

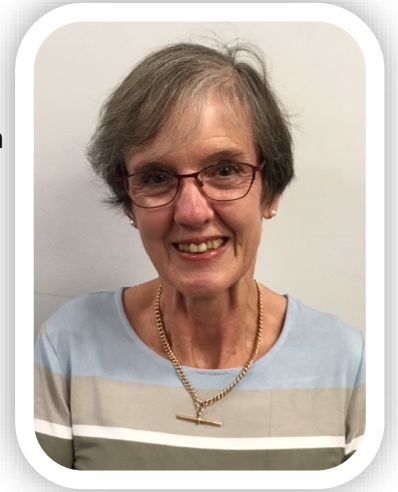


Editor's Notes: from Jean Smith

There are many stories about people discovering new interests or rediscovering old favourites over these past few months. I'm not in this category – I seem to have enough to do just getting from Sunday to Saturday in one piece, and starting all over again the next week! However, our daughter *is* in this category. For years it has been a perfunctory 'Very nice, Mother', but now it's weekly visits to Bunnings and 'Look



how this has come on' etc. None of this would have happened if she hadn't had to work from home, and was looking for something to break up the day. What started out as 'I'll rake up the dead leaves' has morphed into full-on gardening!



Putting on my U3A hat – I am watching with interest a new course slowly taking shape. First a couple of comments re a particular aspect of a current course. Some interest from class members. Then one class member puts their name forward – they have some experience in the field, would like to be involved, outside commitments have diminished, leaving them with more time to devote to U3A. Our course tutors are providing a guiding hand with options for course objectives and advice on IT options. I'll let you know if this proposed course gets off the ground.

I would be interested to know if any *eNews* readers have a similar story to tell, whether it's purely a personal interest or something you would like pursue further through U3A. You can contact me via email at: enews@u3abrisbane.org.au

Looking forward to hearing from you.

President's Message: from Des Taylor

We are still continuing to operate online in Term 3. Both Adelaide and Creek St will remain closed. This decision has been confirmed by our Health Advisory Committee. However, thanks to our wonderful tutors there is still a varied and exciting selection of subjects available. There are 133 Zoom classes offered in Term 3 as well as others using different technologies. You can enrol now at [Term 3 classes](#). Class fees or Donations may also be [paid online](#) (Click on this link to make a voluntary online payment for either Class Fees or a Donation).

We may need to continue online while the government's space restrictions of 4



square metres per person are in place.

U3A Management has now formed a special COVID-19 Planning Committee. This group will look at all aspects that need to be considered before we can open face-to-face classes again. These aspects will include current government directives, Queensland Health Department Guidelines for our demographic, as well as those of local councils and advice from our own Health Advisory group. We will be guided by this committee when considering reopening venues whether it is later this year or in 2021.

Thank you all for the financial support you have given us since my request for help in the June eNews. It is greatly appreciated. As you will be aware, the Government is ending many of their support initiatives in September. Therefore, we will rely on your continued financial support more than ever as we go forward. Together we can weather this COVID storm.

I will keep you informed of our progress. Hopefully we will not follow Victoria with a major outbreak that will prolong the need for rigid restrictions. I hope you have enjoyed your classes and will continue to do so in Term 3. I'm certainly looking forward to mine. I so appreciate the opportunity to be part of this U3A community.

I will keep you informed on our progress as we move forward. If you have any questions or comments please send to: feedback@u3abrisbane.org.au

Stay well.

You are Invited to Zoom with Tom Keneally



U3A Redlands is interviewing Tom Keneally on **Monday 20 July** in a special Zoom session, starting 9.30 am, to be hosted by Liz Jeffs (U3A Redlands member, tutor and author of *17 Browning Street*.)

Our Redlands colleagues have kindly invited interested members of U3A Brisbane to join them in what should be a fascinating discussion. If you wish to participate, please

register by 9 July through the [U3A Website](#). There is no charge, and the session will conclude at 11.00 am. Get in early, as this is likely to be a popular event.

Tom Keneally, Australian novelist, playwright and author of many works of fiction and non-fiction, including *Schindler's Ark*, *The Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith* and *Australians Volume I, II and III*, will share some of his life story and tell us about his latest novel, *the dickens boy*. Based on the true story of the youngest son of Charles Dickens being sent to Australia at the age of sixteen to learn how 'to apply himself', it is a wonderful tale of the outback and the characters the lad encountered.

City Campus News:
from Gail Hawkins, Tutor Liaison
tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au

Hopefully it won't be too long before we get to see a light at the end of the tunnel, although we have been advised that face-to-face classes will not be returning in Term 3 members can be assured that classes will return when the relevant Authorities and our Management Committee are convinced that it is safe to do so.

We have increased the number of *Zoom* classes on a variety of subjects to offer members in Term 3. While the enrolment in many of the classes has been strong, there are classes that can still accept enrolments. This is a great opportunity for people that have been unable to enrol in face-to-face classes due to class size restrictions, as *Zoom* classes don't have that restriction and many of the tutors are prepared to increase their class size.

Members should check out the on-line [Class Schedule](#) and contact tutors if there are classes of interest.

The *Craft Circle*, an extremely popular double class that gets together in Adelaide Street (when classes resume) on a Wednesday from 12.30pm is looking for a person prepared to take on the role of facilitator to keep this class together. It is our loss that Eleanor Ardern who has managed this happy group of enthusiastic craft people since 2014, has decided to sell up in Brisbane and move North to be closer to family and friends. The group consists of multi-talented knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, quilters, applique sewers and the like who have been happy to share their knowledge and assist others to improve their skills. Perhaps this group could self-manage but it needs a person prepared to put their name down as the contact. Please contact me if you are interested, as it would be a shame to see such a successful, friendly group disband. I'm sure I speak on behalf of all of the Craft Group in wishing Eleanor the very best of happiness and contentment in her move and I personally would like to thank her for her commitment and assistance she has given me over the years.

Office News: from Yvonne McGann (Office Manager)

As you know, our office at Creek St and our premises at Adelaide St are still unattended and will continue to be so for some time. During this time, our phone will not be answered so please do not ring and leave messages.

I am attending to emails from home each day so please continue to use that facility for any queries. From time to time we need to communicate with you. Please make sure that we have up-to-date contact information. If your email address or your phone number has changed please email us so that I can update our database:

mail@u3abrisbane.org.au

We office staff are missing seeing you. We are delighted that so many of you are taking advantage of *Zoom* classes and other means to keep in touch.

Keep well.

Vale Therese Smith: from Alan Walpole

Therese Smith, who sadly passed away recently, was a long time member of U3A and a valued member of the Tuesday morning History class, 'History through the Ages'. Not only did she present interesting Talks during her many years in the class, but she also shared interesting stories about her life and experiences at our weekly after class coffees. Therese's friendliness, wit and extensive life wisdom will be missed by us all. It was an honor to have known her.

Art News: from Carol Owens, Art Tutor

What a memorable term it has been...this COVID time one will be forever remembered. I will certainly remember the development of student artists in their drawing skills and in building our community of practice.

WOW - we have been busy! Our U3A year commenced for some student artists when we enjoyed the inaugural Summer Pop Up Art Workshops that were held for five days from 13 January at the Creek Street Campus. We

then enjoyed meeting at Creek St for most of Term 1...then continued on-line (even during the holiday break).

This term we have covered a myriad of topics and skill development sets including:

- starting to use coloured pencils
- figure drawing lessons
- steps of learning how to draw people
- figure gesture
- drawing feet
- realistic hands
- head and face proportions
- natural black hair
- glasses on the face
- person wearing baseball hats
- portrait likeness
- how to critique our work
- shading.



At the end of Term 2 our class drew portraits to reflect this current bizarre COVID time. We used reference material such as newspapers or magazine photos or our own photos. We all enjoy seeing each other's work. I have attached a drawing by Sandy Lee (who is happy for this to be distributed far and wide across the community to thank Emergency Services workers).

This class is a cracker of a group and we appreciate that U3A has brought us all together as emerging artists. We thank the Management Committee for the energy that you bring to managing U3A during this difficult time.

Keep Well, Moving, and Connected!

Cheerio for now, Carol.

Logan District News: from Martin Bridgstock

I wear two hats, as Convenor of the Logan District, and also Secretary to the Brisbane U3A Management Committee. As a result I see a good deal of what is happening during the Coronavirus epidemic. I know that the Management Committee is really anxious to open the big Brisbane campuses to classes again and get the whole organisation moving. However, at the moment it simply can't be done. We are all in the high-risk groups for this disease: if we catch it, our lives might be at risk.

In Logan, it's a little more complicated. Most of our classes are held in Logan City Libraries, and the Council is as wary of the virus as anyone else. Our tutors have been quite inventive, teaching online and by telephone. I'm mightily impressed at what they are doing, and would encourage everyone to take part. Of course, we will miss the wonderful chats over coffee which accompany U3A classes, but they will return one day.

As I see it, the big danger is later this week when Queensland's borders open. Victoria is struggling with a nasty outbreak, and my nightmare is that some might cross into New South Wales and then somehow find a way into Queensland. And then . . . Oh dear. That's why we have to be careful for a while longer.

One terrific encouragement comes from you, the members. An amazing number have written to say that they miss U3A activities, but they do understand and appreciate the measures that have to be taken. Thanks everyone, it really helps. I look forward to meeting you all again one day.

IT Group News:
from Diane Arapovic
itgroup@u3abrisbane.org.au

July online meeting: *Backup and general protection for your Computer and Your Data.*

Presenter: Keith Catts

Date: Saturday 11 July from 10.00 am

Last month we covered a number of topics and concepts related to backup and saving your data and general protection online. Time did not provide time for question or for a live demonstration of some of the options offered. This is your turn to ask for more details.

This get-together will allow for questions and expansion of topics you would like, as well as live demonstration of the use of some of the tools and programs referred to. Some demos will be limited as they would make changes to my computer. If you have a question, email me prior to the meeting and Keith can make sure there is an answer for you.

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