



Editor's Notes: from Jean Smith

Welcome to U3A 2020, and a particular welcome to those attending U3A classes for the first time. I think U3A is a marvellous organisation – not only does it keep my brain active, but it has brought me into contact with many people who have become good friends. Hopefully it will do the same for you. It seems ages since the end of 2019 classes, but U3A hasn't been far from my mind. Reading is one of my great pleasures and the summer break is ideal for dipping into something not too heavy. I am a fan of Anne Cleeves' *Shetland* series, so was keen to read her latest work, *The Long Call*. One of the characters was a birdwatcher who also lectured in botany at the local U3A. Interestingly, the author didn't think it necessary to explain what U3A was.

Closer to home, I was watching a segment on senior learning on the ABC News one evening. A familiar face, Robyn Bunting, U3A Management Committee member and City Precinct Co-ordinator, was outlining the wide range of classes available at U3A and the benefits of being part of this organisation. You can catch up with the segment by following this YouTube link to 'Fearless' seniors defy the odds learning new skills at an older age | ABC News" – <https://youtu.be/iXR3-NI6bGM>.

You never know where U3A is going to pop up!

President's Message: from Greg Doolan



Well - here we are in the new year and a new decade, although there is some argument as to when the new decade actually commences - some say 1st January this year, others say it doesn't happen until 2021. Whichever it is, I hope all members had a great break over the Christmas/New Year period and that you are all refreshed and raring to go for another year. The class offerings this year are very extensive and I'm sure there will be subjects listed that will entice you to take even more classes than before. Of course, we can't forget the fabulous line-up of events organised by the social committee. These, along with the class offerings, are listed in the Class Schedule & Social Calendar (CSSC) for Term 1 which you can either read or download from the website www.u3abrisbane.org.au. If you prefer a hard copy, you can pick one up next time you visit the Creek Street office. U3A Brisbane may have been closed for general classes over the break, but that

didn't mean nothing was going on. Far from it. Carol Owens convened a very successful Summer Pop-up Art event from 13th to 17th January at Creek Street, with over 150 people attending in the course of the week. The full story of this event can be read in this edition of eNews. It was such a success that Carol is looking to repeat this event, so look out for notice of this during the year.

We have all been touched by the horrific events that have unfolded with the recent and ongoing bush fire emergencies across Australia, particularly on the south coast of New South Wales and into Victoria. I certainly can't begin to imagine what it must be like to live through such events, and I feel deeply for the many families who are affected. I would encourage anyone who can to consider making a donation to the charity of your choice. There are many charities handling donations for this disaster so choose your favourite. An idea worth considering is to visit affected areas. Stay a while, spend some money in the local businesses and just have a friendly chat to these people. Every little bit will help alleviate the pressure they must be feeling following these unprecedented events.

In conclusion, I would like to wish you all a fantastic 2020 and hope you have another great year enjoying what is on offer at our U3A.

Our friends in the country need your help!



With most of Queensland either ravaged by drought, bushfire or both, country people are in crisis. Here is a suggestion on how you can help:

Take a drive to a country town, stay the night, spend some money in the local café and shops, have a chat to the locals.

Your effort will not only help financially, but will also show we care.

Every little bit will help our country friends

Winter School from Marilyn Wagland

Members are contacting me to ask how they can book Winter School.

The committee has just begun working on guest speakers for this major event which in 2020 will run from 6th - 10 July. As we get speakers booked, we will advertise them through e-News but the actual bookings cannot be made until the program goes online at midnight Saturday, one month before Winter School. You will receive plenty of notice of the date that this will occur.

U3A Recorder Group, Christmas Day Grovely 2019 from Kay Herington

On Christmas Day some members of our U3A City advanced recorder class put on a concert for a Christmas dinner hosted by St William's Catholic Parish, Grovely for people without families in Brisbane.

This dinner, at the instigation of our pastor, F Nigel Sequeira, has been held over the past three years and has been very popular with over 100 people attending. It is supported by many volunteers and donors who prepare beautiful table settings, a full traditional Christmas meal and join the meal as a community.

Our U3A performers were, as pictured L to R:

Myself with Ko Kiyomura on soprano, Miyuki Kiyomura and Jean Townsend on treble and Vreni Forrer on bass. Unfortunately, we didn't have a tenor player available but Jean played that part on her treble so we had all four harmonic parts included.



Our U3A Advanced Recorder class which meets Wednesdays at 2:00pm in our Adelaide St rooms, has been playing together for about 5 years. Thanks to the guidance of our tutor, Kathy Teakle, our group has been making steady progress. We all love the early music sounds of recorders playing harmonies in consort and our representative group was really delighted to have the opportunity to put our learning and enjoyment of music to use by entertaining on Christmas Day.

Book Club from Marilyn Wagland

We are looking for a facilitator for a book club. Griffith Review is wanting to set up book groups using the *Griffith Quarterly Review* as the discussion topic. The one in February is on Matters of Trust and, in April/May, it is about factors faced by an ageing population.

If you feel you would like to try this, contact Marilyn Wagland waglandm@gmail.com and she will share further information with you.

U3A Brisbane Summer Art Pop Up Workshops 2020 from Carol Owens



Our Creek Street rooms were alive with colour, learning and excitement from 13 - 17 January during the inaugural Summer Art Pop Up Workshops. Despite the late start-up of advertising in December - there was a robust response with 156 registrations for the 10 sessions on offer:

- pencil portraiture drawing by Geraint Morgan and Andrew Macfarlane
- small sculpture work by Jan Berryman
- artist talks by Sheila Mackay and Carley from Eckersleys
- watercolour landscape painting by Anne Kirkland
- Zentangle drawing by Carol Owens.

The rooms were open from 9.00-12noon so that participants could arrive early to have a cuppa, to connect with others and/or work on their current pieces of work before the 10am classes.

Many participants spoke of how it was a highlight for the holiday season for them and how it has:

- opened our minds...increased our creative insight and understanding
- been an opportunity to mix with a wider group of creative people
- included beginner art experiences
- provided one-off sessions - with no demands or expectations...except to have a go at something new and/or re-engage with our artistic interests
- broke the boredom drought of a long hot summer, *and* motivated us to get out and about from the home environment.
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Comments from Pop-Up Tutors:

Anne Kirkland (Painting a landscape in watercolours):

I enjoyed the workshop and hope the 15 artists did too. There were a few inexperienced in watercolour and everyone produced a pleasant picture to take home. Happy painting all.

Geraint Morgan (Pencil portrait drawing):

Given the limited time hard to get into any real detail, but the sessions provided the perfect opportunity for everyone to get a feel for drawing portraits, whether that was for the very first time, or a refresher for more experienced members.... Overall, the whole week offered the chance to work in an open, friendly and encouraging space and feel part of an artistic community where everyone is welcome.

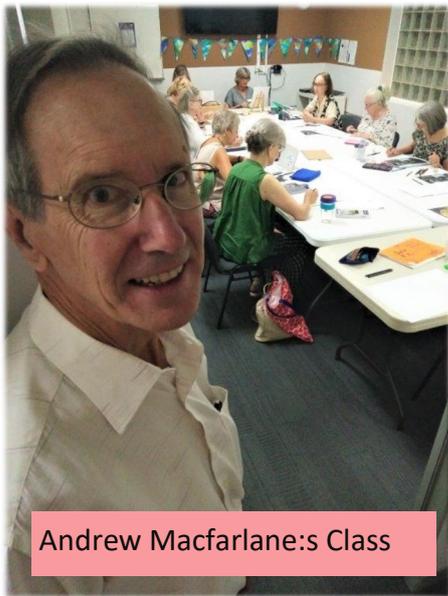


Jan Berryman



Sculpture - Sandy

Jan Berryman (Small sculpture work demo & practice):
As a new tutor, I was just delighted (and relieved) with the positive response my session received from those who attended. It is a very messy process to complete the kind of sculptures I make so I was only able to present hands-on instruction for the first stage. My PowerPoint presentation..... of the sculptures I have made at different stages of development and the step-by-step handouts everyone received – meant that anyone who was keen to complete their sculpture at home had full instructions. Everyone was so interested and questions came thick and fast... always a good sign.



Andrew Macfarlane:s Class



Eckersley's Talk



Watercolour



Zentangle

Watch this space for more Pop-Ups in 2020.



The first week of Term 1 saw strong attendances in most classes. Tutors have advised most of their enrolments are received within 24 hours after the Class Schedule goes on-line - so those that hesitate may be disappointed to find the class of their choice is now "Full". The number of students in each class is dependent on the room allocated and the cut-off number of students that the Tutor has designated i.e. language classes will generally have fewer students than other classes. Tutors should manage their class size and if their enrolment numbers decrease the "Class Full" sign should be removed so that new members can be accepted.

We still need more beginner level language classes. These classes fill quickly and unfortunately after the first term at the beginner level they generally progress to a continuation class, again leaving us without a Beginners class. Perhaps we have members that are currently enrolled in an Advanced level language class, that would be prepared to tutor a beginner level class. Please give this some thought and contact me if you wish to discuss further – I would love to hear from you.

I am amazed at the dedication and preparation that so many of our tutors give in putting their classes together. Many members have said that the classes they attend offer their main social activity and look upon class members and tutor as friends. We have had instances where tutors have had to cancel their class for a term, and in order to keep the group going class members have stepped up to facilitate the class until the tutor can return. I think this is a great compliment and shows the appreciation that is felt by the members for their tutor.

Northside District News from Rod McLary

The regular Northside classes have now started the new year – and a warm welcome back to our tutors and students.

In addition to our continuing classes, there are three brand new ones – all of which can take a few more students. It is important to enrol quickly in the language classes as some information may be missed if you start late.

The new classes are:

- Introduction to Spanish, tutored by Cesar Sarmiento, a native Spanish speaker
- French Conversation, tutored by Daniele Lamarche-Sarvia, a native French speaker. This class is not for beginners but for those who are already at an intermediate level. It is important to read the class description carefully to ensure that this is the class for you.
- Introduction to Photography, tutored by Cesar Sarmiento who in addition to tutoring the Spanish class mentioned above, is also a professional photographer.

Daniele and Cesar would be pleased to hear from you.

U3A Social Events for Term 1 - 2020

Booked out events are advertised as a reminder of dates and times. Also, you can be put onto a wait list so that when members cancel their attendance, this event can be offered to members who are on the wait list. However, this does **not apply to QPAC events**.

Bookings for events please phone – U3A Creek St office 32363055

Berghofer Medical Institute

Take a tour of QIMR Berghofer's facility at Herston and see the inner working of one of Australia's largest research institutes. Tour includes a presentation in their auditorium and a guided laboratory visit. Tours are approximately two hours in length and morning tea and lunch is included.

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

Date: Monday 11th March 2020; closing date 4th March 2020

Cost: \$50

Pick up: 8.30am Kessels Rd. at Translink bus stop 59 on Garden City side, near corner of Kessels Rd and Springfield St, near Greencross Vet Clinic; **9.00am at City -Roma St, Translink bus stop 125**, outside the Transit Centre entrance, opposite Police Headquarters.

Estimated Return Time – Roma Street, approximately 3.30pm, Kessels Rd, approximately 4.00pm.

Senior Moments 2 – Remember, Remember

This show is billed as "**Sequel without equal**" with some new cast members – Tony Barber of *Sale of the Century*, John Howard of *Seachange* and Max Gillies. Senior Moments was much enjoyed by the members last year and it is anticipated that the next show will be just as enjoyable and funny.

Date: Saturday, 2pm, 7th March 2020 at QPAC

Bookings close: 29th February 2020

Maximum persons: 30

Cost: \$55 per person

RAAF Amberley Heritage Centre

Tour through the RAAF Amberley Heritage Centre and wander through the displays across four hangars which include aircraft such as a WW11 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 of entry

Date: Thursday, 2nd April 2020: Closing Date: 26th March 2020

Cost: \$55

Pick up: City – 8.15am Roma Street, Translink bus stop 125, outside the Transit Centre entrance, opposite Police Headquarters and **8.45am at Translink bus stop 59 on Garden City side**, near corner of Kessels Rd and Springfield St, near Greencross Vet Clinic.

Estimated Return Time: Roma Street at 4.00pm and Kessels Rd at 4.30pm



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. **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.

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

Bookings Close: 1st May, 2020

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

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



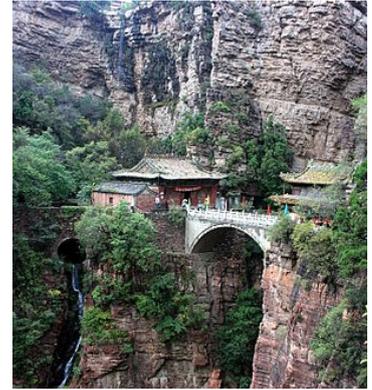
China Tour 2020

See advertisement next page.

Advertisement



China Tour 2020



Beijing & Hebei Province

Call for expressions of interest

Tour Outline:

The tour will include visits to:

Beijing – walk the Great Wall;
marvel at the Forbidden City;
admire the Temple of Heaven;
enjoy the Hutong and other wonders of the capital city.

Hebei Province – visit ancient villages of Nuanquan, Yujin and Shengfeng;
wander through Chengde Mountain Resort and Cangyan Mountains;
stroll over the ancient Zhaozhao Bridge;
explore both Ming and Qing Dynasty tombs.

Dates: 14 October 2020 to 28 October 2020

Price: \$3400 – share accommodation, most meals
\$4100 - individual accommodation, most meals

Note: This tour is not an official activity of U3A Brisbane Inc, and the Association can take no responsibility for any personal injury or loss that may arise during the period of the trip. Participants are responsible for their own personal, health and travel insurances.
This tour will be subject to there being no restrictions resulting from the current coronavirus epidemic

Register: to register your expression of interest contact:

BRYAN ILES, tutor of Experiencing China, Brisbane U3A

Email: bryaniles@bigpond.com

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