



# O.W.L.S.

OLDER WISER LEARNING SENIORS

Volume 11 Issue 11  
November 2021

## President's piece Andy Fechner



What great recognition in the local press (*Beaudesert Times*) recently following our annual tutors / committee lunch in September. My congratulations to John Leatherbarrow our worthy winner for 2021. John took over the aqua aerobics group last summer at short notice, and when winter came around agreed to conduct an exercise group in the park, to cater for those who wanted to keep up their fitness levels once the pool closed for the season. Tina Jones was also rewarded for her excellent efforts with mosaics and as course coordinator for our U3A. I must make a special mention and a big "thank you" to our publicity officer Cheryl Folley, who is instrumental in preparing stories and articles for placement in all three of our local press publications as well as in our own newsletter.



you advise us if you have changed your postal mailing address in the last 12 months. Start getting your Christmas celebration groups together now!! (Term four ends Friday 10 December 2021).

Another highlight to think about for November is the Melbourne Cup, which is run on the first Tuesday in November. Many of our members will no doubt be attending Cup luncheons that day, and our line dancing group will not operate on that day due to festivities. I wish you all luck with your tips, sweeps and bets on the day!

Lastly, my congratulations to those members who have received their official certificates of achievement, after successfully completing the recent first aid and CPR course. This course was fully funded by your U3A for those tutors and committee members who took advantage of our offer. Certificates stay current for three years and the course was conducted by Mick Kajewski.

Please consider engaging in a committee position in 2022 – we need YOUR help!

Till next edition

Andy

As previously advised, we will be adopting the same \$20 voucher format for our Christmas celebrations this year as was so successfully conducted last year. Vouchers will be personalised, and distributed to eligible members by the end of November. Vouchers will be accepted at The Club (Beaudesert RSL) from 1 December until 22 December inclusive. Please ensure



A warm U3A Beaudesert welcome to our new members, Ann Van Velzen, Thomas Connell and Allen Hugo. 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 who celebrate their birthdays in November:

- |                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Kay Andrews     | Deb Baker       | Peter Cahill    |
| June Costello   | Chris Franklin  | Bob Fraser      |
| Erika Johns     | Anita Mahon     | Jayne M'eon     |
| Janelle Sanders | Annette Shirley | Claire Slattery |
| Annie Smith     | John Williams   |                 |

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

## 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
- Assistant treasurer**  
Stuart Gearey Ph 0404 861 266
- Membership secretary**  
Michele Goucher Ph 5541 3870
- Course coordinator**  
Tina Jones Ph 0418 780 861
- Webmaster**  
George Evans Ph 5541 0706
- Assistant webmaster**  
Peter Venz Ph 0408 588 399
- Facebook**  
Debbie Pratt Ph 0435 036 801
- 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 | Carol Castles    |

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

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



Member of U3A Network Queensland

## Current courses - term four 2021 5 October-10 December

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

### Aqua aerobics

Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 7.30 am-8.30 am  
Beaudesert pool. Suggested wear clean sports shoes/aqua  
shoes, sun protection, hat, sunglasses. Pool entry \$3.50  
pensioners **TBC**  
Contact John 0417 073 190

### Art group - all mediums

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

### Calligraphy

First and third Fridays of the month 1.00 pm-3.00 pm at the  
Arts & Information Centre Enterprise Drive Beaudesert  
Contact Robyn 0439 721 325

### Card playing - Beaudesert

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

### Card playing - Bolivia - Jimboomba

Meets every Thursday 12 noon-4.00 pm at the Anglican  
Church Hall, Jimboomba  
Contact Di 0468 849 448

### Computer/other technologies

This group is now an advisory group only, for issues with  
computers - no computer repairs or house calls.  
Contact George 5541 0706, email dreeemboat@iinet.net.au

### Croquet club

Play Tuesdays 8.00 am-11.00 am at Everdell Park Gleneagle  
Contact George or Rita 5541 0706

### Exercise for seniors

Now in recess until term 2 2022. Refer to aqua aerobics.  
Contact John 0417 073 190

### French

Every Monday 11.00 am-2.00 pm RSL Sub Branch rooms,  
1st floor, corner William and Brisbane Streets, Beaudesert.  
Contact Jayne 5463 4841

### Gardening group - BUGS

Meet third Friday of each month  
10.00 am-12 noon Beaudesert  
RSL club function room  
Contact Marilyn 0429 006 194

### General discussion group

Meets Tuesdays 9.30 am-11.30  
am Beaucare Community room,  
44 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 627 673

### 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 from 12.45 pm \$3 per session The Centre, Brisbane  
Street Beaudesert  
Contact Marg 0422 415 145

### Mahjong - Jimboomba

Meets every Tuesday 11 am-2 pm Davidson Road,  
Jimboomba.  
Contact Elizabeth 5546 9689



### Mahjong - Beaudesert

Thursday afternoons 1 pm-3.30 pm Arts & Information  
Centre.  
Contact Michele 0459 335 403

**Mosaics** Meet Mondays 1.30 pm-3.30pm at Arts &  
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 Monday, Wednesday, Friday mornings. Contact Liz for  
start times. 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, 142  
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 at on Friday 12 November  
from 12 noon at The Topsy Grill, Jimboomba. RSVP to Di  
phone/text 0468 849 448, email candyroxy1946@gmail.com  
(See page 6)

### Social tennis

Wednesdays 8 am-12 noon venue Beaudesert tennis courts  
Boonah Road  
Contact Paulette 0409 898 147

### Table tennis

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

### Travel and Adventure Group

Meet second Monday each month on the deck, Beaudesert  
Library 10.00 am onwards.  
Contact Ray raymondarthy@gmail.com, ph 0447 554 480

### Trivia puzzling

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

### Ukulele

Meets Thursday afternoons St Thomas's Anglican Church  
hall, Albert Street, Beaudesert, 1 pm-2.30 pm.  
Contact Finella 0439 414 491

## A heads-up for the unvaccinated

Andy Fechner

While I imagine that most of our U3A members are already  
vaccinated against covid, I feel it is important to alert those  
members who may not be aware of possible changes to  
admittance to venues, which are being mooted at the  
moment.

It is entirely possible that the State Government could issue  
a directive that venues bar entry to persons who have NOT  
been vaccinated. This action is already being suggested to  
entertainment and hospitality venues, and could also apply  
to some of the venues used by our U3A for activities -  
(Council-operated venues, church halls, clubhouses etc).  
Being unvaccinated could mean being denied entry to U3A  
courses.

## U3A Online

The courses we offered through U3A online have now  
expired. If you are interested in any of their courses, please  
contact Tina, our course coordinator phone 0418 780 861 |  
email t.j.16@bigpond.com.

## Two awards to mark U3A service

Cheryl Folley

It's official! Dual-course instructor John Leatherbarrow is our Beadesert U3A Tutor of the

Year. The award was announced by president Andy Fehner at the recent annual complimentary lunch to mark the contributions of our volunteer tutor/coordinators and committee members.

"This is an award to someone who has made a stand-out contribution over the past year," Andy Fehner said.

"John put up his hand to help as tutor two mornings a week as instructor of the aqua-aerobics group in the Beadesert pool when the former instructor could not continue. "He then continued - by popular demand- when the 30 or so group members were reluctant to give up their exercise mornings in winter and asked him to lead the group in dry-land exercise twice weekly. It's an enthusiastic group and will be involved in aqua exercises again now that the Beadesert pool has opened for the spring season." John was a National Serviceman and PT instructor and is also the vice-president of The Club Beadesert (formerly the RSL).

Our busy course coordinator, Tina Jones, received a special award at the lunch to mark her varied contributions to U3A, which include tutoring the popular mosaics group and keeping in touch with the facilitators of more than 20 current activities, plus taking photos at many of our U3A events.

President Andy said that Beadesert U3A was "by far" the largest group for seniors in the Scenic Rim "and it would be necessary to look at larger populations such as the Gold Coast and Brisbane to find higher numbers."



## TAG activities

Ray and Kirtsey Arthy

What some TAG members

have been up to – our Maryborough to Landsborough trip.

Wednesday 6 October saw three vans and one motel couple arrive and settle in at a quiet caravan park off the Hervey Bay Road. On Thursday we took a guided walk through the historical centre of Maryborough for a couple of hours, followed by a chance to revisit some of the sites shown to us by our excellent guide – so much history and a terrific job of restoration and repurposing of old buildings. Truly a credit to the people involved.

On Friday we left Maryborough and travelled to Imbil Showground caravan park – a lovely green and peaceful place. There we were met by the last of our TAG members – now 12 in all.

On Saturday most of our group travelled to Kenilworth to sample the local foods –

another hole in the belt! Kenilworth is an engaging and vibrant little town. That afternoon we had another one of our two to three-hour 'happy hours'

Sunday saw us off to Gympie for our "Rattler" ride. This could only be described as a terrific day. Our guide George, a year 12 student, would be a credit to any parent. On the return trip he surprised us all by suddenly playing the saxophone to the extent of even serenading some of the ladies! To add interest to the trip, not only the engine pulling the carriages but also the carriage we rode in once belonged to Beadesert Rail.

On Monday we set off for Landsborough, with dinner Monday night at the Landsborough Hotel, not very far from where we were staying.

A little snippet that made me very proud of our group which I'd like to tell: Before we left Imbil for Landsborough, whilst talking to a fellow caravanner [a member

of Coolum U3A], he told me it was incredible that there was so much laughter and fun issuing from our group during our EXTENDED happy hours! If I had known he was also a U3A member, he would have been asked to join us.

Tuesday saw us exploring areas of our choice – some went to Maleny, Montville or Caboolture Historical Village.

Wednesday saw us heading for home. Some of us called in to the Caboolture Historical Village because we hadn't had a chance to see it earlier with so many other things on offer.

Upcoming happenings:

Sunday 19 December – Sunset cruise with a meal, plus bus transport from Beadesert to Mowbray Park. This was very successful last year. It is essential that we know numbers – please ring Ray or Kirtsey on 5544 2299 or email [raymondarthy@gmail.com](mailto:raymondarthy@gmail.com)



(Top L-R clockwise) Brendan on the footplate of the C17 locomotive 967, Verlie at the Maleny Botanic Gardens and Bird World, Ray (L) with Graham who planned and coordinated the trip - thank you Graham! Ready to board at Gympie, Gertie the fire tender which follows the train checking for spot fires, Each carriage had a 'customer experience attendant' - lots of happy faces enjoying a surprise serenade in our former Beadesert Rail carriage

## Here's a group that really loves learning!

Cheryl Folley

One of the principles behind U3A is that there is always something new to learn, and according to the keen members of our trivia puzzling group, that's just the way it should be and they all love doing it!



Liz and Janelle (above)  
Pat (below)

This group meets weekly on Wednesday afternoons at St Thomas's Church hall under the guidance of Jenny Hughes, who was "volunteered" for the job of organiser by the group's founder Tex White, who has now left Beaudesert to be closer to family. It's a relaxed



and friendly group but there is no mistaking the air of concentration that comes over the members as 1.30 pm (kick-off time) approaches. There are 75 questions to get through each time and the pace at times can be brisk, depending partly on who is the quizmaster for the day.

"It's never an onerous job for one quizmaster, because the group members volunteer to take turns in setting the questions," says Jenny.

"Questions come from a wide range of sources, including TV, magazines, Google, local knowledge or news bulletins. Sometimes we have quite spirited discussions about the answers, but the rule we follow is that the quizmaster on the day is the ultimate authority.

"Because we all have different interests there is a wide variety of questions, some easy, some hard.

"We don't play for sheep stations or have any prizes as it's all about playing against yourself and seeing how much you can retrieve from your memory bank.... trivia is a great way to keep your brain active.

"Our focus is on having fun and socialising."

The group has experimented with seating layouts to make the system work well, and now use a "hollow square" layout much of the time, with four to five members along each side, keeping a friendly distance from each other but still able to see everyone.



The questions are asked in two sets of 25, followed by a cuppa and biscuits, then the final set of 25 questions. When the answers follow says Jenny, there can be a few groans and comments of "Oh no, I knew that, really!" but always, she says, "we leave knowing something that we didn't know previously."



### Could you have answered...?

- 1 *What is a pobblebonk?*
- 2 *Which Beatle was barefoot walking across Abbey Road?*
- 3 *What is the capital of Afghanistan?*



### Answers

- 1 *A frog (the eastern banjo burrowing frog)*
- 2 *Paul McCartney*
- 3 *Kabul*



(From top right clockwise) Ron and Kay, Denise - with a list of questions to ask on the day; Jenny - group coordinator; Jim, Joe and Pat

## Check out these home-grown vegetables

Cheryl Folley

of the biggest tomato he'd ever grown, all 1.075 kg of it. Tina relayed the story to Andy and Yvonne and organised to take a photo for OWLS... then Andy, seeing the tomato pic as we collated photos and story for your newsletter this month, emailed photos of his gigantic brown onions.

And I, not to be outdone between these champion gardeners, decided to weigh in with my silver beet leaves of impressive size.

And here are the results:



FYI, Jim's tomato is a bullock heart, a variety known for being large (but not usually quite this size!). He grows the variety every year from seed descended from the original tomatoes grown by Nindooibah farmer Ray Navy. Jim keeps his tomato plants pruned, and gathers just what grows along the main stem after pruning. Obviously the method works

Andy's onions are his second annual crop and well and truly outgrew last year's first effort, which itself was by no means insignificant. They're now in his shed, drying off on wire racks.

The first taste test recently gained full approval - and as he says, together he and Jim could make a heck of a lot of tomato-and-onion gravy!

My own silverbeet is a regular, useful addition to our vege patch. It's the sort of vegetable that is probably not the top favourite with many people, but one of those stalwarts that is always useful. The silverbeet grew in a bed that had been piled up with horse manure six months ago by our grandson aka assistant gardener, then planted after the manure had fully composted. Eureka - giant leaves!

## BUGs

Marilyn Liebke



Cheryl with some of her roses

The October 15 meeting went well with 31 members attending. Mick Kajewski couldn't attend at the last moment so Cheryl Bizzell kindly stepped up and as guest speaker she spoke on all things roses. She has so much knowledge on this subject, we were all ears and very attentive. Cheryl brought two massive bunches of roses (and one for me) and some sweet peas.

The two raffles were won by Annette Shirley and Trish Alexander. We kept drawing the raffle tickets to give the members a chance of winning the bunches of roses. One of the products Cheryl spoke about and recommended is Healthy Earth plant spray; the contact is [www.healthyearth.com.au](http://www.healthyearth.com.au). This business is at Victoria Point.

Our Christmas breakup starting at 11 am is on 19 of November at Peter Ward's property at Kerry, 20 km from Beaudesert. Lunch will be a shared meal as per last year, so please bring some type of festive food or drink to share. Coffee and tea will be provided, as well as water in bottles.

There will be two raffles to be won, perhaps a few more as it is Christmas. Bring a potted plant if you would like to be in the plant swap.

Peter's place is very old, his family has always owned it so we may learn a piece of history of Kerry. The work on the property is special; the garden at the front of the house is a natural one, natives, rocks, logs all for the wildlife. Then there is another garden down at the creek, which will be a surprise because none of us has seen it yet. There is the pride and joy shower and toilet block and it will be part of the tour around the property. The property name is on the front gate, *Cummertha*.

A reminder email will be sent to members as we get closer to the Christmas 19 November date with any updates.



Margaret and Rita welcomed everyone with ready smiles



Gigi, Debbie and Carmel with some of the beautiful roses that Cheryl brought

## Beaudesert U3A croquet group celebrates Seniors Day

George Evans

Thanks to Peter Cahill for passing on a Southport Croquet Club flyer advising that their club would be celebrating their 86<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The flyer was a compelling invitation stating that there would be fun games, free morning tea and free lunch. Eight U3A Croquet members registered to attend and did so on the day (Wednesday 20 October).



On arrival, we found plenty of parking close to the venue. We were met by club volunteers who organised registration of our attendance, gave us a free coffee/tea and lunch ticket.



We joined many other attendees some of whom we knew and enjoyed catching up with news over a coffee or tea. A celebration cake was cut and a piece given to everyone during the afternoon. A raffle was drawn with plenty of prizes, a number were won by our group members.

The rest of the day was spent playing a variety of activities which tested skills and gave our croquet players an idea what it was like to play on a bowling green-type surface, which at Southport is used only for croquet. Comments were positive about the celebration, with everyone enjoying the day which was blessed with kind weather.

*Spoil someone this Christmas*



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**Social outing October 2021**  
Di Johnson

For our October lunch we went to the Happy Valley Chinese restaurant in Beaudesert. 32 members/guests attended, and as always, food and prices were great. A most enjoyable lunch was had by all.

I have chosen a new venue for the November lunch which will be our last this year before our Christmas lunch at the RSL in December. The Tippy Grill, which is located in the old Coffee Club, convenience centre (McDonalds is the main tenant there),

has recently opened in Jimboomba. I visited there to meet the owner and look at the menus. All the usual fare is available at most reasonable prices, steaks included.

At the time of my visit, they were unlicensed but hoping to have a licence or at least BYO by the date of our lunch on 12 November.



**Thank you to all of our sponsors**

