



# Autumn Newsletter



Dear Members

Welcome to the first edition of the newsletter for 2022. This year brings constant change to the Covid situation, with a greater threat due to increasing visitors. Please stay safe and protect your community by continuing to follow all government directives and U3A procedures, e.g always wear masks indoors until otherwise directed!

The new enrolment system is a great success. Most members negotiated it with or without help from committee members, with just a few glitches along the way. Member numbers are now about level with last year's membership with a very special welcome to our 50 new members. Again huge thanks to Susan for sorting out all those glitches and member queries.

Please remember this is your newsletter. We have an active [Facebook](#) page but not everyone reads that, so this is our way of sharing our activities. We welcome contributions at any time as the newsletter is produced quarterly.

In this edition we have reports from Come Try Petanque, Birding at Tolderol, Glenbarr Homestead Visit, Creative Writing, Laratinga Wetlands Tour, Film Club, Travel Group, French for Fun, and The Adventures of Edward Snell. There are many other courses you could join! Refresh your memory by checking out the [Semester 1 program](#).

Suzanne, Chairperson 2021-2022

## Didn't we have a lovely time, the day we went to Glenbarr . . .

It was back to the 1840s at Glenbarr Homestead for 33 of our members. In 1841, the Rankine family came from Scotland and settled the Glenbarr property near Strathalbyn. They developed one of the first successful cattle grazing enterprises in the district. Their stone home, built around 1842 was one of the first homes built in the Strathalbyn area, and remained in the family for four generations. We had an interesting tour of the house, then enjoyed a delicious lunch or Devonshire Tea in the stables.



*(Organised by Dorothy W)*

*Stairway to the Chapel*



*The Chapel*



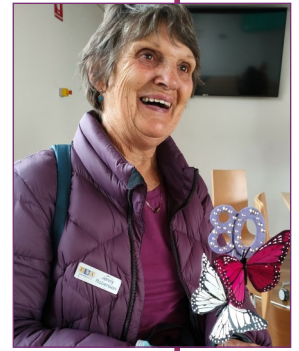
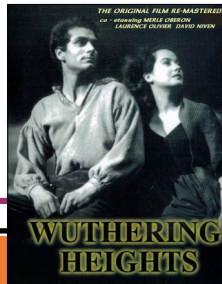
*Committee Member Susan H at lunch*



## FILM CLUB

Jenny, pictured here with her birthday surprise, helps her husband Frank run the monthly film club. The first two offerings were Cover Girl, a 1944 musical starring Rita Hayworth and Gene Kelly, and a 1947 thriller The Two Mrs Carrolls with Humphrey Bogart and Barbara Stanwyck. During filming in 1945, "Bogie" sneaked off to marry Lauren Bacall. Future offerings are shown below. Come and join the fun. Jaffas sometimes supplied!

Click [here](#) if you are not already enrolled.



## FRENCH for FUN & TRAVEL

..... time to remove masks, eat and enjoy.



Creative writing's been quite a challenge. In fact, lots of them. Sometimes out of my comfort zone. But I love it! And each one of the group has something to offer and we can share and speak openly in a supportive environment, so ably facilitated by our leader.

*Bronwyn Chapple*

How delightful to have a place to write ideas and read them out. We share our thoughts and experiences and often our laughter. Our lively guide is Tony, full of ideas to stimulate our pens and praise for what emerges. Being carefully listened to is as important as thoughtful responses.

*Michele Langman*

A course, of course,  
Should open views, not necessarily shared  
But after all – we do converse  
And subjects often – are perverse  
So for the record – here and now  
We are here?  
For better or worse.

*Gabrielle Drinkwater*

To play with words I like to do  
I've learnt some new. I know a few.  
I come to class. I'm very keen.  
Now to find out what they mean.

*David Dawley*

## CREATIVE WRITERS

I've started a U3A course  
In the hope that I can learn  
In the creative writing class  
Should I do an about turn?  
I don't think so  
What would that achieve?  
I want to write my auto-biography  
Think I'll stay here, not leave.

*Shirley Hortin*





## BIRDING at TOLDEROL RESERVE—22nd Feb

About a dozen of us assembled at 10:30am at the Bridge Hotel Langhorne Creek. The weather was glorious - sunny, warm with light winds from the south. I had been told that Tolderol was relatively birdless, too much water inland and some dry ponds because of redevelopment, but Susan and I agreed to give it a go anyway. I think that it proved a good decision. The other shock was, that because of Covid, the pub was closed and was not doing lunches on several days including Tuesdays. Our post visit debriefing and lunch was not possible there but we found a good alternative at the local cafe; excellent sandwiches.

We rationalised to five cars and went round the reserve for about two and a half hours and saw some 35 species of birds. I have checked our two previous visits and in 2018 and 2019 they yielded 54 and 40 species respectively. In all fairness the 2018 visit was in Spring (September), which will always be something of a bonus. Peter Koch, who was there by chance, a friend of mine who knows the place backwards, gave us a brief outline of the plans for it.

Large water birds were in quite good numbers. We had both Spoonbills, Royal and Yellow-billed, the latter not very common around Adelaide. We also had White Ibis, Great Egret, Black Swan and White-faced Heron. There were fewer Ducks than normal, but we did have a big flock of Australian Shelduck near the end of the trip. Terns were in quite good numbers, Crested and Caspian, but Whiskered Tern often abundant had left. Waders were very scarce and we only saw Masked Lapwing and distant views of Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. Birds of prey were not numerous, a couple of distant Swamp Harriers, and I saw a Black Shouldered Kite near the gate. Being in the front car, I saw and heard several, perhaps half a dozen birds, not seen by most of you. However most of you saw the little White-fronted Chat and some saw Goldfinches and Silvereyes. Grebes, Crakes and Rails and Cormorant eluded us, but we all saw Pelicans. I briefly saw, Golden-headed Cisticola and Little Grassbird, but fear that few others did. There is always next time! It is a nice place and now that you know that it is there, perhaps go back.

*John Hatch*



*We saw a large flock of Shelduck, but this handsome Sheldrake was in WA.*



This year the **TRAVEL GROUP** has explored the beaches, birds and wild-flowers of a section of the South coast of Western Australia and travelled to Southern China to see the magnificent Karst landscapes.





Future petanque champions enjoying a great morning on the piste.

Many thanks to members of the Adelaide Hills Petanque Club in Stirling.

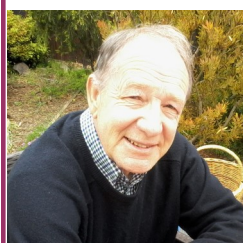


## SHEEP STATIONS WON & LOST!



### Committee Member Profiles

Most of the Committee seem shy about introducing themselves, so it's up to Mark and me to tell you a little about ourselves.



**Mark Randell** is a retired geologist, having spent 40 years in mineral exploration throughout Australasia. In retirement he has rekindled his interest in South Australia's past, including genealogy, early mining developments, and the history of instruments and technology.

He has also been an active member of U3A AH and is past Chairperson and now Vice Chairperson. He has presented numerous talks to U3A and to Probus in earlier times.

My grand-daughter asked me recently to tell her about "becoming an adult" for a school project. My reply was something like this: I started university at the age of 16, did an extra year so that I was 19 when I gained my teaching qualifications. I was sent to an Area School (Years 1-10) and asked to teach a variety of subjects, none of which I was qualified to teach, to Years 8 and 9—students just 3 years younger than me, and much more street-smart! With the help of an autocratic principal I survived, but I think that was the year I became an adult. I've taught everything from pre-school to adults in SA and in Indonesia. Retired now, I've considered myself a teacher ever since. I've been on the U3A Committee for many years, am now Chairperson and Newsletter Editor.



*Suzanne*

### THANK YOU!

The Committee wishes to sincerely thank MP Dan Creagan (Independent Kavel) and Mayor Ann Ferguson (DCMB) for their recent donations .



### U3A AH Committee 2021—2022

*Chairperson*—Suzanne Arbon  
*Deputy Chairperson*— Mark Randell  
*Secretary*—Jenny Twigden  
*Treasurer*—Janet Hemsley  
*Program Coordinator*— Susan Smalldon  
*Minutes Secretary*—Susan Huggins  
*MyU3A Coordinator*—Susan Smalldon  
*Newsletter Editor*—Suzanne Arbon  
*Web manager*—Susan Smalldon  
*Equipment Officer*—Jane Horton  
*U3A-SA Delegate*—Geoff Edwards,  
*Members*—Dianne Bacciarelli, Brent Danks  
*Public Officer*—Mark Randell





## GREAT PRESENTATIONS



### LARATINGA WETLANDS TALK & TOUR

Sincere thanks to Emma and the District Council of Mount Barker for such an informative and entertaining morning — the coffee & cake were good too!

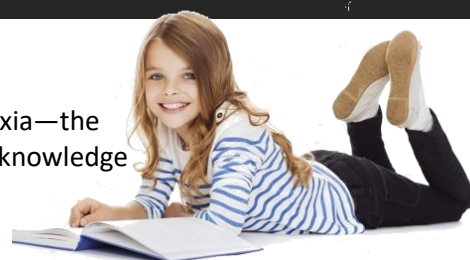


### THE LIFE & ADVENTURES of EDWARD SNELL

Mark introduced us to this interesting character- engineer, surveyor, architect, artist and great diarist, who migrated to Australia from Devon in 1849. Mark based his presentation primarily on Snell's fascinating diary filled with sketches, drawings and paintings. In Australia for less than a decade, he made a big impact.

### UNDERSTANDING DYSLEXIA

A very appreciative group thoroughly enjoyed Helen's presentation on dyslexia—the different types and the many learning styles. The depth and breadth of her knowledge and experience helped to greatly raise our awareness and understanding.



### Down In the Garden

The monthly DIG sessions are always of interest—and not only to gardening enthusiasts. So far this year we have enjoyed a session on 'Spirited Gardening' with Sally-Anne and one on 'Up-Cycling' with Gloria whose ingenuity, creativity and resourcefulness regarding re-using 'junk' was inspirational and fun.

## MORE PRESENTATIONS TO COME

it is not too late - you can still ENROL ([click here](#)) for following:

#### **Apron Sorrow—Sovereign Tea** (10:30am Friday 8th April) *Hahndorf*

Often untold and mostly unheard. Dr Natalie Harkin draws on both oral history and SA's colonial archived records to reveal remarkable and deeply moving stories that span loss, love, sorrow, strength and resilience.

#### **Dare to Say the 'D' Word** (10:00am Monday 9th May) *Bridgewater*

This session looks at the modern world's denial of death. We now use kindly intended and superficially appear to be innocent euphemisms such as 'passed away', their 'passing' 'loss' or that a person 'has lost their battle'.

#### **The Antikythera Mechanism** (10:00am Friday 13 May) *Hahndorf*

In 1901 sponge divers were sheltering from a storm in the Aegean Sea and decided to try their luck overboard—they discovered a Roman shipwreck laden with Grecian antiquaries and ..!!!

#### **Whodunnits** (1:00pm Friday Mar 25, Apr 1, Apr 8) *Hahndorf*

Join us for one or all three in this series looking at cold cases from British history.

**PLUS**—monthly presentations across a wide range of topics at **Travel & DIG**— (3rd Thursday of the month)