



**Connecting Seniors to Lifelong Learning**

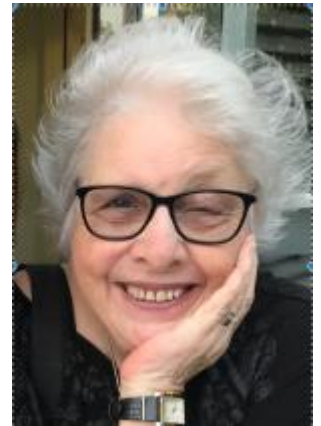
**From the President**

Deslyn Taylor

Welcome back for Term 2 2024.

I'm also back again as President. It is a great honour to hold this position particularly in an organisation such as U3A Brisbane. The last time I held this position we were slowly recovering from COVID with its lockdowns and restrictions. I hope for a brighter year this time.

I would like to say thank you to the recent members of our Management Committee who have moved on – Gabrielle Power West, Mary Denver and Mary-Anne Scott. Gabrielle and Mary have been on the Management Committee with me since 2020. Gabrielle was President in 2023, Mary has been Secretary since 2020. Mary-Anne joined us in 2021 and has been our Workplace Health and Safety officer in recent years. All three have given much time and energy to U3A over a long period of time and I wish them all the best going forward.



Our new Committee were sworn in at our recent AGM and I look forward to working with them. They are:-

<b>Vice-President</b>	John Galligan
<b>Treasurer</b>	Joan Mackay
<b>Secretary</b>	Rod McLary
<b>Member</b>	Cheryl Hayden
<b>Member</b>	Sharyn Johns
<b>Member</b>	Sharon Rothwell

John and Joan were on our previous committee and we welcome new members - Rod McClary, Cheryl Hayden, Sharyn Johns and Sharon Rothwell.

We have had our first Management Meeting and are already making plans for the future. We have much to consider :-

- Our membership is gradually increasing but has not yet achieved Pre-COVID levels and we ask you to help us to raise awareness of U3A in your community. So many people are not aware of the benefits that we offer.
- We are continually introducing new classes but would welcome more tutors. Remember if you have any area of expertise we would welcome you. Formal qualifications are wonderful but not necessary if you have knowledge or experience.
- We will also need to consider accommodation for our Face to Face classes in the coming years and consider the expansion of our Zoom classes.

I'm writing this on Anzac Day where we honour those who gave so much to keep our country free but in thinking of their sacrifice I also thought of our volunteers who, in a small way share that generosity of spirit. If you are in the city for classes, you may be interested in visiting the [Anzac Memorial Galleries](#), right next to our Adelaide St premises

U3A owes its existence to the generosity of its volunteers who give time and energy so willingly. Being a volunteer also has its rewards – the opportunity to share your knowledge and experience with others of like mind and the opportunity to give something back to your community whether as a tutor, working in the office or in a management position. To all those volunteers – Thank you. Please remember to thank them in person if the opportunity arises.

As you are aware our eNews Editor has retired and currently the position is vacant. There is therefore no message from the editor at the beginning of this eNews. The position has been advertised previously but no one has come forward with an offer to help. This eNews is only coming to you through the efforts of a few volunteers who have taken on the extra responsibility so that we can maintain contact with our membership. There is a plea for help later in this issue where I outline the eNews process. Please read it carefully and see if you could assist in any way. The current Team who are doing the work cannot continue indefinitely.

Enjoy your classes for Term 2.

Regards

Des

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## Special Online Presentation in May

### *The Journey to ChatGPT and Beyond: The Story of AI's Ascent to Ubiquity*

**Presenter: John Crook**

**Date: Wednesday 8 May 11am – 12.30pm (via Zoom)**



Is Artificial Intelligence (AI) an interesting novelty or a game-changer like electricity or the printing press? Join me on a journey to explore AI's potential impact. From its humble beginnings to the latest advancements, we'll take a closer look at AI's surprising history over the last 70 years, get insights into the strategies of industry leaders, and explore expert analysis from renowned firms like Goldman Sachs and McKinsey. This journey aims to help you gain a deeper understanding of AI, you can then decide what is your answer to the question posed.

#### **About the Presenter**

John Crook, a Physics graduate from the University of Sussex, has been fortunate enough to have had a 40-year career in software development and executive leadership. He's had the opportunity to work with some amazing teams at British Telecom in the UK, Intel Corporation in Austin Texas, and Softlink in Brisbane, where he eventually became CEO after its acquisition by Volaris. John then transitioned into strategic acquisitions, guiding management teams across Volaris's software businesses. He wrote his first AI program in the 1980s, and he's recently refreshed his AI knowledge with courses from top global institutions. Currently on a professional sabbatical, John is exploring new opportunities and staying engaged with emerging technologies.

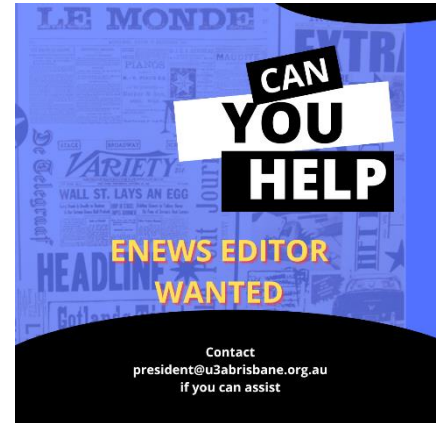
Register via the button below, or from the website home page. You will receive a Zoom link prior to the meeting.

[Register for this Event](#)

## eNews Editor Wanted

### eNews Procedure

- The Editor sends an email to a short list of people who normally have an item for the eNews e.g. President.
- People send their replies as a word document.
- The eNews editor checks for spelling and punctuation mistakes and suitability of material. Occasionally there is something that should not be sent e.g. a member's U3A number and this is removed.  
The editor will then copy all of these into a single Word document and forward this document to our ICT Manager who will do the final layout and formatting.
- The eNews is then put on the website and an email is sent to all members on our Mailing List giving them the appropriate link.



An understanding of the ethos of U3A Brisbane. good spelling, punctuation, use of language and a basic ability to use Microsoft Word are all that is required. If you want to offer more at some point this would be welcomed. Contact [president@u3abrisbane.org.au](mailto:president@u3abrisbane.org.au) if you are interested in helping out.

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## Ode to U3A

Both the sonnet and image below have been generated by GPT4 (AI tool) in response to brief English sentences.

*Upon the stage of life, where wisdom gleams,  
U3A Brisbane, in scholarly array,  
Doth weave a tapestry of learned dreams,  
Where minds unfurl in knowledge's bright array.*

*In halls where echoes of the past reside,  
The eager souls, like bees to nectar sweet,  
Imbibe the essence of the world's wide tide,  
And with each lesson, their horizons greet.*

*O, what a spectacle, this grand display,  
Where age and youth in harmony entwine,  
As seasoned sages guide the eager way,  
And wisdom's torch upon each face doth shine.*

*So let us praise this haven of the mind,  
Where U3A's brilliance forever find.*



## City Campus News

### Gail Hawkins (Tutor Liaison)

Working with tutors and prospective tutors at U3A is very rewarding as I get to chat with people whose life experiences and backgrounds are very diverse, but all have the same objective of wanting to share their knowledge with our enthusiastic members.



We have many tutors who have been taking classes at City Campus rooms for well over ten years, which indicates not only do we have a friendly, safe working environment but it also gives the opportunity to meet like-minded people where long lasting friendships are formed.

When new tutors are asked how they heard about U3A, the most common response is word of mouth, which is the best recommendation you can ask for. Each term there are tutors who take a break to travel or have family commitments, thankfully most return to U3A feeling refreshed and keen to continue with their class after a short break. Classes are not only a learning experience for many of our members but also a social outlet. I'm always impressed when a tutor for whatever reason cancels a class and one of the students offers to facilitate the class so that the learning commitment can continue. That is a compliment to the tutor confirming they have done a good job, but also to the students who are obviously enjoying the class and want to continue with the learning experience.

We are always on the lookout for new tutors, so if you or any of your family or friends would like to learn more about becoming a tutor, please ask them to contact me at: [tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au](mailto:tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au)

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## City Precinct, Northside and Westside Districts

Rod McLary, Districts Manager

We are now into week three of the term but there are still some vacancies in a few classes across the three districts.

If you are looking for a new class, please consider one or more of those below.

**Electric Vehicles 101** – The tutor Phil is offering another session about electric vehicles. This is a stand-alone class and will provide all the information you need to know about EVs. To see all the content that will be covered, look for S02 in the Class Search. The class will be held at **10.00am on Friday 24 May**. Location details are on the website.

**Quintessentially Queensland** – to celebrate Queensland Day on 6 June, there will be two guided walks through the Botanic Gardens at Mt Coot-tha. The guide – Jill Don - will talk about the food and ornamental plants that are unique to Queensland. The walks are at 10.00 and 12.00 – look for B16 and B17. Both will be followed by an opportunity to have coffee with your fellow walkers. Walks at **10.00 and 12.00 on Thursday 6 June**.

**Yoga for Everyone** – if you are keen to do Yoga but were not able to enrol in a city class, this one may be your opportunity. Marta – a qualified Yoga instructor – is offering a class at Clayfield. It is suitable for all fitness levels. All details are on our website – look for B41. The class will be held at **11.00 on Fridays commencing Friday 26 April**.

Of course, there are many other classes being offered across the districts. If there is a class which interests you, check with the tutor first to ensure that there are vacancies. Some classes are very popular and fill up quickly.

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## U3A Social Events

Heather Dowling



**For all social event 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/groups/social-group>

## A Day at the Races

Date: **Wednesday 8 May 2024**

**Location:** Eagle Farm and Doomben racecourses  
**Duration:** 9:30am to 2:30pm  
**Cost:** \$20  
**Availability:** 20 places

This is an historical outing, not one revolving around horseracing.

Settlers came from all walks of life to live in Qld in 1825 and having left comfortable homes and lifestyle, found themselves in a “bare” country. They noticed that the Indigenous people enjoyed music and dancing and thought they would bring some of their “old” life into their “new”.

Some of the richer settlers decided to open Eagle Farm in 1865 as a place for social activities after Queensland became a State. Racing, as such, started in Moreton Bay.



Eventually there were courses in Archerfield and New Farm Park. Out of these the racing industry developed.

Doomben as a racecourse was established in 1933.

**There is no pickup.** Find your own way to Eagle Farm.

**Itinerary** **Arrive** by 9.30 a.m.

**10.00 a.m.**

**Queensland Horse Racing Museum**

Parking at Eagle Farm is on the Infield car park which can be accessed from Nudgee Road by turning left at Woolworths and going through a tunnel into the stable area and car park.

**Lunch at 11.45 a.m.** at your own cost.

**Gallopers Sports Club** - A table will be reserved.

You can drive to Gallopers Sports Club which is only a couple of minutes away by car or approx. 10 minutes on foot.

After lunch you can then either drive to the **Library & Racing Archive** at Doomben Racecourse which again, is only 2 minutes away by car or 10 minutes' walk.

**1.00 p.m.**

**The Museum, Library and Racing Archive**, Doomben Racecourse

The car park at Doomben quite close to the **Library**. Gate 4 or 5, Hampden Street at the intersection with Onslow Street.

The outing ends between 2.00 p.m.-2.30 p.m. but if you would like to have a taste of racing, Eagle Farm has a racing program on the 8<sup>th</sup> and will be able to enjoy the last few races. It is FREE entry.

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## TINA – Wednesday matinee, 7 August – 1.00 p.m. Lyric Theatre

Non-Concession \$120 – Concession \$90.00

12 in total



**Tina: The Tina Turner Musical** is a jukebox musical featuring the music of Tina Turner and depicting her life from her humble beginnings in Nutbush, Tennessee, to her transformation into a rock and roll superstar.

Featuring more than 20 of her iconic songs, including “Simply the Best”, “River Deep – Mountain High” and “Proud Mary”, this smash-hit musical is bringing Australian audiences to their feet night after night.

With critics calling it “a rock music spectacular” (**Limelight**) and “breathtakingly exciting” (**ArtsHub**), this heart-pumping production is guaranteed to raise the roof at the Lyric Theatre!

All theatre tickets purchased are on a first-come, first-served basis. They are all in the stalls and are excellent prices considering the original prices. If there is a demand for more tickets, I will do what I can to obtain some more.

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