

Dear Members. What a wonderful beginning to the new year as we met for the first time on 20th April and enjoyed a feast and a get together with friends. We all love a good social gathering. I hope you are participating in and enjoying the courses for this semester. Cooking for one or two was a huge success with people already booking for the next course. 'Cryptic crosswords' is going gung-ho with participants learning how to decipher crossword clues and challenge their thought processes. 'Not so famous Australians' brought out those hidden gems of talented people whom we never get to hear of. 'Snapshots of History' was an amazing look at the Australian judicial system in relation to big events over the last two centuries. A huge thank you goes to Barbara Thomas, Alison Lockhart, Doddy Englert and Mary Hinchcliff for their research, co-ordination, and presentation.

We are always looking for new ideas for courses to share with our fellow members to keep our brains active and follow our motto of 'Learning for Life'. Please contact the committee if you have any ideas.

Your President Evelyn

## The Treasurer

It is planned to take a coach to see the Orange Theatre Company's "Mamma Mia" on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021 for the 2pm matinee session. I already have quite a number booked. It will cost \$60.00 made up of coach fare \$20.00 and Mamma Mia ticket \$40.00. I am currently taking names of those interested in attending. I will ask for payment once I have sufficient numbers to cover the cost of the coach. Please ring 68511801 and leave a message if not answered or 0438205519 if you wish to have your name added to the current list. A thank you to all who responded to the request to finalise membership payment for 2021. Our current membership stands at 160.

Trevor.

## 150 +1 years Forbes Shire Council Celebration.

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic in 2020, Forbes Shire Council was unable to celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary since its inception. On Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup> the community was invited to celebrate in a Gala, formal event in a marquee erected on Harold Street opposite the Town Hall, and what a grand event it was with people encouraged to arrive in their best formal attire, sip champagne and eat canapes from roving wait staff while being entertained with music and of course speeches. The event was attended by Council Staff, ex Council Staff, Councillors and members of Government. Most importantly, Forbes U3A was represented by 8 members who reportedly had a very enjoyable night.

## Future Fun

Still to come are the 'Taste of Forbes' visits organised by Jane Gilmour and Mary Lou Kemp. These bites of deliciousness begin on Wednesday May 26<sup>th</sup> at Isobel's Place at 12 noon. Wednesday June 23<sup>rd</sup> sees us at the Commercial Hotel followed by Wednesday July 28<sup>th</sup> at the Sport and Rec club (Bowlo) and Wednesday August 25<sup>th</sup> at the Golf Club. Meet at each venue at 12 midday. If you would like to join the Taste of Forbes activity and haven't already booked, please contact Mary Lou Kemp on 0427 092 271

Don't forget to come along to our next general meeting on Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup> to meet and hear Melanie Sutor from the Parkes/Forbes/Lachlan Shire councils. Melanie is the Road Safety and Injury prevention Officer. Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July our general meeting will welcome John Zannes who will talk to us about the Inland Rail. Our general meeting on Tuesday August 17<sup>th</sup> will see a presentation of courses for the second semester 2021.

#### ONGOING ACTIVITIES,

The U3A choir meet each Monday at 2pm at the Uniting Church Hall. With the final session for the current block to finish on 21<sup>st</sup> June. Dates for following weeks will be advised at that time. Cards and Scrabble every Thursday ongoing 10 am to 12 midday. Just turn up for fun and laughter.

#### The highlight of our year

During New South Wales Seniors Festival 2021, Forbes U3A in conjunction with Forbes Shire Council held the now annual variety Concert. The five acts provided a wide variety consisting of Organ recital Maz Rees, vocalist Kimberley Ryan, Tall storyteller Laurie Norris, Violin with piano accompaniment Joseph & Georgette Pereira and Senior singers led by Elaine Huckel. Owing to Covid 19 safe distancing requirements two performances were held, morning and afternoon both followed by refreshments. The Gold coin collection yielded \$438.00 which was donated to Red Cross, Forbes Branch. Mayor Phillis Miller OAM presented Wilma Hepburn with a cheque for \$500.00 Forbes Council having donated the balance.