



Editor's Notes: from Jean Smith

Melbourne Cup. The race that stops the nation. *November = Melbourne Cup*. It's one of those pointers that indicates the passing of the year. We have all sorts of pointers – religious festivals, the AFL Grand Final, Queen's Birthday – some even warrant a public holiday!



My early years were marked by very different pointers. Growing up on a farm, the significant ones reflected the rhythm of the farming year, and autumn was all about *going to the tatties*, in other words, picking potatoes. And I'm not just talking about a single day. Across the country, especially in eastern Scotland, school holidays were arranged to enable children to help bring in the tatties. Three weeks was the norm, but I can remember one very wet October when we had to have a fourth week so that the crop could be lifted. Our education didn't seem to be adversely affected. It was hard work, often in dreary conditions but a time remembered with great affection.

I can hear you asking, 'What on earth does tattie picking have to do with U3A Brisbane?' Well, nothing really, except that for this U3A member – and perhaps for others – this was one of my 'pointers', just as Melbourne Cup is now.

President's Message: from Greg Doolan



You are probably wondering why I am starting my message this month with a photo of a Jacaranda? Well, after seeing so many scattered throughout the streets of Brisbane, I can only glory in the beauty of this particular tree. Some may call it a weed, but I still think it is one of the most iconic plants of our beautiful city. To me the purple carpet on



the ground always reminds me that Christmas is just around the corner.

Although I'm writing this month's President's message, I am actually on extended leave, assisting my son establish his new business in Northern NSW for the next few weeks. As I will be absent most of November, our Vice President, Marilyn Wagland will be Acting President while I am away.

We are now on the home stretch towards the end of the year. I think it is timely to remind members that the Term 1 Class Schedule & Social Calendar for 2020 will be available late November/early December. Don't forget to have a good look at the comprehensive offerings in subjects too numerous to mention and make your choices for the new year. There will be quite a few new class offerings in 2020; further in this edition of eNews, under Wynnum District News, you can read about the three that Wynnum District is hoping to run.

And of course, there is the social calendar to consider as well. Our Social Committee organises some fantastic outings throughout the year, including theatre trips to popular plays and visits to interesting places such as Margaret Olley's studio in Murwillumbah and the Mary Valley Rattler. A warning though - if you are interested in going on any of these excursions, please book early as they are extremely popular. Bookings can be made either in person at the U3A Creek Street office, or by phoning them on 3236 3055.

That's about it at present everyone. I hope you all have a good month and I look forward to getting back into harness as President in early December.

Attention U3A Members: Special Presentation from Greg Doolan

Healthy Ageing Forum. Monday November 18, 2.00 – 5.00 pm, The Edge, State Library of Queensland

The World Health Organisation has identified the ten-year period 2020-2030 as the Decade of Healthy Ageing. On Monday 18 November, COTA Queensland (in partnership with the EveryAGE Counts campaign) is hosting a Healthy Ageing Forum asking the question 'What and how does healthy ageing enable me to be and to do what I have reason to value?'

The Forum will feature Ashton Applewhite, an international anti-ageism activist, and will provide an excellent opportunity for participants to provide input into healthy ageing initiatives in Queensland.

You, too, can be involved in this very important discussion. Our very own **Deslyn Taylor** has been invited to be a member of a panel of experts discussing the many issues that will face seniors in the years to come. Deslyn is well qualified for this role: she is the Retired IT Director of Stuartholme School, Queensland Education Advisor for the National Council of Women, an iPad tutor for U3A Brisbane, an art student, a walk organiser for the Heart Foundation and she is also studying Astrophysics at ANU. Deslyn clearly knows something about healthy ageing and she will represent U3A well – so, go along and give her your support.

The output from this forum will inform our advocacy to Queensland's Health Minister Hon Steven Miles who recently launched Healthy Ageing; A strategy for older Queenslanders. Register today here:

haf.eventbrite.com.au

For further details, please see the flyer below or go to the website: <https://cotaqlld.org.au/event/healthy-ageing-forum/>



HEALTHY AGEING FORUM

Ashton Applewhite, a world renowned writer and anti-ageism activist joins the forum to provide the keynote address along with others who are involved in promoting and practising healthy ageing.

This is an excellent opportunity for participants to provide input into healthy ageing initiatives in Queensland through question and answer and breakout sessions.

This event is being held in partnership with the EveryAGE Counts Campaign.



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UNITES US ALL.
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REGISTRATION

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at haf.eventbrite.com.au

Special U3A Presentation from Marty Gellender

Marguerite Marshall: The Climate Change Emergency and Solutions. Thursday November 21, 2.00 – 3.30 pm, Adelaide Street

Millions of children and adults in Australia and other countries recently marched demanding emergency action to prevent dangerous Climate Change. Nearly all of the world’s climate scientists say we are in a climate change emergency. Why is this happening? What is dangerous climate change? Can we ensure a safe climate change future? If so - how?

Marguerite Marshall was trained as a presenter on climate change and its solutions by Al Gore (the former US vice president who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work on combating climate change). She will address these questions and solutions at a special presentation at U3A Brisbane (232 Adelaide Street) on Thursday, November 21st from 2pm to 3.30pm. Those wishing to attend should register on the [U3A Brisbane website](#).

The presentation on *Solutions to the Climate Change Emergency* is based on expert scientific data explaining climate change and demonstrating how the world has the answers to combat dangerous climate change.

[Book here](#)



Wynnum District News: from Chris (Nobby) Hobbs

Calling all members near Wynnum.

Starting Term 1, 2020, Wynnum U3A is hoping to offer 3 new classes. One is the **Philosophy** class currently held at Logan, the other two – **Flash Photography Advanced**, and **Arduino Computer Programming** – are completely new. If you are interested in any of these three classes, please contact the Coordinator, Chris (Nobby) Hobbs, at chris1@choose-your-life-net or the tutor.

Days and times will not be finalised until we know the level of interest for each of the classes. Re the Arduino class, the preference is that it be held at Wynnum. However, if most potential students are city-based, the class will be held at the U3A computer lab

1. **Philosophy Ancient and Modern**

Discussion of ideas from Ancient Greece to the 21st Century. How philosophy is relevant and ideas through the ages still apply to issues of today.

Tutor: **David Anderson** 3396 9036; Email: david_anderson8@bigpond.com

2. **Flash photography - Advanced.**

This very hands-on class is aimed at people with a camera that can be operated completely manually and has at least a built-in flash. However, having an external flash puts lots more flash power in your hands and opens up many more creative uses of off-camera flash photography. The first few lessons will cover the basics of how our grandfathers used their cameras and flash guns, no built-in light meters then! We will take perfect photos in bright sunlight, deep shadows and in dim light with our flash, all without an exposure meter or histogram in sight. Then we'll move on to using fill flash to lighten shadows, soft light to soften features and hard light to highlight features. In the final lesson when we all understand what we are doing, we'll examine the secrets of successful flash photography.

3. **Arduino computer programming.**

The Arduino is a small but very capable micro controller that can be used to sense and control many things. It is similar to, but much less sophisticated than the Raspberry-pi miniature PC, and is even smaller.

Lesson 1 will show how to turn a light on and off, but the homework will be for you to plan a system that will control a water fountain with four jets which can be made to squirt high and low. Easy when you know how! We will use an eBay [learning kit \(costs \\$35\)](#), which contains about 30 things, more than enough to keep us going for 10 weeks. You will need your own Laptop to program the Arduino, Windows, Mac or Linux. Alternatively, if we use the U3A Computer Lab, it will cost another \$50 each, but laptops will not be needed.

The tutor for the Flash Photography and Arduino courses is Alan Beswick, a retired scientist with 30 years of programming experience, including using the biggest super computer in Queensland at the time. He is also a wood and metal worker and gadgeteer. His garden sprinkler is powered by a Raspberry Pi (few steps above an Arduino) and it hosts its own web page.

Office News: from Yvonne McGann

Membership Renewals

Membership renewals for 2020 are now being taken.

You can renew online, in person at 97 Creek St, or by ringing the office (3236 3055) to pay by credit card. If you are paying by bank transfer, please remember to put your member number and/or name as the reference.

Get in early to avoid the end of year rush!

Changes to Mailing of Class Schedules

Many of our members have requested mailed copies of the printed Class Schedule each term. However, Australia Post has recently changed the rules for bulk postage which will have the effect of considerably increasing our postage costs. We have therefore decided to ask members who attend either of the two City Campus venues, and who need a printed version, to collect a copy from the reception desk at either venue. In most cases you will

obtain your copy before you would have received it by mail. This change will be implemented automatically within our database, and those affected will be notified by email in about two weeks. You will have the opportunity to opt back in to receiving it by mail if your circumstances have changed and you no longer plan to visit the City Campus venues.

Those who receive the Class Schedule by mail, but do not attend the city venues, will continue to do so. However, we do remind members that all class information is available on the U3A Brisbane website, including a PDF version of the Class Schedule. If you no longer need a mailed copy, please advise the office via

mail@u3abrisbane.org.au or phone 3236 3055.

Finally, we suggest that you consider passing your copies to friends once you have finished with them. This will help promote U3A to potential new members.

The Class Schedule for 2020 Term 1 will be available on the website on Sunday 1st December, and printed copies will be available at Creek St and Adelaide St from the following day.

IT Group News: from Diane Arapovic

November meeting: familyCircuitree: Catching up with today's rapidly expanding genealogy industry

Presenter: Ray Sarlin, retired engineer and project / program manager & U3A tutor

Date: Saturday 9 November, 10am – 12 noon

Venue: U3A Brisbane, 5th floor, 232 Adelaide St. Entry on Saturdays from 140 Creek St atrium.

Cost: \$5. [Book Here](#)



Social Committee News: from Libby Eichmann

Bookings for events please phone – U3A Creek St office 3236 3055

Cut off for refund is one week before the event unless a replacement member is available from the wait list.

Chicago – fully booked

Date: Wednesday 6th November 2019, 1pm at Lyric Theatre, QPAC

Bookings close: 28th August 2019; **Cost:** \$90; **Concession cost:** \$70 –

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes (includes interval, subject to change without notice)

A true New York City Institution, Chicago has everything that makes Broadway great: a universal tale of fame, fortune and all that jazz.

Tickets available from the Creek Street office

Brisbane City Cruise and Lunch – fully booked

Date: Monday 25th November 2019, at 10.15 am Jetty A (in front of Wheel of Brisbane, Southbank.)

Cost: \$55; **Bookings close:** 18th November 2019

Complementary morning tea, guided tour and complementary drink on return included. Lunch is at Breakfast Creek Hotel which involves a walk of approximately 8 minutes from the landing site. A menu and pre-order form will be given to members for lunch order.

Spirit of Christmas Concert 2019

Spirit of Christmas features a stunning line up with a full orchestra, choirs, and two of Australia's leading musical theatre performers. This concert is an occasion to enjoy uplifting songs, be inspired by Christmas's enduring

message of love and peace, and sing-a-long to much-loved Christmas carols. Join in the celebration of the *'Spirit of Christmas'* and the festive season with QPAC's traditional yuletide concert in the grandeur of the Concert Hall.

Date: Saturday 21st Dec 2019, 2:00pm, QPAC – Concert Hall

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

Cost: Concession: \$49.00 **Full:** \$59.00 (Maximum of 4 seats per member)

Bookings Close: 13th Nov 2019

11 seats available as at 14th October 2019

Events for 2020

Shrek The Musical

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

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

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

Cost: \$90.00 Maximum of 4 seats per member – 30 seats available

Bookings Close: 1st May, 2020

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. Add the vertically challenged Lord Farquaad, a gang of fairy tale misfits, and a biscuit with attitude and you've got an irresistible mix of adventure, laughter and romance, guaranteed to delight audiences of all ages!

Berghofer Medical Research Institute

The Queensland Institute of Medical Research is one of the largest medical research institutes in the southern hemisphere. Join up for a guided tour around the facility and hear about the ground-breaking research currently being performed in Queensland. Please note closed in footwear is required on this tour. Morning tea, tour and lunch are included.

Date: Monday 2nd March, 2020

Cost: \$50

Pick up time: 8.30am Kessels Rd, Bus Stop 59, Garden City side and 9 am at Roma Street, bus stop 125 outside Transit Centre.

Enclosed footwear required.

Senior Moments 2

Date: 7th March 2020 at QPAC

Cost: \$55 per person

This show was much enjoyed by the members and it is anticipated that the next show will be just as enjoyable and funny.

Abbey Museum – feedback from Dulcie and Diane

On Wednesday 12 September, we joined a group of enthusiastic travellers for a visit to the Abbey Museum. What a surprise was in store for us all. On arrival at the grounds, we were provided with a delicious morning tea by cheerful volunteers. We then undertook a self-guided tour (at leisure) of the many artefacts within the Abbey Museum – over 500,000 years of history from the prehistoric age through to the end of the 19th century – followed by a visit to the amazing Abbey Church within the grounds. Another experienced and cheerful volunteer provided us with the history of this location and the beautiful medieval, Edwardian and Victorian stained glass within the church before being able to browse and take the occasional photograph. A delicious lunch followed – again prepared by the volunteers – after which we were given an educational presentation by someone who looked like he had stepped from medieval history and then it was time to journey home. A truly enjoyable day.