

## Contents

- President's comments
  - Tech Help Wanted
  - Brisbane City Campus Classes
  - Logan District News
  - Book Release
  - Southside Luncheon Group
  - U3A History Project
  - Social Committee News
  - Saffron Coffee Shop closed
- Happy 2016 to all. The Frangipanis have been



very beautiful this season with more blooms than I have noticed in recent years. I hope your break over Christmas and the New Year was pleasant and that you will be returning to U3A rested and looking forward to your classes. Have a great year.

### President's Comments: from Marilyn Wagland



Welcome to the 2016 year at U3A. Hopefully, after a relaxing break you are ready to get "the little grey cells" as Poirot would say, operating and renew friendships with classmates. Again, we have a wide range of subjects on offer. If you've missed out on a class you wanted, peruse the subject list again for alternative classes. You may

surprise yourself by discovering new interests and it's healthy to grow new neural pathways to the brain by undertaking different activities. This promises to be an exciting year as we celebrate our 30th anniversary with a book about U3A Brisbane's growth from our beginnings in 1986. Luckily quite a few original members have been able to provide memories and photographs from those days. The authors are still looking for anecdotes, stories and photos from throughout our existence. Please contact Ian Lipke - [ian.lipke@gmail.com](mailto:ian.lipke@gmail.com) if you can assist. It seems that many of you are excited about the news of our new rooms at 232 Adelaide St. Thank you for your positive comments. Those who haven't heard, check your emails. The committee is excited by the prospect of offering 9 new classrooms in a central yet charming building. The fitout will take a few months but, by the middle of the year, we should be operating from there. If you have friends without email, reassure them that flyers will be available at both campuses next week to allow them to read about our latest progressive step. I look forward to welcoming you next week as our term commences and hope that you continue to find great stimulation and enjoyment from your classes.

### New Building - Volunteers Needed: from Greg Taylor



We want to form two groups for the task of advising on the technology fit-out of the new building.

#### 1. Technical Team

If you have experience in audiovisual equipment, IT systems or networking we would welcome your participation in a technical team to evaluate and implement various options for classroom display systems, network and Internet connectivity.

*(continued over >>>)*

## 2. Tutor Advisory Group

We would also like to establish a small working group of current tutors to advise on classroom needs and to provide feedback to the Technical Team on proposed solutions.

If you are interested in volunteering for either of these groups please contact Greg Taylor with details of your background:

[ict@u3abrisbane.org.au](mailto:ict@u3abrisbane.org.au)

## BRISBANE CITY CAMPUS:

from Gail Hawkins

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

As Term 1 gets underway, many of the classes have had a strong response with enrolments, but we still have numerous classes that would love to have more attendees. I will outline some of these and if they interest you, then please contact the tutor or enrol on line:

### Monday Classes:

**D05 - Community Exchange & Alternative Currencies.** Perhaps you don't get a clear picture from the description, but this is an interesting concept where you will find out how to buy and sell goods and services without money.

**L55 – Literature Reading Group,** this term the group will read Wolf Hall, the wonderful novel of Henry VIII's reign of England.

### Tuesday Classes:

**B74 – Traditional Chinese Exercise.** A perfect way to start the day with a self-facial massage to maintain healthy skin, followed by low impact stretch exercises that will improve flexibility of joints and muscles.

**L53 – Development of Australian Literature in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.** Class with address works of writers from the First Fleet to Lawson and Patterson in the lead up to the First World War.

### Thursday Classes:

**X97 – Public Speaking.** Gain more confidence and learn practical tips and key fundamentals of public speaking, a participative course where

tutor offers tricks and ideas from his own experience.

**X82 Film Storytelling – Hitchcock.** A double class that each week will show some of Hitchcock's masterpieces as well as his more routine work. The journey this term will start with films of the late 20's.

**A63 – Drama Group.** The aim is to devise and develop a piece of theatre that could be presented later in the year. Use your imagination, research and reading skills & lots of improvisation - the idea is to enjoy and have fun.

### Friday Classes:

**E23 – Climate Change, What is it & What Should We Do About It.** Do you feel worried about your grandkids' future in a hot world full of change? We all need to understand the issue of climate change, to do what we can on behalf of future people. This course will help you understand the problem, what drives it and what it would take to begin managing it.

**X103 – Make Your Home Environmentally Friendly.** Learn how to make simple improvements in your home and garden to become more environmentally friendly. Open forum class that will discuss climate, air, water waste and energy and investigate how these elements influence our lives.

Climate Change and the Environment are such important subjects for this and all future generations. It's interesting that we have very competent tutors that are passionate about these subjects and are keen to get the message across and make people aware of what is happening in the World today. However, unless our members enrol in their classes, they will not continue and it would be our loss not to have these important subjects represented in our comprehensive schedule.

## Logan District News:

from Jean Townsend

Are you ready for 2016? Enrolments are coming in quite fast but some classes are missing out. Poetry has been cancelled and four others are likely to be cancelled unless several students enrol before start of term. These are Personality Types, Self-Publishing,

Photoshop Elements Beginners, and Photo Restoration. Nearly all the remaining classes have room for more. In particular the Beenleigh Painting and Drawing class, Computing for Seniors. French and Italian Beginners, Economics, Card-Making, and Family History. So please enrol soon. It is easy to do so online. Remember too that most Logan tutors will welcome non-members for one or two sessions with no obligation to join, but please ask non-members to contact the tutor for permission before turning up.

By the way, remember that Logan classes start on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> January.

In order to fill all our 44 classes to capacity we clearly need more members, so please spread the word. The committee are doing their best, with newspaper ads, library displays, and even shopping centre outreach. Browns Plains will have a manned display on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> in the effort to reach more people who would benefit from the opportunities U3A offers. We will have a stand at the Hyperdome and hope also at Woodridge K-Mart centre, Hyperdome and Arndale Shopping Centres. As usual Monika has been very busy making arrangements but will need help to man the stalls. Any volunteers?

Sharon Ellison managed the Dinner group so well for four years, but is unable to continue, and we need someone to take on the task of organising this social group. It is a great way to make friends, and to promote U3A. Non-members may join social groups, and the organisation of a monthly dinner is quite simple. It is just a matter of choosing a venue, listing those who are interested, and informing them each month by email. Then turning up, introducing the people, and having a meal in good company.

We plan a Meet and Greet for Tutors before term starts, a good chance for new tutors to chat with colleagues and learn how to use the website. We will email all tutors with a date soon.

About the Christmas party, we had a lovely time, and the 2016 party will be even better, definitely with more generous helpings.

Monika and the committee wish all our local and city members a good year in 2016. Hope you get lots of Learning for Pleasure.

[from Martin Gellender](#)

Missed the course? You can now read the book! Scientific principles that shape our world have been the subject of the course "***Science and the Big Issues of Our Time***", which has been taught at U3A Brisbane for the past 3 years. The course has proven very popular, attracting increasing numbers of students, with 45 enrolled in Term 1. Most students have little science education but, as a group, bring to class about 3,000 years of life experience. They - like all U3A members - have lived through an extraordinary period in human history, and seen how our world has been shaped by technological change enabled by scientific advances.

While teaching the course the first year, tutor Marty Gellender began preparing comprehensive, well-illustrated notes to summarise the material discussed in each class. The notes were distributed to members of the class and became an integral part of the course. Then, last year, with feedback from class members, Marty refined and edited the material into a very readable and informative book, describing the basics of astronomy, rocketry, Earth satellites, the production of metals and plastics, batteries and electric vehicles, fossil fuels, heat engines, and other topics.

The book applies basic scientific concepts to explain key developments that have steered the course of human society, and continue to do so. It is not a textbook, but gives a personalised (and hopefully, interesting and fun) account of things that Marty learned or figured out during graduate study in physical chemistry, a career as a laboratory chemist, a scientific writer, a government technical adviser specialising in energy projects, Manager of an Energy Information Centre, and in setting up and operating a government programme funding development of energy and water-saving technology.

Marty has now self-published the book "***Science and the Big Issues of Our Time***", which is available through U3A for members for \$15 and can be purchased from the Creek Street and Queen Street offices. The 160-page book, illustrated with about 80 colour diagrams and photographs, can also be purchased on-line through Amazon (for US\$20), and Marty hopes that it will become available through local bookshops as well. Marty is at U3A on Tuesdays to teach and attend courses, and would be pleased to sign copies of the book.

## A New Book:

## SOUTHSIDE LUNCHEON GROUP:

Seniors & Pensioners Urbane Dining (SPUD)  
From Robyn Grimaldi

---

Monthly lunch held on **2nd Wednesday**. Leader will provide the details of the restaurant at the beginning of every month.

**Date:** Wednesday 12.15pm to 12.30pm.

**Leader:** Heather Dowling

**Mobile:** 0414784474

**Email:** [hdowling@ozemail.com.au](mailto:hdowling@ozemail.com.au)

## INDEXER WANTED FOR HISTORY-BOOK PROJECT

---

The official history of U3A Brisbane's 30 years will be celebrated at a book-launch in about October this year. It will be a very comprehensive work, recording and commending the challenges and achievements of many generous volunteers over that period. Past President Ian Lipke is coordinating this book project.

To make its information as accessible as possible, it will need an index. If there is a U3A member who has experience of creating indexes and who is willing to help, please contact Ian Lipke at [ian.lipke@gmail.com](mailto:ian.lipke@gmail.com)

## Social Committee News: From Helen Dubois

---

The first trips we have for 2016 are for Wednesday 24th February to Museum of Military Intelligence—Canungra, Cost \$52.00 Departing, Stop 125 Roma St at 7:45 and Stop 59 Kessels Rd Macgregor. There are seats available so come and join us.



There is another trip to the Amberley RAAF Base on Tuesday 22nd March, cost \$45.00. Please look at the Class Schedule to get all the details of both trips. There are seats available on this bus also. Both these outings should be very interesting.

We look forward to meeting up with all of you on the various trips around the Brisbane area.

Helen Dubois

Editor

3398 9668; 0407 734 337

## STOP PRESS NEWS

---

The coffee shop "Saffron" at the entrance to the Creek St U3A premises has ceased trading and closed down last Friday.

The U3A Brisbane Management Committee would like to thank Paula and her staff for the service they provided in the time we have been in the Creek St property.