



TERM 4 2026 PROGRAM GUIDE

Monday 12 October – Friday 4 December

Our prime concern is the wellbeing of all members: those who are keen to attend face-to-face sessions and those who would prefer to use Zoom.

The program has been developed to provide opportunities both for face-to-face sessions and for sessions delivered through Zoom.

This Program Guide is in three parts:

- News and views (N & V)
- Short courses (S)
- Visits and outings (V)

Full Year Courses 2026 is a separate document.

Enrolments for ALL courses must be done online – see page 26, or phone for assistance.

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Office and main meeting rooms:

Balwyn Park Centre, Balwyn Park
206A Whitehorse Road, Balwyn 3103
(See page 8 and our website for other venues)

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9817 7736 if office open. Otherwise 0408 019 815

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Mondays to Fridays, 9.00am to 12 noon during term time

Email: u3adeepdeneinc@gmail.com

Website: www.u3adeepdene.org.au

NEWS & VIEWS

2026 Term 4

Thursdays 12.00 - 1.15pm approx (AEDT)

Via ZOOM

or viewed at Balwyn Park on large screen

Presentations: 40 minutes followed by Q&A via Zoom 'Chat' facility

Our aim is to encourage the exploration of ideas in an open, safe & mutually respectful environment

Views expressed by any speakers in a session are their own & not the official view of U3A Deepdene

Date	Focus of Presentation	Presenter
15 October	<i>Space: New race to explore the solar system</i>	Dr Brad Tucker Astrophysicist/Cosmologist Research School of Astronomy & Astrophysics Australian National University
22 October	<i>Defending human creativity against the AI assault</i>	Dr Alan Finkel AC Founder: Proudly Human Former Chief Scientist & Chancellor Monash University
29 October	<i>Myanmar: Current Complexities & Challenges</i>	Dr Sean Turnell Hon Prof of Economics - Macquarie University Non-resident Fellow - Lowy Institute
5 November	<i>USA Part 1: The Philadelphia Convention - Framing the US Constitution aka the Bundle of Compromises</i>	Stephen Marantelli Former Barrister & Author
12 November	<i>USA Part 2: Going forward post Mid-Term elections</i>	Bruce Wolpe Senior Fellow – Non-resident United States Study Centre University of Sydney
19 November	<i>Assassination, Sabotage, Stolen Archives and Precision Strikes: Israel's Covert War on Iran's Nuclear Weapons Program</i>	Ran Porat Affiliate Research Associate Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation Monash University
26 November	<i>Australia 2036: Where will we be?</i>	Bernard Salt AM The Demographer Group Author, Demographer, Columnist
3 December	<i>'Three Worlds Oak': A witty & uniquely eccentric memoir of genus</i>	Professor Tim Entwisle AO Author, Botanist Former Director & Executive Officer Royal Botanic Gardens Vic

N&V Team: Kay Axsentieff, Barbara Emerson, Melinda Sparkes, Ken Wilson

SHORT COURSES

THE ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE

Art and Architecture

S 01 Cartier Jewellery Exhibition at the NGV

Imogen Mallia-Valljan, Assistant Curator, International Decorative Arts and Design at the National Gallery of Victoria

A walk through the Cartier exhibition with conversation around the design, thematics and key pieces. Looking at the key aspects of Cartier design through form, volume and line as well as their commitment to high-quality jewels. We will also look at the clients of Cartier and how they came to be connected.



Wednesday 10.30am – 12 noon
14 October

Zoom

S 02 Egypt and the Grand Egyptian Museum

Frank Devlin, Deepdene U3A member

This talk covers the early Egyptian history, architecture, sculpture, paintings, bas-reliefs and deities.

It is based on a visit to Egypt in April this year. Frank will introduce the recently completed GEM (the largest archaeological museum in the world) and particularly the Tutankhamun Gallery where all his artifacts are displayed for the first time. This will be followed by visits to the Saqqara Necropolis, the Pyramids, the Temples of Karnak and Luxor and the tombs of Seti I, Tutankhamun and Ramesses IV in the Valley of the Kings. We may have a 5-minute break which will be followed by visits to the mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut in the Valley of

the Kings, Abu Simbel's Temples of Ramesses the Great and his favourite wife, Nefertari, and the Nile temples of Philae, Kom Ombo and Edfu. Finally, we will farewell Cairo with a visit to the Coptic churches in Old Cairo.



Wednesday 10.30am – 12 noon
21 October

Balwyn Park Centre

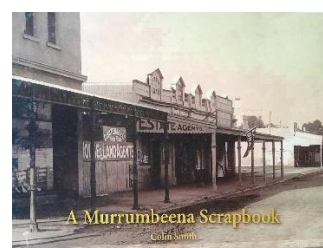
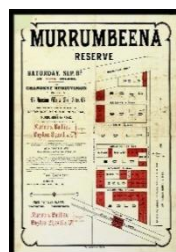
S 03 A Murrumbeena Scrapbook

Colin Smith

Colin has spent almost 40 years researching Murrumbeena and its art history, which includes the Boyds. In 2025 he published 'A Murrumbeena Scrapbook'. In this book he draws together many of the elements that made up life in Murrumbeena last century. In this highly visual presentation, Colin will talk about these elements, including Murrumbeena's European history, its market gardens, woodyards, public hall and estates, and the Boyd family.

His book will be available for \$20 a copy.

Please bring cash along to pay Colin directly. The Office will not have change.



Wednesday 10.30am – 12 noon
28 October

Balwyn Park Centre

S 04 The Three Waterways of Paris

Dr Michael Adcock, 19th century art historian, Academy Travel tour guide, University of Melbourne lecturer

This presentation, however, will go beyond touristic sightseeing to explore the deeper history of the River Seine which, amongst other things, is one of the most important of France's riverine ports. The presentation will also explore the 'lost' second river of Paris, La Bièvre, which disappeared from history when it was covered over, becoming, technically a drain. Even more alluring is the special cruise along the previously industrial Canal Saint-Martin, which takes smaller cruise boats on an intimate and lyrical journey right out to La Villette. We will finish by exploring the wonderful renovation of La Villette itself, with its ultra-modernistic buildings and lush green parklands. This presentation is based upon the many explorations of the enchanted waterways, taken by the author with study groups when in Paris as a guide.



Wednesday 10.30am – 12noon

11 November

Zoom

S 05 My Incomparable Josephine

Sylvia Sagona, Maitrise des Lettres, University of Aix en Provence, retired lecturer University of Melbourne

Rather than the tearful victim of Napoleon, Josephine was a shrewd, acquisitive manipulator of men and rank. This lecture will trace her life from childhood in Martinique to marriage into French aristocracy and then, after prison during the Revolution, to mistress to the most powerful man in France who would introduce her to an impressionable Napoleon. Initially sceptical of Napoleon and indulging in various liaisons and money-making endeavours, Josephine became more devoted as his career led him to conquering the world. The jewellery that she amassed now adorns the crowned

heads of Europe, her descendants via her son and daughter of her first marriage.

Wednesday 10 30 am – 12 noon

18 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 06 Handmade Persian Carpets

Professor Ebrahim Shayan, Swinburne University, U3A Deepdene member

A nonexpert review of Handmade Persian Carpets. Love and live them! I dared talking on this topic out of my own love for this art, not my expert knowledge. Many consider purchase of carpet an enjoyable investment with good return. Type, design, material, colour, wool or silk, weaving skills, finalisation and presentation are some of the variables affecting the final quality, beauty, and durability of the carpets. Putting all these factors together to make good sense of it requires years of field experience and education. I will take you through a brief history of carpets in Iran, starting from some 3000 years ago, but mostly in recent time, say last 400 years ago, when this art flourished again. I will pictorially show you the process of creating a carpet from sheep wool to its final form, including the structure of the loom, knots, etc. I will attempt to introduce the famous types and the regions they come from with some specific characteristic of each type and to show some photos of different finished carpets. I will provide you with some additional information about general maintenance of the carpets, and considerations when purchasing carpets. Please do not expect me to answer all your questions about Persian Carpets.



Wednesday 1.30pm – 3.00pm **NOTE TIME**

25 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 07 La Musée D'Orsay, Paris

Dr Michael Adcock, 19th century art historian, Academy Travel tour guide, University of Melbourne lecturer

The Musée d'Orsay is a museum in Paris, France, on the Left Bank of the Seine. It is housed in the former Gare d'Orsay, a Beaux-Arts railway station built from 1898 to 1900. In the past, French museums presented a narrow, rigid narrative of 19th-century art, focusing almost exclusively on canonical movements like Neo-Classicism, Romanticism, Realism, and Impressionism while ignoring alternative movements like Symbolism. The creation of the Musée d'Orsay transformed this perspective by offering a comprehensive, panoptical view of the era. By displaying conservative and academic art alongside groundbreaking movements, the Orsay highlights the true radicalism of modern art. Drawing on doctoral research in the Orsay's archives, this PowerPoint presentation takes audiences on a visual tour of the museum's vibrant collection—exploring diverse styles from Orientalism to Naturalism and revealing French 19th-century art as a rich, complex, and dynamic story.



Wednesday
10.30 am –
12noon
2 December
Zoom

Discussions

S 08 Discussing Art

Bev Steer, U3A Deepdene

Learn to explore the meaning and message of art works. Your perceptions and point of view are based on your experiences and knowledge. These are shared within the friendly group. Skills of questioning, reflection and critical thinking are highlighted. Understanding others' points of view is a celebration of ideas. A different artwork is chosen each time for contemplation.

(2) Wednesdays 1.30pm – 3.00pm
14 October, 11 November (2nd Wednesday)

Balwyn Park Centre

Practical Arts

S 09 Painting a realistic Portrait on Canvas

Shirley Silverstein, art teacher, retired

Participants will complete a realistic portrait or subject matter of their own choice using acrylic or oil paints. The class will be suitable for beginners wishing to learn to use oil paints. Table easels would be helpful but are not essential if working at a small A3 or A4 scale.

(5) Mondays 1.30pm – 3.00pm

26 October – 30 November

Alston Halls

S 10 Making cards

Joan Cooper, U3A Deepdene

It is so good to receive a handmade card, realising that the sender has taken time and effort to make it for you. Come, learn and make special birthday and greeting cards for friends and family. A variety of examples is provided to copy or adapt. Led by an experienced card maker. All materials supplied.

Joan will be hosting an additional session especially for Christmas Cards on 7 December.

Cost \$2 per card to cover materials (pay Joan on the day/s)

(3) Mondays 1.30pm – 3.00pm

12 October, 9 November, 7 December

Private home

S 11 Felting

Julie Holder, U3A Deepdene

Felting wool is the process of transforming loose wool fibres into a dense, non-woven fabric by matting, condensing and pressing them together using heat, moisture and agitation – wet method. This ancient technique causes the wool fibres' scales to interlock, creating a durable, stretch-resistant material that does not fray.

Felting can be a fun craft to do with children as well as providing gifts. Items to make range from toys, jackets, glasses cases – your imagination will make it happen.

Things to bring from around the house:

Old towel

Sprinkle or strong spray bottle for water

Half metre-square bubble wrap

Half metre of netting, e.g. tulle or lace curtain piece

Piece of soap

Rolling pin or sturdy cardboard tube

Cost \$5 per card to cover materials paid to

Julie on the day/s

(2) Mondays 1.30pm – 3.00pm

26 October, 9 November

Balwyn Park Centre – Garden Room

F 23 Slow Stitching and Beyond (Full Year)

Anne Semple, U3A Deepdene

Experience the conviviality and the freedom to relax as you play with bits of fabric and hand-stitch them creatively in collages as the mood and interest take you.

Plain and simple, large or small, you can embellish with beads, buttons and lace, or not at all.



Something already on the go? Bring it along and we'll stitch together.

No formal classes – share and create as we go.

(3) Tuesdays 10.30am – 12 noon

20 October, 17 November, 1 December

Balwyn Park Centre

Full Year Art Courses

F 21 Exploring watercolour

Merryl Corney

Not in Term 4

F 22 Introduction to Drawing

Christine Leuner

Tuesdays 10.30am – 12 noon

First 6 weeks of Term 3

Garden Room, Balwyn Park Centre

F 23 Slow stitching

Anne Semple

Tuesdays 10.30am – 12 noon

1st and 3rd Tuesday each month

Balwyn Park Centre

F 24 En plein air

Helena Dunn

Wednesdays 1.30pm – 3.00pm

4th Wednesday each month

Participants will be advised of chosen sites

F 25 Painting and drawing

Gary Faul

Fridays 9.30am – 11.00am

Weekly

Garden Room, Balwyn Park Centre

F 26 Quilting

Jean Dunn

Thursdays 1.45pm – 3.15pm

Weekly

Garden Room, Balwyn Park Centre

F 27 Photography

Karin Watts

Mondays 11.00am

Various locations, fortnightly

Thursdays 9.30am – 11.00am

Weekly

Zoom

GARDENS

V 02 Garden Visit

System Garden at University of Melbourne, Parkville

The System Garden at the University of Melbourne is a distinctive historic garden dating from 1856. Designed by Professor Frederick McCoy and architect Edward La Trobe Bateman, it serves as both a scientific and teaching garden. This secure public space features a diverse collection of plants, including mosses, ferns, cycads, conifers and flowering plants. Located between the Babel and Botany buildings on the Parkville campus, it is valued for its educational and historical significance.

Please read the weather forecast, bring a water bottle, and wear sensible shoes.

All who enrol for the walk will receive meeting instructions before the day.



Thursday 10.00am
29 October

S 12 Gardens in Southern England

Suzanne Collings, U3A Deepdene

There are so many great gardens in England and we will look at some of them in this session – Arundel Castle, Dunster Castle, Tintinhull, Polesden Lacey to name a few of them. They are all gardens with history, fascinating plant collections and lots to see – plus a few garden seats!

Thursday 10.00am – 11.30am
12 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 13 Gardens - My Favourite Garden

This term we have another session from members of U3A Deepdene telling us about a garden they love, or that has left a lasting impression on them

Colac Botanic Garden

Pam Jellie

Pamela will share her introduction to gardening and landscape through the local Botanic Garden which was her childhood playground. She later discovered that the secret to its splendour was no accident, but due to the dedication of a resident Scots trained curator and the plan of an early designer which linked the local garden with the Melbourne Botanic gardens.

Reserved in 1867, in the post war years she has observed the planting styles, the lack of labour, the waning of interest and the opening up of the site to recreational interests over the intervening years.

Wollerton Old Hall in Shropshire

Sue Woolley

I had never heard of this garden before I visited it as part of a garden tour in 2018. But from the minute I walked through the inviting half open garden gate I was utterly charmed. The owner and creator of this garden is an artist and it shows. As you move from one 'garden' room to another the beauty of this garden is revealed; it is an absolute delight. In Monty Don's British Gardens, I was interested to see it's one of his favourite gardens too.

Alexandra Gardens, Kew

Elizabeth Etty-Leal

The beautiful Alexandra Gardens in Kew are a magical retreat from the buzz of Kew Junction. These Federation Gardens are a popular place for picnics, weddings and festivals.

Turkeith and Mooleric

Helen Page

These neighbouring properties outside of Birriggera were first settled in the 1830s. The

gardens we see there now date from the early 1900's. William Guilfoyle, the Director of the Melbourne Botanic Gardens at the time, designed the Mooleric garden and heavily influenced the Turkeith garden. Both gardens have been, until the last 20 or 30 years, passed down through the families, each generation lovingly tending the gardens. New owners of each over the recent decades have continued caring for these gardens preserving Guilfoyle's vision. Both properties are working farms with original bluestone homesteads.



Thursday 10.00am – 11.30am
26 November
Balwyn Park Centre

OUR VENUES

On our website, there is a section VENUES. There you will find descriptions, photos and clear maps.

– **OFFICE & MAIN VENUE – Balwyn Park Centre**, 206A Whitehorse Road, Balwyn, 3103
109 (Box Hill) tram, Car park (entrance from Whitehorse Road) street parking in Whitehorse Road, Cherry Street and some surrounding streets.

Alston Halls, Deepdene Uniting Church, 958 Burke Road, Deepdene, 3103
109 (Box Hill) and 72 (Camberwell) trams; 548 (Ivanhoe) bus. Car park (entrance from Dale Street, off Whitehorse Road) with limited parking; street parking in Burke Road and Whitehorse Road.

Main Hall, Deepdene Uniting Church, 958 Burke Road, Deepdene, 3103
109 (Box Hill) and 72 (Camberwell) trams; 548 (Ivanhoe) bus. Car park (entrance from Dale Street, off Whitehorse Road) with limited parking; street parking in Burke Road and Whitehorse Road.

Stradbroke Park Pavilion, Corner Harp Road and Burke Road, Balwyn, 3103
48 (North Balwyn) tram – 10 minute walk; 302 (Box Hill), 304 (Doncaster SC) and 548 (Ivanhoe) buses. Ample off street car parking; entrance from Burke Road plus parking in Burke Road.

Horrie Watson Pavilion, Deepdene Park, Whitehorse Road, Balwyn, 3103, between Walsh Street and Parkside Avenue
109 (Box Hill) tram. Off street car parking plus street parking in Walsh Street and Parkside Avenue.



HEALTH AND MEDICINE

S 14 Oh! Those ageing knees and hips and my balance is not what it was

Andrew Kokinos, Peak Physiotherapy

What can be done to relieve pain in hips and knees as we age and ward off replacement of joints? Join Andrew as he provides information and practical advice as well as addressing the issue of preventing falls through balance activities. Maintaining mobility is key to engaging in activity as we age and helps maintain independence. Find answers from a leading physiotherapist.

Tuesday 10.30am – 12 noon
20 October

Balwyn Park Centre

S 15 New Frontiers in understanding and treating Parkinson's Disease

Professor David Finkelstein, Florey Institute

Professor Finkelstein is a leading physiologist and head of the Parkinson's Disease Laboratory at the Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health. He will discuss the ageing brain and what happens with Parkinson's Disease. He will explain why it develops, current treatment and some of the exciting new research that may lead to better therapies. He will also touch on maintaining a healthy brain.

Tuesday 10.30 – 12noon
27 October

Balwyn Park Centre

S 16 Delaying the inevitable: the role of our gut biome.

Dr Paul Gow, Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Melbourne

Heart disease, diabetes, fatty liver, dementia, stroke and many cancers are usually treated as separate diseases, but they share the same underlying causes. This talk explores how our diet can disrupt our metabolism, gut bacteria and immune system, creating a cycle of inflammation and disease. It also explores what we can eat to protect our health, from fibre-rich plants and olive oil to coffee and, more controversially, red meat.

Tuesday 10.30am – 12 noon
17 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 17 Dementia Australia

Hosted by Fiona Malcolm, Deepdene U3A

Join us for an **online** Community Education Presentation at Balwyn Park Centre which has been created by Dementia Australia. It is an interactive presentation where Dementia Australia provides an online video with information on three topics:

1. Brain Health – health and lifestyle factors that impact our brain health plus practical tips to keep your brain healthy.
2. About Dementia – what is dementia, what are the signs and symptoms and how is it diagnosed and treated?
3. Staying Connected – the importance of support.

We will have a discussion after each presentation. We will not have anyone from Dementia Australia at Deepdene on the day as the presentation is designed by them to inform community groups with details on how to contact Dementia Australia directly.



Dementia Australia®

Tuesday
10.30am – 12noon
24 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 18 My Aged Care

Helen Craddock, Aged Care Navigator, Community Services, Boroondara Council

Join us for an informative session on My Aged Care and learn how to access aged care supports and services. Topics will include eligibility, assessments, home support services and navigating the aged care system.



myagedcare

Thursday 2.00 – 3.30pm
26 November

Balwyn Park Centre

**S 19 Strength Training for Healthy Ageing:
building resilience, mobility and
independence**

*William McIntosh, Clinical leader and
senior Physiotherapist, Keiser Mont Albert*

William will provide evidence to empower us by giving a clear understanding of how strength training contributes to healthy ageing. He will

focus on strategies to maintain independence, reduce injury risk and improve overall quality of life.

Tuesday 10.30 – 12noon

1 December

Balwyn Park Centre

SCIENCE

**S 20 Telescopes: how far can we see into
the past and what does it mean?**

*Bruno Zielke, Astronomical Society of
Victoria*

Bruno will take us on a fascinating journey from the pioneering telescope designs of Galileo and Newton to the James Webb Space Telescope and the giant Square Kilometre Array currently under construction in Western Australia. Along the way, he will explain how different types of telescopes reveal distant planets, stars and galaxies, enabling astronomers to peer billions of years into the past. He will explore one of astronomy's most intriguing questions: How far can we see into the past, and what does it mean?



Tuesday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

13 October

Balwyn Park Centre

**S 21 Farming, Environmental Damage
and Regenerative Agriculture**

John Beaney, Mornington U3A

Modern agriculture has transformed food production, but at what environmental cost? This presentation will examine how industrial farming has affected our soils, water systems and climate, and explore the growing interest

in regenerative agriculture as a more sustainable alternative. John will consider the potential of regenerative grazing to restore soil health, increase carbon storage and strengthen ecosystem resilience and challenge us to rethink the way we produce food and its impact on the planet.

Thursday 2.00pm – 3.30pm

22 October

Zoom

**S 22 A Century of Television in Melbourne
and Australia: before, during and
after the small screen**

*Professor Jock Given, Department of
Media and Communications, Swinburne
University.*

Television has entertained, informed and shaped society for a century. In 1926, the first public demonstration of a working television system marked the beginning of a communications revolution. But what made television possible, and how has it adapted in the age of streaming, social media and digital platforms? Jock will explore the technological innovations, economic forces and social changes that brought television into our homes and transformed it into one of the world's most influential media. From early mechanical experiments to smart TVs, streaming services and the convergence of broadcast and online media, discover the remarkable story of 100 years of television, how the way we watch continues to evolve, and what the future may hold in an increasingly digital world.

Tuesday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

20 October

Balwyn Park Centre

S 23 Maintaining hope and fostering positive change against existential environmental crises

Euan Ritchie, Professor of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, Deakin University

Climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental degradation can seem overwhelming, yet there are genuine reasons for hope. Euan examines the scale of today's environmental challenges, how we arrived at this critical point, and—most importantly—the actions needed to create a more sustainable future. Drawing on the latest scientific evidence, we will explore practical solutions and show how informed decisions, innovation and collective effort can help restore the environment and inspire optimism for the future.

Tuesday 1.30pm – 3.00pm
10 November

Balwyn Park Centre

Full Year Science Course

F 37 The New Scientist discussion group

Well-informed discussions based on the reading of selected articles in the *New Scientist* weekly journal.

(4) Fridays 9.15am – 10.45am
2nd and 4th Friday each month

Balwyn Park Centre

S 24 How to make a raindrop

Dr Tom Hill, University of Melbourne

Making rain is not easy. Every raindrop is spawned by a “gifted” particle that makes a cloud droplet freeze. These particles are rare, are made of different things, can even disappear after working. And the best are special proteins made by some fungi and bacteria. Probiotics for clouds; who'd have thought? Tom will uncover the hidden science behind every raindrop and why it matters to us all. Understanding these processes is essential for improving weather forecasts, predicting extreme rainfall and drought, and developing more accurate climate models.



Tuesday 1.30pm – 3.00pm
24 November

Balwyn Park Centre

HISTORY AND CULTURE

S 25 History gems on the 109 Tram route

Gillian Yung, U3A Deepdene

Most of us who live in Melbourne's inner eastern suburbs have travelled on the 109 tram. As we rattle along from Box Hill to Victoria Gardens, we pass a fascinating collection of buildings and gardens, many with stories hiding in plain sight. Join Gillian, who has a talent for digging up intriguing facts and forgotten stories, as she takes us on a journey to uncover some surprising gems.



Monday 1.30 – 3.00pm

12 October

Balwyn Park Centre

S 26 The Etruscans

Jone Gaillard, U3A Deepdene

From the Valley of the Po River to the seven hills of Rome and beyond the Etruscans spread their sophisticated civilisation, their art and architecture, their innovative crafts, spanning from ceramic production to metal works, their religious beliefs and rituals. All of that was adopted, absorbed, and renovated to become what everyone knows as Roman.

(7) Tuesdays 10.30am – 12 noon

Starts 13 October (No session Cup Day)

Zoom

S 27 John Monash

Matthew Ety-Leal, U3A Deepdene

Monash appealed across the spectrum, not of Establishment, nor a professional soldier, not political; he was a man of the people. Soldiers needed a hero who was a volunteer. His commanding intellect was sensed as well as his basic honesty and decency. A tall poppy never cut down. Few Australians have better claims to greatness than Monash.

Monday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

19 October

Balwyn Park Centre

S 28 Before Eureka: the making of Ballarat

Doug Bradby, retired history teacher

What was Ballarat like before the Eureka Stockade transformed its place in Australian history? In this talk, a retired history teacher explores the remarkable story of Ballarat in its early years, from its beginnings as a pastoral settlement to the discovery of gold and the rapid growth of the town and its diverse population. Drawing on family connections stretching back to Ballarat in 1853, the presenter offers a personal as well as historical perspective on the people, places and events that shaped Ballarat before Eureka. Session hosted by John Manton.

Wednesday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

21 October

Zoom

S 29 Xi Jinping's playbook: Mao's revolution

Graham Morey-Nase, U3A Deepdene

Is Xi Jinping a 21st-century replica of Mao Zedong? Are his policies and behaviour modelled on Mao? This course of 16 sessions spread over four terms traces the Chinese Communist Party's rise from the collapse of Imperial China through to 1976. Our final four sessions in Term 4 will focus on the years 1956 to 1976, including the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution, culminating in Mao's death and an assessment of his legacy. Sessions combine lectures, guided discussion, and source analysis. Readings will be provided in advance.

(4) Thursdays 10.00am – 11.30am

22, 29 October, 5, 12 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 30 What's wrong with Britain?

Gerry Engwerda, U3A Albury

Britain's current troubles stem from a long running convergence of economic stagnation, regional inequality, strained public services, and deep political distrust, all intensified by the aftershocks of the 2008 financial crisis, austerity, and the disruptive consequences of Brexit. This lecture examines how decades of uneven investment, declining social mobility, and widening cultural divides have produced a nation where many feel unheard, overburdened, or left behind, and why these pressures have fuelled populism, institutional frustration, and a sense of national drift.

Friday 9.30am – 11.00am

23 October

[Zoom](#)

S 31 How well do we know our city?

Graham Ray, U3A Deepdene

Just north of The State Library, there are a number of important institutions, each with their own fascinating history. They include RMIT, the old Court House, Russell Street Police Headquarters, the old Melbourne Gaol, Emily McPherson College, Trades Hall and The City Baths, to name a few. Join Graham Ray as he takes us on a virtual walk through this interesting part of the city.

Monday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

26 October

[Balwyn Park Centre](#)

S 32 The French art of 'Le Shopping'

Dr Michael Adcock, 19th century art historian, Academy Travel tour guide, University of Melbourne lecturer

We may think of shopping as an everyday pleasure, but the modern experience of shopping has a surprisingly recent history. This talk explores the birth of the department store in Paris from the mid-19th century, and the entrepreneurs who revolutionised commerce. Alexandre Boucicaut, founder of Le Bon Marché, pioneered fixed prices, mass purchasing, advertising, spectacular displays and the irresistible lure of sales and 'specials'. We will discover how department stores transformed shopping into an experience—particularly for women—and employed

ingenious techniques to entice customers deeper into their glittering world of temptation, desire and consumption.

Wednesday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

4 November

[Zoom](#)

S 33 The Causes of war

Gerry Engwerda, U3A Albury

This session deals with explanations as to why wars begin and end following Geoffrey Blainey's argument, in part, that conflict erupts when nations misjudge their relative power and peace returns only when that balance becomes clear again. Often it is miscalculation, optimism, a sense of grievance and false confidence that drives leaders into conflict often with unintended consequences and no clear path to stopping it.

Friday 9.30am – 11.00am

6 November

[Zoom](#)

S 34 St Peter's in Rome turns 400 – what a story

Sandy Curnow, U3A Deepdene

Over 1600 years ago Constantine, the first Roman Emperor to become Christian, built a church over the site of St Peter's martyrdom. It stood in Rome for over 1100 years until Pope Julius II decided to replace it. The 'Warrior Pope', who famously led his troops into battle; re-established the Papal States, arranged the division of the New World between Portugal and Castile, established the Swiss Guard and the Vatican museums; was patron of High Renaissance artists like Michelangelo, Bramante and Raphael; and he was a prelate of iron will. Not surprisingly, his approach to finances scandalized many, including the monk Martin Luther – and generated the Reformation.

But replacing St Peter's was larger than Julius. Twenty popes and 120 years later in November 1626 the largest church in the world was opened. This talk will be about something of its story.

Monday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

9 November

[Balwyn Park Centre](#)

S 35 The Kleptocrats

Gerry Engwerda, U3A Albury

Western financial systems — especially those of the US and UK — have become irresistible havens for dirty money, enabling oligarchs, kleptocrats, and criminal networks to hide wealth, buy influence, and reshape global politics. This lecture looks at how loopholes, shell companies, and professional enablers turned the West into the world's premier laundromat, revealing the human cost of corruption and the urgent need for reform.

Monday 9.30am – 11.00am

16 November

Zoom

S 36 Stuff the Greeks made, Stuff the Romans stole

Janet Wood, U3A Deepdene

One of the current justifications for a plethora of writings and films on ancient Greece is that we are the fortunate inheritors from them of all things beautiful (kalos) and good (agathos). In 2 sessions we will explore the 'glories that Greek made' and why the Romans took them.

1. Stuff the Greeks made: Temple and statues obviously, but also water clocks, the lathe, the first known atomic theory, perfume bottles, botany, a flexible alphabet, and the most colourful collection of gods and heroes. They might even have made the first computer, the Antikythera mechanism.

2. Stuff the Romans stole: Almost everything! Epic poetry, the theatre, bawdy comedies, philosophy, nude statues, architectural forms, vocabulary, Greek slaves, the Olympic Games and even laurel wreaths.

Monday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

16, 30 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 37 Architecture of historic Melbourne churches

Alan Ray, U3A Deepdene

We will explore the outside and inside of some of Melbourne's oldest churches and ask why they were built in that style.



St James Old Cathedral

Monday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

23 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 38 Ukraine – the 1500-day war

Gerry Engwerda, U3A Albury

The Russia–Ukraine war is the largest European conflict since 1945, beginning with Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022. The war has reshaped global politics, triggered massive displacements, devastated Ukrainian cities, and exposed deep fractures in European security, while Russia's actions have started to affect Russia at home. This lecture explores the war's origins, the strategic miscalculations on both sides, the human cost, and the broader implications for Europe and what the future might hold.

Friday 9.30am – 11.00am

27 November

Zoom

We thank our U3A Deepdene supporters:



Full Year course

F 38 Judaism and the Jewish People

Dina Burgess, U3A Deepdene

In the Bible, Moses instructs the Israelites to “choose life” (Deuteronomy 30:19). In 2026 we will seek to understand how this principle has shaped the Jewish people for more than three millennia - through the lens of Jewish beliefs, ethics, and practices, Jewish history and communities, and Jewish contributions to civilization.

The course is conducted on Zoom, on Wednesdays, from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

The course is hosted by U3A Waverley, with members of other U3As also participating. Enrolment for Deepdene members is through U3A Deepdene.

Zoom

F 46 Travel – Full Year

Coordinator – Pam O’Brien

Presenters are all U3A Deepdene members

16 October Dell Macneil

Boomers on Track

23 October Trish Lele

The Indigenous Tribes of Mexico

30 October John Manton

Patagonia in 2000

6 November Errol Muir

Learning to cook in the French Alps

13 November Matthew Etty-Leal

Heading north – escaping Melbourne’s winter

20 November Judy Still

A Kimberley Cruise

27 November Tony Gray

Unlocking the Caucasus: Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan

4 December Matt English

Surprises on the Silo Art Trails

Fridays 11.30am – 1.00pm

Zoom and on the screen at Balwyn Park Centre

This is an opportunity for us to enjoy travel experiences. It does not include political, cultural or socio-economic observations.

F 44 Historic Melbourne Walks – Full Year

October 20 – St Kilda Road

Wendy & Graham Ray

November 10 – Canterbury

On site leader

November 17 – South Melbourne

Celia Dynon

December 1 – Christmas Brunch walk

Bernie Kennedy

See also under Arts & Architecture

Egypt and the Grand Egyptian Museum

Frank Devlin

Balwyn Park Centre

Wednesday 21 October 10.30am – 12noon

My Incomparable Josephine

Sylvia Sagona

Balwyn Park Centre

Wednesday 18 November

10.30am – 12noon

LITERATURE

S 39 **Bill's Secrets: Class, War and Ambition**

Belinda Probert, in conversation with Trish Lele

Major William Probert, a decorated war hero presented to his wife and family as a cultured, ambitious Englishman – until his grieving family received a letter suggesting otherwise. *Bill's*



Secrets is the product of his daughter, historian Belinda Probert's quest to discover the real Bill. Belinda is an engaging and informed speaker. Arrive early for a Welsh Morning Tea, then settle in for a lively conversation.

Tuesday 10.00pm – 11.30pm

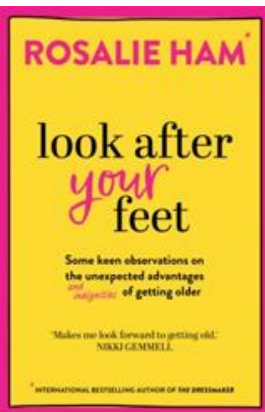
10 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 40 **Look after your feet: some observations on the unexpected advantages and indignities of getting older**

Rosalie Ham, in conversation with Trish Lele

Rosalie Ham, author of *The Dressmaker*, turns her trademark wit towards life itself. *Look After*



Your Feet is a celebration of the wisdom that accelerates as body parts deteriorate - often just a little bit too late.

Arrive early for afternoon tea, and settle in for a gentle ramble through memories, musings, and a tribute to female friendship.

Thursday 2.00pm – 3.30pm

19 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 41 **Dogs of war, hares and hyenas: Shakespeare's theatrical bestiary** *Sue Tweg, Vice-President of Shakespeare Society Melbourne*

Shakespeare drew on commonly understood beliefs about the qualities of non-human living creatures to construct subtle dramatic characters, their personalities, thoughts and feelings. To most people of his own time the imagery might seem familiar but it is not so apparent nowadays.

We'll look at how plays contain references to what we could call 'animals with human faces', referring to the bestiary tradition that gave a writer clusters of rich metaphors and allusions to utilise.

Wednesday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

2 December

Zoom

S 42 **Play reading**

Lilian Cohen, U3A Deepdene

Do you enjoy drama? Perhaps you have been involved in amateur theatre, or maybe you harbour an unfulfilled dream to be a thespian. An opportunity to participate in reading aloud a different play each term, without the need to commit one's part to memory.

Cost: \$5 to cover hiring and postage of the scripts for the selected play, to be paid to the class monitor at the first session

(2) Thursdays 2.00pm – 3.30pm

22, 29 October

Balwyn Park Centre

Full Year Book Groups

Asterisked groups described separately

F 01 Readers' rendezvous (1st Monday)

Trish Lele

Mondays 1.30pm – 3.00pm

Zoom

F 02 Alston readers (4th Monday)

Jan Beards

Mondays 1.30pm – 3.00pm

Alston Halls, Deepdene Uniting Church

F 03 Exploring history in fact and fiction

Tuesday once a term

Kamoya Peterson

Tuesday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

Not in Term 4

Stradbroke Park Pavilion

F 04 'Whodunits' (3rd Tuesday)

Roz Berman

Tuesdays 1.30pm – 3.00pm

Horrie Watson Pavilion

F 05 Terra Australis book group (1st Wednesday)

Fiona Malcolm

Wednesdays 10.00am – 11.30am

Not in Term 4

Alston Halls, Deepdene Uniting Church

F 06 Reading great literature (weekly)

Christine Watters

Thursdays 12 noon – 1.30pm

Weekly

Alston Halls, Deepdene Uniting Church

F 07 Crime fiction book group (1st Thursday)

Robert Lyons

Thursday 2.00pm – 3.30pm

Balwyn Park Centre

F 08 Men's book group*

John Kidman

Thursday 2.00pm – 3.30pm

Term 4 date: 12 November

Balwyn Park Centre

F 09 Biography book group*

Susie White

Thursday 2.00pm – 3.30pm

Term 4 date: 26 November

Zoom

F 08 Men's Book Group

Leader: John Kidman

Our Men's Book Group meets once each term to discuss a book selected and introduced by one of our members. We take turns choosing the book and leading the discussion, ensuring a variety of themes, subjects, and styles. While non-fiction titles are often favoured, no genre is excluded — this

approach gives us the opportunity to step beyond our usual reading preferences and discover new ideas, authors, and perspectives.

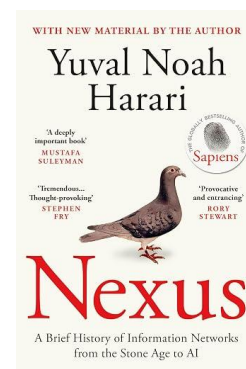
Our Term 4, 2026 book, kindly selected by Ken Parker, is **Nexus** by Yuval Noah Harari.

Harari's latest book, *Nexus: A Brief History of Information Networks from the Stone Age to AI*, explores humanity's extraordinary voyage into the information era. In *Nexus*, Harari looks through the long lens of human history, considers how the flow of information has made and unmade our world, and provides an essential background to understanding the threats and promises of the AI revolution.

Thursday 2.00pm – 3.30pm

Term 4 date 12 November

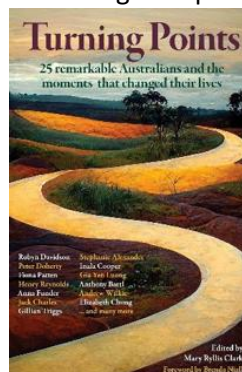
Balwyn Park Centre



F 09 Biography Book Group

Leader: Susie White

I am suggesting a different approach for our Term 4 Biography Book Group. Rather than reading about the life of one specific person, we will tackle a special moment in the lives of 25 different people. Our Term 4 book will be *Turning Points: 25 remarkable Australians and the moments that changed their lives (2022)* edited by Mary Ryllis Clark. I think we will really enjoy learning about and discussing the special



moments for these people and it is even likely that some members of our group know one or two of the story tellers personally! In Term 4 I have changed our meeting to a face-to-face session where we can celebrate our year's reading together.

I anticipate that this will be an exciting session and look forward to seeing you face-to-face at Balwyn Park Centre

Thursday 2.00pm – 3.30pm

Term 4 date 26 November

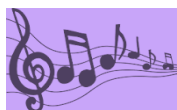
Balwyn Park Centre

MUSIC and DANCE

Full Year Music Session

F 12 Singing for pleasure

Stuart Shearman, U3A Deepdene



Everyone needs to sing ... and singing is good for you! Come and join us to sing in a fun, relaxed environment, in unison and in parts. No auditions involved, but extremely helpful if you can read music and have a good sense of pitch.

New members are welcome.

Music selected will depend on the vocal abilities and types of voices of the members. There will be a charge for music (about \$5 per term), which should be paid to the class monitor when requested. We will be led by Stuart Shearman and accompanied by Helen Thomas, U3A Deepdene.

We meet weekly: Mondays 1.30pm – 3.00pm

Let's keep the choir going and who knows what we may achieve!

Main Hall, Deepdene Uniting Church

S 43 Musical exuberance – Billy Elliot

Fiona Malcolm, U3A Deepdene

Set in a northern English mining town during the historic 1984-85 miners' strike, *Billy Elliot the Musical* is an inspirational story of a young boy's unexpected journey from the boxing ring to the ballet studio. Featuring electrifying music by Elton John and book and lyrics by Lee Hall, this award-winning theatrical event celebrates the power of dreams and the strength of community.

Wednesday 1.30pm – 3.00pm
18 November

Balwyn Park Centre



We have a range of practical music classes included in our Full Year Program.

- Singing
- Recorders – two levels
- Recorder ensemble – two levels
- String orchestra – two levels

S 44 Ballet

Julie Holder, U3A Deepdene

We are trying something different with Ballet in 2026. Led by Julie Holder we will coordinate our sessions with the Opera and Ballet season at Balwyn cinema. In Term 4, 2026 our ballet will be **Manon**, danced by the Royal Ballet. A life of luxury ... or love? In the seedy underbelly of 18th-century Paris, money is king. Nothing is sacred – even love itself can be bought for the right price. A native of this hedonistic underworld, Manon is caught between twin desires when she falls in love with the student des Grieux. Steadfast and devoted, he offers the possibility of an honourable life. Yet, the riches promised by the world of Parisian society remain tempting ... Manon's inner turmoil and struggle for survival lie at the devastating heart of Kenneth MacMillan's 1974 adaptation of Abbé Prévost's novel.

Duration: approx. 3h 10m inc. 2 intervals.

Captured live at Convent Garden in 2026.

RBO guidance: suitable for ages 14+. This production contains scenes of a sexual nature, including stylised depictions of sexual violence. There is a gunshot in Act II.

Join us at Balwyn cinema at 11.00 am on Wednesday 25 November 2026 followed by lunch/coffee at a local café. Cinema and café at own expense.



Wednesday 11.00am – 2.30pm

25 November

Balwyn Cinema

PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIETY

S 45 *Lunchtime conversations on Tuesday*

Vince Giuca, Ken Parker and Bruce Pullbrook, U3A Deepdene



Lunchtime Conversations continuing in Term 4.

Take a break, bring your lunch and join us every Tuesday at lunchtime for thought-provoking conversations on today's most pressing issues.

Each session focuses on a different topic shaping our world – from the political influence of emerging technologies to global diplomacy and the environmental impact of government decisions.

We'll kick off with a short article or video to spark ideas and set the stage, followed by a guided discussion where everyone can share their thoughts in a respectful and open environment.

Tea, coffee and biscuits provided. Let's talk about issues that matter.

(7) Tuesdays 12.15pm – 1.15pm

13 October – 1 December (7 sessions – Weekly There will not be a session on Cup Day)

Balwyn Park Centre

S 46 *Global Updates*

Dr David Dorward, Associate Professor, La Trobe University (Retired)

Associate Professor David Dorwood will continue his insightful series on key global developments, offering timely updates on some of the most pressing issues shaping our world today. Specific topics will be sent to members closer to the dates of the talks

(4) Mondays 9.30 am – 11.00 am

12, 26 October, 9, 23 November

Zoom

S 47 *Crime: a durable presence in an unstable world*

Ian Hundley, U3A Deepdene

As we head towards the Victorian state election, the issue of crime, its character and potential remedies, is certain to be top of the mind for many of us. Whilst we have seen fluctuations in crime previously, in a sense history repeating itself, can we be certain that what we see and experience now fits with this pattern. The relationships with technology, international mobility and local plus international politics are some of the issues which will also be explored in this presentation.

Thursday 10.00am – 11.30am

15 October *Balwyn Park Centre*

S 48 *Forgive Me: but what is forgiveness?*

Dan Rabinovici, Deepdene U3A

Forgiveness is one of the words we feel confident we understand, until we ask philosophers to explain exactly what it is. At that point, things can become rather complicated, with some philosophers arguing that forgiveness is paradoxical, even impossible to make sense of. Nevertheless, we'll bravely attempt to make some sense of forgiveness. Along the way, we'll explore a few intriguing case studies and consider some of the dilemmas and challenges that forgiveness presents. No prior knowledge of the topic is required, only a willingness to forgive the occasional philosophical complication.

Thursday 10.00am – 11.30am

26 November

Balwyn Park Centre

Full Year Courses

F 30, F 31 *Issues and current affairs – Mondays*

Group A 9.45am – 10.45am *Zoom*

Group B 11.00am – 12.15pm *Balwyn Park Centre*

F 37 *Politics and current affairs – Thursdays*

Group A 10.00am – 11.30am *Zoom*

TECHNOLOGY

Please be aware that some of the technology sessions will be delivered through Zoom. Some courses are 'hands-on', where you will learn how to use your own device. The course description for these courses will indicate whether you will need to have access to a device.

Please note that U3A Deepdene committee and presenters do not accept liability for any consequences to your computer or mobile device in acting on any information you obtain at these classes.

S 50 Scams Exposed: the psychology behind the trap

Tegan DeClark, Graduate Certificate in Cyber Security at University of the Sunshine Coast

Scams are becoming more sophisticated, but the techniques used to influence us are often surprisingly predictable. In this practical and engaging session, you will explore realistic scam examples and learn how scammers use urgency, fear, trust and authority to encourage quick decisions. Led by a cyber security & consumer behaviour expert and university academic, the session will help you build confidence, recognise when something feels wrong, check whether a request is genuine and know what to do if you think you may have been caught out.

Tuesday 10.30am – 12noon

13 October

Balwyn Park Centre

S 51 Introducing AI Claude

Tim Hodgetts, U3A Deepdene

You've been introduced to ChatGPT and Gemini, but other AI tools may suit some tasks even better. This session introduces Claude, an AI assistant developed by Anthropic. Claude is known for careful, well-written answers and is particularly strong at writing and editing letters, reports and emails. It also works well with documents you provide, including PDFs, Word files and photos of paperwork. We'll try some of Claude's standout features: creating a finished Word document, spreadsheet or slide presentation that you can download, rather than simply describing what it might contain. We'll also consider Claude's approach to honesty, including its tendency to acknowledge uncertainty rather than guess. You'll have the opportunity to try Claude and compare it with ChatGPT and Gemini, helping you decide which tool is best for different tasks. No previous experience with Claude is needed.

Tuesday 10.30am – 12noon

27 October

Balwyn Park Centre

S 52 Is Starlink a viable alternative for Internet connection?

Gerald Hughes, U3A Deepdene

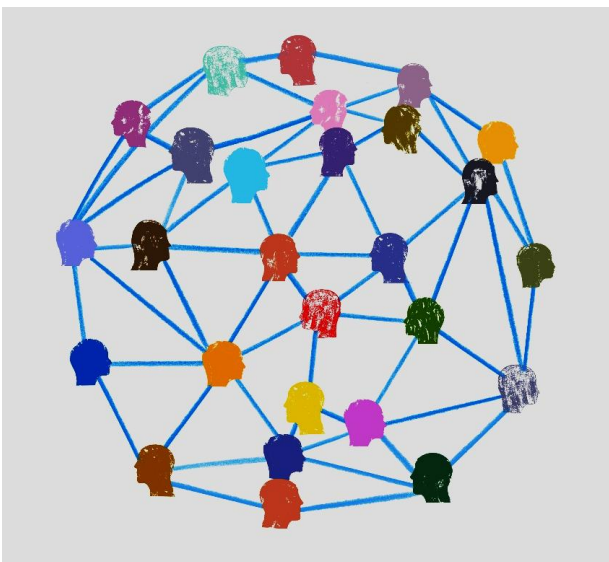
Starlink has become a realistic alternative to both NBN-based internet providers and mobile phone hotspot services. However, whether it is the best choice depends on the type of NBN connection available at a specific address.

This talk will construct the best decision steps to decide which service is best for your needs.

Wednesday 10.30am – 12.00noon

28 October

Zoom



S 53 Google AI made practical: free tools for daily use

Errol Muir, U3A Deepdene

Explore Google's expanding range of free AI tools in a practical, hands-on workshop focused on everyday use. The session introduces Gemini Notebook (previously NotebookLM), Google AI Studio, and selected Google Labs tools, with a brief look at how AI is also changing Google Search and Lens. The emphasis is on what these tools can do for you now: helping you write, plan, understand information, and create useful content more easily. You'll explore standout features such as text-to-image generation, music creation, source-based summaries in Google Notebook, and prompt testing in Google AI Studio. The workshop will also highlight creative tools from Google Labs, with practical examples that show how they can support travel planning, personal projects, community work, and learning. Along the way, the session will cover practical guidance on privacy and safe use, so participants leave with a clear understanding of both the opportunities and the limits of Google's AI tools.

Limit: 15 participants

Tuesday 10.30am – 12noon

10 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 54 Going Further with iPhone Photography

Karin Watts, U3A Deepdene

If you've 'mastered' the basics on your iPhone and you're now ready to extend your skills to learning about live, burst, panoramas, macro and video photography and creating albums then this is the course for you. We'll also concentrate on a few photography techniques which will help improve your photos. It won't be suitable for beginners.

Limit 10 participants

Monday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

16 November

Balwyn Park Centre

S 55 Introduction to iPads/iPhones

Errol Muir, U3A Deepdene

Get confident with your iPhone or iPad in this practical group session. You'll learn the essentials step by step: how the Home Screen works, what key buttons and gestures do, how to open and manage apps, connect to Wi-Fi, adjust important settings, and keep your device secure with passcodes and updates. We'll also cover common tasks such as sending messages, taking and sharing photos, browsing the web, and finding information quickly, with clear guidance on what to tap and why.

Beyond the basics, this session will show just how capable these devices can be. You'll see how voice commands can help you send messages, set reminders, and answer quick questions hands-free. You'll discover how your iPhone or iPad can instantly scan documents and read text aloud using built-in accessibility tools. By the end, you'll have a solid foundation, practical confidence, and a clearer sense of how iPhones and iPads can support communication, organisation, learning, and fun.

You will need to bring an iPhone or iPad and your Apple password to download Apps.

Limit: 10 participants

Tuesday 1.30pm – 3.00pm

17 November

Balwyn Park Centre

Ideas for presentations/classes

Do you have suggestions for our program?

Contact the co-ordinators of the various categories or email

Short Course Program Coordinator, Judy Still,
at

deepdeneu3ashortcourses@gmail.com

**S 56 *AI around the house: practical help
from your smart phone***

Ken Wilson, U3A Deepdene

Discover how Artificial Intelligence can become a practical assistant around your home. In this hands-on course, you will learn to use AI on your Smart Phone through voice, photographs and camera mode. Ask it to identify a plant, explain an appliance, suggest meals from ingredients in your refrigerator, read small print, summarise a household document, diagnose a maintenance problem or guide you through a simple task step by step. The course focuses on useful everyday applications; you will see live demonstrations; practise asking effective questions and learn when AI's advice needs to be checked. No advanced technical knowledge is required. Bring your Smart Phone and discover how AI can help you solve problems, learn new things and manage everyday life around the house.

Limit: 15 participants

Tuesday 10.30am – 12noon

24 November

Balwyn Park Centre

**S 57 *AI – the USA v China and Australia's
place in the emerging world order***

Gerald Hughes, U3A Deepdene

Artificial Intelligence is now the most important strategic technology of the twenty-first century. Like the industrial revolution and nuclear technology before it, AI is transforming economic productivity, military capability, scientific discovery and geopolitical influence, with the United States and China emerging as the two dominant AI powers. Their competition extends beyond computer science into semiconductors, rare earth minerals, energy production, education, cyber security and international diplomacy.

Join this talk to discuss these issues and the upcoming role and importance of Australia's contribution.

Wednesday 10.30 – 12noon

25 November

Zoom

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung People of the Kulin Nation, who are the Traditional Owners of the land on which U3A Deepdene is located.

We are honoured to recognize our connection to Wurundjeri Country, history, culture and spirituality through this location.

We also acknowledge the Traditional Owners of lands across Australia, their Elders, Ancestors, cultures and heritage.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

Some FULL YEAR courses to keep you busy!!
See 'Extending Your Thinking' in the FY Program

F 32 Chess

Anne Whittenbury, Manfred Siebentritt,
U3A Deepdene

Please join Anne and Manfred on Monday mornings to enjoy a game of chess or learn how to play. Beginners are welcome to join the group

Chess sets will be provided by U3A Deepdene.

Mondays 11.30am – 1.00pm Weekly

Stradbroke Park Pavilion

F 33 Scrabble

Beverley Walsh, U3A Deepdene

If you enjoy playing with words, join this group for a friendly and light-hearted game.

Tuesdays 1.00pm – 3.00pm Weekly

Balwyn Park Centre, Garden Room

F 34 Eastern style Mahjong

Swee Wah, Mak Elaine Chin, Michelle Chee, U3A Deepdene

Come along and join us for an afternoon of eastern style mahjong. We accept people of all abilities.

Wednesdays 12.30pm – 3.00pm Weekly

Stradbroke Park Pavilion

F 35 Trivia

Members of U3A Deepdene

We are thrilled that this very enjoyable activity has continued in 2026.

Come along, join our local 'Hot Seat' team.

Just knowing one answer could help your team win a chocolate, as well as having some fun.

Wednesdays 1.30pm – 3.00pm

First Wednesday each month during the term.

Balwyn Park Centre

F 42 Mahjong

Caryl Hogg, U3A Deepdene

Come along and join us for an afternoon of mahjong. We play the western version and can only accept people who can play, as lessons are not available.

Fridays 1.00pm – 3.00pm Weekly

Stradbroke Park Pavilion

U3A Deepdene Internal

S 58 Mandarin

Donna Cao, U3A Deepdene

For beginners, the course will begin with simple greetings and basic pronunciation, gradually building confidence in speaking everyday Mandarin. A key feature of the class will be the integration of traditional Chinese festivals throughout the term. Around relevant festival dates, I will introduce related vocabulary (most of them are the simple words which are used every day), customs, and traditional food. *(We may also include small hands-on activities, such as simple food preparation demonstrations or traditional craft making).* The aim is to make language learning enjoyable, culturally rich, and interactive - not only learning words, but experiencing Mandarin as a living culture.

Wednesdays 10.00am – 11.30am

Weekly

Balwyn Park Centre

S 59 Discerning Diners

Anne Kemp, U3A Deepdene

Our next 'Discerning Diners' event for 2026!

This *special occasion* event brings together people who like to enjoy fine dining, good food, interesting wines with great company.

The venue for Term 4 2026 is

Nihao Kitchen

298 High Street, Kew

Nihao Kitchen offers an unforgettable culinary experience with a menu which is both extensive and exciting, ensuring that there's something to satisfy every taste.

A menu has been carefully selected for our group including king prawns, stir fried fish filets, crispy shredded beef and many other delights including a clay pot. It is a fixed menu for \$45 which includes corkage and tea.

Please let Anne know of any food allergies.

Tuesday 6.30pm

20 October

Places: 20

External Courses

S 60 Cards – 500 and Solo

Anne Leonard, U3A Box Hill

Instruction in either or both of these card games provided for beginners or those who have not played for some time.

Supervised games arranged for more experienced players.

(Members of U3A Deepdene may join this course as guests of U3A Box Hill.)

U3A Deepdene members intending to join this group should enrol through U3A Deepdene.

Tuesdays 2.00pm – 4.00pm Weekly

*U3A Box Hill – Main Hall, 29 Strabane Avenue,
Mont Albert North*

S 61 Eastern Mahjong

Angela Fung, U3A Box Hill

Come along for some instruction and lots of time to play eastern style mahjong on a Monday afternoon.

(Members of U3A Deepdene may join this course as guests of U3A Box Hill.)

U3A Deepdene members intending to join this group should enrol through U3A Deepdene.

Mondays 1.00pm – 3.30pm Weekly
*U3A Box Hill – Main Hall, 29 Strabane Avenue,
Mont Albert North*

VISITS AND OUTINGS

V 01 Art & History Museum

A visit to the Hellenic Museum

The only dedicated home for Hellenic art in Australia which was founded in 2007 in the old Royal Mint Building. Experience 8,000 years of Hellenic history, art and culture on this guided tour of this incredible collection. You will be able to visit the other exhibitions (at your own cost) after the guided tour if you would like to do so.



Tuesday
1.30pm – 2.30pm
27 October
Limit: 20 members
Cost: \$15 pay on enrolment
280 William Street,
Melbourne

Flagstaff Train Station (William St exit)
Tram 58 stops outside the Museum

V 02 Garden Visit

System Garden at University of Melbourne, Parkville

The System Garden at the University of Melbourne is a distinctive historic garden dating from 1856. Designed by Professor Frederick McCoy and architect Edward La Trobe Bateman, it serves as both a scientific and teaching garden.



This secure public space features a diverse collection of plants, including mosses,

ferns, cycads, conifers and flowering plants. Located between the Babel and Botany buildings on the Parkville campus, it is valued for its educational and historical significance. Please read the weather forecast, bring a water bottle, and wear sensible shoes. All who enrol for the walk will receive meeting instructions before the day.

Limit: 20 members
Thursday 10.00am
29 October

Looking for more visits & Outings?

Each vacation, Anne Kemp coordinates a

U3A DEEPDENE VACATION PROGRAM



see *Sparkling Springtime '26*

Important information about ENROLMENTS in:



News and Views
Short Courses
Technology Courses
Full Year Courses

Enrolments for all sections of our program must be done online.

The complete Term 4 2026 Program will be online on MyU3A by Monday 7 September.

Enrolments will be open then.

At the beginning of the vacation, the office will be open

9.30am – 12 noon on Monday 14 September

If you do not have an email account, you will need to post a list of the courses you wish to attend to:

PO BOX 3149, COTHAM POST OFFICE, KEW 3101.

The office will be open before Term 4 2026 starts:

Friday 9 October

9.30am – 12 noon

If you do have an email account, enrol by logging in to MyU3A, via

www.u3adeepdene.org.au

From the U3A Deepdene homepage, click on the **Member Access**  button.

This will take you to **MyU3A** and you can use your ID and password to access **On Line Member Services**.

If you have forgotten your password, phone 0408 019 815.

If you need help, send an email (anytime) to u3adeepdeneinc@gmail.com

or phone 0408 019 815

and someone will assist!



DEEPDENE
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Office and main meeting rooms:

Balwyn Park Centre, Balwyn Park

206A Whitehorse Road, Balwyn 3103

(see page 8 for other venues)

Postal address:

PO Box 3149, Cotham PO, Kew 3101

Phone:

9817 7736 during office hours or 0408 019 815 at other times

Email:

u3adeepdeneinc@gmail.com

Website:

www.u3adeepdene.org.au