.** Due to school holidays and early payment of this event. List for attendance will be displayed from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June till Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Payment to be made when including name on list.

## **MARIO'S MARRIAGE TIPS**

The Italian Secret of a Long Marriage.-- At Saint Mary's Catholic Church they have a weekly husband's marriage seminar. At the session last week, the Priest asked Mario, who was approaching his 50th wedding anniversary, to take a few minutes and share some insight into how he had managed to stay married to the same woman all these years.? Mario replied to the assembled husbands, 'Wella, I've a-ried to treat-a her nicea, spenda da money on her, but besta of alla is that I tooka her to Italy for the 25th anniversary!?'The Priest responded, 'Mario, you are an amazing inspiration to all the husbands here! Please tell us what you are planning for your wife for your 50th anniversary.'??

Mario proudly replied, 'I'm agonna go back & get her.'