



Editor's Notes

from Jean Smith

Many of us are that stage of life when, for whatever reason, we can no longer do the things we like to do or visit places that are dear to us. That's where U3A comes in – lifts us out of day-to-day routines and gives us something different to think about. For me, the icing on the cake is the Winter School, and this year's didn't let me down. For a week I was enthralled, entertained and exposed to new ideas. I could have listened to Prof. Katherine Gelber talking about free speech, or examined Kay Smith's translation of the Anglo-Saxon poem about St Guthlac for hours! See if you can find yourself in the accompanying photographs – happy reminders of a wonderful week.

President's Message

from Greg Doolan

In my last message in July, I predicted that Winter School would most likely be the best yet, and guess what? This year was a record in just about every respect. During the week over 2,200 people attended the 58 presentations, including the keynote address at the State Library of Queensland. The auditorium was filled to capacity to hear Dr Daniel Blackmore, John Quinn and Glenys Petrie talk about Alzheimers from their own points of view, these being the researcher, the sufferer and the carer. This was a very inspiring and informative presentation which described how this dreadful disease should not be considered the end of the road. However, this was only part of Winter School, with so many excellent presentations on offer, the only problem was being spoilt for choice trying to fit in as many as possible in the time available. This year also

saw the introduction of a comments book which has provided some very useful feedback. Of course, none of this could have happened without the months of planning necessary to make Winter School run smoothly. Full credit must go to Marilyn Wagland and her organising committee for doing such a magnificent job of delivering such a memorable event. This result will be very hard to beat in 2019, but I'm sure the committee will rise to the challenge. From the hard-working volunteers to the booking system and the new "Green Room" concept, which was very well accepted, everything just worked seamlessly. What a fantastic team effort!

Another memorable event occurred in late June with the retirement of one of the longest serving office volunteers in the history of our U3A. Dot Bartells finally called it a day on June 25 after well in excess of a decade of service in the three venues U3A Brisbane has occupied during that time. I reminded Dot that she was the one who signed me up as a new member in 2009 at the South Brisbane premises! We held a small function in the office to say farewell and presented Dot with a beautiful orchid as a growing reminder of her years of volunteering. Well done Dot! Your long contribution to U3A Brisbane has in no small way gone to making our organisation what it is today. We hope your retirement is a long and pleasant one and we wish you all the best for the future.

A quick update – following on from my last message, I am pleased to advise we are well on the way to eliminating disposable paper cups from both our city venues. This has been well accepted by members and we hope to be totally free of them in the next couple of months. Of course, the best idea is to have your own reusable cup, so I would encourage all members to bring their own wherever possible.

Term 3 has now commenced and it was great to see all those happy faces on the first week, eager to get back to the classes of their choice.

Winter School

from Marilyn Wagland
Winter School Convenor

We have just held a most successful Winter School and, judging by the many positive comments we've received, those who attended enjoyed the variety and quality of the 58 sessions. Most were of an extremely high standard and



there was certainly the opportunity to learn a great deal and/or be thoroughly entertained throughout the six days. The only disappointing factor was the non-attendance rate of 10%. Sessions such as the Queensland Ballet class quickly reached the booking cut-off of 30 and had a waiting list yet only 23 actually attended, denying those on the waiting list their chance. The absolute positive from this event was the large number of members who contributed to its success. Firstly, my thanks to our wonderful Winter School committee Anne Douglass, Kate O'Loughlin, Eve McCormack, Di Bishop, Mary-Anne Scott, Greg Doolan, Ian Thomas and newcomer, Rod McLary. They all contributed enthusiastically, fulfilling their respective roles well over many months.

The support from Yvonne McGann organisationally in the lead-up is essential and was, as always, completed in a timely manner. Thanks also to Helen Davis for opening Adelaide St each morning and being the Office coordinator every day. Greg Taylor's IT input is also a major contributor to the success of Winter School. Then we had all those who volunteered their services as conference bag packers, monitors, money collectors, IT backup and office assistants throughout the week. Others assisted with the set-up of the rooms before and after. It really was a joint effort and I extend my thanks to everyone who volunteered their services. Without your support, we could not hold an event attended by more than 2200 people without a hitch, as we did this year.

Postscript: One of our speakers, Professor Michael Smart, gave an interesting talk on Satellites and Scramjets. His team at UQ are working on developing scramjet engines that travel at hypersonic speed; that's mach 5 or faster than five times the speed of sound. This exciting new technology opens up a whole new world of space exploration and Professor Smart would like to contact any attendees who are interested in supporting their efforts to take Australia to space. As we have a strict policy of not disclosing member contact details, if you would like to contact him directly, his email address is m.smart@uq.edu.au

Learn more about the UQ Centre for Hypersonics research, including its air-breathing propulsion 'scramjet' at:

<http://www.uq.edu.au/research/impact/stories/need-for-speed>

Date Claimer 1 IT Group Meeting:

Saturday 11th August 2018 10am, 5th floor 232
Adelaide St. [Book online](#)

Self Publishing Your Book - Marty Gellender.

A genuine revolution in printing technology now enables authors to print their own books, with minimal upfront cost and without the need for a publisher. With "Print on Demand" technology, authors can print a few or a few dozen copies at a time, and get bound, professional-quality books with colour illustrations, at prices comparable to conventional printing technology.

Topics will include:

- how to get distributed, sold and read
- publishing by "Print on Demand" (POD) as few as 1-10 copies
- interfacing with Print-on-Demand companies: Ingram Spark, Lulu
- Costs, layout, library deposits, ISBN, marketing, online sales and more.

Date Claimer 2 Award-Winning Science Short Films: to be Shown at U3A from Marty Gellender

Monday 13th August 2pm-3:30pm, 232 Adelaide St.
SCINEMA International Science Film Festival is the largest science film festival in the southern hemisphere, celebrating the power of moving image to tell stories about the world, how it works and our place in it. SCINEMA showcases science features, shorts, documentaries, animated and experimental films from filmmakers around the world.

A selection of the best short films from the 2018 SCINEMA Film Festival will be shown at U3A Brisbane at 2pm on Monday 13th August (during National Science Week) at 232 Adelaide Street. The cost for the session is \$5. Further information is available on the U3A Brisbane website, where members can [enrol to attend](#).

Three award-winning films will be shown:

The Kingdom – How Fungi Made our World. Voted *Best Film* (52 mins)

Some fungi will save us, others will threaten us, and we are just beginning to understand which is which. The great, untold story of how fungi shaped all life on land.

Jury comment: "This film takes us on a wonderfully creative journey from the beginning of time to the

present, revealing the hidden world of fungi with beautiful cinematography".

Grassroots. Voted *Best Documentary* (19 mins)
This Australian-made film is a story about farmers, the soils they work and a piece of powerful knowledge that nearly slipped through their fingers. *Grassroots* follows Guy Webb and his friends, unlikely heroes on a quest to bring a genuine climate change solution to the world. Jury comment: "This story of farmers turned accidental activists is one you want to share with everyone you know. It shows that science shouldn't remain in the arena of labs and academics – instead it shows that people who need this technology can go out and fight for it."

IRONY. Voted *Best Short Film* (8 mins)
Directed, produced and written by an 18-year-old Australian teenager, Radheya Jegatheva (and narrated by his father), this film explores the relationship between humanity and technology...told from the perspective of a phone. The animated film deals with how social media and technology can be used in harmful ways, rather than for good. Jury comment: "This multilayered film explores a very topical and timely issue, and no other films came close to this level of creativity. An incredibly confronting and powerful discussion of technology, showing how emotive a science documentary can be."

Date Claimer 3 The Future of Medicine in the Age of Robotics and AI Professor Ross Crawford

Friday 7th September 2pm-3:30pm, 232 Adelaide St.
Professor Ross Crawford is an Orthopaedic Surgeon with a special interest in lower limb joint replacement; his principal interests are hip and knee replacement, and knee arthroscopy.

The medical profession has been very slow to adopt robotic technology but we are currently at a tipping point where new technology is going to disrupt medicine. Doctors of the future will need to understand robotic technology as it will both augment and replace many of their skills.

'Thinking' and 'recognizing' jobs will be disrupted before 'doing' jobs. AI and machine learning will use pattern recognition to read X-rays, perform histological examinations, and diagnose skin lesions, ultimately replacing a number of fields of clinical medicine. Algorithms will assist in diagnosis. The Internet will allow improved care in the developing world as pattern recognition allows remote diagnosis and treatment recommendations.

Robotic assisted surgery is here to stay. Current technologies will look primitive in even a decade. The systems will become more autonomous, gradually replacing tasks performed by surgeons. The technology should be embraced by the profession and not feared. Like many parts of society medicine is on the verge of a transformation and those who do not adapt will rapidly become redundant.

Bookings can be made [online on our web site](#) or through the office. Cost of attendance will be \$5.00.

City News

from Gail Hawkins

tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au

It is said that doing voluntary work after retirement helps keep the mind and body active, but I find doing voluntary work for U3A more than that, especially when members and tutors advise how much U3A has changed their lives for the better. We offer such a large variety of classes for members to choose from, giving them the opportunity to continue the learning process or to participate in entertaining activities. Another important aspect is the social interaction; many friendships are made before or after class at the local coffee shops or in our office reception areas.

Our tutors are the backbone of the organisation and I'm sure members that enrol in a class appreciate the time and effort that tutors put into making a successful class. I'm always looking for new tutors, especially in areas that we may be lacking. Sometimes I'm successful, sometimes I'm not. When I'm not, I have been fortunate that in many instances a current tutor will offer to take an additional class to accommodate our requirements. This term we have over 30 tutors that are tutoring between 2 and 4 classes a week – how lucky are we to have such a dedicated tutoring group.



Logan News

from Deborah Dries

The 3rd term of 2018 has seen several new classes begin, some of which are already full. It's great news that the Logan classes are so popular, but too many people are missing out on the joys and benefits of participating.

We would love to have more tutors. You don't have to teach, just facilitate if you wish. So if any of our members have a subject they are passionate about, we would love to hear from you. Maybe you are a whizz at Cryptic Crosswords, or a poetry fan and want to share your knowledge with other enthusiasts ... almost anything really which involves keeping the brain and/or body active that can be shared with others. Please contact Marg on 0409 596 438 to get more information on how to be a tutor.

Some classes can take more participants. One is the Social Interaction group, held every 4th Tuesday at Logan North Library from 11:30 to 12:30 pm. This is a fun class in which to play games like Scrabble, or just have a chat and a cuppa as you work on your current craft project. Please ring Janet on 0410 609 097 for details.

We currently have a vacancy on our Logan sub-committee. No experience necessary - just bring your enthusiasm and be able to help when necessary. Please contact Martin Bridgstock on 0474 635 725.

Logan Loves Seniors day is on Tuesday August 21st. This wonderful annual event showcases many ideas and things to do with seniors. Logan U3A is holding a stall, and we need people to help set-up in the morning and staff the stall. There are morning and afternoon shifts, so you don't have to be there all day (unless you want to). Afternoon shift will involve helping dismantle the display too. Please contact Martin Bridgstock on 0474 635 725. Check out the website for the exciting entertainment:

<https://www.logan.qld.gov.au/community-support/community-development/seniors/logan-loves-seniors>

Logan District will also be staffing a stall at Regal Waters, Bethania on Saturday 25th August from 12:30 to 3:00 pm, so please come along and have a look. And of course, the Xmas Party is on again this year. It will be held at the Logan Community Centre in Jacaranda Ave, Logan Central on Tuesday

11th December, and will take the form of a morning tea, with refreshments including tea, coffee and nibblys. Put this date in your diary and come along for the fun, the prizes and the great company. See you there!

Northside News

from Rod McLary

Northside is fortunate in having a further **two new classes** starting this term. They were a little too late to include in the Class Schedule before it was mailed, but full details can be found under [Class Search - Northside](#) on the U3A Brisbane website.

For members in the Everton Park area and those who don't mind travel, a brand-new class is starting on 1 August – **Learning to Play Lawn Bowls**. This is an opportunity to learn from experienced players at the Everton Park Bowls Club and, at the same, time increase your fitness and meet new people. Please see the U3A website for further information.

The second new class is **Games for Fun and Social Contact**. This group will meet at the Chermside Library each second Thursday from 16 August. It is a great way to spend a couple of hours in pleasant surroundings playing board and card games. You will meet new people as well having an enjoyable time. My thanks to the convenors Pam and Kerry who initiated these two classes. There are vacancies in both and if they interest you, you can certainly join in. There are also a few vacancies in some of the other Northside classes. If you would like to join one, please contact the tutor and ask whether the class is open to latecomers.

As always, new tutors are encouraged to come forward. If you would like to offer a class in your chosen field or in an area you are passionate about, or even if you are just thinking about it, please contact me by phone or email. I will always meet with potential tutors to discuss what can be offered.

Social Committee News

from Helen Dubois

The Christmas in July function held on July 19 at the St Bernard's Hotel was really very good. We had an area to ourselves and the hotel had set up a marquee, with a wonderful view. The food was excellent and the staff were efficient and accommodating.



The last function for 2018 for the Social Committee is the *Aussie Icon Cruise* and as I write, there are only 3 seats left on board. This trip is filling very quickly, but please don't give up. Put your name down on the waiting list and cross your fingers that you will get in as it is not on until Thursday November 15. It looks like it will be fun.

There are 2 lots of tickets for *Priscilla* to be picked up or posted. Members who purchased tickets for 24 October 2018 have a refund from QPAC of \$10.00 each ticket.

Helen Myers has taken on the position of Chairman of the Social Committee, with Elizabeth Eichmann taking over the position of Secretary and Alannah Gaffney taking over from June Gemmell. Alannah, with assistance from Cath McMurchy, will look after the theatre tickets. Alannah will also have assistance from Ann Robson with bus trips.

In relinquishing my role as the chair of the Social Committee, I would like to acknowledge the assistance provided by Barbara Scott and June Gemmell who worked hard at getting things done efficiently. Angela Butler, has done a great job as Treasurer and is starting a new 'career' as a guide at the Queensland Art Gallery, which I am sure she will perform most efficiently. I am grateful too to the many people who may have not been on the committee, but provided help when needed, the Management Committee for their assistance and all the members of U3A. A thousand thanks to you all.

Redlands News

from Julianne Whitehead

U3A Redlands has been hosting a series of talks on the Brief History of DNA by Dr George Chapman during July and August. These are very interesting and informative and we would welcome members from U3A Brisbane to join us for the remaining classes.

As usual, U3A Brisbane members may come to one of our classes as a visitor, pay the class fee (\$4), and join in the activity. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. To register your interest, please contact the U3A Redlands Office on 3821 3888 or email:

admin@u3aredlands.com.au

Location: Block Ca, TAFE campus, Windermere Road, Alexandra Hills, starting at 9.30 am.

2 August Harvesting the Gene
9 August Designing Magic Bullets
16 August It's all in our DNA
23 August Brave New World?

Later this month we will be having two talks on Birds of the World:

Venue: TAFE Alexandra Hills Block Ca
Cost: \$5.00 includes light morning tea
Time: 9:30am- 11:00am
Tutor: George Chapman

Thursday 30 August: Birds of the World: Come fly with us. The strange story of the evolution of the birds from dinosaurs is illustrated by George's photos of beautiful and exotic birds from around the world, finishing with the songbirds ... "made" in Australia!

Thursday 7 September: Snout, Sugar, Song and Sex. Beaks, feeding habits, vocal virtuosity, male seduction strategies and the mystery of why so many birds are so beautiful. All these are illustrated by George's photos of world birds.

Term 4 : Date Claimer: We are taking expressions of interest for a series on Linux computer systems, scheduled for Term 4.

For more details and to book your place

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