

## U3A LECTURE

State Library Theatre  
2-3pm Sunday 4 August  
2013

*Speaker:* **JEREMY THOMAS**

*Subject:* **BOAB RELOCATION  
PROJECT**

Free presentation – open  
to the public  
Afternoon tea served

*(See page 2)*



*North Coast (Warwick) Walkers: Nina Bronkhorst, Anne Stielow, Nadia Watson and Pete Alcock.*



*Sign on a Tasmanian training ship*



*Pottery talk at South-East Metro (see p.6)*



*Read David Bindley's story  
'The Launch' on page 5.*



### **The Big Debate**

*South West Metro Region team: Robert Turner, Daphne Pyke, Beryl Yeomans - The winners!*



*Author Deborah Burrows is the  
speaker for the October State  
Library Lecture.*

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

It is with sadness that we learned that Marian, Roger Watson's wife, passed away on Wednesday the third of July. Marian had been unwell for some time with Motor Neuron Disease. We send our condolences to Roger and family.

The office furniture has been ordered, and should arrive in around six weeks. Paul Thiessen has, however, made a great start by sourcing a cabinet for the bargain price of \$169, to place in the lobby outside our office. It will be used to store our banners, pamphlets and other materials used for publicity. Well done Paul! (Trust a treasurer to find a bargain!)

As well as the new office furniture, we are streamlining our office procedures. There will be a new system for issuing receipts and membership cards next year, following suggestions from members. We are also sorting our archives, and any not required to be kept will be disposed of. (We will be using a confidential records disposal company).

Sonia Kellett will be stepping down as editor of **Inform** Magazine, which she has filled admirably for the last eight years. She has agreed to edit the next two issues, and to continue with the cryptic crossword, which is looked forward to by many of you. Well done Sonia! David Phillips will be taking over in the New Year.

The annual Seminar has come and gone, and I hope those who attended enjoyed it. From my point of view, there were very few hitches, except for the rain, lack of heating (I did not know where the switch was!), a slight glitch about the date (*I will save my slide for the 2103 seminar –*

*those who were there can inform the others who missed the joke.*)

I wish to thank Diana Morgan and Jennie Cox for their help in organising the seminar, and also thank everyone for being so punctual, appreciative and obedient! It is a pity we cannot attract more of our members to attend. I, at least, thought it was a good day (but I may be biased) and a bargain at only \$30. This did not even cover the cost of lunch and morning tea – the rest is subsidised. I must, however, apologise for the mix up over parking, we have no power over the university parking policy.

At risk of repeating myself, would all members please remember that office bearers in our organisation are volunteers, doing the best they can, often in positions they have taken on because no-one else will step forward. If you have any complaints or criticisms, please couch them in respectful, civil terms and address them directly to the person concerned – not behind their backs. I also need to remind myself about this from time to time.

*John Macdonald, President*

## **NETWORK NEWS**

The AGM for U3A Network WA was held in conjunction with the recent seminar. Representatives from Bunbury, Mandurah, Naturaliste, Armadale and Perth were in attendance. In his report Peter Flanigan stated that considerable progress had been made in the 12 months since the Foundation meeting. There were now eight member groups with a total of some 1400 members. The Network now has a bank account, website, newsletter, a constitution and is incorporated. Communication between

groups had been much enhanced. The management committee was re-elected without change and is as follows:

President: Peter Flanigan (Perth);  
Vice-President: David Box (Armadale);

Secretary: Norma Vaughan (Mandurah);

Treasurer: Don MacDonald (Naturaliste);

Committee: Peter Alcock (Perth)  
Bunbury U3A reported that they will celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014. Thanks are due to John MacDonald and U3A (UWA) Perth for the use of the seminar venue for the meeting. *Peter Flanigan*

## **U3A STATE LIBRARY LECTURES**

The speaker for the **4 August State Library lecture** is Jeremy Thomas, Curator Arboriculture at Kings Park. Jeremy will be telling us the story of how in July 2008 the giant Boab was lifted from its site in Warmun in the Kimberly region of West Australia, transported 3,200 kilometres and planted in the Two Rivers Lookout at Kings Park. He will give details of the project and tell us how the tree has fared since then.

### **State Library Lecture 6 October**

The speaker for **October** is lawyer, writer and historian Deborah Burrows who lives in Perth. In her legal work she specializes in the area of medical law. As a historian Deborah has several degrees in history – modern and medieval, including a post-graduate degree in Medical History from the University of Oxford. As a writer her first novel, *A Stranger in my Street* was published in June 2012, and she has a new novel, *Taking a Chance*, published in May 2013.

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## THE BIG DEBATE

**Pat Forster**, South West Metro Region's Secretary, provides an account of what must have been a most enjoyable debate, with our U3A team taking an unusual position!

Melville Senior High School accepted a challenge from South West Metro U3A to debate the topic 'Seniors are a Burden on our Society' with SW Metro taking the affirmative. The adjudicator was a volunteer from Toastmasters, with two assistant adjudicators/timekeepers from Melville Senior High. The debate entertained an audience of over 50 on 18 May at Melville Recreation Centre.

Beryl Yeomans was first speaker for SW Metro. She argued that seniors take precedence over children on buses and trains, while the children are still developing, so seniors are a burden to them by making them give up their seats. They are a drain on medical services, making it difficult for others to get attention. They take a disproportionate amount of space by living in three- or four- bedroom homes. They fill the roads with their cars when their skills are fading so that it isn't safe for other drivers. Also, retirement villages clutter the suburbs and make the scene dull - it would better to have nightclubs so the scene is brighter.

The first speaker from Melville said if seniors were officially classified as a burden, they would have to be shot or otherwise killed, which obviously can't be the case. It was argued that many seniors have been, and continue to be, valuable in society. Examples are Nelson Mandela who became President of South Africa at aged 76, The Queen, the present Australian Governor-General, Popes, Mother Teresa, Clint Eastwood and Meryl Streep. Seniors are the wise ones and leaders in society, and who would play granny in films if there were no seniors? Also, seniors have more experience than the younger generations and it is much easier and interesting to learn from their first-hand accounts, compared to learning from documentaries. So, definitely, seniors are not a burden on society.

Daphne Pyke was second speaker for SW Metro. She commented how soothing and lovely it was to listen to the Melville team and acknowledged that seniors do take positions of influence, leadership and power, but the problem is we do not like to change. We want to keep things as they are, which might not be the best path. In regard to first-hand accounts, we like doing that, but you shouldn't trust us, our accounts might not be true. Another fact is seniors are living longer, we are becoming a larger part of the population and governments are scared of

us, so might not make the best decisions for the country. Daphne quoted a Robert Brooks poem about the community living in Granchester: 'The women there do all they ought; the men observe the rules of thought; they love the good, they worship truth, they laugh uproariously in youth; and when they get to feeling old, they up and shoot themselves, I'm told.' And this is why Granchester is such an idyllic place! Daphne finished by saying, 'We are far too selfish to shoot ourselves so just put up with us.'

The second speaker for Melville High asked - What is a person like if they are 'a burden on society': lazy, selfish and potentially unemployed? This sounds like today's youth, rather than seniors. Seniors are revered. As grandparents they give their time and loving care, and have huge hearts; and statistics show that seniors, compared to other groups, give more time to volunteering. Young people are more of a burden - they worry most about themselves and not about others.

There are plenty of examples that seniors aren't a burden, such as today when you (the U3A team) sought out a bunch of teenagers to give them practice at debating. Another example is the case of a senior aged 74 graduating with a history degree, after being deprived of education when young. Seniors like this are not a burden compared to youth who are too lazy to move out of parents' homes.

Robert Turner was the last speaker for SW Metro. He reiterated that seniors drain medical services. Shaking a bottle of pills, he observed: 'We pay a tenth of what they are worth, and we go to hospital to get pumped full of drugs to live a few months longer; and who pays for all that - you (the audience). We get subsidised housing costs such as rates, we get free transport, and who pays for it - you. And on transport, kids have to give up their seats.'

Robert then countered a claim that film-stars are wise: 'We know they aren't, so that our opponents' claim is not wise either.'

He finished by arguing that seniors are a burden because their volunteering takes positions that could be filled by youths for paid employment; and university places should be filled by people like these marvellous youngsters (the Melville team) and not by old folks.

The last speaker for Melville High quoted a statistic that only 5% of people 60 years or over are in hospitals or aged care, so it can't be concluded from this that seniors are a burden on society. She reiterated that oldies have been, or are, some of the most influential people, giving the example of Nelson Mandela. On grandparents, she quoted a survey that showed one in 14 children in the United States are raised by grandparents and said she, herself, had been raised by grandparents and felt she had turned out pretty well. Her grandmother's view is that seniors aren't a burden - it is sons and daughters who have babies and expect grandparents to raise them that are the burden.

### SWAN HILLS REPORT

The members of Swan Hills Region are continuing to enjoy an entertaining and educational program with much more to come. At the beginning of May Brendan Murphy gave us a talk about his travels as a chef titled 'A Taste of the Word.'

In mid-May Mervyn Wilson addressed our meeting dressed as a 10<sup>th</sup> Light Horseman. His account of the formation and history of The 10<sup>th</sup> Light Horse was illustrated with photos taken by a soldier at Gallipoli and of the fighting in Palestine. Many of these photos showed scenes that do not appear to have been photographed by anyone else, including a rare shot of Lawrence of Arabia.

At the end of May we were reminded of our theme last year of 'Sustainability' when Cliff and Sharron Burns talked to us about the native plants around Darlington. We learnt that The Southwest Botanic Province is 'an internationally recognised Biodiversity Hot-spot.' containing about 9,500 plant species and the need to protect our rare and diverse plant life from weed infestation and land degradation.

We have also had a visit from Marjorie Caw who runs the 'Yellow Bird Project' to provide therapy through technology. Marjorie believes it is important to provide access to modern technology for people who are in danger of becoming isolated

if they cannot make use of computers and other forms of modern communication.

While our guest speakers have much to offer we especially appreciate the efforts of those of our members who share their stories with us. After the recent abdication of the Queen of the Netherlands, Anne de Jonge gave us a brief history of the Dutch Royal Family. Madeline Honeyford told of a hair-raising journey by taxi over the mountains in Montenegro and Mary Merifield shared her experiences of Line Dancing. Thank you to these and all the other members who have contributed to our meetings.

### EARLY SUMMER IN NEW YORK

'Whatever happened to Spring' exclaimed the man in the elevator as he wiped perspiration from his forehead. New York was continuing to have cold, wet and windy May days followed by days of sunshine and heat which locals thought unusual. Monday 27th of May was Memorial Day - A day of remembrance- and a public holiday, and it was pleasantly warm and sunny. Cyclists, many of whom were visitors taking advantage of the newly introduced *Hire a City Bike* scheme, were on the roads early and it was just the day for my daughter Alison and I to visit the High Walk which has been created out of an old redundant railway

The adjudicator commented that the debate did not need to address the consequences of seniors being a burden, such as shooting them. Rather, the debate needed to address whether or not seniors are a caustic community, for example, whether seniors' wisdom and influence are appropriate only for the past.

The SW Metro team was deemed to win and Robert was complimented because he acknowledged and reflected on previous arguments. The Melville team and their teacher were complimented, the adjudicator was thanked, and Angela Pritchard from SW Metro was thanked for organising the debate. The fun event was widely appreciated by those who attended.

bridge with splendid city views. Expert gardeners have used their talents to turn this long railway track area into a beautiful, colourful and green public garden which was most appreciated by the crowd of visitors we saw there. After a crowded hour or so we found an exit staircase and made our way to ground level, stopping for coffee at Starbucks before catching a subway train and returning to the apartment after a very enjoyable day out.

*Margaret Summers, Mid-North*

### THE U3A CHOIR

is holding a concert on Saturday 19 October at 2pm in Citiplace. The program will include the choir signature tune "*Why We Sing*" and songs from the shows. All regions are invited to provide an item, monologues, short sketches or instrumental items are welcome. It is proposed this event be open to the public to publicise U3A, with entry by a gold coin donation.

*Margaret Petrovich (Choir Con-  
vener)*

### PIANO ACCOMPANIST

We are offering an opportunity for an interested pianist to fill the role of choir accompanist. The choir meets 2-4pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays at the Rod Evans Centre on the corner of Hay and Plain Streets, Perth. The red cat bus stops at the door. For more information contact Choir Coordinator Wendy Harris on 9244 8689.

## THE LAUNCH



*By David Bindley*

The yellow dandelions and white daisies add colour to the rank, coarse cut grass of the airfield. The mid-morning sun is providing a shimmering heat haze and cumulus clouds are starting to develop as proof that hot air is rising over the surrounding country side. A warm breeze is blowing and high in the sky birds circle below the rising clouds hardly moving their wings.

Across the airfield a little procession of people, purely coloured in the morning light, are setting off for the day's activity. They move slowly as if joined together but as time passes the procession divides. One group, an old land-rover towing a World War II barrage balloon winch go to the upwind end of the airfield and the second group pushes and pulls a double-seated trainer glider to the other end. After half-an-hour the winch and glider face each other seemingly ready for combat but in fact their relationship is one of cooperation, with the glider helpless and dependent on the winch for life.

The land-rover leaves the silently waiting winch, and with a well-worn steel cable attached to its toe hitch heads for the glider. On arrival the cable is clipped under the nose of the fuselage and the plane turned into the wind with the wing tip held up ready for the launch.

The pilot, Marion, already briefed on what to do in the event of a cable break on launch, a stall in flight or a spin when making the final turn to land, sits rather rigid and nervous in the cockpit. She is contemplating the reliability of the emergency cable release knob at the dash board while reading the instruction that the maximum speed on launch is 28 knots. The prediction that the wooden frame of the glider will pull apart if this speed is exceeded is foremost in her mind, and the fact that she has had thirty practice launches with her instructor is no comfort for this event, her first solo flight.

The cable from the glider snakes out back to the winch in a long shallow curve and the signal to

take up slack is given. As the cable straightens the signal for full speed is given and the launch commences. Marion is tense and wonders why she is doing this and decides it's to prove a point to her friends and herself. The winch's motor is now running at full speed and as the glider leaves the ground she is a little dazed and grips the control column holding it central in anticipation of the unnatural rush of air as the plane is dragged skyward like a kite.

The cable is holding and the only problem for the winch driver is that pieces of stranded steel wire are flying at him off the old cable as it screams in on to the winch drum. For Marion the concern is for the speed of launch which is now approaching maximum so she pulls back on the joystick to increase the angle of ascent and reduce the speed. This having no effect she signals to the winch driver to slow down by yawing the plane from side to side.

With the speed now at maximum Marion is considering pulling the emergency cable release knob as the stress of her first solo flight mounts. The plane is creaking and groaning, and is almost entirely out of her control as it is winched relentlessly into the sky. Terminating the launch now would, however, be interpreted by her friends on the ground as a failure, and saving face is more important than personal safety at this point in her life.

Marion also thinks about the automatic cable release clip holding the cable to the glider. In the event that the glider over-flies the winch the cable should automatically back-release. If this doesn't occur the prospect of circling round and round above the winch attached to the cable is relieved by the knowledge that at the winch there is an axe to hack through the offending cable if this becomes necessary.

Suddenly there is a floating feeling and silence. The noise of rushing air and creaking airframe has gone. The plane has back-released the cable as it over-flew the winch and Marion and glider are alone in the sky except for the circling birds. Relaxing now she points the nose of the plane down to maintain speed and sees the boundary fence of the airfield drift by below, and she and the glider fly out over the countryside. There is hardly a sound except for the slight noise of air smoothly flowing over the glider's wings. Every now and then there is a lifting and sinking feeling, as small thermals are over-flown. Marion is relaxed and happy, feeling at one with the world. Gently banking and turning she can see a little knot of people at one end of the airfield, a lonely

winch at the other and a match-box toy land-rover hurrying between the two.

Glancing at the altimeter Marion is surprised to see that the glider is rapidly gaining height and turning her attention to the view ahead is shocked to find all is greyness. In front, to left and right, above and below all is damp greyness and sinister silence. The glider has entered a cloud. The tendrils of panic start to creep from her stomach up to her chest. Her rate of breathing

increases and her limbs become rigid and fixed in position. Her eyes flicker about the instrument panel without comprehension, and her mind refuses to focus on corrective action.

The yellow dandelions and white daisies add colour to the coarse cut grass as a little procession of people set off for the morning's activity. They move slowly and together to farewell Marion, their intrepid solo pilot.

### **SOUTH EAST METRO**

Tony Lloyd introduced members of the South East Metro Region to a colourful array of old Australian pottery at a recent at Victoria Park meeting. He has been an avid collector of antiques and collectables for the past 10 years and has more than 650 pieces in his collection.

Tony talked about his favourite pieces of Darbyshire, Newton, Remued and others and highlighted the story of Wembley Ware. It is regarded by some collectors as having historical significance because it was produced about 85 years ago in a china factory in Subiaco which has long since been demolished. A variety of ashtrays were in his collection which members found curious, not only because of their outdated function but because of the odd or lovely artwork attached to them.

Tony explained how artists in the past used ashtrays to display their art to minimise tax, and explained how the value of items varied according to their rarity, such as horses with ears compared with those without ears and also how the paint on some old items could be easily washed off because at that time the paint could not be sealed.

He laughed when asked where he kept his collection. 'I have pieces all over the house and in a shed, and yes, one piece even holds a toothbrush in the bathroom.'

Some members brought in their treasured pieces of Australian pottery and Tony enjoyed talking about its background. For information about South East Metro activities contact Maureen: 9350.5992.

### **NORTH COAST (WARWICK) ON THE MOVE**

North Coast (Warwick) Region members have been getting around. A new walking group has launched a regular walks program and a cycling group is under consideration.

Meanwhile most members recently enjoyed a lunch outing to a Hills resort and also attended a Stirling Players' performance of the successful play *A Country Retreat*, written by North Coast's own popular playwright, Peter Flanigan.

'We enjoy a diverse program of excellent talks by visiting experts and our own members, but we also like to get out and about,' says chairman Peter Alcock.

Armchair travellers have been exploring our neighbouring Indian Ocean countries, their history, geography, geology and the lives of some of their heroic figures such as Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Gandhi.

There is also an ongoing series of musical journeys with presenters featuring their individual life-long musical favourites, while the poetry group has taken a sentimental journey to Swansea listening to the poems of Dylan Thomas. It was an early

tribute to the Welsh poet whose life will be celebrated throughout Wales next year, the centenary of his birth.

### **VALE**

#### **Lesley Miriam Blunt**

*(February 1922 - April 2013)*

Lesley joined South East Metro Region some 20 years ago and she was often heard to say that U3A saved her from boredom in her retirement. She had a phenomenal intellect and shared that with others by introducing us to Shakespeare in study groups at McDougall House which she ran for many years.

Lesley also introduced classes in Numero as a way of fending off dementia. She was an office volunteer and as well held the position of General Secretary for several years. At South East regional meetings she organised twice-yearly lunches at the Pines restaurant and apart from vacations never missed a meeting. Lesley drove a car with distinctive number plates and constantly gave others a lift to various events. Her friends in U3A will miss her greatly. - *Maureen Paterson*

#### **Dr Des Gurry**

We are sorry to report the death of Dr Des Gurry, a prominent member of Central Region. Des's famously eccentric wardrobe choices gave little hint of his considerable eminence as a doctor, medical administrator and university teacher. We will remember him with affection.

*Keith White*

## **U3A CITY COURSES**

Courses are run at locations in Perth CBD, mainly in rooms at the State Library or Citiplace Community Centre. Fees are low – usually less than \$25. Enrolment is open to financial members of U3A (UWA). The next series will start in August 2013 and members will receive an enrolment brochure before that date. Inquiries: Alan Mortimer, Course Coordinator (9450 2398)

### **ART APPRECIATION – VAN GOGH, DALI AND BEYOND**

(Ongoing) Two sessions  
2<sup>nd</sup> Weds (Aug-Sep) 1300 – 1400

Lecture Theatre 1  
Central TAFE  
Aberdeen St, Perth  
Rosemary Grigg

### **MORE CONVERSATIONS**

Starts 8/8/2013 Eight sessions 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs 1115 – 1245

State Library room G3  
Arthur Tonkin

### **CANASTA**

Starts 8/8/2013 Eight sessions 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs 1345 – 1515  
4<sup>th</sup> Thurs 1445 – 1615

Citiplace 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
Maureen Thompson

### **DESIGNING TODAY'S THEATRES**

Two sessions only Tues 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct 1130 – 1300

Citiplace 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
Graham Walne

### **EMOTIONAL WELLBEING AT ANY AGE**

Starts 22/8/2013 Six sessions 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs 0930 – 1100

State Library room G3  
Lorraine Simons

### **FILM DISCUSSION GROUP**

Starts 6/8/2013 Four sessions 1<sup>st</sup> Tues 0930 – 1100

State Library room G3  
Nicky Dair

### **IPAD WORKSHOP**

Starts 6/8/2013 Two sessions 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug Tues 0930 – 1245

Citiplace 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
Roger Watson

### **IPAD WORKSHOP REPEAT SESSION**

Starts 3/9/2013 Two sessions 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues 0930 – 1245

Citiplace 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
Roger Watson

### **LECTURE SERIES – A SERIES OF ONE-OFF SESSIONS**

Starts 6/8/2013 Eight sessions 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 1330 – 1500

Citiplace 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
June Dunstan

### **LITERATURE**

Starts 6/8/2013 Eight sessions 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues 1130 – 1300

State Library room 2.9  
Helen Baker

### **MAHJONG**

Starts 8/8/2013 Eight sessions 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs 1200 – 1330  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 1300 – 1430

Citiplace 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
Maureen Thompson

### **MENTAL AND MORAL SCIENCE**

Two sessions 17 Sep and 1 Oct 1115 – 1245

State Library room G3  
Rachel Geller

### **PHILOSOPHY**

Starts 8/8/2013 Eight sessions 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs 0930 – 1100

State Library room 2.9  
Hans Hoette

### **ROCK ART OF THE BURRUP**

Four sessions 3<sup>rd</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> Sep 1330 – 1500

State Library room 2.9  
Judith Hugo

### **SECRET BUSINESS FOR MEN**

One session 8th August 0930 – 1100

State Library room G3  
Wes Carter

### **SECRET BUSINESS FOR OLD BLOKES**

One session 8<sup>th</sup> August 1130 – 1300

State Library room 2.9  
Wes Carter

### **U3A CHOIR**

Starts 13/8/2013 Eight sessions 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Tues 1400 – 1600

Rod Evans Centre  
East Perth  
Wendy Harris

## REGIONAL PROGRAMS – MAY, JUNE AND JULY 2013

### CENTRAL REGION

Meets on alternate Mondays from 1pm - 4pm at the Community Room of the Grove Library, corner of Stirling Highway and Leake St, Cottesloe.

5 August	1pm	<b>Texas to Perth in a Light Plane</b>	John Chesbrough
	2.30pm	<b>Grape Growing in Western Australia</b>	Dr Ian Cameron
19 August	1pm	<b>The Khmer Kingdom of Angkor, Cambodia</b>	Gabor Bedo
	2.30pm	<b>My Friends the Bacteria</b>	Ed Reed
2 September	1pm	<b>Family History: My Colonial Ancestors</b>	Kay Rae
	2.30pm	<b>Theatre as Business: From Shakespeare to Tim Minchin</b>	Prof Chris Wortham, Notre Dame Univ. Members
16 September	1pm	<b>Family Treasures</b>	
	2.30pm	<b>The Sun King's Garden: a Tale of Political Intrigue that led to the Development of the World's Most Influential Garden, Versailles</b>	Noela Shepherd
30 September	1pm	<b>Talk of the War:</b>	Sally Gair and others
	2.30pm	<b>Nakuru Hope project: Kenya</b>	Susan Saleeba and Valery Gandossini
14 October	1pm	<b>What do you know about New Zealand?</b>	Rae Cronin
	2.30pm	<b>Free The Bears</b>	Mary Hutton
28 October	1pm	<b>Catholic Overseas Aid Programs</b>	Fr Geoff Beyer
	2.30pm	<b>The Centre for Whale Research</b>	Curt Jenner

Meets on alternate Mondays at Mount Claremont Community Centre

1-2pm Current Affairs Discussion  
2 -3pm Literature and Music Group

### MID-NORTH REGION

Mid-North members meet on alternate Mondays at the Church of Christ Community Hall at 68 Waverley Street, Dianella (opposite Dianella Plaza)

5 Aug	11.45am	<b>Chinese Province</b>	Amy Hardy
	2pm	<b>Cambodia Cycle Challenge for Change</b>	Amy Walters
19 Aug	11.45am	<b>Yang Tai Chi Demonstration</b>	Rhonda Algaba
	2pm	<b>Asbestos Diseases Society of Australia Inc.</b>	Robert Vojakovic, AM, JP
2 Sept	11.45am	<b>Early Settlement of Perth</b>	Merv Hill
	2pm	<b>Culture and Women in Islam</b>	Gerard Roussilhes
16 Sept	11.45am	<b>Three Cheers for the Workers</b>	Brenda Stubbs
	2pm	<b>My Water - The Water Corporation</b>	Lee Pearson
30 Sept	11.45am	<b>Death in Happy Valley</b>	Sonia Kellett
	2pm	<b>Germany's Other Secret - Schindler</b>	Syd Kaye
14 Oct	11.45am	<b>My Travels Through Eastern Europe</b>	Margaret Kuhne
	2pm	<b>Sandakan, A Son's Story</b>	Colin Prior
28 Oct	11.45am	<b>Members Original Creations</b>	Members
	2pm	<b>Watt! Convert my Car to Electric?</b>	David Waplington, Aus. Electric Vehicle Assn (Inc.)

#### Music Group

Meets Fortnightly on Tuesdays from 1.15-3.15 pm at Dianella Community meeting rooms, 18 Kerry Street, Dianella (alternate week to Mid-North meetings.) Contact Ann 9444 7782

#### Film Club

Meets on alternate Monday mornings to view a recently released film- coffee afterwards.  
Contact Ginie 9271 7263

#### Discussion Group

Meets monthly on a Tuesday for coffee/ chat 10am Dianella Plaza next to IGA  
Contact Margaret K. 9276 3081

### **LESMURDIE HILLS REGION**

Meets at 10am at Falls Farm, Cagney Way, Lesmurdie on the first and third Tuesday of each month.  
Inquiries: Pollyanne Hill (9291 7371)

6 August		<b>In-House Activity</b>	
20 August		<b>Antarctica</b>	Peter Strickland
27 August		<b>Coffee Club</b>	
3 Sep		<b>Forensic Science</b>	Prof. Simon Lewis, Analytical chemist, Curtin Uni
17 Sept		<i>(to be advised)</i>	Dr Kate Trinajstic, Paleontologist
y 24 Sept		<b>Coffee Club</b>	
1 October		<b>Feasts, Fasting and Fireworks – A year in the life of Malta</b>	Roger, Lilian Jennings
15 October		<b>Qui Gong</b>	Allan Donnelly
22 October		<b>Coffee Club</b>	
29 October		<b>Excursion to Government House</b>	

### **NORTH COAST (WARWICK) REGION**

Meetings are held Fridays in the Ellersdale Park Football Clubrooms, Ellersdale Avenue in Warwick. Walk group 1pm Fridays at clubrooms and by arrangement -contact Nina Bronkhorst on 9309 5560. Check [www.u3auwa.org](http://www.u3auwa.org) for changes or additions. Fifth Friday's outings are organised and announced at the regular meetings.

2nd Aug	Noon	<b>Music Appreciation</b>	Judith Wailes
	2pm	<b>"Cross Cultures - New Futures"</b>	Dr John Stanton
9th Aug	Noon	<b>Book Club</b>	Helen Clements
	2pm	<b>Indian Ocean Growth</b>	Pete Alcock
16th Aug	Noon	<b>Committee Meeting</b>	
	2pm	<b>Fiona Stanley Hospital</b>	Julie Hendon
23rd Aug	Noon	<b>Poetry (Judith Wright)</b>	Felicity Mawdsley
	2pm	<b>Australiana and World Events</b>	Members
30th August	Noon	<b>Outing (to be advised)</b>	
6th Sept	Noon	<b>Music Appreciation</b>	
	2pm	<b>Great Western Woodland</b>	Aminya Ennis
13th Sept	Noon	<b>Book Club</b>	Helen Clements
	2pm	<b>Indian Ocean Focus</b>	Members
20th Sept	Noon	<b>Committee Meeting</b>	
	2pm	<b>Entomology - Past, Present and Future</b>	Darryl Hardie
27th Sept	Noon	<b>Poetry Group</b>	Felicity Mawdsley
	2pm	<b>Greatest Sea Rescue</b>	Terry Harvey
4th Oct	Noon	<b>Music Appreciation</b>	Joan, Lucille, Pat
	2pm	<b>Discovery of a Floral Wonderland</b>	Alan Notley
11th Oct	Noon	<b>Book Club</b>	Helen Clements
	2pm	<b>Indian Ocean Focus</b>	Members
18th Oct	Noon	<b>Committee Meeting</b>	
	2pm	<b>Ham Radio</b>	Ian Wardle Johnson
25th Oct	Noon	<b>Poetry Group</b>	Felicity Mawdsley
	2pm	<b>Australiana and World Events</b>	Members

### **JOONDALUP REGION**

Meetings take place at the Guy Daniels Clubroom, Sail Terrace, off Poseidon Road, east of the junction of Ocean Reef Road and Marmion Ave, Heathridge 11am-3pm on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays. No meetings on public holidays. The Mahjong Group meets Monday 11am (Trish Lau-Veach 0422 318 304); Book Club meets 11.45pm 2nd Monday (Brenda Hugo 0418 859 955); Science, Gardening Group (Norman Harrison 9304 0942); Travel Group (Margaret Bender 9304 2479); Discussion Group (Terry Westmoreland 9304 8426); Camera Club (Trevor and Catherine Swan 9404 7412); Socials Organiser (Sylvia Fairclough 0432658442.) The Gardening Group and Camera Club meet by arrangement with members.

12 Aug	11.30am	<b>Special Interest Groups</b>	Members
	11.45am	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Book Club</b>	Brenda Hugo
	12.30pm	<b>Current Affairs Discussion Group</b>	
	2pm	<b>Disability Consultancy</b>	Ben Sgherza
19 Aug	11.30am	<b>Travel Group: Members World-Wide Travel</b>	
26 Aug	11.30am	<b>Special Interest Groups</b>	Members
	11.45am	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Book Club</b>	Patricia Lysons

	12.30pm	<b>Current Affairs Discussion Group</b>	Terry Westmorland
	2pm	<b>Inter-health ~ Africa Aids Project</b>	(Name unconfirmed)
9 Sep	11.30am	<b>Special Interests Groups</b>	Members
	11.45am	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Book Club</b>	Brenda Hugo
	12.30pm	<b>Current Affairs Discussion Group</b>	Terry Westmorland
	2pm	<b>Robin Hood</b>	Olwen Leitch
16 Sep	11.30am	<b>Travel Club: Members World Wide Travel</b>	
23 Sep	11.30am	<b>Special Interest</b>	Members
	11.45am	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Book Club</b>	Patricia Lysons
	12.30pm	<b>Current Affairs Discussion Group</b>	Terry Westmorland
	2pm	<b>Reconstructing Fauna in the Rangelands</b>	Keith Morris
14 Oct	11.30am	<b>Special Interest Groups</b>	Members
	11.45am	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Book Club</b>	Brenda Hugo
14 Oct	12.30pm	<b>Current Affairs Discussion Group</b>	Terry Westmorland
	2pm	<b>Tabitha Foundation: Building in Cambodia</b>	(Name unconfirmed)
21 Oct	11.30am	<b>Travel Group: Members World Wide Travel</b>	
28 Oct	11.30am	<b>Special Interest Groups</b>	Members
	11.45am	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Book Club</b>	Patricia Lysons
	12.30pm	<b>Current Affairs Discussion Group</b>	Terry Westmorland
	2pm	<b>Fremantle Maritime Museum</b>	Ian Macleod

### ROCKINGHAM & DISTRICTS REGION

Main meetings at Masonic Hall, Wanliss Street, Rockingham, first and third Fridays. For Group Studies meetings contact Group leaders as listed below. (ML indicates Murdoch Library is the venue.)

2 August	1.30pm	<b>The Early Education of a Country Girl</b>	Vera Harris
16 August	1.30pm	<b>Mitford and Moseley</b>	Sonia Kellett
6 September	1.30pm	<b>Learn to Make Movies</b>	Colin Rouse
20 September	1.30pm	<b>Art Appreciation</b>	Carl Altman
4 October	1.30pm	<b>Mind Tools for Successful Living</b>	Dr Jenny Brockis
18 October	1.30pm	<b>Around the World in 1896-1897</b>	Ginnie Bristowe

#### Group Studies Meetings

1 <sup>st</sup> Mon Aug, Sept, Oct	10am	<b>WA History</b>	Mary	9528 1565
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon Aug, Sept, Oct	2pm	<b>Poetry/Play Reading (ML)</b>	Diana	9593 2313
4 <sup>th</sup> Mon Aug, Sept, Oct	2pm	<b>Music ONE</b>	Iris	9592 2483
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues Aug, Sept, Oct	times vary	<b>Cinema Visit</b>	Liz	9527 9471
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues Aug	2pm	<b>Book Club 1</b>	Gary	9550 4920
4 <sup>th</sup> Tues Sept	2pm	<b>Book Club 2</b>	Liz	9527 9471
1 <sup>st</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed Aug, Sept, Oct	2pm	<b>Music TWO</b>	Shirley	9527 1520
Every Thur Aug, Sept, Oct	2pm	<b>Cryptic Crosswords</b>	Anne	9592 4298
2 <sup>nd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Fri Aug, Sept, Oct	2pm	<b>Número</b>	Mary	9528 1565
1 <sup>st</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed Aug, Sept, Oct	10am	<b>Open Learning</b>	Liz	9527 9471

### SOUTH EAST METRO REGION

Meetings first and third Fridays at East Victoria Park Family and Community Centre. (Registration and payment \$25 for Choir Stalls for WASO Concert Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony by 6 September)

2 Aug	2pm	<b>'Fracking': fracturing rock for Natural Gas:</b>	Patricia McAuliffe
Thur 8 Aug	11am	<b>Perth Concert Hall - WASO Concert: Mendelssohn/Mozart</b>	
16 Aug	2pm	<b>Humorous Australian Poetry</b>	Prof Dennis Haskell
6 Sept	2pm	<b>Belmont Business Centre Supports Small Business</b>	Carol Hanlon
20 Sept	2pm	<b>Concertgebouw and Wartime Experiences</b>	Jack and Dicky De Blank
4 Oct	2pm	<b>Jane Austen: Life, Times and Novels</b>	(to be advised)
Thurs 10 Oct	11am	<b>Perth Concert Hall - Beethoven Pastoral Symphony</b>	
18 Oct	2pm	<b>RY Britannia's Chief Engineer</b>	Dave Warner

These groups met at McDougall House, Clydesdale Street, Como

1 <sup>st</sup> Mon	1.30pm	<b>Current Affairs</b>	Maureen	9350 5992
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	2pm	<b>Philosophy</b>	Julia	9472 3015
4 <sup>th</sup> Mon	2pm	<b>Play-reading</b>	Alan	9450 2398

These groups meet at members' homes

2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	9.30am	<b>Art 1</b>	Val	9277 6153
4 <sup>th</sup> Mon	9.30am	<b>Art 2</b>	Val	9277 6153
4 <sup>th</sup> Sat	2pm	<b>Book Club</b>	Maureen	9350 5992

### SOUTH WEST METRO REGION

**Melville Lectures:** Apollo Room, Melville Recreation Centre, corner Stock Road and Canning Highway. Visitors welcome (free.)

17 August	2pm	<b>Electric Car Research at UWA</b>	Prof Mike Jones, Murdoch Uni.
21 Sept	2pm	<b>Fiona Stanley Hospital</b>	Di Mantel
19 Oct	2pm	<b>Almost a French Australian</b>	Noeline Bloomfield

Groups: Kadidjiny Park Hall, Kitchener Rd (near Curtis Rd), Melville; Miller Bakehouse, 7 Baal St;

Members' homes and various other locations.

3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	10.30am	<b>Women's Coffee Club</b>	Joy	9339 7736
4 <sup>th</sup> Mon	9.50am	<b>Looking at Books</b>	Ann	9457 1879
1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues	9.30am	<b>Writing Life Stories</b>	Ross	0411 581 340
1 <sup>st</sup> Tues	Varies	<b>Going to the Movies</b>	Margaret	9339 5921
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues	10am	<b>Reading 21<sup>st</sup> Century</b>	Ann	9457 1879
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues	1.30am	<b>Poetry</b>	Daphne	9364 3583
4 <sup>th</sup> Tues	10.30am	<b>Men's Coffee Club</b>	Dennis	9317 7919
1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	9.30am	<b>Current Affairs Forum</b>	Dawn	9317 7687
1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	2pm	<b>Book Group No.2</b>	Non	9364 8885
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed	9.30am	<b>History</b>	Phyl	9364 3604
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed	9.30am	<b>Music</b>	Louise	9330 2630
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed	9.30am	<b>World Happenings</b>	Pat	9332 3190
4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	9.30am	<b>Games Group</b>	Alice	9364 9511
4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> Wed	9.30am	<b>Writing for Pleasure</b>	Beryl	9339 2858
1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	9.30am	<b>Open to Debate</b>	Rob	9339 6315
Fridays	9.15am	<b>Mahjong</b>	Rhys	9335 6703
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat	2pm	<b>Melville Lecture</b>	James	9272 4929

### SWAN HILLS REGION

Meets 1.30pm Fridays at Polytechnic West, Lloyd Street, Midland (formerly Swan College of TAFE) in Lecture Theatre, Block "D", behind the Administration Block "A".

2 Aug	<b>East of Everything</b>	Stuart Gibb
9 Aug	<b>Remember, I Remember</b>	Phil Dale-Jones
16 Aug	<b>New Zealand, North Island</b>	Marilyn, Brian Loader
23 Aug	<b>Show and Tell</b>	Members
30 Aug	<b>Immigration</b>	Corry Donovan and Gillian Ashton
6 Sept	<b>Norwich Broads and Nodes</b>	Liz Stockwell
13 Sept	<b>Book Discussion</b>	Herman de Jonge
20 Sept	<b>New Zealand, South Island</b>	Marilyn, Brian Loader
27 Sept	<b>Old Interests, New Interests</b>	Members
4 Oct	<b>Quiz</b>	Esther Flowerday
11 Oct	<b>Pluto</b>	John Ashton
18 Oct	<b>Wild Flower Tour, Kings Park</b>	
25 Oct	<b>Changes in the Meat Trade</b>	Bob Bertram
Wed October	<b>Social lunch</b>	

### SPANISH CONVERSATION

Meets at 10am on the first and third Thursday of the month at Drabble House, Nedlands.  
(Contact Jean 9284 1731 [jeanr64@bigpond.com](mailto:jeanr64@bigpond.com))

### REGIONAL CONTACTS

CENTRAL	Margaret		<a href="mailto:margaretaputt@gmail.com">margaretaputt@gmail.com</a>
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SWAN HILLS	Corry	9274 3224	<a href="mailto:ajdonovan1@bigpond.com">ajdonovan1@bigpond.com</a>

**QUICK CROSSWORD No.111 by Sonia Kellett**

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
8			9									
	10					11						
12						13						
14				15						16		
17		18					19	20				
						21						22
23										24		
25						26						

Across:

- 1. Defer (7)
- 5. Precise (5)
- 8. Dawdle (3)
- 9. Of the current time (9)
- 10. Quench (5)
- 11. Urges forward (6)
- 14. Vertical (13)
- 17. Animal reared mainly for its fleece (6)
- 19. Appeal (5)
- 23. A thing not included (9)
- 24. Call of a dove (3)
- 25. Nervous (5)
- 26. Lac resin used for making varnish (7)

Down:

- 1. Shaft (4)
- 2. Relating to the neck or throat (7)
- 3. Eskimo skin-and-wood open boat (5)
- 4. Title (4)
- 5. Found among a particular people or in a certain region (7)
- 6. Plant with a rosette of narrow spiny leaves and a tall flowering stem (5)
- 7. Precious metals or gems (8)
- 12. Readily visible (8)
- 13. Strange (3)
- 15. Prisoner who has absconded (7)
- 16. Highly enthusiastic (7)
- 18. Kind of nut (5)
- 20. Depend on (5)
- 21. Fail to hit (4)
- 22. Of or relating to animals (4)

**UTTERLY CLUELESS! No.111 by Sonia Kellett**

3	13	25	25	12	2	22		20	2	24	26	16
13		4		2		13		15		14		4
14	13	26	3	9		8	20	19	13	2	4	9
13		21		24		25		15				24
	23	15	25	25	13	10		25	2	26	15	25
15		24		8		9				21		13
1	21	13	20	10	9		21	8	5	2	21	20
20		19				5		25		6		1
2	23	8	21	15		15	20	13	7	4	9	
9				11		20		24		8		18
24	8	21	21	13	17	22		13	20	24	21	2
13		2		2		15		9		24		2
26	21	8	15	7		20	4	7	5	8	21	9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
					V					T	L	

**Solution to Clueless 110:** Across: Squat Forebear Japes Exertion Ambit Gas Frieze Herbal May Tacky Honeydew Ebony Mediocre Veldt. Down: Often Creep Abate Pagoda Quagmore American Preamble Reckoned Gem Shy Azores Helix Edict Tweed.

Solutions to Issue 110 puzzles:

**Cryptic** Across: 1. Chalets 5. Genre 7. Sceptre 8. Epoch 11. Bluff 12. Reverse 14. Smorgasbord 16. Out of it 18. Filmy 20. Weird 22. Ravaged 23. Idiom. Down: 2. Heckles 3. Lap of honour 4. Tyre 5. Gee 6. Rucks 9. Predominant 10. Leash 13. Again 15. Damnest 17. Upend 19. Balm 21. Dim.  
**Quick** Across: 1. Embargo 5. Incur 8. Rut 9. Increment 10. Skeet 11. Stupor 14. Confederation 17. Outlaw 19 Deify 21. Approbate 24. Awe 25. Error 26. Payment. Down: 1. Ecu 2. Betooken 3. Reine 4. Orca 5. Inertia 6. Creep 7. Retiring 12. Accolade 13. Key 15. Enamour 16. Inflate 18. Tapir 20. Elegy 21. Carp 22. Vent.

## MY WAR

*Childhood reminiscences from Alan Mortimer, South East Metro Region*



*Baby Alan Mortimer!*

I was born in 1939, nine months before the Second World War began. My war was an innocent, happy experience with lots of dramatic events. We lived in Wallington in Surrey, close to London.

I hated being a baby. Stuck in that luxury Marmite pram I had to ball my eyes out to even get taken out in the afternoons, never mind the mornings. As I got older my legs worked and I could do as I liked. One day some men came to steal the iron railings around the front garden. This was OK, according to my Dad. Someone called Winston said it was for the war. Will they throw them at each other, I wondered?

In July and August 1940, when I was 18 months old, there was blue sky all the time. Aeroplanes chased one another in the sky and painted white lines all over it. Some planes fell down in fire. I was imprisoned in that awful pram, so what else was there to do, than to look up? My Mum and Dad talked about a battle of somewhere. After this, in September, planes dropped bombs all over London until the next May. I got my legs fully working in this time. My Dad was busy with his telephones and his fire watching. He was tired a lot and used to often get what were called asthma attacks. I was to find out what these were like!

And so our family survived the bombs. Cars had their lights reduced to slits and buses had cotton mesh stuck to the windows. Buses had a circular white disc painted at the rear and the same slit headlights as cars. At home we had to have black curtains to stop any light getting out. We lived very near to Croydon Airport. Spitfires took off and landed all day and all night. The sound of throbbing Merlin engines close to our roof became so common that we stopped hearing them. They were off to shoot down the bombers from Germany, my Dad said.

In the middle of 1942 a big adventure happened. A big noise in the middle of the night. I looked out of my bedroom window and a massive plane was coming towards our house. Its lights blinded me and it passed. A crash down the road, huge fires followed by the loud ringing of fire engine and ambulance bells. My Dad said that it was an English plane too big to land at the Airport and it had crashed into Lavender Vale, on top of The Childs' house and seven other houses.

And so started a four days of total entertainment for me. The Lancaster bomber had blocked our street and had to be cut up and cleared away. There was a big crane and many big six wheel camouflage lorries. The front of the plane was complete and had to be broken up. Men in overalls of all colours came to Lavender Vale to help clear it. There was a gap in our street like teeth missing. When all the men had gone, I explored the remains of the houses. In fact, the site became a good play area for lots of us children. At three and-a-half I gave little thought to how all those people died in the huge fire.

It was 1944. I was five years old. My sister Carol was 18 months old. Bad luck for her, she was a baby at the wrong time. And so I was the eldest and biggest! The main room at the back of our house in Surrey was called the "dining room". We usually had meals there. Taking up some of the room beside one wall, was a big table. We had meals sitting at this table and sometimes we stayed part of the night under it.

The "dining room" was brown. I thought it a horrible colour. This colour matched the steel of the Morrison Shelter; the table. It was made of thick steel and had wire mesh which clipped on, to box us inside. What an adventure to sleep under this table! Time after time, I had gone to my real bed only to be woken up by the whaling of air raid sirens. What fun to look out of my bedroom window and see searchlights scanning the sky from the airport.

This was often spoilt by my Mum or Dad who would take me to the dining room to stay the rest of the night under the dining room table. Heavy thuds could be heard every now and again. Suddenly, the dining room was lit up and I could see the sideboard. A doodlebug droned overhead and suddenly went silent. I heard an explosion down the road. No not us, this time.

The dining room had a hatch that opened into the kitchen. My Mum used to put dinners through the hatch, on to the table, the "shelter". My Mum had a thing about having a table cloth and absolutely no milk bottle on the table.

There were two armchairs in the dining room. They made a lovely tent up-ended and pushed together. There was a bookcase near a small window and a wireless. Its dial used to light up when it was on. The dining room had French big windows. What a noise they made one night. In the dining room this night, it was us. We went to bed under the shelter.

That old Winston man with the slow deep voice on the wireless must have made one of his long speeches and my dad decided that we should stay under the table. Perhaps this is why I am still here and not in a small grave somewhere. All the windows were smashed. A doodlebug went quiet on the approach to our house. My mum said it was number three of the war. It fell on The Henderson's house across the road and four others. There was lots of metal to collect the next day and wood and our loft fell in and plaster from the walls and all the upstairs ceilings. It was a mess. My dad had some coloured paints in the coal shed. They all mixed together on the floor. There was lots of dust. My dad phoned "Old Gibbs" the builder the next day to get the workman in to patch up our house straight away. They did.

My dad had to stay at his job in telephones in London. He could not go to France to fight. Every other week he worked at night and did fire-watching on the top of high buildings. He said that the Germans would try to smash Faraday Building in the City of London, because it was full of telephones.

### **Australian English**

(An extract from a recent talk titled 'English Down Under') Australian English incorporates many terms that are considered to be unique to this country. One of these is *outback* - a 'remote, sparsely-populated area'. Another is *Jackaroo*, an agricultural worker. Many such words, phrases or usages originated with the convicts who were transported to Australia. And words used frequently by rural Australians are also used in all or part of England, with variations in meaning. For example: a *creek* in Australia (as in North America) is any 'stream or small river', whereas in England it is a small watercourse flowing into the sea; *paddock* is the Australian word for 'field', while in England it is a small enclosure for livestock. *Bush* or *scrub* mean 'wooded areas' or 'country areas in general' in Australia, while in England they are commonly used only in proper names. Australian English and several British English dialects (eg Cockney, Scouse, Geordie) use the word *mate* to mean a friend, rather than the conventional meaning of 'a spouse', although this usage has also become common in some other varieties of English.

### **DEFINING OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD TERMS**

#### **Inverted snobbery** (*derogatory*)

This is an attitude of seeming to despise anything associated with wealth or social status, while at the same time elevating those things associated with lack of wealth and social position. But really, a snob is a snob, whatever a person's status in life.

#### **Reverse Racism**

According to *Merriam Webster* and other dictionaries 'racism' means a belief that race is the primary determinant of human traits and capacities and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular race; and racial prejudice or discrimination.

Thus, the term 'reverse racism' makes no sense. The core (of 'reverse racism,' that is) insinuates that white people can be racist against other races, but for other races to be biased against whites would have to be the 'reverse' of racism. It's nonsensical; it's either racist or it isn't - by definition.

#### **Reverse discrimination**

Reverse discrimination is discrimination against members of a dominant or majority group or in favor of members of a minority or historically disadvantaged group. Groups may be defined in terms of race, gender, ethnicity, or other factors. This discrimination may seek to redress social inequalities where minority groups have been denied access to the same privileges of the majority group. In such cases it is intended to remove discrimination that minority groups may already face.

Reverse discrimination may also be used to highlight the discrimination inherent in affirmative action programs. Reverse discrimination can also be defined as the unfair treatment of members of the majority groups resulting from preferential policies, as in college admissions or employment, intended to remedy earlier discrimination against minorities. The term reverse discrimination was used in the 1970s, the time period that focused on under-representation and affirmative action was intended to remedy the effects of past discrimination.

However, the concept of reverse discrimination has two different views: a broad sense and a narrow sense. In a broad sense, it refers to discrimination against white people or males in employment, education, and any other areas of life. In a narrow sense, reverse discrimination refers to the negative impact white people or males may experience because of affirmative action policies. The two views are often conflated, which leads to confusion and misinformation.

**PRINTING PARANOIA**

My printer has a mind of its own  
it chooses its own format.  
I type a page of my new poem –  
expect a copy like that.

But no! the length of line is changed  
the header is bizarre  
the horizontal rearranged  
to perpendicular!

Perhaps this could be rectified  
by changing margin settings  
or align left to justify-  
it's really most upsetting.

Let's have another go at this  
I click on print icon –  
but no! the bugger still insists;  
I see we've got a fight on.

Maybe the manual can help  
maybe the trouble-shooter  
but no! this idiosyncrasy  
is unique to my computer

Enjambments worked out very well  
the typed page looks just fine.  
Press "print" again – bloody hell-  
it's mangled up the lines!

To add insult to injury  
it makes my name convertible  
I'm fed up and frustrated  
to find I'm printed vertical.  
*Meryl Manoy, North Coast (Warwick)*

**EPITAPH**

Here lies a poor woman who always  
was tired,  
For she lived in a place where help  
wasn't hired.  
Her last words on earth were, Dear  
friends I am going  
Where washing aint done nor sweep-  
ing nor sewing,  
And everything there isw exact to my  
wishes,  
For there they don't eat and there's  
no washing of dishes.  
Don't mourn for me now, don't mourn  
for me never,  
For I'm going to do nothing for ever  
and ever.

**EPIGRAM**

*(A witty remark, or a short poem with a  
witty ending)*

What is an epigram? A dwarfish  
whole, its body brevity, and wit  
its soul. *(Coleridge)*

**OUR STRANGE LINGO**

When the English tongue we  
speak  
Why is break not rhymed with  
freak?  
Will you tell me why it's true  
We say sew but likewise few?  
And the maker of the verse  
Cannot rhyme his horse with  
worse?  
Beard is not the same as heard,  
Cord is different from word,  
Cow is cow but low is low,  
Shoe is never rhymed with foe.  
Think of hose, dose, and lose  
And think of goose and yet with  
choose.  
Think of comb, tomb and bomb,  
Doll and roll or home and some.  
Since pay is rhymed with say  
Why not paid with said, I pray?  
Think of blood, food and good.  
Mould is not pronounced like  
could.  
Wherefore done, but gone and  
lone – Is there any reason  
known?  
To sum up all, it seems to me  
Sound and letters don't agree.

**NOTES ON THE ART OF  
POETRY**

*By Dylan Thomas*

I could never have dreamt that  
there were such goings-on  
in the world between the covers  
of books,  
such sandstorms and ice blasts of  
words,  
such staggering peace, such  
enormous laughter,  
such and so many blinding  
lights,  
splashing all over the pages  
in a million bits and pieces  
all of which were words, words,  
words,  
and each of which were alive  
forever  
in its own delight and glory and  
oddity and light.

**Epigram Engraved on the  
Collar of a Dog**

I am his Highness' dog at Kew;  
Pray tell me, sir, whose dog are  
you?  
*(Alexander Pope)*

**AT THE FRONT OF THE  
JET**

The grapefruit's fresh, the  
coffee's coarsely ground,  
The lunch comes with a cold  
aperitif;  
The cushioned take-off scarcely  
makes a sound  
More vexing than the *iff* that  
ends *Braniff*.

Up front the stewardesses really  
care,  
They have kind eyes, like guides  
in Disneyland.  
(Doctors, great statesmen,  
writers go by air;  
The people at *United* lend a  
hand.)

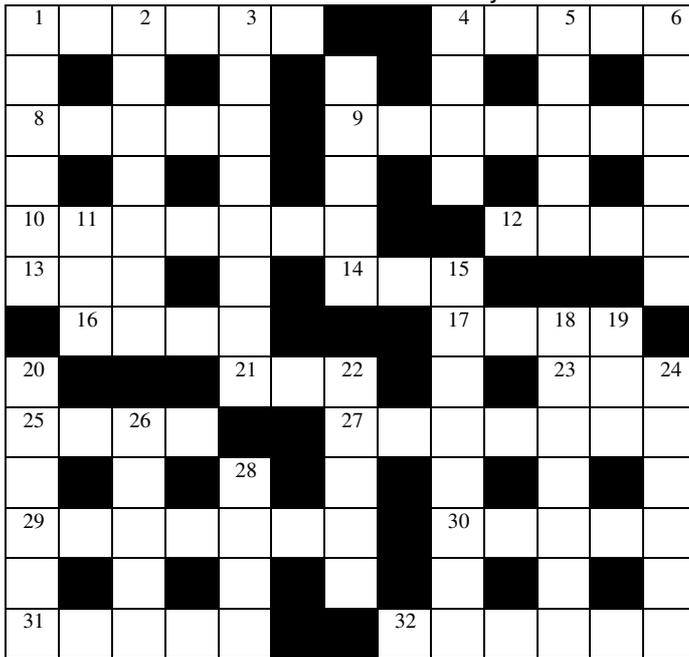
And at the terminal a car is  
waiting,  
Blue windshield showing a fresh  
trace of suds;  
They've left the blower on,  
refrigerating;  
The tape deck breathes '*Moon  
River*', the door thuds.

Give me the sole, the prime, the  
demitasse.  
Yes, if God travels, then He  
goes first-class!  
*Frederick Turner*

One evening in October, when I  
was one-third sober,  
And taking home a 'load' with  
manly pride;  
My poor feet began to stutter so I  
lay down in the gutter,  
And a pig came up and lay down  
by my side;  
Then we sang, 'It's all fair  
weather when good fellows get  
together,'  
Till a lady passing by was heard  
to say:  
'You can tell a man who boozes  
by the company he chooses,'  
And the pig got up and slowly  
walked away.  
*Benjamin Hapgood Burt*

**THE EPIGRAM**

If, with the literate, I am  
Impelled to try an epigram,  
I never seek to take the credit;  
We all assume that Oscar said it.  
*(Dorothy Parker)*

**CRYPTIC CROSSWORD** No.111 by Sonia Kellett**Across:**

1. Could this code bring you to a titbit? (6)
4. A joint in the bishop's hat, perhaps (5)
8. He goes anywhere where no mad person goes (5)
9. Go ape! (7)
10. A ragged rag man sometimes confounds one here (7)
12. A language that could become a hit (4)
13. Long for some Eastern money? (3)
14. Show the way back with twists and turns (3)
16. Make a note of a backward school (4)
17. The hankering of a chit of a girl (4)
21. Talk that could be a gift – although it could be called (5 down) (3)
23. At the centre a bub joins the din at the end (3)
25. A rake and rogue with a bit missing (4)
27. What could Lee gain from her stock? (7)
29. This clue may be unclear at this time (7)
30. He's inclined to fade out although ... 31. with effort, he can use his influence ...  
32. ... in the office (5,5,6)

**Down:**

1. Call it a day to begin like a dynamo (6)
2. Leave a piece behind (7)
3. Suffering at the end at the beginning (8)
4. I heard she was made to work (4)
5. (See 21 across)
6. Look out under cover (6)
7. James is a favourite with burglars (5)
11. As you were, Mrs! (3)
15. I hear the two women live in a Canadian city (8)
18. Charles is feeling a little guilty (7)
19. Be hugely close to the corner at first (3)
20. On the edge of the head? (6)
22. Tony Blair could be heard to shout (4)
24. I bet Ray would never disclose his failing (6)
26. Samuel is in the America (29 across) field (5)
28. Going to the opening event? (4)

**From the Editor:**

The annual Seminar was everything a Seminar should be: three interesting speakers holding the attention of members throughout their presentations, eliciting many questions from the audience. There was a welcome morning tea and tasty lunch, (although I did miss a hot cup of coffee.) Congratulations to the organizers who worked hard to ensure that the event ran smoothly.

The next edition of **INFORM** Issue 112 will be my last. David Phillips will take over as editor after that in the new year. In the meantime send your material to me as usual. The deadline for the 1 November to 28 February 2014 issue is **5pm on Monday 7 October**. Send to:

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