

PROGRAM DETAILS for TERM 2 2023

Tuesday 13 June - Thursday 17 August

MONDAY 10.00 – 11.00 am			
German Conversation	Antje Fox	Board Room	L
New and continuing students with a prior knowledge of German are very welcome. The course will focus primarily on conversation, and will include some grammatical assistance.			
Observations on Astronomy: A View of Discovery across the Universe	Peter Taylor	Zoom Online	S
We will continue with the examination of the latest news and science from space.			
The Beauty and Biology of Birds (4 weeks 19/6 - 10/7)	Sue Jones	Theatre	S
Birds have fascinated and inspired humans since prehistoric times. They are perhaps the most aesthetically appealing of all vertebrate groups and have inspired art, folklore and legend, as well as much affection. Why is this? We shall start by thinking about that question. Then we shall explore what makes a bird a bird from the scientific perspective, and focus on aspects of bird biology that fascinate us - their feathers, eggs, nest construction.			
From the Menzies Institute (5 weeks 17/7 - 14/8)	Menzies	Theatre	S
Five speakers from the Menzies Institute for Medical Research will share their knowledge and research.			
MONDAY 11.30 am - 12.30 pm			
Writing Workshop (Max 14)	11.15 - 12.30	John McRae	Board Room
After topics are explored in class the writing is done at home. Finished work is discussed in class with constructive comments by group members and tutor, in a relaxed atmosphere.			
Basic German	Antje Fox	Retreat	L
We hope to build on members' existing level of German through conversation, and to extend their knowledge of vocabulary in a relaxed atmosphere.			
How Sailing Ships Made the Modern World (5 weeks 19/6-17/7)	Brian Stafford	Theatre	SS
An epic story stretching from the fragile vessels of the Age of Exploration to the mighty windjammers of the late C19th. It follows how the nations of the West participated in this great adventure - their triumphs and shortcomings and the contributions each made to the development of the sailing ship.			
Loongana: Renewables and Conservation don't always co-exist (4 weeks 24/7-14/8)	Ian Sale	Theatre	SS
Loongana is a scenic valley in the upper reaches of the Leven River, at the foot of Black Bluff. It is off the beaten track, unknown to most Tasmanians. My family have held land there since 1983, a personal conservation project to protect the area from clear-felling & plantation forestry. Then TasNetworks turned up.			
From AUKUS to Where? (4 weeks: 19/6 - 10/7)	Mick Sheehan	Lecture Room	SS
AUKUS- is it in Australia's interests? Since federation our defence policy has been based on the assumption that Australia cannot defend itself and must have a great and powerful friend as an ally. Does this mean we have surrendered our sovereignty and our wealth? We shall discuss defence and sovereignty issues, such as what are the threats from China, Russia, or elsewhere?			
Some Essays and their Authors (5 weeks 17/7 - 14/8)	Les Crompton	Lecture Room	H
Each week we will be reading modern short prose pieces by different writers. All have a point of view on a topic. It will be perhaps a social issue or a literary theme, or not grand at all but more entertaining. Yet the intention is that they should be thought provoking. Most authors are women this time. Essays will be sent via email to the class members, and in each session there will be a short introduction before a long discussion.			

MONDAY 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm				
Italian: The first steps	(1.00 - 2.00 pm)	Gianna Staples	Board Room	L
This is a class for beginners. You will learn Italian vocabulary, grammar, and expressions for the most common situations. This course is ideal for preparing you for a visit to il bel paese.				
Italian: Ancora un po'	(2.00 - 3.00 pm)	Gianna Staples	Board Room	L
In this course you will develop more advanced skills through practising conversation, reading, using digital resources, extending vocabulary, and making connections with grammar. The course will attempt to meet your needs in making you more proficient in communicating in Italian.				
TUESDAY 10.00 - 11.00 am				
Smart Phone Skills (max 12)		Josh Lovell	Board Room	S
This is a 10 week course on using your Smart Tablets and Phones. Topics include managing the settings on your devices, using popular email programs and contacts, security and popular apps.				
Play Reading		Gary Files	Lecture Room	H
In this course led by Gary Files we will read and discuss plays ranging from William Congreve's 18th century classic comedy "The Way Of The World" in one direction, to David Williamson's play "Don's Party" in the other. Copies of the plays are usually provided. The emphasis is on sharing, enjoying the characters, plays and playwrights. NO experience needed. Do join us!				
Geology of Tasmania: from Gondwana to the rocks which make our landscapes (5 weeks 13/6 - 11/7)		Keith Corbett	Theatre	S
This 5 week course will be based on my book 'Child of Gondwana - the Geological Making of Tasmania'. Available from Forty South Publishing, Fullers Bookshop.				
TUESDAY 11.30 - 12.30 pm				
The Art of Cartooning (11.00 - 12.30)		Louis Rodway	Board Room	A
Louis tutors students in the skills of illustrating cartoons and developing creative ideas, including humour. Students should bring an A4 size sketch book and soft pencils, 2B or 4B.				
Dutch Civilisation in the Golden Age (5 Weeks: 13/6 - 11/7)		Michael Bennett	Theatre	H
Looks at the world that Abel Tasman left behind: the Dutch war of independence and the transformation of the Netherlands in the seventeenth century into a dynamic economy, 'asylum of liberty', vibrant culture and global power. Explores the Dutch genius in technology, science and especially the visual arts in the age of Rembrandt and Vermeer.				
Reaction, Reform & Revolution in Russia 1801-1917 (5 weeks 18/7 - 15/8)		Stefan Petrow	Theatre	H
This course addresses the main themes of the Russian Empire's history from the accession of Tzar Alexander 1 in 1801 through to the cataclysmic Russian Revolutions of 1917 and gives an overview of the various processes and forces that shaped the history of the Russian Empire during the 'long' nineteenth century when Russia was transformed socially, culturally and above all politically. Lectures will cover the reactionary reigns of Alexander 1 and Nicholas 1 from 1801 to 1855; the momentous impact of the Crimean War (1853-56); the reforms introduced by Tzar Alexander II, not least the emancipation of the serfs; the pressures that grew between 1894 and 1914 when Russia gestured towards democratic institutions; and finally the Menshevik and Bolshevik Revolutions in 1917.				

Tuesday 11.30 – 12.30 pm			
Cryptic Crosswords Workshop	Carol Vincent	Lecture Room	SS
<p>The Cryptic Crossword Workshop is a class for potential cruciverbalists. It aims to explore and explain many of the devious ways in which cryptic clues are put together and to help build confidence in this enjoyable form of intellectual exercise.</p>			
WEDNESDAY 10.00 - 11.00 am			
Refine Your French	Elizabeth Eden	Retreat	L
<p>This course is for those whose previous language study and/or experience enables them to participate in lively conversation in everyday French, in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. Topics include aspects of France and its culture: history, literature, and modern life. The class is conducted in French, so a solid foundation in the language is required. With effective communication a priority, correct pronunciation and various elements of grammar are addressed as the need arises. Preference in enrolment is given to continuing class members.</p>			
Calligraphy	Christine Farmer	Board Rm	A
<p>We will work with pen and ink on the script which was developed for speed and simplicity during the Renaissance, a most popular, versatile script in C21. In addition we can also work on a variety of projects, suitable for beginners and continuers. There will be a small charge for materials.</p>			
From Vietnam to Pakistan	Peter D Jones	Theatre	SS
<p>Getting to know our South East Asian neighbours.</p>			
WEDNESDAY 11.30 – 12.30 pm			
Behind the News for Grown-Ups	Adela Morton	Board Room	SS
<p>Is celebrity culture not your idea of a satisfying news diet? Take a weekly look at Tasmanian, national and international affairs. Have your say and listen to others, on what matters today.</p>			
Retrieve your French	Elizabeth Eden	The Retreat	L
<p>This is a continuing course, but structured to accommodate new class members. The emphasis is on reading and pronunciation, to enable confident conversation.</p>			
Australian Environmental History (5 weeks 15/6 - 12/7)	Don Garden	Theatre	SS
<p>Environmental History is a study of the relationship between humans and the environments that they occupy. It is a two-way relationship that includes both how economic and cultural activities impact on and shape the environment, and how the environment shapes much of the economy and culture of the human occupants. These lectures will give an outline of some of the main themes in Australian Environmental History, commencing with the Aborigines and then moving to such issues as the mindset of the British colonists and subsequent generations, the impact of their various industries, the introduction of exotic and invasive species, landscape elements such as water and trees, and the development of conservation consciousness and the environmental movement.</p>			
"La Canne" Exercises	Graeme Anderson	Lecture	SS
<p>I am teaching the solo forms of "La Canne" in the style of mid 19th century France, for gentle exercise and personal development (in the manner of Larribeau and his contemporaries). This is an elegant, flowing and practical style that reflects 300 years of development of solo practise forms for long staff, walking stick and "broadsword". The exercises are non-contact. I find them beneficial and interesting, and I hope others do too.</p>			

WEDNESDAY 1.00 – 3.00 pm			
Drawing (Continued)	Jane Monaghan	Board Room	A
This is a continuation class for those with some drawing experience. Leadership/coordination in the group is shared by members, who take it in turn to choose the weekly tasks, sessions and activities.			
THURSDAY 10.00 – 11.00 am			
Advanced French	Marilyn Pinkard	Board Room	L
These sessions are designed for those with a good knowledge of French. The course provides an opportunity for discussion of a variety of topics according to the needs and interests of the group.			
Guided Spanish Conversation Level: A1 - B1 (CEFR)	Sally Gill	Lecture Room	L
The course will provide Spanish conversation practice in an interactive, inclusive and relaxed environment to help participants improve vocabulary and fluency, and gain confidence in general speaking skills. Each class will have a theme/topic to encourage dialogue and exchange.			
Mah Jong (10.00 – 11.30)	Self conducted	The Retreat	SS
Mah Jong can be played in different ways. In this class we learn how it is played in China, its country of origin.			
Kaleidoscope	Kathy Brown (Convenor)	Theatre	SS

15 June: Rayne Allinson *The Two Elizabeths: Queens, Women, Icons*

This presentation compares the lives, reigns and legacies of Elizabeth I (1533-1603) and Elizabeth II (1926-2022), and suggests that more united them than just a name: both were among the longest reigning monarchs in English history, both women, one at the beginning of England's rise as an imperial power, the other at its closing. Both of them have had to withstand various family scandals, war, and civil unrest. And both of them were experts in the art of image creation and projection.

22 June: Noreen Le Mottee *A Life on the Stage (and a Smidgen of Film)*

29 June: Bob Brown *The State of the Planet*

6 July: Stefan Petrow *Colin Philp as Architect and Planner in Hobart 1936-1960*

This talk will look at Philp's architectural achievements, but will mostly discuss his ideas on town planning in Hobart, much debated in recent years.

13 July: Peter Fay *Bloodlines: Art and the Horse*

Peter will take this exhibition curated in 2007 and trace the way the exhibition came together. This will involve a brief look at historical images, false leads as the exhibition takes shape. How far can the boundaries be pushed? What was finally selected - what was rejected? Art, artefacts and popular culture all come together in the exhibition.

20 July: Neil Spark *The Power Behind the Throne: Nancy Reagan*

Ronald Reagan is revered as a great US president by conservatives. One of the biggest influences on him was his second wife, Anne Frances Robbins, who became the actor Nancy Davis who became Nancy Reagan. She was an ambitious, ruthless, and powerful woman who preached 'family values' but did not practise them.

27 June: Cassandra Pybus *Inside Truganini's World*

Truganini has long been a symbol of 'extinction' of the First People of this island and so many stories, poems, songs, art works have been spun around her, always as the tragic victim, the 'spectre' that haunts Australian culture, as Bernard Smith said of her in his 1980 Boyer Lecture. Cassandra Pybus believes what we should remember about Truganini is not that she died but that she led a long, remarkable, and resilient life while negotiating a cataclysmic change in her known world.

THURSDAY 10.00 – 11.00 am

Kaleidoscope	Kathy Brown (Convenor)	Theatre	SS
3 August:	Michael Bennett	<i>Edward Jenner (1749-1823): Pioneer of vaccination: commemoration and controversy</i>	
10 August:	Jane Tolman	<i>Why is the Health System in Tasmania in a constant state of crisis, and how does dementia fit in?</i>	
17 August:	David Agnew	<i>Conservation and Fishing in Antarctica</i>	

THURSDAY 11.30 – 12.30 pm

Spanish 101 (Continued) Level: A1 - A2 (CEFR)	Sally Gill	Board Room	L
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Improve your Spanish language grammar and communication skills for personal development or travel (albeit virtually) with this elementary course in castellano. The grammar, vocabulary and expressions taught will focus on facilitating communication in everyday situations.

Please note: this is a continuing class not an introductory course.

French Conversation (Intermediate)	Christine Moore & Lisa Risby	The Retreat	L
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The course will build on students' existing level of French through readings and conversation. It aims to extend their knowledge of vocabulary and French culture in a relaxed environment.

Return of the Old Gods and the Ancients	Basil Sansom	Theatre	H
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With the Renaissance, Greek and Roman Gods entered into western art and literature. How does it come that Christians tolerate the co-existence of God Almighty and Apollo of Olympus?

My Mobile Phone: What else can it do?	Sue Mulcahy	Lecture Room	S
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The best camera is the one we carry with us, and for most that is their phone's camera. We'll look at camera features and settings; how to change, share and organise photos, and what can be done with photos you've taken. It's a hands-on course, so bring your mobile device to class and be prepared to spend time outside as we practise what we've been discussing.

THURSDAY 1.00 – 2.00 pm / 1.00 - 3.00 pm

Reading Poetry for Pleasure (1.00 - 2.00 pm)	Heather Chauncy	Lecture Room	H
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Come and join a dedicated group of those who love poetry and believe it can only be fully appreciated when read aloud. Everyone is welcome. Just bring your favourite poems.

Watercolour Painting (1.00 - 3.00 pm)	Self conducted	Board Room	A
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Come and join us for companionship while doing our own paintings in a relaxed atmosphere. No teacher available as yet.