

Editor's Notes

Jane Elliott



I walked the length of the Queen Street Mall recently, noting the former locations of both the Wintergarden and Her Majesty's theatres. Within a few days, the death of Barry Humphries prompted both a specific memory and more general reflection. As an adolescent, I sat in Her Majesty's, squirming with equal parts fear and fascination as Dame Edna dealt scathingly with a late entry to the auditorium, and then Sir Les Patterson slurred and spat his way through a monologue I only vaguely understood was embarrassingly offensive. While I now find it easy to respond to Dame Edna with affection, I am unsure how I feel about Sir Les. Nonetheless, I feel privileged to have witnessed a performance by someone the *New York Times* lauded as "a master improviser" and "one of the world's foremost theatrical clowns". I'm just glad I wasn't near the front row.

President's Report

Gabrielle Power West

Welcome to Term 2, 2023. All members enrolled for either a face-to-face class or a Zoom class began classes 17 April 2023. I trust your Term 2 class has begun well.

I note that those enrolled in Monday or Tuesday classes have missed a session due to public holidays. Anzac Day was a special opportunity to remember and acknowledge the commitment and sacrifices of the many volunteers and recruits who served in the major conflicts beginning with WWI and including WWII, Korea and Vietnam, and other conflicts in which Australian troops were involved. It is always reassuring to see many younger people, including school children, in attendance at the various commemorations across Australia.



April was a significant month for U3A with the AGM being held April 12 via Zoom. At that meeting there was a change in the composition of the Management Committee, as is standard practice for most committees. Our very competent and hard-working President, Deslyn Taylor, had completed three years as President which, under the Constitution, is the maximum length of time a President can remain in that role. I am sure all members will agree when I acknowledge and thank Des for the outstanding work she has done in guiding U3A through the very difficult three years of Covid and the other challenges that had to be managed during her term. Thank you sincerely Des for your guidance and leadership during Covid.

Other members of the outgoing Management Committee who did not seek re-election were Martin Bridgstock and Nick Bricknell. Thank you to both Martin and Nick for the contributions made during the time you were on the Committee.

Martin spent some of the time as Secretary, and we all know there is a lot of work involved in that particular role.

The new Management Committee elected at the AGM is as follows:

President	Gabrielle Power West	Member	Deslyn Taylor
Vice President	John Galligan	Member	Mary-Anne Scott
Secretary	Mary Denver	Member	Suzanne Raymond
Treasurer	Joan Mackay	Member	Janet McKeon

Welcome to each member of the Management Committee and particularly to our two new members, Suzanne and Janet. We all look forward to working constructively together to take U3A into an ever-changing future. A major focus for the next twelve months will be to build our membership back to where it was before Covid emerged.

Welcome also to the new Tutors and Volunteers who have generously offered their time and expertise to continue to build the great organisation that U3A has become, and to continue to enrich the post full-time work experiences of all our members.

Best wishes,
Gabrielle

Special Online Presentations in May

Mary Denver

Important News:

We have now enabled Closed Captions (live text transcript) as a user option for all U3A Brisbane Zoom presentations, which will be of interest to those who are hard of hearing. See our [Zoom Instructions page](#) for more information.

Wednesday 10 May 11am-12:30pm.

Loan Chow YHC Lawyers: *Effective estate planning*



This presentation highlights some key areas for consideration in ensuring the protection of loved ones, and some practical pathways available for families going through this process. The presentation will cover:

- ensuring your estate plan is up to date and comprehensive
- protecting assets while ensuring your own quality of life
- how to ensure a smooth and seamless experience for yourself, your loved ones and your executors
- what to do if someone contests the will
- how to protect the next generation
- tips and traps regarding Enduring Powers of Attorney, and Advance Health Directives

Loan Chow graduated from UQ with a dual degree in Law and Psychology, an unlikely combination at the time, but one which proved to be very useful in compassionately helping families navigate the law in sensitive and emotional circumstances. Ms Chow is experienced in facilitating decision-making when a vulnerable person has lost capacity to make decisions for themselves, finding practical ways to ensure loved ones are cared for even in worst case scenarios, and supporting families through a difficult process.

Wednesday 24 May 11am-12:30pm.

Greg Taylor, U3A: *Raspberry Pi 400, a low-cost alternative to a conventional PC.*

The Raspberry Pi 400 is a complete personal computer built into a compact keyboard and only costs about \$170. It features a quad-core 64-bit processor, 4GB RAM, WiFi, gigabit Ethernet, Bluetooth, dual-monitor (4K) capability, three USB ports and 4K video playback. The kit comes with a mouse and power supply, so all you need to add is a HDMI monitor or



TV as a display. It was released in 2021 as the latest in a series of single-board computers that started with a very basic board in 2012. It is now a fully-functional desktop PC that can run many different variants of the Linux operating system.

In this presentation we will do a live demonstration of the Pi 400, showcasing its usefulness for web browsing, email, document preparation, image manipulation and other applications. The presentation will be useful for anyone interested in a low-cost computer for home or office use, or for those curious about computers in general.

Although many will be unfamiliar with the Linux OS, you will observe that it is easier to use than Windows or Mac OS X in most respects.

Greg Taylor is U3A Brisbane's ICT Coordinator. He was a software developer for most of his career and developed U3A Brisbane's online management system that is integrated with our website.

[Register for these Events](#)

Logan District News

Bernadette Ketter

Don't Forget Zoom. U3A currently offers 37 Zoom classes. If you are unable to attend face-to-face classes, have a look at what is on offer. Classes include Mandarin, Northern Renaissance Art, Poetry, Economics and Finance for Everyone, Travel Discussion Group, Music of the Great Composers, and Cryptic Crosswords, to list a few. So if you are traveling around the country or caring for a family member, you can still take part in a class. All the Zoom classes can be found via the Class Search page: scroll past the Districts and find the "Zoom classes only" option. Cost is \$25 for the term for each class, which goes towards payment of the Zoom licence fee U3A pays.

There is still room in the *Economics and Finance for Everyone* course, so please consider enrolling now.

Special Birthday Celebration

The *Exploring Brisbane Through Photography* class recently celebrated the 99th birthday of class member, Anne Collins. Anne is a foundation member of the class which is the longest continuously running class at U3A. Past and current class members gathered to celebrate Anne's milestone organised by class tutor, Chris Deeming.

Anne is an enthusiastic class member who seldom misses a class unless she is visiting family in Tasmania. She is always an early arrival on excursions and enjoys taking advantage of the early morning light to take photographs whilst waiting for the rest of the class to arrive.

Anne is well known in art circles and frequently exhibits her paintings around Brisbane. During a recent discussion with a fellow class member who rides a motor bike to excursions, Anne commented, "I'd like to own a motor bike".

Anne, none of us doubt you would.

Happy Birthday, Anne.



Meet our Volunteers

Suzanne Raymond (Management Committee Member)

During my life I have moved around Australia from Fremantle, Western Australia, through Canberra, Western and Northern New South Wales, and finally my career brought me to Queensland. I retired from Education Queensland where I worked as Head of Special Education Services in a local secondary school before joining U3A.



I have always been active in the community and over the past few years was involved in establishing Northey Street City Farm, was a Volunteer Guide at the Queensland Art Gallery, worked as a volunteer at the Queensland Family Law Courts supporting vulnerable people, and assisted at local schools helping children with their reading.

I have been a member of U3A since 2015. My initial information about U3A was through the local media as I did not know anyone attending classes. I am naturally curious, and am always interested in new learning, so U3A fitted that very well.

I have taken a number of classes over the years, for example, Latin, but my main course has been Theatre Through the Ages, which I enjoy immensely. I love attending classes and the friendly atmosphere that exists there. I also relish the common learning that takes place, the discussions that follow about the differing topics and themes, and broadening my knowledge and keeping me thinking.

I am a very new member of the Management Committee and will be working on increasing the membership of U3A and raising the profile in the general community.

U3A Social Events

Heather Dowling

For bookings, please contact the U3A office on 3236 3055, or visit the 97 Creek St office. You can keep up to date with the latest 'SOCIAL EVENTS' on the U3A Website: <https://www.u3abrisbane.org.au/groups/social-group>

Please note that bookings for some of the events below close Friday 5 May.

Tour and High Tea, Old Government House



Date: Tuesday 6 June 2023, 10:30am,
2 George Street Brisbane
Cost: \$50
Bookings close: 22 May

Old Government House has been part of Brisbane's history since the 1800's. You will have walked past the gorgeous building many times but have you ever been inside? It is accessed either from George Street or from the City Botanic Gardens. Parking is available but check the website.

If you have never been to Old Government House, it would seem appropriate to experience its beauty and learn some of its history on Queensland Day. The guided tour of this historical building will be followed by a delicious High Tea in the café. (PLEASE NOTIFY DIETARY PREFERENCES)

Find out who lived in the House, how each of the stately rooms was used, the grand social gatherings that took place here, and the events that occurred at the House which helped shape Queensland's history. If there is still time after High Tea, you can also visit the House Museum.

Learn to make pasta



Date: Thursday 29 June 2023, 2:00-4:00pm,
Salt Meats Cheese, 3b/63 Skyring Tce, Newstead
Cost: \$75
Bookings close: 24 May

Salt Meats Cheese in the Haven Building (close to ALDI) is a restaurant with a difference offering private cooking classes. It's a lot of fun mastering how to make fettuccine from scratch with guidance from SMC experts. You will also learn how to make a ricotta cream to fill cannoli shells. Why not join the group and ask your friends to come along too? Before class starts, participants will be offered a welcome drink with pizza slices during the break. If this hasn't got your tastebuds tingling, before leaving you will dine on your hand made scrumptious fettuccine and cannolis and return home feeling replete and very pleased with yourself.

Moulin Rouge! The Musical



Date: Wednesday 19 July 2023, 7:00pm,
QPAC Lyric Theatre
Duration: 2 hours 35 mins (including 15 minute interval)
Cost: Concession: \$79.00 Full: \$115.00
Bookings close: 5 May
Note: seats are in Balcony 1, Row O. If you have mobility issues, please check that you can access these seats.

Baz Luhrmann's revolutionary film comes to life onstage, remixed in a new musical mashup extravaganza, featuring over 70 songs including many of the iconic hits from the movie, as well as additions from Adele, Katy Perry, Sia, Beyonce, Rihanna and more. *Moulin Rouge! The Musical* is a theatrical celebration of truth, beauty, freedom and – above all – love.

MAMMA MIA! The Musical



Date: Wednesday 6 September 2023, 1:00pm,
QPAC Lyric Theatre
Duration: 2 hours 30 mins (including 15 minute interval)
Cost: Concession: \$79.00 Full: \$130.00
Bookings close: 5 May

Seen and loved by over 65 million people around the world, this smash hit phenomenon is your ticket to join the party of a lifetime. Featuring 22 of ABBA's greatest hits you know and love, this show is guaranteed to have you dancing in the aisles once again. A celebration of love, laughter and friendship, *Mamma Mia! The Musical* is a fabulous outing for all ages.