



O.W.L.S.

OLDER WISER LEARNING SENIORS

Volume 9 Issue 8
August 2019



President's piece *Andy Fechner*

Well, what a month we have just had. We have now severed all connections with Centacare Beaudesert after being given a month's notice to vacate. Since our inception late in 2010 we have partnered with them, but now we have established venues for all our courses elsewhere, though there may be some shuffling as our numbers continue to grow.

We have also secured a lease on a small office / storage facility at 113 Brisbane Street Beaudesert, which is very centrally located. (See the "Thank You" article further in this newsletter).

Our Christmas in July social lunch function was hosted by the Beaudesert RSL, and by all accounts was a great success. It was our best attended by far, with 72 members and visitors enjoying a two-course meal with accompaniments of bread rolls, tea and coffee. The bar was well patronised and the tables decorated nicely. Our very own colourfully dressed "Mary Christmas" (aka

Sandy Grieve) drew the door prize, and amazingly drew her own number out, but very generously re-drew for the lucky winner, Rita Evans.

Last, but not least, four U3A members were nominated for and received Wright Federal electorate Community Service Awards, presented by Scott Buchholz MP, Federal member for Wright. Awards were given to:

- ◆ Liz Avery for services to U3A and assisting with maintaining Jubilee Park
- ◆ Joan Gray for services to Zonta as a foundation member.
- ◆ Jo Heit for services to the Beaudesert RSL sub Branch
- ◆ Andy Fechner for services to U3A.

The Awards evening on Monday 15 July was very well attended with 35 awards in total being given as recognition of the contributions made by volunteers in the community.

Till 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
Rosemary Ryan	Catherine Kelly
Judith Zaugg	

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

P 5541 2072
E andyfechner@bigpond.com



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

Yvonne Berry	Jane Blunck	Lani Deeran
Julie Edwards	Linda Fitzpatrick	John Leatherbarrow
Lynn Lewis	Vicki Mills	Cheryl Sempf
Joe Skelton	Marie Taylor	Sue Terry

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

Free diabetes risk screening available at Discount Drugstores pharmacy, William Street, Beaudesert.
Details on page 5



Current courses - term three 15 July-20 September 2019

Course coordinator | Laurel Fechner
Phone 5541 2072 | Email laurel.fechner@gmail.com

Acoustic guitar

Thursday afternoons Beaucare, 44 Tina Street 1.30 pm-3.30 pm. Tutor Ken Jurd.
Contact Laurel 5541 2072 email laurel.fechner@gmail.com

Aqua aerobics

Now in recess until term 4 2019.
Contact Paulette 5543 1261

Art group - all mediums

Wednesdays 9 am-12 noon Uniting Church Hall, cnr William and Duckett Streets
Contact Denise 5546 9879 or 0402 012 267

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 0417 078 712

Card playing - Beaudesert

Every Monday 12.45 pm-3.45 pm Arts & Information Centre. Enjoy 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, RSL sub branch room. All technologies included - mobiles, computers, tablets, drones, TV channels, electronics, backups, etc.
Contact George 5541 0706

Croquet club

Play Tuesdays 8.30 am-11.30 am at Everdell Park Gleneagle
Contact George or Rita 5541 0706

French - two courses in one (beginners and advanced)

Every Monday 12 noon-2.30 pm RSL Sub Branch rooms, 1st floor, corner William and Brisbane Streets, Beaudesert.
Contact Jane 5541 2321

Gardening group - BUGS

Meet third Friday of each month 10.00 am-12 noon Beaudesert RSL club function room
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

Indoor bowls

Friday mornings from 9.00 am at St. Thomas's Anglican Church Hall, Albert Street Beaudesert
Contact Lee 0491 046 181

Jigsaw library

Select a jigsaw (or a Wasgij) to use from the library. To select and collect contact Sandra 5541 0978

Line dancing/dancing

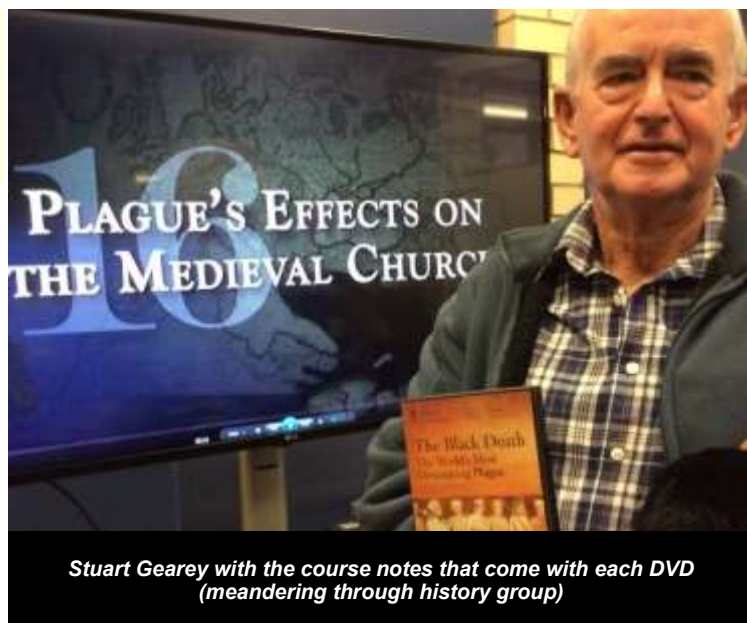
Tuesday 12.45 pm-3.00 pm \$3 per session The Centre, Brisbane Street Beaudesert
Contact Trish 0419 006 988 or Helen 0488 411 755

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 Arts & Information Centre.
Contact Denise 5541 2801



Stuart Gearey with the course notes that come with each DVD (meandering through history group)

Meandering through history

DVD presentations and discussion. Beaudesert Library Thursdays 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Contact Tricia on 5544 1462

Mosaics Meet Mondays 1.30 pm-3.30pm at Arts and Information Centre, Beaudesert a hands-on course in a fascinating art form. \$3/session payable on the day.
Contact Tina 0418 780 861

Nordic walking/walking

Meet by the pool/library Monday, Wednesday, Friday, walk 6.00 am to 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



Bronwyn working on one of her projects at scrapbooking

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

Social lunch August

The next lunch will be on Friday 9 August at the Beaudesert Hotel.
Contact Di text/phone 0468 849 448 or 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

Trivia puzzling

Wednesday afternoons from 1.30 pm at Beaudesert library.
Contact Tex 5541 4772

Mother Christmas welcomed at U3A lunch

contributed by Cheryl Folley

More than 70 members of Beaudesert U3A gave a warm welcome to a visitor from the North Pole during a Christmas in July lunch at the RSL function room on Friday (July 12).



Mother Christmas – aka convener of the U3A jigsaw collection, Sandy Grieve – flew in to present the door prize of a fruit basket, which was won by long-time member Rita Evans.

Welcoming members, the U3A president Andy Fechner said he was delighted to see a turnout which was almost double that of previous Christmas-in-July events.

“Our growth in numbers this year is reflected in the group here today,” he said. “U3A in Beaudesert has recently re-organised and expanded its venues for various courses and we’re all set to cope with future growth.”



Meandering through history - update

Tricia Edward

On 15 August our group completes our study of The Black Death and, I think I can speak for those in the group, it has been a very interesting journey.

Our next area of study, from 22 August, will be presented by Mary Street and is called “A History of England from the Tudors to the Stuarts”. It is a very long course and will run for 24 weeks which will bring it well into 2020. The course will survey the history of England from 1485 to 1714 but will contain some of the background prior to and after these dates.

The course will conclude with an examination of the society and culture of England at the dawn of the 18th century.

It is a terrific story and one which, I hope, will be able to show some relevance to our country although I formed the opinion, from limited previewing, that the lectures are more slanted to the American continent than Australia, and while being formed by England, had very different origins. We will see.

If you would like to join us in this meandering, please contact Tricia on 55441462



New membership joining fee structure

Effective 1 July 2019

In order to make things fairer for new members who may want to join the Beaudesert U3A during the course of the calendar year, it has been decided to adopt the following new membership fee payment structure:

- New members joining in the first quarter through till 31 March pay full year fees.
- New members joining in second quarter 1 April till 30 June pay \$20.
- New members joining in third quarter 1 July till 30 September pay \$15.
- New members joining after 1 October each year pay full fees which then covers the end of that year, AND the following year.
- Our fees are now \$25 per annual membership - no discount for couples

NOTE - This structure applies to NEW JOINING MEMBERS ONLY

Existing members are reminded that annual fees are due and payable from 1 January each year. Any member not paid up by 26 January each year will be regarded as unfinancial and will be unable to vote at any subsequent meeting or attend courses until fees are paid.

Members are also reminded that insurance cover carried by the Beaudesert U3A extends only to financial members for course attendance.



A special "thank you" from Andy Fechner

On Monday 15 July my wife Laurel and Yvonne Berry (our secretary) helped me clear out the U3A filing

cabinets and cupboards at Centacare. After a fair bit of culling we transferred the remaining files, books and assorted stationery items to our new office / storage facility at 5A / 113 Brisbane Street Beaudesert. (Thank you ladies).

The following afternoon a small convoy of utilities and trailers met me at Centacare to load up all of our cupboards, cabinets, tables, chairs and assorted equipment to move them to the aforementioned premises.

I am humbled and ever so thankful for the contributions of the following who gave their time, effort and vehicles to make the move possible:

In alphabetical order:

Ray Arthy Bruce Avery Johnny Estbergs George Evans Stuart Gearey

Thank you guys, couldn't have done it without you. You will be pleased to know that Laurel and I were also able to move the U3A gear from my shed to the new facility the next day for future storage.

TRUE U3A SPIRIT

U3A group considers history

Cheryl Folley

What can one do in the face of an "implacable and unstoppable enemy?" For residents of Europe and parts of Asia in the mid-14th century who faced the spread of the plague, or the so-called Black Death, there were several unavailing responses.

History buffs in U3A have been studying these – and the spread of the plague – over a series of Thursday sessions called *Meandering through history*. This is one of four periods in history which the group chose to examine in detail during 2019-20. Others in the series are The Celts, Tudors and Stuarts, and the history of eastern Europe.

Last week I attended one of the final sessions in the present topic, which focussed on the terrible persecution of Jews through the mid-1300s as scapegoats for the Black Death. This resulted in many horrific deaths by various inventive means of torture, and the worst persecution of a single group until the Holocaust of the 20th century.



Like all the sessions, this one was introduced by a local presenter (in this case group facilitator Tricia Edward standing in for regular, Bernie Brown) in a two-hour session which included two high-quality DVDs from American producers, *The Great Courses*, and a question/answer session designed to encourage members to think about the historical aspects and any relevance to modern times.



"Some members were a bit doubtful at first about the gruesome aspects of the Black Death," said Tricia, "but in fact we have found that the course presented a whole range of social, religious and economic upheavals which all contributed to how people reacted and the result for the course of history.

"All in all, a most interesting subject."

Meandering through history meets at the Beaudesert library from 10 am until noon on Thursdays. Contact Tricia on 5544 1462 if you would like to attend. Thank you to the library staff for their regular help in setting up the screen and providing tea/coffee and biscuits.

(Above) Tricia Edward with (stuffed) Rattie on shoulder - he has so far not commented on the involvement of his ancestors in the spread of the plague!
(Below) Keen note-takers Sue Estbergs (L) and Pip Harris, ready for the morning's session



(Above) The meandering through history group
(Below) Stuart and Tricia ready to start the day's DVD



I woke up this morning at 8 and could sense something was wrong.

I got downstairs and found the wife face down on the kitchen floor, not breathing! I panicked. I didn't know what to do. Then I remembered the local cafe serve breakfast until 11.30.



Social lunch - August

The social lunch for August is booked for Friday 9 August at the Beaudesert Hotel. A seniors' discount is available and the meals are tasty and good value.

- Phone/text 0468 849 448
- Email candyroxy1946@gmail.com

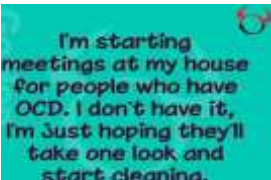
Spouses, partners and friends are welcome to attend this event



A very warm Beaudesert U3A welcome is extended to our newest members:

Glenda Hicks, Lesley Stribbling, Janelle Whitten

We look forward to seeing you at the activities you have chosen for yourself where, we are sure, you will make many new friends.



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B BEAUDESERT FUNERALS
BY THE BURKIN FAMILY

Did you Know?

ABOUT OUR ACTIVITY HEADPHONES?

Beaudesert Funerals have recently purchased a set of 10 Activity Headphones. We are excited to offer these headphones to Nursing Homes and Community Groups. Several groups are using the Activity Headphones on a regular basis.

Research has shown that the Activity headphones helps maintain physical fitness, co-ordination, & concentration. They also can stimulate the senses that are often diminishing and increase memory and enjoyment to the participants. It is exciting to see how participants have responded to the headphones.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THIS EXCITING NEW PROGRAM GIVE MICHELLE A CALL AT OUR JIMBOOMBA OFFICE
PH: 55 486990 (MON, WED, FRI)



Growing up isn't what it used to be



Someone asked the other day, 'What was your favourite fast food when you were growing up?' 'We didn't have fast food when I was growing up,' I informed him, 'All the food was slow.' 'C'mon, seriously, where did you eat?' 'It was a place called 'at home,' I explained! 'Mum cooked every day and when dad got home from work, we sat down together at the dining room table ; if I didn't like what she put on my plate, I was allowed to sit there until I did like it.' By this time, the kid was laughing so hard I was afraid he was going to suffer serious internal damage, so I didn't tell him the part about how I had to have permission to leave the table.

Here are some other things I would have told him about my childhood if I figured his system could have handled it:

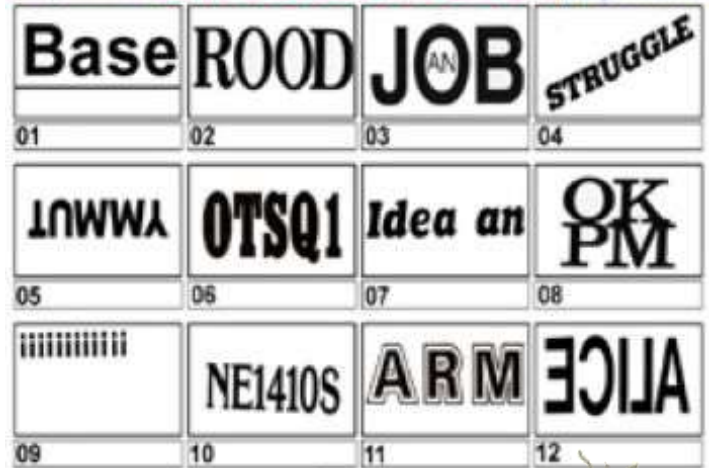
- Some parents NEVER owned their own house, wore Levis, set foot on a golf course, travelled out of the country or had a credit card.
- My parents never drove me to school. I had a bicycle that weighed probably 50 lbs, and only had one speed, (slow).
- We didn't have a television in our house until I was 10. It was, of course, black and white, and the station went off the air at 11 pm, after playing the national anthem and a poem about God. It came back on the air at about 6 am and there was usually a locally produced news and farm show on, featuring local people.
- I never had a telephone in my room. The only phone was on a party line. Before you could dial, you had to listen and make sure some people you didn't know weren't

already using the line.

- Pizzas were not delivered to our home, but milk was and so was bread.
- All newspapers were delivered by boys and all boys delivered newspapers - my brother delivered a newspaper, six days a week. He had to get up at 5 am every morning.
- Movie stars kissed with their mouths shut. At least, they did in the movies! There were no movie ratings because all movies were responsibly produced for everyone to enjoy viewing, without profanity or violence or most anything offensive.

An exercise for your grey matter

solution bottom right of this page



Wanted - bright ideas

Got any ideas for a new course or activity in which you have some experience and a passion for, and in which other U3A members might be interested?

U3A would welcome you as a facilitator/tutor, whether it be a short term course over a few weeks, or a longer course over a year (or more).

Have a chat with course coordinator Laurel Fechner, phone 5541 2072, email laurel.fechner@gmail.com.



European trucks whose trailers are decorated to look like the sides are missing and the products they are hauling are painted on the sides and back.



Did I read that sign correctly?

contributed by Johnny Estbergs

In a laundromat:

Automatic washing machines: Please remove all your clothes when the light goes out.

In a London department store:

Bargain basement upstairs.

In an office:

Would the person who took the step ladder yesterday please bring it back or further steps will be taken.

In an office:

After tea break staff should empty the teapot and stand upside down on the draining board.

Outside a second hand shop:

We exchange anything - bicycles, washing machines, etc. Why not bring your wife along and get a wonderful bargain?

Dingbat solutions

- 1 Base line
- 2 Back door
- 3 An inside job
- 4 An uphill struggle
- 5 Upset tummy
- 6 Back to square one
- 7 An afterthought
- 8 All right on the night
- 9 A high IQ
- 10 Anyone for tennis
- 11 Arm in arm
- 12 Alice through the looking glass