



## Editor's Notes:

from Jean Smith

My weekend routine includes phoning my sister who lives in Penicuik, a few miles south-west of Edinburgh. Once we have exhausted family news, the weather, the state of the world etc, we move onto U3A. Penicuik U3A was established in 2009 and now has over 100 members, my brother-in-law being its current Chair. If you look at their website [www.u3asites.org.uk/penicuik](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/penicuik), you'll see that it is structured differently to Brisbane U3A, reflecting our different environments. Penicuik's location at the foot of the Pentland Hills makes it an ideal starting point for its very active walking group, and there is even a Whisky Tasting Group. What both U3As have in common is the coming together of people 'of a certain age' who wish to continue learning. If I had to leave Brisbane, one of the first things I would do to help me meet like-minded people and rebuild my social networks would be to investigate the local U3A. Perhaps I could encourage them to form a Whisky Tasting Group!



## President's Notes:

from Greg Doolan

Winter has arrived, and we are now just over a month from the one of the most important events in the U3A Brisbane



calendar – Winter School. I'd like to devote my message this month to encouraging as many members as possible to support this great event.

This year's Winter School is shaping up to be bigger and better than ever, with a wide range of talks on just about any subject you can imagine. This our premier function of the year, so bring your friends and relatives along for an absolute feast of presentations.

Here is just a small sample of what's on offer: The recreation of the radio show from the 40s and 50s, Dad and Dave - The life and works of Jane Austen - Australian Café culture - Queensland Art Gallery and State Library tours - Out of the mouths of graves, a presentation by forensic scientist, John Garner. The highlight of the week will be the Keynote address by Dr Daniel Blackmore from the Queensland Brain Institute who will talk about his research into Alzheimer's and its application to treatments for patients with Alzheimer's and Dementia. Dr Blackmore will be supported by John Quinn, a sufferer of early onset Alzheimer's, and his partner, Glenys Petrie who will speak from a carer's perspective. The Keynote address will be held at the State Library of Queensland Auditorium on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July at 1.30pm.

The full program will be available on the website: [www.u3abrisbane.org.au](http://www.u3abrisbane.org.au) when online bookings open on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June. Alternatively, bookings can be made through the office by email or phone 3236 3055 from Monday 11th June. Please choose your presentations as soon as possible as Winter School always books out rapidly. We are also pleased to advise that the prices for this year have remained the same as last year: \$5 for most presentations and \$10 for the Keynote address at the State Library.

So, what are you waiting for? Gather your friends and relatives without delay - they don't have to be members of U3A - and have a great day out learning new things and being thoroughly entertained by presenters who are experts in their fields.

## Special Event Cancer and the Human Brain

**Presenter:** Dr Guy Barry,  
Neurogenomics Laboratory,  
QIMR Berghofer Institute

**Date:** Monday 25th June 2018,  
12:30pm-2:00pm

**Venue:** Room 18, Level 5,  
232 Adelaide St.



Dr Guy Barry leads the Neurogenomics team at the QIMR Berghofer Institute, investigating and validating genome-wide transcriptomic data to provide insight into how the human brain functions. He was a presenter at the 2017 Winter School, and because he is unable to take part this year, he is offering this one-off talk.

He will provide updates on projects that have recently shown very exciting data:

Firstly, cancer therapies with no side effects. He will provide data using brain cancer as an example.

Secondly, evidence from his laboratory showing a new paradigm for evolution that is far more adaptive than previously believed and with far reaching implications. He enjoyed speaking to such an engaged audience last year and is looking forward to an equally stimulating session in June. Bookings may be made via the U3A Brisbane website or click this link:

[Cancer and the Human Brain](#)

## Brisbane City News:

from Gail Hawkins

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

Although Term 3 doesn't start until July, the preparation and planning for a new term starts well in advance of that time. In Term 3 we have numerous tutors taking a break to travel or just to spend time with family and friends. I would like to thank them for their dedication and support and wish them well for the break, but also look forward to them returning to their tutoring role in the near future. As tutors take a break it is important that we find new ones to fill the gap and offer classes. Some are new subjects, while others may be additional language or history classes etc. It is important that members support new tutors and, where possible, enrol in their classes.

There have been complaints that classes that members

attempt to enrol in are shown as "full". All members are advised when the Class Schedule goes online that you need to enrol in the class of your choice promptly. The longer you leave it to enrol, the chances are that you may miss out. Some classes fill up within a day or two of the Schedule going online.

We continue to look for new tutors in any subject. If you or any of your friends have a subject that you are passionate about and would like to discuss with me what is involved in being a tutor, I would love to talk to you.

## Logan News:

from Martin Bridgstock

Classes are doing very well in Logan, and we are now more than halfway through the second term. Brisbane people are welcome at Logan classes, by the way. We especially recommend the Floristry Class X128, Thursdays 1.30-3.30. We've heard rave reviews from people attending. Here are two examples of their work. Stunning.



Now, a couple of dates for your diary. On December 11 there is the annual Logan Christmas Party. Everyone in U3A is invited. It will be held in the Community Hall at Logan Central, which is near to the Art Gallery. Details will follow, but put a note in your diary. Of course there will be food and drink, games and raffles. Last year everyone had a tremendous time, and we are hoping to top it this year. It's important to note that you don't need to live in Logan to come to the party.

The Open Day will be held on January 15, 2019. This is where all (or nearly all) the tutors in Logan turn up to talk to people who might join their classes. Some tutors put on elaborate displays for their classes, and members of the Logan Subcommittee will be there. They welcome your comments and suggestions. So there's another date to put in your diary!

Oh, and we have a problem. U3A is growing steadily in both Brisbane and Logan. As a result we need to put on more courses, and that means more tutors. So we are encouraging everyone who might act as a tutor to contact us and discuss the possibilities. Note that a U3A tutor is not always like a teacher at school: it is often more like the leader of a discussion group or an activity. The important thing is not to know a great deal, but to be prepared to lead an activity. Maybe 'convenor' would be a better title for some classes. So if you think you might be able to help, we would love to hear from you.

This same problem is appearing at both Logan and Brisbane. Because of the growing number of members, and because the number of tutors is growing more slowly, there is an increasing number of classes marked 'Full'. We are working on this, and hope to have a solution soon. It's a consequence of the success of U3A.

## IT Group session — 3D Printing

from Diane Arapovic

The next session of the U3A IT Group will take place on Saturday 23 June at 10am at U3A Level 5, 232 Adelaide Street, and is entitled *3D Printing in Practice*. The presenter, Don McGuinness, will be looking at the development, uses and future of 3D Printing, and while printing an object during the session.

To book, go to *Groups > IT Group* on the website, or select: [IT Group Bookings](#)

## Computer Section News:

from Gwenn Ball

We offer our condolences to Joan Bovey, a long time Computer Tutor, on the loss of her sister Lois who passed away 24th May 2018.

## Social News:

from Helen Dubois

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

Our Ipswich Heritage Bus trip was very enjoyable. After a lovely morning tea provided as always by the ladies who look after the information centre, we had time to walk around Queens Park before re-boarding the bus. We were fortunate to have the services of a very knowledgeable tour guide who could point out to us splendid examples of the lovely old homes which have been preserved. The good people of Ipswich appear to have treasured their old homes and other buildings much more effectively than we in Brisbane have. We had lunch at the Ipswich Little Theatre and the Burley Griffin Incinerator, with catering provided by the Little Theatre members. It was great fun.



## Beautiful

Tickets for *Beautiful* have been left at the office. Would you please collect yours if you said that you would so.

## Christmas in July

Our next function is *Christmas in July*. At this stage it is fully booked, but as there are always cancellations, please contact the office if you would like to add your name to the waiting list. It would be very sad to have empty chairs at this festive occasion.

## Priscilla Queen of the Desert

We have 30 tickets for *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* at QPAC Lyric Theatre on Wednesday 24-October at 1 pm. Tickets are \$75.

## Winter School 2018 Update:

from Anne Douglass

9-14 JULY- BOOKINGS OPEN 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

### TECHNOLOGY

Genetic Testing - DNA Ownership - Cryptocurrencies

Dr Caitlin Curtis UQ - Friday 1pm



It's time to talk about who can access your digital genomic data. Storage and control of DNA data and privacy are some of the most important problems facing not only our scientists but also ourselves.

There are a number of start-up data storage companies, the best known of which are Blockchain and Illumina. They all have different methods of storage and of dispersment and different privacy safeguards.

The DNA marketplace is growing fast and the technology is growing even faster. The experts are having trouble keeping up and no-one knows just where it will end.

So what are the questions we should be asking?

- How is your privacy protected when you take a genetic test?
- Do some companies make money selling your genetic data to third parties?
- How anonymous can DNA data ever be?
- Who even owns our DNA?
- What does this have to do with cryptocurrencies?

Dr Curtis is an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Queensland and at Griffith University. She is molecular biologist, interested in applying molecular tools (usually DNA sequencing), in combination with ecological studies and historical records, to gain new insights into ecology and archaeology.

For the past few years, Caitlin has been using second generation DNA sequencing to look at evolution in

ancient mummified remains and modern avian species. She is also interested in forensics and conservation biology.



From Cochlear Implants to Human Bionics Interface  
Dr Dimity Dornan OA - The Hear and Say Centre - 1pm  
Tuesday



Twenty-five years ago Dr Dornan established the **Hear and Say** organisation which changed the lives of thousands of hearing-impaired children and young adults. With implantable bionic technologies such as the cochlear implant, Dr Dornan has helped hearing-impaired children train their brains to listen and speak. Currently more than 900 children use the services provided by **Hear and Say**. Not content with this she has gone on to establish several national and global research collaborations, including **Hear and Say WorldWide** and, as Chair of Bionics Queensland (BioniQ), is creating the Human Bionics Interface to combat as yet untreatable conditions.

It is an honour and a privilege to have this amazing woman as our speaker.

## Artificial Intelligence - Machines Must Think Like Humans to Build Trust

### Professor Peter Bruza UQ - 1pm Wednesday

Artificial Intelligence is one of the most pressing challenges facing the scientific world and defence forces world-wide. The technology is expanding exponentially at an alarming rate and no-one knows where it is going. It is so important that, all over the world, universities are sharing their research and collaborating to try to solve some of these problems. Peter and his team are on a two-year challenge to develop and test quantum theory-based models that better explain and predict human decisions and he will give us an insight into the fascinating research that is going on. At the end of his talk he will ask for your views and concerns, and is looking forward to an interactive session with our members. Now is your chance to join this discussion that has such dramatic consequences for our children and grandchildren. Put on your thinking caps and come prepared for an interesting ride.

Peter is a professor of science and engineering, Queensland University of Technology, where his current research interests revolve around using the formalism of quantum physics to develop new mathematical models of human cognition and decision.

He is also a Zen monk – he has been practicing Zen for twenty-five years – and senior teacher in the Open Way Zen School. Peter is an interesting man and an excellent speaker.



## SOMETHING DIFFERENT

### Out of the Mouth of Graves

### John Garner - Forensic Science -11am Tuesday

The real truth about crimes and how they are solved is often very different to what we see on TV and read about in novels, so it is exciting to be able to bring you a taste of the real thing. John Garner was a decorated police officer in the QPS from 1976-2012, during which time he used his artistic skills to become the first and only forensic artist in Queensland. He devised numerous new techniques to assist with fingerprint identification, biometric age progression, reconstruction of skulls and enhanced computer imaging. He also created the Com-Fit Identification System used today. John will share his knowledge and touch on visual identification - how it is used and misused, Photo-fit and Com-Fit, dental ID, shoe prints, and facial and skull reconstruction. He will also talk about some of his cases including a serial killer, an unsolved murder and a DNA fraud case, and share his thoughts on the Baden Clay case.

### Time Changes

The Keynote Address will commence at 1.30 instead of the usual 2pm start and there are a few other minor changes so we suggest you take careful note of the start times for each session.

### Technology Volunteers Wanted

Since many of our Winter School speakers are external experts who aren't familiar with U3A Brisbane's audiovisual systems, we need a team of people to join a roster to provide technical support. Training will be provided but you need solid experience with modern technology. We use large digital screens with either Windows 10 laptops or Apple TV wireless devices.

If you are willing to help, please contact Greg Taylor, our ICT Coordinator:

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