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# O.W.L.S.

OLDER WISER LEARNING SENIORS

**Volume 8 Issue 3  
April 2018**



## President's piece *Andy Fechner*

So, are you going, or are you like me and planning to watch the Commonwealth Games events from the comfort of your own lounge room?

What a month coming up, with end of term one already, school holidays, Easter, Anzac Day and of course the much anticipated and highly hyped Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast.

We have just come off the back of a busy period in March, which culminated with our AGM on Friday 23rd. My congratulations and thanks to those who have continued as Committee members, and also to those who have got involved for the first (or second) time. A list of your new committee is on the front page of your OWLS.

While on the subject of this year's AGM, I must express my disappointment with the poor attendance compared to previous years. Out of a membership of over 200, only 14 members on top of the committee of 11 bothered to come along. There was no danger of being seconded for a role, and a free morning tea was supplied along with an opportunity to chat with the new committee and various course tutors. Thank you to those few who sent prior apologies. Perhaps next year.

There are a couple of major events in and around Beaudesert scheduled for April, hosted by the Scenic Rim Council....details are further in this edition, but make a note of Easter Monday 2 April at Jubilee Park and then Saturday 14 April at Ramada resort Kooralbyn.

April also sees the cessation of our aqua aerobics activities with the closure of the Beaudesert pool for the season at the end of the school holidays. Mark September down as your "back to swimming" date claimer. Our Scrapbooking class is already turning out some great work. There is always room for more crafty members here. Just contact your new course coordinator Laurel Fechner for details. In addition, our Nordic walking group are adding regular walkers to their ranks to cater for those who are unable to cope with arms and legs going in sync!! Last but not least, George Evans is extending the computer group to include "other technology" (pretty much everything from phones to drones).....

Have a safe and happy Easter, see you on the other side of the Games. Until next edition,

*Andy Fechner*

## Management committee members

<i>President</i>	
Andy Fechner	Ph 5541 2072
<i>Vice President</i>	
Ray Folley	Ph 5544 2024
<i>Secretary/Newsletter</i>	
Yvonne Berry	Ph 5541 2604
<i>Treasurer</i>	
Pat Millard	Ph 5541 2492
<i>Membership secretary/assistant treasurer</i>	
Michele Goucher	Ph 5541 3870
<i>Course coordinator</i>	
Laurel Fechner	Ph 5541 2072
<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>Assistant membership secretary</i>	
Jude Logan	Ph 5541 0582
<i>Publicity</i>	
Cheryl Folley	Ph 5544 2024

## 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
Rosemary Ryan	Lise Leatherbarrow
Catherine Kelly	Judith Zaugg

To register as a friend of the committee, please contact Andy Fechner

**P** 5541 2072

**E** andyfechner@bigpond.com



## Beaudesert U3A committee 2018

*Front row, (L-R) Andy Fechner, Ray Folley, George Evans, Cheryl Folley*

*Back row, (L-R) Laurel Fechner, Michele Goucher, Jude Logan, Pat Millard, Finella Loch, Yvonne Berry, (absent Di Johnson)*

*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.*



Member of U3A Network Queensland

# Current courses - term two 2018

## 17 April-29 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

Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 7.30 am-8.30 am, at the Beaudesert pool.  
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

### 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

### Computer/other technologies

First and third Mondays, 9.30 am-12.30 pm at Centacare bistro room. All technologies included - mobiles, computers, tablets, drones, video recorders, TV channels, electronics, backups and similar technology.  
Contact George 5541 0706

### Croquet club

Play Tuesdays 8.00 am-11.30 am at Everdell Park, Gleneagle.  
Contact George 5541 0706 or Trish 042 948 9989



### 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 Ken Moran Life Centre, 64 Tina Street Beaudesert (behind Beaudesert Hospital). General discussions on any subject group members propose.  
Contact Andy 5541 2072

### 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.  
Contact Beryl 5541 2120

### Nordic walking

Meet by the pool/library Monday and Friday, by the showgrounds gates Wednesday, walk 6.00-7.00 am. You will need a pair of poles, comfortable sports walking shoes, bottle of water.  
Contact Lawrie 0423 322 975

### Scrapbooking

Second Monday of each month, 9.30 am-11.30 am, 360 Lambert Road, Nindooindah. \$10/session payable on the day.  
Contact Anita 0408 452 584

### Social conversational French

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

### Social lunch - Friday April 13 from 12 noon

Beaudesert RSL, William Street, Beaudesert.  
RSVP to Di Johnson - phone/text 0468 849 448, email candyroxy1946@gmail.com

### 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

### Walking

Same days/times as Nordic walking (see above).

Walk with the Nordic walkers - no poles needed. Comfortable sports walking shoes, bottle of water.  
Contact Lawrie 0423 322 975

New



Course coordinator  
Laurel Fechner | 5541 2072 | andyfechner@bigpond.com

## Thank you to all of our sponsors





## Computer group *Stuart Gearey* An American speaks of space travel at the U3A meeting

The U3A computer group meetings can cover many topics but none so unusual as that held on Monday 5 March.

A chance meeting in 1987 of Stuart Gearey with a young, 20 year old Aerospace Engineering student from America, revealed a most interesting and unusual character in Ralph Pallmer. Some 30-odd years later, Ralph reappeared from Florida to visit Stuart and, as a guest at our meeting, he presented a glimpse into his activities in the meantime. A tale of his work with NASA, involving moon probes, the space shuttle programme, and even the rocketry necessary to reach Mars, made for most interesting discussion. Not to mention his time with the United Nations, keeping tabs on global nuclear hot spots – where they are and what they are used for.

Thank you Ralph, for sharing your fascinating career path.



*Stuart Gearey, and Ralph Pallmer discussing Ralph's drone*

## Mosaics

*Tina Jones*

Passionate as we are about our craft, with a unanimous vote we decided to have a day out to visit Oz Mosaics studio at Coorparoo all in the name of learning more about mosaics.

We were greeted by mosaic artist and instructor, Sandra Robertson, who was kind enough to share some of her knowledge and tips. After a good solid hour of discussion and sharing information, heads were spinning with creative thoughts of what new creations we are going to start next week. We all made purchases, and satisfied with our stash of tiles, grout, and bits of this and that, decided that lunch at the Easts League Club was a perfect way to end the day before making the trip home. A most enjoyable day...



*Front row: Morris Lamb, Beryl Lower, Patricia Lamb, Darla Templeton  
Back row: Robyn O'Donnell, Noella Griffiths, Lindy Johnston, Tina Jones, Donna Fowler*

## Social lunch - Friday 9 March

The March lunch at the Happy Valley Chinese restaurant in Beaudesert. Twenty five members attended and the meals were enjoyed by all as usual. The special lunch menu had plenty of variety on offer, and at \$11 per plate was excellent value.

The service was quite quick despite a busy seating. Glad to see a few of our newer members along too.





## Computer and technical group

George Evans

The computer Group has now been renamed computer and technical group. The reasoning behind this is that successive meetings have generally migrated to other technical subject matter due to a similar connection, ie computer – tablet – mobile phone – radio transmitter – TV channels and reception – electronics – backups and what media to use – video recorders – HD Recording from TV – remote control of computer – radio remote control devices – drones - TV/video/CD/ household systems - rockets - space craft, etc, etc.

Given the large scope of interest shown by members, it has been decided to open up the field of discussion to attendees allowing individual presentations by members and visitors to be made.

Do not fear, we will continue to assist members with Computer related problems which was the original mandate for the group.



## Meet Larry ..

contributed by Michele Goucher



A new teacher was trying to make use of her psychology courses. She started her class by saying, "Everyone who thinks they're stupid, stand up!" After a few seconds, little Larry stood up. The teacher said, "Do you think you're stupid, Larry?" "No, ma'am, but I hate to see you standing there all by yourself!"

Larry watched, fascinated, as his mother smoothed cold cream on her face. "Why do you do that, mummy?" he asked. "To make myself beautiful," said his mother, who then began removing the cream with a tissue. "What's the matter, asked Larry, "giving up?"

Larry's kindergarten class was on a field trip to their local police station where they saw pictures tacked to a bulletin board of the 10 most wanted criminals. One of the youngsters pointed to a picture and asked if it really was the photo of a wanted person. "Yes," said the policeman, the detectives want very badly to capture him." Larry asked, "Why didn't you keep him when you took his picture?"

## Social lunch - Friday April 13

The social lunch for April will be held on Friday 13 April at the Beaudesert RSL. All U3A members, their partners and friends are welcome to attend.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Di Johnson

- Phone/text 0468 849 448
- Email [candyroxy1946@gmail.com](mailto:candyroxy1946@gmail.com)

## International Women's Day breakfast



Annabel McKay and Jenny Bailey were the guest speakers at the International Women's Day breakfast that was held at The Centre in March, the theme of which was "Press for Progress".

What two inspirational, strong women they are – certainly women that the women and young girls of today could look up to and from whom they could learn a few things about life.

Annabel was born at 26 weeks' gestation with profound bilateral sensory neural hearing loss and while some people may see that as a "disability" Annabel certainly did not. She worked very hard to achieve her dream of becoming a nurse and in 2013 she was

the sole recipient of the Australian Graduation Nurse of the Year and received the Pride of Australia Medal for Care and Compassion. Annabel is also the Scenic Rim Australia Day ambassador.

Jenny comes from a background of journalism, having worked on several rural newspapers and also as a rural reporter for the ABC. She met and married Sam McKay who had suffered two brain bleeds at a very early age and then as a teenager a car smash left him a quadriplegic. Sam and Jenny run their own 1,200 hectare cattle and beef station and Sam is also a public speaker. In 2006 they wrote a book

## Nordic walking and non-Nordic walking

Beaudesert U3A Nordic walkers can be seen walking the streets of Beaudesert on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at the unsociable hour of 6 am. We walk for about an hour so if you are looking for a bit of exercise and some great camaraderie, come along and join us on our walks.

Poles are not necessary, unless of course you want to learn Nordic walking. A good pair of walking shoes are essential and it is advisable to bring water to drink on the warmer mornings.

Contact Lawrie for further information 042 3322 975.



*Head Over Heels*" which became a bestseller.

Words like "strong", "caring", "compassionate", "genuine" "intelligent", "down to earth", "determined", can only begin to describe each of these women. They are an inspiration to all women of all ages and it was a pleasure to hear them tell their stories.

Special thanks must go to the organisers of the breakfast, Christy Schloss and Jenna Turnbull of the Scenic Rim Regional Council Events team. The breakfast was nutritious and tasty, and the goody bag was a lovely surprise.

**Be Healthy and Active** *Be Healthy and Active* organised by the SRRC has been extended for the months of June and July and some of Beaudesert U3A's activities have been included.

Nordic walking/walking, tennis, table tennis, croquet and computers and other technology are being offered to the public to "try before they buy", wherein they pay the group fee (usually \$2) and are able to attend the activity for the duration of the programme. If they would like to continue in the activity, at the end of the programme, they need to join U3A.

The booklet *Be Healthy and Active* is available from the Council and covers a wide range of activities for everyone to enjoy.

**Get Savvy day**  
Andy Fechner

U3A Beaudesert joined with nearly 30 other local groups to support and exhibit at the Scenic Rim Regional Council's "Get Savvy"

day on Tuesday 13 March at The Centre in Beaudesert. This activity was also presented in Mount Tamborine and Boonah, and showcased the offerings of so many service groups, community organisations and companies whose products appeal to a broad range of our local populace.

This year the displays were presented in an "expo" format, rather than offering a set programme of speakers from many

of the exhibitors. This gave increased floor space for displays and encouraged attendees to spend more time talking to those exhibitors whose offerings were of most interest to them. The event was of two hours' duration, from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon, and was attended by a steady stream of visitors which pleased the organisers. It would not surprise me to see this time extended a little more next year.

It is always great to be able to get involved in any activity or event where our U3A can get more exposure with subsequent publicity.



**For sale**



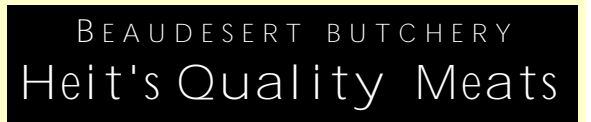
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If you are interested in purchasing this caravan (asking price \$43,000) or learning more about it, please contact Andy, phone 5541 2072 or email [andyfechner@bigpond.com](mailto:andyfechner@bigpond.com)

**Thank you to all of our sponsors**







**Happy birthday**  
to our members celebrating  
birthdays in April

Graeme Foreman  
Di Johnson  
Lorraine Rowe

If your birthday is in April and is not listed here, please let us know and we will update our records.

## Fires on top of Mountains

*Celebrating the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games*

The Scenic Rim Regional Council has put a lot of planning into the up-coming Share the Fire - Fires on top of Mountains programme that will run in conjunction with the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games, April 1-14.

On Easter Monday 2 April, Jubilee Park will be the scene of some amazing goings-on in which all the family can participate and enjoy. Starting at 4 pm and going through to 7 pm, there will be activities such as:

- ◆ The Street Food Truck revolution
- ◆ Vintage car and bike displays
- ◆ Family fun sports activities
- ◆ Jumping castle and face painting
- ◆ Roving performances
- ◆ In Cabaret Stage 4 pm-5.30 pm
- ◆ Storytellers round the fire pits, 5.30 pm-6.30 pm

From 6.30 pm Share Fire performance including:

- ◆ Indigenous welcome and storytelling
- ◆ Beadesert People's Orchestra
- ◆ Fire-lighting ceremony
- ◆ Laser light show

**The culmination will be on 14 April 10 am-8 pm at the Ramada Resort, Kooralbyn Valley with the Fire on Water finale at 6.30 pm.**

There are times  
when my greatest  
accomplishment  
is just keeping  
my mouth shut.

Internet went down  
and I had to spend time  
with the family.

They seem like good  
people



And then if that is not enough excitement for you, on 3 April Boonah will host a variety of activities from 5 pm-8 pm

- ◆ Picnic Parlour Dessert Lane in Park Street
- ◆ Artisan markets and small stage Church Street
- ◆ Small stage and street dining Railway Street
- ◆ Roving performances and storytelling zones throughout
- ◆ Central stage and street dining High Street
- ◆ Tastes of the Scenic Rim licensed area in the Boonah Council forecourt
- ◆ Local traders will be open late serving cuisine from across the Commonwealth

#SCENICRIM #SHARED FIRES  
#FIRES ON TOP OF MOUNTAINS  
#FIRE ON WATER #EMBRACING 2018

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
LIVEATTHECENTRE.COM.AU**

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RAMADA  
RESORT  
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Embracing 2018

Queensland  
Government

The Fires on Top of Mountains Project is proudly supported by the Ramada Resort Kooralbyn Valley; the Queensland Government through the We Are Queensland initiative, and Arts Queensland's Regional Arts Development Fund and Queensland Arts Showcase Program; and the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund, which supports the arts in regional and remote Australia.

**SHARE  
THE FIRE**

**FIRES ON TOP OF MOUNTAINS  
THE SCENIC RIM CULTURAL PROGRAM**

**APRIL 1 - 14**

CELEBRATING THE GOLD COAST  
2018 COMMONWEALTH GAMES