



Editor's Notes: from Jean Smith

Many people's number one fear is public speaking. I have *survived* the public speaking experience. I have been through 'I can't do this', 'Sorry, I ran out of time' (in spite of having known since the end of last term when I was scheduled to speak), 'My husband misplaced my text-book' (it turned up three days later, so that excuse wasn't going to work!).



Why did I put myself through this, you may well ask. For a number of reasons. It's good to be challenged and removed from my comfort zone. Learning a new skill is said to be an effective way of offsetting the effects of aging. My U3A class has benefitted from the commitment and hours put in by our presenters. I thought it would be nice if I could reciprocate in some way. My selected topic was something I and, I suspect, many of my fellow class members had been unaware of. I thought it would be rewarding to share what I learned with them.



The 'icing on the cake' was that this took place under the sheltering umbrella of U3A. As our website states, 'members learn together in a collegiate culture of like-minded peers who share a common goal of learning for pleasure' – a very non-threatening environment. I survived!

President's Message: from Greg Doolan

I hope you have all enjoyed your first month "back in the fold" of your U3A. All classes appear to be going well with excellent attendances and, most importantly, everyone appears to be enjoying themselves, judging from all the happy faces I meet in the lift and the foyers.

One subject that has dominated the conversation during the first month of term is the outbreak in China and beyond of the Novel Coronavirus or, as it now known, COVID-19. Whilst the virus is not yet present in the general community, this situation could change over coming months. We have published advisory precautions on our website and we urge you to read them regularly as we will update advice as it becomes available. Your Management Committee is constantly monitoring the situation regarding the spread of this disease in Australia and we will report on developments to members as they occur.



U3A is a self-help community, and individuals do need to be self-reliant and take personal responsibility. Members need to be conscious of the potential spread of the infection in the community, and take precautions



in all interactions with others, including when on public transport.

Our advice can be summarised as:

- **Protect Yourself** by observing good personal hygiene.
- **Protect Others** by staying home if you have travelled or are sick.

Of course, we can't forget the horrific bushfires that have devastated large parts of our country and the difficulties the people affected are going through in rebuilding their lives and properties. Large amounts of money have been raised across Australia and overseas to assist these people in the rebuilding process, but we can all do more. Simple things like visiting an affected area, spending a little money in their communities and just having a chat to the locals can do wonders in raising their morale. Why not consider a country trip next time you go on holidays – I believe this would be therapeutic for all concerned.

The 2020 Annual General Meeting is rapidly approaching and will be held in our Adelaide Street rooms at 10am, Wednesday 15th April. Mark the date in your diary and come along and hear about U3A's progress this past year and our plans for the future. Details of this meeting will be published in the Term 2 Class Schedule & Social Calendar which will be released on 22nd March. Nomination forms for the Management Committee will be included in that publication. We need a strong Management Committee and there will be some retirements this year, so please considering nominating if you are willing to help lead U3A. If you want to know more about the role please contact me: president@u3abrisbane.org.au

I do hope you are all enjoying your class choices as much as I am. The one thing I have learnt over my 11 years as a member is that, although the class content is important, it is the social interaction with your fellow students and other members that makes our organisation so special.

Remembering Bob Milns: from Chris Burke

Bob Milns, tutor of the U3A Ancient Greek class, died last week. He will be sorely missed. He was emeritus professor of Classics at UQ and had a distinguished academic record. He had an encyclopaedic knowledge of all things to do with antiquities and was always very approachable to students. His enthusiasm for his subject was incredible. His wife Lyn was a great support for him. Vale Bob.

Remembering Margaret Ganderton: from Sue Grimes

The members of the U3A choir were saddened to learn of the death this month of our much-loved tutor Margaret Ganderton. When Maggie volunteered to run a choir two years ago, there were many members who were delighted to meet weekly and share the joy of joining their voices to make music together. We were very fortunate to be guided by Margaret, whose expertise, love of music and singing, and gift as a raconteur, gave us so many happy Friday afternoons. We are practising our Welsh hymns under the guidance of Jim Reay, to sing at Maggie's funeral, and hope we do this lovely lady justice.

Logan District News: from Anita Pope

A warm welcome to U3A members in 2020 from the Logan sub-committee. We have many interesting classes running this year and with 40 different groups and venues in areas such as Underwood, Berrinba Wetlands, Beenleigh, Shailer Park, Logan Nth, Marsden, Meadowbrook, Browns Plains, Daisy Hill, Logan Central, Rochedale

Sth and Tanah Merah, there is sure to be one to suit your needs. Of course, all other districts are open to you to enjoy as well, so search the class list and fill your week with interesting people and learn, or continue, a loved subject. I personally go to three groups - Art, Mahjong and Craft - and use a different set of skills for each class. Interacting with like-minded people is a brilliant way to make new friends.

The group I run on Thursday mornings at Marsden Library bring along any craft they like – crochet, beading, embroidery, knitting, etc – and usually once a term we do a “field trip”. We carpool to our chosen location (upcoming Mt Tambourine) and, on arrival, proceed to a morning tea. We then tour the local gift stores and craft shops and arrange a luncheon spot before motoring back to our muster point of the morning. When we are not galivanting around craft stores, we use our skills to support each other in craft and in our lives, as in the senior years it is great to have somewhere you can make a new friend.

There are, of course, more serious subjects that examine history, finances, etc, and I am hoping to find out more about them so I can report back to you on them in one of my future updates. I will keep you posted on my progress.

We still have a few vacancies in the Card-making and Paper Crafting Workshop with Linda, who is a friendly and experienced card-maker and paper crafter. If you decide this is for you, it is a fun class and all materials for 2 projects will be provided on the day. (Please bring your own sharp scissors, pencil, ruler and double-sided tape runner adhesive - available from craft stores like Spotlight). Meet new friends, have fun and take away a special project handmade by you. There is a cost of \$6.00 to cover materials that Linda provides. Venue: Logan North Library, Cnr Sports Drive and Springwood Rd, Underwood
Monday 1.45pm - 3.15pm 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month.

Computer Section News: from Gwenn Ball



GRAPHICS DESIGN GRAPHICS DESIGN GRAPHICS DESIGN

If you are interested in **Graphic Design** this is the course for you. Lessons start at the very beginning and progress through to complex designs. The program to be taught is **Paint.net** which is a free app available to everyone using Microsoft products. Paint.net helps all to learn the basics such as **layers, colours, size, pictures, rotation** and the **use of the many tools** within the program. Paint.net also covers the use of **hues, saturation, blending, render, stylize, effects** and **many more**. Your imagination will be the limit to what can be achieved. Come and join the class which will commence in Term 2 in the U3A Computer Lab in Creek Street, the City.

Volunteer Computer Tutors Required

We are looking for computer tutors with computer and program skills who are interested in sharing their knowledge with U3A members and enabling them to learn some of the programs you find enjoyable. Formal qualifications are not necessary .

Subjects that members have shown interest in are:

- Basic iPad
- Emailing
- Google Docs

- Blogging
- Video Making
- eBay /Gumtree
- How to Keep Safe on Facebook.

U3A Brisbane's Computer Section has 10 modern computers to enable students to receive a 'Hands-on experience'.

For more information, please contact: Gwenn Ball, U3A Brisbane Computer Section Co-ordinator, Email: gwenn.ball@u3abrisbane.org.au

IT Group News: from Diane Arapovic

Many thanks to Keith Catts who will be giving this month's talk. We are always looking for presenters and topics - if you have any suggestions please let me know.

Note: there will not be an IT Group session in April due to the conflict with Easter and end of term holidays.

March meeting: *Backup and general protection for your Computer and You.*

Presenter: Keith Catts

Date: Saturday 14 March 10am-12noon

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

Cost: \$5



Social Committee News: from Mary Lindsay-Smith

For bookings, please contact the U3A office on 3236 3055, or visit the 97 Creek St office.

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).

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 keep up to date with the latest '**SOCIAL EVENTS**' on the U3A Website: www.u3abrisbane.org.au (Look for Social Events link in the very top menu).

***** PLEASE NOTE*** The Roma St Transit Centre is in the process of being redeveloped, so the standard Pickup Point for bus trips has been changed to: Bust Stop 149 at 88 Creek St Brisbane (almost directly opposite U3A Creek St premises).**

***** PLEASE NOTE*** Due to the uncertainty surrounding Coronavirus and its impact on the community, we are not planning future events apart from those shown below, until such time as the situation becomes clearer.**

QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute

Take a tour of QIMR Berghofer's facility at Herston - during the tour you will see the inner workings of one of Australia's largest research institutes – tour includes a presentation in their auditorium, and a guided laboratory visit. **Tours are approximately 1.5 hours in length, and morning tea and lunch is included.**

Note: as a Safety Requirement – CLOSED-IN SHOES MUST BE WORN.

Date: Wednesday, 11th March 2020

Cost: \$50

Bookings have Closed.

Pick-up: Macgregor: 8:30 am – Kessels Rd - Translink Bus Stop 59 on Kessels Rd, near corner of Kessels Rd and Springfield St, Macgregor. (FYI - the Greencross Vet Clinic is behind the bus stop, and there is also a Park'n'Ride facility located on this side of Kessels Rd).

City: 9:00 am - 88 Creek St, Bus Stop 149 (almost directly opposite U3A Creek St premises).

Estimated Return Times: City/Creek St - approx 3:30pm, Macgregor/Kessels Rd - approx 4:00pm.

RAAF Amberley Heritage Centre

Tour through the RAAF Amberley Heritage Centre - wander through the displays, across four hangars, which include aircraft such as a WWII Boston bomber, Sabre and Mirage fighter jets and of course the F1-11. There are also many special collections of vehicles, medals and weapons.

Morning tea and lunch at a local club are included.

Note: Photo ID is required on the day for entry – you &/or guests will not be allowed entry without ID.

Date: Thursday, 2nd April 2020

Closing Date: 26th March 2020

Cost: \$55

Pick-up: City: 8.15 am - 88 Creek St, Bus Stop 149 (almost directly opposite U3A Creek St premises).

Macgregor: 8:45 am – Kessels Rd - Translink Bus Stop 59 on Kessels Rd, near corner of Kessels Rd and Springfield St, Macgregor (FYI - the Greencross Vet Clinic is behind the bus stop, and there is also a Park'n'Ride facility located on this side of Kessels Rd).

Estimated Return Times: Macgregor - Kessels Rd - 4:00pm, City - Creek St - 4:30pm

Shrek the Musical

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

Bookings: 30

Bookings Close: 24th April, 2020

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

Cost: \$90.00 (Maximum of 4 seats per member)

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



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.