



## Editor's Notes from Jane Elliott



You will see below a call for volunteer tutors to meet the increasing demand by members for ongoing learning. The benefits of volunteering are frequently touted – enhanced physical and mental health and wellbeing for a variety of reasons – and despite the pandemic, it seems about 75% of the adult population does volunteer in some form (*State of Volunteering Report, 2021*, by The Centre for Volunteering). But the number of organisations and individuals seeking the support of volunteers is huge. So why choose to volunteer for U3A? An article in the *Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology* (Gray and Stevenson, 2019) suggests the volunteering experience is enhanced when volunteers and participants have a shared identity, such as can be found in a group interested in history, or film, or portraiture, or languages. The article also says the intrinsic rewards of volunteering increase when volunteers know they have the respect and support of the volunteering organisation. My firsthand experience is that U3A has these credentials. I urge you to consider becoming a tutor to enjoy the benefits of an enhanced volunteering experience.

Please consider viewing the (A83) *Creative Portraiture Class's* upcoming exhibition at New Farm Library 6-26 October. You can enjoy New Farm Park's jacarandas in full bloom, too.

## President's Message from Des Taylor

Here we are about to start Term 4. Difficult to believe another year is almost over. I hope we have turned the corner on Covid and can again start to enjoy the activities, outings, and trips that for so long have been unavailable to us. Membership renewals opened in September and I encourage you to continue as U3A members with access to our classes both face-to-face and online, our popular monthly presentations which are free to members and which will continue into next year, and the Social Committee Events such as theatre outings and the Spirit of Christmas concert.

I hope you have enjoyed your classes this year and have met many wonderful people. I hope, too, that you will continue to support U3A Brisbane and our wonderful tutors who put so much effort into their classes.



Our venues are back to normal with the lobbies available and the kitchens open. Come in, enjoy a class with friends, and perhaps have a coffee together afterwards. Wear a mask if you feel it necessary, but masks are optional.

Remember that you must be enrolled to attend a class. Check your [Member Dashboard](#) to be sure. The Dashboard will show your classes and events for Term 4, any payments due, a summary of your payment history, and any special events in which you have enrolled. You can also enrol in or cancel a coming event. The link to our eNews is also now prominently displayed on your Dashboard.

### **Social Committee**

Our Social Committee has been severely restricted over the past 2 years because of Covid restrictions. Marianne Jones (Chair) and Angela Butler have continued to organise theatre tickets and other events such as the Christmas concert despite the difficulties. However, as we move forward into 2023, they are moving on to other things. We thank them for their efforts. They have brought joy to many.

2023 is a time when we hope to have our social program move back into full swing and we are calling for anyone interested in helping us 'get the show on the road' again to come forward to create a new Social Committee. Please [contact me](#) if you can help.

I hope you enjoy Term 4. Let's hope we finish the year on a high.

Deslyn Taylor  
President

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## **Your U3A needs you!**

As we move on from Covid and look at returning to something closer to normality, the time has come to help rebuild your U3A to its former glory however, to do this we need your help in a number of areas:

### **Members**

We have been very lucky over the past couple of years in that the majority of our members have stayed loyal to our U3A and kept it viable by joining online classes. This has been quite a saviour as it has maintained to some extent the social contact and the mental engagement denied when lockdowns were a part of our daily lives. Having said that, we need new members to help us grow again so, talk to your friends and relatives, and espouse the benefits of our great organisation. You are the best advertisement we could possibly have as you know the benefits and can speak with enthusiasm. Don't forget to tell them about our website which is a mine of information and they can join U3A Brisbane through this website. We also have a Facebook page which is constantly updated.

All things considered, U3A Brisbane is remaining viable but we do need both new members and tutors to help us move on to again be the thriving organisation we were before the pandemic put a road block in our path so, any help you can offer in recruiting new members and tutors will be greatly appreciated.

**Des Taylor - President**  
**Greg Doolan - Publicity**

## Tutors Wanted

Tutors are the lifeblood of our organisation as without them we don't exist. We need more to help our U3A to grow and thrive into the future so, if you have a passion for a particular subject or skill, let us know and we will try to match you with some likeminded people to form a new class. It doesn't matter what your passion is, all skills will be considered as we have members hungry for new experiences now. The format for new classes can be either face-to-face or online. Please contact our [Tutor Liaison Officer](#) if you can help.

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## Special Online Presentations in October from Mary Denver

You can book online for these events via the [home page](#) on the website, or via the button at the end of this item.

### **Wednesday 12 October, 11.00am-12.30pm. Alex Zollner, Angel Flight Australia: Angel Flight to the rescue – how a volunteer organisation helps country people deal with “triple trouble” - bad health, poor finances and daunting distance.**



North Queensland-born and raised, Alex Zollner will talk about the amazing work of *Angel Flight Australia*, a charity that, like U3A Brisbane, relies on many volunteers, including pilots with their own aircraft, to do its work. Established in April 2003, Angel Flight is the initiative of another Queensland, Bill Bristow AM, an experienced businessman and pilot, and proud winner of the Australian of the Year Award for Queensland, 2005.

Alex, a lawyer, is the Deputy CEO of Angel Flight, managing its day-to-day operations. As Special Counsel, she also provides legal advice to the CEO. Alex started her career as a Federal Prosecutor for the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, appearing in complex criminal prosecutions before appearing in child protection applications for Queensland's most vulnerable children as the Director of Child Protection Litigation.

Alex will share the remarkable story of Angel Flight: its growing network of pilots from all walks of life, the grateful country people who are their passengers, and the over 4,600 volunteers who work as speakers, supporters and drivers – friendly faces waiting to meet passengers at city airports to transport them to their accommodation or non-emergency medical facility.

### **Wednesday 19 October, 11.00am-12.30pm. Scott Green, Aged Care and Disability Advocacy (ADA): Helping you navigate and access the support you need in the aged care system.**

ADA Australia is a not-for-profit and independent advocacy and education service providing free advocacy support to people living in Queensland who are seeking or receiving Commonwealth-funded aged care services. In this presentation, Scott Green, a Community Development Officer with ADA, will explain the complicated Commonwealth aged care system, and how it works. Whether you are starting to

look at aged care options, already receiving help at home or caring for someone else who does, advocacy support can assist you and your family.



The presentation will cover:

- what advocacy is and how it can help,
- how the aged care system works and supports available,
- rights and responsibilities when receiving aged care services,
- a rights-based approach and why advocacy is important,
- how to seek advocacy help if your rights are not being respected.

Scott has worked for many years in the aged care and disability sector, most recently as a Consumer and Engagement Manager at LifeTec Australia, helping seniors and people with disability access the assistive technology and equipment they need to live independently. Based in Brisbane, in his spare time you'll find Scott happily exploring local mountain bike trails or throwing the ball around with his family and 14-year-old spoodle, *Daisy*.

[Book Here for any of the above events](#)

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## Special Face-to-face Event — Save the Date Coral Reefs and Climate Change, What Can I do?

**Presented by the University of QLD Coralwatch.**

**Date: 23rd November 11:00am until 12:30pm**

**Room 11, 232 Adelaide St, 5th Floor.**

*CoralWatch*, a not-for-profit citizen science program at The University of Queensland, will present "*Coral Reefs and Climate Change, What Can I do?*".



The presentation will include coral biology, the importance of coral reefs, threats to coral reefs and how you can become a citizen scientist collecting valuable data on the reef. Rotating activities at the end will include a sustainability quiz and virtual reef monitoring

**Bookings will be available in the November eNews.**



*“Where has this past year gone, it is hard to believe that we are about to start Term 4 classes.”* Those words are copied from my September 2021 Report: incredible how time flies from one year to the next!

As Covid restrictions are relaxed, it is encouraging to have tutors return to face-to-face classes, and even more encouraging to have members back in the classrooms supporting their tutors. The introduction of Zoom classes enabled many classes to continue through difficult times and to give members the opportunity to continue with their learning experiences. Some classes I believe will continue with Zoom, but others may reassess the situation and decide to return to face-to-face delivery. We also have a number of “inactive” classes. I would like to hear from any tutor who would like either to return to face-to-face teaching or to make their class “active” again in Term 1 of next year.

**Long-standing U3A Tutor and former President Ray Bricknell has issued this URGENT APPEAL for enrolments in his long-running Current Affairs class:**

For most of the past 13 years Ray Bricknell’s Current Affairs class has been the largest and most popular class offered by U3A Brisbane. When it was conducted in our city premises people would see the large numbers pouring out of the room at the end of each class, ask class members about the class, and be attracted to join it. You may even have heard about it from others. Now that the class is only offered on Zoom it does not have this exposure to the members of other classes, and hence the class numbers are dwindling. Being a discussion class, the bigger it is the better it is. Given its past popularity it would be pity if it were to be no longer offered. If you enjoy open-minded, stimulating discussion about the big issues facing Australia and the world, Ray Bricknell would be pleased to have you join this class. Why not give it a try? You can enrol here:

[E01—Current Affairs](#)

We still have many Term 4 classes in which you can enrol by contacting the tutor. Some of those classes are listed below:

**Monday**

F64 – Canasta: double class giving members time to enjoy the game

F11 – Cryptic Crosswords for Beginners: continuing class so will require previous experience

X20 - Fun with numbers: a variety of numerical activities including puzzles, games, quizzes and problem-solving

**Tuesday**

L09 – Tips on Writing Short Fiction Stories: learn to become a more confident writer

J42 – Bahasa Indonesia: class for not-quite-beginners who would like to improve their Bahasa

**Wednesday**

J09 – Arabic Elementary: members wishing to join the class should have a knowledge of the Arabic alphabet

H12 – History of Sex and Gender (primarily from the 18th century onward)

L78 – The Power of Poetry: experience poems in different ways, making for interesting discussions

## Thursday

F20 – Scrabble: double class giving members time to enjoy the game

J56 – Auslan 4 Seniors Beginners: bring a friend so that you can learn and practice Auslan together

J51 – English for Speakers of Other Languages: If you have a friend or relative who needs to improve their English, encourage them to enrol.

## Friday

A21 – Exploring Colour Through Art: for beginners and experienced artists to enhance the appreciation of colour and drawing techniques

### Call for assistance

Members of the *Theatre through the Ages* class are looking for texts to support their study of the Ancient Greek beginnings of Western drama, and to follow through the history in Medieval and Tudor times. Past class members may have copies of two books used in previous semesters, but which are hard to find. Current members would be happy to pay a reasonable price. The books are Medieval and Tudor Drama edited by John Gassner, and Elizabethan Drama also edited by Gassner. Please contact tutor, Jane Lock, if you can assist. [jane.lock6@bigpond.com](mailto:jane.lock6@bigpond.com).

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## Northside Classes from Rod McLary

If you have ever thought you would like to improve your photography skills, then this may be the class for you. Peter Hardie, a tutor in the Northside district, has been offering photography classes for a number of years. His class will take you beyond full automatic point-and-shoot and help you become a better photographer by learning your camera's creative settings and how best to use them to improve your images.

If this class interests you, the full description can be seen in Class Search (P08) and there are vacancies. Join now.

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## Vale Kay Herington from Margaret Gagen

Many former computer students tutored by Kay Herington will be sad to know she died in early September 2022. Kay had been increasingly ill over the last couple of years, and died peacefully in aged care, following a number of strokes.

Kay was engaged in education all her adult life. She completed primary school teacher training in Canberra in the late 1960s, and taught in primary schools in Sydney, Armidale, Toowoomba and Canberra. She had roles as an Education Consultant, School Principal and Assistant to the Principal, over her 40 plus years as an education professional. Following her retirement from paid employment in 2009, Kay joined U3A and then became a tutor for computer classes, especially teaching Publisher and Introduction to

Computer for Beginners. Her detailed class notes helped many to become more familiar with, and confident in, using computers. Kay also served on the U3A committee for a time. Her other interests included music and theatre, gardening and her pet dogs. Kay played recorder in one of the U3A classes, was a season ticket holder for music concerts and theatre and, over her life, sang in many choirs. In the schools she worked in, and every house she lived in, Kay created beautiful gardens. Many of her friends built their gardens around her cuttings and pot plants. Her corgi dogs were significant companions and loves. For a time, Kay showed and bred with one of her corgis.

Kay will be greatly missed by the wide circle of friends who supported her to the end.

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## Meet our Volunteers Rob Hill (Tutor)



Rob Hill runs both face-to-face and Zoom classes in History. He explains the breadth and depth of his involvement in U3A below.

*My current role as tutor of a Modern History class keeps me occupied, interested in my class mates, and continues my education. We each research and prepare PowerPoint presentations on subjects of our own choosing. The variety of subject matter produced to a high standard of scholarship has been enlightening: about 400 topics so far and counting. Looking back, I realise I have learned more about the history of our world than I ever imagined I could. Due to our experience during the pandemic, my class is now a hybrid one. H27 is transmitted to H30 members via Zoom or vice versa depending on the location of the day's presenter. It works.*

*Before 2010, when I joined U3A Brisbane, I practised as a lawyer in Brisbane from the mid-sixties and became President of the Law Society in 1982. I retired from my firm to become involved in Master Planning development a few years later. I spent twenty years living at the Gold Coast where I was Chairman and Chief Executive of Robina Land Corporation until I resigned in 1992. I was then a coach of CEOs for five years with the Executive Connection. I served on the industrial Development Committee of the Gold Coast City Council for some years, was a director of an apprentice training company, and a mentor to a tech start-up.*

*When we returned to Brisbane, my wife and I joined U3A Brisbane because we had heard of U3A Gold Coast and were attracted by the concept. We found we were living handily near the then Vulture Street location. You could see "U3A" emblazoned on the building from the Southbank railway station. During my time with U3A, I have taken two computer courses, enjoyed a science class for two years and been a member of a History class, now called H19 History Case Studies, for 12 years. I initiated Modern History H27 in 2013 and have been its tutor since then. It averages a membership of 45.*

*I enjoyed being a member of the Management Committee for six or seven years, including serving as Vice President. I was involved with Ray Bricknell in the purchase of the Creek Street property, and preparing and issuing the prospectus which raised \$900,000 from members in a note issue to defray its cost. Later, I*

became secretary of the U3A Brisbane Noteholders Association which looked after the interests of member noteholders until they were repaid. As a Committee member, I was also involved in securing the 344 Queen Street premises, and finding, securing and outfitting the Adelaide Street classrooms. More recently, I was engaged in the Constitution revision. I have certainly enjoyed all of that.

I'm very proud to have been associated with U3A's success. I have made some fast friends and enormously enlarged my knowledge and experience of the world and its history. The growth and development of U3A Brisbane over the period I have been involved has been very rewarding to all of us and it has been a stimulating experience for me. U3A is a well-managed, harmonious and financially secure organization, playing a vital role for seniors in Brisbane. May it continue to thrive.

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## U3A Social Events from Angela Butler

For bookings, please contact the U3A office on **3236 3055**, or visit the 97 Creek St office. You can keep up to date with the latest 'SOCIAL EVENTS' on the U3A Website: <https://www.u3abrisbane.org.au>

### **Manon** - Queensland Ballet.

Thursday 6th October 2022, 1:30pm, QPAC – Concert Hall



This event is fully booked – if you have booked for this event, tickets have been mailed/are available for collection from the U3A Admin Office (97 Creek St).

### **Spirit of Christmas Concert 2022**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2022, 2:00pm, QPAC – Concert Hall



QPAC's longest running event, ***Spirit of Christmas*** returns this December to the iconic QPAC Concert Hall.

Two of Australia's leading musical theatre stars will join a host of special guests in uplifting seasonal song and much-loved Christmas carols, beautifully supported by a full symphony orchestra, and the glorious voices of the **QPAC Chamber Choir**.

QPAC's ***Spirit of Christmas*** is a celebration of the true meaning of the festive season; an occasion to rejoice and reflect on the year that has passed and embrace the season's enduring message of Peace, Love and Joy.



**Date:** Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2022, 2:00pm, QPAC – Concert Hall  
**Duration:** 1 hour and 20 min. (No interval, subject to change without notice)  
**Cost:** Concession: \$59.00; Full: \$69.00

**Please note the following for events held at QPAC:**

- These events are **NOT** supervised by the U3A Social Committee
- Please check the QPAC website in relation to Vaccine/Mask wearing requirements:  
[Connecting safely at QPAC](#)
- As a safeguard, **bring/wear your own mask with you to the theatre.**