

## SPRING PONDERINGS- SEPTEMBER 2022

They tell me that Spring is just around the corner. I do wish it would hurry up. September is a strange month, it can either be cold and wet or bright and sunny. I am opting for bright and sunny.

The garden is waterlogged, and the flowers and plants are totally bewildered.

We have only a couple more weeks before the break so make the most of your U3A until then.

Classes recommence on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, which is the start of Seniors Month. **Our raffle will run right the way through till the end of October and so please support us – there are lots of prizes to be won, to suit all tastes! Details on the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle will be advertised nearer the date.**

We have several new courses starting and some with space in them, so have a look at the website and see if anything appeals to you. As always, we are looking to the next year to expand our course offerings. If you have any ideas or would like to be a tutor – we would love to hear from you.

We would welcome volunteers for our office and of course anyone who feels they can contribute to the Committee. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the office.

I apologise for the disruptions in the car park over the last few weeks. This disruption will continue I am afraid until both the activities area and the large classroom at the other end are completed. I have asked them to keep the noise down where possible and to park elsewhere to ensure you all still have access to KP.

Great news from the Choir – they have a new conductor and things are going extremely well. If you have always fancied yourself as a singer, why not sign on and give it a go. I understand they are a very welcoming and friendly group.

Our newsletter is progressing, and I am optimistic that it will be well received by everyone. If you have anything to contribute or any comments to make, please feel free. Our Facebook page is also being updated regularly so if you are into social media (I'm not) it will have lots of current information for you.

Membership numbers are crawling upwards, and I am grateful to you all for continuing to support your U3A. Please recommend us to your friends and as I have said before – what about a gift membership?

Over the winter, we have lost some great contributors to history and the arts including Judith Durham, Olivia Newton John and Mickael Gorbachev. All titans in their own way. I often wonder how history will remember them all. It is incredible to believe that over 20 years have passed since the abomination at the World Trade Centre in New York. I expect we all remember where we were at that time. And next Monday, Britain will be welcoming in a new Prime Minister! Whoever it is, I wish them luck. No Prime Minister anywhere in the world is having an easy time of it.

Frankston City Council is running a free technology and smartphone support program for seniors at Karingal Hub on Saturday mornings from 10 am until midday, starting this Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September and running until at least mid-next year. The sessions are run by tech-savvy 'teens & youngsters'. For more details & to enrol online click on the following link: <https://www.frankston.vic.gov.au/Things-To-Do/Whats-On/Senior-technology-and-smartphone-support> Or contact the Prue Petchey on 9789 1192. Related to this, we are purchasing '...for Dummies' books on Android & iPhones for use in our Be Connected classes.

It appears the COVID numbers are falling. However, we must not be complacent. Stay safe and take care. I am taking a short break over school holidays and venturing to New Zealand, so fingers crossed.

Best wishes to all - Andrea