



NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2025

Are you 50 + and retired or semi retired?

Join TVU3A LEARN! LAUGH! LIVE!



As Spring blossoms with clear blue skies, yellow wattles and daffodils, I feel we are a Spring organisation with our logo reflecting these colours.

On Monday the 1st September a well attended AGM at the West Tamar Council Chambers led to the election of new officers with a number of new committee members.

The Executive committee members for the coming year are: Vivien Tyson – President.

Jill Brasch-Reaney – Vice-President. Marianne Reardon – Secretary. Martin Price – Treasurer.

General Committee members: Jillian Buck. Maggie Fletcher. Phillip Grant. Bob Jenks.

John Latchford. Frances Mamo . Irene Oram.

We wish to thank Jill Brasch-Reaney sincerely for the superlative job she did for us as acting President. *Thank you Jill!*



At present we have 175 members, 5 more than we had in 2015. I feel this is very positive with members in their 3rd age leaving the area to be close to family, into aged care and sadly, leaving this mortal coil. It is a very stable number from such a small area. We really *have* become a community, a family of friends, and we welcome new and younger members.

This year we made the decision to move to a computer programme designed for groups like ours called **Member Wizard**. Our records are now saved electronically and we moved to a mobile phone **0411 150 378** rather than a landline which means our calls can be dealt with anywhere, rather than the need for a personal presence at the Beaconsfield Online Centre.

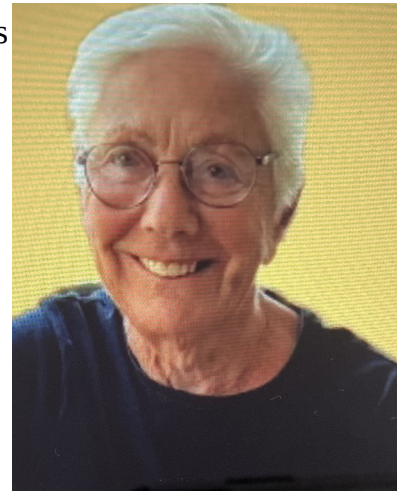
Martin Price and Viv Tyson will still be available if personal visits are needed.

TALKS FACILITATOR: The position of Talks Facilitator has been filled by Jillian Buck

WHO ARE WE?

JILLIAN BUCK - Our Talks Co-ordinator

I am the daughter of a farming family from Ulverstone - a great childhood. After finishing school I studied in Melbourne and became a kindergarten teacher.



I taught for three years then travelled overseas with two friends – many hitchhiking adventures across Europe, and we made a home in London. I taught at a private school for Jewish boys and the families persuaded me to go to Israel and work on a kibbutz. Israel was a very different country in the late 1960's. As I was a farmer's daughter, I drove tractors while others weeded cotton and worked in the kitchen.

I also spent a year in South Africa working at a school for deaf children in Durban. Although I loved the work, I couldn't cope with the apartheid regime and came home to my family.

After my parents' deaths, I made their beautiful home called 'Westella', into an art gallery. With two little boys, this all became too hard, and we moved to Launceston where I was principal of a school for young children with special needs in Kings Meadows.

Retirement is great. I live at Beauty Point by the Tamar River where I garden and read books. I have a street library, am involved with the church and the Garden Club. I'm on the TVU3A committee, and of course, I love the U3A History class held at Low Head.

Jillian Buck



TVU3A TALK

-All Welcome! Free! Bring a friend.

At The Hub Exeter at 1pm Nov. 11

A Peek at Experiencing a Camino Le Puy Chemin in France

This talk to be presented by Kay Bailey at The Hub in Exeter at 1pm on November 11, will be about her experience of 35 days of walking earlier this year, 26 April to 30 May, from Le Puy-en-Velay to St Jean Pied de Port.

Kay will talk to us about her experiences on the trail itself, the signage, the landscape traversed, spring flowers, fauna, accommodation and food.



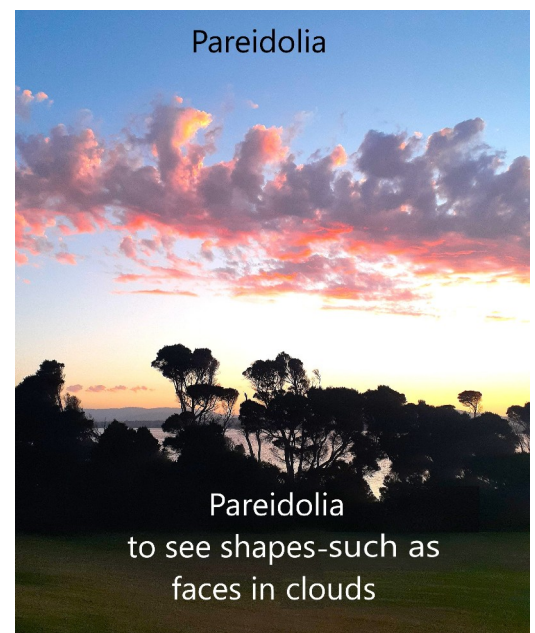
Kay at the finish
in St Jean Pied de Port.

WORD FUN

CODDIWOMPLE: To travel
purposefully toward an as yet
unknown destination



I have coddiwompled
through life with
drive and purpose.
I'm sure I'll find out
where I'm going
when I get there.



What can you see
in the clouds?

TAMAR VALLEY PHOTOS BY OUR MEMBERS



Photos by long time TVU3A member Jennie Timmins



Jennie Timmins and Sue Doherty also have a fabulous 2026 calendar for sale at the George Town Art and Artisan's Guild shop at 3/83 Macquarie St, George Town. Many of the volunteers at this collective are also active members of our U3A.

A 5 word neologism by a Tresca Writer:

New Me!

Newd Swim!

Newmonia!

TRESCA CREATIVE WRITERS



THE VERY BEST OF US

- JEN** *The very best of me comes out on Tuesdays with my 'Writing for Fun' Friends, a place to 'listen'. We are all very different, we are a rich tapestry of colours and threads weaving in and out sharing what we need to share!*
- CAROLINE (CARO)** *With her twinkling eyes, has an enthusiasm for life, her stories have us travelling with her, the 'love' for Tuscany shines through. Caro's motto is never give up!!! All the colours under the Tuscan sun.*
- GRANNY JEN** *Brings us words that connect us to her life and, in doing so, we are privileged to hear parts of her diary, her life as it unfolds. The colour of warm claret flows.*
- SUE** *Has a determination to walk through the door and down the hall and share! She writes of love and loss and sometimes lust! Pink and Blue are her threads.*
- GAYLENE** *Our poet brings us joy and at Christmas she brings us cheer by setting our table in red and green threads every year. On Tuesdays, with her wonderful wit amongst her friends, she is a big hit!*
- DEB** *Our new kid on the block has an infectious laugh and that makes us all smile, her family stories bring the warmth of a golden sun and give us all a trip down memory lane.*
- PAT** *Writes about the present and the past, about an unroadworthy bike, no helmet, no water, a long long ride up hill, and a free-wheeling fast ride down hill and home. She brings with her the warm colours of the Autumn maple leaf.*
- MOIRA** *Fills our room with life's story after story of days gone by, of mend and make-do, of her endless endurance, of snakes and spiders, and her joy! Running through her stories there is a thread of pure gold.*



Someone will arrive bringing their imaginary threads and colours weaving their stories in and around our own

**WRITING FOR FUN
10 YEARS
STRONG**



THE SPRING BASKET LUNCH



The Spring Basket Lunch held at The Sidmouth Hall and organised by Caroline Richards was an event designed to showcase the talents of seniors in our valley.



Every table looked a picture with flowers done by Deb and Caro. People dropped off spring flowers, blossoms and greenery and the Sidmouth Hall looked like a Spring Wedding Reception.



The luncheon was attended by about 50 people who were entertained by **The Tamar Valley Voices** whom it was said 'sang with gusto'!



Derrick and Pat Dodson puppy trainers for Guide Dogs Australia with their puppy Yarra



Retired pilot Daiki Ishikawa with Mayu the trainee Akita being trained for the ADF



Winner of one of the door prizes with a voucher from Rivergrass Cafe in Gravelly Beach



Jenny wins a prize



Marlena from the French class



Colleen. New Mahjong player wins a prize.

Thanks to all those who volunteered to make this event a success. Thanks to Deb Hickman for the photos and for being such a major helper in setting up the venue and creating floral arrangements, and to the team from Hillwood. Thank you!

TWILIGHT YEARS HUMOUR

Twilight -Years' fun created by U3A members with Maggie's illustrations



Mr Greens, Sunday it seems
Your Merc was used to poop on.
Your blood did boil, As cocky 'soil'
Splashed down with gay abandon.

Fear not! You're safer on this isle
Where birdies fly alone.
In fact, thank your lucky stars
Shags don't call Exeter home.

A Tresca writer



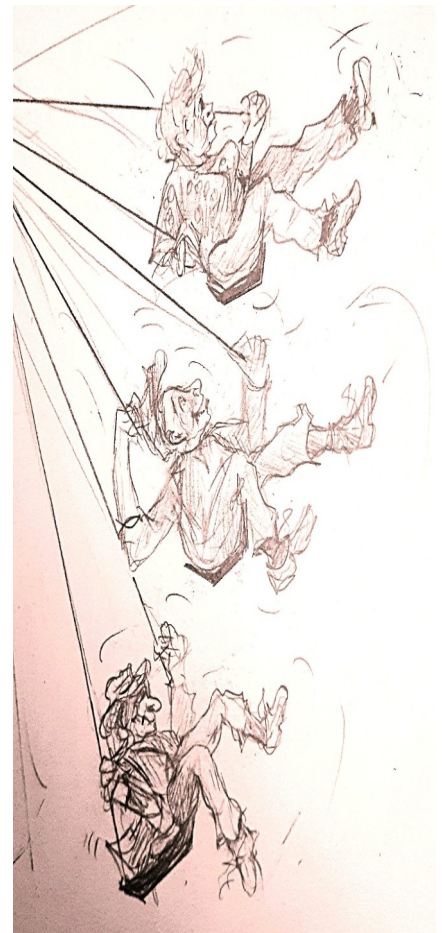
Like vampires they
play in the dark.
Crones, codgers, old farts
in the park.
They see-saw and swing
kick over the bin
As an Alzheimers induced
protest lark

Moirra



The park in our town's
used by old folk
Who picnic with
crackers and coke.
They sneak in at night
to play by torchlight
To make sure they don't
get sunstroke.

Maggie



NEW COURSES:

POETRY WRITING AT TRESCA



ON MY WAY HOME

I must be relaxed after my Bali stay.
Sitting over my coffee at the airport
I find myself watching the clouds at play.
Catching pink rays from the dawning sun,
such sport.
Then there are shapes in the clouds.
The Aboriginal Elder.
Is that you Arrawinya?
And piglet is jumping and laughing aloud.
I think that is a pterodactyls chasing dinner.
As my holiday ends with this smile on my face,
I feel blessed to have spent some time
in this place.
Terimakahsi Bali.

Ngarah Rai Airport Bali

Irene Gough

The poetry session held at Tresca every second Thursday at 1pm is more of an informal workshop than a 'class', where we share, encourage and learn from each other and discuss some of the elements like rhyme, language, observation and imagery. Although we don't set homework with U3A, members are encouraged to write poetry at home to share with the group.

The time goes very quickly, and we have had to be *encouraged* by Tresca staff to leave on time! These poetry workshops are for both beginners and established poets; for participants who want to write for therapy or for those who want to improve their writing. They take place every fortnight. If you love poetry, think about joining us! In one of our sessions we wrote Haiku and Senryu that we will share, and discussed the various forms that Japanese poetry takes. Marilyn Arnold. 0417145537



Senru

A poem is more
provocative than kisses
and more treacherous

A hand stitched cushion

Needle threaded with crimson
Blood stained night skies.

Daffodil bulbs bloom

Snowdrops, bluebells seem to preen
Weeds uninvited!

CLASSICAL MUSIC APRECIATION:

We are privileged to have a Classical Music Appreciation short course with world renowned conductor, music education consultant and trombonist, Mr. Monte Mumford held at the Windsor Precinct, Area 2. This course filled very quickly, but members are always encouraged to put their names on the Wizard waiting lists.



We currently have 17 courses on offer. Others were scheduled but were cancelled due to lack of support, To find a new tutor is difficult and then to have to cancel – such a pity.



UKE YAK

Not only does U3A present us with interests to fill our brains and hearts with new experiences and friendships, but the classes can sometimes be a springboard to pursue chosen subjects in depth. **Bob Jenks** enthusiastically leads an ever-growing band of Tamar Valley ukulele players and generously passes on details of other opportunities when they arise.

Recently, two players, **Lisa and Libby** signed on for one of these, a weekend workshop organised by **Jackie Barnes** with talented instructor **Sally Carter** which they both described as fantastic. The cost was \$210 and included all sheet music resources in a lovely binder book, and morning and afternoon tea with the main focus on learning new chords and chord progressions. Also there was a focus on TAB and learning 3 to 4 different parts that can be combined into ensemble. All 13 songs were arranged by Sally. There were sessions on performance with focus on “counting in” and how to find your starting note when singing. She also gave tips on how to use a plectrum, playing the same chords in different shapes up and down the fret-board, and how to easily transpose any song into another key.



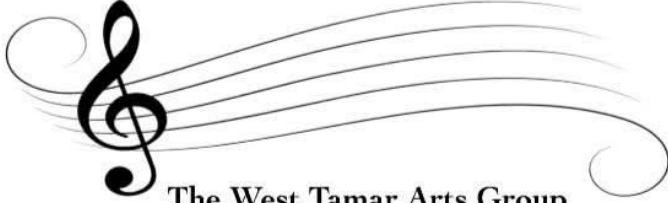
The Sally Carter weekend ukulele workshop with Libby and Lisa

These spin-off events must happen for other subjects too.

Just how many doors do our dedicated course leaders open when they make the commitment to pass on their skills? A BIG THANKS to you all for the positive difference you make for so many of us.

By: A member of TVU3A Ukuleles. Meet at the Deviot Hall, Thursdays 1- 3pm

LOCAL EVENTS



The West Tamar Arts Group
is pleased to announce

MUSIC in the CHURCHES

featuring
The West Tamar Band
and
Carl Cooper Tenor
at the
VALLEY CHURCH
2485 West Tamar Highway
Exeter
on Saturday 11th October
at 2pm
Cost \$10
Enquiries Frances Grabam
0438634330



FREE CPR Training

by First Aid Pro

10am
Beaconsfield
4pm
Clarence Point
(2 HOURS)

**WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 22**

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN:

- How to perform CPR and use an AED defibrillator
- Full FACE to FACE Training and assessment with NO ONLINE

WHY ATTEND?

- Certified instructors with hands-on training
- Earn a certificate of completion
- Essential skills for everyone – no prior experience needed!

Limited spots available! Don't miss out, secure your spot today

Call Beaconsfield House
(03) 6383 1110




**MELAYTHENNER
TEEACKANA
WARRANA**
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



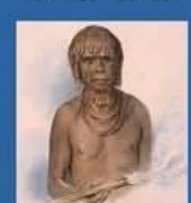
MANNALARGENNA DAY FESTIVAL 2025

Join us for a beautiful cultural experience and celebration on Tebrakunna Country,
Cape Portland, Northeast Tasmania

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6, 2025
9AM-5PM

CULTURAL DEMONSTRATIONS

CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES CULTURAL FOOD
TASTER PLATES TREENONER DANCE MOB
TEBRAKUNNA RANGERS WALKING TOURS
SILENT AUCTION ART EXHIBITION & SALES
YARNING CIRCLE EDUCATIONAL FORUM



MEMORIAL EVENT
'Bringing Him Home'
for Timme
showcasing a sculptural
representation of
a bark canoe and smoking ceremony



You're welcome to bring a picnic lunch, there will be a coffee van onsite. This is family friendly, alcohol and drug free event.

GOLD COIN DONATION ON ENTRY

E: admin@mtwac.org.au

EVENTS FOR 2026:

There will be a **TVU3A Barbeque** early in the year. Possibly the first week in February, further information will be published in the December Newsletter. There are also 2 more talks in the pipeline for 2026. You will be advised once these have been finalised.

[Tamar Valley Folk Festival](https://tamarvalleyfolkfestival.com) Tamar Valley Folk Festival
<https://tamarvalleyfolkfestival.com>

SAVE THE DATE **JANUARY 16-17-18 2026** Early Bird Tickets Coming Soon.
TAMAR VALLEY FOLK FESTIVAL PRESENTED BY GEORGE TOWN FOLK CLUB INC.



Every year No Frets, our TVU3A Ukulele group has performed at this festival.

As we are a non profit making organisation, the annual **membership for TVU3A for 2026** is set at \$20 p.a.

Payments tpp 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.

Don't forget to put your gold coin donation into 'piggy' This helps pay for additional costs such as venue hire photocopies, promotional posters etc.



Like many of us, I find as my physical ability declines with age, I focus on my creativity, and there are not enough hours in the day. I call this **Getting older without getting old**. I wish to give a special thanks to the members of our classes who share their creativity with me to enable me to create this newsletter. You make it all worthwhile!



Maggie Fletcher – Editor
ruthieduck@gmail.com Mob: 0426 203 475

THANK YOU!