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## From the President

Marilyn Wagland:



Welcome back to Term 2. Again there is a dazzling selection of courses right across Brisbane U3A and, hopefully, you are taking advantage of some of them.

It never ceases to amaze me that new tutors continue to step forward and that the great majority of existing tutors keep on keeping on. We are very fortunate to have so many people willing to volunteer their services for the benefit of the rest of us. Thank you to all of you.

An exciting term is ahead as final preparations take place for the U3A Network South East Asia International Conference to be held at the end of this month. It's not too late to book.

Check the website <http://www.u3aqlconference.org>

An enormous amount of work has been done so far by Anne Douglass and her team for this year's Winter School. They've had great success by scoring Professor Ian Frazer as our Keynote Speaker and the additional large classroom now in use at Queen St, means an even bigger, more comprehensive program will be offered.

Enjoy your term and remember to make the most of all the educational, social and enjoyable aspects of U3A.



Term 2 is now underway and I hope that you enjoyed both the Easter break and that you are now back with your classes. David Gemmell sent me this photo of the flowers of a very beautiful Australian native. We do not know the name of this plant and look forward to receiving your assistance.

Thanks to the many people who sent us the answer to last month's plant, Golden Penda - Xanthostemon Chrysanthus. If you notice a lovely tree and think it would look good in the newsletter, please send me a photo.

VALE: Mrs Elizabeth Stewart, a member since 1995 and tutor of Thursday's Mahjong club until December 2014 where she made many friends. Elizabeth died in her sleep on 28 April.

Our thoughts are with her family and friends.

## Tutor Liaison

From Gail Hawkins

Contact: [tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au](mailto:tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au)

**BRISBANE CITY CAMPUS**

Term 2 started strongly, with tutors getting good enrolments in their classes. A number of classes are full but the majority can still accept additional members. Some of the classes that are still available are listed as follows:

## Monday

- F30 – Cryptic Crosswords
- J92 – Spanish for Beginners
- J125 – Brazilian Portuguese for Beginners
- E19 - Controversies in Political Economy
- F48 - Bridge for Beginners
- X81 - Peace Education Program
- K10 - Creative Writing
- B75 - Mindful Self Compassion for Elders  
(class not previously advertised, see info below)

## Tuesday

- A37 - Chinese Watercolour Painting
- F38 - Mahjong

## Wednesday

- A58 - Fibre Art
- E08 - Arab-Israeli dispute – Background
- A57 - Pencil Drawing (afternoon classes only)

## Thursday

- E18 - Chemistry
- L33 - Poetry Appreciation

## Friday

- E15 - Cultural Diversity
- X60 - Financial Security in Retirement
- J126 – Spanish – Advanced
- M19 - Music, What is Music?

We have a tutor who is intending to start a new class next term on ***Mindful Self Compassion 4 Elders***, but has advised that if there was interest she would be prepared to start the class in May of this term.

Mindful self compassion practice is a powerful but simple meditative tool for managing chronic pain, anxiety, sleeping difficulties and cognitive changes as we age.

There is no requirement for prior knowledge, if you would like to join this class in Term 2, please email me at [tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au](mailto:tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au)

This is just a cross section of some of the classes that you can enroll in now. For full details, go to the [Class Search](#) menu in our homepage to get details of the above and all of our other classes.

Many of our members will be starting new classes this term and meeting new people and it's often a battle to remember everyone's name. If it will assist, the office

has a supply of plastic pin-on tags that you can slip your name inside or if you would like something more permanent, you can order personalized U3A Name Tags through the office. The cost is \$11 for the pin-on style tag or \$13 for the magnetic name tag.

## Logan District News

From Jean Townsend:

Students are enjoying the new Beading class and there may be room for one or two more if you are quick. The Latin class is still in urgent need of a tutor, no nibbles so far. As mentioned before Musicality has been cancelled.

Sunnybank Hills Library will be showing work by U3A painting groups from 1st May to 30th June. Come along and admire the extraordinary work our students are creating. Thanks are due to Monika for all the work setting it up. There will be another book sale in aid of our funds on 1st August at Logan Central Library. Please write this date in your diary: Tuesday 7th July. We are going to have an inter-class Trivia morning at the Logan Community Centre hall (where we had that great Christmas party) from 9 to 12 (for 9.30 start). There will be tables for teams of up to 8 players, and all classes are invited to enter as many teams as they can drum up. Friends will be welcome - the more the merrier. Talk to your tutor about entering, it should be great fun. Phone [0400 747298](tel:0400747298) if you haven't enough students to make up a team and we will organise for classes to combine.



**U3A**

**STUDENTS PAINTING EXHIBITION**

**Sunnybank Hills Library**  
**Cnr Compton and Calem Roads**  
**1st May to 30 June**

## IT Group News

From Helen Carberry

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The next IT Group session will be held on Saturday 9th May at U3A 344 Queen Street premises, 10 am to 12 noon. Des Taylor will present a session on *Wikis for Learning*. Please find flyer attached.

The Queen Street venue is a short walk from 97 Creek Street. Walk towards Queen Street, then turn left at the ANZ Bank and 344 Queen Street is on the left just past the Subway shop. Take the escalators to the first floor or you can take the lift. Note that on Saturday mornings the lift requires operation with the aid of a security key, so will be operated by a volunteer until 10 am only.

Latecomers may call the Queen Street office on 3162 8850 for assistance.

To attend this session, you can enrol online at the U3A website. All you need is your membership number and surname as follows:

1. Go to IT Group page on the U3A Brisbane website: [www.u3abrisbane.org.au/index.php/groups/it-group](http://www.u3abrisbane.org.au/index.php/groups/it-group) (or navigate from the top menu via *Groups > IT Group*)
2. Click on the Next Meeting button near the bottom of the IT Group page.
3. On the Meeting Details page, click on Enrol for this Meeting. Enter your member number and surname when requested. Your enrolment will be confirmed and you will receive an email confirmation.

If you have enrolled but can no longer attend this session please go through the above process again but click Withdraw Enrolment.

You can also enrol by logging in to the website as previously. In this case you will not be asked for your Member Number. Let me know if you have any problems with this.

## Keynote Speakers

From Nour Davis

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**For all sessions, please advise your attendance to Nour Davis by SMS text or call 0468378416 or by email to [gonoda@inet.net.au](mailto:gonoda@inet.net.au)**

### 8 May—Nour Davis

History and development of written numbers from ancient times to the present ending with 1-9 and zero.

### 22 May - Dr. Luis M Alvarez

Acting Director Australian Research Centre for Aerospace Automation

“Drones - The road to unmanned Aircraft - History, Present & Future challenges”

### 5 June - Karina Enks

Acting manager, Team leader & Trainer

“Shaping Brains - The benevolent Society's project to support learners to know their own mental experience and re-wire their brain.”

### June session - To be advised...

## U3A - 30 Years

From U3A Historian Ian Lipke

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### CONGRATULATIONS!

On April 22nd a group of pioneers i.e. people who were present at the beginning of U3A Brisbane in 1987 and subsequent years, met at Ian Lipke's house to clarify a few matters related to the history of U3A Brisbane.

Among those present were Valda Duncan, the very first Office Manager, and Dorothea Wilkinson, another very early participant. There were many who are forever identified with U3A Brisbane.

This meeting could never have happened if June Morris had not worked long and hard to make it happen.

Everything that was achieved happened because of June. Thank you, June.

## In Praise of ... U3A

From Greg Taylor

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By Andrew Brown, from an item in *The Guardian* (UK) Further Education section, 11 April 2015

The U3A or University of the Third Age, which now provides courses to as many as 350,000 pensioners, doesn't look anything like the model of a modern university. It costs almost nothing to attend and does nothing for your prospects of future employment. There may be other universities that do as little to enhance the economic value of their students, but they don't boast about it, whereas U3A is designed for people who – unlike humanities graduates – have no need to earn money later in their lives.

It neither gives nor recognises any qualifications. Some of the teachers may be weighed down with doctorates but there's no demand for any qualifications. Its students come there for the delight of learning alongside other people driven by the same need.

There is no campus, each local group is independent, and the administrators are not paid. If there is research, it is not evaluated. No one has to pretend that it adds anything at all to Britain's economic competitiveness. It has no place in league tables and the fees come to less than the participants might spend on coffee. The price of attendance is time and commitment. No wonder it is growing... The U3A is, in some senses, the only real university left in Britain.

## Winter School News

From Anne Douglass



Our next high profile speaker for Winter School is **Philip Bacon** of Philip Bacon Galleries at Fortitude Valley. Philip is one of the most influential men on the Art scene in Australia and what he doesn't know about Australian Art is not worth knowing. How lucky are we are to have this man share his prodigious knowledge with us.

His talk will run along the following lines: Why is it that mankind has made and collected art since the beginning of time and why is it so important to us as a civilisation? Philip will speak about this and about his personal journey as both a collector, and one of the most successful art dealers in Australia over the past forty years. On a play on the word "value(s)" he will also talk about the current eye-popping prices being paid for contemporary art, and ask if they represent fair value.

Philip Bacon Galleries is one of Australia's leading galleries and Philip is one of the most respected and knowledgeable art dealers in this country. He has an unerring eye for spotting new talent and has launched

and represented some of Australia's major painters – people such as Margaret Olley, Charles Blackman, Robert Dickerson, Sam Fullbrook and William Robinson to name just a few. He is also a force in The Arts in general having served on the boards of the National Gallery, Opera Australia, Qld Art Gallery, The Brisbane Biennial International Music Festival and the Brisbane Festival.

*If you love your art, there is no more pleasant way to spend a day than to go with a friend to see his beautiful gallery followed by a long lunch at one of the many restaurants you will find around James Street.*

**DON'T FORGET TO KEEP CHECKING THE WINTER SCHOOL LINK ON OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ON COMING SPEAKERS.**

## Social Committee News

From Helen Dubois



If you booked and paid for tickets to *Anything Goes* they are now available to be picked up from the U3A office in Creek St.

Tickets for *Strictly Ballroom* will be available for sale from **Wednesday May 6th**. We were only able to obtain 50 tickets as it should be really good. Baz Luhrmann is the producer of the show and the Promo was very full on and colourful and a great deal of fun.

**Date:** Wednesday 7th October 2015  
**Time:** 1:00pm  
**Where:** QPAC Lyric Theatre  
**Cost:** \$65

Both the Margaret Olley trip and the visit to QPAC are filled. However, the Margaret Olley trip is not until June 10 and as we only have a 3 names on the reserve list, it could be useful to have your name put on that list just in case someone is unable to go. Just call or ask at the office.

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