



Editor's Notes:

from Jean Smith

By the time you read this, Easter eggs will have disappeared from the shelves for another 12 months. But eggs are never really out of the news, whether it's experts telling us it's now safe to eat an egg for breakfast every day or the discovery of a long-lost Fabergé egg on the Antiques Roadshow. I grew up on a farm, so there was always something with eggs going on - collecting them, cleaning them for sending to market, adding a couple extra to a supper dish without worrying if we would run short. A quick glance at U3A's Term 2 classes reveals many 'egg' opportunities: Arts and Crafts, Nutrition, Lunch/Dinner Groups, Science & Technology, Photography. Perhaps we could have a History Group session on Eggs Throughout the Ages – and distribute chocolate eggs at the end of class. Hmm.... we'll have to postpone that idea until Term 1 2019!

President's Message:

from Greg Doolan

I hope everyone had a great Easter and are catching up with family and friends over the break. Those of you who are sporting minded, myself included, will be avidly watching the Commonwealth Games from the Gold Coast, and remembering the 1982 games we had here in Brisbane. What a thrill for spectators and what an achievement for the organisers to have such a fantastic sporting event in our backyard twice in our lifetime. Add to this the Autumn weather starting to take over – this is a really wonderful time of the year.

The month of April heralds U3A Brisbane's Annual General Meeting. This will be held in our Adelaide Street rooms on Wednesday 11th April commencing at 10.30 am., when I will be reporting on what has been a very successful year for U3A Brisbane. Refreshments will be served from 10.00 am to 10.30, so if you can, come along early and share a cup of tea/coffee and a chat before the formalities start.

Term 1 was extremely successful, with most classes showing an increase in attendances, some so much that they reached capacity very early in the term. The Management Committee and Tutor Liaison Officer, Gail Hawkins, are actively seeking out more tutors, for languages in particular, and hope to have further class offerings available in the near future. As a suggestion, if you are unable to find space in the class of your choice in the city, perhaps you could try one of our districts? Just browse through the Class schedule for the district closest to you and you may find a class that suits your needs even closer to home.

March brought some sadness to U3A Brisbane. Mark Kapper, husband of our Vice President Marilyn Wagland, lost his long fight with cancer on 12th March. Mark was a great supporter of U3A Brisbane and, as well as being a member, was also a generous benefactor. A recent donation by Mark made possible the combining of rooms 18 and 19 to a larger room 18 which has been named "The Mark Kapper Room" in his honour. Mark will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

I hope you all enjoy your choices for Term 2 which commences Tuesday 17th April.

Office News:

from Yvonne McGann

Term 1 classes finished on Thursday 29th March. Term 2 classes will resume on **Tuesday 17th April**.

Please note that our Adelaide St rooms are closed during the break, apart from 11th April, when the AGM is being held.

The office at 97 Creek St will be open from 9am till 11am from Monday 9th April until Friday 13th April.

Emails and phone messages will be attended to during the term break.

Vale Mark Kapper:

from Kate O'Loughlin

It is always sad when any of our U3A members pass away and so it is, with sorrow, that we now mourn the recent loss of Mark Kapper. Mark embraced U3A as a place of learning and continued to attend classes even when he became ill. This charming gentleman also worked as a volunteer in the office, helped at social functions and attended sessions at annual conferences with his wife Marilyn Wagland, our current Vice President and former President.

Always keen to support our organisation, Mark made a generous donation to the recent renovation of Room 18, and so fittingly, it is called the Mark Kapper Room. Our condolences go to Marilyn for her loss.



City Precinct News:

from Anna Blake

M33 The King of Instruments

If you are a lover of organ music or one of the highlights of your travels has been stumbling across an organist practising their repertoire in one of the great churches of the world, then this is the class for you. Dr Steven Nisbet, organist of St Andrew's Uniting Church and Past-President of the Organ Society of Queensland, will be presenting again his classes on organs and organ music, covering:

- How a pipe organ works
- Organ building around the world; and
- Organ composition through the musical eras.

The sessions will include examples of different styles of organ music, and attendees will be able to watch via a

video screen the organ console (keyboards and pedalboard) while Steven is playing. Class notes are provided and there is the opportunity to ask questions. **Class dates: Term 2, 2018: 17th and 24th April, plus 8th and 22nd May, each session from 9.30am to 11am.**

Location: St Andrew's Uniting Church, Corner of Creek and Ann Streets, Brisbane City. (Enter via the Ann Street door.)

To cover costs, \$3 contribution from attendees at each session. Please book early via the U3A website.

City Campus News:

from Gail Hawkins

tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au

I am pleased to advise that starting in Term 2 we have several new language classes, all of which have been well received. Most of the Beginners' language classes fill quickly, so it is important that members interested in a subject enrol in that class as soon as possible after the Class Schedule has been published.

Following are some of the classes that still have availability, if you are interested you need to contact the tutor to get confirmation that your enrolment has been accepted:

Monday

- **Portuguese Elementary & Portuguese Intermediate** – a great opportunity for beginners or those with some previous experience to still enrol and learn a language and find out more about the Portuguese history and culture.
- **Cryptic Crosswords** there are vacancies in the beginners, Intermediate and Advanced classes.
- **Early Buddha Dhamma** – What Buddha taught. The original teachings of Gotama before they were changed into religions.

Wednesday

- **Organic Gardening & Associated Lifestyle** – Learn how to grow chemical free organic vegetables, fruit trees and flowers in the ground or in pots.
- **Creative Writing** – Discover your creative side and learn the basic steps for bringing your ideas to life.
- **Is Peace Possible – Peace Studies** – Wide-ranging topics for intelligent discussion on War, Peace and Foreign Policy and many other topical subjects.





- **The Power of Poetry** – A flexible, adaptive course with an aim to experience poems in different ways that will lead to interesting discussions.
- **Bridge for Beginners** – This is not a continuing class it is for beginners or those that have some knowledge of cards.
Photo above shows last term's Beginners having fun whilst learning to play set hands of Bridge.

Thursday

- **Climate Change what is it and what should we do about it** – An interactive course, enquiring into the problem of human induced climate change, using basic scientific concepts and discussing how the problems can be managed.
- **Psychological Perspectives on Contemporary Social Issues** – This course introduces psychological theories and research relating to a selection of contemporary social issues.
- **Military History – A Battlefield Perspective** – Review history using maps, firsthand documents, photographs and films, archaeological evidence and lively class discussions.
- **Effective and Mutually Rewarding Communication** – One of the guidelines for loving, effective communication suggests never give unsolicited advice, the class will look at this kind of guideline.
- **Concept Mapping for memorising, Planning and Creative Fun** – Students will learn to use concept

maps for a range of purposes such as capturing ideas, planning, writing and remembering information from reading and listening.

- **The Burma Railway** – Learn and discuss the conditions faced in POW camps such as Changi, the construction of the Burma-Thailand Railway and the details involved in that activity.
- **The Battle for Australia 1942-43** – Class offers an analysis of the causes, course and consequences of the Kokoda track campaign.

Friday

- **International Relations** – Class will examine contemporary Australian Foreign Policy and the role of history, geography, culture and identify in influencing Australian foreign policy.
- **Spanish Intermediate & Advanced Conversation** – A conversation class that will help students practise and improve their listening, understanding and speaking skills.
- **Art – Pencil & Charcoal Portraiture** – The class will be conducted in the medium of pencil & charcoal predominantly and students should hope to develop their ability to capture and produce accurate and realistic portraits.

Social Committee News:

from Helen Dubois



Bookings are still available for:

God of Carnage

held at Sunnybank Theatre Saturday 21st April cost \$22.00

Ipswich Heritage Tour and One Act Play

with Cross Country Tours: Thursday May 24th cost \$52.00

Depart Roma St 7:30am Bus Stop 125. Please be there at least 15mins prior to that time

Depart Kessels Rd 8:00am near the Park and Ride Bus Stop 59, Garden City Side

Christmas in July at St Bernard's

with Cross Country Tours: Thursday July 19th cost \$56.00

Depart Roma St 7:30am Bus Stop 125. Please be there at least 15 mins prior to that time

Depart Kessels Rd 8:00am near the Park and Ride Bus Stop 59, Garden City Side

Beautiful

Tickets to this show have all been sold and I will arrange to get them ready for picking up after April 23rd. There are no tickets available for sale and 12 people have put their names down for any cancellations.

The Class Schedule for Term 2 has extensive details of these activities on pages 3 and 4 as does the [U3A website](#) (under Groups).

Enjoy the break and have a rest - or go to the Commonwealth Games!

Winter School 2018: Update

from Anne Douglass

9-14 JULY 2018 - Bookings Open 10th June

This month we are taking you back in time with two sessions from the past. One takes us on a psychological journey from seven million years ago and the second from Medieval Times with a glimpse into the lives of the Medieval Woman. Following that we have a different take on the birds and the bees from a purely scientific point of view. Who would have thought that their technology would help to guide unmanned flight and robots.

Key Events that Shaped Modern Psychology



Professor Bill Von Hippel, UQ



This story begins seven million years ago when climate change in East Africa slowly dried out the rainforests, forcing our ancestors out of the trees and onto the savannah. That could easily have been our end rather than the beginning, but our ancestors staved off extinction by banding together.

Instead of relying on their individualistic and competitive approach to each other – which had served them well in the past – they started to work together to drive off the predators that were now a deadly threat on the open savannah. This Social Leap from the forest to the grassland had lasting effects on our psychological makeup. It changed the way we fight and our proclivity to make peace, it changed the way we lead and the way we follow, it made us innovative but not inventive, it created in us an entirely new kind of social intelligence, and it led to new sources of life satisfaction.

Professor Von Hippel will introduce you to these important events in our psychological past and the

manner in which they manifest themselves in the present.

This presentation will provide us with a new understanding of where we come from, how our past continues to impact society today, and how an awareness of our past can help us live more satisfying and meaningful lives.

The Very, Secret Sex Lives of Medieval Women
Rosalie Gilbert, Abbey Museum of Art and Archaeology Caboolture



Unlike today, a woman's status in society wasn't gauged by her age or profession, but by her sexual status.

She was either a virgin, a wife or a widow. Her rights and obligations were dependent on these. Holy women, who may have at one time been wives or widows and may no longer have been actual virgins, were considered virgins as brides of Christ and usually fell into the same category as unmarried, and therefore chaste, women.

An unmarried woman who was not a virgin, either because she was a mistress or prostitute found herself on tenuous ground both legally and in society.

On the subject of sex, the church had much to say. Not only did it have differing opinions on the goodness of women in general, it also recognised the need for men to marry and produce heirs. Eleventh century cardinal Peter Damien wrote that: *woman is Satan's bait; poison for men's souls.*

This is an interesting romp through the lives of these women and full of little known facts.

It is however quite explicit so we suggest that people with delicate sensibilities do not attend.

Insect Vision is Showing Scientists how to Navigate Guidance Systems Safely.
Professor Mandyam Veerambudi Srinivasan, Brain Institute UQ



Professor Srinivasan's research focuses on vision, perception and cognition in animals with simple nervous systems, and on how these might be used in machine vision and robotics. His laboratory has transformed our understanding of the elegant 'short cuts' that are used by animals with small brains and relatively simple nervous systems to see and perceive their world, and to navigate in it.

Their studies have revealed how flying insects negotiate narrow gaps, regulate the height and speed of flight, estimate distance flown, and orchestrate smooth landings. Apart from enhancing fundamental knowledge, these findings have led to novel, biologically inspired approaches to the design of guidance systems for unmanned aerial vehicles with applications in the areas of surveillance, security and planetary exploration.

When navigating through cluttered environments, flying organisms continually face the challenge of selecting safe, collision-free routes. The group has investigated how bees choose between alternative routes by offering them a choice between two apertures through which they can fly to reach a food source. When the apertures are equally wide, some individuals display random choices, while other individuals display a clear left- or right-bias, depending upon the individual. These findings demonstrate, for the first time, that even insects can demonstrate individually varying 'handedness'. They also provide novel insights into the strategies that a swarm of bees might use to move efficiently through dense foliage.

In another study, conducted in collaboration with Boeing Defence Australia and the Queensland University of Technology (QUT), the lab is investigating biologically inspired strategies for the avoidance of mid-air collisions. High-speed video footage of budgerigars flying past each other is providing information about the guidance laws that could potentially be applied to automatically avert mid-air collisions in aircraft.

Don't forget Bookings Open 10th June

Winter School runs 9-14 July



HELP : WINTER SCHOOL NEEDS HELP FOR OUR DRAMA GROUP

Our Drama Group are planning on doing a short performance of Dad and Dave but they need a 'foley'.

What is a foley you may ask? It is someone who has some experience with sound effects using traditional tools (e.g. horses hooves using coconuts) and the computer skills to source and play electronically to a live cue at the time of reading. This would include opening and closing music. This person would need to attend the final rehearsal in June and Penny Everingham, who is directing, would be happy to discuss this further with anyone who feels they could do this. It is apparently not a hard job and could be a lot of fun.

If you can help or know of anyone who could do this (they don't have to be a U3A member) could you please contact me, Anne Douglass, via the Winter School email: winterschool@u3abrisbane.org.au