



Presidents Comments

Well, we once again reach the end of the calendar year and halfway through the U3A BV year. I extend to everyone the compliments of the Christmas and New Year Seasons and trust the break will allow you time to rest up and just do simple, relaxing things.

My very special thanks go to the Committee for their help but in particular I single out Denise Curran, Jean Elliott, Merle Siwicki, Penny Fox and David Ashton who have had the most to do. To all the Course Leaders go our very special thanks; without your efforts we really would be a much lesser U3A. To all the members who actively participate, my very special best wishes. It is your involvement that makes what our U3A it really is - a vital organisation in our community.

2015 certainly looks to be another interesting year. The Tuesday Forum speakers for Term 1 certainly attest to that fact. So, come back refreshed in February and enjoy what we have to offer.

The Christmas Party

Many thanks to Jean Elliott for organising our annual Christmas party. Thanks also to the Ocean Shores Country Club staff who provided such an excellent meal for us. We are blessed to have such a beautiful facility so close to us.

It was lovely to meet up with people we have not seen for a while, maybe due to illness, maybe due to moving away. Check this collection of happy snaps to see who I am talking about.







Merry Christmas

This year has seen the introduction of more language classes, Latin for Beginners and Spanish, joining French for Beginners and French Revisited. Hence we are able to wish you:

Natale Hilare

Feliz Navidad

Joyeux Noël

Tuesday Forum Term 1 2015

February 10

Delta Kay, Education Officer Arakwal National Park . *The history and continued success of this ground-breaking project.*

February 17

Alan Watterson, Environmentalist, *Climate Change: Is it as bad as 'they' say?*

February 24

Eve Jeffery, Photographer and Reporter. *The Joys of Being an Echo Drudge.*

March 10

Gary Opit, Wildlife Consultant. *The Known and Unknown Animals of Australia.*

March 17

Mayor's Morning Tea – Ocean Shores Country Club . Limit of 50 BV U3A members. We will again organise the Photo competition, *Seniors – They're always on the go!* with local primary schools.

March 24 - A Double Header

Pam Rowell, BVU3A member. *Entertaining the Troops on Korea and Japan in 1953.*

Shelley McDonald, Puppeteer. *The Value of Puppets to improve the life of the Ill and Elderly.*

March 31

Jacqui Murray, Historian. *Tales from Old Japan - and how Australians helped to change all that.*

Courses

Thank you to all the course tutors for the time and effort they put into preparing their classes. We trust that the Christmas break will provide them with some extra time to catch up on some well deserved relaxation.



Our newest course, *Latin for Beginners*, has finished its six week run with students able to read (simple) stories. Of course Latin has given so much to English that much of the vocabulary is easy to work out. Nevertheless we are all feeling pretty pleased with ourselves. Roger has provided us with cultural references throughout as well as explaining the mysteries of declensions. Thank you Roger.

There are two changes in the courses mooted for 2015:

- Repeat of the 6 week *Introduction to Latin* at a time more accessible to those who could not attend this term.
- *Make your own blog*. Blogs can be a public platform for people to air their views or they can be a private place for sharing family stories and photos. They can also be anything in between, anything you want them to be. The idea behind this six week course is to get you started. You can then do whatever you like, limited only by your imagination.

Full details of all the courses we offer are listed on the [BVU3A website](#).

Something Interesting

In keeping with the festive season, take five minutes to [watch this](#). Over 45 million people have already viewed this YouTube clip of a flash mob singing the Hallelujah Chorus. It's been around for a while but it is uplifting every time.

Happy New Year
Annum Faustum
Feliz Año Nuevo
Bonne Année
