

# U3A Sapphire Coast

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## January 2022 Newsletter

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Happy New Year!

We are off to a flying start. All of our courses from last year will be continuing on, and some new ones are in the pipeline. Membership renewals are going well. We are currently finalising details for our Welcome Back to U3ASC Party on Monday 14 February – keep an eye on your emails for your invitation shortly. And we will be participating in a big Merimbula event this month – the Sea Change Expo.

To make it easier for you to renew your Membership and enrol in 2022 Courses I am including the following link to the relevant page on our U3ASC Website: <https://www.sapphirecoastu3a.org/join-us> There you will be able to find instructions as to how to go about these procedures.

If working online is not your thing, Team Office Members can assist you with these tasks each Friday afternoon from 1:30 to 3:30 at the Tura Beach Centre, recommencing on 28 January.

This month's Newsletter has been given a fresh new look for the New Year. Inside you will find all the regular features – a Course Leader profile, information about Courses from the Program Team, Course Leaders and participants, Cryptic Crossword, Trivia Quiz. We will take a look at some of the Course Christmas Parties, and tell you about our Sea Change Expo Experience, with a call for volunteers. Hope you can help us out with this.

We are trying to tie up some Admin loose ends in regards to 2021 attendance records. Could Course Leaders please forward any outstanding attendance sheets to Michele Patten at [u3asc1@gmail.com](mailto:u3asc1@gmail.com)

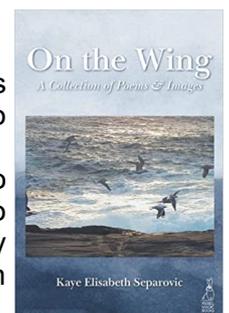
At the January Management Team Meeting, we will be reviewing COVID procedures both at the Tura Beach Centre and for the conduct of Courses, in light of the most recent changes to NSW Regulations. We will keep you up-to-date by clear signage at the Centre, as well as by email and in future Newsletters.

Look forward to seeing you at one of our events or courses sometime soon.

Sue Fowler

### ON THE WING - a session with author and poet, Kaye Separovic.

On a very wet December Thursday we 'launched' Kaye's book of beautiful poems matched with wonderful images that she has photographed. With participants unable to reach the Tura Beach Centre with some roads blocked already, we were a small but intimate group sheltering from the violent winds and rain, ideal conditions for listening to our poet. Kaye had prepared us with copies of a selection of her poems that she read to us and we discussed. Simple words but complex themes that triggered a very personally meaningful sharing of ideas and experiences. "Commuting in Winter", "Sobriety," "Dawn on the Headland" and others unraveled stories and themes often common to us all.



The collection is available from The Black Daisy in Pambula as well as online at Amazon.au @ \$32.99.

Elizabeth Stacey



**Welcome  
New Members:**

Kevin Davidson  
Mark Masliah  
Annie Pidgeon

## COURSE LEADER PROFILE – LORRAINE YOUNG - CRITIQUING CINEMA



I've loved films for as long as I can remember; my first job was at Columbia Pictures in Sydney and I have also worked for Australasian Film Hire and Village Roadshow, all of which was very exciting! Fast forward many years, and I still enjoy watching films of all genres, and seeing how all the different elements of filmmaking come together to make a brilliant, average or bad film. I am a regular cinemagoer and also attend special event screenings at our local cinema, such as the Sydney Film Festival and Flickerfest.

When my partner Ray Redman and I moved to Tura Beach in 2018, we joined U3A and have each participated in various courses. One I always especially enjoyed was Critiquing Cinema, with Molly Lehane as Course Leader, so when Molly resigned in August 2020, I volunteered to take on the job. Also, in September 2020 I was asked to be one of a group of three people to review two new cinema releases monthly on 97.5 Power FM community radio station; that has since changed to fortnightly. This has been really enjoyable and gives me an opportunity to mention the Critiquing Cinema group and U3A in general.

We are so lucky to have a twin-screen cinema in Merimbula, (the next closest is Narooma) and it's great to be able to support a local business. Our group meet on the fourth Thursday of every month (except school holidays), usually for a morning screening. As a gesture to U3A Critiquing Cinema members, The Picture Show Man's owner Jesse Tankard has offered a \$3.00 discount, so your ticket will now cost \$10.00. Afterwards, we go across to the Sapphire Club, where we meet in the café area to have a coffee or whatever you'd like and discuss the film.

We've had some wonderful discussions; we each give our thoughts and feelings about the film – loved it, hated it or no strong feelings either way. What about the plot, characterisation, cinematography, sound, emotional impact and so much more – we're all different and have different viewpoints, and I love hearing them all!

Covid has greatly impacted the Critiquing Cinema schedule in the past two years, as is the case for all the U3A courses, but I'm hoping that 2022 will see some previous members returning and new members joining our friendly group.

Lorraine Young  
Critiquing Cinema Course Leader

### **GOURMET TRAVELLER**

Members of Gourmet Traveller Group enjoyed their Christmas Party held Friday 10th December 2021 at the iconic Tathra Hotel - where the food is fine, the wine divine, and the sweeping views of the wide Pacific Ocean are superb.

A lovely place to celebrate Christmas. Where the blue of the sea blends with the hue of the horizon, and waves foam and dance from the cliffs below to roll gently onto the golden sands of the mile-long beach....  
PRICELESS!

Margaret Evans  
Course Leader



Amanda, Sylvie, Wal, ( Mrs and Mr Santa Claus) Liz, Gavina, Lesley, and Margaret, Course Leader of Gourmet Traveller Group

## SEA CHANGE EXPO – SATURDAY 22 AND SUNDAY 23 JANUARY



The Merimbula Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Sea Change Expo, which is designed to showcase Merimbula and the Sapphire Coast as a desirable location to Live, Work and Play. There will be a trade show style event on the Saturday at Club Sapphire, and on the Sunday they are offering experiences to give visitors a taste of what it is like to live here.

U3A Sapphire Coast will be participating in the Sunday “Experiences” event. Please see the Chamber of Commerce website – <https://ourmerimbula.com.au> – to check out the experiences on offer, including our entry.

We will be opening the U3ASC Tura Beach Centre between 9:30 and 11:30 for a Meet and Greet. We would like to invite Members and Course Leaders to be present at the Centre to talk with visitors about our organisation, and what learning opportunities and activities it has to offer for the over 55's. We will have U3ASC Information Brochures and Term1 2022 Program sheets to distribute. We would like to showcase anything that you might like to display from the course/s you attend or lead. We will also need some volunteers to help us with preparation beforehand and set-up on the day.

If you can attend on the day (Sunday 23 January), and/or help out beforehand, could you please contact: Marg Nicoll – [u3asoffice4@gmail.com](mailto:u3asoffice4@gmail.com) or Michele Patten – [u3asc1@gmail.com](mailto:u3asc1@gmail.com) ASAP.

### PROGRAM TEAM REPORT

#### First Sunday Play-and-Singalong with Paul Daynes - a big success.

On 19 December around a dozen people gathered at the TBC for the inaugural, monthly, Sunday Play- and- Singalong with Paul. In addition to the whole group playing many favourites from the ukulele and guitar songbooks, several people took up the invitation to perform on their own instruments.

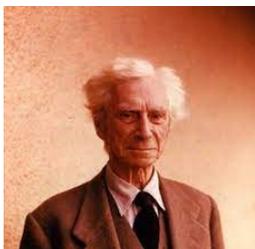
The Sandpipers, a recorder group comprising two altos and a tenor recorder, performed two beautifully harmonised pieces. According to one member, Fleur Dwyer, the group will perhaps join U3A this year and begin, as well, a beginners' recorder group. So, watch the newsletter and program for more information on this.

Bruce Walsh treated us to a rollicking Irish song played on his mandolin and Wendy Elliot led us in a couple of songs on her flute.

Everyone had a great time and we raised around \$70 for U3A in the process.



#### One-off talk on Bertrand Russell



Paul Strutynski's 16 December talk on Bertrand Russell was very well received by the dozen people who attended. Paul talked about the philosopher's life, his passion for love (not totally shown to best effect in his consumption of wives and of women generally), his opposition to war, his commitment to plain language, and his total commitment to bringing empathy and compassion to his consideration of the issues addressed by his powerful intellect.

## PROGRAM TEAM REPORT (continued)

### One-off talk about the Ukraine



Paul Strutynski will next offer a talk on the Ukraine/Russia situation - as always presenting the less popular viewpoint (in this case Russia's side of the story). He is aiming to help people to understand both sides of important international issues so they can make a more balanced assessment of the situation. Paul has previously done similar talks on China and Iran.

This one will be held on Friday 25 February from 1.30 - 3.30 at the Tura Beach Centre and attendance can be enrolled through the course enrolments section of the U3A website.

### Workshops for the Digital Age

Julie Novotny, a trained mentor under the Federal Government's Be Connected initiative, will be running a wonderfully useful series of workshops in Term 1.

#### Be Connected

Every Australian online.

The first, on 4 February, will introduce participants to the Be Connected initiative and the learning portal.

The second on 18 February will focus on using the cloud. The third, on 4 March, will explore the world of social media. And the fourth, on 18 March, will look at fun things to do with your photos.

The sessions will be held from 1.00 to 3.00 at the Tura Beach Centre. Check the online program for more details or any changes to the planned schedule. Enrolments through the course enrolments on the U3A website.

### Low Tech Social Group



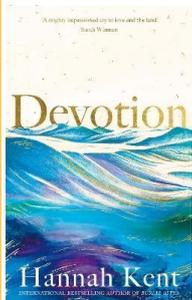
Would you like to be part of an 'outernet' social group that Leonie Barrett is proposing? What's that you ask?

It's a group for people who still use snail mail, who rarely use the internet, or who are otherwise isolated by their limited use of IT.

Leonie proposes social catch ups once a month, with phone chats between pairs of people, and even the exchange of real letters, in between.

But Leonie is open to suggestions from interested people about how the group might work. So, if you are interested, please give Leonie a call on 64932574, preferably between 5 and 6 pm.

### Australian Novel Bookclub



The Australian Novel Bookclub is reading Hannah Kent's *Devotion* as its first book of the year. We'll be meeting to discuss it at 11.00 am on Monday 31 January at the Tathra pub.

If it's been on your holiday reading list and you'd like to talk about it, you're very welcome to come along and join us, whether for this one session or as a permanent member of the group.

Please Note: In the courses listed for 2022 on the U3ASC website, the Australian Novel Bookclub was marked for Tuesdays when it should be Mondays of every 4th week. This error has subsequently been corrected on the website.

Sue O'Loughlin  
U3ASC Program Team Leader

**SEARCHING FOR YOUR ANCESTORS** will continue this year with still a one-off fee of \$15.  
Caryl Kennedy 0437179792

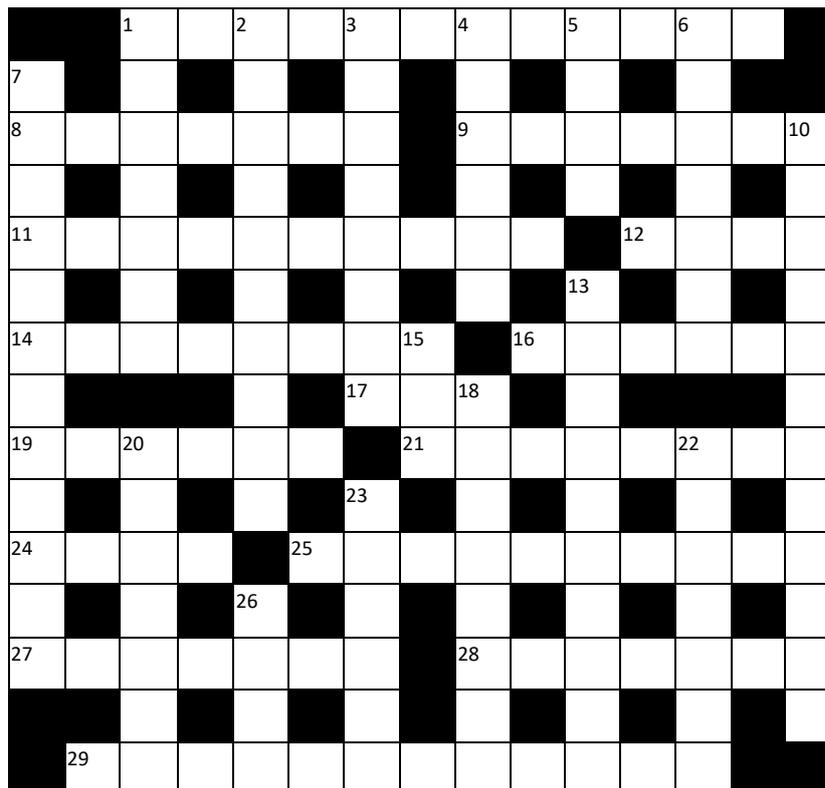


## TRIVIA QUIZ by BRIDGET O'HANLON

1. In the age of Covid, what does the 'C' stand for in PCR test?
2. What was the name of the captain of the 'Pequod' in 'Moby Dick'?
3. Of all the countries in the world only three still use the Imperial system of measurement - Liberia, Myanmar and which other?
4. Only one muscle in the body is attached at only one end. Which is it?
5. The world's oldest functioning astronomical clock is in which European city?
6. The largest bird in the world that can go years without landing is the ...?
7. In what year was Wolumla Hall built?
8. Which is heavier platinum or copper?
9. How long did the 100 years war between England and France last?
10. What is so fragile that you can break it by saying its name?



## CRYPTIC CROSSWORD 2013 by JOHN SCRIVENER



Check out next month's  
Newsletter for the answers  
to this Crossword.

## CROSSWORD 2013 CLUES

### ACROSS

1. Boat-sick cabs return to the fundamentals (4,2,6)
8. Laud tea! Flatter servilely (7)
9. Did early man start anthropology in an unyielding way? (7)
11. Type of cigarette and also when of another material not found on the shelf (6-4)
12. Foreign being of street representative (4)
14. Supplies small kitchen appliances which are sick inside a writ (8)
16. Meet the spirits with Irish man at church (6)
17. Within sights 'n sounds is the beginnings of the sympathetic nervous system (3)
19. Cares for livestock and a substance(s) (6)
21. Master MS spasmodic repetitions (8)
24. To find fault with crustacean (4)
25. Channel of communication of Sean's without railway and headless action (10)
27. Single subject poem of mixed food and weight (7)
28. Livestock fodder of windy coil and Maori forever (7)
29. An awkward state of affairs from cooking container of seafood (6,2,4)

### DOWN

1. Al Gore less gravity! Bite containing Australian kiss (7)
2. Creators of drawings of crustacean on one street-scape beginnings (10)
3. The right broken slam ascending currents (8)
4. Drink trademark ordinate (6)
5. Road surface marine carnivore (4)
6. Subdue but pure and foremost nice (7)
7. Full power from table chance (5,7)
10. Top stuff! Does Ben seek these? (3,4,5)
13. Fifty commit vile crime deviously for pasta (10)
15. Units of measurement decapitated chooks (3)
18. To keep at a distance the devil missing a tilt of his cap (5,3)
20. Think fine end devours priests (7)
22. Maybe pie path on a tomb (7)
23. Close to winning at golf that is after school accommodation (6)
26. Naughty child support square (4)

## A WALK IN THE PARK.

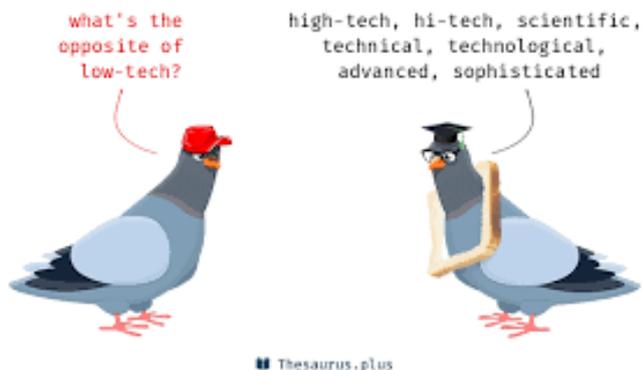
A program for U3ASC dogs. Every pooch welcome. Bring your owners and enjoy the harrum scarum (recklessness, impetuosity) at 'off leash' areas and local beaches. Mondays at 9.00am each fortnight of the term. And, BTW, you don't have to be off your leash!

First adventure: Main Beach, Merimbula, in southern carpark Ocean Drive, at track to off leash area. 9.00am, 31 January.

Contact: Fleur Dwyer, [dwyerfleur@gmail.com](mailto:dwyerfleur@gmail.com)  
Program Contact Person: Rosie Bunton



## LOW TECH SOCIAL GROUP



- Do you receive your newsletter via 'snail mail'?
- Don't have any access or seldom use the internet?
- Still have and use a landline phone?
- Live out of town?
- Have difficulty joining in with other groups or activities?

If you answered 'yes' to any or all of the above questions, perhaps you'd like to be part of a proposed new 'outernet' group? We could catch up in person once a month and in between times have weekly chats via 'phone' (landline &/or mobile) with differing pairs of people. We could even exchange notes or let-

ters, as it's great to find actual mail in the letter box!

Please contact me if you're interested and I can arrange an initial meeting for us to introduce ourselves and share ideas about how the group might work. I look forward to hearing from you. Best time to phone is between 5 and 6pm.

Leonie Barrett 64932574 – Member U3ASaphire Coast

## THE WRITING GROUP

Are you an author? Would you like to lead a group of funny, friendly local writers as they hone their skills, whet their imaginations and put pen to paper over the pancakes at Potaroo Palace? From March 2022 the U3A Writers' Group needs a new course leader, as the current leader, Jane, is heading off to Europe. Please contact Jane at [englishrose659@hotmail.com](mailto:englishrose659@hotmail.com) if you think this might be for you!

Jane Thomson Course leader, U3A Writers' Group

The Writers' Group at Christmas



## Expressions of Interest are sought for U3ASC'S RECORDER GROUP:

You're invited to join other Intermediate players. (Unfortunately, this group is not for beginners.) Alto, Treble, Bass & Descant players are all welcome to join the fun with a wide selection of music, including Early, Classical & Modern. Venue and Time: To be negotiated, weekly

Contact: Fleur Dwyer, [dwyerfleur@gmail.com](mailto:dwyerfleur@gmail.com)



## MONTHLY MIDWEEK FILM GROUP

Our first film session for 2022 will be on Wednesday 23d February at 5.00 pm in the Tura Beach Centre, Covid permitting and unless otherwise advised. As decided by the group last year, members will watch a film at their leisure prior to meeting in the Centre to discuss. Feel free to bring your own refreshments, crockery, etc., and to follow all Covid restrictions if still in vogue. Cost: \$3.00

Our selected film is currently available on SBS OnDemand for the next four weeks, entitled *Orlando* with the amazing Tilda Swinton. *Orlando* is a 1992 British period drama film loosely based on [Virginia Woolf's](#) 1928 novel [Orlando: A Biography](#), starring [Tilda Swinton](#) as Orlando, [Billy Zane](#) as Marmaduke Bonthrop Shelmerdine, and [Quentin Crisp](#) as [Queen Elizabeth I](#). It was written and directed by [Sally Potter](#), who also co-wrote the music for the film (with David Motion).

Link to the film:

<https://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/movie/orlando/428817475680>

Review:

<https://www.sbs.com.au/movies/review/orlando-review>

If you wish to be enrolled just let me know, or simply enrol yourself online. If any of last year's members are no longer interested or are unable to attend, please let me know asap. If there are insufficient numbers the Group will not proceed.

*Kaye, Wal and Sylvie* (Kaye's Mobile: 0419 243 115)

## VALE VERNON McNEIL

Just before New Year I was very sorry and sad to hear from a friend that Vernon McNeil had passed away shortly before Xmas.

He had been in my Conversational French class for about a decade and had always been an enthusiastic and conscientious participant even though his health had deteriorated in recent times. He was an intelligent, well-educated, friendly, tolerant and caring man who had travelled a great deal and had a love of languages, particularly French, and music. He worked as a pharmacist in the Bega Valley until he was 80.



The other members of our now small group were also very sad to hear the news as we had all got to know him well and were fond of him. Now we will just have our memories of the many interesting conversations, laughs and social events such as end-of-year lunches and afternoon teas. Last year we had a visit to Stella's in Pambula with an ex-member of the group, Meg. In December we had a break-up afternoon tea, not knowing this would be the last time we would enjoy Vern's company.

Our sympathy goes to his wife Jan, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and extended family.

Jan Porter

### TRIVIA QUIZ ANSWERS

- Chain. (Polymerase chain reaction)
- Captain Ahab
- USA
- The tongue
- Prague
- Albatross
- 1952
- Platinum
- 116 years
- Silence

### DECEMBER CROSSWORD 2012 ANSWERS

#### ACROSS

- Pragmatic
- Capri
- Shingle
- Ruffian
- Transpires
- Otic
- Merrily
- Barren
- Pirate
- Spooner
- Easy
- Shirt-front
- Evident
- Trading
- Annul
- Carpenter

#### DOWN

- Posits
- Agitate
- Magistrate
- Trepidly
- Carpet
- Cuff
- Painter
- Innocent
- Camouflage
- Ephemera
- Operator
- Russian
- Egotist
- Rhotic
- Stager
- Peel

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President	Sue Fowler	<a href="mailto:suepfowler1@gmail.com">suepfowler1@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Garry Clear	<a href="mailto:garrypcug@gmail.com">garrypcug@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Carolyn Smith	<a href="mailto:U3ascsec@gmail.com">U3ascsec@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Chris Bembrick	<a href="mailto:U3ascstreas@gmail.com">U3ascstreas@gmail.com</a>
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Program Team Leader	Sue O'Loughlin	<a href="mailto:programsuo3asc1@gmail.com">programsuo3asc1@gmail.com</a>
Member	Paul Strutynski	<a href="mailto:paulstrutynski@gmail.com">paulstrutynski@gmail.com</a>

## Newsletter

### Contributions & Feedback

to the Newsletter can be sent to the Newsletter Team by the 1st week of every month. Send by email to either:  
Trish: [u3ascoffice8@gmail.com](mailto:u3ascoffice8@gmail.com)  
or  
Elizabeth: [eastacey@bigpond.net.au](mailto:eastacey@bigpond.net.au)