

Tanglin Lodge Alpaca Farm and a Touch of Tuscany Event.

By Bev Cockburn

On April 10, 45 U3A members and friends enjoyed a very pleasant outing with a visit to the Tanglin Lodge Alpaca Farm at Tennyson where we were invited to morning tea consisting of homemade scones, clotted cream and strawberry jam, tea or coffee. Our host, Cheryl, gave us a most informative and interesting talk about the alpacas themselves and the ups and downs of owning an alpaca farm or even an alpaca or two. We were able to pat a beautiful alpaca which was led between our tables and later view the many others outside in their enclosure. Photographs were taken and questions asked. A shop attached to the dining area sold the most luxurious alpaca clothing and accessories and several of our group came away with mysterious packages!

For lunch, we drove to Richmond to the Richmond Club which to our delight, we had to ourselves, not a soul in sight. It was a buffet style 'all you can eat' with really lovely food and a relaxing time to eat it.

On the way home, we called into the "Touch of Tuscany" part of our journey - The Tizzana Winery at Ebenezer – where, while comfortably seated, we were again given an excellent talk about the history of this winery and the truly talented man- Dr. Fiasci – who started it and his link to an important medical process. The speaker was eloquent and passionate; meanwhile, we were sampling selected wines from the latest vintages. Again, a few samples were acquired for home-consumption before we wended our way home having had a quick glimpse of Australia's oldest church at Ebenezer on the way.