



# The Bulletin

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**ADULT LEARNERS WEEK, 2017 SEPTEMBER 1 – 8** *Adult Learners Week* is an international celebration of lifelong and lifewide learning and a time to reflect on your own learning journey and investigate opportunities to take the next step. This year's theme is “**TAKE THE LEAP AND REDISCOVER LEARNING**” and we will be having an

information stall at Goulburn Square (The Mall) on Friday, September 1st from 10am till 4.30pm and would like some of our members to volunteer for an hour or two on the day – please let the office know if you are available.

**TEA & TALK AT CHATSBURY GARDENS, SEPTEMBER 7** England

may have Beatrix Potter and *Peter Rabbit* & A.A. Milne and *Winnie the Pooh* but Australia has May Gibbs and *Snugglypot & Cuddlepip*. Although born in England, May Gibbs came to Australia as a child of 4, so we can rightfully claim her as being our own. In December 2016 we celebrated 100 years since the publication of *Gumnut Babies* and *Gum-Blossom Babies*, the first of May Gibbs' much-loved bush baby books, but



did you know that as well as being one of Australia's most successful children's book authors and illustrators, in her early days she also painted scenery and made sets for amateur theatre productions, produced fashion illustrations for womens magazines, was seen as one of Australia's first woman resident professional cartoonist and caricaturist and the first Australian woman known to have published local political cartoons? Come along to the next *Tea & Talk* for our *Famous Australians Series* at Chatsbury Gardens on Thursday, 7th September at 2pm and learn more about this remarkable woman.



**LET'S EXPLORE CELEBRATES FLORIADE TURNING 30!**

Floriade first began when Peter Sutton and his colleague, landscape designer Chris Slotemakel De Bruine, developed a proposal for a grand floral display to celebrate Australia's Bicentenary and Canberra's 75th birthday - Floriade is now Australia's biggest celebration of spring. They say when you turn 30, big things happen and as Floriade celebrates its 30th birthday, they will be fondly looking back on past event successes and positively looking forward to future event brilliance. Let's Explore will awaken from its winter hibernation in time to help celebrate Floriade's milestone birthday. We will be having our first trip of Term 4 on Wednesday, 11th October to Floriade. Tickets \$20, which include bus travel and morning tea only – lunch own expense, will be available soon. Please remember this is a *Let's Explore* class activity for members enrolled for that class.

**STRICTLY BALLROOM** Although our trip to the Erindale Theatre for the Canberra Philharmonic' *Strictly Ballroom* is not till October 21st, already we have tentative bookings for all the tickets we have available and a waiting list, please be reminded that only payment will secure your booking. Payment **must** be finalised by Monday, 18th September or earlier – the earlier the better! The office at the *McDermott Centre* is open on Mondays from 11am till 1pm and the office at the *U3A Annexe* (next to Workers Club in Auburn Street) will be opening every Tuesday from 10am till 12noon to enable you to make payment.





Back in the days when most of us were growing up, the main meal of the day 'meat and three veg,' simply cooked, and a pudding of some kind was the norm – nothing wrong with that - it was good wholesome food. The only takeaway food available then was fish and chips and hamburgers and on special occasions we celebrated by going out for a meal at the local Chinese restaurant, about the only 'foreign' restaurant around then. Everything started to change at the end of WW2, including our taste buds, with the influence of migrants from Europe and more recently from Asian and Middle Eastern countries. To-day nearly every town and city boasts restaurants from a 'melting pot' of nations with a dazzling wealth of cuisines to choose from.

It has been said that *Let's Do Lunch* is not a 'proper' course, just a social event, an excuse for our members to eat out once a month – WRONG - it has a great learning component to it, just as much as if you were doing a history, craft or some other class! Of course there is a social side of it – the bonus of having a great meal in congenial company in the warm, friendly ambience of one of our local restaurants. At these lunches we learn about the food and customs of other countries, far away lands that we may never get the opportunity to visit. How many of our members had tasted goat's meat before we visited the African restaurant or knew such delightful vegetarian Indian dishes with exotic names such Aloo Mutter existed or that Spag Bol was not the only pasta dish to come out of Italy - let alone were brave enough to try them. We often gaze in wonder at the way some of our own favourite Australian dishes are being 'tweaked' to look so differently and taste so much more delicious than they ever did when we were younger and how some of those stodgy puddings of the past are giving way to delectable works of art. No, we are learning all the time at *Let's Do Lunch* about how our once humble Australian cuisine is changing – mostly for the better - and what better way to learn! *Pat Spilsbury, convenor of Let's Do Lunch*

**MEMBER'S RECOMMENDED WEBSITES** Sometimes, when 'surfing the net', members find some really interesting websites – so if you come across anything you think may interest other members – please send the link to [bulletin@gm-u3a.com.au](mailto:bulletin@gm-u3a.com.au) and we will post it in the Bulletin. Perc Carter found this one that he thought would interest other members, why not take a look for yourself - it is from the Cloud Appreciation Society and their website is [www.hello@cloudappreciationsociety.org](http://www.hello@cloudappreciationsociety.org)



**READ THIS VERY IMPORTANT CHANGE TO OUR OFFICE HOURS**

As from Monday, August, 21st, the U3A office at the McDermott Centre will only be opening from 11am till 1pm on Mondays, but our office at the U3A Annexe (use to be a travel agency) which is between the Workers Club's Auburn Street entrance and the Salvation Army's Employment Plus office will be opening from 10am till 12 noon on Tuesdays. We ask for our members' patience during the unsettling times ahead and the changes that will be occurring during the coming months. Please keep up-to-date with these changes by checking our website [www.gm-u3a.com.au](http://www.gm-u3a.com.au) at least once a week or if you do not have access to the web you can join *Quills* and pick up the printed information every fortnight.

One of the changes is that, due to her husband's accident causing injuries to his back, Viv Sweeney will be unable to go ahead with her *Feldenkrais* class. We have send our wishes for his speedy recovery. A new class starting in Term 4 will be *The History of Numbers* which promises to be an interesting one and our proposed French class is looking very hopeful – more details next Bulletin.

*“Change is the law of life and those who look only to the past or present  
are certain to miss the future” John F. Kennedy*