

# The Notice Board

September 2009

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**Melting Pot:**  
**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm**  
**Salvation Army Hall**

Have you ever thought about why you get goose bumps? Well, they are part of the biological baggage that we humans carry from our dim distant ancestors who, when cold or frightened, raised their hair (like dogs) to make themselves warmer or look bigger than otherwise.

We humans have a number of these evolutionary relics and Professor Jim Warren will give a fascinating talk about them at our next Melting Pot. Come along and sit on your now obsolete tail bone to discover some of the curious legacies of your past ancestors that you have but don't use these days.

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**Victorian Seniors Festival 2009**  
**Be inspired! 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> October**

Yes, it's that time of the year again and Mitchell Shire Council will be hosting a **Concert** featuring Jamie Redfern at the Broadford Shire Hall on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Oct. commencing at 1pm. Cost \$4.90 per ticket which are available at Broadford Library and Customer Service Centre, 113 High St. Broadford. Great entertainment and light refreshments provided.

Council on the Ageing Victoria's (COTA) annual **Seniors Conference** will take place on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October at Multicultural Hub, 506 Elizabeth St, Melbourne (opposite Victoria Market) from 9.30am to 3.30pm. This year's conference focuses on older people as leaders and social activists, and the strategies they use to achieve change. This is a free event for older Victorians and includes lunch. Register now by calling Trevor at COTA Vic on 9655 2125 or email [projects@cotavic.org.au](mailto:projects@cotavic.org.au)

**The President's Letter:**

Dear All,

*The start of Spring has brought back most of our missing members, hopefully well rested and ready to be worked to death...Another thought provoking Melting Pot on the 8th...for those who weren't there, Mr. Tim McCartin, Principal of Seymour Technical High School outlined plans for the Regeneration Project...a proposal that will have far reaching implications for Education in our area. The October Melting Pot will be the last for the year so we hope to see many members there.*

*The October edition of the Notice Board will also be the last for the year. Our Editor, Wendy Madex, would love some news from the various groups and classes with snippets of your activities throughout the year. (Email her at [jrmadex@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jrmadex@bigpond.net.au) or telephone 5792 2643 by 10<sup>th</sup> October)*

*As mentioned briefly last month we now have firm plans for Computer Access and training which Bob Brown will detail elsewhere in this Notice Board.*

*As in previous years we will be represented at the Tastes of the Goulburn later in the month. We have found flying the flag (or Banner) at these events generates interest and usually adds members. If any members could help out for a couple of hours please contact Pat Coffey by email at [seymu3a@vicnet.net.au](mailto:seymu3a@vicnet.net.au) or phone 5799 1119. I'll be off on an O'seas junket for 4 weeks...even volunteers have perks. So, enjoy the early weeks of Spring and keep up those Rain Dances...we certainly need some help in that area...*

*A special thanks to our editor Wendy Madex, who magically puts together all our doings and helps us to keep in touch.*

**Jill Fidler**

### ***Vine, Wine & Dine:***

Our next visit will be to Rocky Passes Estate, 1590 Highlands Road, Whiteheads Creek on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October. We will learn about the development of their red wines and why James Halliday rates them so highly. Lunch will be Spanish tapas and dessert for \$15. Drinks extra.

Call Carol Smith 5799 1970 to reserve your place by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. A minimum of 10 is required. The car pool will leave the Old Courthouse at 11.30am. This may be the last winery visit for this year, but Carol recommends you attend the Tastes of the Goulburn, in Station Street this year, on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October to taste more of the region's wines.

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### ***Seymour Interconnect:***

Seymour & District U3A in collaboration with the Seymour Neighbourhood Renewal Project have received a grant from the Victorian Government Dept. of Planning and Community Development to enhance access to the Internet and the World Wide Web. This is part of a Victoria wide program known as the Public Internet Access Program (PIAP). One new computer will be located at the Contact Place, Anglesey St. Two new high-speed computers networked with our existing two Pentium4 computers will be connected to the Internet via broadband in the U3A Office. The total Victorian scheme is being managed by Vicnet, a part of Library Victoria, and they are providing tutors who will instruct some of our members in some of the finer points of Internet computing so they will be able to show others how to get the greatest benefit out of the wonderful world of cyberspace.

We are currently selecting and purchasing new equipment and hope to be able to get the system operating shortly. We are now actively recruiting voluntary trainers to become part of the scheme. The volunteers teach others. It will be an interesting and useful experience for everyone. Please contact Bob Brown if you would like to be an Interconnect trainer; modest intermediate computer skills are the starting point for trainers; from there they will learn and have an enjoyable time.

For more information contact Eddie Moylan (5792 1534) or Bob Brown (5796 2163) or [rbrown@bordnet.com.au](mailto:rbrown@bordnet.com.au)

### ***Energy Futures:***

We're getting down to the "pointy end" of our discussion about energy for the future of the world. We have looked briefly at the nature of the universe, the way it formed and the massive energies that have shaped and organized the stars and planets. We looked at the way different nations use energy and we have examined the scientific case indicating that human activities, generating carbon dioxide, have influenced global temperature. We've also looked at some of the arguments that have been put up against this science. In the last two lectures we have looked at many alternative energy sources and noted how these are rapidly being adopted in many countries of the world.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> September and the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October we will talk about atomic energy what's good with it what's bad about it and how it can be adopted safely. We will look in a little more detail at carbon capture and storage and make some comparisons of the costs of implementing alternatives in Australia. We'll talk about carbon trading carbon tax and legislation of renewables. Finally, on a more cheerful note, we will look at some of the excellent examples in cities around the world – some in UK, Scandinavia and other places. This may trigger some thoughts about energy in Seymour. Don't worry if you've missed previous sessions, it'll be great if you can join in now and contribute to discussions in future.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of November it is hoped that a visit can be arranged to a property with very low carbon emissions.

### ***Bob Brown***

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**You are invited to join in our Spanish Fiesta**, celebrating the genius of "Liquid Desires" on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October from 10.30am to 1.00pm at the RSL Hall.

#### **Film, Food and Music!**

Get in the spirit with a Salvador Dali moustache or a comb and ruffle.

RSVP to Loris on 5792 1093 by Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> please for catering.

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### ***9.10 Train Excursion: A Reminder!***

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October – A Day in the Life of Pompeii @ Melbourne Museum

**Our U3A thanks Ben Hardman MP  
for his assistance with the printing of our  
Newsletters and Green Guide**