



CITY & INNER WEST REGION NEWSLETTER MAY 2021

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

I am very happy to report that attendance at classes is increasing each week, and more memberships are being renewed. The second semester course book is near completion and most of our courses are back in business.

We are facing second semester with a great deal more confidence than first semester! I have had my first AstraZeneca jab with no side effects and will have the second in a few weeks. In the meantime, I am travelling on public transport (but still wearing a mask). I have bumped into U3A members at the movies, the Opera House and even at the Vaccination Clinic. It is good to see renewed confidence, balanced with a common sense approach to the virus.

Jennifer Waldron President City & Inner West Region

STOP PRESS!

COURSE BOOK SEMESTER 2 JULY - DECEMBER 2021

Preparation is already underway with an expectation that the books will be delivered by Australia Post on 18 June. Hardcopies will only be delivered to those who have elected to pay for a book. A pdf of the Course Book will be available on the website.

It is so good to see that lots of classes and events have returned, with many already meeting. Look out for some new courses and classes and the eight events organised by Beatrice Scheepers.

I would like to acknowledge and thank all the wonderful leaders who contribute their time, knowledge and energy for the U3A members. Without the leaders, there would be no U3A! Could you be a Leader? Could you give a one off or series of presentations? Do you have knowledge and skills to share? Do you know someone you could encourage to put their hand up? Can you spread the news and encourage people to join U3A? Let us all work hard to grow U3A so it continues to enrich our lives.

Anne Hall Regional Course Coordinator

MARKETPLACE, LEICHHARDT

Down the escalator and along this little corridor leads to the door to our Discussion Group which takes place fortnightly on Wednesdays at Leichhardt MARKETPLACE (Corner of Marion and Flood Streets). With parking (and shopping, if you like) right on site, and buses at the door, this new venue is extremely well positioned.

Due to Covid restrictions we are limited to 10 people in the room, almost the perfect number for a lively discussion on topics of interest to the group.

For more details contact Vivien Wolff 0419 630 678
vivw447@gmail.com.



NEWS FROM LEICHHARDT LIBRARY



Presenter, Trish Skehan and Convenor, Janice Millard standing with Jan Benson between them and the members attending the reopening session at Leichhardt Library. (9 April 2021)

On Friday 9 April, our sessions resumed at the Library after all those months of shutdown. A group of seventeen enjoyed their first face-to-face talk at this venue given by Trish Skehan on 'The Convict Bonnets Program'. It was a fascinating look into another aspect of the ongoing interest in the early history of New South Wales. This talk heralds a program of extremely interesting sessions running right through until the end of the year.

The second semester talks will appear in the formal program. April's program appeared in the last Newsletter and is on the website, but to lure you in for the months ahead, here is the rest of the program up until the end of June:

Fiji - an Insider's Perspective

23 and 30 Apr

Fiji in the 1800's: Tribal warfare, cannibalism, Cession, early Colonial era, arrival of the Indians. Forward 100 years to Independence, political adolescence, and national rebuilding.

Speaker: Andrew Drysdale

Nefertari: First Wife of Rameses the Great

7 May

Situated in the Valley of the Queens, Nefertari's spectacular tomb was discovered in 1904.

It contains vivid images of the queen's voyage to the netherworld.

Speaker: Glennise West



A Grain of Sand

14 May

We look at beach and desert sand and how it has transformed our world, including the hidden social and environmental costs of sand mining.

Speaker: Ian Thompson

Founding Fathers of USA: George Washington

21 May

General during the French and Indian war; leader of the American Continental Army (War of Independence) against the British; Washington was twice elected President of USA.

Speaker: James Murray



From Sheba to Petra along the Incense and Monsoon Routes

28 May, 4 Jun, 11 Jun

Less well known than the Silk Route, the Incense Route wound its way to the "rose red city" of Petra, then to Alexandria and Damascus.

Speaker: John Tidmarsh

The Huguenots: France and Australia

18 June

Two Huguenot descendants' stories, from quite different British backgrounds, who led productive lives in the NSW colony making important civic contributions to their host communities.

Speaker: Roger Jachau

The Physics of the Mind

25 June

What makes us alive and human? What are free will and consciousness? Where does ethics come from? Does physics illuminate these Big Questions?

Speaker: Ian Bryce



Meanwhile the **ZOOM** sessions continue online until the end of June, as shown below:
ZOOM TALKS : MAY 2021 10:30 - 12:30

7 May: LISTENING ACROSS CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

Presenter: Stephen Hill

Former UN Ambassador in Indonesia talks about his negotiations with West Papuan Freedom Fighters to release UN staff taken hostage, providing the historical background.

14 May: LIVING IN THE ANTHROPOCENE

Presenter: Kevin Murray

Why the environmental impact of humans is so profound that it warrants being labelled as a whole new geological era.

21 May: THE RED DEVIL - BUSHFIRES IN AUSTRALIA

Presenter: Richard Whittaker

Here we look at what causes bushfires in Australia and why parts of our country are amongst the most bushfire prone areas in the world. The pattern and speed of spread is looked at as well as the different formations we see in varying weather situations, including the special weather sequences we sometimes experience in coastal NSW. Finally, the disastrous bushfires of 2019/20 are reviewed as well as the likely effect of climate change on fire frequency and intensity.

28 May:

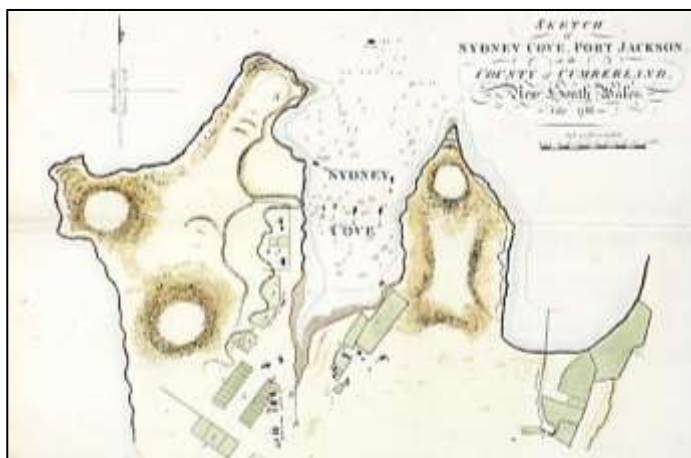
1. TIME AND TIME AGAIN: Determination of Longitude at Sea in the 17th Century

2. FROM THE FIRST FLEET TO THE HARBOUR BRIDGE: Sydney's astronomical beginnings

Presenter: Richard de Grijs

1. Determination of one's longitude at sea has perplexed sailors for many centuries. The significant uptake of world trade in the 17th and 18th centuries required an urgent solution. What did it take to travel the oceans and actually reach your destination? Did you know that John Harrison's 18th-century longitude clock was just the endpoint of a much longer journey of exceptional innovations? Modern cartography, maritime navigation and accurate timekeeping have their roots in the major upheavals facilitated by the Scientific Revolution.

2. The voyage of the First Fleet from Britain to "Botany Bay" was more than a convenient way to rid Britain of its convicts. Join us as historical detectives on the trail of William Dawes, astronomer, engineer, surveyor and ordnance officer - from his arrival in 1788 until the construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1932.



MUNCH ON BRUNCH in SURRY HILLS with Beatrice Scheepers



Beatrice Scheepers took her 'Munch on Brunch' group to a Surry Hills café for some delicious treats in an amazing steampunk ambience, complemented by excellent coffee and some very nice beer.

LOUD APPLAUSE IS NECESSARY!

Jacques Goldman, who has been a long-time leader and contributor to U3A has very sadly decided to retire!



Jacques has given his all over the last 25 years and provided much insight and leadership for his course "Pathways to the Gods". Not only did he run his course in C&IW but also in the Endeavour Region.

Many participants will have benefited from Jacques' depth of knowledge and he will be missed greatly.

We wish you good health, Jacques. All your great work is greatly appreciated.

Pauline Valentine.
Glebe Venue Coordinator