

# GREATER WESTERN

**Regional Course Co-ordinator:** Sue Brennan 9624 4270 | 0417 288 927  
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## GREATER WESTERN REGION OF SYDNEY U3A

Notice is hereby given that the

### Annual General Meeting and Election of Office Bearers

will be held on

**Friday 1 December 2pm**

at

### University of New England Future Campus

At Lecture Room, Level 1, 232 Church Street, Parramatta  
(opposite partner campus site, 211 Church Street)

Entertainment and afternoon tea will follow, giving members the opportunity to socialise.  
Please bring a plate. All office bearers' positions are open for election.

Members are requested to seriously consider standing for committee to ensure the future success of our region within this great organisation that offers us all so much in our Third Age.

Information and nomination forms may be obtained and returned to

**Secretary:** Ann Orel 9638 2547; annorel@hotmail.com  
by **Friday 17 November.**

**All Sydney U3A members are welcome to attend**

## THE HAWKESBURY PADDLEWHEELER LUNCH CRUISE\*\*(40)

**Tuesday 19th September 9am - 5pm**

**Meet at Fitzwilliam Street, Parramatta at 8:45am for a 9am departure**

**Booking essential: Bev Cockburn 9635 7802**

**Cost: \$70 based on 40 participants and payable by Friday, 1st September**

Today we travel through Windsor to Richmond for morning tea, taking a look at the Penrith Lake Scheme as we travel along Castlereagh Road, through Agnes Banks, with commentary by our experienced Coach Captain.

Arriving back at Windsor at 12 noon, we will be welcomed aboard the Paddlewheeler for lunch consisting of chicken, sausages and salad, dessert, tea and coffee. As we cruise along the Hawkesbury River, with the paddle wheels churning, interesting and historic facts of the area will be explained. After a wonderful cruise, we will arrive back at Windsor at 2pm.

In the afternoon, we will be visiting the Lindt Chocolate Outlet at Marsden Park before returning to Parramatta between 4.30pm and 5pm.

## PARRAMATTA

Level 2, 1-3 Fitzwilliam Street - adjacent to rail station, enter through 'RAFFLES' door, left of library entrance  
**Lift / wheelchair accessible.**

### MANDARIN ..... 172GF01

This continuing course is intended for the Third Age people who want to learn Mandarin by means of learning Chinese characters and sentences using alphabetic transliteration. Your class level will determine alternate Monday session access.

**Each Monday from 17 July 10:00 - 12:00**

Leader and bookings: Ying Mei Zhang 9635 8798  
or Nicole Liu 9311 2480

### MANDARIN PIES (Practice in Everyday Speaking Chinese) ..... 172GF02

These sessions are intended for learners of Mandarin who want to practice and improve their listening and speaking skills. Depending on skill level, activities range from basic

everyday conversation with emphasis on pronunciation and sentence structure, to role plays and discussions facilitated by native Mandarin speakers.

**Each Friday from 21 July 1:00 - 3:00**

Leader and bookings: Stanley Yan 9980 7289  
stanyan100@hotmail.com

### BOOK OF THE MONTH\*\*(20) ..... 172GF03

Discussion group. New members most welcome. Share the experience, expand your understanding and enjoy the process.

**Every fourth Monday from 24 July 10:00 - 12:00**

Leader and bookings: Isabel Halton 9872 4467

### THRILLERS AND MYSTERIES ..... 172GF04

A monthly book-reading group for those who read for entertainment and love 'whodunits'. We each take turns in selecting two authors for the following month.

**Every fourth Monday from 17 July 1:00 - 3:00**

Leader and bookings: Dorothy Johnson 9621 2389 (after 5 pm)

## STORYTELLERS PARRAMATTA ..... 172GF05

'Letting Thoughts Fly' is our motto. Come and join our lively, friendly group and write your family anecdotes, poems and tales both serious and frivolous. An optional topic is suggested for reading at the following session; however, personal themes are always welcome.

**Alt Tuesdays from 4 July 10:00 - 12:00**

Leader and bookings: Helen Reardon 9631 7241  
helsjr@bigpond.com

## GROWING YOUR FAMILY TREE ..... 172GF06

Interested in your family history? Join a friendly, helpful group all engaged in digging up their ancestors.

**Alt Tuesdays from 11 July 1:00 - 3:00**

Leader and bookings: John Venables 9484 0526  
john\_venables@yahoo.com

## SPANISH CONVERSATION\*\*(15) ..... 172GF07

Would you like to speak, read and write basic Spanish? If so, this is the course for you. Learn to connect with Spanish speakers and discover a beautiful language. We will learn to greet, make requests and converse in Spanish in the Latin way.

**Alt Tuesdays from 4 July 1:00 - 3:00**

Leader: Isabel Doyle  
Bookings: Sue Brennan 9624 4270; 0417 288 927  
suebrennan88@gmail.com (preferred)

## SINGLE SESSION TUESDAYS\*\*(20) ..... 172GF08

A series of separate presentations on subjects of general interest.

**All talks are from 10:00 - 12:00**

Bookings: Sue Brennan 9624 4270; 0417 288 927  
suebrennan88@gmail.com (preferred)

### 1. The Roman Empire – Crisis and Transformation

We look at the way in which the third-century Roman Empire was, in the space of 100 years, rescued from imminent dissolution by the great emperors Diocletian and Constantine.

**Tuesday 11 July**

Speaker: Tony McCurdy

### 2. Chartres – The Perfect Cathedral

We take an in-depth tour covering all features of the most complete French Gothic cathedral. Ideal for those who want to refresh their memories and for those who would like to be prepared for their first visit.

**Tuesday 25 July**

Speaker: Tony McCurdy

### 3. William Dawes: Exploring Aboriginal Language

Dawes' pioneering work in both language and map-making in the early years of the NSW colony were fraught with the difficulty of misunderstanding, both for the settlers and the indigenous people.

**Tuesday 8 Aug**

Speaker: Ross Bell

### 4. Women of Wealth, Power and Intelligence in Roman Asia Minor

An interactive journey looking at the lives and lifestyles of the wealthy, fashionable women of the 323 - 31 BCE in the Roman Empire, notably Cleopatra VII and Plancia Magna of Persia

**Tuesday 22 Aug**

Speaker: Lyn Kidson

### 5. Silver Hallmarks

You'll be aware of silver hallmarks, now you can discover their history and origin. Bring items for identification. (Note: Valuations can't be given.)

**Tuesday 5 Sept**

Speaker: Colin Beacroft

### 6. The History of Royal Albert Hall

'Not just a pretty picture'. Come and learn about the amazing history of this much-loved, well-known and much used London landmark.

**Tuesday 3 Oct**

Speaker: Rosemary McCulloch

## 7. Shakespeare's Women

Were the women in Shakespeare's plays heroines or the causes of the downfall of the men? Come and hear about Cleopatra, Cordelia and other women characters. Make your own decisions.

**Tuesday 17 Oct**

Speaker: Anne Richardson

## 8. The Bayeux Tapestry

The Norman Conquest is recorded in the Bayeux Tapestry. It is often regarded as 'the world's oldest comic book'. Is it propaganda or a unique record of history, secular or sacred art?

**Tuesday 31 Oct**

Speaker: Dorothy Mc Donald

## 9. 'From Flops to Tops'

Films, books, operas, music, inventions and ideas did not always have an easy road to success or acceptance. Conversely, much that was popular in its heyday has sunk into oblivion. A wide-ranging presentation in words, images and music.

**Tuesdays 14 and 28 Nov**

Speakers: Nora Hinchin and John Flint

## OUR WORDS ..... 172GF09

Interested in the origin of language? Words and sayings can be fun. Join us and enjoy them. Bring a word and we'll use it in an 'on-the-spot' writing task. Hone your writing skills with a friendly, like-minded group and let your talent emerge.

**Alt Wednesdays from 5 July 1:00 - 3:00**

Leaders and bookings: Ann Orel 9638 2547  
annorel@hotmail.com  
Rachelle Rassaby 9797 2287; rrassaby@gmail.com

## MARCHING OFF TO WAR ..... 172GF10

Three boys from the Southern Tablelands marched off to WWI for King and Empire. They all died on the battlefield. Their beginnings and ends frame the story.

**Wednesday 12 July 1:30 - 3:30**

Speaker: Garry Smith  
Bookings: Sue Brennan 9624 4270; 0417 288 927  
suebrennan88@gmail.com (preferred)

## 'LEST WE FORGET' - WWI POETRY ..... 172GF11

While many fighting men in the trenches and air battles of WWI wrote poetry, it was the women at home that wrote the most powerful verse.

**Wednesday 26 July 1:30 - 3:30**

Speaker: Garry Smith  
Bookings: Sue Brennan 9624 4270; 0417 288 927  
suebrennan88@gmail.com (preferred)

## ANCIENT CULTURES ..... 172GF12

(4 sessions)

Leader: Himanshu Jhala  
Bookings: Sue Brennan 9624 4270; 0417 288 927  
suebrennan88@gmail.com (preferred)

### 1. The Origin, Development and Spread of Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism

Religion influences our lives. A broad understanding of different religions helps us understand our society. The East gave rise to many religions. Two of the oldest are Hinduism and Buddhism.

**Wednesday 9 Aug 1:00 - 3:00**

### 2. The Other Eastern Faiths and Traditions

Islam and Zoroastrianism are monotheistic religions. We trace their origins, development and spread. Eastern faiths and traditions of Sikhism, Confucianism, Taoism and Shinto are also significant.

**Wednesday 23 Aug 1:00 - 3:00**

### 3. The Rise and Decline of the British Empire, and Its Legacies

For over three centuries, Great Britain developed and ruled over up to a quarter of the world's population. We trace its origin, spread, decline and its legacies.

**Wednesday 6 Sept 1:00 - 3:00**

### 4. Mass Movement of the Subjugated Communities

Over the history of civilisations, there have been significant involuntary mass movements such as the African slave trade, the Jews and the Armenians fleeing persecution, and the Indian indentured labourers.

**Wednesday 20 Sept 1:00 - 3:00**

### SIR SIDNEY KIDMAN – CATTLE KING ..... 172GF13

Sidney Kidman rose from desperate poverty to become the largest landowner in Australia. In 1921 he was knighted for his services to the war effort.

**Wednesday 4 Oct 1:30 - 3:30**

Speaker: Barbara Boston

Bookings: Sue Brennan 9624 4270; 0417 288 927  
suebrennan88@gmail.com (preferred)

### MAY GIBBS – HER LIFE AND WORKS ..... 172GF14

Iconic Australian May Gibbs is best known for her book *Snugglypot and Cuddlepipie*. However, this forms only part of her diverse output. These sessions will describe how, from her birth in England to her death in Sydney 92 years later, she left her distinctive mark in a wide range of fields.

**Wednesdays 18 Oct, 1 Nov, 15 Nov 1:00 - 3:00**

Leader: Stewart Reed

Bookings: Sue Brennan 9624 4270; 0417 288 927  
suebrennan88@gmail.com (preferred)

### CALLIGRAPHY\*\*(18) ..... 172GF15

Learn 'beautiful writing' and discover the artist within. No experience or talent necessary.

**Alt Thursdays from 13 July 1:00 - 3:00**

Leader and bookings: Georgie Tuck 9626 1334  
georginatuck93@gmail.com

### PEOPLE WHO CHANGED THE WORLD ..... 172GF16

We look closely at the lives of personalities who had a significant influence on humanity's social and economic development. Our focus is psychological. We consider the environment they grew up in, their family relationships, what they did that may have changed their world and how that may have affected our own lives.

**Alt Thursdays from 17 Aug 2:00 - 4:00**

Leader: Barry Hanlon

Bookings: Rex Broadbent 0433 000 556  
rexpatoptusnet.com.au (preferred)

### 1. Indira Ghandi

Indian politician and prime minister.

**Thursday 17 Aug**

### 2. Malcolm McLean

Trucking and shipping entrepreneur.

**Thursday 31 Aug**

### 3. Andreas Vesalius

Founder of anatomy and modern medicine.

**Thursday 14 Sept**

### 4. Elizabeth Tudor

Made England great.

**Thursday 28 Sept**

### 5. Michael Faraday

Physicist and chemist.

**Thursday 12 Oct**

### 6. Boudica, Queen of the Iceni

Gave the Romans a hard time.

**Thursday 26 Oct**

### 7. Galileo Galilei

Astronomer and scientist.

**Thursday 9 Nov**

### 8. Siddhartha Gautama

Nepalese philosopher and teacher.

**Thursday 23 Nov**

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## PARRAMATTA: HARRY TODD BAND HALL

Jubilee Lane, Parramatta (approach from Jubilee Park on Parkes Street)

### THE NORMAN CONQUEST ..... 172GT01 OF ENGLAND\*\*(50)

We will discuss all aspects of William the Conqueror's invasion including the events that led up to it and what happened afterwards. Discussion will continue on the Norman dynasty, the Bayeux Tapestry and the Doomsday Book.

**Alt Fridays from 7 July 10:00 - 12:00**

Bookings: Sue Brennan; 0417 288 927  
suebrennan88@gmail.com

### A LIVELY DISCUSSION GROUP ..... 172GT02

Have your say. I may not agree with what you say but I will defend your right to say it.

**Alt Fridays from 14 July 10:00 - 12:00**

Leader: Bob Russell

Bookings: Dorothy Johnson 9621 2389 (after 5 pm)

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## GUILDFORD: HEWITT HOUSE

Corner of Guildford and Byron Roads.

### WRITING CREATIVELY ..... 172GG01

Learn the skills of transforming experiences into prose and poetry and share the results in a friendly supportive environment.

**Alt Wednesdays from 12 July 1:30 - 3:30**

Leader and bookings: Lorna Clayton 8861 5736

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## BLACKTOWN: WESTPOINT

Community Room, Fourth Floor, up Alpha Street ramp. Four hours parking available with Seniors Card. **Wheelchair accessible.**

### TAI CHI ..... 172GW01

Tai Chi has been said to relieve stress, arthritis and blood pressure, assist in the mobility of mind and body and aid blood circulation and muscle toning. Beginners and advanced welcome.

**Each Tuesday from 4 July 1:30 - 2:30**

Leader and bookings: Vicky Fitzgibbon 9622 5638  
0427 240 583; vickyfitzgibbon47@gmail.com

### POETRY AND PROSE FOR ..... 172GW02 EVERYONE\*\*(15)

Bring your poems or prose to read, or just relax and listen to the reading of established authors, or members' own work.

**Alt Thursdays from 6 July 10:00 - 12:00**

Leader and bookings: Margaret Bacon 9622 7874  
margaretbacon8@gmail.com

### PIONEERS OF COLONIAL AUSTRALIA ..... 172GW03

We will discuss the roles the Pioneers played in opening up and establishing Australia. Major pioneers will be discussed including James Kelly, Caroline Chisholm, Francis Greenway, Mary Reiby and many more.

## Alt Thursdays from 13 July 10:00 - 12:00

Bookings: Sue Brennan; 0417 288 927  
suebrennan88@gmail.com

### TOPICAL CHAT\*\*(12) ..... 172GW04

Bring along your ideas for light-hearted discussions with fellow members.

## Alt Fridays from 14 July 10:00 - 12:00

Leader and bookings: Norma Fergusson 9622 8580  
normajferg@gmail.com

### FUN AND GAMES ..... 172GW05

A light-hearted course to stretch your mind by playing Scrabble, rummikub, canasta, and other games in a friendly atmosphere.

## Alt Fridays from 7 July 10:00 - 1:00

Leader and bookings: June Keith 9621 1215  
junekeith@optusnet.com.au

## BLACKTOWN CITY LIBRARY

Study Room (or other), Level 1, corner of Alpha Street and Flushcombe Road. **Wheelchair accessible.**

### FAMILY TREE MYSTERIES SOLVED\*\*(10) ..... 172GL01

This is a support group for those addicted to researching their family history. Members range from beginners to those with over thirty years' experience in genealogy. Come and join our friendly and helpful group whose members assist each other to solve their genealogy problems.

## Alt Tuesdays from 11 July 10:30 - 12:30

Leader: Marie Donaldson 9621 3375  
Bookings: Linley Bartlett 9624 3939; linleyb@hotmail.com

## TOONGABBIE: ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH HALL

Aurelia Street. Close to rail station and bus stop for 705 and 711, both Blacktown-Toongabbie-Parramatta and return services. Some parking available.

### CANASTA AND MAH JONG ..... 172GS01 (WESTERN STYLE)

Learn canasta and mah jong (Western style). Practice, refresh and polish up your skills for both these social games with a friendly group.

## Each Monday from 3 July 1:00 - 3:30

(No session public holiday 2 Oct)  
Leader and bookings: Jon Hendrikse 0411 472 633  
jhendrikse39@hotmail.com

### GENTLE EXERCISE AND ..... 172GS02 DEEP RELAXATION\*\*(20)

This course aims to promote a depth of consciousness below the stressful surface. Discover the joy of deep relaxation and the health benefits of some very easy stretching. Please bring your own exercise mat and pillow.

## Each Tuesday from 11 July 1:00 - 3:00

Leader and bookings: Warwick Pitt 9727 8415  
warwickpitt@hotmail.com

### LINE DANCING ..... 172GS03

Come along as a beginner and learn line dancing or further your skills with this enjoyable, healthy activity to country or modern music.

## Each Wednesday from 5 July 1:00 - 3:00

Leader and bookings: Vicky Fitzgibbon 9622 5638  
0427 240 583 vickyfitzgibbon47@gmail.com

## PRIVATE HOMES

### DESK-TOP FLYING FOR ..... 172GH01 SENIORS (Carlingford)\*\*(12)

Any frustrated aviators can learn to fly/navigate/enjoy scenery from some of 22,000 airports around the world using a stable of 50 aircraft (Wright Brothers to a 747). Projected onto a 6' x 4' screen. No flying experience necessary. Venue close to Carlingford railway station and Parramatta/Epping bus route.

## Alt Tuesdays from 11 July 1:30 - 3:30

Leader and bookings: Keith Manwaring 9872 2907  
snrpilot18@gmail.com

### BRIDGE FOR ADVANCED PLAYERS ..... 172GH02 (North Parramatta)\*\*(8)

Bridge for advanced players in a non-competitive atmosphere.

## Alt Wednesdays from 12 July 10:00 - 12:00

Leader and bookings: Liz Sobolewski 9630 7592

### LET'S TALK ABOUT IT ..... 172GH03 (Merrylands West)\*\*(10)

Informal discussion about the activities and personalities of yesterday and today's prominent people, including royalty, outstanding contributors to the world scene and people in the news for whatever reason.

## Alt Wednesdays from 5 July 10:00 - 12:00

Leader and bookings: Bev Cockburn 9635 7802  
bevco4@bigpond.com (preferred)

### ANYONE FOR MURDER? ..... 172GH04 (Merrylands West)\*\*(10)

Participants will be offered a selection of DVDs and videos of murder mysteries featuring well-known fictional sleuths such as Frost, Morse, Colombo, Barnaby, Miss Marple, Hercule Poirot and Inspector Lynley. Episodes of *Endeavour*, *Lewis* and *Vera* may also be added to our adventures!

## Alt Wednesdays from 12 July 10:00 - 12:30

Leader and bookings: Bev Cockburn 9635 7802  
bevco4@bigpond.com (preferred)

### MUSIC AND SONG (Carlingford)\*\*(8) ..... 172GH05

Learn theory and terminology of music, voice production and breathing methods. Bring along a short life story of your most admired composer and sing your favourite song.

## Fourth Wednesday of each month from 26 July 1:00 - 3:00

Leader and bookings: Suzanne Su 9872 1230

### EXPLORING THE PAST ..... 172GH06 (Merrylands West)\*\*(10)

Video clips and discussion about various famous people and events of historic importance.

## Alt Thursdays from 6 July 10:00 - 12:00

Leader and bookings: Bev Cockburn 9635 7802  
bevco4@bigpond.com (preferred)

### MUSIC AND OTHER JOYFUL ..... 172GH07 NOISES (Oatlands)\*\*(10)

Class members are invited to bring their own choice of music (tapes, CDs) and perhaps talk about the reason for their choice, be it personal or about the composition or musician. Any kind of music is welcome, including musical jokes.

## Last Friday of each month from 28 July 10:00 - 12:00

Leader and bookings: June Kendrick 9638 1752