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O. W. L. S.

OLDER WISER LEARNING SENIORS

Volume 6 Issue 1
February 2016



President's piece Andy Fechner

To those who may still be unsure of the date - a happy New Year!! I hope that your festive season celebrations were all that you desired, and that some of your New Year's resolutions are still operative.

I am sorry I was unable to be with those many members who enjoyed our Christmas luncheon event and morning concert on 4 December, I believe that the day was a great success. My thanks to all who contributed their time and efforts, and especially to our musicians and choir members.

2016 promises to be an exciting year again for our U3A. We have grown our membership significantly over the past 12 months, and we have many courses/activities to choose from. Nearly all of last year's offerings will be open again in 2016, and I hope we will be able to present new courses of interest. "Thank you" to those tutors/facilitators who take the time and interest to prepare and present their activities for our members' enjoyment. If you have a special

interest or skill that you think may be the basis for a course or activity, please give me a call or send an e-mail - all suggestions and offers considered..!!

By the time this newsletter goes to print, Australia Day celebrations will be happening, so I hope you consider the importance of our National Day and enjoy the festivities.

Speaking of festivities, I notice that the supermarket chains are at it again, with Easter hot cross buns already on sale, while leftover Christmas items are being sold off cheap as clearance lines. I can remember, (as I'm sure most of you can) when hot cross buns only became available a couple of days before Easter, and contributed to the meaning of the celebrations, rather than a commercial proposition for three months after the New Year.

Welcome back to your U3A for 2016, and remember if you have not paid your annual fees and remain unfinancial, you will not be able to be involved in courses or activities. Our insurance cover only extends to financial members. Contact any committee member or tutor/facilitator to pay your dues.

Until next edition, Andy

Annual General Meeting

Due to Good Friday falling on the last Friday in March, our U3A Annual General Meeting this year will be held on Friday 18 March commencing at 10.00a m at the Centacare rooms, 6-12 Petersen Street Beaudesert. A morning tea for all attending members will follow the AGM, with our first meeting for the 2016 committee scheduled for the 1 April - (rather interesting date!)

I was impressed by the good turnout of members at last year's AGM, so if you come this year you can enjoy a morning tea and a chat with your committee members after the formalities.

Interested in joining the committee, or taking on an office bearer's role? Nomination forms are available on our website, or can be mailed out if required. Completed forms must be returned to the Secretary, Rosemary Ryan, no later than Friday 19 February for inclusion in voting at the Annual General Meeting. Late nominations will not be tabled at the AGM, but casual vacancies may be filled at subsequent committee meetings.

Hope to see you there

Andy Fechner, President.



Management committee members

<i>President</i>	
Andy Fechner	Ph 5541 2072
<i>Vice President</i>	
Ray Folley	Ph 5544 2024
<i>Secretary</i>	
Rosemary Ryan	Ph 5541 1282
<i>Treasurer</i>	
Tex White	Ph 5541 4772
<i>Course coordinator</i>	
Laurel Fechner	Ph 5541 2072
<i>Publicity Officer</i>	
Ray Folley	Ph 5544 2024
<i>Webmaster</i>	
George Evans	Ph 5541 0706
<i>Newsletter</i>	
Yvonne Berry	Ph 5541 2604
<i>Social activities facilitator</i>	
Di Johnson	Ph 0468 849 448
<i>Assistant Secretary/Treasurer</i>	
Pat Millard	Ph 5541 2492

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	Gwen Elliott
Rita Evans	Margaret White

To register as a Friend of the Committee, please contact:

- Andy Fechner, president OR
- Laurel Fechner, course coordinator

P 5541 2072

E andyfechner@bigpond.com

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 one 2016 Monday 25 January- Thursday 24 March

Acoustic guitar

Tuesdays, Centacare rooms, 2 pm-3 pm.
Contact Laurel 5541 2072, email andyfechner@bigpond.com

Afternoon tea - your place or mine?

Meets first Wednesday of each month, 1 pm-3 pm, alternately at course members' homes. See page 3.

Contact Tina 0418 780 861 or Laurel, 5541 2072

Aqua aerobics

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7.30 am-8.30 am at the Beaudesert swimming pool. Clean, rubber soled shoes recommended, as well as a sun hat, and sunscreen.

Contact Paulette 5543 1261

Art appreciation

Third Wednesday each month, nominal time 10 am-12 noon at Centacare bistro room if not on an outing - usually involving art gallery visits with Tricia. A chance to look at and discuss works of art on display in the Scenic Rim and masterpieces from around the world.

Contact Tricia 5544 1462

Art group "The Limners"

Wednesdays 9 am-12 noon at the Centacare rooms.

Contact Denice 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

Bridge

Meets every Wednesday morning, 9.30 am-11.30 am, Kurrajong Park, Jimboomba.

Contact Elizabeth 5546 9689

Card playing - Beaudesert

Every Monday, 1 pm-4 pm at Centacare rooms, Enjoy euchre, canasta, samba, 500 and bolivia (focus on 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 group

Mondays, 10 am-12 noon, at Centacare bistro room. Hands on computer application. Most members bring their laptop along and are assisted by tutors or computer group members with individual tasks or problems.

Contact George 5541 0706



Pat Caverly, Tex White and Pat Millard at signing on day 2016

All course participants must be paid up members of Beaudesert U3A (\$25) per annum (couples \$40) and 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.

Conversational French

Mondays 1 pm-3 pm, at Centacare rooms. Introduction to conversational French.

Contact Jane 5541 2321

Genealogy club

No set days - Tricia is willing to help out anyone who is interested, one on one. Participants generally meet monthly by arrangement to discuss progress.

Contact Tricia 5544 1462 or email shikeo@bigpond.com

General discussion group

Meets Tuesdays 9.30 am-11.30 am, Beaucare Community Room, 44 Tina Street, Beaudesert. General discussions on any subject the group wishes. Group participation is the key here.

Contact Andy 5541 2072

A History of European Art

Meets Thursday mornings, 10 am-12 noon, Centacare rooms. The course should appeal to lovers of art and/or history.

Contact Jean 5541 3706

Jigsaw library

Select a jigsaw to use from the library. For selection and collection, contact Sandra, 5541 0978.

Mah Jong - Jimboomba

Meets every Tuesday afternoon 11 am-2 pm, Dorrington House, Jimboomba.

Contact Elizabeth 5546 9689.

Mah Jong - Beaudesert

Meets Thursday afternoons, 1 pm-3.30 pm, Centacare rooms. Beginners welcome.

Contact Andy 0408 801 780

Mosaics

Meet Mondays 1.30 pm-4 pm at 533 Cryna Road, Beaudesert. A hands-on course in this fascinating art form which will encourage your imagination to create delightful objects.

Contact Beryl 5541 2120

Nordic walking

Meet Wednesday and Friday mornings, 6.30 am-7.30 am at the soccer field by Beaudesert tennis courts. Wear a comfortable pair of sports walking shoes, bring a pair of poles and a bottle of water.

Contact Lawrie 0423 322 975

Social lunches/outings

U3A members' and guests' social lunches/outings will be held on the second Friday of the month. Next outing 12 February - [see page 3 for details](#)

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

Course coordinator - Laurel Fechner

P 5541 2072 | M 0417 644 506

E andyfechner@bigpond.com

Afternoon tea - your place or mine?

"Afternoon delights anyone"??

"Our Kitchens Rule" cookery group has decided to evolve this year into a slightly more social (but I suspect more competitive) gathering of creative gourmets.

This group will still operate on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month (commencing this year on the 3 February), but in a revised format. Instead of alternating between the facilitators' homes (and the occasional guest kitchen), each group member will take a turn at hosting an afternoon/high tea for the group. The fee each meeting will be \$5 per member, and will be paid to the host to offset the costs of ingredients and preparation. Any "overs" will be retained by the hosting member to go towards their share of the inevitable end of year "knees-up", which from past reports is enjoyed by all.

Given that this group will meet at members' homes in turn, there will be limited spaces available - and remember, each member will take a turn at hosting the group for that special afternoon tea..!! Contacts are unchanged - Tina, 0418 780861 and Laurel, 5541 2072.



Table tennis

Des and Pamela Fox

The members of the U3A table tennis group are so keen that they have only taken two weeks off over the festive season. Play has now resumed in the Uniting Church hall, corner William and Duckett Streets, Beaudesert and runs from 9 am to 12 noon. There is a \$2 fee which covers the games and morning tea.

Average attendance is 16 and four tables are in use. There is usually a chance to play singles for those wishing to stretch themselves but most games are pairs and members change partners as the morning progresses.



Fun, fellowship and fitness are the goals of the group and everyone is welcome. For further information, please contact Des or Pamela Fox, phone 5541 2662.

Free Tech Savvy course for seniors

There's a great opportunity coming up early this year for anyone of the generation that wasn't born knowing how computers work: a 20-lesson, free course to fill in all those gaps in your knowledge of computers, i-pads, tablets and so on.

The course is Tech Savvy Seniors and will run at all four static libraries in the Scenic Rim (ie Canungra, Mount Tamborine, Beaudesert and Boonah). It will be funded through Telstra and the Queensland State Government at selected libraries, mainly in rural areas.

Regional librarian, Tatjana Koczanowski, says there will be a package of 20 two-hour lessons at various levels, mainly at beginner level but with some more advanced.

These will be defined lessons with learners sitting at

computers. Anyone who can bring their own portable device will, she says, increase the numbers that can be enrolled.

Specific details will be available in February and brochures should be available at the libraries, but it probably wouldn't hurt to express interest early, either in person or via phone at 5540 5142 or email libraryb@scenicrim.qld.gov.au for Beaudesert. (note the "b" in the email address... it tends to disappear when typed out).

Cheryl Folley Friends of Beaudesert Library

One of the best feelings in the world is knowing that your presence and absence both mean something to someone.

Contributed by Hennie van Dyk

February social lunch

Our first social lunch for 2016 will be held at Canungra RSL on Friday 12 February, from 12 noon, \$15/head, choice of four menus. Members, their friends and partners are welcome to attend and it may be an idea to car pool. To book your place, please contact Di Johnson by 5 February - phone/text 0468 849 448, e-mail candyroxy1946@gmail.com.

Thank you to all of our sponsors



Life on the Gold Coast for two ex Beauie-ites

Margaret Kendrick

Atheism is a non-prophet organisation.

One of the big adjustments we have had to make living on the Gold Coast (population 600,000) is getting used to the traffic which is FAST. Everyone is in an awful hurry, the motorways with four lanes each way, road works, countless roundabouts, the list goes on. But we both admit if we know the route to where we are going we are fine. I had many arguments with the bloke on our original GPS he was a "dill" but since we bought Navman I am getting on much better with the young lady.

Anyway I digress as I want to tell you about the public transport system here, it is great and reasonably priced. We have travelled to Brisbane on the train visited the Queensland and Modern Art Galleries, walked over the bridge to Queen Street and done other touristy things and plan trips by train to QPAC for some matinees. We received notification that as senior citizens we are entitled to FREE bus travel between

8.30am and 3.30pm; they even sent us another card which I have been able to fit into my wallet by throwing away some other cards. So off we went last Monday, left our car at Varsity Lakes train station, a four minute drive from home, armed with bus timetables.

We found the info at the bus stop a little confusing, but never mind we were old enough to work it out and it was only a 10 minute drive to Robina Town Centre. Needless to say we "stuffed it up" again and two hours later we got to our destination. It was a lovely drive in the opposite direction but did not cost us a cent. We went through many suburbs, on and off the motorway, through the airport (domestic and international terminals) over the border into Coolangata NSW and then repeated the whole trip back. But we did

reach our original destination ... eventually. We will have to pay more attention to the signage on the front of the bus not just the number.

Our next venture with free transport will be a ride on the tram from Broadbeach to the end of the line somewhere near Southport I think. Hope it is as easy as it sounds. Perhaps we should take a "minder" with us.

Still missing you

Margaret



History of Art

Tricia Edward

Is there another word for synonym?

Welcome to the New

Year where we look forward to experiencing more of the art of the past. There are three more sessions of European Art which will, no doubt, be as informative as those viewed last year. These sessions will take place on 28 January, 4 February, and 11 February. On 18 February Jean will be hosting a celebratory lunch at her home to enable us to see those art books too large to bring to our discussions.

On 25 February it is hoped we can persuade anyone interested to join us in a visit to the Queensland Museum to view an exhibition of Medieval Art. The cost for entry to this exhibition is around \$20 and we intend to car pool or travel by bus. It is hoped this will be a fitting end to our History of European Art.

On 3 March we will commence a series on the History of American Art. This will be in the same format as our European Art series and should be an interesting experience. This series will continue until the end of term one.

Unfortunately for us Jean has experienced some ill health over the summer break but we hope that with our tender care she will carry on in her very informative and efficient way.

Looking forward to seeing you on 28 January. Any new members wanting to join our group should contact me on 5544 1462 or Jean on 5541 3706.

Beauesert U3A

welcomes new members ...

... Denise Foster, Jacqui Hogg, Vicki Allsop, Sandra Collins, Trish Caverly, Betty Tasker, Alec Ashby.

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

We are also delighted to see so many of our returning members and welcome you back to your groups for 2016.

If someone with multiple personalities threatens to kill himself, is it considered a hostage situation?



A Word or Two about this and that

Yvonne Berry

Well, the fuss and hype about Christmas is now just a distant memory as we get back into some sort of routine in the new year.

I often wonder why we go to such great lengths at Christmas to over-indulge food and drink-wise and then complain about not fitting into our clothes - "I'll just suck my gut in and no one will notice". Resolutions about watching what we eat/drink, exercising (more), giving up all our bad unhealthy habits are all but forgotten by February because we have forgiven ourselves for our pigginess and decide we really don't need to be so dogmatic about it all anyway - what're a few kilos here or there!

Who are we kidding? We hear enough on the radio and see enough on the TV about obesity and diabetes, lack of exercise and heart disease, rich foods and high cholesterol and yet we still carry on with our "it won't happen to me" attitude. The sad thing is that it can and just might happen so maybe easing up on that extra beer or glass of wine, or having a smaller slice of pav or taking just one chocolate wouldn't be such a bad idea. Darn it - Valentine's Day then Easter are just around the corner - HELP!!

Perhaps this is the answer ... ?



Free to a good home
Pianola, with 10 rolls
in good working order
Contact Brian Hamlyn 0418 883 270