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## Presidential Ponders

Hello Everybody,

I Have not heard if we have received or not received a grant to cover the Gym fees for the second semester. I will advise you as soon as I know

As many of you are aware, Paul Fullagher has left due to family issues. There will be a farewell gathering at 10.30 in Room 67 on Tuesday 30th May to bid Paul, a long time and valued art teacher, farewell. Bring a plate.

Carole Cheng has left our group of volunteers in the front office. She supported the running of U3A Bentleigh as Office coordinator over a long period and worked hard not only doing her rostered shifts but filling in gaps, especially over the pandemic period. We miss her already and thank her sincerely. Regretfully Lyn Fawcett, who currently covers Mondays and Fridays, has also indicated that she will be leaving us at the end of June. We will need a whole new group of volunteers to learn and become the stalwarts of U3A Bentleigh. Please let Ann Watts know if you can help so we can arrange training.

Over June and July, you will see air purifiers in all the class rooms. We have purchased a number of these and they need to be turned on and off as members occupy the rooms. There is a bad season of flu and covid coming. Use the purifiers, clean your hands, consider wearing a mask if you can't social distance, clean tables and chairs. We need to do our bit to keep our fellow members / friends safe.

Our next **Friday Fun zoom session will be held on Friday 9th June** to allow Michael B and his wife Christine to escape to the country for a weeks holiday. **Please put it in your diary.**

While I think of it, I want to thank Sue Chawla from Indian Cooking on Tuesdays, for the best Chicken Korma I have had in years. I was lucky to score some leftovers.

For those of you who enjoyed a 'bop' while the Band were playing at our recent Open day, am giving you advanced notice - they have agreed to play at our members Sausage Sizzle on the 22nd September. Another **date for your diary.**

In June and July, a few committee members will be coming to different classes and asking tutors if we can address the members for 10 minutes. We will be asking you to identify what you think '**respectful behaviour**' looks like. We hope to analyze your answers, collate then post them throughout U3A classrooms and notice boards etc so that everyone can recognise what 'respectful behaviour' looks like.

Ciao,

Erika Fleming

## Important Dates

Monday 12th June King's birthday **CLOSED FOR PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

Friday 9th June Friday Fun at 2pm via Zoom **link in web site (NEW DATE)**

**MONDAY 26TH JUNE TILL MONDAY 10TH JULY CLOSED FOR MID SEMESTER BREAK**

# Why clean?

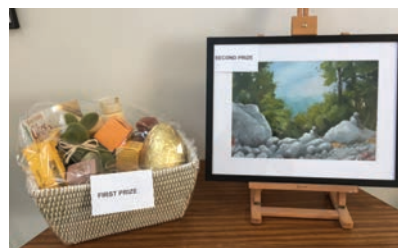
Did you know that on average, we touch our face twenty times each hour? Pathogens are then transferred to any object touched and this includes mask wearers who touch their mask more frequently.

Once a surface is contaminated, different virus' can survive for differing lengths of time but the Covid virus survives longer at temperatures below 20 degrees Centigrade. On a non-porous surface the Covid virus can survive up to 28 days.

That is why we ask you to maintain good hand hygiene and disinfect tables at the end of each class.

Another reason for cleaning is that the professional cleaners do not have time to do more than a basic clean (as evidenced by the many insects and dust on the window sills). At least we can keep our furniture clean. Hand sanitizer and disinfectant is available from reception. Thank you

## The Big Morning Tea and Raffle



- First prize** - Janet Lee Hamper
- Second Prize** - David Hutt Oil Painting
- Third prize** - Neville Curtis Photography voucher
- Forth prize** - Helen Campbell - Cafe voucher

The BIG Morning Tea held on May 12th, to raise funds for cancer research was a great success. We must thank Corry, Olita and Charlotte who put in such a lot of work, not just preparing food but re-arranging the room and then cleaning up afterwards. These social gatherings are a great chance for members to catch up and relax and the bonus is knowing it's all in a good cause.

The speaker Robert Irvine, brought along specimens from the Organ Pipes National Park and told us about the work volunteers do, to not just maintain but also improve the natural flora and fauna of the park.

Jan Sapir did a great job selling raffle tickets and obtaining two bonus prize vouchers. With the raffle and morning tea we raised a total of \$809.65 which treasurer Rachael Golombick, will forward to the Cancer Council Victoria. A terrific job from all donors particularly one anonymous donor who gave \$100. Thank You.

### 2023 Committee

- President** ..... Erika Fleming
- Vice President** .....Avril Lochhead
- Secretary** .....Linda Osborne
- Treasurer** ..... Rachael Golombick
- Courses** .....Anne Nguyen
- Webmaster** ..... Michael Bonacci
- Publicity** ..... Ann Watts
- Events Manager**..... Jan Sapir
- Welfare**.....Olive Collingwood
- OH&S Officer**.....Nick Ancorra

also

Cynthia Paciocco, Janet Lee,  
Dorothy Andrew, Dot Tane

### Claim your Power Saving Bonus

**Moongala Women's Community House** in the South Rob Flavell wing of Moorleigh village, are able to process your electricity power bill so you can claim the **\$250 Victorian government bonus**. There is no need to make an appointment but be prepared to wait for someone to assist you on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday between 10am and 2.30pm. Take your recent electricity bill and bank details, if you want the money to go directly into your bank account.

The great thing about this is, not only do you make your life easier but Moongala receives \$10 for each application they process so it helps their funding too.

# The Business Page

Now we are busy with more classes, back to back so please remember to begin **packing up 5 - 10 minutes** before the end of your class. **Clean your desk** and put furniture back for the next activity. Please don't interrupt the current class, but wait for them to leave.

Tutors, if a visitor attends your class, please **don't tell them they can join** as there may be members already on a wait list. Direct potential new class members to reception. Thanks

Thanks go to **Lorraine Lithgow** who assisted Tuesdays oil painting class until 23rd May. We are looking for new tutors and if you know of anyone who dabbles in oils or water colour, let them know of our need. Paul Fullager is going to visit at **10.30am on Tuesday 30th May** in the art room so that all his current and past students can say a proper goodbye and express their thanks. Please bring a plate of food to share, when you come.

Have you seen the new **emergency evacuation** procedure notices outside each class room? This is a quick check list in case an emergency evacuation is needed. Please familiarize yourself with the routine.

For anyone who needs extra assistance in such an emergency, come and speak to reception and we can complete a PEEP form. This will alert our designated support staff to your special needs.

We welcomed six new tutors this month, Neha Nagin, Gillian Meldrum, Ling Lim, Jenny Jacobson, Sue Vinen and Lea Singer who are volunteering their time and expertise. I'm sure members will make them welcome and assist with monitor duties.

Thanks go to **Marie Nailon** and **Felicity Wigg** who have volunteered in reception over a number of years and due to family commitments have had to retire. Take care of yourselves and we really appreciate all your help.

## DanceSport Classes start in July



If you expressed interest in the offer of ten weekly dance class sessions you now **need to enrol**. There is room for 40 class members on **THURSDAY at 1pm M23 430 1pm-3pm start date 13th July**.

There is no charge for U3A members as DanceSport Victoria are paying the cost of gym hire. This is a **high level** activity

If you read the May edition of Glen Eira News, on page 4 you will see Loraine Fabb who will be the tutor for DanceSport lessons. Loraine found her way to U3A Bentleigh after seeking support and community involvement through Connect Local: Contact 1800 929 022 if you or a friend are feeling isolated.

You may have noticed extra forms next to reception. We have a LOT of new courses coming up and members aren't checking the noticeboard or the web site and enrolling. We are making the process easier for you (but harder for office staff).

The next **3rd Wednesday Film** on 21st June at 1pm will be '**CATCH ME IF YOU CAN**' starring Tom Hanks, Christopher Walken and Leonardo Di Caprio. A 2002 film about a con artist and based on a true life character.

## Invitation to "Antiques Road Show" Event

Over the years U3A Bentleigh have had a supportive relationship with the management of **Classic Residences** in Brighton East. Their community liaison person **Crystall Mousios** has kindly extended an invitation to U3A members and friends to bring along 2 special items to be valued by **Abbeys Auctions** while you enjoy a **complimentary lunch**. This will be a very popular event so book early as spaces are limited. Flyers are in all class and public spaces.

Date **Wednesday 21st June 11am - 1pm**

Address **1-3 Brewer Road, Brighton East** (main entrance corner Thomas & Brewer)

**RSVP** by phone **0447 293 702** or email **crystall.mousios@lendlease.com**

Parking on site is limited so you may want to car pool.

## Volunteers Week

As you are aware, U3A would not exist if not for volunteers and May 15th to 21st was volunteer week. We have to thank Avril Lochhead who liaised with Glen Eira council and organized for long serving members to be acknowledged in a ceremony and certificate presentation. Eric Aston and Janet Overberg were among the group but unable to attend. Congratulations all of you.



Left - right Rosemary Browning, Olive Collingwood, Erika Fleming, Corry Veroen Michael Bonacci

Volunteering is a fulfilling and positive way to give back to your community. Give it a try.

We need **office, IT and teaching volunteers** so come on and see how good it makes you feel!

## Travel Club News

We had a great time on our Mornington Peninsula Getaway; only a small group but we had a lot of fun and some great laughs. The weather was not on our side but that didn't stop us enjoying our planned outings and games nights. (see group below)



After lots of emails and phone calls we have reached the required number of participants for our **Tasmania trip** in October. We have joined with another community group, Bayside Life Activities and together have managed to meet the required quota. We have 26 passengers on the trip and a very good itinerary which I will advise everyone of once I have the flight and details confirmed.

### Next Travel Club meeting is Friday 14th July 1pm

when we will be discussing a day trip to the Yarra Valley and Christmas in July lunch in Healesville. Please come along if you are interested and prepare to pay a deposit in advance for this outing. by Club convenor **Pat Cahill**

## New Classes

- M23 234 Preventing Suicide - one session
- M23 263 England in 60's & the Beatles 4 week session
- M23 232 Legal Issues to Ponder 4 week session
- M23 338 Care for Carers monthly meeting
- M23 344 Falun Dafa 4 weeks & similar to Tai Chi
- M23 400 The Norman Conquest 4 week course
- M23 426 India 3 week course
- M23 427 Community Theatre in Victoria one session

After M23 the next number indicates the week day (1=Monday etc)

By the time you read this, there could be more so keep checking the noticeboard and web site. A new Class Bulletin is also available on the web site under publications.



The new Bollywood Dancing class on alternate Saturday's is a great success (class full I'm afraid)

The members are looking very impressive after just one session with tutor Neha Nagin.

## Recipe of the Month

### Maid Marian's Apple Pie

- Half Cup SR flour
- 1 cup sugar
- Half Cup desiccated coconut
- 1 Egg
- 1 desert spoon melted Butter
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 4 large cooking apples
- Half cup chopped dates

#### Method

- Mix all the dry ingredients together.
- Peel, core and chop the apples and dates.
- Add all other ingredients to the dry and mix well together.
- Put into a buttered pie dish
- Bake in oven 200C for 45 mins

Other dried fruits can be substituted for dates and add walnuts for extra crunch.

Sent in by **Angela Skelton** who got the recipe from her friend Marian - hence the name of the dish.

# The Unmade Bed

A while ago I visited a Jeffrey Smart exhibition at the National gallery Canberra. Smart eschewed interpretation of his work, believing it should stand on its own merit. So let me just say that in my opinion, its pretty bloody good. Later we wandered around the other exhibits. A three metre white cube with a ladder propped against it. A black canvas daubed with paint that a chimpanzee could produce.

I was reminded of Tracy Emin's 'Unmade Bed' and what she said about it.

*"They've gone and installed the work without my being here. That's not on. This is my bed. If someone else installs it, it's just dirty linen. If I do install it, it's art."*

Which begs the question: "What is art?" It was a mystery to me, so I did some digging and came up with the following:

First off there's **Institutional Theory** which holds just two things are required if something is to qualify as art:

First it must be an artifact: an artifact being something that has been worked on. "Worked on" is used quite loosely here - simply placing something in an art gallery counts as it having been "worked on."

Secondly the artifact in question must have the status of 'work of art' bestowed on it by somebody in the 'art world', such as an author, gallery curator, publisher, collector or artist.

So if it meets these criteria, us poor plebs better accept the 'Unmade Bed' as art, shut up and hand over our tax dollars.

So we are still left with this- 'What is art?' There must be one feature that all works of art have in common - a common essence if you will - if only we could identify it. Wittgenstein suggests that such a quest is a wild goose chase. He illustrates this with the word 'game'. There isn't room to go deeply into it here. Basically there are many things that fall under the category 'game'. For example football, chess, tennis, tiddlywinks, patience. We know that peeling potatoes is not a game. Trying to find an exact definition of 'game' however does not further our understanding in any way.

To perhaps labour the point: take dogs. They vary all the way up from Chihuahuas to Bulldogs to Irish Wolfhounds, all with distinct differences, but you know immediately that they all belong to the family "Dog". They are not cats.

So it is with art. Art varies wildly; Rembrandt's 'The Night Watch', Edvard Munch's 'The Scream', John Brach's 'Collins Street 5pm' or a child's first drawing, all distinctly different but all belonging to the family "art".

That's not to say that all art is good art. There is plenty of room for disagreement here. I am not a fan of Sydney Nolan's Ned Kelly series, but I begrudgingly allow that it falls within the family 'Art'.

It's like Mr Burns said in The Simpsons "I don't know much about art - but I know what I hate."

So far as I can see Wittgenstein has nailed it. 'Monarch of the Glen' - belongs to the family 'Art'. Paint slapped randomly on a canvas is paint on a canvas. You don't need a complex definition of art to know that Tracy Emin's 'Unmade Bed' doesn't belong to the family of art- it is just an unmade bed. But this seems to dodge the issue. Surely these so called experts must have a yardstick to guide them. Otherwise, how they get away with this nonsense is a mystery all of its own.

One attempt at a definition goes something like this: What qualifies something as a work of art is that it is designed to be pleasing to our senses, to be beautiful. But that won't do. Much traditional art is pretty. But there are works of art that are not and were not intended to be beautiful, (Tracy Emin's bed for example). I suppose you could insist that Tracy's bed in its own way is beautiful. But then just every artifact ends up as qualifying as beautiful. Take my socks for example

Okay, How about "A work of art need not be beautiful. It is enough that it engages us. A work of art is that which is made to entertain". No, no good. Much that is made to entertain us isn't art. A game of hangman isn't art but it engages and entertains. Toys, card games- there innumerable things that engage and entertain that are not art. (Ah, you say, How do you know that if you haven't defined art? Fair point.)

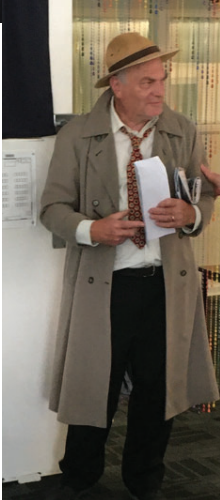
Out of this definition contradicted by counter example, there's the "Socratic Method". Socrates would ask seemingly simple questions like, "What is courage?", "What is justice?", "What is beauty?" His interlocutor would attempt a definition but smarty-boots Socrates would jump in with counter examples and prove that the poor dolt didn't know what he was talking about... he did have a point though; a lot of things that we think we know, when it comes down to it we really don't. This was said to be Socrates search for truth. I suspect that he was just being a schmuck.

Perhaps we have to be a bit careful here. Look back in the history of art and you will find that just about every new innovation was met by the claim that, "That's not really art". That was the attitude towards Impressionism, for example.

Written by **John Thorne** - member of Wednesday morning's 'Creative writing' Class M23 303

The topic set was 'write a mystery'..... Now this is what I call creative!

# DRESSED to KILL



Above Tom Fleming & Marie Nailon inspect the 'body.'  
 Left Cecil Ripley conducts his in depth investigation.

Our Murder Mystery was worth all the hard work put in by the Events Committee (Jan, Erika, Corry, Danice and Ann). Members went all out with costumes, and glamour was the order of the day as evidenced by fur capes, fringes and fedoras, walking canes, feathers and long cigarette holders. Members threw themselves enthusiastically into characters who planted clues, did deals and flirted. Live entertainment was provided by **Val Suhr** and **Marie Nailon** singing popular hits of the day and an enthusiastic bunch then joined in with the Charleston and Blackbottom dance routines, thanks to technical support from Michael B.

Following a ghastly 'murder' clues were found and after brutal interrogation from Investigator Cecil Ripley alias **Andrew Ingliss**, the suspect was identified. Three prizes of Bunnings vouchers (generously donated by Bunnings at the Links in Centre Road), were awarded and every one had enough energy to help with the clearing up. Well done to all those who came along and made the afternoon such a roaring success.

## In Harmony

John and Val Suhr in all their finery (left) at the Murder Mystery event, just happened to be celebrating their **66th Wedding Anniversary** by NOT committing murder!

Congratulations to you both. Val leads the choir and is kept very busy arranging special events like our Open Day. John is a class member in Use your Brain.

