



# OWLS

OLDER WISER LEARNING SENIORS



## President's piece Andy Fechner

Volume 10 Issue 4  
April 2020

### Management committee members

- President**  
Andy Fechner Ph 5541 2072
- Vice president**  
Lise Leatherbarrow Ph 0438 754 269
- Secretary/newsletter**  
Yvonne Berry Ph 5541 2604
- Treasurer**  
Helen Atkinson Ph 0488 411 755
- Membership secretary/assistant treasurer**  
Michele Goucher Ph 5541 3870
- Course coordinator**  
Tina Jones Ph 0418 780 861
- Webmaster**  
George Evans Ph 5541 0706
- Facebook**  
Carol Castles Ph 0427 650 474
- Social activities facilitators**  
Di Johnson Ph 0468 849 448
- Publicity**  
Cheryl Folley Ph 5544 2024

Really? What can I say? There has only been one thing on everybody's mind (and in the news) over the past month, and it is an invisible but deadly little critter.

On a day by day basis the government edicts are changing in an attempt to slow the progress of this virus. This has had a huge impact on our ability to offer activities and courses to you, our members. Most of our venues have closed or been forced to cease accepting groups. Indeed, some of our activities are unable to meet the new social distancing rules, just by nature of the game- e.g. card playing, mah-jong and table tennis.

We need to keep you safe as best we

can, so the only two activities we can formally offer at this time are social tennis and Nordic walking / walking group. Some groups are trying to continue via online or by remote to keep skills up, such as the French group.

We will continue offering our monthly newsletter OWLS so please send any information or items of interest to: [secretaryu3abeaudesert@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryu3abeaudesert@gmail.com) for publication. (Photos are always welcome too). Our website will help keep you updated and our Facebook page will stay active.

Keep in contact with your U3A friends and stay safe.

Till next edition, Andy.

## Beaudesert U3A committee elected at the AGM on 20 March 2020

Our AGM was held at the RSL function room recently, and while the coronavirus crisis impacted on attendance, 29 members did attend, and 23 apologies were received.

### 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.

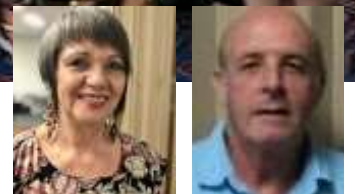
- June Carey Patricia Castles  
Carol Castles Denice Knight  
Rita Evans Rosemary Ryan

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

- P 5541 2072  
E [andyfechner@bigpond.com](mailto:andyfechner@bigpond.com)



(L-R) Cheryl Folley, Michele Goucher, Lise Leatherbarrow, Andy Fechner, Di Johnson, Tina Jones, Carol Castles, Yvonne Berry  
(Inset right) Helen Atkinson, George Evans



## Current courses - term two

20 April-26 June 2020

Course coordinator | Tina Jones  
Phone 0418 780 861 | Email t.j.16@bigpond.com

### Acoustic guitar

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Laurel 5541 2072 email laurel.fechner@gmail.com

### Aqua aerobics

[In recess till term four 2020](#)

Contact Trish Fraser 0419 006 988

### Art group - all mediums

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Denice 5546 9879 or 0402 012 267

### Book club

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Lynn 5543 1430 or mobile 0417 078 712

### Calligraphy

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Sue - 5544 3146

### Card playing - Beaudesert

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Di 0468 849 448

### Card playing - Jimboomba

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Di 0468 849 448

### Computer/other technologies

[Meetings in recess](#), contact George 5541 0706 or Stewart 5543 3175 for computer problems - not hardware or house calls assistance

Contact George 5541 0706

### Croquet club

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact George or Rita 5541 0706



### French - two courses in one (beginners and advanced)

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Sue 5544 3146 or Jayne 5463 4841

### Gardening group - BUGs

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Liz 048 815 5506, email brizzie@bigpond.com

### General discussion group

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Andy 5541 2072

### Indoor bowls

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Lee 0491 046 181

### Jigsaw library

[In recess till further notice](#)

Sandra 5541 0978



Sandra (jigsaw supervisor) and Di (cards facilitator)

### Line dancing/dancing

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Trish 0419 006 988 or Helen 0488 411 755

### Mahjong - Jimboomba

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Elizabeth 5546 9689

### Mahjong - Beaudesert

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Denice 5541 2801

### Meandering through history

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Tricia 0419 844 409

### Mosaics

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Tina 0418 780 861

### Nordic walking/walking

Meet by the pool/library Monday, Wednesday, Friday, walk 6.00 am-7.00 am. Nordic walkers will require a pair of poles, comfortable sports walking shoes, bottle of water. Walkers - poles not needed.

Contact Liz 0488 155 506

### Scrapbooking

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Anita 0408 452 584

### Social lunch

Contact Di 0468 849 448

[In recess till further notice](#)

### Social tennis

Wednesdays 8 am-12 noon venue Beaudesert tennis courts Boonah Road.

Contact Tex 5541 4772

### Table tennis

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Glenda 5541 4290, 0418 771 758 or Ken 5541 1498

### Travel and Adventure Group

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Ray or Kirtsey raymondarthy@gmail.com

### Trivia puzzling

[In recess till further notice](#)

Contact Tex 5541 4772



## Meandering through history

Tricia Edward

and was expected to finish at the end of term one. Of course the current closing of classes due to health concerns means that we do not know when this course will finish and the next "meander" will commence.

Jean Stevens will be presenting a 12-week course on the history of Eastern Europe and I am sure our fellow meanderers will be looking forward to this. Eastern Europe has been almost a mystery to me as the countries seem to change borders and rulers frequently and I look forward to making sense of the region. The course will provide an in-depth treatment of the political, social and cultural history of this region, which stretches from the Baltic states and Poland all the way to the Balkans and Bulgaria, an area with a population of 180 million, and is still a crossroads of history.

Once we know when classes will resume I will let you know when this challenging course will commence.

## Nothing stops our keen senior gardeners!

Cheryl Folley

We've had fires, storms and recently floods (and coronavirus), but members of the Beaudesert University of the Third Age (U3A) gardening group are not put off by any of these. There are still vegetables, pot plants and cut flowers appearing at meetings, along with tales of how various individuals and their gardens survived the wild weather.

BUGs - the acronym means Beaudesert U3A Gardeners - meets every third Friday of the month from 10 am until noon at the RSL function room, William Street, and all local senior residents are welcome to check it out. Usually there is a visiting speaker or a member with specific knowledge to give a talk, and convenor Liz arranges visits in between meetings to gardens or events of

interest. If someone has a question or problem, others can help with advice. This is also a good place to top up on cuttings, pot plants and garden magazines from the giveaway table.

If you'd like to visit, contact Liz at 0488 155 506. Morning tea is provided.

The ever-busy Liz is also the convenor of another U3A group, the combined walkers/Nordic walkers who meet three



days a week and can be seen striding around Beaudesert town. Nordic walkers use poles which originated, as the name suggests, in northern countries where they were used for walking exercise in the summer (non-snow skiing) season, and are said to offer an all-round physical workout. But anyone who simply wants to walk in company without poles, is welcome to join.

Our walkers meet from 6.30 am until 7.30 am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and take various routes.

Check out the U3A website for information on this and more than 20 courses and activities, at <http://www.beaudesertu3a.com>



*The monthly meetings of BUGs to be confirmed each month until the coronavirus health issue is over. Nordic walking will continue as usual.*

## Mosaics

Tina Jones

The mosaics ladies have started the year with an explosion of new talent. Our introductory piece (a lovely coaster) is a great way to start. Once the basics have been mastered it's so easy to follow your creative path. Open your mind, if it can be imagined then you can do it, give it a go.

This month the group visited Oz Mosaics Studio, the visit was interesting and exciting to say the least. Sandy Robertson, business owner/instructor, was generous with her time answering questions from the group and giving us a quick demonstration in making 3D flowers from cups/mugs.

There's always a photo to remember the day. To all the ladies who were able to make it, I'm sure you were inspired and were able to find some great bits and pieces which I'm looking forward to seeing in your next projects.



(L-R) Glennis on day one starting her coaster, jewelled mirror frame created by Angela, dazzling apple created by Debby, coasters by Jenny and Carol

(above) Button butterfly - a lovely way to use up left over bits - a work in progress by Marlene

# Acoustic guitar - in recess till further notice

We will be back .... soon

Our acoustic guitar group commences at a new location

St Thomas's Anglican church hall  
Albert Street  
Beaudesert

**New time**  
12.30 pm-2.30 pm

Weekly, Thursday afternoons



Tutor Ken Jurd  
Cost \$3 per session

Enquiries to Laurel Fechner, facilitator  
Ph 5541 2027 Mob 0417 644 506  
Email laurel.fechner@gmail.com

## Introducing new committee member . . . . Tina Jones



*What chore do you absolutely hate doing?*  
Washing my car

*If you were reincarnated as an ice cream flavour, what would it be?*  
Tutti frutti

*If someone wrote your biography, what would be the title?*  
"As Good as You Make it"

*What is the best gift you ever received and what is the worst?*  
Best gift - good health; worst gift - loss of someone special

*What was your favourite food as a child?*  
Freshly picked homegrown strawberries

*If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?*  
Invent a quiet lawnmower

*What was your favourite thing to do when you were a child?*  
Listen to music



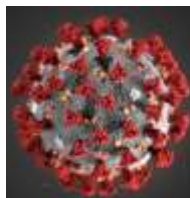
## A Word or Two about this and that Yvonne Berry

Won't we all be glad when the coronavirus hoo-ha is over and our lives can get back on an even keel.

Every morning we wake up to more bad news about the Covid-19's ever-growing negative impact on the world economy. Businesses have been forced to close, people are losing their jobs and the flow-on effect of this is mind-blowing. It is what probably bothers me the most about it all.

We have been vulnerable to many types of flus over the

years and most of us come through it each time after a few days of misery. This time it is different. It will not be a



few miserable days even if we don't contract it, life as we knew it could not possibly be the same again.

Perhaps this is the time to take stock of our lives, how we live them, how we look after each other, and stop taking for granted all that we have and the way that we live. It can change - and has changed - in an instant.



Best wishes for a very **happy birthday** to our members celebrating birthdays in April:

Dave Bingham  
Rachel Gillow  
Di Johnson  
Gwenda Schneider

Norma Dolan  
Cathy Hamilton  
Rose Martin  
Madi Tilley

Debby Reid

If your birthday is in April and is not listed above, please let us know so we can update our records and include you.

## Staying connected

It is important to try to keep community organisations together as much as possible, especially in times of crisis like the one that we are experiencing at the moment.

One of our members has suggested that groups could organise an informal gathering in the local park of just a few (now no more than 10 people), who want to come along for a coffee/tea, a laugh and a chat. Each person would bring their own tea or coffee and a chair, and being in the open air social distancing must be maintained.

Give it some thought and stay in touch with your U3A colleagues.

Thanks to Gay Robson for this suggestion.



## Dingbats - solution on page 5

01 e a v e s	02 YOU JUST ME	03 Stand I	04 lem ade
05 Job I'm Job	06 GOGOGO GO GO GO GO	07 OLD	08 H i j k l m n O
09 Symphon	10 OHOLENE	11 ANT ANT ANT ANT ANT ANT ANT ANT ANT	12 DISC DISC DISC DISC

The older you get the tougher it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends!

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

Did you ever notice: When you put the 2 words 'The' and 'IRS' together it spells 'Theirs...'



## Thank you to all of our sponsors



**BEST PRACTICE FOR HAND WASHING**

6 steps to successful everyday hand washing



**WE DO FREE WEEKDAY DELIVERIES!**

With social distancing being incredibly important at this time please consider using our delivery service if you are considered vulnerable and avoid having to come into store.

\* Terms and conditions around distance of delivery do apply so call us in store if you have any queries or contact us through FaceBook messenger

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Discount Drug Store**

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Phone: (07) 5541 2019 Fax: (07) 5541 3780  
Email: scenicrim@discountdrugstores.com.au

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**For sale - 2013 Hyundai ix35 SE**



One of our members, Joan Gray, would like to sell her car and thought someone might know someone who needs a good second hand car.

Silver, excellent condition, 95,000 km, heated leather seats, good tyres.

\$13,500 ONO

Contact Joan for further information:

0427 566 036 or 5541 4645

**Dingbats solution**

- 1 Eavesdropping
- 2 Just between you and me
- 3 I understand
- 4 Lemonade
- 5 I'm in between jobs
- 6 Goatee
- 7 Growing old
- 8 H2O
- 9 Unfinished symphony
- 10 Hole in one
- 11 Tennants
- 12 Slipped disc

**Can you help?**

U3A member Lanie White sews for wildlife as a hobby. She recently made a stack of pouches, (see below) etc for the animals who were caught in the fires and she now needs to stock up on materials to make the next lot. The best fabrics are unwanted towels, sheets, fluffy blankets etc.

If you have any old sheeting, towels, etc, rather than throw them out, contact Lanie and she will make arrangements to collect them from you. Her contact numbers are 04097 23 881 or 5543 4534.



# Coronavirus - essential information issued by the Australian government

- Pubs, licensed clubs and hotels (excluding accommodation), places of worship, gyms, indoor sporting venues, cinemas, casinos to close from midday Monday, March 23. Restaurants and cafes to offer takeaway only. Schools and supermarkets can remain open.
- To help stop the spread of coronavirus, stay 1.5 metres away from others where possible, wash your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face and if sick, stay home.
- Non-essential mass gatherings are banned for groups of more than 500 people outdoors, or more than 100 indoors.
- There are restrictions on visitors to Residential Aged Care Facilities to protect older Australians. Please check with individual facilities for further information.
- From 9pm AEDT 20 March 2020, our borders are closed except for Australian citizens, residents and immediate family members. All arrivals into Australia are required to self-isolate for 14 days, either at home or in a hotel.
- A second set of economic responses has been announced, bringing the total package to \$189 billion to support workers, businesses and broader community in response to the Coronavirus.

## Taking care of yourself and others during the coronavirus crisis

Stay aware of the latest information on the COVID-19 outbreak, available on the WHO website and through your national and local public health authority. Most people who become infected experience mild illness and recover, but it can be more severe for others. Take care of your health and protect others by doing the following:

### Wash your hands frequently

Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.

**Why?** Washing your hands with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand rub kills viruses that may be on your hands.

### Maintain social distancing

Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.

**Why?** When someone coughs or sneezes they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain virus. If you are too close, you can breathe in the droplets, including the COVID-19 virus if the person coughing has the disease.

### Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth

**Why?** Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the

virus to your eyes, nose or mouth. From there, the virus can enter your body and can make you sick.

### Practice respiratory hygiene

Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately.

**Why?** Droplets spread virus. By following good respiratory hygiene you protect the people around you from viruses such as cold, flu and COVID-19.

### If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early

Stay home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance. Follow the directions of your local health authority.

**Why?** National and local authorities will have the most up to date information on the situation in your area. Calling in advance will allow your health care provider to quickly direct you to the right health facility. This will also protect you and help prevent spread of viruses and other infections.

### Stay informed and follow advice given by your healthcare provider

Stay informed on the latest developments about COVID-19. Follow

advice given by your healthcare provider, your national and local public health authority or your employer on how to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

**Why?** National and local authorities will have the most up to date information on whether COVID-19 is spreading in your area. They are best placed to advise on what people in your area should be doing to protect themselves.

### Stay at home if you begin to feel unwell, even with mild symptoms such as headache and slight runny nose, until you recover.

**Why?** Avoiding contact with others and visits to medical facilities will allow these facilities to operate more effectively and help protect you and others from possible COVID-19 and other viruses.

### If you develop fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical advice promptly as this may be due to a respiratory infection or other serious condition. Call in advance and tell your provider of any recent travel or contact with travellers.

**Why?** Calling in advance will allow your health care provider to quickly direct you to the right health facility. This will also help to prevent possible spread of COVID-19 and other viruses.

## Have a laugh



Wife texts her handyman husband on a cold winter morning:

"WINDOWS FROZEN --WON'T OPEN"

Husband texts back:

"GENTLY POUR SOME LUKEWARM WATER OVER THE EDGES AND THEN TAP EDGES SHARPLY WITH HAMMER"

Wife texts back 5 minutes later:

"LAPTOP REALLY STUFFED NOW..."

A senior citizen drove his brand new Holden Senator out of the dealership. Taking off down the road, he pushed it to 120 kph, enjoying the power of the car. "Amazing," he thought as he flew down the M1, pushing the pedal even more.

Looking in his rear view mirror, he saw a highway patrol car, blue lights flashing and siren blaring. He floored it to 140 kph, then 180kph, then suddenly he thought, "What am I doing? I'm too old for this!" and pulled over to await the copper's arrival.

Pulling in behind him, the copper got out of his vehicle and walked up to the car. He looked at his watch, then said, "sir, my shift ends in 30 minutes. Today is Friday. If you can give me a new reason for speeding – a reason I've never before heard – I'll let you go." The old gentleman paused then said, "thirty three years ago, my wife ran off with a policeman, I thought you were bringing her back."

"Have a good day, sir," replied the copper.

