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# O.W.L.S.

OLDER WISER LEARNING SENIORS



Volume 7 Issue 3  
April 2017



## President's piece Andy Fechner

### Management committee members

<i>President</i>	
Andy Fechner	Ph 5541 2072
<i>Vice President/Publicity Officer</i>	
Ray Folley	Ph 5544 2024
<i>Secretary/Newsletter</i>	
Yvonne Berry	Ph 5541 2604
<i>Treasurer</i>	
Pat Millard	Ph 5541 2492
<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	
Michele Goucher	Ph 5541 3870
<i>Course coordinator</i>	
Donna Fowler	Ph 5543 3739
<i>Webmaster</i>	
George Evans	Ph 5541 0706
<i>Facebook</i>	
Finella Loch	Ph 5541 4491
<i>Social activities facilitator</i>	
Di Johnson	Ph 0468 849 448
<i>Membership Secretaries</i>	
Sue Estbergs	Ph 5541 4445
Sue Manning	Ph 3200 1619

I had almost forgotten what it sounded like....the first few tapping noises, steadily increasing into a louder drumming and then into a soft roar. It was definitely rain, very welcome rain on the tin roof. Living a little way out of town we had seen some good showers pass over Beaudesert in the previous two weeks, but despite our best entreaties, the rain had stubbornly avoided us, until this last week. Within a few days the paddocks have gone from brown to firstly yellow and are now definitely showing green patches, and the grass around the house yard no longer crunches underfoot. I think this break in the weather is a J.I.T. event, (just in time), but we really need lots more.

The next few weeks see so much activity. The first term of 2017 ends on 31 March, (same day as our AGM and of course, that brings school holidays. Some of our members will be busy babysitting, and a few of our classes will cease for the two-week break. Your course tutor/facilitator will let you know of any schedule changes.

### Changes

Have you moved house?  
Changed your telephone number?  
Got a new email address?  
If so, please let us have your up to date details for our database to ensure you receive all information sent to our members.

**Vale**  
It is with deep regret that I have to inform you of the recent passing of one of our members.....Barbara Mackenzie.

Barbara was a member of Jimboomba U3A and transferred to our joint group two years ago. She was an avid Bridge player, and will be missed by everyone who knew her.

Our condolences are extended to all of her family and friends.

This is followed by a spate of public holidays, including an important event on the Christian calendar, Easter. For those who hold this holy period dear, may you take the time to worship and reflect. For those who plan to travel and holiday away, please do so safely, and have a wonderful time. For those who anticipate a chocolate fest, (particularly the little ones), may the Easter bunny leave lots of eggs and sweets where you can find them.

In closing, we must remember that April each year also brings us another anniversary of Anzac Day, which this year on 25 April marks 102 years since the landings in Gallipoli. This event has been branded on the Australian psyche ever since, and rather than being forgotten has become entrenched as a National day for our country. Lest we forget.

Until next edition, Andy.



### Friends of the committee

If you would like to join with the following people who have nominated that they will help where they can at occasional events outings and functions, your involvement will be most welcome.

June Carey	Patricia Castles
Carol Castles	Trish Alexander
Denice Knight	Rita Evans
Lise Leatherbarrow	Catherine Kelly
Rosemary Ryan	

To register as a friend of the committee, please contact:

- Andy Fechner president OR
- Donna Fowler course coordinator

P 5541 2072 | 5543 3739

E andyfechner@bigpond.com  
normdonna@dodo.com.au

### Welcome to new members

We are delighted to welcome five new members to Beaudesert U3A -

- \* Yolanda Newman
- \* Patricia Little
- \* Marj Burnett
- \* Joan James
- \* Margaret Dunn



Some of you have already participated in the activities of your choice, where we are sure you are making many new friends.

### Twin Towns shows

The current list of shows and dates of the shows at Twin Towns is not available at the moment.

As soon as the information is to hand, an email will be sent out to members. You need to book the shows yourself, and then contact Beaucare regarding transport on their bus. Contact details will be included with the list of shows.



Member of U3A Network Queensland

The thoughts and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the named individual contributor alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, U3A committee, U3A, or its members.

# Current courses - term two 2017

## 18 April-23 June

All course participants must be paid up members of Beaudesert U3A. Most sessions have a minimum fee of \$2 towards venue expenses (tea/coffee aircon etc.) If necessary, extra course costs for other requirements will be set by tutors.

### Acoustic guitar

Thursdays Centacare rooms 1.30 pm-3.30 pm. Tutor Ken Jurd.  
Contact Laurel 5541 2072 email andyfechner@bigpond.com

### Aqua aerobics

In recess until September 2017.  
Contact Paulette 5543 1261

### Art appreciation

Thursdays 10 am-12 noon Centacare rooms. Contact Mary 5544 3146 or Jean 5541 3706

### Art group "The Limners"

Wednesdays 9 am-12 noon at the Centacare rooms.  
Contact Denise 5546 9879

### Book club

Meets first Monday of each month 2 pm-4 pm at 151 Cedar Grove Road Cedar Grove. Cheese, nibbles, tea, coffee provided. BYO drinks.  
Contact Lynn 5543 1430 or mobile 041 707 8712  
Contact Elizabeth 5546 9689

### Card playing - Beaudesert

Every Monday 1 pm-4 pm at Centacare rooms Enjoy euchre, canasta, samba, 500 or Bolivia.  
Contact Pat 5541 2492 or 0413 121 367

### Card playing - Jimboomba

Meets every Thursday afternoon 12 noon-3 pm at Dorrington House Jimboomba.  
Contact Pat 5541 2492 or 0413 121 367

### Croquet club

Play Tuesday 9 am-12 noon at Laravale School of ... situated in Christmas Creek Road. Contact George 5541 0706 or Trish 042 948 9989

### Computer group

Mondays 10 am-12 noon at Centacare bistro room. Members may bring their laptop along for assistance by tutors or computer group members with individual tasks or problems.  
Contact George 5541 0706

### Gardening group - BUGs

Meet third Friday of each month 10.00 am-12 noon at Centacare. Trips away between each meeting.  
Contact Liz 048 815 5506, email brizzie@bigpond.com

### General discussion group

Meets Tuesdays 9.30 am-11.30 am Beacare Community Room 44 Tina Street Beaudesert. General discussions on any subject group members propose.  
Contact Andy 5541 2072

### HAPII

Meets every Wednesday 1pm-2.30 pm at Centacare. Yoga, mild exercise to music, light meditation, discussions on health, etc. Wear comfortable clothing, bring mat/towel for exercises, pen, paper.  
Contact Jenine 041 3669 990

### Jigsaw library

Select a jigsaw (or a wasgij) to use from the library. For selection and collection

contact Sandra 5541 0978.

### Mahjong - Jimboomba

Meets every Tuesday 11 am-2 pm Dorrington House Jimboomba.  
Contact Elizabeth 5546 9689

### Mahjong - Beaudesert

Thursday afternoons 1 pm-3.30 pm Centacare rooms. Beginners welcome.  
Contact Denise 5541 2801

### Mosaics

Meet Mondays 1.30 pm-3.30pm at 533 Cryna Road Beaudesert. A hands-on course in a fascinating art form.  
Facilitator Beryl/contact Tina 0418 780 861

### Nordic walking

Meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 6.00-7.00 am at the soccer field by Beaudesert tennis courts. You will need a pair of poles, comfortable sports walking shoes, bottle of water.  
Contact Lawrie 0423 322 975

### Social conversational French

Every Monday 1.00 pm-3.00 pm Centacare rooms.  
Contact Jane 5541 2321

### Social lunch/outing - April

The next social lunch will be held on Friday 7 April at the Happy Valley restaurant, Beaudesert. See page 3 for details.

### Social tennis

Wednesdays 8 am-12 noon venue Beaudesert tennis courts Boonah Road.  
Contact Tex 5541 4772

### Table tennis

Thursdays 9 am-12 noon held at the Uniting Church hall.  
Contact Des or Pamela 5541 2662 or 0448 133 146



The croquet group take a break for morning tea (left) and Sue Estbergs lines up a shot. (right).



Course coordinator - Donna Fowler | P 5543 3739 | E normdonna@dodo.com.au

## Thank you to all of our sponsors

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State Member for Beaudesert

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## Social lunch - March

There were 24 U3A members (plus one visitor) at the March

lunch outing at Charlie's Restaurant. This newly opened restaurant gave us good food, and plenty of it, for \$15 per head. Garlic bread, pizzas, salad, and three varieties of pasta dishes and complimentary soft drinks. We were able to sing "Happy Birthday" to one of our

newer members, Marilyn Liebke, (left) who was celebrating her special day with her husband Colin.

The restaurant is currently BYO and will be fully licenced soon. There are plans afoot to extend the dining area to cater for bigger groups; it is good to see another restaurant of a different ethnic background in Beaudesert.



Marilyn and Colin Liebke celebrating Marilyn's birthday at the U3A March lunch outing at Charlie's



Donna Fowler and Laurel Fechner enjoying the lunch at Charlie's.

## Social lunch - April (note change of date)

The April lunch outing will be changed to **Friday 7 April** because of Good Friday falling on 14 April. This time the venue is Happy Valley restaurant, William Street, Beaudesert. U3A members, their partners/friends are welcome to attend.

RSVP to Di Johnson  
Phone/text 0468 849 448  
Email [candyroxy1946@gmail.com](mailto:candyroxy1946@gmail.com)

## Aqua aerobics Paulette Watson

Just as the ancient Roman baths were renowned for

being a social venue as well as being a relaxing way to have a wash, so our U3A aqua aerobics class aims to be a social and fun way to get exercise.

The exercise programme aims to work the main muscle groups and improve co-ordination, with sustained aerobic activity, balance and stretch work. Hopefully, participants became acquainted with muscles they forgot they had.

The number of aqua aerobics continues to grow. There are 60 members on the books and class

numbers average around 20-25 people, with 31 as the record attendance so far. No doubt the long hot summer has contributed to the higher number of attendees, after all, what outdoor exercise could you do in the heat we had? None the less, most new members came to the group from "word of mouth" recommendation, or are friends of current members and some at the recommendation of their doctor. I am pleased to note that there has been a fourfold increase in the number of gentleman participants. They tend to be the dwellers of the deep for some reason.

We make the most of the pool season and the current season started when the

pool opened in September. Congratulations to the hardy souls who joined me on those cooler mornings. We will conclude when the pool closes on the Thursday before Easter. I hope all of you have had fun and benefited from the class.

I will conclude with a little quote which suggests why it might be best for you to look after yourself -

*"At age 20, we worry about what others think of us. At age 40, we don't care what they think of us. At age 60, we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all."*

*Ann Landers (1918-2002)*



## Social conversational French

Jane Blunck

French. We start our session with reading our 'stories' that we have written and then discuss them, in French, of course. Then we learn new vocabulary, verb conjugation and tenses and grammar, including the agreement of



Sue checks out the new web site where the French news is spoken slowly.

Every Monday afternoon, a small but enthusiastic group gets together to 'speak'

adjectives to their nouns. Did you know that a table is feminine and a book is masculine? And this new work serves as the basis of a new conversation.

This year we are moving into the technological world when Sue Bradford raises the bar and guides us through French news from a web site where the news is spoken slowly. Plans are ahead to access the computer more often to hear 'real' French speakers.

Another initiative is that each member of the group takes a turn in speaking about an aspect of France. Such topics have included the cathedral of Avignon, things you may not know about Le Louvre, and traditional French food. We like to think our French is improving and that we are having fun doing it.



Jane and Sue enjoying their French-speaking lesson



## A Word or Two *about this and that*

the Beaudesert High School PE students fitness programme, wherein year 12 PE students studying for a personal trainer qualification, provided fitness programmes for us and then took us through our paces. It was hard work, a lot of fun and it was good to know we were helping students put their theory into practice.

Another way of keeping fit and having fun at the same time, is to participate in one of the physical activities offered by our U3A - aqua aerobics, Nordic walking, tennis, table tennis, croquet or the new HAPII fitness group (pictured above). Have a go, you might surprise yourself at what you can do - and your level of fitness will definitely improve.

Exercise - a dirty word to some; to others, it is an important part of their day. I have been part of

## For sale

Folding chairs (right), for indoor or outdoor use. In very good condition. They are easy to fold and store. 20 chairs available at just \$4 each. Contact U3A member Tina Jones if you would like to purchase any.

Phone 041 878 0861

Email [tj.16@bigpond.com](mailto:tj.16@bigpond.com)





# Plea for volunteer "Earth Day" stewards - Saturday 22 April

Cheryl Folley

If you have ever worked as a steward at a public event and could spare a couple of hours on Saturday, April 22, Llinos Hanson at Beaudesert library would like to hear from you (or indeed, if you have no experience but feel you have the capacity to become a steward for a couple of hours). NB - all volunteers at this event will need a Blue Card and also will need to complete a simple volunteer form which is available from the library.

Llinos is the coordinator of the Earth Day Festival which will be held in the library and Jubilee Park precinct from 9 am until 1 pm and needs volunteers who can arrive early on the day to supervise the setting up of stalls and help to get exhibitors organised in good time.

"Everything will be mapped out and sites allocated: we just need volunteers to

make sure everything is ready to go when the time arrives," she says.

AND if you have an interest in a sustainable activity such as soap making, re-cycling, native flora or fauna – anything so long as it fits the theme - and would like to have a market stall, just ask Llinos via

llinos.h@scenicrim.qld.gov.au

or phone 5540 5142. There will be no charge for stalls, but all exhibitors must carry public liability insurance.

Members of the U3A group BUGs will be on hand to run a gardening stall which will be aimed at encouraging children to learn more about plants.

Earth Day is a free, international celebration which is aimed at helping to build a healthy and sustainable environment. Two of the major attractions will be the ABC-TV's Gardening Australia contributor, Jerry

Coleby-Williams, and the children's character Dirt Girl from the ABC series of the same name.

Plans for the day include presentations, crafts, gardening, hobbies with a sustainability theme, a scavenger hunt, workshops, information booths and even a snake catcher on hand to demonstrate his art.

Llinos says: "This event is heavily dependent on volunteers – the more the merrier! In previous events such as the Fun Palace it has been wonderful to see the community pull together to provide new opportunities for the area. It will be lots of fun to be there, and there will be plenty for grandparents to enjoy with their grandchildren of all ages."



**Get savvy** It was encouraging to see so many Beaudesert U3A members at the recently-held "Get savvy" morning at The Centre. There were some very interesting topics presented - dementia/Alzheimers, oral health, understanding autism, immunisation, fire safety, to name a few, and most attendees came away feeling quite

enlightened. There were also tables for other community groups such as Centacare, Beaucare, Beaudesert Funerals, Probus, U3A Beaudesert, some of which had free giveaways. And, as usual, the Scenic Rim Council provided a tasty and healthy morning tea for everyone.



Some of the Beaudesert U3A members at the "Get savvy" morning at The Centre

## Join the walk

A date to mark on your calendar - Sunday 7 May. It is the annual "walk to d-feet motor neurone disease" walk which is held at Roma Street Parklands.

The Beaudesert U3A Nordic walking group will be entering a team and everyone is encouraged to join in and help raise funds for this very worthy cause. Registration details will be issued shortly. If you would like further information, contact U3A member, Marian Schwarz, phone 5541 2147.



## Thank you to all of our sponsors



## A brain teaser

contributed by Barry Owen

Add one line to one character in these sets of numbers (below) to give the answer stated

a)  $5 + 5 + 5 = 550$

b)  $10\ 10\ 10 = 950$

Solution at the bottom of the page.

## Lawyers vs insurance

A hard lesson learned - or karma?

This is the best lawyer story of the year, decade, and probably the century.

A Charlotte, NC, lawyer purchased a box of very rare and expensive cigars, and then insured them against fire among other things.

Within a month having smoked his entire stockpile of these great cigars and without yet having made even his first premium payment on the policy, the lawyer filed a claim against the insurance company. In his claim, the lawyer stated the cigars were lost 'in a series of small fires.' The insurance company refused to pay, citing the obvious reason: that the man had consumed the cigars in the normal fashion. The lawyer sued and won! In delivering the ruling, the judge agreed with the insurance company that the claim was frivolous.

The Judge stated, nevertheless, that the lawyer held a policy from the company in which it had warranted that the cigars were insurable and also guaranteed that it would insure them against fire, without defining what is considered to be unacceptable fire, and was obligated to



## Birthday greetings

to our members celebrating birthdays in April

Burnett Darvall  
Graeme Foreman  
Donna Fowler  
Lorraine Rowe

Beryl Lower  
Di Johnson  
Leo Sorensen



## My Beaudesert

an original poem by Scenic Rim resident, Len Bischoff

Now you may have travelled near and far; overseas you may have been,  
But the beauty of Beaudesert Shire is something to be seen.  
Have you stood and watched the sunrise when the sun  
peeps over the hill,  
Seen the beauty of our bushland and wished time would  
stand still?

Have you been to see our rivers; have you sat there by the  
stream  
And watched the rippling water and thought it all a dream?  
Have you ever climbed Mt Barney to the Lower Portals shack  
Or been up to O'Reilly's and walked the Stinson track?

Have you seen the majestic waterfalls, so placid and serene  
As you walk around the pathways up at Tamborine?  
Have you seen the bullock wagons at Rathdowney Heritage  
Day  
Or gone to see the Lost World when you drove out Kerry  
way?

Have you seen the mobs of cattle as they grazed the hills  
and plains  
Or watched the foals all frolicking around at Innisplain?  
Have you seen our country churches when last you drove  
around  
Or been to Kooralbyn Valley where the kangaroos abound?

## Sound familiar?

Ever notice, the older we get, the more we're like computers?

- ◆ We start out with lots of memory and drive,
- ◆ then we eventually become outdated,
- ◆ crash at odd moments,
- ◆ acquire errors in our systems,
- ◆ and have to have our parts replaced.



pay the claim.

Rather than endure lengthy and costly appeal process, the insurance company accepted the ruling and paid \$15,000 to the lawyer for his loss of the rare cigars lost in the 'fires.' NOW FOR THE BEST PART... After the lawyer cashed the cheque, the insurance company had him arrested on 24 counts of ARSON!!!! With his own insurance claim and testimony from the previous case being used against him, the lawyer was convicted of intentionally burning his insured property and was sentenced to 24 months in jail and received a \$24,000 fine.

This is a true story and was the first place winner in the recent Criminal Lawyers Award Contest.

Contributed by Andy Fechner

Does anyone recognise this Beaudesert U3A member?



It's a self-sculpture of none other than Bruce Avery.

Have you seen our giant pumpkins and the Beaudesert Blues we grow,  
As you wandered through the pavilions at the last Beaudesert Show?

Well, I've lived around Beaudesert for over fifty years; I've had some really happy times and I've also shed some tears.

I've seen the townsfolk hurting as the shops came burning down;  
The sad faces of the workers when AMH closed down.  
But I've seen the place in springtime when the trees come into bud  
And I stood upon the hill and watched the Logan River flood.  
This may not be your homeland or the country of your birth  
But you'll find Beaudesert people are the friendliest on earth.  
So let us join together and pray to God above  
That Beaudesert will be strong again, this Beaudesert that I love.

Reproduced with the kind permission of the author

## Solution to brain teaser

Add a stroke to the first + to resemble 4 so number becomes  $545 + 5 = 550$

Add a stroke to the second 10 to resemble word "TO" so it becomes  $10\ to\ 10 = 950$  (o'clock)