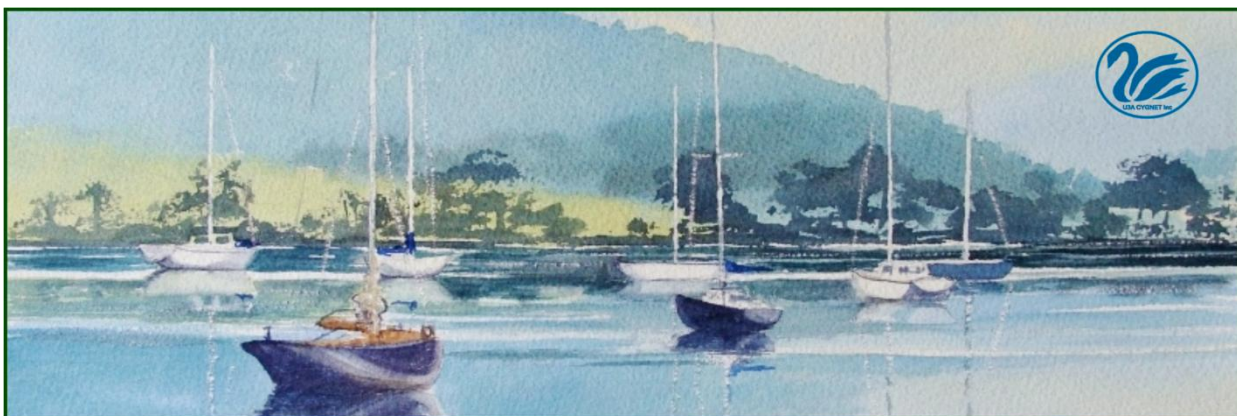




Painting by Jill Miller with permission

U3A Cygnet Program

Term 3, 2026

Term 3	14 September to 20 November
Monthly Classes	9 February to 18 December or as advised

Current members

You only need to let us know if you wish to change your choice of classes or your contact details.

New Members can choose to join U3A in one of three ways:

- Register, pay by card, and choose classes on-line at <https://www.u3acygnet.au/membership/> (our preferred method).
- or post to **Box 216 Cygnet 7112** - Registration forms are on last pages.
- If you are unable to register/pay online or by post, contact [the membership coordinator](#) 0407 187 300

U3A Cygnet acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which we meet, the Melukerdee. We pay our respects to elders past and present.

U3A Cygnet thanks Minister Eric Abetz, MHA for Franklin, for his support in printing this Program.

University of the Third Age, Cygnet PO Box 216 Cygnet Tasmania 7112

www.u3acygnet.au

u3amembership@u3acygnet.au

secretary@u3acygnet.au

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Registration and Booking online or the form on last pages

Most classes are held at:

- [Community Health Centre, 1 Frederick Street Cygnet](#)
- [Enjoy.Church, 8 Mary Street Cygnet](#)

(These links go to Google Maps)

What's new?

- **Our program, membership applications and class enrolments** are available at www.u3acygnet.au. Printed copies are now at Huonville Library as well as Cygnet Library and Cygnet Community Health Centre
- **Current members – in term 3 you only need to let us know if you wish to change your choice of classes or your contact details.**
- **Garden & Gourmet** is back in time for Spring; Term 1 participants do not need to re-enrol.
- **Men's Forum** now starts at 1.30, not 2pm.
- **The [Member Portal](#) makes everything easier for members and for us.** If you need assistance to join the Portal, call the Membership coordinator. and we will set it up for you.
- **Have your contact details changed?** Update them via the Member Portal, or [email us](#)

Program at a Glance

A Smorgasbord of Talks	Wednesdays	10.00 – 12.15	Enjoy.Church , weekly
Art Group - painting*	Wednesdays	1.30 – 4.00	Health Centre , room 4, weekly
Arts and Crafts*	Thursdays	1.30 - 4.00	Health Centre , room 4 weekly
Book Club (themes)*	4th Monday of the month	1.30 - 4.00	Health Centre , room 4, Jan-Nov
Book Reading Group (specific books)*	3 rd Monday of the month	1.30 – 4.00	Health Centre , room 4, Jan-Nov
Creative Writing for All (two groups)*	Tuesdays	10.00 – 12.00	Health Centre , room 4, weekly
	Last Friday of the month	10.00 - 12.30	Health Centre , room 4 monthly
Family History*	1st Monday of the month	1.30 – 4.00	Health Centre , Room 4, Feb-Dec
Family History for Beginners *	2 nd Monday of the month	1.30 - 4.00	Health Centre , Room 4, Mar-Nov
Garden & Gourmet	Thursdays	10.00 – 12.00	Varies, see program
Ladies Who Lunch*	As notified in term breaks		
Men's Forum*	2 nd Sunday of the month except Christmas break	1.30 – 3.30	David Fletcher's house, Garden Island Creek
Play Reading*	Tuesdays	1.30 – 4.00	Health Centre , room 4, weekly
Science Discussion*	2 nd Thursday of the month	10.00 – 12.00	Health Centre , Room 4, Mar-Dec

*Numbers are limited for these classes. If they are full you can join the waiting list.

Committee

Name	Position	Phone	Email
Elaine Reeves	Chairperson; Garden & Gourmet, Smorgasbord	0427 172 179	chairperson@u3acygnet.au
Glenn Sanders	Secretary, Public Officer, Technology	0428 444 812	secretary@u3acygnet.au
Ann Cocker	Treasurer	0401 846 461	treasurer@u3acygnet.au
Suzanne Brown	Publicity	0421 931 902	suzannebrown39@gmail.com
June Cunningham	Membership, computer system	0407 187 300	u3amembership@u3acygnet.au
Catriona Fletcher	Catering	6297 8240	celfletcher48@gmail.com
Christine Kinnear	General Committee	0419 858 233	christine.kinnear935@gmail.com
Bill Leonard	General committee	0427 700 316	wleonard336@gmail.com

1. Introduction

Welcome to our program for term 3, 2026.

Our principles

U3A Cygnet is a non-profit co-operative learning community for retired and semi-retired people, run by volunteers. We encourage the informal pursuit of learning and the opportunity to acquire new skills and experiences in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. **There are no entry qualifications, assessments or awards.**

Communications

We publish a program three times a year. Printed copies are available at the Cygnet Community Health Centre, and at the Cygnet and Huonville libraries.

On our [website](#) you can see the program and enrol in your choice of classes. You can also join or renew your membership, including secure payment, and download the program and other documents about U3A.

We use email to keep members up to date with news, items of interest, and forthcoming events, plus any last-minute changes to the Program.

New members

You can join U3A at any time of the year

If you'd like to join U3A Cygnet, please join online at u3acygnet.au/membership, or fill out the registration form at the end of this Program. If you wish to come to a few sessions as a guest while you sound us out, contact our [Membership Secretary](#).

Do I need to book my place in a class?

Class booking/enrolling system – please read carefully!

- **Class enrolments last all year;** if you have been enrolled in a class this year, you don't need to re-enrol in that class this term - just let us know of changes.
- **Monthly classes continue through the year,** even between terms.
- **Many of our classes have limited numbers.** For these classes, members need to commit to regular attendance. Please let us know if you can no longer attend, so we can make space for someone on the waiting list.
- **Smorgasbord and Garden & Gourmet:** You don't need to attend every week, but **we ask you to please tick the box / enrol if you are likely to attend any sessions** - it helps with our administration and communications.

Questions, suggestions, comments

Whether you are a member or not, we'd love to hear from you! Feel free to use any of the contact details on page 3 of this Program, or on our [website](#).

2. A Smorgasbord of Talks

What	A series of interesting, stimulating talks on a wide variety of topics, with plenty of opportunity to discuss and ask questions, and a tea-break for socialising.
When	10.00 – 12.15 Wednesdays, weekly
Where	Enjoy.Church , 8 Mary St, next to the Port Hole Cafe (carpark at rear)
Leader	Elaine Reeves
Note	Please book if you are likely to attend <i>any</i> talks. You don't need to attend every week, and you don't need to tell us in advance before coming to any session.
16 Sept	Foreign affairs – Sue Morley In 1985, Susan flew into a war zone in Baghdad, Iraq to take up a job as Communicator in the Australian Embassy. Behind secure vault doors, she was responsible for all communications and their decryption. Then on to the capital of Syria, Damascus, which was everything her childhood imagination had envisaged – ancient streets teeming with life, fragrant cardamon roasted coffee, caravanserais, spice sellers and gleaming jewels. On weekends she travelled to Crusader castles, bought Persian carpets and wandered the souks. In downtime during her four-year tour of duty, she fitted in trips to Babylon, Kurdistan, Istanbul, Kenya and Tanzania.
23 Sept	Plan for when life hits home - Sophie Banagh and Ewan Blyth Most of us arrive at the big transitions without a plan – a downsize, a move into care, an estate to manage, where a property needs to be sorted and/or sold. This workshop is designed for people who know these life moments are on them or coming. You will leave with a clearer picture of what lies ahead, practical tools to start preparing now, language and frameworks to help you have the conversations that matter, and to inspire action. Families who navigate these moments well aren't the ones who had it easy. They're the ones who started thinking about it before the pressure hit.
30 Sept	Building with stone – Elizabeth Andrew, Linda and Peter Norman Faster, cheaper and more efficient building methods have mostly replaced stone, which was once the go-to building material for everything from barns to cathedrals. Ten years ago, Elizabeth Andrew decided to build her own house of stone. Linda and Peter Norman were doing the same thing at the same time, but using a different approach. We will hear of the challenges and rewards that accrue – once you have found your stones.
7 Oct	Steering clear of dementia – James Vickers There are 14 risk factors for dementia that can be modified, and thereby reduce the incidence of dementia by an estimated 45%. Professor James Vickers is the chief investigator of the ISLAND project focusing on reducing the risk of dementia. He will tell us about new approaches to detect dementia as early as possible, and what we can do to protect our ageing brains. Professor Vickers set up a free MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) for understanding dementia. He is a board member of the Dementia Expert Reference Group advising the government.
Smorgasbord continues on the next page	

14 Oct	Ivy Chung – Elaine Reeves Born 100 years ago in Strahan, Ivy Chung became the matriarch of the family that for more than a century nourished Hobart through their market gardens, as produce wholesalers and retailers, ships providores and owners of Hobart's first Chinese restaurant – the 160 seat Golden Dragon. Ivy's day would start at 5am at the farm cutting lettuces and cauliflower, then on to the shop, lunch at the restaurant, back to the shop, a quick check-in at home before returning to the restaurant, now wearing a slinky cheongsam, her hair lacquered up into a high "do", ready for hostess duty until late into the night. Ivy was at first a contact for Elaine, when she wrote about food, then a friend.
21 Oct	Brookfield Shed: ruin to restoration – Helen Lindsay Soon after they married in 1975, Peter and Helen Lindsay bought a house in Margate just above the Brookfield Shed, built in the 1930s as a seed-drying shed for Yates. By then it was derelict, with an asbestos roof, just about ready to fall over. But Peter loved it, and in 1994 succeeded in buying it. And then Peter, the accountant, and Helen, a former public servant, set about renovating the proverbial "great barn of a thing". What could go wrong? Helen will tell us what did and what didn't before the building was back in good use – now as Hopfields Brewery.
28 Oct	Handel's Messiah – June Cunningham There are few people who haven't heard of Handel's Messiah, or at least the Hallelujah Chorus. There are annual performances in almost every city across the western world. So why has it stayed so popular, even with people who have no connection to the Christian story? Well, it's a great tale full of emotion and drama, with wonderful and varied music. We'll watch the best bits, from a fine performance from the Sydney Opera House, with wonderful camera work by the ABC. We'll have just a little commentary – enough to follow what's happening in the story and to highlight a few of Handel's brilliant ways of making the music express the meaning of the words. This is a big work, so please arrive early, and we may go to 12.15pm.
4 Nov	Geothermal energy: from niche to necessity – John Bishop Unlike intermittent generators like wind and solar, geothermal energy provides clean electricity and heat 24/7, regardless of weather or other variables. Recent developments are rapidly expanding the areas of the Earth prospective for geothermal power generation, as well as for district heating and cooling. Tasmania, with its extensive hot granite formations, is one such region. Geophysicist Dr John Bishop will discuss the new technologies, using Tasmania as an example of why and how they can best be applied.
11 Nov	Out of Africa – John Pollard About 100,000 years ago, when Arabia was a lush green landscape, came the big exodus of Homo Sapiens from Africa. John will tell us of the evidence of this journey – of industry, such as stone tools – of archaeological clues in Arabia, India, Borneo, Wallacea and Arnhem Land, and of the of genetic record. He will examine their development skills in language, organisation, boat building, hunting, navigation and art.
18 Nov	Protecting Tasmania's underwater meadows – Kelsie Fractal Seagrass is a vital coastal habitat that many people overlook, as it's underwater. In this talk Kelsie, marine ecologist and founder of Friends of Seagrass Tasmania, will take you on an exploration of southern Tasmania's underwater seagrass meadows. You'll learn why seagrass is important, the threats it's facing and how local community members are currently working to help conserve seagrass beds in Tasmania.

3. Art Group

What	This group is not restricted to any type of art but includes painting mediums such as watercolours, acrylics and pastel. It is an opportunity to socialize, learn and share experiences with other potential artists in an informal setting . It is not formally tutored, but Pauline will give guidance, particularly to beginners. (See also Arts and Crafts group)
When	Wednesdays, weekly, 1.30 – 4.00
Where	Community Health Centre , 1 Frederick Street, room 4.
Leader	Pauline Rix
Note:	If you were enrolled in this class last term, there is no need to re-enrol. Please email us if you can no longer attend.

4. Arts and Crafts

What	Whether your passion is drawing, collage, hand-carving, paper or fabric crafts, or something else, bring your project and materials and join with others to socialise, learn and share experiences. Physical space is limited so your project needs to be portable and self-contained. There is no tutor, but everyone tends to help each other. (See also our Art group, which focuses on painting)
When	Thursday afternoons, 1.30 - 4.00
Where	Community Health Centre , 1 Frederick Street, room 4.
Tutor	This group is self-tutored
Note	If you were enrolled in this class last term, there is no need to re-enrol. Please email us if you can no longer attend.

5. Book Groups

Book Clubs are more than just talking about books - they are also places to socialise, talk about life, and make friends. Reading is a solitary pursuit, so meeting to talk about books is really special - book clubs are as much about the people as the books. We all have different tastes, often disagree about a book, but we love robust discussions about our readings.	
Book Club (Themes) - monthly	
What	After all these years we still enjoy our Thematic Approach, where each member brings a book to share. We then offer recommendations based on our recent reading. Term 3 themes will be: one of John Steinbeck's books (17 fiction and 10 non-fiction) and What I wanted to be growing up. Why not suggest a theme yourself?
When	1.30 – 4.00 on the fourth Monday of every month (no stopping for term breaks)
Where	Community Health Centre , 1 Frederick Street, room 4
Leader	Lyn Glover, 0477 550 171
Note:	If you were enrolled in this class last term, there is no need to re-enrol. Please email us if you can no longer attend.
Book groups continue on the next page	

Reading Group (Specific books) - monthly	
What	Our books are chosen by Libraries Tasmania. There is always one of us who has not read the book, but it does not matter, as we listen with interest to all the comments. Afterwards we discuss what we have recently been reading.
When	1.30 – 4.00 on the third Monday of each month (no stopping for term breaks)
Where	Community Health Centre , 1 Frederick Street, room 4
Leader	Sue White
Note:	If you were enrolled in this class last term, there is no need to re-enrol. Please email us if you can no longer attend.

6. Creative Writing for All

What	There are two Creative Writing groups: Weekly on Tuesday Morning: Have you dreamed of writing the perfect short story or a best-selling novel, or memoirs for your descendants? Do you just want to write to kick start your creative processes? Or if you'd just like to have a go, in a friendly, supportive, and informative group, join this weekly session to share writing techniques and tips; you may even overcome writer's block! <i>Everyone is a beginner so don't hold back.</i> Last Friday Morning of the Month: Open to all members so that aspirant writers can exchange written work and receive constructive, encouraging critiques from fellow writers.
When	Weekly: 10.00 -12.00 on Tuesdays Monthly: 10.00 -12.30 on the last Friday of each month (starting on Friday 28 March)
Where	Weekly: Community Health Centre, 1 Frederick Street, room 4. Monthly: Community Health Centre, 1 Frederick Street, room 4
Leaders / Tutors	Monthly: Ian Hampson (0403 620 703) Weekly: Ian Hampson (0403 620 703)
Note:	If you were enrolled in one of these classes last term, there is no need to re-enrol. Please email us if you can no longer attend.

7. Family History

What	A small group of genealogy tragnics meets monthly to share experiences, discuss techniques and generally learn from each other. This is an interest group, not a course, and is intended for those with experience in genealogy, using computer technology. If you are new to the field, consider our Beginners class, where we will provide pointers on how best to start.
When	First Monday of each month. 1.30 - 4.00
Where	Community Health Centre , 1 Frederick Street, room 4
Leader	June Cunningham 0407 187 300
Note	If you were enrolled in this class last term, there is no need to re-enrol. Please email us if you can no longer attend.

8. Family History for Beginners

What	You're desperate to find your family history, there's so much advice on the internet, but you don't know how to get started? This is not a formally structured course, but members of our Family History group will lead you to good resources and guide you as you start your research. Informal discussions will mean you hear about each other's discoveries and share experience as you go. We will have internet access in the class for short video tutorials, demonstrations and searching. You will need to have basic computer skills and access to the internet, as on-line searching is essential. (See also our Family History group)
When	Second Monday of each month from March -1.30 to 4.00
Where	Community Health Centre , 1 Frederick Street, room 4,
Leaders	Lyn Glover, June Cunningham
Note	If you were enrolled in this class last term, there is no need to re-enrol. Please email us if you can no longer attend..

9. Garden & Gourmet

What	Visits, talks and workshops on gardens and food, with plenty of opportunity to look, discuss and ask. You don't have to attend every session.
When	10am to noon on Thursdays each week, except on 17 September we start at 11am for a lunch meeting.
Where	See below, and the links to Google Maps for each session.
Leader	Elaine Reeves 0427 172 179
Note:	- Lunch on September 17 at Cinnamon and Cherry costs \$25. Payable on the day. - There is no need to let organisers know if you are coming to a garden or not. - Please share rides to garden visits if you can. There are many beautiful gardens that do not have endless parking. - If the weather is bad, use your own discretion on whether to come. In the past 10 years we have cancelled only twice. However, if the cancellation happens on the day of the visit we have no means of telling everyone in time. Cups: We've always said bring your own cup to gardens, but also have had some spare for the people who forget. This term we will NOT be supplying cups. If you forget your cup, you will either have to go without or borrow someone else's once they have finished, so please remember to bring your own.
17 Sept	Cinnamon and Cherry, Franklin (start at 11am) Hande and Marcus Marriott own and run Cinnamon and Cherry, which is the English translation of their daughters' Turkish names, Tarcin and Kiraz. This iteration of the cafe opened in 2018. Tasmanian native Marcus is the cook of Hande's family recipes – mainly in a vegetarian tradition of grazing shared platters over long conversations. We will start at 11am with a talk from Hande and then a shared meal for \$25 per person. Pay on the day (cash preferred). Desserts and drinks extra. If you would like to come please email Elaine elainereeves17@gmail.com before 14 September. Address: 3416 Huon Hwy, Franklin U3A facilitator Tanya Lawson
Garden & Gourmet continues on the next page	

24 Sept	Rendezview, Huonville Tracy and Russell bought their 40 acre property in 2018 and are now proud caretakers of an olive grove of about 30 trees and 500 blueberry bushes. They have since established an extensive orchard of raspberries, strawberries, currants and more. Natives and exotics mix very well in other parts of the garden. A small parterre garden adds interest. An easy property to walk. Address: 100 Benders Road, Huonville U3A facilitator Wendy Barker
1 Oct	Cooke garden, Ranelagh Frances Cooke and her husband Ben used to own Serendipity at Surges Bay. After Ben passed away 13 years ago, Frances moved to a quarter-acre block at Ranelagh. She has been an avid gardener in two continents. The first job was to recondition the clay soil at Ranelagh. Now the garden is packed with many different plants. Address: 2 Cornelia Close, Ranelagh U3A Facilitator Di Baird
8 Oct	A garden of rooms, Franklin Kevin and Jane's garden is made up of garden rooms - a terracotta shelter room, grasslands, fernery to a large pond before the Zen room. A conifer passage leads to the rose, azalea and vegetable gardens. There is also Wonderland and a secret garden. At the back are a variety of conifer, and a young forest room. And there's a cottage garden complete with white picket fence with bird houses. Address: 3686 Huon Highway, Franklin U3A facilitator Wendy Barker
15 Oct	A growing garden, Lower Snug Phillipa purchased half an acre in 1984 with a small cottage that was "just a box in a paddock". A straw-bale house was built, and in the early 2000s she was part of a group that bought the farm next door and Phillipa was able to extend her garden almost an extra acre. Even though she completed a horticulture course at the RTBG, Phillipa has had no set plan for the garden. Natives and exotics live happily together - a Wollemi pine and cloud-pruned bay tree stand out. The property is easy to walk. Address: 87 Old Station Road, Lower Snug U3A facilitator Wendy Barker
22 Oct	No garden – Hobart Show Day
29 Oct	Sinclair garden, Franklin David Sinclair and Ruse Samivotomo's garden started in 2007. It sits on a sloped site facing Sleeping Beauty. Among many other beautiful specimens there are a 12m Sequoia Sempervirens, a 9m Wollemi Pine, deciduous magnolias and 66 cherry blossoms. Since we last visited a succulent garden has been added. Address: 7 Seabrooks Rd, Franklin. Turn right into New Rd at Franklin, left at Smyley St, then right into Seabrooks Rd. Carpooling is recommended. U3A facilitator Di Baird
Garden & Gourmet continues on the next page	

5 Nov	Eggs and Bay Cottage, Eggs and Bacon Bay Anne LeFevre began by digging holes in the hard clay with a crowbar when she moved into this property in 2000. After much mulching she now has 30cm of topsoil. The cottage garden on the bank of the Huon River contains many shrubs and trees and collections of salvias and roses. Anne will have plants for sale. Bring cash. The garden is a gentle slope. Address: 10 Craypoint Pde, Eggs and Bacon Bay. Park on the street. U3A facilitator Jan Marciano
12 Nov	A garden for all seasons, Franklin Pat first planned this garden 21 years ago and it has gradually evolved into a peaceful and ever-changing landscape to be enjoyed in any season. There is an extensive collection of roses, hydrangeas, camellias and rhododendrons and bearded and Dutch irises. In the shaded fern garden are hostas and hellebores. Constant companions in the garden are blue wrens and fairy wrens. There is an opportunity to buy art and beaded items. The garden is easy to walk through. Address: 171 Braeside Rd, Franklin U3A facilitator Jan Marciano
19 Nov	Hartzview Vineyard, Gardners Bay Hartzview began as a berry farm in the 1920s. Families would spend entire summers working there, living in pickers huts. Now only pinot noir grapes grow and the berries come from other farms for fortified wines, gin, port and liqueurs. Rob and Anthea Patterson and their daughter Sandy run the business. We will tour the heritage huts, enjoy tastings and be able to shop. Address: 70 Dillons Hill Rd, Gardners Bay U3A facilitator Elaine Reeves

10. Men's Forum

What	The Men's forum meets to socialize and discuss topics of interest, relevance or concern.
When	1.30 – 3.30 , second Sunday of each month except during the Christmas break Note new time!
Where	David Fletcher's house, Garden Island Creek
Facilitator	David Fletcher, 6297 8240
Note:	If you were enrolled in this class last term, there is no need to re-enrol. Please email us if you can no longer attend.

11. Play Reading

What	Drama, Comedy, Mystery, Crime – we do it all! Come to the U3A Cygnet Play Reading group and spend a couple of hours experiencing the joys and sorrows of other lives, lived in other places and at other times. You don't have to have great acting skills – just be able to read, enjoy being entertained and love laughing. Beginners welcome.
When	Tuesdays, 1.30 - 4.00, weekly
Where	Community Health Centre , 1 Frederick Street, room 4.
Leader	Catriona Fletcher 6297 8240
Note	If you were enrolled in this class last term, there is no need to re-enrol. Please email us if you can no longer attend.

12. Science Discussion Group

What	An opportunity to learn, share and discuss issues across all branches of science. Members will take turns to offer topics – perhaps something from the news or a journal, or a video on the internet, then it's open for discussion and debate.
When	Second Thursday of the month, March to December, 10.00 to 12.00
Where	Community Health Centre , 1 Frederick Street, room 4
Facilitator	Glenn Sanders 0428 444 812
Note	If you were enrolled in this class last term, there is no need to re-enrol. Please email us if you can no longer attend.

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13. Holiday Activities – Ladies Who Lunch

What	Ladies Who Lunch is an opportunity for members to enjoy social gatherings during the Term breaks. Gatherings are held at interesting venues in our region, sources of good food and convivial surroundings. When we are planning an outing we will send out an event invitation. Places are limited, so book promptly by responding to the invitation.
When	In term breaks. An Event invitation will be sent by email.
Where	Venues vary
Facilitator	Elaine Reeves 0427 172 179