



**Editor's Notes for
December 2017:**

from Helen Dubois



It seems only a few months ago that we were celebrating 2016 Christmas and here we are again. It has been a very busy year for all of us not just the people who arrange the Enews but also for the Tutors and students, all the people who work in the office and all the Management committee and the Social Committee. Have a very happy Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

Office Notes:

From Yvonne McGann

Term 4 classes finished on the afternoon of Friday 8th December. Classes will resume on Monday 22nd January. Please note that there will be no classes on Friday 26th January, Australia Day. During the break the office at 97 Creek Street will be open on the following dates from 9 a.m. till 12 noon. Monday 11th December until Friday 15th December Monday 15th January until Friday 19th January.

Emails and phone messages will be attended to during the break, and you can of course renew your

membership online at any time.

On another note, if you are prepared to be trained as a Fire Warden for our Adelaide Street premises please contact Yvonne McGann (office@u3abrisbane.org.au).

We wish all our members a happy holiday season and look forward to seeing you in 2018.

President's Message:

from Greg Doolan



As we approach the close of the year, I believe the time is right to reflect on some of the successes and innovations that were achieved by U3A Brisbane in 2017 which, we hope have enhanced your experience as a member during that time. One of the significant innovations implemented during 2017 was an early warning SMS system put in place by our resident IT specialist and Management Committee member, Greg Taylor to advise people via their mobiles. Individuals and classes can be alerted to various events through this system such as class cancellations etc. or, as happened earlier this year, the classes for an entire day were cancelled due to an extreme weather event therefore saving unnecessary and potentially dangerous travel. Our premier event, Winter School was again an outstanding success with 59 speakers throughout the week with the highlight being Queensland palaeontologist, Dr Steven Salisbury giving an extremely entertaining and informative keynote address at the State Library of Queensland. Our hard working Winter School committee again excelled themselves and have set the bar high for the event in 2018. I am pleased to advise that U3A Brisbane currently has close to 4,000 members in its ranks spread across Brisbane, Logan cities and beyond and the numbers just keep on growing so, to meet the needs of our rapidly expanding membership, there will be a record 289 classes on offer for term 1, 2018. There have, of course, been other successes throughout the last 12 months and they all make me very proud to be your President however, we have now reached that time of the year when our thoughts should focus on what is the most important thing in our lives, our families so, on behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to wish all members and their loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous 2018.

Brisbane City News

from Gail Hawkins

tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au

I know it's said every year, but it is hard to believe that another year has passed and we are now looking forward to a break from classes to enjoy the Christmas holiday season. I would like to thank our tutors that have given their time and effort and offered a service to our members to gain valuable knowledge, or just the enjoyment of meeting other like-minded people. To those Tutors that are "taking a break" your involvement in putting your weekly classes together has been appreciated and we hope that you will return to tutoring in the near future.



Term 1 is shaping up to be busy as we are offering a number of new and exciting classes to choose from, please remember that you must contact the tutor to get confirmation of your enrolment in any class – if you turn up on the day hoping to attend a particular class, you could be disappointed when told the class is full. Following are some of our new and returning classes that you may want to enrol in.

Monday

T08 – Travel Discussion Group, an opportunity to draw upon the wealth of collective travel experience to exchange information and advice on travel.

F70 - 500cards for Beginners, all new players welcome to join friendly and helpful class.

J202 – Portuguese – Intermediate, This course builds on and consolidates previous knowledge of the Portuguese language

K24 - How to Read and Write a Biography, Tutor has published books on the subject, explore how to write an interesting biography of family or friends.

A71 - Exploring Drama Workshops, A fun way to keep your brain active, gain confidence and communication skills while exploring your creativity.

Y03 - Early Buddha Dhamma, The original teachings of Gotama before they were changed into religions.

Tuesday

K23 - Writing a Memoir, Reflecting on life's journey can be enlightening, creative, healing and integrating begin to write a memoir you want to tell.

Y20 - History of Ideas, This PP presentation is an illustrated journey of discovery expanding idea about our Cosmic connections.

Y21 - Carl Gustav Jung – Dreams, Symbols, Archetypes, this course will focus on Jung's keys to access the wisdom of Dreams and the personal and collective Unconscious.

N14 - The Silver Screen – Six Classic Queensland Movies, an opportunity to view a full length classic movie and get a background presentation by Jim Henry who was involved in the production of the films.

Wednesday

S27 - Climate Change What Is It and What Should We Do About It, An interactive course discussing: Climate Change What is it? Earth's Climate and History, Zero-carbon Energy & much more.

E36 - Is Peace Possible – Peace Studies, An interactive class that discusses, Is war inevitable, and if so why, if not, why not. Causes of some wars and the influences of military industrial complex and the media.

Thursday

N15 - Digitising Media & Memories on a Budget, Vinyl records, cassette tapes colour slides, negatives, photos and video tapes will degrade in time find out how to digitise these memories and save them on a computer.

P26 - Enjoy your Digital Camera for Absolute Beginners, An informal class to discuss simple problems, a little theory will be mixed with activities and field work.

X125 – History, Culture & Censorship World-Wide, Open discussions on relevant issues, including censorship in books, films, theatre and video game.

R09 – What the Bible is About – An Informed Appreciation of the Bible, The Reformation was 500 years old in 2017, so it's appropriate to re-examine the Bible with fresh eyes and updated information.

H45 - Military History – A Battlefield Perspective, Review battlefield history using maps, firsthand documents, photographs and films, archaeological evidence and lively discussion.

F20 - Scrabble, Exercise your brain and have fun playing scrabble.

E15 - Global Cultural Diversity, Different cultures, history and what it means in today's Australian way of life.

T06 - Effective and Mutually rewarding Communication, Does unsolicited advice make you feel put down? Effective communication suggests never give unsolicited advice, the class will look at these guidelines.

H41 - The Burma Railway, Discuss the use of POWs as forced labourers of the Burma-Thai Railway, the circumstances in which Australians came to be prisoners of war and the conditions faced in camps such as Changi.

H39 - The Battle for Australia 1942-43, this class offers an analysis of the causes, course and consequences of the Kokoda track campaign, and its significance in history.

Friday

A82 - Budding Artist Group, This is a friendly group that is working together to improve artistically, no previous experience required come along and have fun we work with acrylics, water colours and coloured pencils

E37 - International Relations, We will examine contemporary Australian Foreign Policy and the role of history, geography, culture and identify in influencing Australian Foreign Policy.

R10 - History of Religion in Australia, This course explores the history of the arrivals of various forms of religious thought into Australia, and the stories of the people who brought them here.

H51 - History – England in the 15th Century, This is a very interesting period bracketed by the huge population loss caused by the Black Death in the late 14th century and the discovery of the New World.

Logan District News:

from Jean Townsend

All U3A members were invited to the Logan District party, and attendance was the best yet. About 125 members and guests enjoyed cakes and sandwiches, music, raffles and a quiz, all for \$2. Unbelievably, we made a profit, but that was thanks to Janet's organisational skill, plus the hall being free as Bill and Diane Bohlen are Elements Village residents, and because all the food was donated. Helpers were too many to name, but very many thanks to everyone. The food was fabulous, and we were treated to some lively numbers by the Logan District guitar class and the Elements Choir. It was a goosebump-raising experience when everyone stood and sang Joy to the World with great gusto. The entertainers earned their hearty applause.

Next year most classes continue, but Bill is handing leadership of the Camera Club to Ralph Willits, while he and Diane run a new class for beginners. Monika will take over Beading from Celia. Sheila Radcliffe and Michael Yip will show students how to get the best from their cameras. Lois Beedie and Faye Slavin start a new History discussion group at the Hyperdome Library. Israeli Folk Dancing will resume and Qi Gong Gentle Exercise has been added to Marcel's Tai Chi classes. There are new beginners' French and Spanish classes too and we need more Hand Bell ringers to make up a team.

Howard and his Recorder Ensemble students are giving a performance at Logan North Library at 10am on the 24th January. Anyone interested is welcome to come. There is evidence that learning a musical instrument and especially playing with others has remarkable benefits. And it must be more fun than learning a new language. Howard will welcome beginners and experienced players to the Rochedale back yard where birds sing as they play..

Bronwyn Statham has been welcomed to the district sub-committee, Jean has resigned but, like all past committee members, is available to help if needed.

Have a wonderful Christmas, everyone, and best wishes for a good year of Learning for Pleasure in 2018.

Evacuation Practice at 232 Adelaide St.

From Yvonne McGann

Thank you to members who took part in the evacuation at 232 Adelaide St last week. We were very pleased that the building was evacuated within 8 minutes.

If you are unable to use the stairs please ask for a PEEPS form from the Adelaide St office and, in case of evacuation, tell the Warden at the top of the stairs. He/she will direct you to a safe spot.



Tea and coffee are not to be taken down the emergency stairs. Also, large items (bags, trolleys, golf umbrellas etc.) are to be left in the classrooms.

Once you are outside the building please move away from the exit. At the moment our meeting point is at Post Office Square.

Confused about the NBN?

From Greg Taylor



ict@u3abrisbane.org.au

Many people are confused and anxious about the national broadband network (NBN) and there is a definite lack of transparency in the information made available to the general public. Eventually the NBN will affect everybody who has the Internet or a phone at home.

During 2018, U3A will be running workshops to help explain what is happening and answer your questions. More information about these sessions will be made available next year.

100 years young - Bill Richards

A special function was held at Adelaide Street recently for a very special person. The occasion was to mark the 100th birthday of our oldest student, Dr Bill Richards who still attends many classes a week and is held in high esteem by his many friends at U3A Brisbane.

Bill is a remarkable man who practiced Psychiatry until he was 82 and, until recently, walked into the city from his West End home on an almost daily basis. Bill is still walking but now requires the aid of a walking frame.

Ray made a moving speech honouring Bill which was then followed by a resounding rendition of "Happy Birthday" and "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow". A certificate marking this fantastic milestone was presented to Bill by President Greg Doolan.

With around 100 people attending on the day, Bill appeared a little overwhelmed with the attention, but he then made a very humble speech thanking everyone for their attendance.



Bill, we think you are an absolute inspiration to us all and hope you able to enjoy your classes and friends at U3A Brisbane for many more years.

The function held in our Adelaide Street rooms in Bill's honour was organised by Past President and tutor, Ray Bricknell and catered for by the office staff of Brisbane.

Social Committee: from Helen Dubois

We have been very busy this year with a lot of musicals, bus trips and other activities. Christmas in July was a first, and we will be repeating that activity next year but in another venue.

We have one bus trip early in the year and with the Commonwealth Games in April the State Government have reserved all the buses to cover the needs of the people.

Greg Taylor decided that the activities of the Social Committee should be computerised and proceeded to do just that. A very clever man. It has made things much more efficient. Our thanks to him for all the work he had to put in. We still call on him when we mess things up.

We would like to thank you for your support over the years. Barbara Scott and I will be departing the Social Committee at some time in the first part of 2018. Helen Myers and Helen Moore have recently joined the Committee and we look forward to having them take over management in the new year.

Have a really good Christmas and a splendid 2018.

Helen Dubois
0407 734 337

hellsbells21@optusnet.com.au

Cost is yet to be confirmed.

To register your expression of interest and receive the final itinerary when complete, please contact:

Bryan ILES, Tutor- Experiencing China, U3A Brisbane

Post: 57 Crewe Street, Mount Gravatt East, Qld 4122 **Email:** bryaniles@bigpond.com

During class time:

Wednesday 12.30 pm at Adelaide Street, Brisbane
Friday 11.00 am at Logan North Library,
Springwood

U3A China Tour 2018

The Silk Road Tour

Call for Expressions of Interest

Anticipated date: 10 October 2018 to 26 October 2018

The tour will include visits to:

Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang Uyghur
Autonomous Region;

Turpan to visit Karez and the Jiaohe Ruins;

Dunhuang to wonder at the amazing 7th C
Mogao Grottes;

Jiayuguan to visit the west origin of the
Great Wall and Jiayuguan Gate Tower;

Xining, capital of Qinghai Province and visit
Lake Qinghai;

Xian to marvel at the Terracotta Warriors

Nanjing to experience Nanjing U3A and visit Sun
Yat-sen Mausoleum.



New

The Silver Screen

SIX CLASSIC QUEENSLAND MOVIES

Following the popular Six Classic Australian Movies parts 1 & 2 Jim Henry presents a new series of classic movies all made in Queensland, including "Age of Consent", "Travelling North" and "The Mango Tree"



**Commencing Tuesday 23rd
January at 9am in room 19
for six weeks. Enrol now!**