



eNews
August 2024



Connecting Seniors to Lifelong Learning

From the President

Deslyn Taylor

Hello all

The year is going so quickly. It has been a very eventful Term with U3A Brisbane being mentioned on Bruce Paige's Segment on the Channel Nine News. If you missed it you can see it [here](#).

Thank you to the Tutors, members and office volunteers who helped with this event - particularly Lily Buttigieg and her Spanish class, and Bruce Holdsworth and his class, on Politics and the Economy. Lily was actually interviewed as were 2 of the members in Bruce's class but the individual interviews did not make it to air. However, the willingness of everyone to come forward at short notice was greatly appreciated and the publicity for U3A Brisbane was very good. We had 5 new members join us just after the segment finished.

Our long time Office Manager and Office Volunteer Coordinator, Yvonne McGann, has retired from this important role. Yvonne has held this position for over 10 years and will be missed but fortunately she will continue to tutor her Latin classes so we will still have the pleasure of seeing her in the city each week. Yvonne has been my 'go to' person for many things over the years - whether it is planning a U3A event or printing a U3A brochure she has always been there to help. Thank you for everything Yvonne.

The new Office Manager and Office Volunteer Coordinator is Lyndall Beattie. We are fortunate that Lyndall was available to take on this important position. Lyndall was a member of the Management Committee and our Treasurer for many years. She has also been an Office Volunteer and so steps into a role she knows well. I look forward to again working with Lyndall going forward. She will do an amazing job.

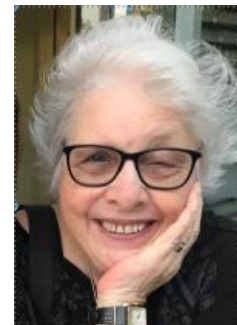
Management Committee Update

- **Membership**

Last month I asked you to spread the word about U3A and the excellent opportunities membership offers. The aim was to get over 3000 members by September. Thank you to our recent new members.

**WE HAVE DONE IT
CURRENT MEMBERSHIP IS 3027**

Our aim is to further increase membership next year. We face increasing costs each year, especially for class accommodation, and we cannot contain membership costs unless we have a higher membership base. Members can help by encouraging friends to join our wonderful organisation. You can obtain brochures and posters from the Office to assist.



- **Classes**

We have a wonderful array of classes but we need more classes and more tutors. Remember if you are interested in, or have some expertise in a topic, please come and share it with a group of like-minded people either as a Tutor or a Facilitator.

Now is the time if you would like **to join us as a Tutor or Facilitator for Term 4 2024.**

Being a Tutor at U3A is a wonderful experience.

Contact tutors@u3abrisbane.org.au if you are interested

- **Future Planning**

The Management Committee is now working on future accommodation requirements as our Adelaide St Venue Lease comes up for renewal and with this in mind, we have set up a group to research possibilities. It is coordinated by our Development Coordinator, Sharyn Johns. If you have real estate, insurance, accounting or property valuation experience and skills and would like to be part of this group please contact Sharyn at: development@u3abrisbane.org.au

Your knowledge and advice would be greatly appreciated.

We are also planning another open day on the Saturday 7th September which is before the end of Term. Mark the date in your Calendar and watch for more detail over the coming weeks.

Enjoy your classes.

Regards

Des

Special Zoom Presentation in August

Title: Can you spot a Scam?
Presenter: Sharyn Johns
Date: Thursday, 15 August 2024. 11am – 12.15pm (via Zoom)



The chances are you, or someone you know has been scammed. Unfortunately, you're not alone. Scams are increasingly sophisticated which means anyone can be a victim of a scam. Behind the growing number of scam reports are everyday Australians who lost money to scams – sometimes their life savings. And the true cost of scams is more than a dollar figure. Scams can have a devastating impact on victims' lives. Scammers are becoming increasingly sophisticated in their tactics, and the presentation will help us understand how we may be vulnerable and provide insights into:

- What is a scam?
- The most common scams to watch out for
- The different ways scammers can contact you
- The tools scammers use to trick you
- The warning signs
- What to do if you or someone you know is scammed
- How to protect yourself

Sharyn will use a number of examples and case studies to highlight how scams work, who is behind them, and how to avoid them.

About Sharyn Johns

Recently retired, Sharyn has had a successful 35-year career in law enforcement, criminal and financial intelligence including money laundering, fraud and financial crime, and drug investigations. During her early career with the Australian Customs Service and later with the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission and AUSTRAC, Sharyn led and managed multi-disciplinary joint agency intelligence and operational teams in transnational organised crime environments including airports and seaports. Sharyn has designed and delivered criminal and financial intelligence courses in Australia, Africa, the Netherlands, India, and across the ASEAN countries and Pacific Islands for clients including INTERPOL, AUSTRAC, Egmont, UNODC and state and federal police, defence and other government agencies. Sharyn has received several professional awards including 2018 and 2014 Australia Day Awards. She has a Master of Justice, majoring in organised crime and corruption investigation, as well as qualifications in applied management, public sector management and executive coaching.

Register via the button below, or from the website home page. You will receive a Zoom link prior to the meeting.

[Register for this Event](#)

Special Face-to-face Presentation in August

Minds and Machines: The Great Debate on Artificial Intelligence

Presenter: John Crook

Date: Friday 23 August 11am – 12.30pm, Room 18, 232 Adelaide St. (Face-to-face)



This a further presentation in our series on Artificial Intelligence.

AI's dramatic evolution over the past decade goes mostly unnoticed, while its pace continues to quicken daily. Join us for a balanced exploration of AI's potential to reshape our world. Hear competing viewpoints on AI's capabilities, development pace, and societal effects, encouraging critical thinking about this transformative technology.

About John Crook

John Crook, a Physics graduate from the University of Sussex, has been fortunate enough to have had a 40-year career in software development and executive leadership. He's had the opportunity to work with some amazing teams at British Telecom in the UK, Intel Corporation in Austin Texas, and Softlink in Brisbane, where he eventually became CEO after its acquisition by Volaris. John then transitioned into strategic acquisitions, guiding management teams across Volaris' software businesses. He wrote his first AI program in the 1980s, and he's recently refreshed his AI knowledge with courses from top global institutions. Currently on a professional sabbatical, John is exploring new opportunities and staying engaged with emerging technologies.

Register via the button below, or from the website home page. You will receive a reminder prior to the meeting.

[Register for this Event](#)

From the Secretary

Rod McLary

Northside District

The next class in *Electric Vehicles 101* will be held on Monday 5 August 2024 at the new location of Gasworks Plaza Newstead. Full details are in the class schedule on the website.

Grievance Officer – Expressions of Interest

Currently acting in the role of Grievance Officer for U3A Brisbane, I have recently been appointed U3A Brisbane Secretary. Consequently, the Management Committee is now calling for Expressions of Interest for the former position.

The Grievance Officer is responsible for managing complaints or grievances in accordance with the U3A Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures. The person will also work closely with the Secretary and Management Committee in the resolution of any complaint or grievance.

Necessary skills include – active listening; objective thinking, decisiveness, empathy, and report-writing.

If this is a role you would like, and you have the necessary skills, or you would like further information, please send your expression of interest and enquiries to Rod - secretary@u3abrisbane.org.au



U3A Brisbane member Desrae Cameron: A World Champion

U3A Brisbane has many 'champions' but did you know one of our members may soon be a world champ? For the second time.



Desrae Cameron, a member of *Australia's Future: Challenges and Opportunities* class, will be representing Australia in the UCI Fondo world road track cycling championships in Aalborg, Denmark from 29 August/1 September.

Desrae has form as a world champion as she previously won the 55-59 years 2008 UCI Track Cycling Masters World championship.

"I am a bit older now 😊 says Desrae, so a real challenge to keep moving the bike forward at a fast pace particularly on the road. I'll do my absolute best!!!!, both for U3A and Australia: Aussie, Aussie, Aussie, oi oi oi!"



This time Desrae will be joined by her daughter (45-49 years age range) so how AWESOME is that? Desrae is an inspiration for all of us and we wish her well in her pursuit of a medal. Win or lose she will be a true champion of U3A Brisbane.



"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."

"The only thing more expensive than education is ignorance."

Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)

U3A Social Events

Heather Dowling



Mt Tamborine Trip. Seats still available!

Thanks to members who have already booked their seats to Mt Tamborine. We still have room for what will be a great day out. For information or bookings contact Heather – social@u3abrisbane.org.au

Please remember to take your mobile phones! The rainforest walk is not far from the German Cuckoo Clock Nest on Long Road. Turn left at the roundabout intersection, 5 mins walk away along Wongawallen Road. This will take you to Tamborine Mountain Distillery.

Details

DATE: Thursday, 5th September 2024

PICK-UP: 8.30 a.m. at Roma Street

COST: \$85.00

The Schedule

- 10.00** Drop off at Gallery Walk - free time to browse, have Morning Tea (at your own cost), browse the shops or do the rainforest walk
- 11.15** Depart for Coffee Plantation tour.
- 12.45** Depart Coffee Plantation for Lunch at St Bernard's
- 14.30** Arrive Tamborine taking a scenic drive the back way to the Yatala Pie Shop and an opportunity to buy pie for dinner! Leaving Yatala we head for Roma Street, arriving back approximately 16.45.



Built in 1881, St Bernards Hotel was licensed in 1915, and since then has invited guests in the area to enjoy casual dining. Unique and special to the area, a trip to Tamborine Mountain wouldn't be complete without a visit to St Bernards Hotel.

AROUND THE TRAPS WITH LINDA

Hello Everyone,

Thank you so much for the welcoming feedback. I have taken it all up and will add the theatres you mentioned to the table. It was such a delight to know that some of you would be interested in this! A special thank you to our editor, Bob, who kindly put in links to the playhouses for you all; "Thank you Bob! Very much appreciated!"



This company produces QPAC-quality performances with design costumes (you should have seen The King & I), stage work, lighting, and music. It is held at Iona College (IPAC) North Rd Lindum where there are two shows each year. It seats 500 and has disability access.

They finished Shrek last month and this month they are having their launch for Group Bookings on 4th August at 1pm for "Curtains". Please contact them if you are thinking of going, don't just turn up. savoyards.com.au

Prices

Adult **\$52** Concession **\$48** Group (10+) **\$46** Junior (to Y12) **\$30**.

These look like steep prices for a “local” theatre group; however, the plays are very professional and only one disappointment in the 15 years I have been doing this. One review I received for their production of The Phantom of the Opera was – “It’s better than the one I saw in Melbourne! Far Better!” Ergo saving you approximately \$50!

Some playhouses may not have anything on during one of the months so they will be missing for editing purposes.

Any queries, you can call me between 0900 and 1700 (5pm) M-F on 0418 459 227. I am at U3A Adelaide St on Thursday mornings.

AUGUST

Matinees 2pm; Evenings 7:30pm - unless otherwise stated. *Always check the most up to date details by visiting the respective websites.*

Sunnybank Theatre 3345 3964 sunnybanktheatre.com.au	How The Other Half Live	Matinee 7.30 pm	31 st 30 th , 31 st	Adults \$28 Conc \$26
St. Luke’s Theatre 0493 778 379 Stlukestheatre.asn.au	Pride & Prejudice	Matinee 7.30 pm	24 th , 31 st 23 rd , 24 th , 30 th , 31 st	Adults \$28 Conc \$22 Group \$20
*Centenary Theatre Chelmer 0435 591 720 centenarytheatre.com.au	The Thrill of Love	Matinee 7.30 pm	3 rd , 4 th , 11 th 2 nd , 9 th , 10 th	Adults \$27 Conc \$24 Group \$27
Ipswich Little Theatre 3812 2389 lt.org.au	One Act Play Festival	Matinee 7.30 pm	9 th , 10 th , 11 th 9 th , 10 th , 11 th	Adults \$25 Conc \$21
Nash Theatre New Farm 0418 719 300 Nashtheatre.com	The Odd Couple (the female version)	Matinee 7.30 pm Preview Opening night	31 st 23 rd , 24 th , 30 th , 31 st 16 th 17 th (+\$5)	Adult \$25 Conc \$20 Grp -20% Preview \$15
Villanova Players, Seven Hills 0423 920 832 Villanovaplayers.com	The Importance of Being Earnest	Matinee 7.30 pm	24 th , 25 th , 31 st 23 rd , 24 th , 30 th , 31 st	Adult \$30 Conc. \$25 Adult \$30 Conc \$25
Growl Theatre, Windsor 0438 548 426 growltheatre.org.au	The Book of Will	Tickets on sale in August for Oct/Nov		Adult \$20 Conc \$17

*Toilets outside, long iron staircase or hill. Unsuitable for unsteady walkers or dicky tickers.

SEPTEMBER

Sunnybank Theatre 3345 3964 sunnybanktheatre.com.au	How The Other Half Live	Matinee 7.30 pm	7 th , 8 th , 14 th 7 th , 13 th , 14 th	Adults \$28 Conc \$26
St. Luke’s Theatre 0493 778 379 Stlukestheatre.asn.au	Pride & Prejudice	Matinee 7.30 pm	7 th 7 th	Adults \$28 Conc \$22 Group \$20

Centenary Theatre Chelmer 0435 591 720 centenarytheatre.com.au	Mephisto & Pheles	<i>Check website for details</i>		Adults \$27 Conc \$24 Group \$27
Ipswich Little Theatre 3812 2389 ilt.org.au	Clue: On Stage	Matinee 8.00 pm	22 nd , 29 th 20 th , 21 st , 27 th , 28 th	Adults \$25 Conc \$21
Nash Theatre New Farm 0418 719 300 Nashtheatre.com	The (Female) Odd Couple	7.30 pm	6 th , 7 th	Adult \$25 Conc \$20 Grp -20%
Beenleigh Theatre 3807 3922 beenleightheatregroup.com	Chess	27 September to 12th October <i>Check website for full information</i>		See website
Village Green Theatre, Logan. 0433 294 304 villagegreentheatregroup.com.au	Cinderella	7.30 pm 7.00 pm 2.00 pm	20 th , 27 th 21 st , 28 th 21 st , 28 th	Adult \$25 Conc \$20 Group \$20 Student \$20 Kids \$12.50
Redcliffe Musical 0488 103 759 redcliffemusicaltheatre.com	The Lovely Bones	Matinee 6.00 pm 7.00 pm	7 th , 14 th 8 th , 16 th 6 th , 7 th , 13 th , 14 th	<i>Check website</i>

Published by:

U3A Brisbane
97 Creek St Brisbane 4000.
Phone: 3236 3055
u3abrisbane.org.au
mail@u3abrisbane.org.au