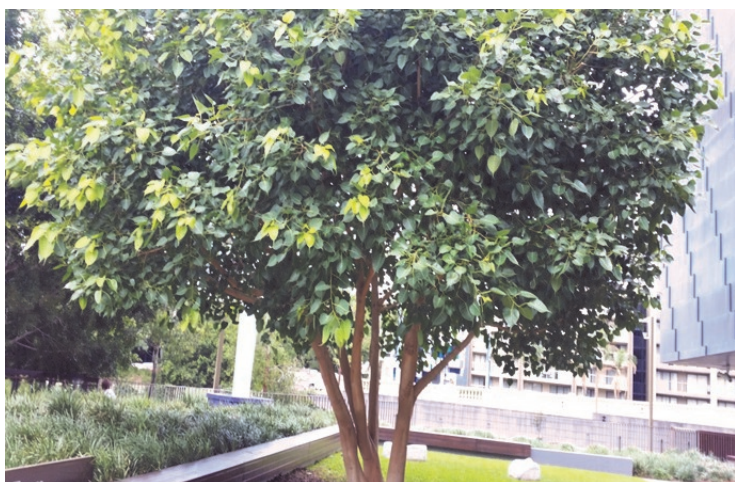


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Due to a dearth of more flamboyant trees around at the moment, on a visit to GOMA last weekend this tree was pointed out just near the entrance to the gallery. It is a Bodhi Tree and has a lovely trunk coloured a light brownish pink and leaves that are heart shaped. It is revered by the followers of Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism, and hence the name 'Sacred Fig' was given to it. Next time you are over at the Gallery just stop and look. Have an enjoyable Term 1.

From the President

Marilyn Wagland



Welcome back for the start of the 2015 academic year. Many familiar faces are to be seen in our rooms but there are also many new ones. You are all most welcome. I hope you find your classes and other interactions at U3A stimulating and enjoyable. Make the most of your time by making new friends and gaining as much as possible from the enormous range of topics available to you. Tutor Liaison, Gail Hawkins, has done a magnificent job of organising classes for the Brisbane timetable and our rooms are almost at capacity. On one hand, this is a wonderful thing but on the other, it causes some problems. The Management Committee is very aware of the number and size of current classes and that some are struggling for more space which we presently cannot offer. It is unfortunate that some classes are larger than can comfortably fit into their allocated classrooms but our marvellous tutors, who volunteer their time so willingly, hate to knock back people who want to join their class. They are also conscious of the numbers on waiting lists and so do their best to assist as many as possible.

The Management Committee intends to gain expert advice on the Brisbane property market in order to develop an expansion plan that is affordable for U3A, an organisation which receives no government funding, and which operates entirely on the proceeds it receives from membership dues and class fees. While this planning is long term, we recognise the need to provide more space in the short term and we are currently exploring options. Our desire is to offer more teaching spaces in Term 2 and we expect to be able to provide this. Watch this space.

In the meantime, enjoy your learning experiences and remember that everyone you see working at any of our U3As is a volunteer and doing his or her best to assist you. I look forward to seeing many of you throughout the year.

Major U3A Conference in Brisbane in May

The *U3A Network Qld and U3A Asia Pacific Alliance International Conference* is on at the City Hall from 28-30 May 2015. You will enjoy meeting other local, interstate and overseas U3A members attending, as well as a high quality speakers' program. As the host city, we need your involvement as conference delegates and volunteers. Registration is now open, and full information is available at: www.u3aqlconference.org

Brisbane City Campus

from Gail Hawkins

We welcome our new tutors and the tutors who are returning in Term 1 after taking time off from classes to recharge their batteries. This term we are pleased to offer a number of new courses which gives our members a greater choice and variety of classes to choose from. Class sizes and the number of enrolments that can be accepted will depend on the size and availability of class rooms, so it's unfortunate that some courses will fill up faster than others, please remember that you must receive confirmation from the tutor that your enrolment is accepted before attending a class.

Some members have advised that the course they want to enroll in is always full. If a particular subject is oversubscribed, we take this into consideration and endeavor to add new courses that will assist members into getting into courses of their choice.

In January we held our first Tutors' Workshop at Queen Street, which was a great success thanks to our facilitator Gaill Macciocca. We will be working on future projects as a result of the positive feedback we received from the tutors that attended on the day.

I'm repeating my call for Tutors to get involved in the exciting joint venture between U3A and 4RPH, the radio station for the print handicapped. We need tutors who would be prepared to pre-record an interview on their subject matter that will showcase the interesting and diverse subjects offered by our U3A tutors. The "Pleasure of Learning" program will be broadcast as a 10 minute weekly program for the 4RPH listeners, but we really need tutors' assistance for this program to succeed. You can contact me at:

tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au

to obtain further information.

City Campus Workshop

from Gaill Macciocca



In January we held an Orientation workshop for new and current tutors. The workshop was designed to equip tutors with a range of helpful hints on how to deliver successful and entertaining tutorials to U3A participants.

There was a fabulous roll up of around 15 people in the morning session and more than double that number for the afternoon session. Tutors were given the opportunity to discuss their needs in a discussion forum. This proved to be very valuable with many tutors meeting each other for the first time. The day ended with a small welcome party where tutors were able to spend more time mingling with their colleagues. Feedback from the workshop was very positive and indications are that the tutors would like more professional development over the year.

Logan District News

from Jean Townsend

Welcome to our new members and welcome back old friends. Your local committee wishes you all a very happy year of learning and enjoyment. This term Logan District classes and activities are nearly all well attended with increased numbers. Of the new classes, Lightroom, Movie-Making, Spanish and Watercolour for Beginners are full but contact the tutors if you are keen to join. Movie-Making will probably be repeated in Term 2. Dominic's *French Conversation* and Tatiana's *Beenleigh Drawing and Painting* have started off well and have room for more, as has Nick Bricknell's new *Cartooning* class. Beading was cancelled too early it seems, as several people are now wanting to join the class, so we hope to start it next term if not before.

The *Beenleigh Musicality* class attracted too few students to keep it running there, but Tracy will now be holding the class fortnightly in the downstairs room at Logan North Library on Thursdays from 9.30 to 11, starting on 12th February. This class sounds very

special: it offers musical participation, with singing and drumming, moving and playing together. It provides novel ways to exercise brain and body with maximum enjoyment. No need to book, just come along at 9.30 on Thursday and see what it's all about.

The social groups remain open to members and non-members alike. The Lunch and Dinner Groups have resumed their monthly get-togethers over a meal and Movie-Goers are back in action. Please contact Angela (phone 3345 4585 or email adehenning@hotmail.com) if you want to join the group of movie-lovers for a monthly outing, generally on the third Tuesday. Lifts from Logan North Library can usually be arranged. Ela's *Topical Discussion Group* has found a new venue - contact Ela for details.

We are very sorry to lose Diane Bohlen from the committee. She has done sterling work as our Publicity Officer for the past three years, and tutored our most popular group, Camera Club, since Logan U3A classes began. We owe her a great debt of gratitude and wish her well in her other activities. Luckily Bill Bohlen will continue on the committee and keep Camera Club going, but Diane will be spending more time on her other interests, including writing a family history. The committee is very grateful to Monika Picton who has spent the whole week manning an information stall at Brown Plains Grand Plaza. She was surprised at how many people had never heard of U3A but were interested in our activities. Thank you Monika and we owe thanks too to the many members who helped to distribute about 4000 letterbox flyers. They seem to be having results, but we need to continue spreading the word to reach all the people who would benefit. We are on the lookout for new free premises in which to hold classes and, as always, we continue to seek new tutors and committee members, so phone Trevor if you can help on 3344 3649 or Jean on 0400 787 298 or email u3alogan@gmail.com.

U3A Brisbane History

From Ian Lipke and Greg Doolan

2016 will mark the 30th year of U3A's formation. Our Secretary Ian Lipke is writing a history of University of the Third Age Brisbane and is looking for lots of information about the organisation.

Could anyone knowing the whereabouts of Barbara McKenzie, the first Secretary of the U3A Brisbane

Management Committee and later its President, please write to Ian Lipke at ian.lipke@gmail.com with the information.

What were you doing from 1986 onwards?

This is a call for photographs, anecdotes, tales, and poems that could be included in the history commemorating the 30-year milestone. Please send whatever you can offer (with names and other identifying features) to Greg Doolan: publicity@u3abrisbane.org.au

Membership Renewal Due

If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership for 2015 as soon as possible. Fees are still only \$40 for the year and you can renew online via the website, or by contacting the office. The office is open from 8.30am till 3.30pm each day.

www.u3abrisbane.org.au

Ph. 3236 3055

U3A China Trip 2015 Hubei and Hunan Provinces

from Bryan Iles



Tour Outline:

Fly into Nanjing to enjoy an exciting time with Nanjing U3A who again will set up a program providing the opportunity for mixing with the students and experiencing Chinese calligraphy, Chinese music, Chinese art and Chinese culture.

Then a fast train to Wuhan, capital of Hubei Province, and then onto the Three Gorges Dam and the Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefectures of En Shi and Fenghuang (picture above right).

Also 3 days at Zhangjiajie (picture above left), made famous by the film *Avatar* and then to Changsha, capital of Hunan Province, before returning to Brisbane.

Dates: 11 October 2015 to 25 October 2015

Price: Land content price is \$2,670 twin share, single supplement \$3170.

The cost of international flights, visa, travel insurance, etc. are NOT included.

Register: For a detailed itinerary contact BRYAN ILES, tutor of *Experiencing China* at U3A Brisbane:

Email: bryaniles@bigpond.com

Tel: 07 3343 3141 Mobile 0418 986 027

Post: 57 Crewe Street, Mount Gravatt East, Qld 4122.



Social Committee

from Helen Dubois

As many of you will know, the trip to the Airport and the trip to the Margaret Olley Art Centre have both been filled. We have a large number of people on the waiting list for Margaret Olley and decided at the last Committee meeting to book another trip there next Term. You will be advised of the date when we get the information from the bus company.

There are tickets available for *Dirty Dancing* on Wednesday 27th May at 1:00pm, cost \$70. Closing date is 26th February. We will then have *Anything Goes* tickets for Wednesday 19th August 2015. Cost \$75. The closing date for these tickets is 8th April 2015.

We will be booking the Christmas Lunch to be held on Thursday November 26th at the City Hall. Roly Sussex has agreed to be our Guest Speaker. We are really pleased that he accepted our invitation. He is a wonderful speaker.

Helen Dubois

Editor

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