



Wesley School for Seniors

Newsbites

Term 1 Issue 1

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Wesley School for Seniors update

By Jeannie Mathews
Program Coordinator

I write this column with mixed emotions. We started our first term of this new decade enthusiastically with our broad range of classes. We had our Senior Minister of Wesley Congregational Life, the Rev Rick Dacey as our guest speaker this term and for the first time celebrated Seniors Week by offering free trial classes for potential students. However, we saw a turn of events unfolding with the coronavirus threat globally. In the interest of wellbeing of students and tutors we decided to suspend all classes until 30 June 2020. The students and tutors are encouraged to keep communicating and keep the relationships built through Wesley School for Seniors (SFS) by supporting each other during this difficult time.

Some suggestions are:

- to check on three of your classmates at least once a week through phone calls or emails

- to share encouraging posts with each other through WhatsApp groups or private messages
- to contact the SFS city office or the suggested help numbers if you need assistance or know of someone who needs help.

Let's all hope and pray that we get through this situation safely, so we're able to return to the vibrant SFS community.

Message

By Rev Keith V Garner AM
Superintendent/CEO

Dear students, tutors and volunteers,

I am writing to you to offer my encouragement to you in these difficult times.

The health and wellbeing of our students, tutors and other volunteers who are part of the Wesley School for Seniors program is of paramount concern. And we must appropriately follow all the advice from governments and medical professionals.

With your safety and good health in mind we have made the decision to cancel all remaining sessions of our current courses through to 30 June 2020. This is not an easy decision to make but the right one in our current circumstances.

I am proud of our Wesley School for Seniors program that has been facilitating life-long learning opportunities for students for more than 50 years now. It has a long history which will continue long after the threat of the coronavirus pandemic is over.

We look forward to future times when we are able to announce the recommencement of our broad range of courses. In the meantime, let us all remain connected in new ways, so that the important relationships established through Wesley School for Seniors might be of comfort to us all in these uncertain times.

If you have any program questions, please email schoolforseniors@wesleymission.org.au or visit our website at wesleymission.org.au for updates.

Our specialist Provisional Psychologist, Jasmin Cox is available to offer support during this season. Her contact details are below along with Chaplain Peter Cole who is always available to you.

Jasmin Cox: 0436 421 397 (9am - 4pm)
or email jasmin.cox@wesleymission.org.au

Peter Cole: 9641 7020
or email Peter.Cole@wesleymission.org.au

Tutor/Student column

By Georgette Leclair-Kiosidis

Tutor, French Intermediate

Bonjour à tous

« *Ne crains pas l'ennui, car c'est grâce à lui que le monde a inventé les distractions* »

10 Choses à faire quand on s'ennuie

1. Appeler un ami ou une amie.
2. Apprécier un rayon de soleil qui pénètre dans la maison.
3. Commencer à lire un roman tout neuf.
4. Continuer à apprendre le Français sur l'internet ou dans un livre.
5. Cuisiner un nouveau plat ou dessert.
6. Chanter à tue-tête lorsqu'on est seul.
7. Danser seule au son de sa musique préférée.
8. Faire le ménage d'une pièce de la maison.
9. Écrire une liste de choses pour lesquelles nous sommes reconnaissant.
10. Manger sur une terrasse en écoutant la musique.

By Gerard van Rijwisjk

Tutor

Humour

An example of social distancing



By Domenica Li

Tutor, Shakespeare



To counter the boredom of the coronavirus shutdown, I am resorting to the comfort of food. Beneath is a recipe for French Toast (Hong Kong style) with a modern twist.

This French Toast was made in an air fryer. It is therefore healthier than frying with oil.

Ingredients:

Two thick slices of bread (crust removed)
Peanut butter (optional)
Two eggs

Method:

1. Preheat air fryer for 3min on 200C.
2. Whisk two eggs.
3. Butter/peanut butter bread.
4. Soak bread in egg mixture.
5. Place a grease paper on top of a shallow metal plate. Brush grease paper with oil. This is an important step, don't skip.

6. Put bread on plate and insert in air fryer for 6min on 180C.
7. Turn bread and return to air fryer for 4min on 180C.
8. Drizzle with maple syrup and top with a small slab of butter.
9. Bon appetit!

By Paul Hurst

Tutor, 20th Century Popular Music

Musical Jokes

Q: What type of music are balloons scared of?

A: Pop music!

Q: What is the difference between a fish and a piano?

A: You can't tuna fish!

Q: What has forty feet and sings?

A: The school choir!

Q: How many folk singers does it take to change a light bulb?

A: One to change it and 5 to sing about how good the old one was.

Q: How many vocalists does it take to screw in a bulb?

A: None. They hold the bulb over their head and the world revolves around them.

Q: What's the difference between a jet airplane and a trumpet?

A: About three decibels.

Q: What do you call a guitar player that only knows two chords?

A: A music critic.

Q: What do you call someone who hangs around with musicians?

A: A vocalist.

Q: Why couldn't the athlete listen to her music?

A: Because she broke the record!

Whatever happened to Helen Shapiro?

Based on a radio devotional talk by Chris Witts, 103.2FM 2016

Helen Shapiro was born in 1946 in London and is a British pop and jazz singer and actress. She grew up in a poor family in a council flat. Her grandparents were



Russian Jewish immigrants. Helen began her pop career at the age of ten as part of a school group called Susie and the Hula Hoops, which also featured a young future rock superstar called Marc Bolan on guitar. Helen had a deep voice, with friends giving her the nickname of "Foghorn"!

Helen had her first hit in 1961 when she was a mere 14 years of age. She had two UK Official Singles Chart Number 1s with 'You Don't Know' and 'Walking Back To Happiness'. She toured in 1963 with her support act called The Beatles. Helen later turned to acting, with roles in theatre productions of Cabaret and Oliver! as well as a TV soap opera called Albion Street.

A New Direction

Helen has been married since 1988 to John Judd a well-known actor. In 1987, she became a Messianic Jew. She said there was never a time when she didn't believe in God. But as a teenage star her life changed. "All the excitement of making records and touring put spiritual things right out of my mind." By age 40, Helen's life was empty.

One day she spent time with her musical director, Bob, and his wife. They were active Christians, and shared what Jesus meant to them. She was surprised when Bob told her he was giving up his career in the music business to be a full-time preacher. "I was impressed by his conviction – I couldn't get it out of my mind" she said. "I only knew Jesus as an historical figure... could He be more than that?"

She was given a book to read, and she found verses of Scripture which told of the coming Jesus and bought a copy of the Bible for

herself. She said “Jesus came out of the pages at me, and I was drawn to Him like a magnet. I was cross referencing the Old and New Testaments and everything pointed to Jesus being the Jewish Messiah.”

She spends a lot of her time sharing the gospel in music, and when asked if she misses show business she says, “I love the music – especially jazz – but not the showbiz way of life. I now have the Lord’s direction for my life. This is the most satisfying and thrilling thing.”

Events at Wesley SFS

We launched the Wesley SFS gala day at Frank Vickery Village with approximately 40 residents attending the session. We look forward to working with the Village to setup Wesley SFS classes once the coronavirus threat is over.

Enrolment and course facts

The school is run by invaluable volunteer support. Current figures are below.

Current numbers	Wesley SFS City location	Wesley SFS Carlingford location
Enrolment	465	18
Volunteers	91	6
Classes	98	10

Wesley School for Seniors has a brochure and a student handbook. These are available at the office. The student handbook can be downloaded from the website too. Please hand this out to friends and family who may be interested in courses for seniors!

Wesley SFS council update

The School Council, which includes students and tutor representatives, meets twice each term. We are looking to upgrade the television in the Wilson Room and have been able to successfully receive grants to purchase it.

The council continues to meet even though the school is closed, and we would like to thank all members for their active participation and contribution towards the betterment of the school. Congratulations to Melisa Beard who has been nominated as student representative to the council.