

Editor's Notes: from Jean Smith

A couple of phrases that have caught my attention in recent weeks are *a life less ordinary* and *the new normal*. The former is spoken by a participant in a reality television programme looking to move from the city to the country; the latter seems to have been coined to refer to financial conditions following the GFC and is now used in a variety of other contexts to imply that something which was previously abnormal has become commonplace. I and many U3A members would love to experience *a life less ordinary*, but we are constrained by advancing years, indifferent health, logistics etc. *The new normal* becomes populated with medical appointments, exercise classes for the elderly and resorting to public transport because driving into the city is a bridge too far!

However, all is not lost. This year, I decided to replace my many years of studying Latin with a subject about which I knew very little. What started out as a two-term commitment has morphed into a full year commitment – and there will be more next year. My horizons have been expanded in ways I would never have thought possible, and I am enjoying the experience of making new acquaintances. In fact, I have to say that my forays into the history of southern Africa have become *the new normal* for me. And if I find myself beginning to look for a life less ordinary again, I will only have to look at the U3A Class Schedule to find something which will provide the spark to guide me to a new *new normal*.

President's Message: from Greg Doolan

Hello everyone, I hope the term break is going well and you have found plenty to fill in your time while we are closed for this period. There always seems to be plenty to keep all age groups occupied in the River City and surrounding areas, and for this I think we should feel eternally grateful we live in this great part of the world.

In any organisation from time to time, there may be disagreements, disputes or grievances. It is important that these are managed effectively and with care for all who may be involved. It is equally important that members who may have a grievance can readily identify the person in the organisation to whom the grievance is to be forwarded. With this in mind, the Management Committee has recently appointed Rod McLary as that person and there is a designated email address for members to use when necessary and this is: grievance@u3abrisbane.org.au Please be assured that confidentiality will be maintained, and no immediate action will be taken without prior consultation with aggrieved members. The Management Committee trusts that this process will be used wisely and will assist members in the resolution of any grievances that may arise in the future. Rod is ideally qualified to fill this role as he is a Social Worker [since 1978] and, until his retirement in 2014, was the Director of Professional Standards with the Anglican Church in Queensland.



You will remember in my September message I put out a call for donations of coffee cups for both our city venues and I'm pleased to report that the response has been overwhelming. We now have more than enough cups to fulfil our needs so, please, no more donations at present. To all members who responded to this call and donated cups I would like to extend a big THANK YOU; your generosity is greatly appreciated, and everyone can now enjoy that relaxing cuppa before or after their class.

Are you aware of the [Member Dashboard](#) website feature?. It enables you to quickly see all current and future classes in which you are enrolled, in addition to any special events or social events you have booked. The period for re-enrolling in an existing Term 3 class via the Member Dashboard has now closed, but if you have left Term 4 enrolments to the last minute you can still enrol via [Class Search](#) if vacancies still exist.

To use this feature, click on Member Dashboard, which appears just below the University of the Third Age name and logo on the webpage www.u3abrisbane.org.au, where you will be asked for your member number and name for identification. Forgotten your membership number? No problem, just click on the Forgotten Membership Number link on the entry page. You can request a new membership card at the same time if needed.

I sincerely hope everyone enjoys their class choices for Term 4.

Stay Smart Online Week 7-13th October: from Greg Taylor

U3A Brisbane supports the Government's [Stay Smart Online Week](#) initiative to highlight the impact of cybercrime. Use the highlighted link above to learn more about the most common online and phone scams, what to do if you fall victim to a scam, and how to protect yourself against identity theft with measures to safeguard your privacy. Be particularly aware of the dangers of posting personal information on social media.

Special Event: *Ordinary People, Extraordinary Acts* from Marilyn Wagland

Peter Baruch: *Ordinary People, Extraordinary Acts*. Thursday October 31 at 2.00 pm, Room 16, 232 Adelaide Street.

Peter Baruch is alive today because of the courage of Chiune Sugihara, the Japanese Vice Consul in Lithuania during the Second World War. Peter is a volunteer for the B'nai B'rith initiative **Courage to Care**, which celebrates people who chose to stand up and confront discrimination and injustice – ordinary people who were extraordinary in their bravery and impact. The program focusses on the legacy of some of the heroes of the Holocaust during the rise to power of the Nazi Party in Germany and during WW11. Some of these names may be familiar to you - the Bosnian Moslem Dervis Kurkut, the Englishman Sir Nicolas Winton, the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, - but perhaps not Chiune Sugihara.

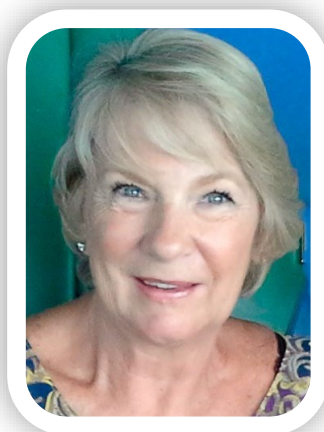
Chiune Sugihara, risking his job and the lives of his family, helped some six thousand Jews flee Europe by issuing transit visas to them so that they could travel through Japanese territory. History will come alive as this Holocaust survivor tells us about the bravery of the people who played a role in their rescue and survival. There will be an opportunity to reflect on what the courage of heroes such as Chiune Sugihara can teach us today about standing up to discrimination and injustice - not to be bystanders, but to make a difference whenever possible.

I do hope you can come along and hear this remarkable story and experience the Courage to Care Program.

Bookings are essential and may be made either [via the website](#) or by phoning the U3A office 3236 3055.



City News:
from Gail Hawkins
tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au



Another term started and again our classes have been heavily booked, with many classes filling quickly. For those members who were unable to get into their chosen class, it's always a good idea to ask the tutor if they have a waitlist, so that if there are cancellations you could be contacted. The good news is, not all our classes are full and there are still numerous classes that are open to new enrolments. Check the Schedule online or contact the tutor directly to enquire on availability.

Wednesday K22 - Creative Writing class has vacancies and the tutor has put the following literary question to members: Is that Australian novel lurking in your subconscious? Do you lay awake at night with thoughts racing through your mind? This course could answer these questions. We cover the basics, plot, character

development and many more. Notes are sent the week prior and discussed in class and yes, there is writing involved. There are no wrong ways to write (some are just better than others). No previous experience is required and new members will be welcomed. You can enrol online or by contacting the tutor

Some of the other courses that you may be interested in are:

Monday

J190 & J202 – Portuguese Elementary is a beginner's course; **Portuguese Intermediate** requires previous knowledge of Portuguese.

H20 – The Making of Modern Europe 1400-2011, From age of Exploration until the present day.

K04 – The Writing Group. This is a small, friendly group convened by a former journalist who likes to encourage and support creative writing.

Tuesday

K24 – How to Read and Write a Biography. The tutor has published a number of books, including *The Scholar Explorer* which is referenced in the class.

M02 – Concertos and Symphonies. Relax and enjoy music from the great composers, including Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven.

Thursday

T14 – Home Renovations. The tutor of this class is a retired architect. Here's an opportunity to learn the do's and don'ts of renovating from a professional.

J28 – French Intermediate. Improve your vocabulary and increase your confidence while having fun learning.

City Precinct News: from Robyn Bunting

If you are someone who would like to be able to solve cryptic crosswords but don't know where to start, then this new City Precinct class may be just what you are looking for.

Cryptic Crosswords F08. Monday 11.30am to 1.00pm, Brisbane Square Library, 266 George St, Brisbane.

Tutor: Gaye McDonald .

Classes start Monday October 14th.

Everyone is welcome but you need to first enrol online and wait for the tutor to respond.

Office News: from Yvonne McGann

Lost Property. Most of us are familiar with not being able to remember where we put down that pair of glasses. If you are still hunting for them – and for other articles – it may be worth your while checking in the U3A Lost Property at Creek St and Adelaide Street. Good luck!

Emergency Procedures—232 Adelaide St

All members attending classes at Adelaide St are asked to familiarise themselves with the Emergency Evacuation Procedures. You can find the Evacuation Plan posted on the wall at 3 locations on the floor, namely outside room 18, outside room 16, and near the front door. Class members should also be aware of the warning signals and the need to strictly follow instructions from our volunteer Fire Wardens. The procedure document can be found on the Location page on the website, or via this direct link:

[Emergency Evacuation Procedures](#)

IT Group News: from Diane Arapovic

October meeting: *Evolving Technologies.*

Evolving Technologies traces four main media technologies: radio, music, films and television from their beginnings in radiograms, gramophones, movie theatres and black and white TV to today's streaming technologies. A timeline of each is presented, along with a glimpse of today's streaming incarnation (Netflix, Spotify, Freeview) accessible at home via a website, computer, or on-the-go via a smart phone app.



A fifth evolution is the way computer interaction has evolved from punched cards to voice assistants. The latter area is explored in depth, with many examples of the way we seniors can compensate for failing eyesight, memory or shaky hands through the use of assistants like Siri, Google Assistant and Bixby. Not only are these assistants a boon for older users, but in many ways they are demonstrably faster and arguably more efficient to use.

Presenter: Robert Crago, Brisbane Seniors Online

Date: Saturday 12 October, 10am – 12 noon

Venue: U3A Brisbane, 5th floor, 232 Adelaide St.

Entry on Saturdays to the Adelaide Street classrooms is via 140 Creek Street (half way between Adelaide and Ann Street). Once inside, cross the atrium to the ramp into the U3A building and take the lift from the first floor to level 5. Someone will wait at the 140 Creek St entrance from 9.30am until shortly after 10am. If you are late and there is no one at the entrance, please call the office phone 3172 3283 and someone will come to your assistance. Please try to arrive by 10am so that someone doesn't have to come from the 5th floor to let you in.

To register, go to the [IT Group page](#) on the U3A Brisbane website and click on the *Next Meeting* button.

Social Committee News: from Libby Eichmann

Bookings for events please phone – U3A Creek St office 3236 3055

Cut off for refund is one week before the event unless a replacement member is available from the wait list.

Muriel's Wedding

Date: Wednesday, 9th October, 2019, 1pm at QPAC Lyric Theatre

Bookings close: 2nd August 2019

Cost: \$90, no concession available

Duration: 2 hours and 44 minutes (includes interval, subject to change without notice)

One of the most loved and hilarious Aussie films comes to life on stage in Muriel's Wedding the Musical. New song by Kate Miller-Heidke and Keir Nuttall, plus all your favourite ABBA hits.

Mary Valley Rattler

Date: Wednesday 30th October 2019

Bookings close: 23rd October 2019

Cost: \$88

Bus departs: 7.30 am at Kessels Rd, Stop 59 on Garden City side and 8.00 am at Roma Street, outside transit centre, opposite police headquarters. Return at 5.30 pm at Roma Street and 6.00pm at Kessels Rd.

Experience Queensland's scenic Mary Valley on the historic Rattler diesel steam locomotive. Marvel at the restored Gympie Station and enjoy delicious dishes at Platform No. 1 Cafe. Admire the region's gorgeous landscape of valleys and waterways, including the Yabba, Kandanga and Amamoor Creeks, and watch for a variety of birds in a lush forest reserve.

Chicago

Date: Wednesday 6th November 2019, 1pm at Lyric Theatre, QPAC

Bookings close: 28th August 2019

Cost: \$90; Concession cost: \$70

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes (includes interval, subject to change without notice)

A true New York City Institution, Chicago has everything that makes Broadway great: a universal tale of fame,

fortune and all that jazz.

Brisbane City Cruise and Lunch

Date: Monday 25th November 2019, at 10.15 am Jetty A (in front of Wheel of Brisbane, Southbank.)

Cost: \$55

Bookings close: 18th November 2019

Complementary morning tea, guided tour and complementary drink on return included. Lunch is at Breakfast Creek Hotel which involves a walk of approximately 8 minutes from the landing site. A menu and pre-order form will be given to members for lunch order.

Spirit of Christmas Concert 2019

Spirit of Christmas features a stunning line up with a full orchestra, choirs, and two of Australia's leading musical theatre performers. This concert is an occasion to enjoy uplifting songs, be inspired by Christmas' enduring message of love and peace, and sing-a-long to much-loved Christmas carols. Join in the celebration of the '***Spirit of Christmas***' and the festive season with QPAC's traditional yuletide concert in the grandeur of **the** Concert Hall.

Date: Saturday 21st Dec 2019, 2:00pm, QPAC – Concert Hall

Duration: 2 hours (includes interval, subject to change without notice)

Cost: Concession: \$49.00 Full: \$59.00 (Maximum of 4 seats per member)

Bookings Close: 13th Nov 2019

Shrek The Musical

This event is being held on Mother's Day, and would be a great way to spend that special day with your grandchildren &/or children.

Date: Sunday 10th May 2020, 1:00pm, QPAC – Lyric Theatre

Duration: 2 hrs, 30 mins (includes interval, subject to change without notice)

Cost: \$90.00 Maximum of 4 seats per member.

Bookings Close: 1st May, 2020

Shrek The Musical, based on the Oscar winning DreamWorks film, brings the hilarious story of everyone's favourite ogre to life on the stage. Join Shrek, our unlikely hero, and his loyal steed Donkey as they set off on a quest to rescue the beautiful Princess Fiona from her tower, guarded by a fire breathing love-sick dragon. Add the vertically challenged Lord Farquaad, a gang of fairytale misfits, and a biscuit with attitude and you've got an irresistible mix of adventure, laughter and romance, guaranteed to delight audiences of all ages!