



TVU3A NEWSLETTER JUNE 2025

Are you 50 + and retired or semi retired?

Join TVU3A

LEARN! LAUGH! LIVE!

From my tiny office/sun room I look down onto the **Bass and Flinders Bowls Club** in Low Head where some of the classes on the East Tamar are held.



The first semester for the Tamar Valley U3A has been a fulfilling time with good class numbers, and 175 active members. Although the **first semester officially ends on 13th June**, some classes are ongoing and it is wise to check with your tutor. In the second semester we will be **offering a Poetry class every second Thursday at Tresca with Marilyn Arnold** with both appreciation and writing of poetry.

For those members who are new to TVU3A, the website tamarvalleyu3a.com.au is worth browsing through. Previous newsletters are just a click away on this site, as are course details. We are still looking for **tutors for new classes**; either long or short term. We really need someone to take over the role of **President** to give Jill Brasch-Reaney a break from the responsibility of holding down that role. Jill is **happy to mentor a new President**. We would also like to re establish **Talks, and need a Talks Coordinator**. Is anyone interested?

Mary Mace manages our Facebook Page, The details are later in the newsletter on her profile page. If you have anything you'd like to share on Facebook, Just drop her a line via email - mary.mace@yahoo.com.au - and she'll publish it for you.

A REMINDER!!

Remember to put a gold coin in the piggy. Not all venues are free. There is the ongoing cost of photocopying, insurance, heating etc, and the gold coin donation helps offset these expenses.



CLASSES

FRANCAIS



Around 10 of us gather on a Wed morning to converse in French under the guidance of a real Frenchman, Christian.

We're fortunate to have some talented recent additions to our group continually helping improve our fluency. The range of topics under discussion is diverse: the price of beef cattle, what's in the veggie garden, chopping wood for the winter fire, politics etc. Food and wine topics are guaranteed to come up every week. Here we are tasting a Roquefort with a taste of Christian's favourite liqueur, "Suze". The verdict "c'est tres bon".



Our very active Ukulele group, 'No Frets', playing at Cadorna House.

A NEW COURSE!

Poetry Writing and Appreciation

To be tutored by the well known poet, **Marilyn Arnold**, will be held fortnightly on **Thursday afternoons at Tresca**.

Marilyn Arnold, is a Tasmanian writer and poet who has published four books of poetry, and has been writing for over forty years. As the **inaugural president of the Tasmanian Branch of the Society of Women Writers**, she has long been associated with the Fellowship of Australian Writers, Tasmania, and runs the monthly open mic poetry readings in Launceston, "**Poetry Pedlars**," which now meets at the Sports Garden Hotel; the longest running poetry open mic in Australia.



Marilyn has **recently published two books of poetry**: "**Capture**" with Carol Easton, and "**Lies, Lovers and Other Constructions** - 80 poems by Marilyn Arnold".

The back of this latter book states:

"These are poems about the everyday: about childhood, relationships, motherhood, siblings, lovers (and their many lies), family, travel, dementia, the spiritual journey, place, conversations stolen from others. They are semi-autobiographical, but like any life under construction, there are always lies."

HISTORY

With Raimund Bruns

PHILOSOPHY



TVU3A Philosophy class 2025

These classes where Raimund both educates and entertains his pupils, are held at the Bass and Flinders Bowls Club at Low Head. Wednesday at 1.30pm for History, and Friday at 9.30am for Philosophy. At times he invites people (both real and imagined) from the past, such as his guests Sir Cecil Beachie, to these popular classes '**Through the Time Tunnel**'.

OUR VENUES

This beautiful property at **Exeter**, known as the **Tresca Community Centre**, is where numbers of the TVU3A classes are held. Tresca, built between 1909 and 1911 by Mrs Francis Reid and her son Eric was one of the first and largest homes to be built in the West Tamar. In 1958 it was a home for child migrants, most of whom arrived under the parent following scheme.



Bass and Flinders Bowls Club

This venue, where Rai Bruns tutors both History and Philosophy, was where the **Creative Writing and Illustration** course, which has now ended, was held.

The Bass and Flinders Bowls Club in Low Head, is situated on the banks of the beautiful Tamar River, and tutors have the challenge of keeping people in the classes focused as large container ships, and at times, small cruise ships and submarines sail past.



Just for a bit of fun I will share a few of the exercises from the creative Illustration and Writing course for readers to try their hand at creating a story from.

I would love to share any answers to this challenge in the next newsletter.

The 5 word story is always a favourite. Can you come up with one to share?

Here they come. Visitors! Hide!

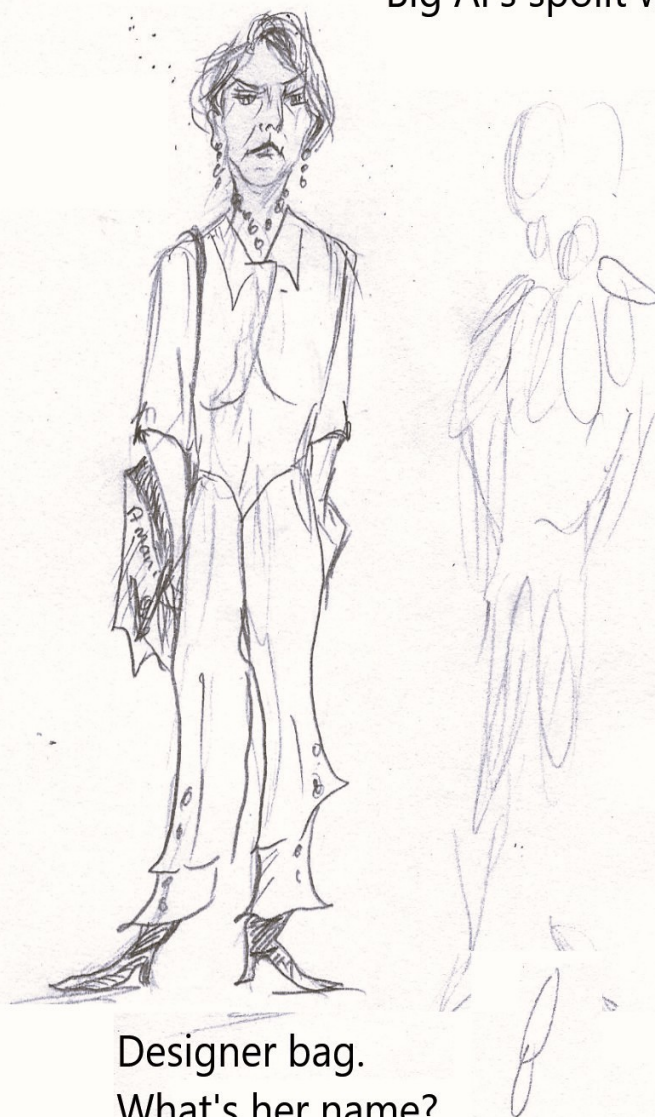
Using Donut shapes to create figures

Is this the opposite of Jack Sprat?

Big Al's spoilt wife



What is his name?
Who is his wife?
Is there a story?



Designer bag.
What's her name?
What is her story?

My favourite was from Fionna Teys who came up with: *Chubby Charlie and his clumsy retired Russian Ballerina wife, Sasha Slippenova*

AUTOCORRECT

Have you any to share?
'We had fun pruning the camellias in the garden.' was changed to

We had five prancing camels in the garden. !

More projects? The illustrated 50 word story, and creating a story from my illustrations. Can anyone create a story from these?

DRAGON PUPPIES FOR SALE



Moving house. At last!
Soak in the bath before the
art exhibition and a night
with friends.

No! My bag's gone from by
the door! My clothes?
Taken by my husband. Just
my undies, camisole.
Still went. A curtain, lace
cloth, bare feet, a rose.

‘Darling! Love the look!’

Artistes!

50 word story by Maggie



**What is happening here?
Is this the beginning of a story?**



These are some of our **TVU3A committee** members who meet at **The Beaconsfield Online Access Centre** every 2nd month. In addition to committee members there are others behind the scenes who keep our organisation running smoothly. One of these is **Mary Mace** who manages the **Facebook** page.

WHO ARE WE?

MARY MACE

Can anyone recognise me? Here I am outside my home as a young, shy girl in a place called Cirencester in the Cotswolds, UK. where I was born.



My first job was in a Bank. Eventually I became a Senior Manager's Secretary. The computer covered the entire wall of a large room, and all it did was sort cheques! Later, I found my dream job quite by accident. I took voluntary redundancy, then worked for Intel Corporation which took me all over the world.

When I met Steve we both had the travel bug. We came to Australia, initially to Perth WA, but soon realised we weren't cut out for living in the intense heat. I kept looking at Tasmania on-line and the travel bug hit again. We came to Tasmania for a holiday and saw a house for sale that we loved, and here we are! The best decision we ever made. Such a wonderful place.

After moving here, I went to the Beaconsfield Online Centre, met Frances Galloway and discovered U3A. I joined the art class and ukulele and Steve joined the photographic group that was running at the time. I now run the U3A Facebook page. Facebook keeps me up to date with my family in the UK and friends all over the world, and when I saw there was nothing from the U3A on Facebook, I volunteered to take on the challenge.

If you ever have something you want people to know about, especially other U3Aers, please send it on to me. If a photograph with people is included, make sure you have their permission for it to be published. The Ukulele Group often plays at venues so it is good to let everyone know how it went - maybe your Group has something interesting to share? Some lovely art, or an event you'd like other U3A people to attend? Just drop me a line via email - mary.mace@yahoo.com.au - I'll publish it for you.

Mary Mace

Snippets



This Month's Word

Opacarophile : A lover of sunsets



Opacarophile : A lover of sunsets

Raimund Bruns Photo. The Tamar River Low Head



My Bloodlines

I find my strength from those who came before me,
I know my ancestors are walking with me.

I hear their songs as their voices call to me,
I am empowered and inspired by them.
They are in my bones, and part of my blood.

They are me, as much as I am them,
It is our bloodline that will continue down the ages.

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Poem in response to "*Launceston Dreaming*" artwork by Maggie Fletcher

I look forward to artwork, poems, short short stories and photos taken in class being sent to me to share with our members in the August newsletter.

Send them to me at ruthieduck@gmail.com by the 15th of the month prior to the publication of our newsletter i.e. August, October and December.



As winter makes itself felt, keep warm and enjoy nature's splendour.

“Frosted Webs” by Maggie Matson-Fletcher

In addition to our own TVU3A there is now the first online U3A
<https://u3aonline.org.au>



This is the world's-first virtual University of the Third Age delivering online learning via the Internet. All that's needed to study online is access to a computer, tablet or other device with an Internet connection - and some basic computing skills to access 70+ study courses.

U3A Online is an individual, independent and autonomous University of the Third Age. U3A Online offers useful resources for older people, especially those who are geographically, physically or socially isolated. **Membership is \$35 per year** from the date of joining and membership includes access to all independent study courses.

The annual **membership for TVU3A for 2025** is set at \$20 p.a. but **enrolments made after 30 June will be a very reasonable \$10.**

Payments to be made by Electronic Funds Transfer:BSB 067-022 a/c 1008 8174

Payment to be identified by your name, or directly to your class tutor.

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