

U3A Sapphire Coast

ABN: 85641263291

P.O. Box 798
Merimbula NSW 2548

www.sapphirecoastu3a.org

email - u3ascsec@gmail.com

 /U3ASapphireCoast/

December 2022 Newsletter

TIME TO ENROL FOR NEXT YEAR



Now's the time to renew your enrolment in our U3A for next year. As you know the enrolment fee is only \$30 per year, which is one of the lowest on offer anywhere.

To renew your membership online as an existing member, go to our **U3A Sapphire Coast** website, then click on the **Join Now or Renew** menu item, then on **Join or Renew Online**. Next, click on **Already a Member**, then log-in on the member log-in page that pops up. Your membership page will then

pop up, and you should follow the prompts from there.

If you're having any problems, our wonderful office volunteers who staff the Tura Beach Centre every Friday afternoon between 1:30 and 3:30pm (via the back door) can help you out.

You will need to enrol separately for individual courses, and next year's course offering is now being made available on our website, as the Program Team report details below.

Red tape cut

The Management Team has completed its review of the need to keep course attendance records and decided to scrap the requirement to fill them out and lodge them. Course leaders can still use them for their own purposes if they want.

The sheets were being used as a record-keeping device to help in the case of any insurance claims by members (we're all covered by U3A public liability insurance, one benefit of our annual fees). But all that's really required, in the event of a possible insurance claim, is the completion of an Incident Report, which is available on our website. See the Program Team report below for more details.

Christmas party

The lively party at the Sapphire Club reminded me that U3A is as much about the social opportunities it offers as it is about learning. It gives people the opportunity to get out of the house and socialise with others. In fact, some at my table told me it's been a lifesaver for them following the death of their spouses.

So, I'm very glad we decided to hold the party again this year and that people seemed to enjoy it. Isn't U3A a great thing! Thanks particularly to Sue Fowler, Merryn Dowling and Sue O'Loughlin for organising it, and to our own recorder group who got us into the Christmas spirit.

Paul Strutynski
President U3ASC



Welcome

New Members:

Anne Atkins
Susan Martin-Smith
Kristine Stewart

U3A SAPPHIRE COAST OFFICE – LAST DAYS THIS YEAR

The Office will be open at Tura Beach Centre on Friday afternoon December 9 and 16.

Please note that ENTRY is still via the REAR DOOR.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND ENROL IN 2023 COURSES

2023 U3ASC PROGRAM

2023

The Program Team has begun the process of creating the program for 2023 and as soon as courses appear, you will be able to enrol in them. Please don't assume that your place is safe, even if you've been doing the course for some time. You do need to (a) renew your U3A membership and (b) then enrol in the specific course.

The rollover will be a gradual process over the next few weeks as not all Course Leaders have yet responded to our email asking about their intentions next year. So, please keep checking the Program periodically if you don't see the course(s) you're after.

We don't have anything locked down yet, but are in discussion with a number of people about some new offerings for next year. These include Astronomy, Tai Chi, and a possible One-Off on travelling in Africa. Stay tuned!

INCIDENT/ACCIDENT REPORTS AND INSURANCE

As Paul has said in his President's column, the Management Team has decided to scrap the requirement that attendance records be signed and sent to Team Office at the end of each term. Basically, they do not appear to serve the purpose for which they were intended i.e. keeping a record of attendance in case of an insurance claim. All they could establish was that the person did attend the session during which they're claiming an injury.

We have been advised (insofar as any insurance company will ever provide specific advice) that an Incident/Accident Report is all that is required. But that means being scrupulous about keeping them.

Course Leaders should always have a blank copy of the report (available on our website under Course Leader Resources) with them. And any incident, however apparently insignificant, should be recorded. Not all consequences of accidents/incidents are immediately evident so we need that record in case of a later development. The records should be sent to our secretary at u3asec@gmail.com.

Also, Course Leaders and others are reminded that, if your group meets in a private home, the owner of that property needs to have public liability insurance. U3A's insurance will not cover accidents caused by a hazard associated with the venue (e.g. a hose lying on a path, a rug that is a trip hazard). Other venues that we use have their own public liability insurance for these types of incidents.

Sue O'Loughlin
Program Team Leader

TEAM OFFICE PROFILE – KERRI BRADY

Hello there, I grew up in Melbourne and my background is administrative work. I've worked for solicitors in Frankston and Melbourne and then joined Foreign Affairs and Trade in Canberra in 1983. I had postings in Tonga, Thailand, Jamaica and USA. I then switched over to The World Bank in Washington DC and stayed a further 10 years. It was there that I found my love of dogs and adopted two.

When I moved to Merimbula in 2004 I brought them back with me. They and one other have since crossed the rainbow bridge but my latest adoptee is Norbert who keeps me sane. I joined the Animal Welfare League NSW Far South Coast and have been President for a number of years now.

Once I became 'of age' I joined U3A to get to know more people and joined some classes, one of which was line dancing. Due to my background I offered my services to Team Office and have been working there once a month for a couple of years now.

I enjoy the company of the other team members and learning the new software.
Kerri Brady



U3A CHRISTMAS PARTY

For our first Christmas Party since 2019, it was wonderful to see everybody get into the festive mood - from wearing paper bonbon hats and telling dreadful bonbon jokes, to singing along to the carols played by the Intermediate Recorder Group, which opened the party with a beautiful range of pieces in



three-part harmony. We had a few hiccups - Paul Daynes sadly hurt his back and couldn't perform with his band, Loose Change, and there were some booking anomalies. But, overall, it went beautifully and everyone seemed to have a great time.

Many thanks are due:

- to the Sapphire Club for the great, and plentiful, food (I really want their recipe for custard!) and impeccable service. Their staff are always so friendly and obliging, whether at a function or just when some of our groups use their rooms for free during the year.
- to the Recorder Group - Heather Bond, Claire Whiter, Fleur Dwyer, Joyce Luke and Jan Dobson - for the pleasure they gave us.
- to Sue Fowler who did the initial organisation, to Merryn Dowling for managing the TryBookings and for other organisational help, to Team Office which managed non-online bookings, and to the Management Team for deciding to do it even though covid was still a concern.
- to Marci Dulhunty for letting her soup go cold while she took the photos.
- to the members who attended and brought their best party faces.
- to those wonderful businesses that supported us by donating the great lucky door prizes -

- **Plevey's Pharmacy in Bega**
- **Thai Noodle House in Merimbula**
- **The Pictureshow Man**
- **Candelo Bookshop in Bega**

Thank you to all, and to all a good night!

Sue O'Loughlin,
Program Team Leader



GOURMET TRAVELLER

Here is our luncheon group enjoying November lunch at Lake View Hotel Merimbula, overlooking the picturesque Merimbula Lake and boat harbour. Course Leader Margaret Evans has been taking members to dozens of our wonderful restaurants and delightful luncheon spots near and far for many years.

Margaret says the interest in good food, fine wines and beers, enjoyed in the company of good friends, never wanes, and with Christmas almost upon us and the next lunch to be in the popular coastal town of Tathra overlooking the blue Pacific Ocean, why not come and join in. Santa Claus will be present.

If you would like to enjoy a Christmas lunch with this happy group, phone Course Leader:

Margaret Evans on 0488 951 172.



MERIMBULA ESTUARY RAMBLE

One amazing thing about U3A (amongst many) is that you keep being reminded that there's always so much more to learn, even if you think you've seen it all. Another amazing thing is how much knowledge resides in other human beings – in this case Alan Scrymgeour and Liz Allen.

We assembled at Spencer Park on a pleasant Tuesday afternoon, clad ready for wading. The promise was that we would get up “close and personal” with the aquatic life of the Merimbula Lake, but that it wouldn't involve getting too wet or walking long distances. Today's outing delivered in spades.



It's truly incredible how much life there is in a couple of hundred metres of shoreline. We learnt firstly that Merimbula Lake is in fact a number of different “lakes”, each with its own ecosystem. We were close to the mouth, so this included sand flats exposed as the tide went out, providing feeding opportunities for a myriad of shorebirds, some of which are endangered. These birds need to be able to feed for survival, so minimal disturbance (dog owners – keep your dogs on a leash!) is essential.

There are also three kinds of sea-grass which our guides identified for us – once again these sea-grasses are of supreme importance not only as food sources but also as hiding places for animals and tiny fingerlings that (hopefully) will eventually grow into plate-sized fish (to be fair, Alan and Liz didn't mention the last bit – that's me editorialising).

The afternoon sped past as we continued to explore, finding different crabs, tube worms, shells and even an octopus's garden! We poked around the mangroves as well, hearing about how they grew from floating seeds into beautiful twisted sculptures and what conditions they need to thrive. After what seemed like only minutes it was time for us to finally exit the estuary and adjourn to the picnic tables in Spencer Park to share some tea and bikkies, enjoying the camaraderie of fellow U3Aers.

Time very well spent, and myriad thanks to our tutors, Alan and Liz, and organiser Sandy.

Ian Robertson



BERMAGUI U3A OYSTER CRUISE

Here are some highlights enjoyed by U3A Sapphire Coast members who were invited to join Bermagui U3A for this event—Captain Sponges Magical Oyster Tours—on the Pambula River.

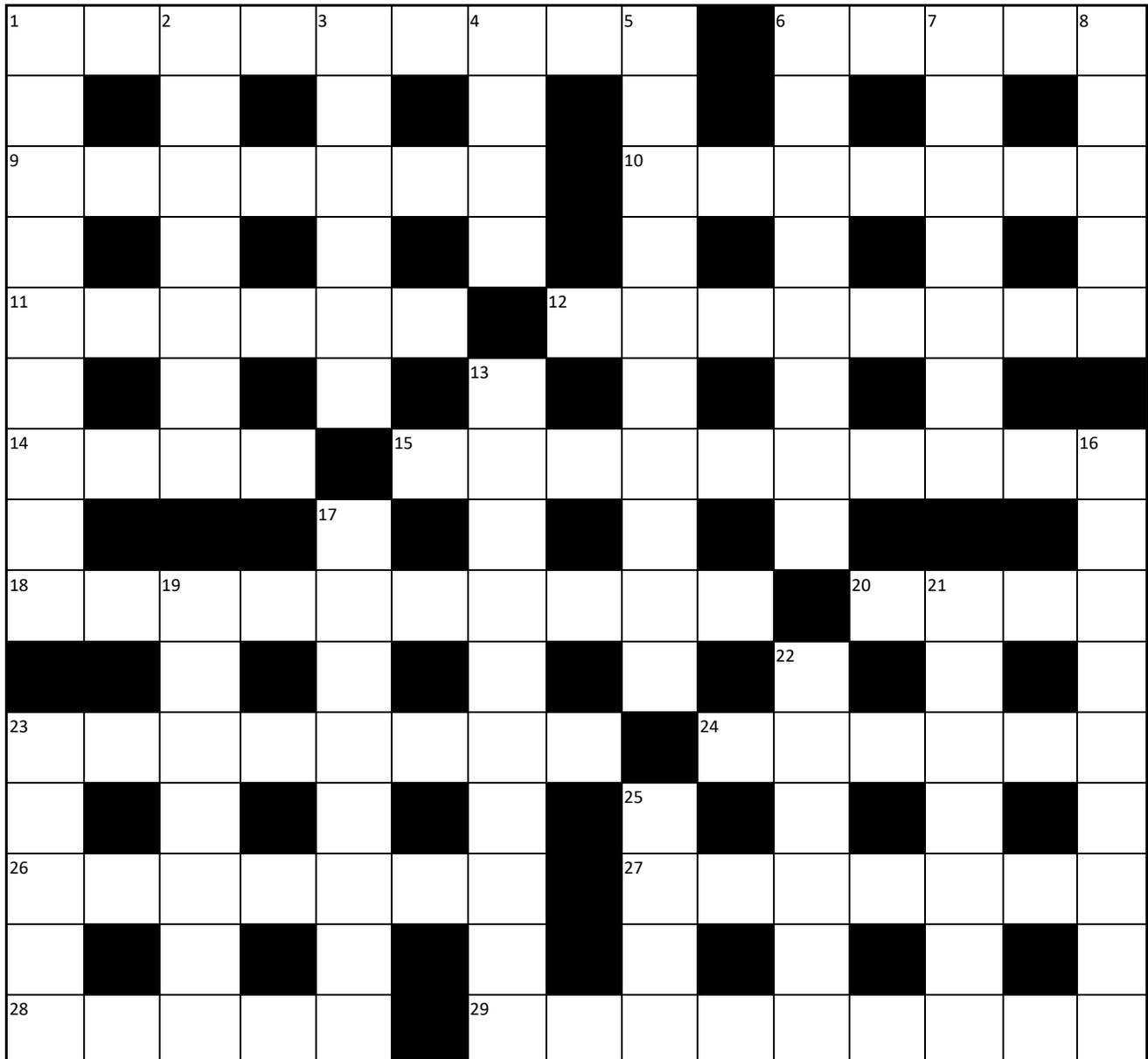


Follow U3A Sapphire Coast on our facebook page to stay up-to-date with the latest updates and local news events.

We would also love you to share your experience and photos with us on our facebook page.

www.facebook.com/U3ASapphireCoast

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD 2024 by JOHN SCRIVENER



ACROSS

1. Journeyman maybe? Bank employee who eats Hebrew spiritual guide (9)
6. Distort slope (5)
9. Getting your wages while shortened longing (7)
10. A throne of a different kind (7)
11. Harness your annoyance (6)
12. First place but not yours. Source of anything required (8)
14. Watering holes in which I travel three ways (4)
15. Shatter fluid for wave stop (10)
18. The actress who gave Ned his pardon? (5,5)
20. Obstruct Southern spinner (4)
23. Place stand (8)
24. Rob devouring a sailor turning around (6)
26. Remedy archaic anecdotes caught in seed (7)
27. Actress was almost gardener! Cereal rapacity! (7)
28. 2018 movie about a young single mother who got up about first independent (5)
29. Suddenly and unexpectedly exceeding bad thing (9)

DOWN

1. Short woody plant and fish surround doctor quaking (9)
2. A right restraint, I say, for a court call (7)
3. Wickedly vilely! (6)
4. Record of first expedition to theatre box (4)
5. Concerning a boy proficient and moderate (10)
6. Not so fast for small information (4,4)
7. Unbeliever hates it, Doctor (7)
8. Short and its end, for example Scottish (5)
13. Red fruit it is said may entertain stupid person (4,6)
16. Refund from yes-men within agent and leading trader! (9)
17. Portable shelter and weird lace of sensitive filament (8)
19. Agreements dispatched inside the fool (7)
21. I would grant characters in my business occupation (7)
22. Act, Major, in the park! (6)
23. Leading professionals and public eminences register academic article (5)
25. Purpose of Japanese drink (4)

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

WALKING—ADVENTURE WALK GROUP



On Thursday December 1, we went on a Tathra Walk for our final U3A Adventure Walk for the year.

Our walk started from Tathra Hotel carpark and headed along a scenic track to Kianinny Bay, where we had morning tea. We then followed a bush track to Tathra Pre-school and along footpaths to Koorilla St, returning to bush tracks to the Bowling Club. Steps and a track to the Heritage-listed wharf led us onto the new pathway to the lookout, finishing at the Tathra Hotel. Here we had our Christmas Lunch, and celebrated another year of 'Adventure Walking'.

Our group greatly appreciated all the work that our walk leaders, Kerrie Dean and Ann Wykes, had put into making our day so enjoyable.

CRAFTWORKERS' GROUP

The Craft Group will continue next year at the same time and in the same venue: 10.00 am till 12.00 pm Friday, at the Tura Beach Country Club. We have had a great year and our Christmas party will be a buffet lunch hosted by Barbara with many good cooks contributing.

We welcome newcomers and stress that you don't have to be clever. You just have to enjoy what you do.

Merry Christmas. Hope to see you in 2023. If you would like to join us you would be most welcome.

Monica Eddleston 0408 794 252

TRIVIA QUIZ by BRIDGET O'HANLON

1. Petra, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World is in which country?
2. In August of which year did Elvis Presley die?
3. Which spice is obtained from the stigmas of the crocus flower?
4. Which was founded first - the Aztec Empire or Oxford University?
5. What is the most westerly point on the Australian mainland?
6. Who is Giorgia Meloni?
7. Which is the only one of the Seven Deadly Sins that shares its name with an animal?
8. What temperature is boiling point in the Fahrenheit scale?
9. Which is the only country in the world to have a musical instrument for a national emblem?
10. What is the only part of the human body that cannot repair itself?



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 OR
Kaye: kayeseparovic@gmail.com

TROJAN WAR ONE-OFF

Whoever did write the myth of the Trojan War (we don't know if Homer ever actually existed) would not have been out of place writing soap operas in our times. The twists and turns, the evil machinations, the sheer bad luck of it all! The ending that leaves the path open to future episodes!

David Wardle did a wonderful job of making sense to us of the complex genealogies of gods and humans that lie behind and drive the story.

As for whether there's any truth in the story, David made it clear that we just don't know. Hlsarlik, in Turkey, was claimed as the site of Troy by Heinrich Schliemann, a businessman, amateur archaeologist, liar and thief, who excavated there in the early 1870s. The layer that Schliemann referred to as the Burnt City and identified as Troy is now thought to be up to a couple of thousand years older than the supposed Trojan War. But that doesn't rule Troy out - there are later layers that show evidence of warfare. True or not, it's a great story.

Thank you, David, for giving up part of your visit down our way, to unravel, with gentle good humour, all of the complex threads of this timeless story.

Sue O'Loughlin
Program Team Leader.



David Wardle

NOVEMBER CROSSWORD 2023 ANSWERS

ACROSS

6. Excuse my French 9. Allure 10. Skeletal 11. Composer
12. Creaky 15. Troops 17. Astern 19. Header 20. Practice
22. Katmandu 24. Shekel 26. Blood pressures

DOWN

1. Belle of the ball 2. Ecu 3. Ushers 4. Offences 5. Cede
7. Misery 8. Chalk and cheese 12. Proud 14. Event
16. Parsnips 18. Spruce 21. Assess 23. Mood 25. Earn

TRIVIA QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Jordan
2. 1977
3. Saffron
4. Oxford Uni 1096. Aztec Empire 1428
5. Steep Point
6. Italy's first female Prime Minister
7. Sloth
8. 212°
9. Ireland, the harp
10. The teeth



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President	Paul Strutynski:	u3ascpres1@gmail.com
Vice President	Garry Clear:	garrypcug@gmail.com
Secretary	Merryn Dowling:	u3ascsec@gmail.com
Treasurer	Judy Brand:	u3ascctreas@gmail.com
Program Team Leader	Sue O'Loughlin:	programs.u3asc1@gmail.com
Publicity Officer	Julie Novotny:	u3ascpublicity@gmail.com
Member	Sue Fowler:	suepfowler1@gmail.com
Member	Carolyn Smith	csmith1611@gmail.com
Member	Roger Harris	rogercharris@bigpond.com