



**U3A BRISBANE**  
**WINTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**  
**8<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019**

Bookings and Session Details at

[u3abrisbane.org.au](http://u3abrisbane.org.au) or at U3A office 97 Creek St

Sessions 90 minutes – Cost \$5 unless otherwise indicated

**BRING A FRIEND**

**WINTER SCHOOL IS OPEN TO NON-MEMBERS**

**Venues**

Except for external locations where shown, venues for talks will be at the U3A Brisbane premises at 232 Adelaide Street, Level 5

**Booking Instructions**

Online booking is easy and convenient

No login needed, just quote your Member No and surname

Book online at: [u3abrisbane.org.au](http://u3abrisbane.org.au)

If you don't have Internet access, or you are not a Member, book in person at the U3A Brisbane office 97 Creek Street, or phone 3236 3055 or email: [mail@u3abrisbane.org.au](mailto:mail@u3abrisbane.org.au)

***BE FAIR TO OTHERS – PLEASE CANCEL YOUR BOOKING IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND***

**Disclaimer**

***Opinions and views expressed in these presentations are the opinions of the designated authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or views of the Winter School Organising Committee or of U3A***

## **MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**9AM**

### **Secret Women's Business - Feminine Hygiene in the Middle Ages**

**Rosalie Gilbert - 9am Monday**



We don't discuss it in polite company, because it's one of *Those Things*. *It's not nice*. In fact, it's a bit gross. Medieval women faced many challenges like modern women today, some of them quite mundane. Nothing is more mundane than the workings of a woman's body and her natural cycle, and yet we rarely discuss it. Medieval women faced the same issues with their reproductive organs that women have always faced, and in this talk, living historian Rosalie Gilbert gives us the low down on what's going on with those ladies. There were some very strange ideas floating around in those days and if this presentation is as good as last year's on Sex in The Middle Ages we are in for a treat.

### **The New Disruptors**

**Dr Karen Hands - Griffith Review - 9am Monday**

As the digital revolution continues to unleash radical changes on industries, economies, politics and institutions, what future will this disruption shape? Is the brave new world of Facebook, Amazon, Apple, Netflix, Google and Uber one of decentralisation, anti-elitism and individual freedom - or surveillance, monopoly and control? Griffith Review devoted their April edition to this topic and Karen will take a wide ranging look at the upheavals that come with our increasingly technological world.



### **Let's Talk Lower Back Pain**

**Renee Weller and Tom Caitens - Healthy Connections Exercise Clinic - 9am Monday**



More than 80% of the population will experience lower back pain at some point in their lives. Gain insight into factors that may be contributing to your pain and learn about simple strategies to decrease stress on the back to move more efficiently. This presentation aims to help people to understand their pain and to take individual steps to move and feel better. Tom is an accredited Clinical Exercise Physiologist with a passion for providing healthy lifestyle interventions to help people manage chronic pain. He has a special interest in gait and postural analysis, joint care and rehabilitation as well as balance and fall prevention. Renee proscribes innovative programs for muscular rehabilitation, incontinence, posture and chronic disease management.

### **What is Happening in the South China Sea or International Bullying in our Backyard**

**Roger Rusling - 9am Monday (Repeat session)**

The geo-political turmoil happening in the South China Sea has the potential to cause a hot shooting-war to erupt which could drag Australia into a position where we must choose sides between an historical big brother who has always been on our side, and our largest trading partner who has the ability to strangle our trade and potentially cripple our economy. This talk will explain the history and

context of the South China Sea dispute including other current Chinese endeavours to regain its historical world position, and another dispute much closer to home that will also impact on our terms of trade.

## **10AM**

### **State Library of Queensland Tour - No charge (repeat session)**

#### **Kate O'Loughlin - Monday 10am**

The State Library of Queensland is more than just a library. Their activities include research, history, preservation and restoration of priceless artefacts and books. They provide a range of services we can all access, everything from free meeting rooms, special large exhibitions and small lesser known ones, film screenings and lectures. Learn what goes on behind the scenes at our world class library. Make a day of it – have lunch and then join us for the Keynote Speech. **Meet at the SLQ main reception area where you enter to go up to the auditorium. This tour runs for 45-60 minutes.**

## **11AM**

### **World's Top Ten Breakthroughs in Quantum Physics**

#### **Professor Andrew White UQ - 11am Monday**

Professor Andrew White and his team had a great finish to 2018. Their paper on events happening in indefinite order was picked up by Physics World as one of the Top Ten Breakthroughs for 2018. To be included in this list is a great honour and we are fortunate indeed to have him talk to us about these ten very important moments in science. Magic-angle grapheme, propeller and combustion free flight and quasicrystal superconductivity are just some of the topics he will touch on.



### **The Brain Unlocked - Retrain your Brain**

#### **11am Monday**

Unfortunately this session has been cancelled, but we have obtained a new speaker on a similar topic. Details will be advised when available.

### **Australian Native and Arid Grasses for Advanced Nanomaterials Applications Technology**

#### **Dr Pratheep K Annamalai PhD - 11am Monday**

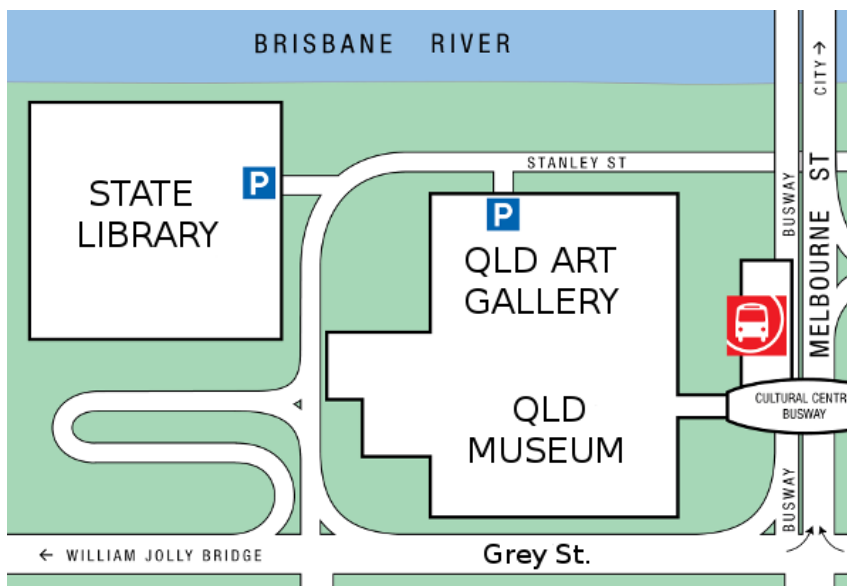
Dr Annamalai will talk about Spinifex grasses (Triodia genus) which grow in extreme conditions of the continent and has been widely used in indigenous Australian practice. He will shed light on these spiky grasses, as a new and unique source of nanofibers for advanced material applications ranging from soft elastic rubbers to strong composites. His research targets how building blocks from plants and wastes can be derived and converted into value-added materials. This is important work, given the extremes of our climate and the vast numbers of yet unexplored resources, and has been known to our indigenous inhabitants for thousands of years.



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**Map Showing Art Gallery and Queensland State Library**

**Family Property Issues**

**Brian Herd - 11am Monday**

Disputes about financial dealings between ageing parents and their adult children are on the rise.



Issues include parents ‘helping out’ their children, lending/gifting money to children, parents becoming involved in their children’s family law disputes, children financing parents into aged care, granny flat arrangements, changing Wills to take account for the unequal advances made to children during the parents’ lives, and on it goes. It can be disruptive and distressing, if not disastrous, for parents. Brian will look at what is happening, why it’s happening and what can go wrong as well as steps to avoid family implosion.

**Queensland Art Gallery Guided Tour - Stories of this Land - Goobalathaldin**

**Barbara Lloyd - 11.30am Monday - To be held at Qld Art Gallery**

‘Stories of this Land’ is the first major retrospective celebrating the work and life of Goobalathaldin Dick Roughsey (1920-1985). This exhibition brings together seventy works including barks, paintings, ceremonial and historical objects and draft illustrations from his children’s book and three story book

films. Roughsey was a figurehead and pioneer of Indigenous art and culture. Throughout his career he explored traditional practices, stories and ceremonies and social effects caused by missionary activity, everyday life on Mornington Island, and his journey through Cape York. See this stunning exhibition through the eyes of an expert. Barbara Lloyd has spent many years helping visitors to the Art Gallery appreciate the full impact of the works on offer. **Meet at 'watermall' outside restaurant at QAG. This tour is approximately 60 minutes.**



**1.30PM**

## **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

### **CRIME AND CORRUPTION IN THE SUNSHINE STATE**

**Venue: State Library of Queensland Auditorium 1  
Cost \$10.00**





## **MR ALAN MACSPORRAN QC - CHAIRPERSON CCC**

We are so very proud and delighted to bring you this well known and respected member of our justice system to be our Keynote Speaker for 2019. He has the inside track on many of the major investigations that have both enthralled and appalled many of us so this will be a most informative and interesting talk.

Mr MacSporran has a long history with the Law in Queensland and has been involved in many high profile cases in this state. He is currently Chairperson of the Crime and Corruption Commission and will give us an insight into some of these cases and also explain the powers and limitations of the CCC and of the law in general.

His personal history is impressive. Admitted as a Barrister-at-Law in 1978 he worked as a Crown Prosecutor until 1984 when he went to the private bar. He was then appointed Senior Counsel followed by Queens Counsel in 2013. During this time he developed a broad practice in criminal law with specific reference to fraud and like offences and he has prosecuted a range of matters for the Commonwealth Director of Prosecutions, including large-scale tax frauds, insider trading and corporate crimes.

He also has extensive experience in inquests and commissions of inquiry and between 2000 and 2006 he appeared for witnesses at the Shepherdson Inquiry into electoral fraud, was Counsel Assisting at the inquest into the Childer's backpacker fire, and was Counsel Assisting at the inquest in a number of police shootings of mentally ill patients.

Mr MacSporran represented the State of Queensland at the Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry and the Queensland Health Payroll System Commission of Inquiry. Then in 2015 he was appointed to review the Queensland greyhound racing industry.

From 2004 to 2009 he served as the part-time Parliamentary Crime and Misconduct Commissioner and he has regularly provided legal advice to a number of other Commissions.

He is patron of the Corruption Prevention Network Queensland, a member of the Queensland Law Society Legal Practitioners Admissions Board and a member of the Queensland Integrity Committee.

We can think of no one better positioned to give us an overall picture of what is happening in our state and just how our justice system works and have no doubt that this will be a fascinating session.

## **TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> JULY**

### **9AM**

#### **Secret Women's Business - Feminine Hygiene in the Middle Ages**

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### **Healthy Bladder and Bowel**

#### **Agnes Kesmarki Qld Health - 9am Tuesday**

Over 5 million Australians, 1 in 4 people over the age of 15, experience bladder or bowel control problems. The prevalence of incontinence is known to increase with age, more than half of individuals are aged 50 years and above. No matter how little incontinence a person may experience, it is not a normal part of ageing. It is important that people are aware that incontinence can be either cured, prevented or at least better managed and treated. The Healthy Bladder and Bowel presentation aims to provide the audience with information about healthy habits, which are important for a healthy bladder and bowel, as well as information on where to get help, if someone is experiencing or concerned about incontinence.

### **Margery Meets Julian: A Medieval Mystical Adventure**

#### **Kay Smith - 9am Tuesday**



Julian of Norwich and Margery Kempe were late medieval English mystics who both lived in the Norfolk area. Their lives as anchoress and married woman of the merchant class couldn't have been more different but in 1413 they met in Norwich to discuss questions of faith and discernment. Kay will look at the lives and vocations of these two women taken from the information they left us in the

books.

### **11AM**

### **The Penal Settlement at Moreton Bay 1824-1839 - A Most Eligible Place:**

#### **Dr Jennifer Harrison UQ - 11am Tuesday**



The penal settlement at Moreton Bay was established in 1824 to house convicts already convicted in Great Britain who persisted in crime in the Sydney district. The settlement was active until late 1839 when it underwent three years of preparation for free settlers. During its years of development under eight commandants, nearly 3000 male and 144 female convicts resided at the outpost, guarded by almost 1000 soldiers. Monthly supply vessels from Port Jackson provided the only contact by carriage of correspondence with Sydney officials who directed their progress overseen by distant London civil servants. Despite all this supervision, the northern outpost developed its own character and provided the outline and buildings for the coming of white settlement in 1842.

### **Plastics in the Environment and the Circular Economy**

#### **Ass. Professor Bronwyn Laycock: Dow Centre for Sustainable Engineering Innovation and School of Chemical Engineering - 11am Tuesday**

Current estimates set the global production of plastics at around 280 Mt pa. Much of this typically has a lifetime of hundreds of years. This can cause major environmental problems for wildlife and can create rafts of rubbish in our waterways and oceans. This is an important issue and Professor Laycock will outline a range of projects she and her team are working on in an effort to address some of the challenges around global sustainability and planetary boundaries such as nutrient recovery and efficient use, and sustainable materials for the circular economy, particularly bio-derived materials for



packaging, film and other applications. Professor Laycock is a polymer scientist with an interest in advanced materials for sustainability. She is currently working across a range of projects, including

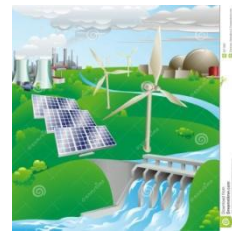


novel biopolymers and their composites, particularly waste derived and the applications of these on controlled release formulations. Within the Dow Centre she is delivering the *Next-Generation Fertiliser program*, and has been instrumental in bringing the *Fight for Food Waste Transformation program* in the Fight Food Waste CRC to the Dow Centre.

## **Energy Policy, Prices, and You. A View on Renewables, Electricity Prices and Technology**

### **Mike Swanston - 11am Tuesday**

*Should we be concerned about our electricity supply?* Rarely a day goes by without energy being in the news; often, an announcement of a new wind farm or solar power station. Australia's energy policy seems confused and variable with risks of more price rises and maybe even blackouts. Conversations regarding rising power prices, the state of ageing coal power stations and more and more new technologies for the home such as battery storage are commonplace. Should we as energy consumers be concerned? Is it time to 'go off grid' or, at least, invest in more solar panels on the roof or a home energy battery? How will power prices continue to change, and what can we as energy users do about it? This session will explore the changes in our energy supply nationally and at our doorstep, with some practical tips on how to keep power costs under control. Mike is a professional engineer with over thirty years in the Australian electricity industry, specialising in distribution network planning, capital investment and field operations.



## **The First Definitive Proof Showing Our Idea of Evolution and Heritability is Wrong**

### **Dr Guy Barry - QIMR-Berghofer - 11am Tuesday**



It is currently assumed, by the Modern Evolutionary Theory that the inheritance of genetic variability occurs only through a random and slow process called Natural Selection. That is to say, mutations and adaptations randomly generated in the insular environments of the testes and ovaries (containing germ cells) are transmitted to the next generation and preferred through natural selection. However, it has been obvious for some time, and even to Charles Darwin, that a form of 'adaptive' evolution exists whereby most inheritance is far quicker. To date, no-one has ever shown how genetic information can flow from a somatic tissue (e.g. the brain) to the germ cells and be passed onto offspring. This is what Dr Barry has recently proven. He has shown how this information is transmitted and his study will forever change how we understand evolution and heritability.

**1PM**

## **What Makes a Whale Song Catchy?**

### **Dr Jennifer Allen - Marine Science Lecturer Griffith University - 1pm Tuesday**

What makes a hit song? We all know that humpback whales are famous for their intricate songs. Male whales in a population have been found to sing the same song at any one time, with this song ever-evolving and changing. Dr. Allen's talk will explore this process, looking at which aspects of a whale's

song may make it easier to learn, leading to the phenomenon of population-wide cultural song learning. Whales have captured our imagination like no other - they are magnificent mammals and this is a scientific and technical exploration of how they communicate.



### **International Law and 'Killer Robots': The State of the Debate and Ways Forward**

**Ass. Professor Rain Liivoja UQ - 1pm Tuesday**



The idea of armed forces deploying weapon systems that operate without real-time supervision - sometimes called 'killer robots' has sparked an intense ethical and legal debate. In August, a group of governmental experts will meet for the fifth time in Geneva to discuss the possible regulation of such autonomous weapon systems. This talk will trace the debate on autonomy in weapons, identify the key points of disagreement and canvass the prospects for international regulation.

### **Protection of Endangered Wildlife in the Top End**

**Kate Heffernan - Australian Wildlife Conservancy - 1pm Tuesday**

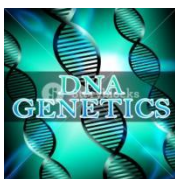
Good things are happening in the Top End and Kate is leading the way. The Australian mammal fauna has fared catastrophically since European settlement and some species have been forced to extinction. The work she is doing is important and her talk will outline the AWC's model for conservation, one that has a wider catalytic impact and operates within an accountability framework that is unique within the conservation sector. She will discuss fire, feral predators and the on-ground measures AWC is using. This organisation is the largest private (non-profit) owner of land for conservation in the world, protecting endangered wildlife across 4.85 million hectares.



### **Frontiers of Modern Genetics**

**Professor Peter Gresshoff UQ -1pm Tuesday**

Genetics is the study of inheritance of traits. All organism types, from virus to human, have been analysed in detail for the mode of transmission of such genetic elements, called genes. The laws of Gregor Mendel, now over 150 years old, still apply in many situations. Modern technology has allowed the insight into HOW the transmitted genetic material, i.e., DNA, is controlled and expressed. Entire genomes of organisms have been sequenced to allow an information insight into the coding of genes. Costs of such WGS (whole genome sequencing) have dramatically decreased to permit comparisons designed to find causative genes for common diseases and conditions in humans as well as agricultural species. This lecture will provide an up-to-date overview of current capabilities, new technology and associated findings in plants, animals and humans.



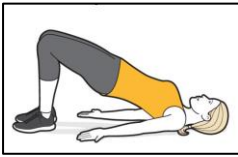
**WEDNESDAY 10th JULY**

**9AM**

**Toning your Pelvic Floor Muscles - Active Rehabilitation Physiotherapy - Repeat from Last Year**

**Amelia Moir - 9am Wednesday**

You don't realise how important your pelvic floor muscle is until there is a problem so don't wait until



it happens - learn how to look after it now. Amelia will cover treatment of existing problems in men and women and give tips on how to strengthen this all important muscle. She graduated from Griffith University with a double degree in Bachelor of Exercise Science; Bachelor of Physiotherapy with First

Class Honours and has a special interest in Continence Physiotherapy. In the clinic setting, Amelia works with women pre and post-natally, as well as with men and women who have issues with continence, bowel and pelvic floor muscle dysfunction or who are recovering from surgery. She is an Outpatient Physiotherapist in Women's Health and in the Mars Clinic for Children's Continence at Annerley and Brookwater. She also provides physiotherapy for inpatients at the Mater Private Hospital.

### **Understanding Current Free Speech Debates in Australia**

#### **Professor Katharine Gelber UQ - 9am Wednesday**



We all need to be cognizant of the power of speech and of the effect our own speech can have on other people. We have seen over the past couple of years the terrible consequences of hate speech; the aftermath of Christchurch and Melbourne is still fresh in all our minds. Hate Speech and Freedom of Speech are

both issues that are constantly in the news in some form or another. Professor Gelber will expand on this subject and also cover everything from whether bakers should be allowed to refuse to sell wedding cakes to gay couples, to deplatforming speakers, to debates about free speech on university campuses. She will summarise the key similarities and differences between these debates in Australia and the United States, and then outline some of the dilemmas and misunderstandings in the Australian debate, to enable people to navigate these debates more confidently.

### **Brisbane's Lost Buildings**

#### **Ron Baker - 9am Wednesday**

Since the 1960's Brisbane has undergone considerable change with its city skyline dramatically altered as new buildings reach higher for the sky. Unfortunately this progress has resulted in many of the city's finest buildings being lost. Ron's talk will remind members of the long lost buildings that once graced our city streets. He asks 'How many buildings can you recall?' Ron Baker is a retired Heritage Architect and is President of the Coorparoo & Districts Heritage Group.



### **Skin Cancer**

#### **Dr Sam Scuderi - 9am Wednesday**

Skin cancers are the most common form of cancer in Australia with 80 percent of new cancers found being skin cancers. In Australia, 2 out of 3 people will have skin cancer by the time they are 70. Once, all skin cancers were treated with surgery. We now have newer treatments that aim to treat skin cancers earlier, avoiding surgery. Most of the recent discoveries in skin cancers are around detecting them at the earliest possible time and the talk today will go into these newer detection methods. We will also explore the future of skin cancer treatment and early detection using artificial intelligence and other adjunct systems.



**11AM**

### **Deadly Cures: Can Venomous Animals Provide us with Drugs to Treat Humans?**

#### **Professor Glenn King - 11am Wednesday**

We are literally surrounded by venomous animals, which make up about 15% of all animal species on the planet. Virtually all gardens in Brisbane contain venomous ants, bees, centipedes spiders and wasps, while some also provide homes for venomous assassin bugs caterpillars, robber flies and snakes! Despite their sinister reputation only a very small minority of these venomous animals are dangerous to humans. Indeed, on the contrary, venomous animals have thus far yielded six drugs that are used to treat human disorders as diverse as diabetes, hypertension and chronic pain. Professor King will provide an overview of recent research on the use of animal venoms to develop drugs to treat autoimmune diseases, cancer and epilepsy as well as a venom compound that may become the next Viagra! In particular he will describe a drug that is being developed from the Fraser Island funnel-web spider that prevents brain damage following a stroke.



### **Sentencing in the Spotlight: Judge for Yourself**

#### **The Honourable John Robertson - 11am Wednesday**



Every week in Queensland our courts sentence people who have broken the law, but have you ever wondered how judges and magistrates decide what sentences to give? It's complex. Retired District Court Judge John Robertson presents this **interactive session** - providing a valuable and authentic insight into the criminal justice system and the complex task of sentencing offenders. Based on the facts of a real court case, this session will show you that there's more to sentencing than is shown on your favourite crime show or nightly news bulletin. It's your job to listen to the circumstances of the case and determine the sentence - **Judge for Yourself!** We are always quick to 'judge' the judges - now we have to see how we fare when faced with a real case.

### **How to Retain More of Your Muscles and Bones into 'Older' Age**

#### **Professor Rob Robergs - 11am Wednesday**

As we age past our prime (~25 years), most of us get busy with work, family, finances and parenthood. Along this path there is less time to exercise, and before we know it, we are over 40 and far from the physique we once had. Time seems to fly by faster as we age and then we wake up and realize we are now in our 60s or 70s or older. The good news is that your body does have the ability to respond favourably to exercise, regardless of age. In this talk Professor Robergs will focus on the importance of trying to regain more muscle, more bone and preserving more brain matter. He will explain how we may do this with minimal cost and maximal gain and what roles your doctors, children, friends and extended family could play. He will finish with a timeline for us to follow. This is all good news. We have but one life to live and we should strive to make the most of it.



### **How Does Your In-Car GPS Navigation Work**

#### **Jim Hawker - 11am Wednesday**

Through his extensive experience in both civilian and military mapping, Jim is well qualified to speak on the origins, evolution and current status of Australia's mapping systems. These contributed to the



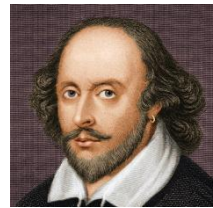
modern navigation systems such as GPS, 'Google Maps' and in-car navigation. There was a great deal involved in this process including a compatible state-wide survey, completion of the unique land parcel numbering system and adoption nationally of the new datum compatible with modern satellite positioning systems. If you have ever wondered how all these things came together Jim is your man

## **1PM**

### **Music Inspired by Shakespeare**

#### **Gary Thorpe OAM - 4MBS Classic FM - 1pm Wednesday**

The works of Shakespeare have inspired more music than any other writer. In fact, over 20,000 compositions have been written for or inspired by Shakespeare's plays and sonnets. We will explore some of this music - from songs included in plays to music written for film adaptations such as Laurence Olivier's brilliant Henry V. Along the way we will explore the amazing world of Elizabethan theatre.



### **NBN Information Session**

#### **Greg Taylor - 1pm Wednesday**

The NBN is coming sometime in the next 12-18 months and this session is packed with information about how it may affect you. Greg will answer questions such as: What is involved in connecting? How do you choose a plan? Is connection mandatory? How will it affect your home phone? What will it cost? Are there alternatives? Notes will be available on the U3A News page.

### **Brisbane's Art World**

#### **Judy Hamilton - 1pm Wednesday**

Judy will discuss the importance of artists' groups, such as the Royal Queensland Art Society and how they influenced the development of Brisbane's Art World. She will expand on when it began, why it developed a reputation as an art backwater as Robert Hughes and Gertrude Langer thought it was, and whether things could have been different. Brisbane's Art World took a great leap forward in 1940 - around the same time as New York so why did artists from Europe go to New York rather than come to wonderful sub-tropical Brisbane? There were lots of artists' groups in Brisbane and Judy will talk about six important ones and address some of these questions.



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**THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**9AM**

### **Let's talk: Ancient Egyptian Bodies: Medicine, Surgery and Magic**

#### **Dr Serena Love - 9am Thursday**

Medicine and magic were inextricably linked in the lives of ancient Egyptians. Texts from that time provide detailed accounts of treating trauma, chronic infections, parasitic infestations and gynaecological issues using natural compounds, amulets and incantations. Serena Love will share a fascinating glimpse into how this intriguing ancient civilisation understood their bodies, their health and their places in the world. You may be surprised at just how much the Egyptians knew and how much more advanced they were than we imagined. Dr Serena Love is an archaeologist and has spent the past 24 years working at various sites in Egypt, Turkey, Israel and Iraq.



### **Botanic Gardens - A History from Early Convict Days**

#### **Phil Adam - 9am Thursday**

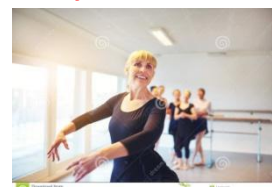


Phil will trace the development of the City Botanic Gardens through its inception in 1828 as a food garden for the original convict settlement to its current status with an emphasis on the early history of Brisbane. He knows his subject well as he volunteers with the Queensland Conservation Society and is a senior guide for the Royal Historical Society at the Commissariat Store Museum, Secretary of the Queensland Begonia Society and President of the Queensland Council of Garden Clubs. He is a most entertaining and knowledgeable speaker and he will happily answer any questions at the end of the session. This session is a repeat of last year's talk.

### **Queensland Ballet - Ballet for Seniors Class**

#### **Genevieve Dunn - Meet at 34 Beesley St, West End - 9.00am for 9.15 start - Thursday**

This is something different for ballet lovers and an introduction for those of you who would like to know more about it. The session will start with a brief overview on Queensland Ballet and the class is open to all levels of previous dance experience. You will learn how to feel better, think better and live better - with ballet. This gentle class is especially tailored for seniors, with a focus on improving poise, core strength, memory and mobility. What a wonderful way to get fit! Limit of 25.



**Queensland Ballet Studios - 34 Beesley St, West End. This session will terminate at 10.45.**

### **'What The Dickins'**

#### **Carmel Lafferty - 9am Thursday**

Carmel's talk will look at the history of the Dickin Medal and of some of the many animals that have been awarded this medal. The PDSA Dickin Medal is the highest award any animal can receive whilst serving in military conflict. It is recognised worldwide as the animals' Victoria Cross. It acknowledges outstanding acts of bravery or devotion to duty displayed by animals serving with the Armed Forces



or Civil Defence units in any theatre of war throughout the world. Recently Carmel's love of animals led her to present a talk on the Dickin Medal to her U3A History class and she will now share some of these heartwarming stories with us.

### **Australian History at the Cinema**

#### **Gordon Kidd - 11am Thursday**

This talk will focus on the representation of historical themes in Australian cinema. This will include both the more distant as well as the more recent past relative to the date of a film's production. Two distinct eras of Australia's cinema history will be dealt with. The first is the early twentieth century when the new Commonwealth had a flourishing industry. The Story of the Ned Kelly Gang, made in 1906, is claimed as the first feature film ever made in the world. Other films with historical subjects were made into the 1930s when Hollywood imports all but eliminated the local industry. Only a few filmmakers including Charles Chauvel survived during the lean years. The second era of home-grown cinema began in the 1970s with the so-called 'renaissance' of the local industry. Directors such as Peter Weir, Bruce Beresford, Phillip Noyce and Gillian Armstrong made films of high quality and cultural importance, and contributed to Australians' perception of their own history. The continuing creation of insights into Australia's history through film into the contemporary period will be discussed in the concluding section of the talk.



### **The Immortal Woman who Revolutionised Medicine - Henrietta Lacks**

#### **Jan McMillen - 11am Thursday**



This is the fascinating story of an African-American woman who, unknowingly, did more for research into cancer than anybody before or since. In 1951 Henrietta Lacks walked into the 'coloured' section of Baltimore's John Hopkins Hospital and was diagnosed with a large cancerous tumour in her cervix. The doctor grew cells from this tumour in a lab which led to a revolution in the scientific community. Henrietta is now largely forgotten but her legacy lingers on and Jan's talk will take you on an amazing journey into this woman's life.

### **Helping Families Protect their Loved Ones**

#### **Loan Chow - 9am Thursday**

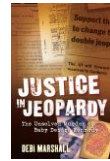
When we support families dealing with terminal illness, emotions can run high and family dynamics can be challenging. If you were to pass away or become unable to make decisions about your health or finances, the financial and personal impact on your family could be significant. By having a plan in place, you'll be able to ensure they're always looked after. Loan Chow will share her experiences and insights about: Wills gone wrong or no Will at all; tips and traps about Enduring Powers of Attorney; the importance of Advance Health Directives; how to protect yourself and the people you are meant to be looking after; what happens when someone passes away. She will highlight some key areas and practical pathways to help you make the right choices.

**11AM**

### **We, The Jury**

### **John Garner - 11am Thursday**

John Garner is a lecturer in Forensics Science at Griffith University and will discuss two cases during this talk. Firstly the brutal murder and rape of Deidre Maree Kennedy in 1973 which created a huge amount of controversy with law enforcement and with the general public. Initially Raymond John Carroll was convicted of her murder and then his conviction was quashed and because of the double jeopardy laws when the court tried to convict him of perjury that too was quashed. Secondly he will give an insight into a case in North Queensland where a man attempted to use a vehicle as a murder weapon. Last year John gave us some fascinating glimpses into the science of forensics and this session will be equally fascinating.



### **The 'Under the Lino' Project**

#### **Caylie Jeffery - 11am Thursday**

The 'Under the Lino Project' is a Brisbane-based community collaborative research project revolving around three 1940s/50s bankbooks and money that Caylie found underneath the lino flooring of her 1912 Queenslander in Milton. After sharing her discovery on Facebook's *Old Brisbane Album*, a comprehensive search for the owners of the documents ensued and as a result hundreds of amateur detectives unearthed local mysteries and stories that have turned Brisbane into a fascinating library of underground stories. Caylie has since written a book which is a mixed media, creative non-fiction account of what happened when she started tracing the fascinating history of these documents.



### **1PM**

#### **Latest Studies and Breakthroughs at QIMR-Berghofer**

##### **Clare Blake - 1pm Thursday**

Clare will update us on some amazing new clinical trials happening here in Brisbane at QIMR-Berghofer. Amongst other things she will tell us how our mozzies are biting volunteers in a very hopeful trial to combat these destructive insects and how Tabasco sauce may help solve the problem of Hookworm. She will also touch on the historical origins of QIMR and how it started in a broken down Army supply hut after the war. And for an interesting twist - Do you have Irish or English heritage? The Story of "The Celtic Curse." Is it really a curse?". As a qualified teacher with a Sports Science major, Clare's love of science put her in the medical industry for several years, and she currently holds accreditation with Medicines Australia from The University of Queensland.

#### **Ethics, AI and Autonomous systems**

##### **Dr Kate Devitt – 1pm Thursday**

Big computer power combined with cheaper robots such as drones and self-driving cars are changing our society. In many domains these changes will have radical benefits because robots can be deployed in dirty, dangerous and distant places where humans don't want to work such as mines, or struggle to access, such as remote villages. Drones already deliver medical supplies in Rwanda and mining trucks operate autonomously in the Australian outback. However, with changing technologies come risks to human society. Jobs are under threat across almost every sector. Additionally, programming AI systems means using data that may be biased against some parts of our society. Finally, those in control of autonomous systems have their own political and social agendas where technologies are



deployed. This talk will discuss the five key principles of an ethical AI: 1. To benefit humanity. 2. To protect privacy and security. 3. To enhance our autonomy. 4. To be just and fair. 5. To be understandable (transparent and accountable).

### **We The Jury**

#### **John Garner - 1pm Thursday**

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## **FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

### **9AM**

#### **All day Creative Writing Masterclass - Cost \$10- Venue Ground Floor 97 Creek Street**

##### **Thea Biesheuvel - 9am to 3pm Friday**



Thea is an award winning published author who has been teaching Creative Writing at U3A for many years. She has a wealth of knowledge and is only too happy to pass this on to enthusiastic writers who have the dedication to put pen to paper. She has helped many budding authors over the years so if you are looking for tips to help you along the way, join her for what will be an interesting session. There will be a short break for lunch and we suggest you bring some sustenance with you. There will be tea and coffee provided.

#### **The Horns - The Zambezi Trilogy Book 1**

##### **Jill Baker - 9am Friday**

Jill will discuss her book *The Horns* - a compelling and deeply personal account of being born into what was first Southern Rhodesia, then Rhodesia and now Zimbabwe. Jill Baker grew up as a white girl, whose best childhood playmates were three black boys. The story grows through intriguing snapshots into the lives of each of the four characters until, as teenagers, the group meets again . . . this time, in the desolate historical sites of Matebeleland to discover, discuss, argue and, from their now diverse and singular perspectives, try to find answers for the future, by making sense of their country's history. Jill Baker spent her childhood in Matebeleland, daughter of a man dedicated to African education and Principal of three leading African schools. Her adult life on a farm was brought to an abrupt end with the unilateral declaration of independence (UDI) from Britain in 1965 and she worked for the next 18 years as a journalist, news and documentary presenter and producer in television and radio.



## **The Bells of St Stephens**

**Anne Hetherington - 9am Friday**



Learn about the historical significance of the buildings in the grounds of The Cathedral of Stephens in Brisbane. This will include the history of the building, now called Mercy House which was the final home of St Stephens School - the first Catholic school in Queensland and probably the first school of any kind in the State. It is also the home of Brisbane's oldest building. Anne is a former and secondary school

principal and is a guide at The Cathedral of St Stephen.

## **11AM**

**Animal Genomes as Time Travel Machines - Learning from the Past to Inspire our Future**

**Dr Sandie Degnan - 11am Friday**



The story of animals began more than 600 million years ago in oceans rich with bacteria, and is recorded in their DNA. As we learn to read these genomic tales, we are discovering the origins of animal complexity, and how this has given rise to the incredible diversity of animal forms, functions and behaviours that we find gracing our planet today. We are discovering too that animals depend upon bacteria symbionts in many facets of their lives, and that together these symbiotic partners can do so much more than either could alone. Genomes tell us a lot about the past, but can also give us inspiration for the future, by revealing secrets of how animals deal with the constant challenges thrown up by nature. Through the process of evolution, animals have had hundreds of millions of years to problem solve, and consequently can do things that we 'newcomer' humans can still only dream of doing. As we get better at interpreting what we find, decoding genomes will be like unlocking the instruction manuals to things we never imagined were possible.

**Beacons by the Sea – Lighthouses of Queensland**

**Cara Downes - National Archives of Qld - 11am Friday**

A romantic aura surrounds these lovely old structures, perched on windswept cliff tops or standing like sentinels on promontories, they are the custodians of many fascinating stories. Cara will be



speaking about the rich history of the lighthouses of Queensland from the early days in the 1800s when the first lighthouse was established, up to the present day. She will also delve into the history of the many families that ran these facilities, their stories, isolation and challenges. Cara's talk will give an insight into a part of Queensland's history that has now changed forever with automation.

**Zimbabwe - A Nation Desecrated**

**Jill Baker - 11am Friday**

This session will trace the rise and fall and continuing battle of a country that was once the breadbasket of Africa and is now struggling to feed itself. Once one of the richest countries in Africa it is now one of the poorest and one of the most corrupt countries in the world. Why? What happened? What were the influences? What were the driving forces that brought it down in the space of 38 years? What is really happening over there and why don't we get any news? This is a



tragic and fascinating story and yet it is also one of hope. These extraordinary people, who have been honed in endless adversity, have not given up. They are gathering together to meet new challenges on a daily basis. Jill has lived in and loved this country for many years so she knows this country's weaknesses and its triumphs.

### 11.30AM

#### **GOMA Art Gallery Tour - Ben Quilty and Margaret Olley - Held at GOMA**

##### **Barbara Lloyd - 11.30 Friday**

This tour takes in two exhibitions. Firstly 'Quilty' covers his early reflections on the initiation rituals performed by young Australian men to his experiences as an official war artist in Afghanistan and his campaign to save the lives of the Bali Nine pair Andrew Chan and Myuran Sukumaran. And secondly: 'A Generous Life' examines the legacy and influence of the much-loved Australian artist, Margaret Olley (1923-2011) who spent a formative part of her career in Brisbane. A charismatic character who exerted a lasting impact on many artists as a mentor and friend over several decades was also a muse for artists William Dobell and Jeffrey Smart. Barbara will take you through a life that was immersed in art - her own and that of those she supported. **Meet just inside GOMA by the reception desk. This tour is approximately 60 minutes.**



### 1PM

#### **Evolution Psychology and Global Security**

##### **Professor Bill Von Hippel UQ - 1pm Friday**

Last year Professor Von Hippel gave us a wonderful session on Key Events that Shaped Modern Psychology; a story that started six million years ago. This talk will bring us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and discuss the evolution of modern humans from a psychological perspective. In this talk he will outline three ways our evolved psychology remains an obstacle to achieving international cooperation and peace. **Firstly**, humans evolved to cooperate within their own groups but this cooperative nature does not extend to members of other groups. **Secondly**, humans evolved to have a relative sense of fairness, and thus will often make spiteful decisions to prevent others from benefitting more than themselves. **Thirdly**, humans evolved to be self-deceptive and hypocritical believing in the unique righteousness and inevitable victory of their own cause. **Nevertheless, there is good news**, these obstacles are not insurmountable and an awareness of them can help in the development of strategies to increase the chances of lasting peace and security.



#### **The Best News you will ever Hear - What is Really Happening in the World?**

##### **Dr Martin Bridgstock - 1pm Friday**

It is often depressing to watch the television news or read the papers. There are accounts of people starving or dying in natural disasters. And many people are unpleasant to each other: we are always hearing of robberies, stabbings and massacres. Throughout the world dictators are trampling on human rights and people are suffering terribly. It is normal and natural to wonder what kind of a world we are leaving to our children. This talk starts by looking at how we see the future. Then it goes on to look at some genuine evidence about the way the world is really going. The results are quite



astonishing, and you may find that they completely change your view. Are violence, poverty and crime on the increase, or are they declining? After this talk, you will know. What is more, if you want to find out more, you will know how to find it. As part of this talk, we will look at the work of Professor Steven Pinker of Harvard University and see where he gets his evidence to talk about the future. You may be in for some very big surprises!

### **Wildlife Rescue Stories**

#### **Mike Fowler - Moreton Bay Koala Rescue Service - 1pm Friday**



Mike is one of a number of people who answer the call when our native animals are in trouble. After they have been medically treated they are housed in various cages at his home where he feeds and cares for them until they are ready to be released back into the wild again. There are strict guidelines for release of these animals for instance koalas must be released within one kilometer of where they were originally found. This is to ensure that there will be no conflict with any other resident animal. Animal rescues can be tricky and In this talk he will share some of his more interesting stories with us.