



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Committee

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

2023 Enrolment and Renewal Meeting

Thursday, 12 January 2023, 11.00am – 12.30pm at the RSL Hall

All fees are due 1 January 2023. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or credit card.

Join us for a sausage sizzle between 11.30 and 12.00 noon. Meet up with other members and friends for a chat.

New classes will be starting in February adding even more variety to our extensive offering. See inside for details.

Interested in Pickleball?

Expressions of interest are being sought for **Pickleball**. This sport for life is regularly described as the fastest growing sport worldwide.

Pickleball is a paddle sport you can learn in minutes and play for a lifetime. It brings together elements of tennis, badminton and table tennis to create a sport that’s fun for all ages and skill levels.

- Pickleball is played indoors or outdoors as long as it is a hard surface to ensure the ball can bounce, as both doubles and singles, using a solid

bat to hit a “whiffle” ball over a net (three inches lower than a tennis net).

- The game is a low impact activity, so it’s easier on the body.
- The serve is a simple underarm hit over the net.
- The venue would be the Mount Prospect Tennis courts.
- Gameplay focuses on reflexes, reactions, and smart positioning of the ball, rather than overpowering the opposition with smashes, powerful serves.



IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ AND KEEP FOR REFERENCE

CRESWICK & DISTRICT U3A INC

Creswick & District U3A do not have an office at this time. Committee Members and Tutors are happy to receive your enquiries or contact can be made by any of the following:

- Mobile phone: 0490 444 519
- Email: info@creswicku3a.com
- Website: www.creswicku3a.com
- Post: PO Box 434, Creswick, 3363.

Membership Fees

- \$ 5.00 Administration Fee (once only) is paid by all NEW members.
- \$25.00 Annual Membership Fee is for the period 1 January to 31 December yearly.
- \$15.00 Half year – from 1 June to 31 December – plus \$5.00 for NEW members.
- \$15.00 Associate Member – being a current full member of another U3A, please advise.

A General Meeting is held in January each year for renewal of membership fees. Our membership system is active from 1 January for renewal online (access via the website). Monies can be direct debited to the U3A Creswick bank account, BSB 633000 Account Number 137 271 003. Fees will also be accepted by post or handed directly to a Committee Member if necessary.

Creswick & District U3A Committee Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month, commencing 2:00pm at the Old Railway Station. Members are most welcome to attend but please advise the Secretary prior to the meeting.

Name Tags should be worn at all U3A activities. Please complete your emergency medical details on the back of your name tag. If you require a new Name Tag please phone the number above.

Newsletters are provided by email bi-monthly. Previous newsletters can be viewed on the website. If you have no email, these will be posted to you unless advised otherwise. If you would like to contribute an item to the newsletter please email to the address above. All contributions are welcome.

Committee Members are as follows:

President:	Doug McCallum
Vice-President:	John Bunn
Secretary:	Anne Chamberlain
Treasurer:	John Pigott
Member:	Bill Morrison
Member:	Adele Morrison
Member:	Elaine Clark
Member:	Colleen Dooley
Member:	Meg Ford
Member:	Kevan Pitcher
Member:	Andrew O’Connell
Member:	Elizabeth Howard

January 2023 Social Dances

Venue	Creswick Neighbourhood Centre, 19-21 Victoria Street, Creswick
Mondays	9, 16 and 23 January 2023 from 11.00am to 2.00pm (3 hours)
Entry	Gold coin donation

Fun social dancing with prizes and games. Open to the public as well as our members so new dancers can find out who we are, how we teach and meet our current members. Having a dance partner is not a requirement.



Mandalas created by, left to right, Marion, Nora, Shirley and Colleen, under Chris Dobson's excellent tutelage.



Smiling

A poem by the late Spike Milligan

Smiling is infectious,
you catch it like the flu.
When someone smiled at me today,
I started smiling too.

I walked around the corner
and someone saw me grin.
When he smiled I realised
I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about the smile,
And realised it's worth.
A single smile, just like mine
could travel round the earth.

So, if you feel a smile begin,
don't leave it undetected.
Start an epidemic
and get the world infected.



Christmas funnies

Who is Santa's favourite singer?

Elf-is Presley

How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizzas?

Deep pan, crisp and even.

Why has Santa been banned from sooty chimneys?

Carbon footprints.

Why does Donald Trump have his Christmas dinner on a plastic plate?

He doesn't get on with China.

Why didn't Santa replace Comet and Cupid when they left to become Uber drivers?

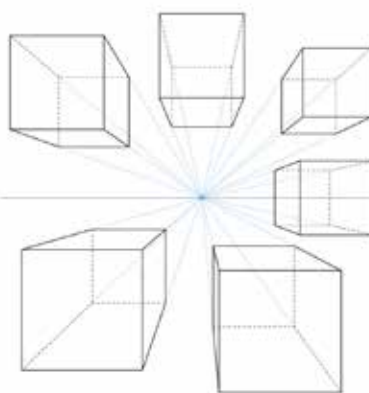
It was just 2 deer.

How does Darth Vader like his Christmas turkey?

On the dark side.

New Classes being offered in 2023

Perspective Point 1 & 2



Chris Dobson is offering a follow-on from her very successful Mandela Drawing classes held earlier this year.

Perspective drawing is a technique that gives the illusion of spatial depth, or perspective, to

drawings and paintings. Perspective drawing, like foreshortening, gives the illusion of depth and makes work pop off of the page by using angled lines to suggest vertical lines and horizontal lines. Suitable for beginners to intermediate level.

The classes will be held in the Scout Hall from 10am to 12pm commencing on Tuesday 7 February for six weeks.

How to Interpret Your Dreams

A 5-week short course presented by Russell Bowey.

Everyone has dreams, but their meaning is often a mystery. Russell has been studying dreams and presenting courses on their interpretation for over 40 years. Topics will include enhancing dream recall, repetitive dreams, precognitive dreams, puns (plays on words), and common symbols represented by animals, cars and houses.

After completion of the five weeks there will be a one week break and then continue with...



Introduction to Astrology and Numerology

A 5-week short course presented by Russell Bowey.

If you wish to have a better understanding of yourself (and others), the life patterns found in the positions of the sun, moon and planets at your birth, and the numbers found in your name and date of birth, can give profound insights into

your behavioural and vocational tendencies. An astrological birth chart will be prepared for each participant.

These classes will be held in the Lab Room at the Neighbourhood Centre commencing Tuesday 7 February 1.30pm to 3pm.

How to Listen to and Speak with your Grandchildren

Annie Moloney who has extensive experience in remedial and special education will present this very interesting topic over a period of four weeks.



The sessions will be held at the Old Railway Station commencing Thursday 2 February from 11.00am to 12.30pm.

This will be an interactive group with open discussion encouraged. The topics to be covered will include “How children learn,” including those with ADHD and on the autism spectrum.

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

U3A MEMBERSHIP POLICY

When a member pays the required membership subscriptions they become a member of Creswick & District U3A and must follow the Terms and Conditions of membership. Listed below are some of these conditions. The complete list of conditions and Policies is available on the [website](#).

1. Always act in the best interests of the U3A and never do anything to bring the U3A into disrepute.
2. Abide by the terms and conditions of the constitution.
3. Treat fellow members with respect and courtesy at all times.
4. Comply with and support the decisions of the elected Committee.

Rummikub

To play the game, try to find three tiles of the same number in different colours on your rack. All three tiles must be



the same number but different colours. You can also find runs of three in the same colour - a run is three consecutive numbers in a row like 5, 6, 7. Rummikub can be played by two players but is more interesting with four.

As the board changes, players constantly adjust their tiles until every tile on their rack is gone. Rummikub may help sharpen your sequencing, pattern recognition, and planning skills.

This activity will commence on Tuesday 7 February in the Library at the Neighbourhood Centre at 1pm till 3.00pm. Anne Chamberlain will be the tutor.

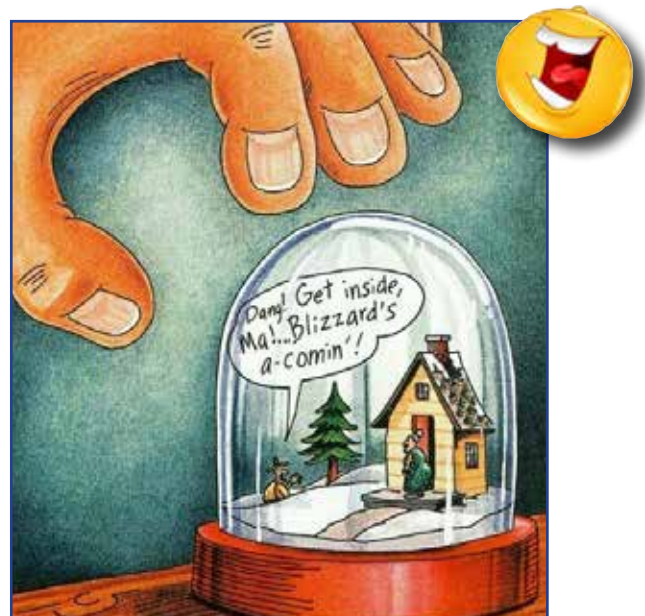
May I

May I is a thinking card game which keeps you on your toes! 10 hands; each one different making up runs and sets.



Each player has three tokens to spend enabling the player to “buy” a card out of turn. The game is best played with at least four players and can run up to two hours. It’s a lot of fun! Come and give it a go.

Sessions will commence on Thursday 2 February in the Library at the Neighbourhood Centre at 1.00pm till 3.00pm. Anne Chamberlain will be the tutor.



Eatons Dam, Creswick Forest



A well-preserved example of mining dam and race is Eatons Dam, built around 1862 on Creswick Creek.

The site was leased by the American brothers Benjamin and Charles Eaton, who applied their skills gained in water management on the Turon goldfield in New South Wales by building a two-mile (3.2 km) race to supply alluvial miners downstream. Spring floods washed the dam wall away in October 1863, but it was soon rebuilt and its capacity doubled to 15 million gallons (68 ML) (Dicker 1864:180).

The Eatons constructed the wall with large stone slabs and an internal rubble core, with a sloping clay revetment on the upstream side. The narrow top was secured with a frame of heavy timbers (Ballarat Star 2 July 1862:4). Rock-cut spillways on each end of the wall supplied water from the dam along both sides of the creek.

The dam remains largely intact today, suggesting that the brothers learned how damaging seasonal

water flows could be and adapted their water engineering to cope with local conditions.

In the same area, the Humbug Hill Sluicing Company began to develop a complex network of races and dams to their claims at Humbug Hill, southeast of Creswick, in the late 1850s.

The company's Irish-American manager, John Boadle Bragg, arranged for the construction of a dam on Adekate Creek of 20 million gallons (90 ML) capacity, with a race extending 10 km to Humbug Hill. One large and two small auxiliary dams were built at points along the race to maintain an even flow.

Today the race remains in an excellent state of preservation, despite minor disturbance by later road construction and logging. It is generally 1 m wide and up to 1.2 m deep, curving around spurs and gullies at a gentle gradient of around 1:1500.

The race was dug by hand into clay and gravel subsoils, and silts from the flow of water helped seal the channel and reduce leakage. Substantial

quantities of wash dirt could be processed when good supplies of water were held in storage. In July 1859, for example, the company washed 1500 cubic yards of clay and soil for a yield of 245 ounces of gold, with water use estimated at 300 gallons (1364 L) per minute (Mining Surveyor 1859:8).

The company partners were eager to capitalise on their investment in water infrastructure by extending the race several miles further west to the Bald Hills, where miners were desperate for water (Creswick Advertiser 21 Jan. 1862:3). A major barrier to completing this water system, however, was Slaty Creek, where the broad creek flats lay below the company's operations on Humbug Hill, which meant that gravity flow of water through a channel was not feasible.

Instead, the partners constructed 800 m of elevated pipeline to convey the water across at adequate pressure. The company used eight inch (20 cm) bituminised pipes carried on trestles more than 30 m above the level of the creek. The pipes, which were newly available on the goldfields, were made from thick layers of paper sealed with bitumen, and were much cheaper and lighter than iron pipes (Dicker 1862:16).

After a few days, however, the pipes burst under the high pressure water, and were eventually replaced with conventional iron pipes (Dicker 1864:180). In spite of this setback, the company continued to operate for more than 20 years, using the water for sluicing purposes and selling any excess to Chinese miners, whose workings of alluvial deposits around Humbug Hill resulted in deeply scoured gullies which scar the landscape today.

It was not until 1880 that the remaining partners offered to sell the equipment and water races to the local council. The partners had learned to integrate new and old technologies in the form of races and pipes and adapt them to environmental conditions to exploit the demand for water in the alluvial mining industry.

North of Creswick Creek is an even longer water system, the Smokeytown water race, which winds around dozens of gullies on its course from the headwaters of Back Creek. Construction of this race commenced in 1870 and took two-and-a-half years to complete, with fluming used to cross creeks in several sections. It ended at the site of a quartz mine where it supplied a controlled flow of water to a crushing battery. The race measures ca 25 km long with a fall of 20 m over its length, representing a gradient of 1:1250.

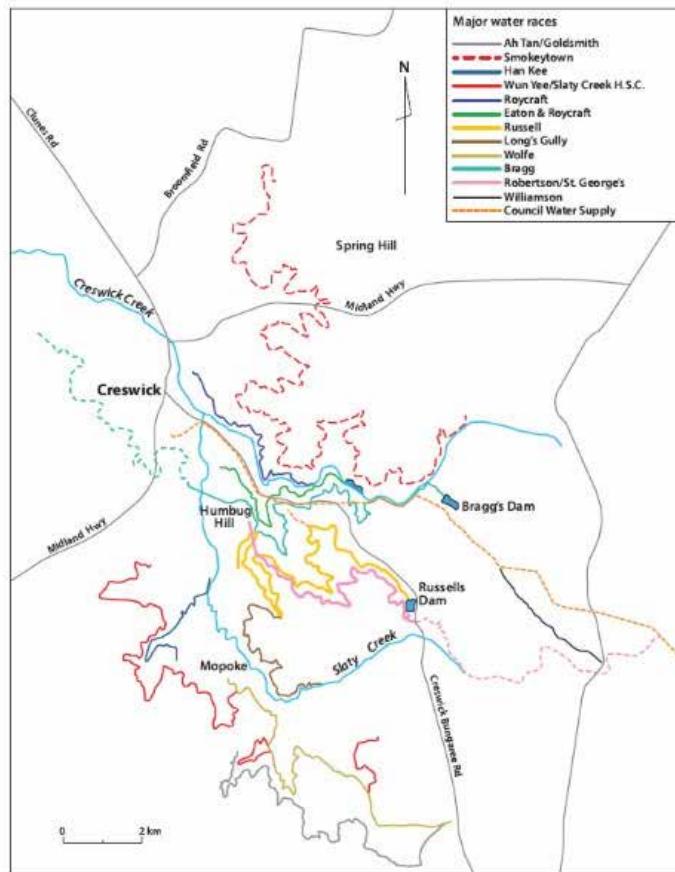


Image from *Water and gold : interpreting the landscape of Creswick Creek* by Peter Davies, Susan Lawrence and Jodi Turnbull 2015

Limitational knowledge about mineralogy was obtained more slowly, as miners struggled to separate the gold from quartz, clays, and other minerals and sulphides. The gold mining landscape around Castlemaine is particularly informative about the process of acquiring limitation knowledge.

Trial and error is evident in the abandoned workings and the remains of ineffective technologies, such as the foundations of stamp batteries that failed to extract payable gold from sulphide-rich ore, and water wheels that failed to generate sufficient power or could not be supplied with enough water.

Success and improved technology is evident in the re-workings of deposits and tailings dumps, where hydraulic sluicing and then dredging has destroyed all but the fringes of earlier ground sluicing sites, shallow sinkings and puddlers, and where tailings sands from stamp batteries have been removed and re-treated in cyanide tanks.

Mining sites thus represent complex landscapes that embody the process of learning about the environment. The Smokeytown water race, so successful in the 1870s, was used again during the 1930s Depression to supply sluicing operations, but these had to be suspended after four years due to the amount of sludge entering Creswick Creek.