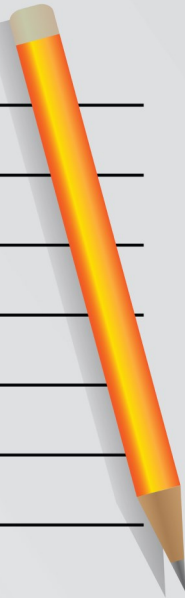




To Do List:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____



Editor's Notes:

from Jean Smith

December to me means lists. I don't trust myself to do everything I should be doing without a To Do List. So, what am I up to? Christmas cake – Baked; Christmas Pudding – Steamed; Secret Santa gifts – Purchased. Some things never change, but the list isn't static – there are a few names missing from the Christmas card list, and no mention of a turkey as our adult children have decided they want to break with tradition. On the other hand, there are a couple of new additions viz: toddler-proof the house, and organise the December edition of U3A's ENews. I'm not sure whether toddler-proofing the house will ever be crossed off the list – probably a perpetual work in progress, but if you are reading this ENews, then it means that I finished editing the file and crossed it off my list!

My best wishes for Christmas and 2019.



President's Notes:

from Greg Doolan



We have reached that time of year again when we all tend to overindulge a little as we catch up with friends, relatives and classmates at lunches and parties to celebrate this special time. Sure, we might put on an extra couple of kilos but, after all, it's Christmas and you can always make a New Year's resolution to lose them again! While at that barbeque or party, the conversation may go along the lines of 'What have you been doing all year?' What a perfect opportunity to talk about your U3A and commend its merits to a wider audience. So, to help with this conversation, here are a few interesting facts you could relate to tempt people to join our ranks for 2019: We are the largest U3A in Queensland and the second largest in Australia, with membership hovering around the 4,000 mark; classes are held in a range of locations across Logan and Brisbane – two campuses in the Brisbane CBD; in excess of 280 classes covering just about every subject imaginable are held every week; all this is made possible by the efforts of over 260 volunteers and tutors - there are no paid employees. After you have given them this information and told them the most important thing which is how much we enjoy ourselves and how much we learn, how could they possibly resist joining.

As President, I do have some very pleasant duties to perform at times. Last month, we held a tutor appreciation function in our Adelaide Street rooms which was attended by some 70 tutors. Along with our tutor liaison officer Gail Hawkins, I spoke of the importance of our tutors and thanked them for their selfless contribution to the success of U3A Brisbane. Another pleasant duty followed the working bee to post out the Term 1 Class Schedule when I presented Certificates of Appreciation to three long-serving members of the Social Committee – Helen Dubois, Barbara Scott and June Gemmell. These three ladies

have served on that committee for close to a decade. Both functions were ably catered for by Office Manager, Yvonne McGann and her fantastic team of volunteers. My thanks to you all.



Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to retiring Social Committee members Helen Dubois and Barbara Scott. (Absent – June Gemmell)

They say things go in threes – and my third such function was the morning tea at Logan Central Library organised by Erika Meerwald’s German class to express U3A’s thanks to Judith Barltrop. Judith has been a member of U3A since 1994, a member of Erika’s class for the last 8 years, and facilitates a class in Watercolour painting. Martin Bridgstock, Logan District Coordinator, and I were delighted to present a Certificate of Appreciation to a lady who epitomises the spirit of U3A.

I know I’ve said this before, but I feel it is worth repeating. U3A is a unique organisation with a diverse membership drawn from just about every occupation and profession you can imagine. This, I believe, is one of our strengths and is what sets us apart from other seniors’ groups. Personally, I can’t think of a better place to spend my time as there is always something new to learn, someone to discuss the latest ‘hot topic’ with – and of course the socializing before and after class over a cup of one’s favourite beverage with friends old and new. How lucky we are to have all this available for our enjoyment and wellbeing?

All that remains now, on behalf of the Management Committee, is to wish all members and their families a

merry and safe Christmas and a very happy new year. Please take care over the festive season – we would like to see you all return in 2019 for another great year of learning, fun and camaraderie.



Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to Judith Barltrop

Office News:

from Robyn Bunting

U3A Brisbane is working to raise awareness of Elder Abuse to our members and the community. Victims could be amongst us or our friends. They do not discuss their concerns with others because of feelings of shame, fear of retaliation, the involvement of family members or fear they will be institutionalised. We encourage everyone to peruse the material available here and reach out to anyone who may need our help. <https://www.qld.gov.au/seniors/safety-protection/discrimination-abuse/elder-abuse>

Office News:

from Yvonne McGann

Renewals for 2019

Thank you to those members who have already renewed for 2019.

Renewals are still only \$40.

Paying online is a great help in streamlining our administration. Our online payment system has been in operation for five years and is safe, secure and convenient. Just go to our website:

www.u3abrisbane.org.au and click on **Membership**

Renewal. You will be asked for your membership number, surname and credit card number. You do not need a password for this purpose. We only accept **Visa** or **Mastercard** for online payments. If you have a **PayPal** account you can also pay by PayPal.

If you prefer to pay by other means, please contact the office (Ph: **3236 3055**).

We, in the office, wish all our members a restful break during the Christmas period and look forward to seeing you in 2019.

City News:

from Gail Hawkins

tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au

Term 1 is starting the New Year with a record number of new and returning tutors offering a variety of interesting and exciting subjects. It is always advisable for members to enrol in classes of their choice as quickly as possible after the release of the Class Schedule to avoid disappointment as some classes fill quickly. Many tutors have a restriction on their class size and once the class is "full" they will put members on a wait-list. It would be appreciated if a member decides not to attend a class they have enrolled in, that the tutor be advised to allow another member to enrol.

I've spoken to prospective tutors who have looked at our Class Schedule and thought that with so many language, history and other classes on offer, their services would not be required. However, this is not the case. At the end of each term, there are always a number of tutors who, for travel or personal reasons, make the decision not to return the following term, so it's important that we are able to introduce new ones. If any of our members or their friends have a subject that they are passionate about and would be interested in becoming a tutor, please contact me so that we can



discuss in detail.

The following two classes did not appear in the published edition of the Class Schedule, but can be viewed online:

M35 - Music (How to Enjoy & Listen to the Many Ingredients of Music) Thu 2.00pm

Do we listen to music or merely hear the sounds? This class will explore the building blocks of music - rhythm, pitch, form, expression etc - through listening to excerpts from some of the great music of yesterday and today.

J19 – Spanish Book Reading, Tue 2.00pm

In this class we read short novels. The book for Term 1 is a Young Adult novel by Carlos Ruiz Zafon, *El principe de la niebla*. In class we take turns to read aloud and translate.

The following classes in Term 1 still have availability, so check the detail online and if interested contact the tutor:

Monday

N14 – The Silver Screen – Classic Treasures

M42 – Concerti of the Major Composers

F67 – Sudoku

A87 – Ballet, A History from 16th Century to Early 20th Century

Tuesday

F65 – Canasta

X97 – Public Speaking

M40 – Beethoven's Piano Sonatas

F72 – Sudoku

Wednesday

L01 – Book Review

J15 – Japanese Elementary

M17 – Recorder – Beginning Alto (Treble)

T10 – Quality of Life – Improvements for Sustainable Environment

L78 – The Power of Poetry

Thursday

T06 – Effective & Mutually Rewarding Communication

J101 – Japanese – Intermediate

A71 – Exploring Drama

N13 – Film Storytelling – Strong Women

F03 – Bridge for Beginners
E15 – Global Cultural Diversity
H39 – The Battle for Australia 1942-43
H41 – The Burma Railway
N15 – Digitising Media & Memories on a Budget
E36 – Peace Studies – Is Peace Possible?
X130 – Concept Mapping for Memorising, Planning & Creative Fun
K01 – Japanese Calligraphy or Brush Writing

Friday

D01 – Share Trading
F04 – Cryptic Crosswords for Beginners

Wynnum District News:

from Chris (Nobby) Hobbs

Do You Want to Learn SPANISH? A number of people have expressed an interest in having a Beginners Spanish class in Wynnum. Provided there are enough people interested, I propose offering a class in Term 1 2019. Classes would be held in the Wynnum Library, and the only time available is Thursday 11:30-1:00. Classes will be free but, of course, attendees will need to be members of U3A. This will be a basic course for total beginners or those with minimal current knowledge of Spanish. Pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar will be taught using a variety of speaking and listening activities. We will try to develop your speaking/pronunciation skills, rather than concentrate on correct grammar. If you are interested, please contact me ASAP on my mobile **0439 094 148** (anytime, evening best), or by email: chris1@choose-your-life.net

Computer Section News:

from Gwenn Ball

The **Microsoft Word** and **Excel** courses will recommence in Term 2 in 2019, with Joan Mackay as the teacher. These interesting courses will be more applicable than ever, so I hope you can join her then. The Computer Lab staff wish all members a Christmas wrapped in joy, filled with love and lots of laughter – and a very Happy 2019 New Year too!

IT Group News:

from Diane Arapovic

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our wonderful presenters and indeed everyone who has

attended the IT Group sessions this year. Our next IT Group Meeting will be in February. It's also time to wish each and every one of you all the very best for a wonderful Christmas and a joyous 2019, and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Social Committee News:

from Libby Eichmann

Helen Dubois has retired from the position of Chairperson for the Social Committee and we are looking for someone to take on this role. If you are interested, please phone the Creek Street office on 3236 3055 and ask that your details be passed on to either Alannah, Angela or Libby so that we can contact you to discuss what's involved and what would be expected of you.

Future Events for 2019:

Bookings Ph: U3A office 32363055

The Book of Mormon: The Book of Mormon is a musical comedy. First staged in 2011, the play makes light of various Mormon beliefs and practices, but ultimately endorses the positive power of love and service. The script, lyrics, and music were written by Trey Parker, Robert Lopez, and Matt Stone.

DATE: 1pm Sunday, 5th May 2019, at QPAC

COST: \$120

CLOSING DATE: 1 February 2019

Margaret Olley Arts Centre: The Margaret Olley Arts Centre (MOAC) celebrates the career, life and legacy of its namesake, Margaret Olley – Australia's most celebrated painter of still life and interiors. The MOAC features an interactive multi-media drawing activity, research library and education workshop, and is complemented by the Nancy Fairfax Artist in Residence Studio. Central to the MOAC is the re-creation of areas of Olley's famous home studio, principally the Hat Factory and the Yellow Room.

DATE: 20th March 2019

COST: \$50 (Includes lunch at Murwillumbah Services Club)

PICK UP: Roma Street station opposite police station at 7.30 am and Macgregor Park and Ride, Kessels Rd. at 8 am.

CLOSING DATE: 13th March 2019

Northside Dinner Group:

from Marilyn Wagland

This photo was taken at the last Northside Dinner Group for 2018 at Bella Cusi Restaurant at Chermside. Thank you to Margaret Gagen for organising this group for the last three years.



2019 U3A China Tour

China's Cradle of Civilisation



Tour Outline: Fly into Nanjing to enjoy an exciting time with Nanjing U3A before taking a fast train to Kaifeng, one of the ancient capitals of China, then onto Anyang to visit the 1000BC tomb and Luoyang to see famous Buddhist caves and Shaolin Temple (above right)

Then visit the site of the cave dwellers in western Henan Province (above left) before returning to Zhengzhou to complete the tour

Dates: 9 October 2016 to 22 October 2019

Price: Land content price is \$3500 twin share, single accommodation \$4100, (includes meals)

The cost of international flights, visa, travel insurance, etc **NOT** included.

In addition: The 2018 U3A Silk Road tour can be repeated if enough people are interested. Please contact me for details.

Register: For a detailed itinerary contact BRYAN ILES, tutor of Experiencing China Brisbane U3A

Email: bryaniles@bigpond.com; Tel: 07 3343 3141 Mobile 0418 986 027

Post: 57 Crewe Street, Mount Gravatt East, Qld 4122