Colac Otway
Learn Laugh Live

Phone: 5231-4435
Email: u3acolaco@gmail.com
Website: u3acolacotway.org.au
Facebook: U3A Colac Otway

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
October 2026
Daylight saving starts on 4th October

President's report
I look forward to seeing you at our Victorian Seniors Festival Activities, and I do hope you enjoy the wonderful work of C.J. Dennis.

Promise of Spring

Spring surely must be near. High overhead
The kind blue heavens bend to timbers tall;
And here, this morning, is the picture spread
That I have learned to love the best of all.
I hear flame robin call
His early love-song. Winter's might is sped;
And young crowns now begin to fleck with red
This great green, living wall.

From the deep forest, on the clean crisp air,
The bushman's axe-blows echo sharply clear;
A soft cloud's tattered fleece drifts idly where
Glows azure hope. Impatient to appear,
Springs now full many a spear
Of marching daffodils. Shorn of cold care,
The joyous bush birds vie with flutings rare.
Spring surely must be near.

SENIORS FESTIVAL- flyer attached.
ALL FREE
Bookings essential for catering

DRAWING
'Drawing Birds' will be the topic for October. Enjoy the company of others as Judith shares tips which will help this diverse and interesting theme.
Monday, 19th October, 1-2.30pm. at Kanyana.

MELODIC MELODIES
New event starting this month led by Shirley Rowlands. This month's theme: 'Female Vocalists'. Come along to listen, enjoy and discuss songs. Maybe even tap your feet or dance
Tuesday 13th October; 12-1.30pm at Kanyana (F)

GARDENERS



We will visit Warrion Flower Show this month. $5 entry, lunch will be available, also lots of stalls, so please bring cash for your purchases. We plan to meet at 12noon, but you can come whenever it suits you. For first timers to the show, just find the Warrion Hall.
Wednesday, 28th October, 12noon – 8pm.

SCRABBLE AND CRIBBAGE – NEW
An enthusiastic group gather twice a week to play social cards. To add a little variety to the mix there will be games of Scrabble and Cribbage available. Both games require a minimum of two players. Bring a friend and join in the fun.
Kanyana: Tuesday & Thursday 10am -12weekly.



Doug and his regular Cryptic Puzzle solvers.

LET'S HAVE DINNER
Our 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 23rd October if you would like to join this group for companionship, laughter and a really good feed.
Colac East Pub, Wednesday, 28th October, 6pm

MONTHLY POET
Monthly Poet, is a poetry activity U3A members might like to join at no cost, individually or as a group. Each month four words are released, and anyone can write a poem using them. There's no judging and no competition: every poem submitted is published in an online gallery, and many people use pen names.

It's already been taken up by writing groups elsewhere in Victoria, including Grampians Writers' Group and Campaspe Murray Writers Group, whose members have had poems published in the gallery. September's words are **Sweet, Crust, Flock and Blues**, and new words are released on the 1st of each month. More information and the current round are at monthlypoet.com.

LAW BEHIND THE NEWS
Charles Reichman delves into the background of some current news items
Kanyana Thursday 1st and Thursday 15th October, 10:30am

BORROWERS BOOK EXCHANGE
Science fact - Science fun - Science fiction. There is something for everyone in our exciting mix of science themed novels.

11 22 63 by Stephen King *"On November 22, 1963, three shots rang out in Dallas, President Kennedy died, and the world changed. What if you could change it back?"*

Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir *"Ryland Grace is the sole survivor on a desperate, last-chance mission—and if he fails, humanity and the earth itself will perish."*

Orbital by Samantha Harvey *"Exploring humanity's place from the orbiting space station, where the planet is described as a burst of hopeful colour. What is life without Earth? What is Earth without humanity?"*

Deception Point by Dan Brown " *A NASA discovery—a meteorite supposedly containing proof of extraterrestrial life. The truth, they will learn, is the most shocking deception of all."*

GALLOPING GOURMETS
In October, Gourmets will head down the freeway towards Geelong to Mt Duneed Estate Winery at 65 Pettavel Rd, Waurn Ponds. The Barrel Hall Restaurant offers a menu that delights with fresh, locally sourced ingredients. According to their webpage there is a weekday lunch special available. Choose a main, a side and a glass of wine from their Regional Range for $45 a person. Or order from the a-la-carte menu and enjoy a free wine tasting. Please book by contacting Sandra on 0428 284 084 by Saturday 3rd October. Mt Duneed Estate Winery, Thursday 8th October, 12:00 noon

LIFE AFTER FARMING - October
Come along and hear some stories of the Shipwreck Coast, plus a cuppa and chatter.
Kanyana, Friday 9th October, 10:30am
LIFE AFTER FARMING report
In September, the Life after Farming group visited the Convent at Koroit, where the Sisters of the Good Samaritan lived from



1907 to 1973. They worked as dedicated teachers and shaped Catholic education in Koroit, Crossley, Illowa, and Kirkstall. The magnificent Convent was designed in Warrnambool, and built with great care and attention to detail, by local tradesmen. Amazingly this large structure was built within 18 months. The official opening took place in September 1907, with about 5,000 people attending. For our group, morning tea on arrival was appreciated, followed by an informative tour of the building and gardens.
Lunch at Mickey Bourke's Hotel completed our enjoyable visit to Koroit.

SUNDAY SESSIONS
Astronomy with Rodd Westwood....The enormity and beauty of the universe
Bookings are essential for catering - U3A office 5231 4435
Kanyana, Sunday 25th October, 2-3:30pm

POOL
We'd love to get a pool group together on Wednesdays 2.00pm. Please let us know if you would like to play.

PHOTOGRAPHY
The group will continue to meet and discuss 'all things photographic' while Wal is overseas. It has been suggested we may look at venturing outside to take a few 'snaps' or set up a still-life subject or try a close-up shot. Come with your ideas. Friday 16th October, 10.30am at Kanyana

EXPLORING POPULAR MUSIC
The theme for October is 'Hit Songs Which Encompass Our U3A Age Range'. We have a broad range of ages within our group (49 to 100). The songs chosen will reflect what were popular songs when our U3A members were in their teens.
1- 2.30pm Tuesday 6th October Kanyana F

CELTICANA
Celticana music group invites U3A members to join us on Sunday October 4th, 2-4pm for a concert of Celtic music in aid of the Victorian Seniors Festival. Afternoon tea will be provided and we hope you will join in a few songs with us.

COURSES LIST

MUSIC
Classic Music 1 – 3rd Mon.19th October 6.30pm.

Classic Music 2 – 3rd Mon 19th October, 4.30pm Phone Rosemary for information. 0407095724

Celticana Music – 1st Sunday, 4th October, 2-4pm at Kanyana. See Informer

Exploring Popular Music – 1st Tuesday, 6th October at 1pm. Kanyana - See Informer

Melodic Melodies – 2nd Tuesday, 13th October 12-1.30pm.. at Kanyana. See Informer

Ukulele – 1st & 3rd Thursdays. 1st & 15th Oct, 3-4pm. at.Kanyana, New players welcome

Zither – 2nd Thursday, 8th October. 1pm. at Kanyana

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

Italian: - 3rd Friday of the month. 16th October 10-11am. Kanyana (F)

GERMAN – No class for October.

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

Book Club 1 – 2nd Thursday 2-4pm. at Kanyana front room 8th October - Reached capacity

Book Club 2 – 2nd Tuesday 2-4pm.at Babil 13th October - Reached capacity

Bridge – Monday, weekly 12-4pm Kan
Bridge teaching session – 4th Thursday, 22nd October. 12.30-2.30pm at Kanyana

Chess – 2nd & 4th Mondays, 1.30-3.30pm. at Kanyana. 12th & 26th October.

Colac Writers Guild – Tuesdays, weekly, 10-12 at the Library. See Informer re Monthly Poet

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

Law behind the news – 1st & 3rd Thursdays, at 10.30am. 1st & 15th October, at Kanyana

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 5th & 19th October.

Scrabble & Cribbage– Tuesdays & Thursdays weekly 10-12noon, See Informer

TECHNOLOGY
Laptops, ipads & Phones or anything 'IT'– Wednesdays weekly at 10-12. Kanyana B

SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT

Galloping Gourmets -Thursday, 8th October 12noon at Mt. Duneed Winery. See Informer

Gardeners – Wednesday, 28th October at 12noon at Warrion Flower Show See Informer.

Let's have Dinner – 4th Wednesday, 6pm. 28th October at Colac East Pub See Informer

Life after Farming – Friday, 9th October at 10.30, at Kanyana. See Informer

Sunday Sessions – Astronomy, 25th October, 2-3pm. Kanyana
See Informer

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Bushwalking – 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 9am. 14th & 28th October. Details at the Office.

Cycling – SLICS – Mondays weekly at 8.30am. Meet at Botanic Gardens BBQs. Note new time.

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

Line Dancing – 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 1.30–2.30 at Kanyana. 1st & 15th October. Marlene will continue subject to family health issues.

New Vogue & Old Time Dancing – weekly Tuesday 3-4.30 at Kanyana Cancelled 29th Sept

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

Western Partner dancing – 2nd & 4th Thurs, at Kanyana. Not in October Is anyone longing to start dancing with us? please let us know!

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. None on 7th October

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

ARTS & CRAFTS

Embroidery + – Thursdays weekly, 10am at Colac Library

Knitting & Crochet – 4th Monday, 26th October at 10am at Kanyana This will be the last get together for 2026'.

Patchwork + - Special 3 days, 9th October, and 23rd, 24th, 25th October. 10 – 4pm at Kanyana.

Social Machine Embroidery –3rd Sunday, 18th October, 10-4pm at Kanyana

Photography – Friday, 16th October at 10.30am at Kanyana (B) See Informer

Drawing –3rd Monday 19th October, 1-2.30pm at Kanyana.

Watercolour – 2nd & 4th Fridays, 9th & 23rd October. 10-11.30am at Kanyana
Note change of day.

Office - 55 Hesse Street, Colac VIC 3250
Open Mon-Friday - 10am-12noon
Phone: 5231 4435
Email: u3acolaco@gmail.com
Website: u3acolacotway.org.au

U3A Colac Otway Inc is grateful for the ongoing support we receive from the Colac Otway Shire, the State Government of Victoria, Richard Riordan MP.

U3A Committee: Rosemary Richardson (Pres), Clare Short (Vice Pres.), Margaret Evans (Sec) Robyn Perrin (Treas), Judy Comley (Liaison Officer), Jenny Todorovic, Rod Morgan, Juli Farquhar, Jim Ryan, Cheryl Lang (social media), Janet Forbes (memberships) Rod Amos (website).
U3A Other Positions: Barbara Gower (Office manager), Carol Holmes (Kitchen Monitor) Vivienne Wheeler (Informer Editor)

LEARN ABOUT U3A- All welcome
Come and chat with an experienced member over a cuppa and see what happens at U3A.
Monthly – days and time will vary.
Friday, 30th October at 11am – 12noon.

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Victorian Seniors Festival Colac 2026

Celticana

Sunday 4th October 2 - 4pm
Kanyana 55 Hesse St Colac



A concert of Celtic music from the traditional music group, Celticana featuring different instruments and an invitation for the audience to join in well known songs.

Seniors Rights Victoria

Shelley Hosking

Wednesday 7th October 2 - 3.30pm Kanyana 55 Hesse St Colac

Seniors Rights Victoria Works with service providers, business and community organisations and councils to increase community knowledge about the importance of **planning ahead** to formalise your wishes while you are healthy.

Tin Shed Singers

The Sheddies have been singing together for over two decades. They sing sea shanties and many other songs which will get you tapping your feet.



Friday 9th October Ss. Johns Anglican Church Pollack St.Colac

2pm "The Tin Shed Singers" **3pm Colac Otway Shire signing Age Friendly Declaration**

Johnny Cash & June Carter Tribute Show

Tuesday 13th October 2 - 3.30pm COPACC 95-97 Gellibrand St Colac

Don't miss your chance to relive the magic of country's most famous couple.

Colac Otway SHIRE

Bookings at COPACC 5232 9418

Trivia with a Twist

Monday October 19th 10am - 12md
Kanyana 55 Hesse St Colac

Are you ready for some brain busting fun. Wacky challenges, unexpected twists, and plenty of fun along the way. No teams needed just come along and test your knowledge, or just pretend you know stuff.

Astronomy with Rodd Westwood



Sunday 25th October 2 - 3.30pm Kanyana

The enormity and beauty of the universe! General discussion on astronomy. Come with your questions.

Solar Eclipse, quick report and pictures of the recent Spanish Solar Eclipse

BOOKING ESSENTIAL for CATERING
as all events are followed by morning or afternoon tea
BOOK at the U3A office 55 Hesse St Colac 5231 4435

Classes by week days – some are single session*, others are weekly, twice monthly or monthly					
Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**	**Sat/Sun.**
8.30 Cycling-Slics 10.00 Knitting & Crochet 10.30 Activities C'tee 10.00 Trivia with a twist 12.00 Bridge 1.00 Drawing 1.30 Chess 2.00 French Conversation 4.30 Classic Music 2 6.30 Classic Music 1	10.00 Social Cards, Scrabble, Cribbage 10.00 Committee Meeting 10.00 Colac Writers Guild 12.00 Melodic Music 1.00 Indoor Bowls 1.00 Popular Music 2.00 Book Club #2 3.00 New Vogue/Old Time Dancing	9.00 Bushwalking 10.00 Backgammon 10.00 Computers/IT 12.00 Gardeners 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. Scrabble. Cribbage 10.00 Embroidery + 10.30 Law behind the News 11.00 Cryptic Xwords 12.00 Galloping Gourmets 12.30 Bridge teaching. 1.30 Line Dancing 2.00 Book Club #1 1.00 Zither 3.00 Ukulele	9.00 Walking 10.00 Patchwork + 10.00 Watercolour 10.30 Photography 10.30 Life after Farming 11.00 Learn about U3A 1.00 Table Tennis 10.00 Italian	**Saturday** 10.00 Patchwork+ **Sunday** 10.00 Patchwork+ 10.00 Social Machine Embroidery 2.00 Celticana 2.00 Sunday Session