



# O.W.L.S.

OLDER WISER LEARNING SENIORS



## President's piece Andy Fechner

Volume 10 Issue 8  
August 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 facilitator**  
Di Johnson Ph 0468 849 448
- Publicity**  
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 |
| 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

The wheel of life continues to turn, and as advised just recently by separate email we mark the passing of another of U3A Beaudesert's stalwarts, Hennie van Dyk. Our immediate Past President, Hennie and his partner Margaret Kendrick moved to the Gold Coast around five years ago to adopt a more leisurely lifestyle. Active always, Hennie passed away unexpectedly earlier in July. Our condolences are extended to Margaret and their families.

As advertised in last month's edition of OWLS, we plan to resume our monthly social lunch outings, which have been scheduled for the second Friday of each month. For the past few years we have hosted a "Christmas in July" themed lunch (of course in July). Due to covid restrictions we were unable to schedule the event this year. However, we have decided to host a lunch on Friday 14 August themed as "The Show Must Go On". Due to the coronavirus, the Brisbane EKKA has been cancelled, as has our own local Beaudesert Show. We have been unable to operate fully since the end of March (though we have done our best to offer

alternatives).

As a reward to our loyal and patient members we are offering a \$10 "Show Voucher" to every member who comes along to our "Show Must Go On" social lunch at the Beaudesert RSL on Friday 14 August. The voucher will be

redeemable only at the lunch as a discount from your main meal ordered on the day. No cash refunds and only applicable to lunch main meals. This is a members only offer (though guests are still welcome to attend).



Due to covid, seating restrictions numbers will be limited and bookings will be essential to secure your place. Contact Di Johnson on 0468 849448 or by email to candyroxy1946@gmail.com for bookings.

Come along and spend your "Show money" on something nice for lunch on the day. Bookings close on Tuesday 11 August (or sooner if number limits are reached) as Monday 10 August is a public holiday in our area for the EKKA which will not be!!

Until next edition

Andy



A warm U3A Beaudesert welcome is extended to our new members:

- |                |                 |                   |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Patricia Forse | Kerry Stone     | Sue Atherton      |
| Carmel Speedy  | Zelma Lowie     | Rachelle Williams |
| Jim Cavaye     | Bernie Grodecki |                   |

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



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

- |              |                    |               |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Yvonne Berry | Jane Blunck        | Lani Deeran   |
| Ken Jurd     | John Leatherbarrow | Vicki Mills   |
| Robin Powell | Fay Ruhland        | Coleen Shanks |
| Joe Skelton  | Wanda Slingo       |               |

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



# Current courses - term three

## 13 July-17 September 2020

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

### Acoustic guitar

Recommencing at a new location - St Thomas Anglican Church hall, Albert Street Beaudesert. Cost \$3. Hall is located behind the church, ample parking on the street. Contact Laurel 5541 2072 email laurel.fechner@gmail.com

### Aqua aerobics

In recess till term four 2020  
Contact TBA

### Art group - all mediums

Wednesdays 9 am-12 St Thomas Anglican Church hall.  
Contact Denise 5546 9879 or 0402 012 267

### Book club

Postponed until further notice

### Calligraphy

First and third Fridays of the month 1.30 pm-4.00 pm at the Arts & Information Centre Enterprise Drive Beaudesert  
Contact Sue - 5544 3146

### Card playing - Beaudesert

Every Monday 12.30 pm-4.00 pm RSL function room. Enjoy 500 or Bolivia. Limited 20 people  
Contact Di 0468 849 448 to confirm attendance.

### Card playing - Bolivia - Jimboomba

Meets every Thursday afternoon 11.30 am-4.00 pm at Dorrington House Jimboomba.  
Contact Di 0468 849 448

### 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 9.00 am-12 noon 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 Sue 5544 3146 or Jayne 5463 4841

### 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 Beaucare Community room, Tina Street. 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 Terry 0428 627 637

### Jigsaw library

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

### Line dancing/dancing - recommences 4 August

Tuesday from 12.30 pm \$3 per session The Centre, Brisbane Street Beaudesert  
Contact Laurel 5541 2072 or Helen 0488 411 755

### Mahjong - Jimboomba

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

### Mahjong - Beaudesert - recommencing 6 August

Thursday afternoons 1 pm-3.30 pm Arts & Information Centre.  
Contact Denise 5541 2801

### Meandering through history

DVD presentations and discussion. Arts & Information Centre Thursdays 10.00am to 12.00 noon  
Contact Tricia on 0419 844 409

### 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 6.30 am-7.30 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

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

### Social lunch

The next social lunch will be held on Friday 14 August at the Beaudesert RSL. Special offer to our current members.  
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 (limit 10 people)  
Contact Tex 5541 4772

### Table tennis

Thursdays 9 am-12 noon held at the St Thomas Anglican Church hall.  
Contact Glenda 5541 4290, 0418 771 758 or Ken 5541 1498

### Travel and Adventure Group

Meet second Monday each month at Jubilee Park 10.00 am onwards.  
Contact Ray or Kirtsey raymondarthy@gmail.com

### Trivia puzzling

Wednesday afternoons from 1.30 pm at St Thomas Anglican Church hall, Albert Street, Beaudesert  
Contact Jenny 0439 138 212

## U3A Online

We now have five online courses available to our members:

- Australia Flora
- The Night Sky
- Creative writing: Genealogy
- Play Ukulele by Ear
- Intro to IT (until August 2020)

If you would like to participate in any of these courses (at no cost to you), please contact our course coordinator, Tina Jones, 0418 780 861, email t.j.16@bigpond.com.

## Meandering through history

Tricia Edward

Our group photo shows how happy we are to be able to meet again. We have shifted to the Information Centre as their larger room is able to satisfy the social distancing requirement. We will miss the helpful library staff and would like to pass on our thanks for their assistance.

Our first day back was on the 16th July and we caught up with the Stuart's for the second last week. Our course on the History of Eastern Europe will commence on the 30 July. Jean Stevens will be presenting this course which will run until the 29 October (including two weeks term holidays). The course covers a brief history of the area including the frequent changes which occurred in the area and the developments over a long period of wars and revolutions. It is an area which is not familiar to many of us and should round off our Meandering.



## It's all in the sound

Cheryl Folley

The acoustics are great for acoustic guitar!

That's the opinion of Beaudesert U3A's guitar group, which has just begun meeting again after the coronavirus lockdown. And facilitator Laurel Fehner says the new venue, at St Thomas' Church hall in Albert street, is "just fine" for these keen players.



The covid-19 restrictions have made a small impact, she says, as members now have to wipe down their chairs with disinfectant after each session, but the set-up in a wide semi-circle is close to their normal arrangement and works well.

The group meets every Thursday afternoon from 12.30 to 2.30 pm. Members supply their own music stands and guitars, and are free to make suggestions on wherever they want the teacher Ken Jurd to take them. The latest song being explored now is Simon and Garfunkel's *Sound of Silence*.

## Croquet: the Clayton's exercise that challenges

Cheryl Folley

One of the more unusual sports played in the Scenic Rim is croquet, which to the lay person might seem to involve a leisurely stroll around a lawn while taking shots at a ball with a strange bat (known as a mallet).

But to the keen members of Beaudesert U3A's croquet group, it is both intellectually challenging and a surprisingly good exercise, with coordinator George Evans sometimes logging up to 10,000 steps during a morning session.

"That's more than our average, as I have to lay out the hoops and play area around the oval before and pick up afterwards," he says.



Sue, Pennie, Margaret, George, Rita enjoying their game of croquet

"But there are players who walk around six kilometres in a morning."

George says croquet demands discipline and is surprisingly difficult to learn, although he says a beginner can play "a reasonable round" within about four sessions of three hours each.

The U3A players meet on Tuesday

mornings from 8-11 am at Everdell Park, Gleneagle.

Games are played as either singles or doubles, usually around a course of 13 hoops. The atmosphere is keen but not too competitive, and there's always a morning tea break and the chance for socialising.

"Now that we have started playing again after the lockdown, we sanitise all equipment and bring our own mugs for morning tea," says George. "Actually, croquet is an ideal sport for social distancing, in the way it is played!"

If you are interested in finding out more you should contact George or Rita Evans on 5541 0706.



Helen, David, and Di wait their turn while Margaret takes aim



George and Margaret check out what the opposition are up to

## Thank you to all of our sponsors



**French**  
Cheryl Folley



Keith, Diane, Jacques, Lloyd, Jayne and Sue, members of the French group, which meets at the RSL sub-branch rooms (on the corner of William and Brisbane streets), are happy to be back in business. This group meets every Monday afternoon from noon until 2.30 pm to practise language skills in two groups, beginner/intermediate and advanced.

As this group has a mid-year intake for interested learners with basic knowledge, NOW is the time to enquire. Advanced speakers can be integrated into the group at any time.

The members meet for the first hour in separate groups, then come together for an hour of discussion in both French and English using online resources, newspapers, books and podcasts. There's an afternoon tea break when members take turns to provide the goodies.

**Table tennis**



*George goes for the big slap hit!*



*Send it down - I'm ready for you*

The table tennis group is very happy with their new venue in St Thomas's church hall as it gives them a little more space around the tables.

These members certainly get a good workout chasing that ball around the tables.

Contact Glenda 5541 4290, 0418 771 758 or Ken 5541 1498 if you would like to participate in this activity.



*I know I hit it - just don't know where to ... !*



*... still waiting*

**A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it.**



**Art - all mediums**



The art group is now meeting each Wednesday at the new venue - St Thomas's church hall - and found it a little cold inside so they took full advantage of the warm, fine weather to set up their easels on the verandah and in the garden, which suited their creativity and comfort.

**Trivia puzzling**



*The trivia group enjoying the sunshine on the verandah while they work out the answers to the puzzles.*

# It's off and away again for our U3A travellers!

Cheryl Folley

Our keen travel and Aventure group (TAG) is ready to re-start its travel itinerary this coming Friday, July 31, with a day trip to the Beenleigh Rum Distillery and the Beenleigh Historical Museum.

Members have adopted an optimistic outlook and are planning on a reasonably covid-free environment in Queensland as they plan their trips for the next three months. There's still time for any current U3A members to join the Beenleigh excursion – but please contact the coordinators Ray or Kirtsey Arthy immediately as they need to confirm at least approximate numbers and that Friday date is looming. (Contact details at the end of this article). Closed-in shoes are needed for this trip.

You may remember that the travel and adventure group was just hitting its straps some months ago when the coronavirus lockdown started. Many of us have positive memories of the first “test run” last year, a combined excursion to the Boggo Road Gaol with members of Beaudesert Probus, which was an acclaimed success. Now Ray and Kirtsey and fellow enthusiasts, can't wait to get going again, with a Gold Coast to Brisbane return boat cruise from Marina Mirage following the Beenleigh trip.

Members plan to car pool from Beaudesert to the Mirage on August 24, leaving by 6.30 am because – as Ray explains – “the boat won't wait!”

The following TAG trip in October will be a long one, discovering the southern Queensland section of the Silo Art Tour from Milmerran and meandering for seven nights, finishing at Toowoomba, from October 12. Stops will be at towns which have caravan parks (for members with their own vans) and motels for those who don't. The stopovers will allow time for our travellers to wander around and discover

those little hidden country gems.

“Our aim is what we call ‘slow travel’” says Ray. “We like to stop, look around, take in the feel of a place, and not just zoom in and out on a whistle-stop tour.

“Because of coronavirus restrictions, individuals on our trips will need to bring a mask and hand sanitizer, plus all are subject to covid-19 not spoiling our fun again.”

Anyone interested in finding out more about TAG is invited to attend the next group meeting in Jubilee Park near McKee Street bridge at 10.00 am on Monday, August 10. You will need to bring your own chair, drink and morning tea. Contact Ray or Kirtsey by email to check the details: phone 5544 2299 or email raymondarthy@gmail.com.



*Kirtsey and Ray with their trusty and much-travelled four-wheel drive, "Bluey".*

## Mosaics

Once a year the Mosaic Group have a celebration for everyone's birthday. This year we all met at the Andrew Drynan camping park on the Lions Road. Such a beautiful location we were very lucky that the weather was fine and able to enjoy the warmth of a fire pit burning. Delightful in many ways a good time was had by all.



*(Below) A lovely frog that Rosemary of the mosaics group has just completed*



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## A smile for today contributed by Johnny Estbergs

A duck walks into a pub and orders a pint of beer and a ham sandwich. The barman looks at him and says, 'Hang on! You're a duck.' 'I see your eyes are working,' replies the duck. 'And you can talk!' exclaims the barman. 'I see your ears are working, too,' says the duck. 'Now if you don't mind, can I have my beer and my sandwich please?'

Certainly, sorry about that,' says the barman as he pulls the duck's pint. 'It's just we don't get many ducks in this pub. What are you doing round this way?' 'I'm working on the building site across the road,' explains the duck. 'I'm a plasterer.'

The flabbergasted barman cannot believe the duck and wants to learn more, but takes the hint when the duck pulls out a newspaper from his bag and proceeds to read it. So, the duck reads his paper, drinks his beer, eats his

sandwich, bids the barman good day and leaves.

The same thing happens for two weeks. Then one day the circus comes to town. The ringmaster comes into the pub for a pint and the barman says to him 'You're with the circus, aren't you? Well, I know this duck that could be just brilliant in your circus. He talks, drinks beer, eats sandwiches, reads the newspaper and everything!' 'Sounds marvellous,' says the ringmaster, handing over his business card. 'Get him to give me a call.'

So the next day when the duck comes into the pub the barman says, 'Hey Mr Duck, I reckon I can line you up with a top job, paying really good money.' 'I'm always looking for the next job,' says the duck. 'Where is it?' 'At the circus,' says the barman. 'The circus?' repeats the duck. 'That's right,' replies the barman. 'The circus?' the duck asks again. 'That

place with the big tent?' 'Yeah,' the barman replies. 'With all the animals who live in cages, and performers who live in caravans?' says the duck. 'Of course,' the barman replies. 'And the tent has canvas sides and a big canvas roof with a hole in the middle?' persists the duck. 'That's right!' says the barman. The duck shakes his head in amazement, and says . . .



'What the heck would they want with a plasterer ??'

