



COURSE INFORMATION

2022 Semester 2

We will follow COVID safety protocols including participants wearing masks when required. Members must be fully vaccinated to attend U3A activities and will need to show evidence of double vaccination at the time of enrolment.

Enrolment in courses will be subject to availability.

Every effort will be made to accommodate members' choices but places in some courses may be limited due to COVID-safe social distancing.



New this semester

Please consider others by:

- Only signing up for classes you intend to go to,
- Letting your course leader know if you are unable to attend a session,
- Turning off your mobile phone in class.

Australian Historical Fiction

Kate Donelan

In this course we will read and discuss selected Australian Literature set in the past (in this country and elsewhere). We will explore each writer's interpretation of the historical period and the implications for the contemporary world.

Authors will include Geraldine Brooks, Steven Conte, Kate Grenville, Thomas Keneally, Hannah Kent, David Malouf, Jock Serong, Christina Stead, Anna Funder, Tony Birch.

A reading list will be supplied and supplemented each month with other resources.

Venue	Blarney Books
Frequency	Monthly
Day	2 nd Friday of the month
Time	1.00-2.30pm
Begins	August 12 th



Bendigo Bank Community Lecture Series

Venue	Lecture Hall, Sackville Street.
Frequency	Monthly
Day	Second Thursday of the month You do not need to enrol, just come along
Time	10.00 - 11.00am
Begins	August 11 th

1. August 11th Mandy Watson - Southern Right Whales

Mandy Watson 30+ years of experience working in the field of biodiversity conservation. She has been monitoring whales in Victoria for over 25 years specializing in photo-identification. She collaborates with scientists from around the world on research into population dynamics of this endangered species. Mandy will discuss this work and will explain how to tell Southern Right Whales apart from each other, what we are learning about their recovery as a species and what you can do to help.

2. September 8th Hycel Project - Deakin University, Warrnambool Campus

Located at Deakin University's Warrnambool Campus, Hycel is a regional hub of hydrogen expertise. With a focus on technologies that use hydrogen rather than processes to produce it, Hycel translates lab results into real world solutions.

At a global level, the hydrogen market is predicted to reduce carbon emissions by 6 billion tonnes annually, employ up to 30 million people and be worth around US\$2.5 trillion by 2050. Hycel is working with researchers, industry, government and community to ready Australia for the hydrogen economy.

3. October 13th Heather Sheard - Port Fairy Hospital and Benevolent Asylum 1846-1926

Walk through the sliding doors of Port Fairy's Hospital today and you are passing by the same walls that stonemasons built 166 years ago now hidden under render. In the second half of the 19th century, who was admitted to the hospital and what treatment could they hope for? Into the 20th century the challenges grew. The Great War, diphtheria and Spanish Flu epidemics stretched the hospital and asylum to crisis point but they continued to operate.

1. November 10th Graham Patterson ★ Book Launch *Nature and History on the Coast of Western Victoria*

A field naturalist, Graham has walked the length of the Victorian coastline, finishing the final stretch, at last, in 2018. He has written two coastal guides describing the more easterly shores and is now ready to share with us a selection of the stories about the historical sites and important places in the world of nature on our western Victorian coastline. Covering the area from Point Lonsdale to the South Australian border, his book encompasses stories of the human history which unfolded locally, plus there are rock formations, prolific fossil sites, bird breeding colonies, a wealth of intertidal invertebrates, walking tracks and more.

Classic Literature

Mary Kerr

This course will meet once a month and will provide participants with an opportunity to study some of the classics in Literature, both traditional and contemporary. It will be discussion based and participants will be looking at the context in which the works were created as well as the special features, the language, and the literary aspects of each.

We will also be looking at reviews of each of these great works to enhance our understanding of them and the times in which they were written.

Venue	TBA
Frequency	Monthly
Day	1 st Wednesday of the month
Time	9.30-10.30am
Begins	August 3 rd

Current Affairs

Jan Addinsall

Current Affairs sessions cover different set topics each week, ranging from local to international issues. We generally discuss one or two key topics based on published or online articles provided by the group leader and/or the members.

We finish with discussion of a cartoon- "a picture tells a thousand words". We aim for respectful discussion on the topics, interspersed with our own life experiences.

Venue	Charlie's on East
Frequency	Twice a month
Day	2 nd and 4 th Monday
Time	10.00-11.30
Begins	August 8 th

Ecology of South-West Victoria

John Miller, Mike Raetz, Philip Du Guesclin and some friends.

This is an entirely field-based course that follows on from the 2021 course (but there is no requirement for you to have been in the 2021 course).

This time we will be exploring estuaries and salt marshes, volcanic plains communities, coastal mallee scrub, Grampians heaths and more.

The course is based on a series of monthly hands-on field trips that explore the interactions of geology, geomorphology, climate, soils, plants, and animals of the major ecosystems of south-west Victoria.

Each field trip will take around 2-4 hrs and will be suitable for most mobilities.

Limited to 25 participants. If numbers exceed this a second session will be held. Please indicate if you prefer the morning or afternoon session when you enrol.

Venue	Outdoors on site
Frequency	Monthly
Day	1 st Thursday
Time	Morning session 10-12pm : Afternoon session 1.00pm-3.00pm
Begins	August 4 th

Embroidery

Robin Southey

Suitable for beginners and experienced stitchers.

Embroidery is a satisfying hobby which allows you to extend your creativity while making both decorative and useful pieces for your home or gifts. In this class a variety of basic stitches will be taught, enabling many projects to be completed. You need to be able to thread a needle, and have reasonably steady hands.

Robin is a Member of the Embroiderer's Guild and she has been stitching and creating for decades. You can see a variety of her completed works and she will assist you to purchase the fabric and thread required to complete your own pieces.

Sessions will be held with a tuition focus initially, then you will be able to work on your own project, and come together with the other course members for social interaction and continued assistance with your project.

Venue	Robin's house
Frequency	Weekly
Day	Tuesday
Time	1.00-3.00pm
Begins	2nd August. (No classes in September)

Essays and Ideas

Maggie Currie

This semester we will continue to discuss a variety of issues – from contemporary topics to classical essays. The essays will be sent by email and we read them beforehand.

Discussions will explore literary merit, subject, content, relevance to the present day and our own beliefs and experiences. Coffee afterwards.

Venue	PFCH Cottage
Frequency	Monthly
Day	2 nd Tuesday of the month.
Time	9.30 – 11.15am
Begins	August 9 th

Family History

Rhonda Allardice

Join this Group if you are a beginner or already working on your Family History/Tree. Share information, available resources, helpful hints for researching and writing a family history.

We meet monthly to give members of the group the weeks in between to either begin or to continue work on their Family History.

Share ideas over a cuppa.

Venue	PFCH Cottage
Frequency	Monthly
Day	2 nd Tuesday of the month
Time	11.30am -1.30 pm
Begins	August 9 th

Fascinating Women of the 20th Century

Lorraine Mielnik

This course involves a series of presentations, by course members, about the life and times of various fascinating women.

So many women with such interesting lives to choose from - explorers, adventurers, artists, activists, scientists and more.

At each session we will hear about the life and accomplishments of these women. The presentations will take about 45 minutes and include time for questions and discussion. If you have an interest in a fascinating 20th Century woman and would like to make a presentation, please let me know.

Venue	PFCH Cottage
Frequency	Monthly
Day	1st Thursday of the month
Time	2.00 - 3.30pm
Begins	August 4 th

First Australians

Ted Donelan and Carole Howlett

This course aims to increase participants' understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. The last 60,000 years of their histories and cultures along with the contributions to Australian society will be explored with particular reference to the reconciliation process, the Uluru Statement from the Heart and the Makarrata.

The course is a mix of structured learning and group discussion. We hope to share some cross-U3A content, and may be able to include some basic anthropology along with visiting presenters and perhaps visit significant local sites.

In addition, we will explore what it means to be an active and informed ally to Indigenous people and to support the reconciliation process.

Venue	PFCH Cottage
Frequency	Twice a month
Day	2 nd and 4 th Friday
Time	Morning session 11.00am-12.00: Afternoon session 1.00pm-2.00pm
Begins	August 12 th

First Tuesday Bookclub

Julie Fall

Each month the group will meet to discuss a book: literary fiction from around the world. We will compare responses to the book, its characters, plot and structure as well as the insights it provides to the social and cultural world of its setting and its author.

Group members are encouraged to have input into the selection of books for the year.

If the book chosen is a 'quick read' then more than one book is chosen, if all agree!
The class member who chooses the book(s) for the month generally leads the discussion which may include presenting background information on the author, reviews of the book and group discussion questions.

Venue	PFCH Station Room
Frequency	Monthly
Day	1 st Tuesday of the month
Time	2.00-3.30pm
Begins	August 2 nd

History of Port Fairy

Judith Kershaw

The history of Port Fairy will be a combination of lectures, history walks and an occasional outside venue.

We will examine the development of the unique community of the 'village' of Port Fairy, which was the background to important historical events. It was populated by extraordinary characters and resulted from significant international, social, and political influences. The class is aimed at giving everyone the opportunity to discuss, research and work together to find out more about these aspects of the community in which we live.

The class is open to all with an enthusiastic interest in the early history of Port Fairy and the surrounding district.

(Dates: August 3rd, August 17th, August 31st, September 14th, September 28th, October 12th, October 26th, November 9th, November 23rd)

Venue	PFCH Cottage
Frequency	Twice monthly
Day	Wednesday
Time	10.00-11.30am
Begins	August 3 rd



Introduction to Auslan

Romaine Jarman

Auslan is the official sign language of the majority of the Australian deaf community. Romaine will teach you the basics of how to make introductions, and the signs for colours, numbers, food names, the weather, technology, animals and also the alphabet.

Venue	PFCH Cottage
Frequency	Fortnightly
Day	Wednesday
Time	12.00-1.00pm
Begins	August 3 rd

Mah Jong

Sue Goy

The game of Mah Jong was invented by the Chinese thousands of years ago. Mah Jong is a fascinating game and although it appears complicated, it is easy once the rules are mastered. For the many people who have wanted to play this game, this is your chance.

Venue	PFCH Cottage
Frequency	Twice a month
Day	1 st and 3 rd Wednesday
Time	1.30-3.30pm
Begins	August 3 rd



Political Philosophy 2

Associate Professor Kevin O'Toole

This course helps us comprehend the various modern ideologies and political movements that have grown up around the major philosophies engrained in western culture. We will cover six specific 'isms': Nationalism, Populism, Feminism, Ecologism, Multiculturalism and Fundamentalism.

Venue	PFCH Cottage
Frequency	Twice a month
Day	2nd and 4th Thursdays
Time	1.30-2.45pm
Begins	August 11 th

Regional Gallery Tours

Maggie Currie

The first gallery tour in second semester is to see the Picasso exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria on Wednesday, 31st August.

Contact Maggie for details.

Generally this group car pools or uses public transport.

Venue	Regional Galleries
Frequency	Twice x semester
Day	More information on enrolment
Time	All day
Begins	August 31 st



ScienceNaturally! Bendigo Bank Series at the Lecture Hall

John Miller and guest presenters

Venue	Lecture Hall, Sackville Street
Frequency	Monthly
Day	2nd Thursday of the month
Time	2.00-3.30pm
Begins	August 11 th

The *Science...naturally!* program for semester two will cover the following topics:

1. August 11th Hair of the Dog- trichology for fun and profit, by Rob Wallis.

Professor of Research Development at Federation University, Australia, Rob was a pioneer in the use of mammal hair analysis as a tool for determining both the mammal assemblages in bushland areas and for establishing the diet and impact of predators on the small mammals.

2. September 8th Algal Surprises in the Desert: Joan Powling.

Joan, a long time resident of Port Fairy, is an expert in the identification and ecology of freshwater algae. She spent much of her time working on the occurrence and influence of freshwater algae in what at first thought would seem to be the unlikely habitat of central Australian deserts.

3. October 13th Digging the dirt on Archaeology: Amy Wood.

Amy is a Senior Archaeologist with Biosis Pty Ltd, based in Melbourne. She has spent the last 20 years observing, interpreting and sampling the Australian landscape to identify likely human habitation sites and establish their cultural significance.

4. November 10th Underwater topography and mapping. Daniel Lerodiamonou.

Daniel is an Associate Professor in Marine Science at Deakin. He is a leader in the use of remotely sensed imaging technology for the mapping of Victoria's coastal seabed and gathering data for the Victorian Coastal Monitoring Program. His work provides an essential understanding of the processes impacting our coasts and assists in the management of sea-level fluctuations.



Stargazing: The Night Sky

Ross Knudsen

*** This course will be held outdoors, at night, at locations near Port Fairy***

The participants will look through telescopes to track the changes on the moon's surface, with the dates chosen observe the Moon after the New Moon and prior to the Full Moon. There will certainly be other celestial objects to observe as well. The times align with the end of twilight, and the length of the sessions is flexible. This course is offered three times - chose which session suits you.

Venue	Outdoors, possibly Port Fairy airstrip.
Frequency	Monthly, 3 sessions
Day	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
Time	7.00pm to 8.00pm
Dates	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. August 2nd - August 5th 2. August 30th - September 2nd 3. October 3rd - October 7th



Textile Art with Silk Paper

Sue Knudsen

The purpose of the session is to explore the art of silk paper making.

You will be introduced to the technique, and produce a beautiful piece of silk textile that can be used in an assortment of creative projects. The fabric produced is stiff and strong. It can be stitched, embellished, beaded, and made into such items as needle cases and journal covers, and many more creative ideas.

There will be a small fee and you will be contacted regarding a list of materials to bring to the session.

Venue	PFCH
Frequency	One session
Day	TBA
Time	TBA
Begins	TBA

Three Weeks of Knitting

Sue Knudsen and Maggie Currie

The purpose of this course is to knit and chat in the company of other knitters.

You may have a project you are knitting; you may want to try something new, or maybe you haven't knitted before.

We have patterns for socks, hand warmers, caps and scarves. And if you need help, there should be someone who can assist.

Venue	PFCH Cottage Room
Frequency	Three sessions
Day	TBA
Time	TBA
Begins	Probably late August.

U3A Mixed Choir

David Wilson Facilitator, Jillian Gundermann Choir Leader

Do you enjoy singing?

Would you like to be part of our U3A Choir?

The choir sessions enable lots of good fellowship and fun, with leader Jillian providing an abundance of expertise and enthusiasm. Each session includes some gentle introductory breathing and movement exercises followed by singing new songs and on-going practice of our known songs, with some very enjoyable results.

There may be opportunities for an occasional performance later in the year but the regular choir sessions will continue to be the focus of the choir's enjoyment.

Venue	PFCH Cottage
Frequency	Twice x month
Day	2nd and 4th Wednesday
Time	2.00-3.30pm
Begins	August 10 th

Walk and Coffee

Mary Kerr

The Walk and Coffee group will meet at Railway Place at 9.30am on a Monday morning, walk for approximately 50 minutes and then relax and chat over coffee. A great way to start the week.

Venue	Meet at PFCH
Frequency	Weekly
Day	Monday
Time	9.30-10.30am
Begins	August 1 st

Writing Group

Kate Donelan

A supportive group for people interested in sharing their writing and improving their skills as writers, readers and editors. There will be a focus on 'creative non-fiction' and the use of narrative techniques in writing from lived experience, historical material and social observation.

The group may write, edit and produce a publication at the end of the course.

Venue	PFCH Station Room
Frequency	Third Friday of the month
Day	Friday
Time	1.00-2.30pm
Begins	August 19 th

Yoga

Greg Walker

Our yoga course will combine accessible yoga postures and exercises with relaxation and the philosophy of Hatha Yoga as seen through the Hatha Yoga Pradipika and the Gheranda Samita (Two ancient texts on Hatha Yoga).

The main objective of Hatha yoga is to create an absolute balance of the interacting activities and processes of the energy and mental forces in the body. This is the most common type of yoga taught in modern society.

The ten weeks developmental course will progress through suitably staged postures and breath exercises to provide appropriate practice for all levels of fitness, improving strength and flexibility.

Yoga is very effective for releasing tension, creating deep relaxation, and slowing the busy mind. It is possible, by cultivating awareness through the techniques of yoga, to develop an understanding of one's body, energy and mind.

(Dates: August 23rd, 30th ; September 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th ; October 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th)

Venue	RSL Hall Bank Street
Frequency	Weekly (10 sessions)
Day	Tuesday
Time	10.00-11.15am
Begins	August 23 rd