



eNews
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ANZAC SQUARE, BRISBANE, FROM THE HOTEL CANBERRA.

Anzac Square in earlier times: from Helen Dubois



Once again, this view is from an old postcard belonging to my friend. It is just amazing to be reminded of the changes that time has brought to our wonderful city. Classes have started in our rooms on Floor 5 and it is very pleasant being in the building. 97 Creek St is still busy and much used.

ensure the week ran smoothly and with high quality presenters. Kath Schuster donated a lovely floral arrangement she had made to mark our opening week. The week began on the previous Friday evening when Rosemarie Schukraft's art class held the opening of their art show, which ran all week across the road at St Andrews. Immediately following Winter School was Term 3 with some reorganisation required to allow normal classes to begin. There were very few teething problems and I thank you for your patience and understanding as classes were sorted. We are now well into the routine of Term 3 and all is proceeding well.

President's Notes: From Marilyn Wagland



After 9 months of planning and fitting out, our Adelaide St rooms were ready for use for the Winter School, and what a great success they were! Nearly 2000 people came through the doors for the first time and, despite their lack of familiarity with the venue, there were very few problems. The Winter School program was fantastic and classes were well attended. The scope of the topics and the high standard of the audio visual equipment made for outstanding presentations. Thank you to all involved for your hard work which made this week a success. The office staff did a great job, Management Committee members had worked hard to have the premises ready and the Winter School committee, led by Anne Douglass, worked all year to

At Adelaide St, we are replacing the large plastic folding tables with the new narrow fixed tables and plans for the refurbishment of Creek St during the September school holidays are proceeding.

The Management Committee is delighted to be able to provide these wonderful new facilities to its members and we know that the majority of you are very happy with the progress U3A has made in the last few years. Class attendance fees allow us to equip the rooms to a high standard in an inner city venue, so it is very disappointing to find that some members are attending classes without paying. While the majority do the right thing, it is wrong for just a few to use these facilities without paying. It may be most embarrassing to those found to be attending classes without paying so please ensure that you pay for each of your classes.

WINTER SCHOOL DEBRIEF:

from Anne Douglass

We had some truly excellent presenters this year starting with our **Keynote Address by Wayne Bennett**. It was excellent with just the right amount of humour and some interesting anecdotes that gave us things to ponder on.

The State Library Auditorium is a first class venue for our Keynote Address holding 264 people, however it is very expensive to hire and for the last three years we have left the admission price at \$5 and absorbed the additional cost of \$1000. As Winter School is not only a special event it is also our only fund raiser of the year we have decided to increase the price for next year to \$10 which will allow us to almost break even. It is worth noting that this is still much less expensive than other comparable events with high calibre speakers. All other sessions will remain at \$5.

Comments on our other presenters were all very positive and I shall just mention a few. **Professor Alastair Blanshard** - 'The Gods must be Crazy' was a fascinating glimpse into the vagaries of the gods – lots of laughter emanating from that room. **Mike Swanston** The Changing Face of Energy had some great tips for us bewildered energy users. **Tatiana Efremova** gave an interesting insight into some of the world's great artists – she concentrated on Extreme Emotions in Art which was a new and interesting take on Art. **Professor Peter Corke** had us enthralled with his talk on robots – where they have come from and where they are going. **Brian Herd** 'Later Life Law' held his audience way past the expected time – information so relevant to us today.

We had more literature this year – **Susan Johnson** (on right) – Courier Mail Journalist and author was entertaining with her take on the tensions between journalism and fiction. **Tony Cavanaugh** – another author and scriptwriter entertained us with his stories which ranged from Australia to Hollywood and a look inside the movie industry. **Julianne Schultz** from Griffith Review hit a more serious note when discussing the need for balanced in-depth reportage which we are slowly losing. **Fiona Stager** from Avid Books was another winner. **Dr Kay Smith** gave us the Anglo Saxon Story – one for language lovers.



Professor Roly Sussex conducted an in-depth language master class that has been receiving glowing reports from a number of our tutors and students.

Our own tutors and members added to this talented pool. **Rosemarie Schukraft** did three Qld Art Gallery tours which were all booked out in a flash. **Penny Everingham** organised her drama class along with **Professor Fotheringham** to present a segment on CJ Dennis – all in costume and with props, delighting her audience. And then there were our regular presenters who were all very well attended as usual. The response overall was very positive with many members asking for repeat sessions next year and we shall definitely try to get some of them back.

Special screening of award-winning science films

From Martin Gellender:

The best films from the 2016 International Science Film Festival will be shown at U3A during a special one-off screening on Monday afternoon 15th August. These two films should appeal to anyone with a keen interest in our world and the future of humanity.



A perilous quest to save the world's children

Voted "Best Documentary", this film tells the story of an American scientist who developed eight vaccines – half the vaccines that children receive today. These vaccines **have saved 8 million lives each year** since 1960 (including, perhaps, yours). He is credited with saving more lives than any other medical scientist of the 20th century - yet hardly anyone knows his name!!

Aug 15, 12.30-1.45, 232 Adelaide Street

The future of work and death

This documentary film explores where digital technology is taking humanity. Will the future be marked by job obsolescence and technological unemployment, and could digital immortality be a realistic possibility? Will

technical innovations advance society? Seventeen scientists, engineers and academics share their thoughts on the social-political repercussions of these innovations, and whether our society is ready for them.

Aug 15, 2.00-3.30, 232 Adelaide Street

You can reserve your place for one or both films on the [U3A website](#)

or by emailing Marty Gellender direct mgellend@bigpond.net.au



SCINEMA is an international science film festival providing a platform on which filmmakers, professional, amateur and student, can showcase their science films, from dramas to documentaries, animations or epic natural history. U3A tutor Marty Gellender has arranged a special showing of two of the best films at U3A Brisbane on **Monday 15th August** at 12.30pm and 2.00pm respectively.

BRISBANE CITY CAMPUS

from Gail Hawkins –

Contact: tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au



Language classes are always very popular with our members and we are always looking for people prepared to establish Beginners classes in any language. You may look at our Class Schedule and think we have plenty of language classes, but what happens in many cases, a class starts out as a Beginners class but the students stay with the tutor from term to term progressing from beginners to Intermediate and Advanced students – resulting in that class no longer being for Beginners. I am keen to talk to anyone who may be interested in becoming a language tutor, and I'm sure you would find it a rewarding and worthwhile experience.

We are looking forward to another interesting one off presentation on 6th September from our U3A honorary member John Yates, who is a member of Flintshire (Wales) U3A. John has family in Australia and on his annual visits, is always keen to catch up and entertain us with a presentation of interest that highlights his Aussie/Welsh sense of humour. His presentation on the 6th Sep is "Cattle Droving in Wales and Australia – Then & Now". To enrol in this presentation email office@u3abrisbane.org.au

This Month's class highlight

X111 Handyman – [Learn How to do your own Home Maintenance](#)

Kent was a self-employed Architect who emigrated from South Africa in 2014. Rather than taking a job in the Industry, he decided to offer his skills as a handyman as he has done handyman work all of his life. It also seemed an ideal way of getting to know his adopted country and to meet people along the way.

His Friday afternoon class is focused around tasks, helping people to gain skills around specific elements of tool use and materials related to tasks that the class members raise. You can save money by learning how to do your own minor home maintenance, all those little jobs that cost money to employ tradespeople to do, think of the satisfaction you get when you learn how to do these jobs yourself.

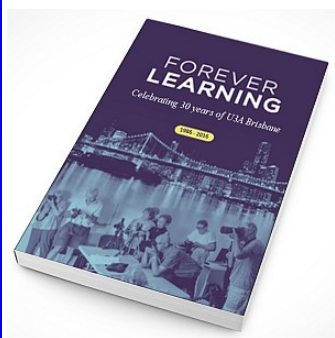
Logan News from the local committee

New classes are going well but more students are needed to keep the Music class going. Mah Jong at Marsden is now full but the tutor will be happy to have new members in Term 4. We are finalising arrangements for Cake Decorating, Spanish, Family History and probably Water Aerobics in Term 4. More about that later.

On Tuesday August 16th Logan City Council start the celebration of National Seniors Week at the Logan Entertainment Centre by hosting Logan Loves Seniors Day. U3A will be there of course and we invite tutors and members to come to the stall and discuss U3A with people who enquire, especially between 11 and 1 when it is most busy. The committee will man the stall of course,

but would appreciate some support and it is always pleasant to tell others about what is happening locally. The day features entertainment with Rhonda Burchmore in her *Up Close and Personal Show* from 9.30am to 11am and again from 1pm to 2.30pm. It is heavily booked but there are often free seats on the day. There are free activities and many information stalls all morning. The Centre is next to the Council offices in Wembley Road. The event has been attended by up to 2000 people in the last few years. We hope to see you there. office@u3abrisbane.org.au

The U3A Brisbane History book *FOREVER LEARNING - Celebrating 30 years of U3A Brisbane*



The book will be available in November. To help us determine demand, please pre-order as soon as possible. The cost has been kept at a very reasonable \$20 so as many members as possible can obtain a copy.

Would you like to be a Sponsor?

For only \$50, which includes one copy of the book, you can become a Sponsor and help offset the production cost of this publication. Your name will be printed in the book as a Sponsor. Please contact U3A office if you wish to support the project in this way.

Acknowledgements

The Management Committee would like to acknowledge the painstaking research into U3A Brisbane's history, largely undertaken by Ian Lipke and June Morris, that has led to this souvenir publication as a celebration of 30 years of U3A activity in Brisbane. The book is dedicated to the generous volunteers who have built U3A Brisbane.

About the book

The book is over 200 pages, with 18 chapters covering 30 years history from the founding of U3A Brisbane in November 1986 up to the present day. It contains many colour photographs, artworks and illustrations gathered from the archives. This book should take pride of place on your bookshelf.

Ordering

To reserve your copy, please go to our website: <https://www.u3abrisbane.org.au/index.php/book-reservation> or contact the office by email: mail@u3abrisbane.org.au or Phone 3236 3055.

Please note: You only pay on delivery of your copy.

Investment Outlook 9 Reasons Why It Is Not All Bad

Article Provided by Darren Titmus,
U3A Tutor & Principal of Financial Planning Qld

The past few weeks have been messy with Brexit, the Australian election, another terrorist attack in France and an attempted coup in Turkey. In fact, the last 12 months have been - starting with the latest Greek tantrum and China share market plunge a year ago. It's almost as if someone has listened to Taylor Swift's song "Shake It Off" and decided to try and shake up investment markets. This has all seen a rough ride in investment markets with most share markets falling into bear market territory at some point over the last year and bond yields plunging to record lows.

The success of Donald Trump in the US, the Brexit vote & the close election in Australia highlight a growing angst at rising inequality and a loss of support for the economic rationalist policies of globalisation, deregulation and privatisation. While understandable, the resultant populist policy push risks slower long term economic growth and lower investment returns.

The turmoil over the last 12 months has shown up in very messy share markets (with most falling into bear market territory with 20% plus falls from last year's highs to their lows early this year before a rebound) and a sharp decline in bond yields to record lows. However, unlisted assets like commercial property, infrastructure and listed yield-based plays like real estate investment trusts have done very well. Reflecting the constrained environment, balanced growth superannuation funds saw average returns of around 1-2%.

But while super funds had soft returns over the last year they were not disastrous and moreover they averaged 8-9% over the last three years – which is not bad given how low inflation is.

What's more, whilst the worry list may seem high, that has been the story of the last few years now. For example, 2014-15 saw worries about the end of the US Fed's quantitative easing program, Ukraine, the IS terror threat, Ebola, deflation, a soft start to 2015 for US growth (we hear that one a lot!), worries about China, soft Eurozone growth and on-going noise about a property crash/ recession in Australia. So nothing new really! More fundamentally there are nine reasons for optimism.

First, global growth is okay – there has been no sign of the much feared global recession. Global business conditions surveys point to ongoing global growth of around 3%. In Australia, growth has in fact been particularly good at around 3%. The economy has rebalanced away from a reliance on mining. **Second, central banks have signalled easier monetary policy for longer post-Brexit** which is likely to ensure that liquidity conditions remain favourable for growth assets. **Third, while the shift to the left by median voters in Anglo countries resulting in more populist policies is likely to harm long term growth potential, it could actually boost growth in the short term** (including under Trump in the US) as it sees a relaxation of fiscal austerity.

Fourth, we may have seen the worst of the commodity bear market. After huge 50% plus falls some commodity markets are moving towards greater balance (notably oil and some metals). **Fifth, deflation risks look to be receding.** Oil prices which played a huge role in driving deflation fears look to be trying to bottom and a shift towards more inflationary policies by governments and some central banks are likely to start shifting the risks towards inflation on a 2-5 year view.

Sixth, the profit slump may be close to over. US profits are showing signs of bottoming helped by a stabilisation in the \$US and the oil price. Australian

profits are likely to rise modestly in the year ahead as the commodity price driven plunge in resource profits runs its course.

Seventh, the latest falls in interest rates and bond yields have further improved the relative attractiveness of shares and may unleash yet another extension of the search for yield.

Eighth, investors have been more relaxed about the latest decline in the Chinese Renminbi - reflecting slowing capital outflows from China, reassurance from Chinese officials and a growing relaxation about fluctuations in the value of the RMB.

Finally, all the talk has been bearish lately – Brexit, Chinese debt, US slowing, messy Australian election – which provides an ideal springboard for better investment returns!

The September quarter is historically a rough one for shares and the prospect of a Trump victory in the US and worries about Italian banks may cause some nervousness. But looking beyond near-term uncertainties, the mix of reasonable share valuations, continued albeit constrained global growth, easy monetary conditions and a lack of investor euphoria suggest returns are likely to improve from those seen over the last year.

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[If you'd like further information on investment markets, retirement, solutions or any other financial planning matter, you are welcome to call Darren on 0466 934 574 or \[www.financialplanningqld.com.au\]\(http://www.financialplanningqld.com.au\)](#)

Important information

Source: This article is an excerpt of an article published by Shane Oliver for AMP Life Limited, originally published on 20 July 2016 on amp.com.au

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U3A IT Group:

from Helen Carberry

The next IT Group session will be held on Saturday 13th August at the new U3A 232 Adelaide Street premises, 10 am to 12 noon. David Hains will present a session on *Movie Making*. Please find the flyer attached.

Please note that the change of venue is for this session only. The IT Group will return to 97 Creek Street after this. For those who have not yet visited the new premises, it is right next door to Anzac Square but the only access on the weekend is via Creek Street. A map is attached. Entry at the weekend requires a security key, so someone will be stationed at the Creek Street entrance to let you in. It would be helpful if you aimed to get there a bit earlier than usual. If you are late and there is no one stationed at Creek Street entrance call 3172 3283 for assistance.

The registration process is as follows:

1. Go to the [IT Group page](#) on the U3A Brisbane website.
(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.

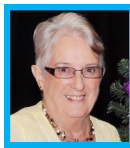
If you have enrolled but can no longer attend this session please go through the above process again but click *Withdraw Enrolment*.

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.



Social Committee News:

from Helen Dubois



Unfortunately, we had to cancel a bus trip recently due to lack of numbers. We have arranged to return the \$60 that was paid. Most people we happy to give us their bank details so that the Treasurer, Angela Butler can arrange for repayment on line. We will pay cash to a couple of members having made a decision not to use cheques for that purpose. Cheques get lost and it costs us money to cancel them when this happens. Cash can be picked up at the office at 97 Creek St should it be necessary in future.

“Matilda—The Musical” is doing very well down South and has been greatly enjoyed by a number of our members who have seen it in Melbourne. We still have plenty of tickets left.

Date: 4th January 2017

Where: Lyric Theatre QPAC

Cost : \$75.00

Time 1:00pm

Christmas Lunch

While I know that this is only August and Thursday November 24th seems a long way off, it is not. I was looking at the booking sheets yesterday and a number of tables have been taken. We can only fit in 20 tables total.

Location: Level 2 Ithaca Room Brisbane City Hall

Cost : \$60.00 / person

Guest Speaker Rupert McCall a well known speaker who is a poet and writer.

Thursday November 24th 2016

Time : 11:30am for 12Noon

Details are available in the Class schedule on pages 4 and 5.



The Wellcamp Airport trip is full but we have room for more reserves.