

Editor's Notes from Jean Smith





No, that is not my garden – would that it were! Toowoomba gardeners are far more expert than I. It was such a pleasant day out – an impromptu decision. I didn't have to drive, morning tea and lunch were provided and the cold winds of later in the week had yet to arrive. I enjoy the trip to Toowoomba, and the feeling as you cross the Marburg Range of the rest of Australia stretching out west before you.

Now I'm back to what passes for 'normal' these days. Like everyone else, I am holding my breath that the Covid restrictions don't get any worse. Face-to-face tutors will be hoping their classes aren't cancelled yet again. Can't plan too far ahead. Just as well I had my little taste of freedom!

President's Message from Des Taylor

Hello all.

Term 4 delayed

Unfortunately we need to delay the start of Term 4 face-to-face classes until Monday 18th October. The Qld Government has announced a return to Stage 2 restrictions for both Brisbane and Logan, including a limit of one person per 4sq.m. indoors. Zoom classes of course can resume as normal next week, as can any outdoor classes or district classes that are able to operate within the



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restrictions. Face masks must still be worn indoors, and in outdoor situations where social distancing cannot be maintained. We will notify you when there is a change in restrictions.

We have a total of 224 active classes across the city and districts. If you haven't enrolled yet now is the time to enrol in one of these classes - expand your mind, gain new ideas and perspectives, meet new people and escape mentally into a new world.

Discussion Forum

Some classes are now testing our new Forum which allow members who are logged in to discuss current class topics online. See more information later in this eNews. There is now also a Noticeboard attached to your Member Dashboard. Important notices will show here and be easier for you to find.

I would like to thank all of our tutors and volunteers who give so generously of their time and expertise and have persevered through lockdowns and restrictions and have demonstrated their resilience at a difficult time. We will come through this together with their help.

Class Fees

In Term 4 we will ask for a recommended \$50 fee for the normal 10 week term for City Campus face-to-face classes rather than a set fee and a recommended \$25 fee for Zoom classes. This means that each member can alter the amount if they want to and pay what they consider fair. These fees are still payable in advance.

We hope you will be generous with us when you make your decision. We rely on your fees to survive.

You can now also renew your membership for 2022. It is still \$40 per year. Please renew now. We need some certainty as we plan for 2022 and hopefully we will see even fewer restrictions going forward.

U3A Strategic Plan

We have been working on a new 3 year Strategic Plan to take us through to 2024. I wish to thank all those who have contributed so far. The new Strategic Plan is <u>now available on our website</u>. Any feedback is welcome.

As you return for Term 4 remember to wear your mask and bring your own water if coming to the city campus.

Make sure you use the Check In Qld app as well as our own QR attendance app for all U3A Brisbane face-to-face classes in both the city and the districts. This is essential so you can be contacted if there is a COVID risk.

Enjoy your classes. Stay safe.	
Regards,	
Des.	

Special Online Presentations in October from Marilyn Wagland

Thank you to our September speakers. In October, we are able to offer two more sessions for you.

Tuesday 19 October 11.00am. Outdoors Queensland. Great Getaway Programs for Over 50s

Outdoors Queensland is a not-for-profit organisation which has received government funding to conduct Great Getaways camps and activities for the over 50s. If you enjoy this lifestyle, you will be interested in this presentation by Mark Squires, Dom Courtney and Angela Wright. Find out what is on offer!



Monday 25 October 11.00am. Stuart Watt. What is the Future of News?

Digital disruption is driving huge changes in how we access media. The rise of the internet as a distribution channel for media has destroyed the old paradigms and business models. News has not been immune. Now you can access news from the best and the most dubious of sources in the world, wherever you are. So, what does the future of news hold?

Stuart Watt has been a journalist for over 30 years. He started his career in the UK and on returning to Australia in the mid-1990s, gained a job in the ABC's radio newsroom. He was part of the team that started ABC News Digital in 1997 and went on to become its managing editor for almost a decade. He is currently Head of Output and Distribution for ABC News.

This is the presentation that Stuart had to cancel in June due to a sudden family emergency overseas.

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

City Campus News from Gail Hawkins

Where has this past year gone, it is hard to believe that we are about to start Term 4 classes. Thanks to the Management Committee who are on top of all Government rules and regulations and keep us up to date by posts on the U3A homepage.

I'm pleased to advise that we continue to add new Zoom and face-to-face classes to our Schedule, giving members a broad range of subjects to choose from. It's important that we continue to attract new tutors. Each term we have



tutors who retire, some permanently, others just to have a break, so without new tutors our selection of classes and the service we offer to our members would diminish. If you know of anyone that might be even slightly interested in tutoring (in any subject), or perhaps someone that has recently retired who now has the time to put that mountain of knowledge to a new cause, then please ask them to contact me so that we can discuss what is involved and, hopefully, with encouragement they will want to join our enthusiastic, very much appreciated group of tutors.

Members are quick off the mark as soon as the new Class Schedule goes online, enrolments roll in, with many classes filling quickly. If your first choice of class is not available, then try for an alternative – there are always classes that are open to new members. Some tutors will accept members on a waitlist, so that when classes start, if they receive "no shows", you can be contacted.

Listed below are some of the classes that may still be available. Please remember you need to contact the tutor to confirm enrolment – you cannot just turn up on the day and expect to be accepted in class.

Monday

- **E19 Contemporary Economic Issues facing Australia** Tutor is Professor Emeritus University of Queensland, Faculty of Business, Economics and Law who has been involved in post-Covid recovery for the Queensland Government and some sports clubs.
- **K24 Biography, How to Read and Write a Biography** Tutor has successfully written and had work published in various genres, including biographies.
- **J35 Russian, Advanced** For those with a grounding in Russian grammar, featuring pronunciation, conversation, reading and translation.

Tuesday

- **A71 Drama, Recycling Drama** Joining the Drama Group is a fun way to learn something new, keep your brain active, gain confidence, exercise communication skills and explore your creativity.
- **L09 Tips on Writing Short Fiction Stories and Poems** Tutor has self-published a poetry book and belonged to a monthly writers group for many years.
- **J39 Continuation of Italian for Beginners** Tutor has lived in Italy and completed a B.A. at Griffith University with an Italian Major.

Thursday

- **X17 Women and the Law** Tutor BA/LLB, MA/MLaws, PhD, has worked as a lawyer, tribunal member, academic, teacher and co-author of a textbook on legal studies for Queensland schools.
- **J57 English for Speakers of Other Languages** Tutor is author of 5 books written in English, her knowledge of studying a new language is immense.
- **M04 How Music Works** Tutor has been awarded an OAM for service to music through brass and concert bands. Lecturing in 'music' and 'music-teacher education' (QUT).

Friday

- **J83 Spanish for Absolute Beginners** A dynamic and very practical course for the ABSOLUTE beginner, covering an interesting introduction to the language and its relationship with English.
- **H16 Australia, You're Standing in It** Tutor has taught Australian History, Popular Culture, World History, Sex and Gender, European Fascism, Colonialism and Imperialism, and the European Union at Australian universities.

Southside News from Pat Collins

The following classes in the Southside District have limited vacancies in Term 4. Enrolments are welcome. Please refer to U3A website for details. All classes are face-to-face.

Tuesday

B04 – Aquarobics. 1 – 2:15 pm **J20 – French Elementary.** 3 – 4:15 pm

Wednesday

J74 - Italian Communication - Intermediate. 10 - 11:15 am

J36 – Italian Communication. 12 – 1:30 pm

R02 – A Panorama of World Views. 12:30 – 1:45 pm

J186 - French Elementary Advanced. 3:00 - 4:15 pm

B19 – Aquarobics. 1 – 2:15 pm

Thursday

A49 – Card Making. 1 – 1:15 pm **B07 – Aquarobics**. 1 – 2:15 pm

New U3A Discussion Forum from Greg Taylor

We have launched an exciting new feature on our website, namely a <u>Discussion Forum</u>, accessible only to U3A Brisbane members. It provides a new way for tutors and class members to interact with each other, with comprehensive facilities to publish images, documents and videos, or run polls. Members wishing to participate will need to register a login password using <u>Website Registration</u>. Please discuss with your tutors to determine if the forum is of interest. For more information about the forum, see <u>Discussion Forum</u> and follow the links to explanatory pages. You can visit the forum by logging in to the website, where you will see a link in the *Members* menu on the right. Thanks to French tutors Ania Beyer and Debra McPhee for making the suggestion to implement a forum. If tutors wish to have a forum category for their class, or have any questions, please email forum@u3abrisbane.org.au

Pencillers in the Park from Janet Mogridge

Imagine sitting in the idyllic setting of New Farm Park, listening to the birds singing and the children laughing in the playground, while savouring the fragrance of the roses, abundant in their splendour, at this time of year. All this while doing something that you love – drawing.

This is the setting for our fortnightly Portraiture Class with our tutor, Carol Owens.

Each session begins with a friendly show and tell where the group shares what they have been working on during the week. Our members come from different backgrounds and are always supportive, complimentary, and encouraging when viewing each other's

achievements. It is then time for our volunteer models to try creative, one, three or five-minute poses, for us to draw.

Once the excitement of catching up with our newfound friends is over, it is time to settle into a peaceful session of drawing. Each week, the focus is on a different aspect of skill development. This term we have covered topics like hands, faces, eyes, and hair using different techniques such as blending, cross-hatching



and stippling.

Passers-by often drop in to see what the group is doing. One set of visitors were local New Farm identities, Barry, his wife, Gayle, and their beautiful dog. Barry was the perfect subject to attempt using the technique of Pointillism, a series of small dots in fine ink pen. Here is Barry's portrait featured above. Thank you, Carol and all our guest tutors, for giving us the opportunity to continue our journey in life-long learning in the most enjoyable way.

Remembering Nora Castillo from Patricia Rivera and Mary Calder

U3A students of Spanish will be saddened by the news that Nora Castillo, a long-standing U3A tutor, passed away at the end of August.

Nora was born in Lima, Peru and completed a BA and BEd degree at the Universidad Mayor de San Marcos. Following further study at the University of London Institute of Education, she returned to Lima where she married, had two children and started a Law degree. Nora worked for the Australian Embassy in Lima for many years, and when it was closed in 1986, she and her family moved to Brisbane. She then embarked on a Graduate Diploma in Education at Griffith University and subsequently took up a position teaching school-age children English as a second language. There she worked with the community to establish an organisation to help ESL children with homework by engaging university students. She also created a program to help refugee children overcome their traumatic experiences through the use of art and drawing.

In her spare time Nora taught Spanish lessons at home and when she finally retired, she joined U3A where she taught ESL and Spanish to adults until 2018.

Nora was generous in spirit and deed, and her cheerful and kind presence will be sorely missed at U3A.

Queensland Seniors Month from Mary Denver

This year, October marks Queensland's first Seniors Month. As its website states, 'Supporting a monthlong program of events is part of the Queensland Government's commitment to build an age-friendly community, where older people are valued, respected and actively engaged in their community.'

Throughout the month the events and activities will connect Queenslanders and bring seniors together in their community. Click on this link for more information qldseniorsmonth.org.au

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:

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2021

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

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

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 (expected to be mid-October).

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. Wearing of masks will be as required by Queensland Health Covid guidelines current on the day of the performance.

Check In Old

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.

U3A Queensland Arts Competitions (QUAC) from Greg Doolan

Sharpen your pencils and polish your camera lenses - the U3A Network Queensland Art Competition is now open. For further details and entry forms, go to: www.u3aqld.org.au/quac or phone 0431 579 870.

U3A QUEENSLAND ARTS COMPETITIONS (QUAC) Opens: 1st October Closes: 31st October

