



### Editor's Notes: from Jean Smith

*Cheers!* You are probably wondering what the e-News editor is celebrating. A significant birthday? An unexpected inheritance? No, neither of these. But *Cheers* to me is associated with raising a glass of chilled chardonnay or a half of frothing best bitter. I happily respond in similar vein in such situations, but writing *Cheers* at the end of an email is another story! Most of my correspondents don't share my aversion: the In-box is full of friendly *Hi Jean's* and *Cheers*. It took me some time to move from *Yours faithfully* (reserved for recalcitrant politicians) and *Yours sincerely* to *Regards* to *Kind regards*, even if I did think they were rather familiar! However, I haven't yet reached the stage where I am comfortable ending an email with *Cheers* as a closing salutation – I keep seeing those wine glasses! So, if you receive a message from me and I have not included a closing salutation, it's just that I can't find the right phrase to use. *Cheers!*

### President's Notes: from Greg Doolan

I had occasion recently to visit one of our photography classes at the invitation of their tutor Chris Deeming. What started as a visit to thank them for their contributions to our photo library became something of a trip back in time of the history of our U3A. I was amazed to discover that at least three of the members of this group are well into their nineties, one lady being 95. Some of the class have been members for well in excess of twenty years and this, I believe, deserves some accolades. In the not too distant future, I intend learning more about them and their stories and recognising them in some way. We certainly must be doing something right as all these people really appear to thrive on their involvement with U3A.

As you are aware, the AGM is to take place from 10am on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April, and you will find the official notice in the Class Schedule. I encourage as many members as possible to come along so that I, via my annual report, can share with you the many successes that U3A enjoyed in 2018. If you also happen to be a noteholder of the association, your AGM will be held on the same day at 9am.

Our tutor coordinator for the Brisbane city campuses, Gail Hawkins, continues to add classes to our offerings and I'm pleased to say that most are attracting enrolments from both our existing and newer members which is very encouraging. Don't forget though, our U3A is much more than just our city campuses. There are also six district branches covering the rest of Brisbane and



Logan city so, if you are unable to make it to the city, why not see if there is a course in the suburbs for you? The good news is that the majority of district courses are free as most are held in libraries that do not charge us for the use of their premises. The names and contact details of our District Coordinators are available on our website: [www.u3abrisbane.org.au](http://www.u3abrisbane.org.au) and they would be only too happy to point you in the right direction. You can also check out class offerings for all districts on the Term 2 class schedule which is now available.

I recently had the pleasure of a visit from the new President of U3A Redlands, Deb Barker, who wished to see how our U3A worked and to share ideas. We had a pleasant two hours together, discussing what makes U3A such a unique organisation as well as our challenges and successes. Deb follows on from Julie Porteous who was President of Redlands for eight years.

I would like to take this opportunity of wishing all members a happy and safe Easter with family and friends.

## Congratulations

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### Ross Cartmill

U3A History Group member Ross Cartmill was the recipient of an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the recent Australia Day awards for service to medicine and to the community of Queensland.



Prior to his retirement, Ross had a distinguished career as a medical specialist and was responsible for the introduction of urological prosthetic surgery to Queensland Hospitals.

He served as a member of a number of professional associations, and many would recall his name from his time as president of the Queensland Branch of the Australian Medical Association from 2007-08. He is currently a member of the Blue Care Ethics Committee.

### Thea Biesheuvel

Long-time U3A Creative Writing Tutor Thea Biesheuvel, was recently placed on the Johnno Award's Honours List. Thea has worked for several decades as a teacher, mentor, editor and publisher of new writers, particularly women.

The Johnno Award, established in 2001, is administered by the Queensland State Library and the Queensland Writer's Centre. and honours individuals who have shaped literature in Queensland and supported its writers. This year the judges decided to create an **Honours List** to acknowledge some of the most significant Queensland contributors to the writing scene as well as an overall winner.



Thea is off to Hong Kong next month to collect her prize as runner-up in the ProVerse Hong Kong poetry prize. Her poem *Reformation* examines feelings of 'home' and 'loss of home'. Let Thea know if you would like a copy.

Congratulations to you both!

## Additional NBN Information Talks from Greg Taylor

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The NBN sessions we ran during March were very popular, so we are running two more sessions on 2nd and 3rd of May. Go to the website for more details and booking information.

[Book Now](#)

Winter School is open to everyone and non-members are welcomed

Please note bookings cannot be made until the program is posted on our website the weekend of the 9<sup>th</sup> June.

The Winter School program is starting to fill up and the topics are many and varied so here are some of the ones we have on offer. This first one should get your attention.

### Deadly Cures: Can Venomous Animals provide us with Drugs to Treat Human Disease?

Professor Glenn King UQ - Wednesday 11am

We are literally surrounded by venomous animals, which make up about 15% of all animal species on the planet. Virtually all gardens in Brisbane contain venomous ants, bees, centipedes, spiders and wasps, while some also provide homes for venomous assassin bugs, caterpillars, robber flies and snakes! Despite their sinister reputation only a very small minority of these venomous animals are dangerous to humans. Indeed, on the contrary, venomous animals have thus far yielded six drugs that are used to treat human disorders as diverse as diabetes, hypertension and chronic pain. Professor King will provide an overview of recent research on the use of animal venoms to develop drugs to treat autoimmune diseases, cancer and epilepsy as well as a venom compound that may become the next Viagra! In particular he will describe a drug that is being developed from the Fraser Island funnel-web spider that prevents brain damage following a stroke.

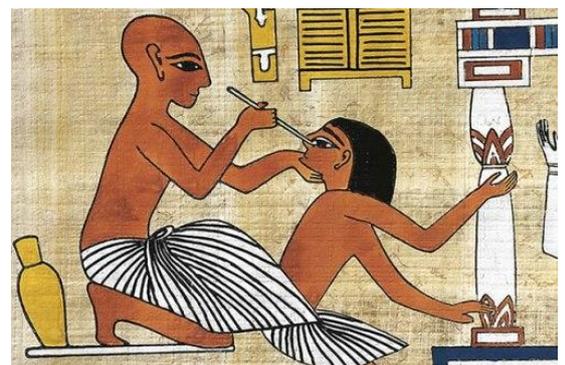


Professor King is a pioneer in the field of venoms-based drug discovery, in particular the development of drugs and environmentally-friendly insecticides derived from spider venoms. His early work lead him to found an agricultural biotechnology company *Vestaron Corporation* that is developing bee-safe, eco friendly insecticides. His current research is focused on the development of venom-derived drugs to treat chronic pain, epilepsy and stroke. His laboratory at the University of Queensland maintains the largest collection of venoms in the world, comprising more than 650 venoms from ants, assassin bugs, caterpillars, centipedes, cone snails, scorpions, spiders and wasps.

### Ancient Egyptian Medicine, Surgery and Magic

Dr Serena Love 9am Thursday

Medicine and magic were inextricably linked in the lives of ancient Egyptians. Texts from that time provide detailed accounts of treating trauma, chronic infections, parasitic infestations and gynaecological issues using natural compounds, amulets and incantations. Serena Love will share a fascinating glimpse into how this intriguing ancient civilisation understood their bodies, their health and their places in the world. You may be surprised at just how much the Egyptians knew and how much more advanced they were than we imagined. Dr Serena Love is an archaeologist and has spent the past 24 years working at various sites in Egypt, Turkey, Israel and Iraq. Her fascination with archaeology was cultivated from a young age that solidified when she studied at the American University in Cairo. In Egypt she has worked with the Giza Plateau Mapping Project, Egypt Exploration Society's Survey of Memphis and helped document the tomb of Rameses II for the Theban mapping project.



## The Brain Unlocked - Retrain your Brain Professor Selena Bartlett QUT - 11am Monday

As the years race by we are all very conscious of what is happening in our brains so the question 'Is it possible to improve our brain function' is very relevant. Well the good news is 'Yes' we can. Professor Bartlett will expand on the subject of brain fitness and the neuroplasticity revolution that is underway now. She is passionate about raising awareness of the importance of brain fitness and gives public lectures on this subject to organisations, governments, universities and schools. Professor Bartlett is a Group Leader in Neuroscience and Obesity at the Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation and a Research Capacity Building Professor in the School of Clinical Sciences. She recently gave a very interesting TEDx talk on the subject of brain fitness.



### Jill Baker – Session Times To Be Advised.



Unfortunately, Jill Baker, had to cancel her one-off presentation scheduled for Wednesday 27 March due to ill health. The good news is that she will be giving her talk on *The Horns*, the first volume of her Zambesi Trilogy at Winter School, as well as another on modern Zimbabwe and the difficulties it is currently facing.

Jill was born in Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and spent her early life in remote parts of Matabeleland. She studied piano at the Guildhall School of Music in London before returning to southern Africa where she embarked on a career in radio and television. The family immigrated to Australia in November 1983 and settled in Adelaide. Concerned at what was happening in her home country and with her

background in journalism, Jill has become a point of information to the Australian media and government about the situation in Zimbabwe – ever more important, as persecution of independent media within Zimbabwe means news to the outside world is still heavily monitored.

In 2001, Jill formed the Zimbabwe Connection, designed to help those who had lost their livelihoods, farms and businesses, to bring their skills and expertise to Australia.

**Please note bookings cannot be made until the program is posted on our website the weekend of the 9th June**

**City Campus News:**  
from Gail Hawkins [tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au](mailto:tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au)

We have some exciting new courses on offer to members in Term 2, however it is important that you first enrol in the class of your choice and have the enrolment confirmed by the tutor. Members cannot just turn up on the day and ask the Administration staff to enrol them. As our classes get busier – and many fill up quickly – tutors have their class numbers and only accept enrolments that correspond to the size of their allocated classroom. If a class is full, many tutors have a waitlist where members will be contacted if a vacancy becomes available.

Following is a list of New Classes for Term 2. Some of these classes are filling quickly and may already be full by the time the e-News is printed – so please remember that you must contact the tutor to enquire about enrolments.

### Monday

E03 - MythBusters

X02 - Our Legal System

A06 - The Choreographers' Ballets



## **Tuesday**

U04 - Psychology – Theories & Applications in Everyday Life

M33 - The King of Instruments (This course is a late addition to Term 2 Class Schedule; its details do not appear in the printed schedule.)

Dr Steven Nisbet, resident organist at St Andrews Uniting Church will present The King of Instruments, a series of four lecture-recitals about pipe organs and organ music on four consecutive Tuesday mornings in June from 10am to 11.15am as follows:

- Session 1: Tuesday 4th June. How a pipe organ works (pipes and stops)
- Session 2: Tuesday 11th June. How a pipe organ works (keyboards, pedals & technology)
- Session 3: Tuesday 18th June. Organ building across the world
- Session 4: Tuesday 25th June. Organ composition through the musical eras

Each session will include many examples of organ music played to demonstrate the concepts.

A video camera and screen will show the organ console (keyboards and pedalboard) while the organ is being played.

The venue is St Andrew's Uniting Church, Corner Creek and Ann Streets, Brisbane. Enter via the Ann Street door.

Cost is \$3 per session.

## **Wednesday**

B106 – Organic Gardening and Associated Lifestyle

## **Thursday**

E09 – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

J26 – French for Beginners

M01 – Harmony – No Frills Harmony

F06 – Trivia – Weekly General Knowledge Trivia

E07 – Controversies in Political Economy

J28 – French Intermediate

## **Friday**

H03 – History of Religion in Australia

J27 – German for Absolute Beginners

J23 – French Intermediate 'Les Pours & Les Contres'

Please check the Term 2 printed Class Schedule or go online to view all of the available classes; hopefully you will find one that suits your requirements.

We still can't find enough language tutors to satisfy the demand. A number of language classes that commence in Term 1 are continuing classes, so some prior knowledge of the language is required to enrol in subsequent terms. As a result, we really do require more tutors to start Beginners language courses in terms throughout the year. I would love to hear from anyone that may be interested in tutoring a language class.

## **Office News: from Yvonne McGann**

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### **Housekeeping**

Some members have been rinsing their cups after use and placing them on the mats for re-use. While this is acceptable in a home situation, in the interests of hygiene in a public space, we request that when you have finished your tea/coffee, you place your cup in the dishwasher. If the dishwasher is being used, put the cup in the sink so that it can go through the dishwasher on its next cycle. We can then be assured that all cups available for use have been through a proper hot wash cycle rather than a quick rinse out. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Holiday arrangements

Term 1 classes conclude on Friday 5th April and recommence on Tuesday 23rd April. (Monday 22nd April is Easter Monday). There will be no classes on Thursday 25th April (Anzac Day).

During the holidays, our Adelaide St rooms will be closed. However, our AGM will be held there on Wednesday 17th April.

Our 97 Creek St office will be open from 9am till 11am on the following days: Monday 8th April, Tuesday 9th April, Thursday 11th April and Friday 12th April.

We wish all our members a relaxing holiday and look forward to seeing you again in Term 2.

## IT Group News: from Diane Arapovic

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**April meeting:** Discover TROVE & other international digitized newspapers

**Date:** Saturday 13 April, 10am-12noon

**Venue:** U3A Brisbane, 5th floor 232 Adelaide St (on Saturdays enter from Creek St atrium)

We will be looking at TROVE - a searchable resource of historic Australian newspapers, gazettes, maps, journals, photos etc documenting Australia and Australian history from early settlement up to the 1980s. TROVE covers topics as diverse as Births, Deaths and Marriages; war stories and news; and crime and criminals. There will also be a brief overview of the British Newspaper Archive and the Irish Newspaper Archive.

Please book via this link: [IT Group](#)

## Logan District News: from Martin Bridgstock

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Logan is preparing for the second term, with a number of new classes. To locate Logan classes (which are usually completely free) go to 'Class Search' on the U3A website [www.U3abrisbane.org.au](http://www.U3abrisbane.org.au), click on the box opposite 'Logan District' and the blue search button at the bottom. You may well be surprised at the range of classes available.

On Wednesday 27th March, members of the Monday History class visited historic Ormiston House set on 14 beautiful acres overlooking Moreton Bay. The house, one of the finest examples of colonial architecture in Queensland, was built in the 1860s by Capt. Louis Hope, who was to become known as the Father of the Australian Sugar Industry. Devonshire tea was a suitable accompaniment to a pleasant and educational morning.

## Social Committee News: from Libby Eichmann

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### New Chairperson for Social Committee

Marianne Jones has kindly agreed to take on the role of Chairperson for the Social Committee. Welcome Marianne! We look forward to benefitting from her ideas and guidance.

**To book for the following events: Ph: U3A office 32363055**

Booked-out events are advertised as a reminder of dates and times. Note that you can ask to be put onto a wait list so that, should a member cancelling their booking, the ticket can be offered to someone on the list. However, this does not apply to QPAC events.

### The Book of Mormon

**Date: 1 pm Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> 2019. Collect tickets for this event.** If you purchased tickets for this show, they are available from the U3A Administration Office at 97 Creek St. If you have not yet collected your tickets, please ensure that you do so no later than Friday 3 May 2019.

### Beenleigh Artisan Distillery

**Date: June 18<sup>th</sup> 2019.** Final cost to be advised, probably about \$55. Includes visit to the Kingston Butter Factory, lunch and morning tea.

### Xmas in July

**Date: July 31<sup>st</sup> 2019.** A 49-seater bus has been booked. Enjoy a four-course meal and delicious wines at St Bernards Hotel, Tamborine Mountain. This even is always popular, so book early.

**Abbey Museum, Caboolture and QPAC Backstage tours: dates and costs to be advised.**

## U3A State Conference, Bundaberg 16-17 May

### Like to attend the U3A State conference in Bundaberg?

The U3A State conference is to be held in Bundaberg on 16/17 May this year and, to encourage members to attend, the Management Committee of U3A Brisbane is offering to pay the registration fee of \$100 for the first 5 members to take up this offer.

This is a unique opportunity to not only discover more about the U3A movement, but to meet likeminded people, make new friends and, of course, have a great time.

Why not make it a holiday as well? The Bundaberg region is one of Queensland's premier tourist destinations, with plenty to see and do, and accommodation choices ranging from caravan parks to 5 star hotels.

For registration details, please check the conference website: [www.u3aqldconference.org/](http://www.u3aqldconference.org/) then, to apply for subsidy, contact Greg Doolan, President: [president@u3abrisbane.org.au](mailto:president@u3abrisbane.org.au)



## New Caledonia Trip November 30 - December 7 2019

This trip to New Caledonia is open to all U3A members, family and friends.

**Organiser:** Dr Maily Giber, (French Tutor Term 1 Fridays Creek St). [maidy.lee.giber@gmail.com](mailto:maidy.lee.giber@gmail.com) (email preferred, but phone is 0408 153 519).

Maily has taken groups twice to Noumea and it has been very successful. She knows the hotel and New Caledonia is her second home. It is a very friendly environment for French students to practise the language while enjoying a beautiful location. Many of her guests have brought non-French speaking friends or partners and they have also had a wonderful holiday. People are free to stay with the group or 'do their own thing' sometimes.

**Travel Company:** Flight Centre Indooroopilly (with Maily as first contact).

### Inclusions:

- Return flights to Noumea
- 7 nights Twin-share accommodation at Nouvata or Pacifique Hotel
- Breakfasts
- Some additional meals and excursions, including Amedee Island tour
- Airport transfers
- 90 minutes French tuition per day (one hour by native speaker, 30 mins by Maily)

**Cost:** \$2800 (or less \$\$ if we have more than 6 people on the trip)

### Timeline:

- We hope to have \$350 pp deposit paid by June 2019
- Departure: November 30 2019
- Return: December 7 2019

**We would love you to join us!** Please contact Maily for additional information, preferably by email [maidy.lee.giber@gmail.com](mailto:maidy.lee.giber@gmail.com) , but phone is 0408 153 519)

# 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 2000 year old site of the cave dwellers in western Henan Province (above left) before returning to Zhengzhou to complete the tour

**Dates:** 13 October 2019 to 27 October 2019

**Price:** Land content price is \$3,350 twin share, single accommodation \$3,900, (includes meals)

The cost of international flights, visa, travel insurance, etc are **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

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