

## From the Committee

At the AGM on Thursday 29 September 2022, the decision was made to allow members to attend U3A activities whether they are vaccinated or unvaccinated against Covid 19.

### New activities

We are pleased to announce three new activities are being offered, as well as an extension to the popular Ballroom dancing group.

The first new activity is a short course **Mandala Drawing**.



This four-week course introduces the meaning, function and practice of colouring in Mandala designs then progresses to designing your own personal Mandala.

This course is suitable for all levels. It will be relaxed, meditative, interactive, fun and simple.

The course will be held on 11, 18, 25 October and 8 November. The venue is the Creswick Scout Hall between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm. There is a limit of 12 participants.

Another new course being offered is **How to Talk to your Grandkids**.

This is a course which will start as a short course but could easily become an ongoing one. The tutor, Annie, has extensive experience in remedial and special education.

The topics to be covered will include “How children learn,” including those with ADHD and on the

autism spectrum. Our grandkids are growing up in an entirely different world. The influences on them, the technology available and the information they can access are unbelievable.



This will be an interactive group with open discussion encouraged. In her talk at the AGM Annie covered some very interesting topics including the reading age our daily newspapers are catering for which surprised many of us.

Rarely do we get an opportunity to engage with someone so highly qualified in this area and get an insight into the education system.

Registrations are being taken now. The time and venue will be decided when we have numbers.

The movie group is being reactivated under the title **Jaffas and Matinees**.

At its most basic, a movie is a story, a recording of actors saying lines from a script in a setting that takes the viewer to a different location in time or space. The finished film is knitted together by a director and team choosing lighting, music, pace and camera angles to excite anticipation and emotions in the viewer, to encourage them to stay to the end.

During the course we will watch some movies that display the techniques of movie making.

Mostly, we will watch movies because it’s fun and we all like stories.

The movies we will be watching include classics, historic, sentimental favourites and some so bad they have become cult classics.

The classes will be in the Creswick Neighbourhood House, 12.30 to 3.00pm to allow for discussion about the movies. Participation is limited to 18. There will be HEPA filter running but we ask that you please mask K2, N95 during the showing.

The first session will be on Friday, October 14 and the film is *Singin' in the Rain*.



Andrew and Elizabeth have also introduced a new **Monday Dancing Class** from 17 October to 12 December. The venue is Creswick Neighbourhood Centre. Sessions are:

- 11.30 am to 1.00pm Beginners
- 1.15pm to 2.45 pm Improvers
- 2.45 pm to 3.45 pm Advanced

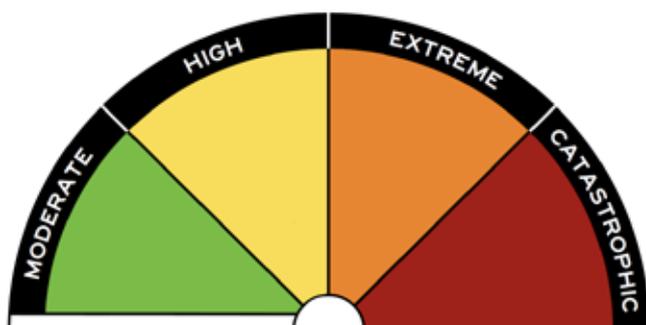
## New Fire Danger Ratings

At the AGM correspondence was tabled from the Country Fire Authority regarding the new fire warning system.

At the meeting the committee's position was outlined which is on a day of catastrophic fire danger all U3A activities are automatically cancelled.

When any other fire danger rating is in force it is in the hands of the tutor and yourselves.

Obviously, being in a very high fire danger area, we need to be aware of the danger and ready to respond to changing conditions.



These new fire danger ratings are universal across the whole of Australia which is a step forward in identifying risk no matter where you are.

## Committee positions

Elections were held at the AGM and the committee saw the addition of three new members. We welcome them and thank them for volunteering to assist our in ongoing success.

Those elected were:

- President – Doug McCallum
- Vice President – John Bunn
- Secretary – Bill Morrison
- Treasurer – John Pigott
- Ordinary Members – Elaine Clark, Kevan Pitcher, Andrew O'Connell, Elizabeth Howard, Colleen Dooley, Meg Ford, Adele Morrison and Anne Chamberlain.

The U3A September Committee meeting was held after the AGM.

President Doug appointed Anne Chamberlain as Assistant Secretary, Elizabeth Howard as the Liaison between our neighbouring U3As, and Meg Ford as Minutes Secretary.



## Christmas Breakup

Don't forget our Christmas breakup on Saturday, 10 December at the Neighbourhood Centre.

Members wishing to attend must register for catering numbers. You will be notified when payment is required.

Closing date for RSVPs is 1 November. If we must cancel, then we would like to give fair notice to the caterer to allow them to fill the spot.

<b>MODERATE</b> Plan and prepare	<b>HIGH</b> Be ready to act
<b>EXTREME</b> Take action now to protect life and property	<b>CATASTROPHIC</b> For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

## Stanley William Davis 1920 – 2001

Stan Davis was born in Ballarat to Herbert Arthur Davis and his wife Grace. One of five children, his siblings were Alf, Ray, Ian and Marianne.

The family was brought up on a farm at Western Creek, near Cape Clear, and later moved to Buninyong where his father started a bus company to replace the passenger rail to Ballarat.

It was here that young Stan got his introduction to Scouting, a lone patrol that they called Ebeneza. He also attended the first scout jamboree, an event attended by Lord Baden Powell, the founder of the scouting movement.

Stan completed his schooling at the Central Technical School and obtained an apprenticeship with the Victorian Railways as a blacksmith at Spotswood workshops. He was trained also in metallurgy and heat treatment and recalled making parts for “Heavy Harry”, the 260-tonne steam train built in 1941.

He met Mary Murray, his future wife, while learning to dance in Melbourne in 1937. They married in 1942 and went on to raise four children, Beverly, Alan, Graeme and Ian. He and the family lived in Melbourne until his father asked Stan and his brothers to join the bus company after WW2 and in 1950 they bought the Creswick to Ballarat bus line. Thereafter, Stan and his family lived in Castlemaine Road, Creswick.

In the same year following a conversation with the Rev. Ray Huxtable of the Methodist Church, in which they discussed the needs of Creswick youth, they called a public meeting, at which it was unanimously agreed to reform the 1st Creswick Scout Group. By the first annual meeting in 1951 there were fifty-one boys in the group.

In the beginning the cubs and scouts met in the Methodist Church Hall and then Mr Wally Sudweeks offered the use of the rear of his drapery shop, behind the present laundromat. It had a dirt

floor, no electricity and the walls needed lining. Money had to be raised to buy land, build a hall and equipment for the cubs and scouts to use. A big task for a little town.

Dances were held in the North Creswick Recreation Hut with the music provided by Stan on guitar and mouth organ, and Gil Taylor on the piano accordion. They organised Debutante Balls and played at other functions with all money going to the scout’s fund. An annual Scout carnival was started at Park Lake, with numerous stalls, sideshows and fun rides. The scout group even had its own merry-go-round. Stan was chief organiser for this event and all year

between carnivals he made wooden toys to be sold.

The land was bought and a hall was built – mostly by volunteer labour. Stan was the foundation chairman, and as time went on he became Group Scout Master, and in 1963 was made District Commissioner of Ballarat.

When Ballarat was elevated to area status, Stan was appointed Area Commissioner, and held that position until 1975 when he retired.

Stan and Mary’s daughter and three sons all gave valuable service as leaders at 1st Creswick.

As well as scouting, Stan attended the Methodist Church, where he became superintendent of the Sunday School, and after the formation of the Uniting Church, he became an elder and lay preacher.

He was Master of the Havilah Lodge in 1971.

In his retirement, Stan continued to make hundreds of wooden toys that were donated to many charities.

In Stan’s memoirs he said, “... no matter what you do in the community, you can’t do it on your own. You are always part of a group, working to the same end”.

Stan passed away in 2002 in Creswick.

