

U3A

Colac Otway Learn Laugh Live

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Members of U3A Colac Otway can also access and participate in programs offered by –

Apollo Bay U3A - <https://www.apollobay.vic.au>

Corangamite, U3A - <https://u3acorangamite.org.au>

The INFORMER

July 2026

School holidays 29th June – 10th July

President's Report

It was wonderful to see so many members attend our Winter Lunch. A sincere thank you to the soup makers for their delicious contributions, to the volunteers in the kitchen and to IGA for providing the tasty rolls. We also admired the beautiful pieces displayed by the Embroidery Group, showcasing their creativity and talent. If you find yourself with a little spare time, why not pop in and tackle our group **jigsaw puzzle**? Whether you place one piece or twenty, every contribution helps. Enjoy a cuppa, a chat, and some company while helping our group puzzle come together.

A reminder that anyone interested in attending one of the **committee meetings** would be very welcome. There are no strings attached – just an opportunity to learn more about how our U3A operates and the work that goes on behind the scenes. You might even enjoy the experience. Keep an eye on **The Informer**. There are always new activities, events and opportunities being added that may spark your interest. You never know what exciting new experience might be waiting for you. Keep warm and dry.

Rosemary Richardson

LAW BEHIND THE NEWS

Charles has returned and is looking forward to a coffee at Babil - and enlightening us.

First and third Thursdays of the month.

Babil restaurant, 2nd and 16th July, 10:30 -11:30

UKELELE - new

Learn the Ukelele.

Relaxed learning.

Please bring along your Ukelele, although there will be a few

spare ones to begin with. All skill levels welcome.

Thursday 9th July, 3-4pm. at Kanyana



LET'S HAVE DINNER

The next dinner is booked at the Colac East Pub, Dalton St, on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at 6pm. Phone Jacqui on 0411 296 617 to book by Friday 17th July if you would like to join this group for companionship, laughter and a really good feed.

Colac East Pub, Wednesday, 22nd July, 6pm

GARDENERS

Gardeners will be indoors for July to avoid the cold and possible rain.

Everyone is welcome to come along to enjoy videos of Australian

and European Gardens. Robyn will share photos of gardens she has visited throughout Europe.

Kanyana Backroom, Tuesday 21st July, 10.00-11.30



GALLOPING GOURMETS

Gourmets will be travelling to Meredith Farm Store, a cosy cafe and produce store, located at 30 Staughton St Meredith. A meal here is a real example of paddock to plate with food grown and raised on the Meredith Dairy farm. The menu, shelves and dairy case are filled with their cheese and yoghurts, meats, honey, preserves and drinks. Don't forget to bring your esky to take home a selection as well. If you are interested in coming, ring Sandra on 0428 284 084 to book by Wednesday 8th July.

Meredith Farm Store, 30 Staughton St, Meredith, Wednesday 15th July, 12 noon

'ITALIAN' - coming in august

LIFE AFTER FARMING

Brown Dog Furniture Company is located at 28 Dennis St, Colac in the old Box Factory, now the Box Gallery. David Gorrie handcrafts exceptional custom furniture from premium reclaimed timbers and steel. After the visit you can join the group for morning tea or lunch across the road at Babil. RSVP to office or Rosemary on 0407 095 724 by Friday 3rd July.

Box Gallery, Friday 10th July, 10:30am

PHOTOGRAPHY

Our first meeting with Wal brought forward a range of interesting cameras from members; this month we could try experimenting with focus, lighting, framing, and general use of camera etc. New members welcome to this second session (bring your camera if you have one) Tuesday, 14th July at 10.30 front room at Kanyana.



Lots of fun and discovery in the photography group

ZITHER - new

A small group of experienced Zither players are moving to U3A for their practice sessions. There is no capacity for teaching the Zither in this group. If you have experience and would like to check us out, we will be meeting monthly on the 2nd Thursday, 9th July, 1.30-3pm at Kanyana



SUNDAY SESSIONS

Mark Bruere. Are you interested in a little magic? Then come along. Mark will give a talk on magic as a performing art and present some of his favourite routines.

Kanyana backroom, Sunday 19th July, 2-3:30pm

WESTERN PARTNER DANCING will go into recess this month. The Riches have some plans that will take all their energy. There may be another opportunity in the future...keep checking the Informer.

LINE DANCING

Marlene is happy to continue leading the group as long as dancers are prepared to miss a class when her family health issues dictate. She hopes this would be unusual! See course list

BOOK CLUB 2

The Book Club swapped the usual book discussion for a walk down memory lane. Each member brought along a selection of precious childhood books. Such a diverse range on show including The Magic Pudding; some well-worn and much loved Little Golden Books; two separate editions of the classic Alice in Wonderland, both beautifully illustrated but uniquely their own; a wonderful selection of Pictorial Social Studies (school magazines) with their distinctive 1960s graphic style illustrations;



The Silver Sword, an unforgettable World War II survival story; and more. The group chatted about popular books and authors of the time. Everything from Enid Blyton and H G Wells, to comics, and Boys Own Annuals. The group also shared stories of books and people that had an influence on our early lives. It made for a wonderful afternoon of conversation and connection sharing our love of books.

Capping off the discussion, Jane Davis shared her tips, tricks and the best products to use to preserve and repair treasured volumes, photos, documents and other heirlooms. Say no to sticky tape and PVC glue but rather go for book friendly, archival products that are **acid-free** and **pH-neutral** - slip lock bags, acid free paper and boxes and PVA glue.

OPERA NEWS FOR JULY

There is a two month gap (July and August) in the New York Met Opera programme for screenings. So to keep us on our toes there will be a change of time and venue to our usual arrangement.

Roma Opera will present Wagner's Lohengrin. It will be screened at the Como Cinema at 11.00 am on **Wednesday 8 July**. The cinema is located at 299 Toorak Road, South Yarra. We will leave Colac at our usual time meeting at the station at 7.35am. We change trains to alight at South Yarra station from where it's a short 8 minute walk from the station along a Toorak Rd to the Como Cinema.

The Opera di Roma opened its season with Damiano Michieletto's new production of Wagner's compelling romantic opera. Acclaimed tenor Dmitry Korchak sings the title role of the mysterious swan knight who comes to the rescue of the virtuous duchess Elsa (American soprano Jennifer Holloway in her Teatro Costanzi debut) after she is wrongly accused of murder - on the condition that she never asks his name. Ekaterina Gubanova sings the scheming Ortrud, and Tómas Tómasson her husband Telramund, who ensure Elsa won't be able to resist temptation. Opera di Roma Music Director Michele Mariotti conducts the magnificent score, filled with ethereal strings and angelic choruses, including the famous Bridal Chorus.

BORROWERS BOOK EXCHANGE

This month we have received the largest single donation – one generous member has donated 20 books for us to share. – thank you !

Did you know that “crime/ mystery” is a top selling genre in Australia. These books not only make a great read but are often the inspiration for motion pictures – stories translated for the big and small screens. Check out our crime /mystery section marked with the red dots as well as the featured books that have been made into movies or TV series.

- “Where The Crawdads Sing”
- “Big Little Lies”
- “The Thursday Murder Club”
- “Remarkably Bright Creatures”

BUSHWALKING

The group see a fabulous array of flora, fauna and fungicides. The Gellibrand walk gave an insight into how the bush recovers from bushfires. **See course list**



COURSES LIST

MUSIC

Classic Music 1 – 3rd Mon. 20th July, 6.30pm.

Classic Music 2 – 3rd Mon. 20th July, at 4.30pm
Phone Rosemary - 0407095724

Celticana Music – 1st Sunday, 5th July, 2-4pm
at Kanyana.

Exploring Popular Music – 1st Tuesday, 7th July, at 1pm. Kanyana - Musicals from the 40s & 50s.

Opera- Wednesday, 8th July, Melb **See Informer**

Ukelele – 9th July at 3pm.Kanyana, **See Informer**

Zither – 2nd Thursday 9th July at 1.30 at Kanyana

ARTS & CRAFTS

Embroidery + – Thursdays weekly, 10am at Colac Library

Knitting & Crochet – 4th Monday, 27th July at 10am at Kanyana

Patchwork + - 10th July & Special 3 days, 24th, 25th & 26th at 10am at Kanyana

Social Machine Embroidery –3rd Sunday, 10-4 at Kanyana **Cancelled for July.**

Watercolour – 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 8th & 22nd July 10-11.30am at Kanyana

Drawing for Relaxation – 3rd Thursday, 16th July, 1.30-3pm. at Kanyana. Judith has offered to return to Drawing class and will come to the July 16th class to discuss times.

Photography – Tuesday 14th July, 10.30 at Kanyana. See Informer

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Bushwalking – 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 9am. 8th & 22nd July. Details at the Office or Chris.

Cycling – SLICS – Mondays weekly at 9am. Meet at Botanic Gardens BBQs.

Indoor Bowling – Tuesday weekly, 1-2.30pm at Kanyana All welcome

Line Dancing – 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 1.30–2.30 at Kanyana. 2nd & 16th July. See Informer

New Vogue & Old Time Dancing – weekly Tuesday 3-4.30pm. at Kanyana Not 7th July.

Wednesday Nu Vogue – Wednesday weekly, at 7.30-10pm. at Kanyana.

Western Partner dancing – 2nd & 4th Thurs, at Kanyana. Not July

Table Tennis – Fridays weekly - 1pm. at Kanyana

Tai Chi/Qi Gong – Wednesday weekly, Kanyana Beginners 12.15 -1.15 Skill-builders 1.30-2.30. 15th, 22nd & 29th July only.

Walking Group – Fridays weekly at 9am. Meet at Botanic Gardens main gate followed by a cuppa.

BRAIN FOOD

Backgammon – Wednesdays weekly, 10am-12 at Kanyana.

Book Club 1 – 2nd Thursday 2-4pm. at Kanyana front room 9th July - Reached capacity

Book Club 2 – 2nd Tuesday 2-4pm.at Babil 14th July -Reached capacity

Bridge – Monday, weekly 12-4pm Kanyana

Bridge teaching session – 4th Thursday, 23rd July, 12.30-2.30pm at Kanyana

Chess – 2nd & 4th Mondays, 1.30-3.30pm. at Kanyana. Beginners welcome. 13th & 27th July

Colac Writers Guild – Tuesdays, weekly, 10-12 at the Library.

Cryptic Crosswords – Thursdays, weekly, 11am-12 at Kanyana.

Law behind the news – 1st & 3rd Thursdays, at 10.30am. 2nd & 16th July at Babil See Informer

Mahjong –Wednesdays weekly at 1.30-4pm at Kanyana.

Social Cards – Tues & Thurs, weekly 10am-12 at Kanyana.

Trivia with a twist – 1st & 3rd Mondays 10-12 at Kanyana 6th & 20th July

SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT

Galloping Gourmets -Friday, 15th July, 12noon at Meredith Farm Store See Informer

Gardeners – Tuesday, 21st July 10-11.30 at Kanyana. See Informer.

Let's have Dinner – 4th Wednesday, 6pm. 22nd July at Colac East Pub See Informer

Life after Farming – Friday, 10th July, 10.30, at Box Gallery See Informer

Sunday Sessions –19th July, 2-3.30pm. at Kanyana See Informer

TECHNOLOGY

Laptops, ipads & Phones or anything 'IT'– Wednesdays weekly at 10am.

LANGUAGES

French Conversation – Mondays weekly 2-4pm at the Colac Library,

Classes by week days – some are single session*, others are weekly, **twice monthly or **monthly****

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun.
9.00 Cycling-Slics 10.00 Knitting & Crochet 10.30 Activities C'tee 10.00 Trivia with a twist 12.00 Bridge 1.30 Chess 2.00 French Conversation 4.30 Classic Music 2 6.30 Classic Music 1	10.00 Social Cards 10.00 Committee Meeting 10.00 Colac Writers Guild 10.00 Gardeners 10.30 Photography 1.00 Indoor Bowls 1.00 Popular Music 2.00 Book Club #2 3.00 New Vogue/Old Time Dancing	7.35 Opera 9.00 Bushwalking 10.00 Backgammon 10.00 Computers/IT 10.00 Watercolour 12.00 Galloping Gourmets 12.15 Tai Chi - Beginners 1.30 Skill Builders. 1.30 Mahjong 6.00 Let's have dinner 7.30 Wed. Nu Vogue Dancing	10.00 Social Cards 10.00 Embroidery + 10.30 Law behind the News 11.00 Cryptic Xwords 12.30 Bridge teaching. 1.30 Drawing for relaxation 1.30 Line Dancing 2.00 Book Club #1 1.30 Zither 3.00 Ukelele	9.00 Walking 10.00 Patchwork + 10.30 Life after Farming 1.00 Table Tennis	Saturday 10.00 Patchwork+ Sunday 10.00 Patchwork+ 10.00 Social Machine Embroidery 2.00 Sunday Session 2.00 Celticana