



O.W.L.S.

OLDER WISER LEARNING SENIORS

Volume 8 Issue 7
August 2018



President's piece *Andy Fechner*

Enjoying the colder weather? Seems to me that the wind has gotten particularly lazy this winter. More than ever it wants to blow through me rather than go around me. I imagine that it may also be a result of getting older and less tolerant of extremes of temperatures.

August is here, and brings along the usual suspects of the Brisbane Exhibition (the Ekka), westerly winds and assorted colds and flus if you want to brave the crowds. There is a public holiday on Monday 13 August in the Beaudesert area as "Show Holiday", so remember that any usual Monday activities at Centacare will not be on offer that day as the facility will be closed.

Speaking of closing, the ANZ bank in Beaudesert will be closing its doors permanently from 2.00pm on Wednesday 10

October. After the recent closures of many Bankwest branches there has been an expectation that others would follow, especially in smaller towns. I guess this is another example of the price of "progress", where advances in technology bring the demise of long established commercial activities. FSG Australia has also closed down, due to lack of funding, so two more empty buildings appear on Beaudesert's streets.

Your U3A is also making a change, with the mosaics group moving venue to Centacare as of Monday 6 August. This popular activity has been hosted by Beryl Lower at her home for a lengthy period, but Beryl is moving away from the immediate Beaudesert area and is no longer able to continue in this role. Gail Mulhern has offered to facilitate the course at

Centacare at least until the end of this year. A special "Thank You" to Beryl for her efforts.

For those members who want to exhibit in our local Beaudesert show, now is the time to get final preparations underway. The 2018 show will be held on 7 and 8 September, and in the past we have had many members displaying their skills in needlework, arts and crafts, photography, painting, mosaics, gardening and cookery. Our local country show continues to be strong, and that is due to the enthusiastic support of those who get involved.

In closing, a note of sadness as we say farewell to one of our members, Marj Love, who passed away recently.....vale Marj.

Till next edition,

Andy

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

Welcome

We are delighted to welcome Joy Prichard and Denise (Neesy) White as new members of Beaudesert U3A.

We trust you are enjoying the activities you have chosen for yourselves, where we sure you will make many new friends.



Happy birthday to our members celebrating birthdays in August

Jane Blunck
John Leatherbarrow
Vicki Mills
Hilary Rains



Yvonne Berry
Lynn Lewis
Robin Powell
Joe Skelton

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

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 three 2018 16 July-21 September

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

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 till September

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, Centacare bistro room. All technologies included - mobiles, computers, tablets, drones, TV channels, electronics, backups, etc.
Contact George 5541 0706

Croquet club

Play Tuesdays 9.00 am-12 noon at Everdell Park, Gleneagle.
Contact George or Rita 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 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.

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.

Beginners welcome.

Contact Denise 5541 2801

Mosaics

Meet Mondays 1.30 pm-3.30pm at Centacare (on verandah), Petersen Street, Beaudesert from 6 August. A hands-on course in a fascinating art form.

Contact Gail mobile 0419 282 110



Nordic walking/walking

Meet by the pool/library Monday and Friday, at showgrounds gates Wednesday, walk 7.00-8.00 am. Nordic walkers will require a pair of poles, comfortable sports walking shoes, bottle of water. Walkers - poles not needed.

Contact Lawrie 0423 322 975

Scrapbooking

Second Monday of each month, 9.30 am-11.30 am, 360 Lambert Road, Nindooinbah. \$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 outing/lunch - Friday 10 August

Bus trip to Pacific Fair, departing Centacare 9.00 am. Full details on page 6. 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 Paulette 5543 1261/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

DO YOU HAVE a special interest in a particular hobby or activity that other members of Beaudesert U3A might also be keen to participate in? - be it photography, drama, creative writing, pottery, spinning, weaving, chess, movies, yoga, science, board games



No formal qualifications are necessary to facilitate a course, just experience in the activity, a willingness to share your expertise, and to teach others.

Contact the course coordinator Laurel (phone 5541 2072, email andyfechner@bigpond.com) if you are willing, able and available to run a course, be it long term, or short term.

When you learn, teach. When you get, give.

Maya Angelou

Social lunch - Christmas in July



Forty-plus members attended our Christmas in July function at St Bernards Hotel, Tamborine. The main course was glazed ham and turkey breast with fig and pecan stuffing, cranberry sauce, served with roast vegetables, seasonal greens and a rich jus. This was followed by an alternate drop of toffee pudding, treacle toffee sauce and ice cream, or key lime tart with raspberry sorbet. The meal finished with tea and coffee and shortbread. It was a enjoyable meal in a lovely setting, overlooking the bush.

Ray and Kirtsey Arthy (who also celebrated her 70th birthday)



Pat Millard and Rita Evens enjoying their "surprises" in their Christmas crackers.



Gardening group - BUGs

Liz Avery

Dave Poulgrain was the guest speaker at BUGs recently. He propagates and sells orchids at the Tamborine Mountain markets on the second Sunday of each month and gives out information leaflets with each purchase; he also makes himself accessible by email if you have any problems with growing orchids. He must have such patience to grow orchids from seed as success is not guaranteed and can take months.

If there is sufficient interest, a bus trip to Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers in September will be arranged. If you are interested in participating on this trip, please contact Liz Avery, 048 815 5506, email brizzie@bigpond.com

BUGs group members are reminded about the end of year break-up when members bring a potted plant they have struck from their garden. There is a draw so you can choose a plant as a gift from other members. Now is a good time to start striking your plants so they are growing well by the end of the year.

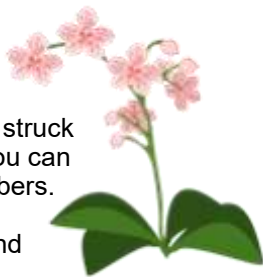


Table tennis

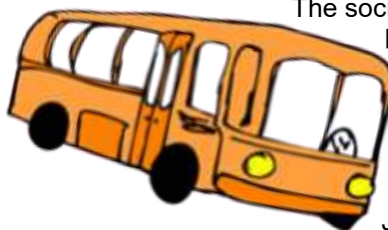
Pam and Des Fox

The table tennis group has been out of action for some weeks now due to the venue where they play being deemed unsafe for use. Members have travelled to Tamborine to play in the meantime. The good news is that the hall is now up to code and table tennis has resumed at its usual day and time of Thursdays, 9 am to 12 noon at the Uniting Church hall.

If you are interested in participating in this group, contact Pam or Des on 5541 2662 or 0448 133 146.

Social outing/lunch August

The social outing/lunch for August is planned for Pacific Fair on Friday August 10.



Full details are shown on page 6, and if you are planning on going on this trip, please contact Di Johnson, phone/text 0468 849 448, email

candyroxy1946@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Thank you to all of our sponsors



BEAUDESERT BUTCHERY
Heit's Quality Meats

Mosaics
Tina Jones

Over the past couple of years we have enjoyed our weekly mosaic meeting at Beryl's home, developing and exploring our creative talents. Some of us say we don't like change as we become very comfortable with our environment and the faces we see regularly but inevitably sometimes changes have to happen.



Beryl is moving... we all wish you well, although, you will be missed. Thank you for your generosity, the use of your home and the hospitality you have shown to all who have visited the mosaics group.

Our new meeting place will be Centacare on the verandah, starting date will be Monday 6 August, same time 1.30pm.

Any further enquiry please contact Gail Mulhern, mobile 0419 282 110.

Left - plate by Wendy
Right - heart-shape made by Gail



AT&T fired President John Walter after nine months, saying he lacked intellectual leadership. He received a \$26 million severance package. Perhaps it's not Walter who's lacking intelligence.

WHAT WAS PLAN B? An Illinois man, pretending to have a gun, kidnapped a motorist and forced him to drive to two different automated teller machines, wherein the kidnapper proceeded to withdraw money from his own bank accounts.

A police recruit was asked during the exam, "What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?" He answered, "Call for backup."

I was thinking about how a status symbol of today is those cell phones that everyone has clipped onto their belt or purse. I can't afford one, so I'm wearing my garage door opener.

I was thinking about old age and decided that old age is when you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it.

even simple needs a plan

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(next to Scenic Motors)
Ph: 5541 2511
All hours, always
www.beaudesertfunerals.com.au

FORESTERS
Friendly Society

Strange yet true

contributed by Andy Fechner

A popular myth is that "people falling from a great height are dead before they hit the ground". The following true story disproves that assertion.



Rather than be burnt to death in his blazing shell-torn Lancaster on a bombing raid over Germany in 1944, RAF gunner Sergeant Nicholas Alkemade jumped from 5,500 metres without a parachute, calculating that this would be a quicker and less agonising death. He landed uninjured and still conscious. The last few feet of his 190 km/h fall were broken by the branches of young pine trees, thick springy undergrowth, and finally deep snow. "It was rather like bouncing on a trampoline", he recalled.

Sergeant Alkemade's experience is a dramatic rebuttal of the idea that people falling from great heights are dead before they hit the ground. Asphyxia, brought about by the speed of the fall, or heart failure through shock were thought to occur long before the final impact.

The fallacy of this belief has been amply demonstrated by free-fall parachutists who regularly drop several kilometres before opening their parachutes. In 1960 Captain Joseph Kittinger jumped from a balloon in the USA and fell 26 kilometres before opening his parachute. He landed conscious and unhurt.

Thank you to all of our sponsors

Cr Trevina Schwarz
Independent Counsellor for Division 11
City Treasurer

P: (07) 3412 5811 E: trevinaschwarz@logan.qld.gov.au
M: PO Box 5208 Logan City DC Qld 4114

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A Word or Two *about this and that*

Yvonne Berry

Don't you just get sick of receiving those scam-type phone calls? They usually come in at the most inconvenient times – when you are cooking dinner, or getting in or out of the shower, or when you have guests, or you are in the doctor's waiting room (they even have your mobile number) – and you so don't want to stop what you are doing to be harangued about buying this insurance, getting those solar panels, and lately being warned that your IP address has been hacked on several occasions from many different parts of the globe and yes, you guessed it, unless you press (1) your internet will be disconnected within 24-48 hours! Pressing this magical number will redirect you to "one of our technicians" who will happily give

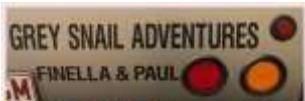
you a new IP address and all your problems will be sorted. Really?

My experience has been that the dead giveaway is so obvious it's laughable – it is a computerised, automatic voice that delivers this message of doom to you. As if one of the major IPs would let you know your internet connection had been compromised by using anything other than a real person to tell you this news.

For me, having an answering service lets me just listen to the call as it merrily talks over the top of our recorded message and then I can wipe it without picking up the handset. Mind you, when the incoming call is shown as "private caller" "private number" that is also a giveaway the call may well be suss and not to be answered, let alone believed.

I phoned our IP to let them know these mongrels are doing the rounds again and I notice they have a message on their web page warning people about taking these scam calls.

Even if you are sorely tempted to pick up the phone and take the call, never, ever follow their "instructions" until you have contacted your provider to make sure the "problem" is kosher, and more importantly, they are aware of it and are fixing it.



Grey Snail Adventures - Silo art through Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria

Contributed by Finella Loch



U3A member Finella Loch, and her husband Paul Grant, recently spent a month travelling from

Queensland down through New South Wales and Victoria hot on the trail of the painted silos!

In their comfortable little Snail (an Alto caravan) they covered 6,945kms, saw 15 painted silos, some incredible murals, the VIVID light festival in Sydney, the mind-blowing sculptures of the Spanner Man in Boort, and found themselves in the geographical centre of

New South Wales during State of Origin Week!!

While most grey nomads were heading north, they were bucking the trend and driving right into cold conditions, waking up to ice all over their van and car when the apparent temperature was -4.7 one morning.

Their many adventures included:

- A flat tyre, which was on a Saturday of course, and necessitated an additional two night stay in Swan Hill until Beaufort opened on Monday.
- Walking on water at Lake Tyrell, Victoria. It is a salt lake and the water is heavy and still, which makes it perfect for mirror-like

reflections if you stand in a very shallow section.

- Discovering that whilst Finella can apparently walk on water, she cannot climb onto a huge wombat sculpture adorned with climbing pegs. Paul can.
- Many regional wines and cheeses – because it is good to buy local... and to eat cheese, and drink wine!
- Border picnics – where you eat all the food that you can't take over the border
- Thermal Baths at Lightning Ridge and Moree

This was the first big trip in the Grey Snail, but it certainly won't be the last. Home is where you park it.



Bus trip

Pacific Fair

Friday 10 August

\$10 pp return

Payable at time of booking, or,

to U3A Beaudesert

Queensland Country Credit Union

A/c 704 640 41539572

Please use your name as reference

Departs Centacare Petersen Street 9.00 am
Second pickup Information Centre 9.10 am
Third pickup Jimboomba Tavern 9.30 am
Departs Pacific Fair 3.05 pm (with drop offs)

RSVP to Di Johnson
Phone/text 0468 849 448
Email candyroxy1946@gmail.com