

Bad Hair Day?

I've come across an issue which some of you may also be suffering with. Is your hair getting longer and overly fluffy?

I know some hair dressers are still open, but with social distancing and all, what to do? I decided to look up YouTube. Turns out it does have a lot of videos and advise on cutting your own hair. Still, I'm not that clever to be able to set up two mirrors and be able to know which way the hand with the scissors is supposed to go or just where it should be. I just see a very bad hair style coming up and that would have another fine mess I had gotten myself into. Another idea! My son was coming over to check on me and he owns a set of hair clippers. See where I'm going?

Now I have the clippers, should I be really out there and clipper my hair all off?
Alas, no.

I decided to use a large comb with the clippers and take off the fluffy ends and some of the bulk. Well it looks and feels better than it did. It's sitting nicely and not sticking up any where. That is for now.

Of course, if this isolation keeps up, I'll have to do it again. Maybe next time I just might be brave enough to take it all off. I have done it before, though I was raising money for 'Shave for a Cure'. Could I do it now? Should I do it now? What do you think? Dare me? Email me – vp@u3agympie.com – and let me know your opinion.

How about everyone else, are you suffering the same problem? What have you done? How about some photos we can post on the U3A Gympie Facebook page. Maybe you have some advise to share on cutting my hair?

Take care and stay safe, Wendy

Class News

Although classes have been officially suspended, many classes are running regardless. Term Two started last week, so I hope you are all hard at work. A big **thank you!** to all the Tutors for organising work for their classes.

With Mary's help, we have compiled a list of songs for the Retro Jukebox singers. It can be received on USB or by email. Former or new members of the class are more than welcome to obtain a copy.

For IT classes I am recommending you go online to "Be Connected". This is a Government website offering online tutorials specifically for seniors. Easy to follow lessons cover a wide range of topics. I picked up one or two points I had either forgotten or never learned. Michael, your tutor, is more than happy to answer any queries you may have. For his contact details phone Denice (0490 757 458).

I am looking for a member to convene a Discussion Group, to run fortnightly with topics chosen in advance. Please contact me if you are interested in either joining the group or acting as convener.

Members you may not be aware that Susan Hayes holds no official office at present, yet all these wonderful Newsletters now twice a month are thanks to her badgering, resourcing, and tireless effort. On behalf of the members THANK YOU for helping us stay connected.
Denice

Retro Jukebox Singers

Hello lovely Retro Jukebox singers and fellow U3A members. I hope you are all keeping well and exploring other activities and areas of life, maybe old, maybe something totally new. It's certainly been a time to slow up, to focus more within and to enjoy ways that are grounding and strengthening to our being.

As discussed with Class Co-ordinator Denice, a USB of our songs can be sent in the near future. Then we can all have fun singing the songs we know, practice with some newbies and perhaps give some feedback if you're feeling it.

Stay safe, be aware and be courageous to enjoy your time. Love n' Light, Di ☺

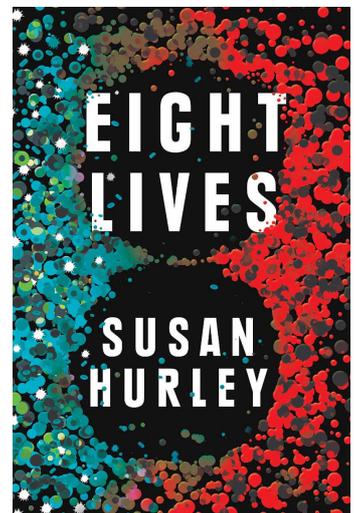
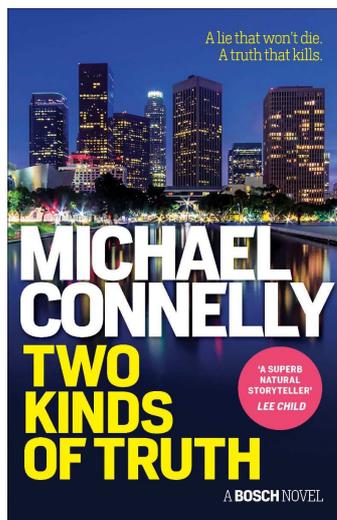
Bookmarks Book Club

Bookmarks Book Club held their April meeting via Zoom.

We download our books from the Gympie library's BorrowBox and read them on our devices. We miss meeting in person but ZOOM is the next best thing - although not physically in the same room we can see and hear each other. (Two of us had minor technical issues but we will have them sorted for next time.)

We discussed Michael Connelly's 'Two Kinds of Truth' and the overall consensus was that it was a good read. We also found time to talk a little about other books we've read over the past weeks (both 'real' and digital) and shared news of other things we're doing to keep busy, such as tackling difficult crosswords and unpacking boxes left over from a recent house move. One member is even planning a camping trip at the back of her property!

We plan to meet on ZOOM again in May, to discuss our next book 'Eight Lives' by Susan Hurley.



Money Matters

Cashless Society

The **advantages** of a cashless society

- Reduction in fraud and tax evasion
- Lower crime rate as there is no tangible money to steal
- Ability to pay the exact amount every time
- Potential tool in the fight against modern slavery
- Easier to spend globally
- Convenience of having all your money at hand, all the time

The **disadvantages** of a cashless society

- Exposes your personal information to a possible data breach
 - Some generations might struggle with unfamiliar technology
 - Technology problems can leave you with no access to your money
 - The poor and those without bank accounts will have difficulty paying and receiving payments
 - Greater risk of overspending
- Banks may start charging fees to compensate for possible negative interest rates

Bendigo Bank
BSB: 633 000
Account: U3A Gympie Inc
Number 156 399 636

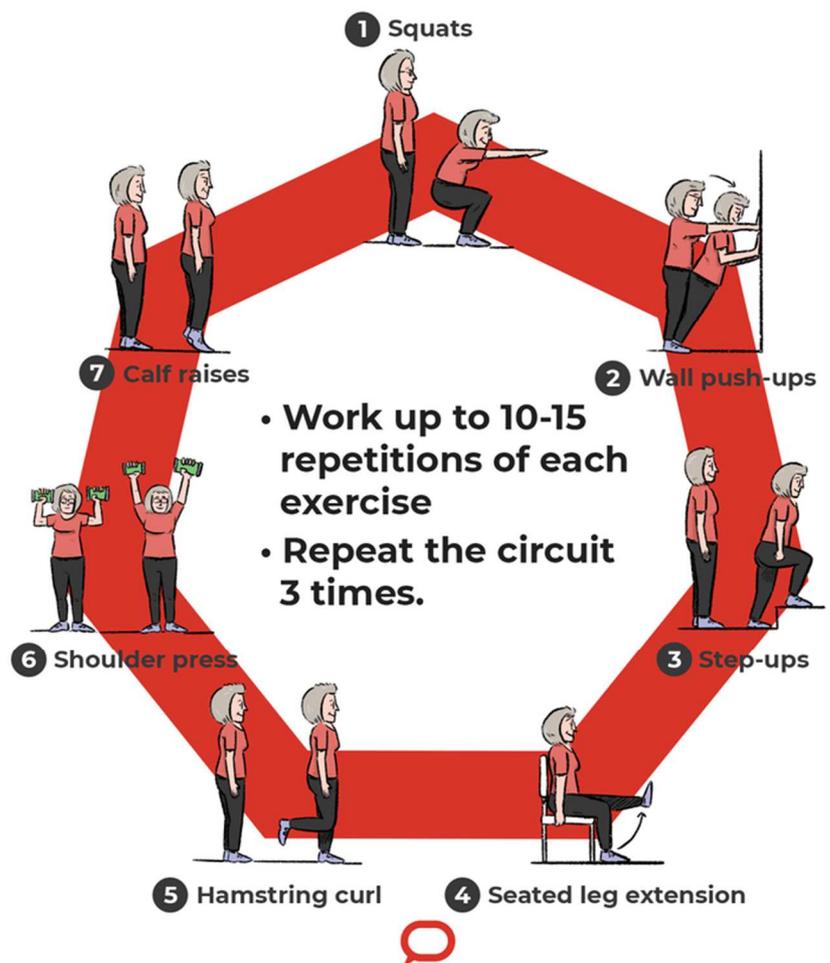


Happy Birthday to the following members and everyone else celebrating a birthday this month.

Joy Kachel
Claire Trustcott
Melanie Hay
Denise Johnson
Jeanette Rhodes

We wish all of you many happy returns.

**Why not celebrate with a Quarantini?
It's a regular martini, but you drink it alone in your house.**



U3A Online

There is a University of the Third Age that you can join separately from U3A Gympie. All that's needed is access to a computer, tablet or other device with an Internet connection - and some basic computing skills. U3A Online delivers a wide range of over 70 online courses for older people, especially those who are geographically, physically or socially isolated. Find us at: <https://www.u3aonline.org.au>

COTA Queensland

How to explore the outside world while you are physically distancing or self-isolating

What can we do when we can't get out into the world? Here are a few suggestions from COTA Queensland. You can find out more at cotaql.org.au

1. Learn something new

The State Library of Queensland is temporarily closed to the public, but their online services will remain unchanged. Visit them online to access thousands of free resources – ebooks, newspapers, journals, films and other resources using your Library card. If you are not already a member, it's easy to sign up online and access is immediate.

2. Vivit Museums and Art Galleries

You can enjoy virtual tours and online exhibits of some of the famous museums around the world with over [2500 museums and galleries](#) accessible online.

3. Enjoy Events and Performing Arts

Stay at Home Fest harnesses the power of the internet for good, by creating a central hub to find all the fantastic decentralized events that are happening online, and aiding music discovery during the global [pandemic](#). View the calendar here: www.stayathomefest.com - note North American time zones may apply.

4. Travel on Virtual Tours

Fancy a trip to the zoo? Perhaps to the pyramids of Giza, Chichen Itza in Mexico or Stonehenge near Salisbury? Search online for virtual tours of your dream destination.



Calling All Creative Writers

If you have some extra time on your hands while social isolating, why not enter the Bridport Prize? This international creative writing competition has been going since 1973 and launched the careers of several best-selling writers. It attracts entries from 85 separate countries and there is \$40,000 prize money on offer.

The Bridport has sections for poetry, short story, flash fiction (maximum of 250 words). There is also a section for novels but that is for UK writers only.

Everyone is advised to carefully read the rules, entry requirements and eligibility before submission.

Entries close by 31 May.

Find more information on their website: www.bridportprize.org.uk.

As well as competition guidelines it has plenty of writing tips amongst its resources section.

Need something to do?

Had your fill of cleaning, cooking, playing DVDs and watching TV?
Did you know that if you are Library member you can:

- download the Kanopy app and watch movies,
- download BorrowBox and borrow ebooks
- download BorrowBox and listen to audio books.

As well, U3A Gympie has a new Facebook book club called 'The Isolators Book Club'. At the moment we are reading 'The Birdman's Wife' by Melissa Ashley.



Video Conferencing

Are you missing interactions with family and friends? Video conferencing can help. It allows you to talk face-to-face, even if it is via a screen. Some of our classes are keeping in touch using video conferencing, as are U3A classes across the state.

There are plenty of free video conferencing apps you can use to connect. One you may have heard about recently is Zoom. You can create a (free) Zoom account by visiting zoom.us, or find out more about video conferencing at these sites

<https://au.pcmag.com/cloud-services-1/10187/the-best-video-conferencing-software-for-2020>

Astronomy Day 2nd May

Did you know that we can see the past? Light from distant stars take a very long time to reach the Earth. When we look at a star we are looking at the light that left the star several hundred, thousands or even million years ago!

Astronomy is the study of celestial bodies and non-Earthly phenomena. It deals with objects like the planets, stars, and asteroids as well as events such as eclipses and meteor showers.

Why not use this day to learn more about astronomy. You could start by following this link to see what will be in the sky tonight -

www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/night/australia/brisbane

