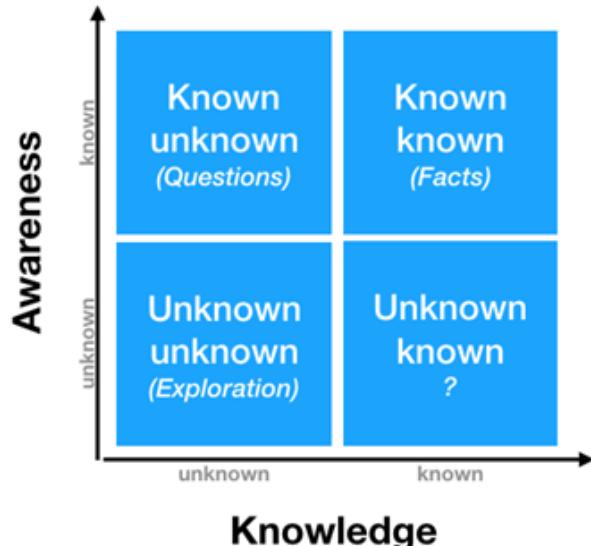




Editor's Notes from Jean Smith



Many of you will be familiar with the ideas contained in the above diagram. Donald Rumsfeld, one-time US Secretary of State for Defence, famously referred to them in his response to a question about Iraq's involvement in the supply of arms to terrorist groups and they are a key tool in assessing risk. When thinking of what to write this month, this framework summed up my U3A experience perfectly!

The knowns knowns: the knowledge I, as a tutor, shared with class members.

The known unknowns: the gaps in my knowledge that I knew would become apparent during my time as a tutor!

The unknown unknowns: the wealth of knowledge that awaits me as I embark on a new course next year, and finally

The unknown knowns: those light-bulb moments when my fragmented knowledge suddenly coalesces and makes sense!

My best wishes to you all for the festive season.

President's Message from Des Taylor

Hello all.

This is the final eNews for 2021. What a year it has been. We thought last December that by now we would be coming out of the Pandemic and everything would be as we knew it. Now we realise that we must "live with COVID" and take precautions for a very long time. U3A Brisbane are planning to return as close to our old ways as possible while still being cautious. Both Face-to-Face and Zoom classes will run in 2022.



In order to be able to ease restrictions in face-to-face classes we have introduced a Vaccination Policy in line with the Government mandate. Consequently:

- Classes can increase in size if the Tutor wishes.
- Classes that require extra time e.g. to see a complete movie can again run.
- Games that involve pieces e.g. Mahjong, Chess, Scrabble etc are again available.
- Masks are not needed in class (but we will follow current government advice on this and you should carry one at all times to use in crowds or confined spaces e.g. Bus).

The Social aspect of classes at U3A has always been very important. Now it is more important than ever when members' movement is restricted and travelling or visiting distant relatives has become difficult. With the current situation we still strive for this social contact. Many members who attend face-to-face classes still have a coffee or lunch after class with friends, but in a café or restaurant instead of in our venue itself. Zoom classes also often arrange to meet at an external venue to gain more personal contact with other class members. With both Face-to-Face and Zoom we still have the opportunity to meet people and make new friends. The rapport with your classmates is still there and builds over time. In addition, our Social Committee will again be organising events in 2022 and our popular monthly Zoom presentations will continue.

Remember it's important to use the *Check-in Qld* app when you arrive at a venue and to [link your Medicare or MyGov account to this app](#) prior to your arrival. This only needs to be done once. Once it is done then, when you use the *Check-in Qld* app, it will automatically give you the green bar of approval to show you are fully vaccinated. You will not need to disclose any other evidence to anyone. This protects your privacy. This system can then be used everywhere – cafes, theatres, sporting events, art galleries etc as well as U3A. If you also go to [Member Dashboard](#) on our website and tick to say you are fully vaccinated then enrolling in face-to-face classes and attending U3A venues will be as simple as we can make it while still following the government mandates.

You have all received information about our Class Schedule for 2022. There are some exciting new Tutors and classes available. I am once again spoilt for choice and have difficulty choosing. I hope you too will find much of interest for 2022.

If you haven't already renewed your membership for 2022, I would urge you to do it now. Our only sources of income are our Membership Fees and our Class Fees. Class Fees are still required to be paid in advance.

I'm hoping that the new Omicron virus can be controlled and that we can open our borders so that we can join family for Christmas. I wish all of you a safe and Happy Christmas.

Office News from Yvonne McGann

Our last class for Term 4 will be on Friday 10th December. Our office will be closed during the holidays but you may continue to send emails to mail@u3brisbane.org.au. Also, phone messages to 3236 3055 will be transferred to our U3A Brisbane mobile. Messages and emails will be attended to as quickly as possible.

Classes for Term 1 will resume on Monday 24th January, but there will be no classes on Australia Day, Wednesday 26th January.

We, office volunteers, wish all our members a happy and safe holiday.

NENA Conference Talk

from Des Taylor

The New Economy Network Australia (NENA) hosted its 6th Annual Conference from 5 – 7 November 2021. U3A Brisbane Science tutor Marty Gellender gave a presentation in the Education stream entitled *University of the Third Age (U3A): Thriving Communities of seniors engaging intellectually and socially*. Marty provided an impressive outline of the U3A ethos to a largely online audience. You can see Marty's talk on the link below. It starts at about 18:00 minutes and runs for 15 minutes.

https://youtu.be/x25_Wk2G7rU?t=1082

Computer Classes in 2022

from Peter Jones, Computer Class Coordinator, City Campus

Maximise Your Investment in Your technology

Ever wondered how to maximise the value of your investment in technology? U3A Computer Classes can help.

Do you have a phone and/or tablet that uses the Android operating system (and this is most phones or tablets apart from Apple iPhones and tablets)? Want to find out how to get the maximum benefit from the investment you have made in your tablet and phone? If so, in Term 1 2022 Harry Gilman, one of U3A's experienced computer tutors, will be running a course that will lead you through the capabilities of Android operating system and the Google experience.

The course, **Android Phone/Tablet & Gmail**, will briefly go over some of Gmail's features and settings, then move to the Android system - making you aware of the important security needs for your device. You'll learn what Android is, how it works, apps in the Google Play Store, downloading and installing apps/widgets, and introducing you to other Google apps, such as: Google Keep, Google Calendar, Google Drive, Google Photos, Google Docs, Google Maps.

For those of us who have an interest in tracing our family history, U3A has a number of Computer Classes that can help you repair and organize your old photos, present a written story and make a presentation or video of your history.

Photoshop gives us the tools to repair and enhance these photos and store them electronically. Particularly important for all those old photos sourced as part of our family's history research, Computer tutor, Ben Lindeboom, has developed a structured series of courses for you to learn how to use

Photoshop Elements structured from **Beginner** onto **Advanced** and then to its more powerful stablemates **Photoshop CC**, **Adobe Camera Raw** and **Lightroom Classic**.

Once you have researched and written your family history, it is time to put your story together. **Microsoft Publisher** provides the tools you need to present your story. Jack Coad will lead you through Publisher to learn how to manipulate features such as page size, text, graphics, and borders. Publisher's strengths are in its ability to bring together text and images to make a professional looking publication. And of course, you will want to present the history you have put together to family, friends and maybe even family reunions. John Canny will teach you how to use **Microsoft PowerPoint** to prepare a presentation of your history using photos, text, diagrams, icons and the many other items you have found in your research. You can also convert your presentation to a video.

Face-to-face classes in all these subjects are available in Term 1, 2022. Some will also be available via Zoom. Check the Term 1 class schedule for details and to enrol in any of the courses.

Zoom Poetry from Yvonne Pick

Tips on Writing Short Fiction, Stories and Poems has been meeting most Tuesday mornings and has continued to flourish, in spite of Covid challenges. We take it in turns to research a well-known poet, and usually have time to read a favourite poem or one of our own. With the easing of restrictions, we have even been able to meet in town for morning tea, and catch up with each other in person.

(Editor: Yvonne's poem, ***Waiting for Christmas 2021***, appears at the end of the newsletter)

U3A Social Events from Angela Butler

An American in Paris. Wednesday 26th January 2022, 1:00pm, QPAC – Lyric Theatre

Bookings for this event are closed. If you have purchased tickets, you will be emailed shortly to advise you that your tickets will be available for collection from the U3A Admin Office &/or mailed (expected to be early December).

9 TO 5 THE MUSICAL. Wednesday 1 June 2022, 1.00 pm, QPAC – Concert Hall

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

Concession: \$69.00 **Full:** \$89.00. Maximum of 4 seats per member.

Bookings Close: 10th March, 2022

A sensation on the West End and inspired by the hit film, the musical tells the story of Doralee, Violet and Judy, three enterprising workmates pushed to the edge by their mean-spirited boss Franklin Hart Jnr. Will the feisty trio manage to change the office culture to reach their full potential or will events unravel when the CEO pays an unexpected visit?



9 TO 5 THE MUSICAL features an all-star Australian cast including **Marina Prior** as smart & sassy career woman Violet Newstead, **Casey Donovan** as newly separated new recruit Judy Bernly, **Erin Clare** as bright & beautiful country gal Doralee Rhodes, **Eddie Perfect** as the controlling boss Franklin Hart Jnr. and featuring **Caroline O'Connor** as busy-body Roz Keith. With a sparkling score by **Dolly Parton** and a book by the iconic movie's original screenwriter **Patricia Resnick**, **9 TO 5** is the quintessential feel-good show for the times. Full of mischief, laughter and affection, it's gold carat fun!

Please note the following for events held at QPAC:

- These events are **NOT** supervised by the U3A Social Committee
- **From Dec 17 2021, only fully vaccinated (or medically exempt) people (16+ years) are permitted to enter QPAC. Please ensure that you can provide proof of vaccination or medical exemption (preferably incorporated into the 'Check in Qld' app on your mobile phone)**
- Wearing of masks will be as directed by the Queensland Health Covid guidelines at the time of the performance. As a safeguard, **bring/wear your own mask with you to the theatre.**
- Depending on current Queensland Health guidelines QPAC's theatre capacities may vary and there may be patrons occupying the seats directly beside, behind or in front of you during a performance.
- **For contact tracing purposes, QPAC uses the 'Check In Qld' app** and encourages all patrons to download the app and fill out their details prior to attending performances at QPAC.

U3A Queensland Arts Competitions (QUAC)
from Greg Doolan



And the Winners are...

Photography competition



First Prize—"Never to old to learn"

Wiert Mensinga—U3A Atherton Tablelands



Second prize—"Capturing the Storm"

Diane Gillham—U3A Redlands District



Third prize—"The story on a plate"

David Luxton— U3A Toowoomba

Creative writing



First Prize	Second Prize	Third Prize
Pamela Swain	Ray Stinson—Hervey Bay	Sue Vance—Hervey Bay
"New Beginnings"	"Dougie"	"Grubby Knees & Butterflies"

All the short stories above can be read on the U3A Network Qld website: www.u3aqld.org.au/news.html

Pencil and Charcoal Portraiture class from Carol Owens



(at left) Self-portrait – Leanne Horrocks

Leanne has been a member of U3A's Pencil and Charcoal Portraiture class during 2021. Here she shares her experience with us, with an example of what she has achieved.

Time to Learn New Skills

I joined the class towards the end of Term 3, initially to improve my knowledge and ability to draw portraits. I had been painting faces and bodies in my art class and was struggling to get the right proportions.

I found I have learnt a lot more about life drawing than simply that. Through Carol's guidance I have learnt skills about different ways of holding a pencil, about hatching and drawing positive and negative spaces; and I've been challenged with great homework exercises before each class.

During the class there is an opportunity to learn from each other by observing each person's process. Everyone has brought their own unique love of drawing to the class and it is a very positive learning experience.

I love the fact that others like me have loved art all their life and have rediscovered a passion for it in their mainly retirement years. This is a self-portrait based on a photo that was taken of me 42 years ago. I then went on to paint the face in oils and the preliminary work I did here certainly helped me to get the features right. It also shows that my hatching technique has greatly improved.

Waiting for Christmas 2021, by Yvonne Pick, November 2021

Waiting wistfully for Christmas
like days of old.
Trapped in a world-wide pandemic,
Longing for normality to return.

22.10.2021. Melbourne, Victoria lifts
260 days of Lockdown on
'Freedom Friday'. Celebrations at
Restaurants, pubs and social gatherings.

1.11.2021 Two years of restrictions lifted.
International flights fly into Sydney Airport.
Family and friends emotionally
Reunite with hugs and kisses.

2.11.2021 Tuesday.
Melbourne Cup Day.
10,000 people allowed into
Flemington Racecourse.

2.11.2021 Brisbane.
Simple pleasures soothe my heart.
A leisurely stroll down Queen Street Mall,
Christmas decorations on show.

A red and green bauble catches my eye.
Large, red and white arched-shaped Santa
Ready for excited children to run through.
Christmas chocolates for sale in stores.

Cherished Christmas Customs,
Begin to cheer the inner soul.
Face masks worn outside the home.
Needle vaccinations freeing the world.

Heroic health workers fight the
Endless struggle against Coronavirus.
Young people's dreams clipped.
Home-schooling kept children safe.

Christ's birth day approaches,
A Season of Goodwill.
Prayers to end global suffering.
Waiting wistfully for Christmas.