

Editor's Notes from Jean Smith





Decisions, decisions! I'm not as decisive as I used to be. Once upon a time I would decide on a plan of action and stick to it. Now I find myself wondering 'Should I or shouldn't I'. Sometimes it's a trifling matter – will I have a boiled egg or a poached egg for breakfast, or that slightly more important matter, what am I going to wear. U3A members will understand my dilemmas. I am sure my indecisiveness has been exacerbated by COVID and its impact on our day-to-day lives. As I write this, we are still in lockdown. The outlook for the immediate future is looking uncertain, and a long-planned trip to Melbourne next month is looking more and more unlikely. None of this is good for my mental well-being. However, U3A is coming to my rescue. Barring an absolute catastrophe – such as, heaven forbid, the total collapse of the internet – Term 3 Zoom classes will begin again on July 12. How lovely to have that

President's Message from Des Taylor

Hello all.

Change in Term Dates

Just when we thought restrictions were easing we find them back in place.

certainty, and let's hope Face-to-Face isn't far behind.



<u>Qld. Government restrictions</u> in place until the16th July require our occupant density to be limited for the next two weeks.

This means that U3A Brisbane cannot open Face to Face classes until the 19th July.

(This is dependent on a change from 1 person per 4 sq m back to 1 person per 2 sq m at that time and this would continue for Term 3)

We must therefore change the Term dates for Face to Face classes only . Start 19^{th} July -24^{th} September (This is still a 10 week term)

Zoom classes can proceed as per the current term timetable from 12th July to 17th September.

You should carry a mask with you at all times and follow current health advice in regard to wearing it. We encourage all members to get vaccinated if you have not yet done so.

Check in Qld app

The *Check in Qld* app is now compulsory at U3A and most public venues. Please make sure you have installed it on your Mobile Phone.

- Sign in with the *Check in Qld* app as you enter any U3A venue. At City Campus (Creek St. and Adelaide St.) a staff volunteer will check that you have done this before entry.
- If you are at City Campus and don't have a Smart Phone then you must report immediately to the office desk and give them your U3A number and surname. They will enter your details into the Business version of the *Check in Qld App* for you. (Name, Phone number, Email or Home Address).

Remember: You will still need to sign in with the U3A QR Code in class to register your attendance.

Fire Evacuation from Adelaide St

We recently had our first Emergency Evacuation this year from Adelaide St. Fortunately, this was a false alarm but we have updated our evacuation procedures to ensure that we have addressed some issues that became evident. We would ask all members to read the Emergency evacuation procedure carefully. It will be explained in the first week of Term 3 and you will have the opportunity to ask questions.

It is quite rare to actually have to participate in an Emergency Evacuation or a 'Fire Drill' as we sometimes think of it. However, it is very important that these are taken seriously. All class members must stay with their tutor until they reach Anzac Square and we have checked that all have safely left the building. If we find someone missing, then their names are given to the Fire Department. In a real emergency this could result in one of the fire crew rushing back into a dangerous situation and perhaps being hurt. This would be a terrible result if the member concerned had simply wandered off to a coffee shop.

Any member who has any sort of disability or mobility problem and cannot manage the stairs should remain on Level 5 with one of our Fire Wardens who will contact the Fire Brigade on our Emergency phone to alert them of the situation.

Classes

Remember to check your Member Dashboard to ensure that you are enrolled in the correct classes

before you pay your class fees. Check the day and time. It is also really important that you do not arrive any earlier than 15 minutes before the official class starting time to allow the departure of previous classes and to avoid congestion.

I wish you all the best for Term 3. Enjoy your classes.

Stay safe.

Special Online Presentations in July from Marilyn Wagland

Tuesday 20 July, 11.30 - 12.30 pm. Kobe Steele. Orangutan Foundation International Australia



Kobe Steele, Founder and President of Orangutan Foundation International Australia, is a one-woman powerhouse of passion and purpose, an articulate campaigner and orangutan advocate who tirelessly fundraises to protect what is left of the ancient rainforests of Borneo. She has made it her mission to ensure a home for orangutans and other endangered species, helping to raise over \$2 million to buy up and save critical orangutan habitat from the onslaught of the palm oil industry.

Kobe will speak about the work of the Foundation and the devastation caused by the palm oil industry in Borneo. The situation facing the rainforests in Borneo is dire. They are the oldest in the world and considered, along with the rainforests of the Amazon, the lungs of the Earth. More than 80% have already been wiped out through deforestation.

https://orangutanfoundation.org.au/our-staff/kobe-steele/

Wednesday 21 July , 2.00 - 3.30pm. Associate Professor Mark Blaskovich. SUPERBUGS vs SUPERDRUGS

Mark is an 'antibiotic hunter', based at the University of Queensland, where he is Director of the Centre for Superbug Solutions. A medicinal chemist who worked for 15 years in three biotech companies prior to his academic career, he has been developing new antibiotics to treat drug -resistant pathogens and using modified antibiotics to detect bacterial infections.

Antibiotics save millions of lives every year and underpin the modern medical system. However, their viability is being threatened by the rise of 'superbugs', bacteria that are able to survive treatment with antibiotics. This talk will give an overview of the dangers posed by drug- resistant infections and some different ways solutions are being sought. These include searching for new antibiotics, developing antibiotic alternatives and improving our ability to detect infections.

Book Here to register your interest in participating in the above sessions. A link will be sent to you just prior to the start. Click on that link.

City Campus News from Gail Hawkins

In these trying and uncertain times I am pleased to advise that we have four new tutors offering classes in Term 3. I would ask that members look at all new classes and support the tutors, because if they do not receive adequate enrolments the classes will be cancelled. and we lose a valuable tutor.



Our New Tutors' classes are:

Tuesday - Y06 Philosophy - Thinking About the Future.

William Grey, the tutor, studied Philosophy at ANU & Cambridge and taught at the University of Queensland. Definitely a thought-provoking and interesting class.

Thursday - X17 Women and the Law

Tutor Susan Currie has worked as a lawyer, tribunal member, academic and teacher. She is the author of a number of published books on Law. The course will examine women's equality and the law. This is not just a woman's issue - the focus will be discussing how the system can be improved and how we can assist.

Thursday - A21 Exploring Art through Colour and Meditation

Tutor Kim MacKenzie has been a pastel artist for over 30 years. Her artworks have been published on American and Australasian book, magazine and CD/DVD covers. A new creative visualization course that explores the properties of colour through meditation and art.

Friday – E19 Contemporary Economic Issues Facing Australia

Tutor John Mangan is Professor Emeritus, University of Queensland, Faculty of Business, Economics and Law.

Since the Global Financial Crisis of 2008, the world economy has changed significantly. We set out to explain why the changes have taken place and what are the likely future developments that will flow from them.

Other new classes on offer for Term 3 are:

Monday

- **J79 Spanish for Absolute Beginners Zoom**. This is a 2-term class, so join now to complete the course.
- **F11 Cryptic Crosswords for Beginners** Learn how to solve cryptic crosswords.
- **X11 Criminology** The course will examine basic criminology theory, focusing on the extent and causes of crime.

Thursday

- **A20 Budding Artist Group** A friendly group that works with watercolours. Everyone welcome.
- **J83 Spanish for Absolute Beginners** A dynamic and very practical course for the ABSOLUTE beginner.
- **N02 Storytelling, Alfred Hitchcock Presents** Series of short stories from comedy, mystery and suspense.
- KO3 Memoir Writing Do you wish to leave a legacy for family by writing a memoir? Then this

course is for you.

Friday

- **H25 African History 5, Comparative Perspectives Zoom**. Course will suit those that have completed previous African history classes.
- **T01 Dante's Paradise** On the 700th anniversary of Dante's death, this is an invitation to return to Paradise.

Special Screening of Award-winning Science Films from Marty Gellender

Each year, the Royal Institution of Australia convenes an international competition to select the best science films produced that year. The award-winning Scinema films are then made available for organisations like U3A to screen.

Some of this year's award-winning films will be shown at two special screening sessions, to be held on successive Thursdays during August at 232 Adelaide Street (Room 18).

The two sessions will be held as follows:

12th August (Thursday), 1.30 pm Book Here

Seven Worlds, One Planet - South America, Best Documentary Film, 59 minutes

"From the bone-dry deserts of the Atacama, where penguins weave their way through a minefield of snapping sea lions, to the lush cloud forests of the Andes, South America is full of the unusual and ingenious."

On/Off, Best Experimental and Animation film, 7 minutes

"Explores the endless distractions that threaten to destroy creativity."

19th August (Thursday), 1.30 pm Book Here

Phenomena, Winner Special Jury Award, 45 minutes

"This series is an audio-visual experience that uses science and art to create mesmerising photographic visualisations of natural phenomena."

The Slime Minder, Best Short Film, 15 minutes

"For biologist Audrey Dussutour, researching primitive slime moulds has led to surprising discoveries about the evolution of learning and collective behaviour that she's been pondering her whole life."

The nature of music, Winner Scinema Junior, 9 minutes

"Revealing the mysterious and mathematical roots of music, from Neanderthals to whales and Pythagoras to modern astronomers".

U3A members are invited to attend one or both film screenings by registering as above. The normal fee of \$5 per session applies.

Remembering Ventris Williscroft from Susan Treloar, U3A Latin Tutor

Sadly, I've just been informed of the passing last week of one of my stalwart and very conscientious Latin students, Ventris Williscroft. I think Ventris' only missed classes were at the end of this term. She loved Latin and fully engaged with its joys and challenges. Her diligence was impressive, not only in working ahead in the texts, but prior to the pandemic, travelling to and from Bribie Island for class each week. Ventris was a generous and kind person and I believe had led an adventurous life. This being her 5th year in our class, we had become very fond of her. Her loss is deeply felt.

U3A Network Qld State Conference 2021 from Gretchen Bernet-Ward

An advocate of lifelong learning, I am surprised it took me so long to join U3A. I signed up for Art History online and Creative Writing in Adelaide Street, simultaneously entering the 'Nature' photography competition and booking a place at the U3A Stanthorpe Conference. On arrival, QR scanned and 'handsand', I collected my name tag and goodies bag. With smiles all round, attendees also received a specially handcrafted mosaic tile. May in Stanthorpe didn't feel cold, the autumn colours providing a lovely backdrop to meeting like-minded people, listening to guest speakers, engaging in robust copyright discussions and tapping along to live ukulele tunes while observing Covid-19 social distancing – sort of. Lunch was served in individual takeaway portions and large baskets held delicious local fruit. U3A Toowoomba President Rhonda Weston gave an 'Information and Report' from AIUTA and it was an excellent induction for new members. Day Two started with a crisp morning visit to the Regional Art Gallery. The Stanthorpe Conference offered me an enjoyable way to compare notes and absorb the U3A ethos. Indeed the 'Coolest' conference.

Wynnum News from Chris Hobbs

Wynnum Library has now approved up to 35 people in their meeting rooms. Tutors who may want to, can expand their classes. The Penmanship class is planning to do just that gradually over the next few months.

Wynnum Croquet Club is looking to expand so is offering a new Beginners class starting 15 July. See our website for details. Tuition and equipment are provided; the cost is \$10 per class.

Remembering Veronica Burns

Veronica was born in Mareeba, North Queensland on 8thSeptember 1938, the second of seven children of Arthur and Beda Burns. The family moved to Cairns in 1951 where Veronica completed her secondary education. Veronica's first trip overseas was to attend the Rome Olympics in 1960 and then to travel around Europe before establishing herself first in London and then in Paris.

Veronica returned to Australia in 1962 where she worked with Parkes Developments in Sydney for a few years before joining the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Postings in Paris, Ireland, Brazil, Venezuela, Mexico, Egypt, were followed by several years on the audit team. After "retiring" from the Department, Veronica then secured a locally-engaged position at the Australian Embassy in Paris from

which she again retired in 2004 and returned to Australia to settle on Chevron Island. Veronica sustained strong interests in music, languages, art, and philosophy. Though she lived many years abroad, Veronica maintained strong connections with family and friends. She is mourned by two sisters and two brothers, nieces, nephews, grand nieces and grand nephews, former colleagues and friends.

U3A Social Events from Angela Butler

For bookings, please contact the U3A office on 3236 3055, or visit the 97 Creek St office. If you have any suggestions for trips that may be of interest, you can contact the Social Committee via email: social@u3abrisbane.org.au.

You can also keep up to date with the latest 'SOCIAL EVENTS' on the U3A Website.

Booked-out events are advertised as a reminder of dates and times. Also, members can be added to a Wait list, so that if a vacancy arises, that place can then be offered to another member (however, this does not apply to QPAC events).

Please note the following for events held at QPAC:

These events are **NOT** supervised by the U3A Social Committee.

In line with Queensland Health advice, QPAC theatres are operating at 100% capacity. This means there may be patrons occupying the seats directly beside, behind or in front of you during a performance. Masks are not required, however patrons may choose to wear them when they feel social distancing cannot be achieved.



For contact tracing purposes, QPAC uses the 'Check In Qld' app and encourages all patrons to download the app and fill out their details prior to attending performances at QPAC.

Check In Qld

Limit of two people per lift (unless you are part of the same group)

Foyer seating arranged to ensure 1.5m distancing, decreased capacities in foyers, allowing 1.5m distancing.

One-way traffic routing, with separate entry and exit points, in foyers and venues Physical distancing markers at queuing areas such as Food and Beverage outlets and Box Office.

If you are not comfortable with the above, QPAC events are not for you.

BOY SWALLOWS UNIVERSE

Date: 2:00pm Saturday 11th September 2021, QPAC - PLAYHOUSE THEATRE

This event is fully booked. If you have purchased tickets, you will be emailed shortly to advise you that your tickets will be available for collection from the U3A Admin Office.

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2021

QPAC's longest running event *Spirit of Christmas* returns for its 37th year in the QPAC Concert Hall. Two of Australia's leading musical theatre stars will join a host of special guests in uplifting seasonal song, beautifully supported by a 54-piece symphony orchestra, and the glorious voices of the **QPAC Chamber Choir.**

A First Nations blessing and song will be delivered, with two of the Queensland Conservatorium of Music's musical theatre graduates also taking to the stage.

QPAC's *Spirit of Christmas* is a celebration of the true meaning of the festive season; an occasion to celebrate and reflect on the year that has passed and embrace the season's enduring message of Peace, Love and Joy.

Date: Saturday 18th Dec 2021, 2:00pm, QPAC – Concert Hall

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

Cost: Concession: \$52.00 **Full:** \$62.00

Bookings: 20 seats (Maximum of 4 seats per member)

Bookings Close: 13th Oct 2021



This year's categories are: CREATIVE WRITING and PHOTOGRAPHY

Theme for both is - "Still Learning"
Winners announced 3rd December by Zoom event
Invitations sent to all entrants

Prizes for each competition

1st prize: \$300.00 2nd prize: \$150 3rd prize: \$50

Competition details

Opens:1st October 2021 Closes: 31st October 2021 Entry fee: \$10.00

Conditions and entry forms: www.u3aqld.org.au under Events

Email: quac2021@gmail.com





Celebrating U3A Queensland Art Classes

To recognise the talent expressed in the art classes offered by U3As across Queensland the Network is launching an annual ARTS competition to showcase the skills demonstrated in the following categories.



- Prize money
- Challenging themes
- Low entry fee limit of two entries per member
- Each year there will be two categories selected from the Arts group with a different theme
- Most entries will be via email
- Judging will be by a panel of three
- Winners will have their work posted on the Network website
- Local marketing and promotional opportunities
- Advertising could bring more members to your association
- Support for tutors by way of shared skills

For more information go to the Network website www.u3aqld.org.au

Phone: 0431 579 870

Email: quac2021@gmail.com