

## Committee Members

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## February Coffee Morning

The first Coffee morning of the new year is on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020 commencing at 10.00am. The venue is, as usual, the Seniors Hall in Tawonga Crescent. You can enjoy a coffee or tea and biscuits with other members including new members and then finalise what courses you would like to do in 2020. Finalise is perhaps too strong a word because you can make choices through the year subject to acceptance of the course convenors.

There will be tables around the room and the course convenors will be in attendance to answer your questions as appropriate. Each of the course convenors will have a name tag for ease of identification and I am assured that they are all friendly. I have attached a draft course timetable to the email accompanying this newsletter but please remember that this is a draft only and may be modified once the course details are finalised.

## From the Secretary (Judith Falle)

### After the fires, but before the next...

The last few weeks of rain and cooler weather have allowed us to regroup and reflect after the weeks of anxiety during the fire emergency. We, in the Upper Kiewa Valley were lucky - in fact you could take the view that the time served as a practice run. However, the fire season is not yet over and if you are feeling that you still need help and reassurance, now is the time to ask someone to help you understand the phone apps and emergency messages; run through your fire plan

with you; and be a contact in case of yet another fire outbreak.

### Dates to remember:

#### Alpine U3A Coffee Mornings/Guest Speakers

February 7 (Enrolment)	March 6	April 3
May 1	June 5	July 3
August 7	September 4	Oct ober 2
November 6	December 4 (Christmas Party)	

\* **September 8 2020**, Alpine U3A is hosting the Regional Network Meeting. (More later)

\***October** is Seniors' Month

\***Course descriptions** - see website [alpineu3a.org.au](http://alpineu3a.org.au)

(2019) - to be updated for 2020

\***Membership for new members and renewing members:**

(To participate in courses/activities you must be a financial member of Alpine U3A.)

Membership fees are due on or before February 7, 2020

\$25 single; \$45 couple.

Payable to Alpine U3A at **Bendigo Bank**: BSB 633000 Acc: 132758707 or pay by EFT with the account name Alpine U3A and the BSB and account number as above.

**Make sure you include your name and number of people as a reference, e.g. SmithRx2.**

Or

Pay on the day, Friday 7 February, 2020

**Re-joining members** need not fill out a new form; **New members** may fill out forms on-line or obtain hard copies on enrolment day or from the secretary at [secretary@alpineu3a.org.au](mailto:secretary@alpineu3a.org.au)

## Advance Notice for March

**Speaker** (Christina Callinan, speaker organiser.)

Members may not be aware that here in the Kiewa Valley we have a Museum of early motoring. It is in Tawonga South and it is owned and operated by John M Stanley. John will give the guest talk at the March Coffee morning.

## February Movie -

The 2020 movie season commences on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February, with the story of Elton

### John - **Rocketman**

Not being an Elton John fan, I turned to the internet to find out what it is about. Hence the following extract from Wikipedia which I found to be fascinating:

*Elton John's life is recounted in flashback for Rocketman*

*Young Reginald Dwight grows up in 1950s Britain, raised by his unaffectionate mother, Sheila, and more loving grandmother Ivy. Reginald is interested in music and hopes to perform for his father, Stanley, who takes no interest in his son nor his talent ("I Want Love").*

*Reginald begins piano lessons, making his way into the Royal Academy of Music. Stanley abandons his family after Sheila has an affair. Reginald develops interest in rock music, and begins performing in local pubs ("Saturday Night's Alright for Fighting"). As an adult, Reginald joins the band Bluesology, which is hired to play backup for touring American soul bands, The Isley Brothers and Patti LaBelle and the Blue Belles. Isley Brothers lead singer Ronald Isley recommends that Reginald writes songs and puts his old life behind him if he wants to become a famous artist. This inspires Reginald to change his name to Elton John. Elton being the name of the saxophonist of Bluesology and John being adapted from the Beatles's John Lennon.*

*Elton begins writing music and tries finding success with Dick James' record label DJM Records under the management of Ray Williams. Williams introduces Elton to lyricist Bernie Taupin; they form a friendship ("Border Song") and move into a flat together to work on their songs. When Elton admits he is homosexual, he ends his romantic relationship with their landlady and he and Bernie are evicted.*

*Elton and Bernie move in with Elton's grandmother, his mother and her significant other where they continue writing and create "Your Song". James sets up a performance for them at the Troubadour in Los Angeles. Elton is nervous before his Troubadour debut, but the audience eagerly embraces his performance ("Crocodile Rock"). Elton is overjoyed by his success, but feels abandoned when Bernie leaves him at a party to spend time with a woman ("Tiny Dancer"). He is approached by John Reid, a music manager. They sleep together, and reunite later ("Take Me to the Pilot").*

And so, the Wikipedia version of the plot of Rocketman continues. I suggest that members should read the entire plot of the film if they are, like me, somewhat lacking in knowledge of Elton John. I shall certainly attend the film showing on the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month. Here are some shots from the movie:



## Alpine U3A courses 2020

I have previously mentioned our courses earlier in the Newsletter with course selection being at the Coffee morning on Friday. Some courses have continued over the break and these tend to be those requiring physical activity such as Table Tennis. This is perfectly in order and makes good use of the Seniors Hall. The Thursday walking group had a preliminary meeting last Thursday at one of its favourite coffee joints – The Tawonga Store. Although I am unable to participate in walking at present it was good to catch up and have coffee:



This is just one of the many pleasures of being a member of the Alpine U3A and of course being retired. There are other reasons for liking retirement:

**Question:** Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?

**Answer:** They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

**Question:** What is the best way to describe retirement?

**Answer:** The never-ending Coffee Break.

I look forward to seeing you all next Friday at the Coffee morning.

David Wood (Newsletter Editor)

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020