



President's Message

From Janese Lowe

Thanks to the organising committee for 2024 Open Day, led by Brenda Hazlewood and Mary Smith for a well-organised event and a wonderful start to 2024. Lovely to catch up with all those Tutors who gave willingly of their time and dealt with a steady stream of customers, thanks to the publicity efforts of Mary, Liz S, and Kaylene.

A big thank you to the management committee for set-up; on the day; and pack down. Our administration and events volunteers and other friends of the committee who all did a magnificent job. Not forgetting our parking attendant George Shield.

The day was hot and humid but that did not deter the 'true Queenslanders' who comprised the U3A Redlands District community in attendance. Queenslanders don't let a little heat get in the way of having fun and socialising.

It was a lovely social day which was evident by the amount of chatter in the hall which at times drowned out our Ukulele group who performed so well. Thank you so much to the Ukulele group, but we will need to rethink our format for future Open Days.

Our raffle sellers did an amazing job selling over 700 tickets with takings totalling \$1,000. Thank you Shahin Masters and your Flower Arranging Group for donating floral prizes again for our raffle. Liz Sanderson sourced a wonderful selection of prizes. Apologies for the late raffle draws, but we made sure that all lucky winners received their prizes. Your generosity and support of U3A Redlands is very much appreciated.



Building Project Update

Members of the building committee had an onsite meeting with the builder this week to decide on a variation to the plan to reposition the entrance ramp.



Since December, glass sliding windows and sliding doors have been installed and wall sheathing covers the frame.



Facility Manager Shane joined us for a first look inside. A very exciting visit!



Keep an eye on the site as bricklayers will be transforming the building into a lockable shell very soon.

Open Day 2024



Busy raffle ladies Carolyn West and Iris Murray.



Tutors set up ready for first customers of the day.



Our **U3A Redlands GRUBS Ukulele Group** led by Madge Little.



The venue had plenty of space and a great layout.

Thanks to John Burt for the photos.

Funding Update

We are so appreciative of donations to date and for these donations since last newsletter:

Thank you to members:

Glenda Murrell (Jam Sales)	\$115
Noel Maclean Dawson	\$50
Jean Clarke	\$29
Bob Russell	\$10
Mahjong RR Group (Oct-Dec)	\$211

So grateful for regular ongoing donations!

Complete Building By - October 2024.

Building Fundraising – \$160k to go.

A lockable shell will be achieved very soon. More funds are needed for the internal fit-out, a septic tank, exterior ramp/railings, footpaths etc.

How can we complete this building project and deliver a splendid facility for the future?



- We are accepting more donations.
- More fundraising events are coming.
- We are pursuing corporate funds.
- We are talking to politicians.
- We will apply for grants, if eligible.
- More details in our next newsletter.

Please contact Janese on 0402 297 009 if you can help with funds, manpower, etc.

Watch This Space!

Donate by Direct Deposit:

Bank of Qld BSB 124025
Account 23387501
Ref: Surname, Donation

Donate by Credit Card:

<https://u3aredlands.com.au>

Click Building Project at top right
Click Donate Here; Follow the prompts. Or Phone Julie at the Office 3821 3888.

Donations to U3A Redlands Building Fund are tax deductible,
per Sub 30-B 2.1.10 Tax Act. We appreciate your ongoing support.



*Welcome back to Julie-Anne,
our Office Administrator.*

*The office hasn't been the same
without you.*

*Happy to have you back in the
office now that you are feeling
better!*

*From Janese, the Committee and all the
office volunteers.*



*Thank You So Much
Debra Mitchell*

For attending the office every day while Julie was away. You and your team of office volunteers have been our saviours during this time.

*Thank you to our wonderful
volunteers!*

Happy 90th Birthday Brian



Long time U3A Garden stalwart, Brian Sullivan, celebrated his 90th birthday on Australia Day.

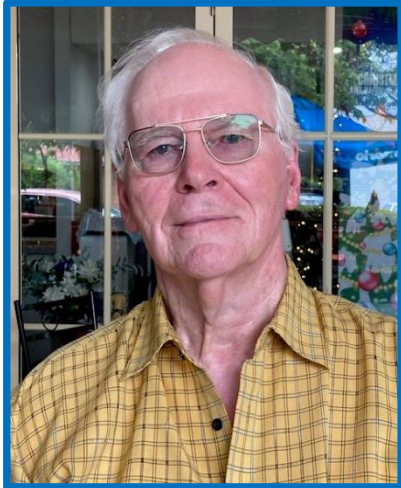
Brian was an aviator, having served over 25 years in the RAAF as a pilot and administrator, flying Winjeels, Vampires, Dakotas and three models of Hercules before retiring as Wing Commander. He was also seconded to the Malaysian Air Force flying Handley Page Herald, as well as involved in transporting Australian troops home from Vietnam and medivacs to Butterworth.

Upon retirement, Brian settled in Canberra spending time as a COMCAR driver. On moving to Queensland in 2007, Brian soon became a member of U3A Redlands, joined the Ramblers and Garden Group, becoming an integral and valuable member.

Congratulations Brian on becoming a nonagenarian.



Meet U3A Redlands Member Number 10,000 - Stuart Barker



This is the short story of how the cyber world can really tell tall tales. At U3A Redlands we were excited to see we had reached that magic number of 10,000 – that’s the number of people who have enrolled with U3A Redlands in the past 25 years – since U3A Redlands became its own entity – or so our members’ enrolment database reflected.

So, I went to meet Stuart, hoping to gain insights into a new member’s motivation to join and expecting to meet the latest eager-to-learn U3AR student. However, this interesting, well-travelled gentleman is somewhat of a veteran U3A participant and contributor. Stuart had been a member for some years since the late 1990’s - he has contributed to Armchair Travel discussions, attended many Life Matters groups, participated in Ancient History Classes, and enjoyed Tai Chi and Yoga. His late wife, Judith, had been a Tutor at a Victoria Point discussion group, so U3A Redlands was not really a new venture for Stuart.

Sadly, Stuart lost Judith, then he took a couple of years away from many of his activities “to reflect” on his life and future. He and Judith had travelled to sixty-five countries as independent adventurers throughout the world and Stuart cites Turkey, Gallipoli and Istanbul as some of his favourites for their depth of history and culture. In 2003 he was encouraged to try ocean and river cruising as a relaxed style of travel and has since taken

seventeen cruises throughout the Mediterranean, Europe, coastal America, the Pacific Islands, the Baltic Sea and Southeast Asia.

Educated in Great Britain’s University of Manchester, Stuart came to Australia with Ford UK in 1968, went on to work with Shell Australia and spent much of his working life in Australia in various capital cities – so he is well travelled, nationally and internationally, and not such a starry-eyed “new student” after all.

How he came to be #10,000 is just a cyber glitch - in the absence of current membership when Stuart rejoined for 2024 after a couple of years’ membership hiatus, the system gave him a new starters number and he became #10,000 – so look out member #10,001, I might want to come and hear your story! – or is that #10,002 or #10,003 or #10,004– depends on how many such glitches have occurred in twenty-five fabulous years of U3A Redlands.

Now that Stuart is a “new member” he plans to share some of his adventures with other Armchair Travellers. He has a wealth of experience in collating photographed travel memories and families’ photographic histories, into professional slide presentations. Stuart is kindly volunteering his services to anyone in the U3A family who needs this sort of help, whether you have an old album, or a phone or other device hiding your treasured pictures.

Regardless of Stuart’s member number – old or new – say hello when you see this lively adventurer at one of your classes - and talk travel, or photography, with him – he has some wonderful stories to tell.

Interview by: Liz Sanderson



What's this U3A?

By Elizabeth Jeffs

What's this U3A, he asked clutching his vegemite and toast.

Something down at the school, she said – there's a sign I've seen on a post. It can't be about the kids, or they'd have signs everywhere.

I often see people round our age walking around down there.

Look it up on Google Dear. With everything else you do. And when you find out what it is, make sure you tell me too.

I will. But I see in the Redland City News, U3A is celebrating its 25th this year (2023).

Now how did that escape our eagle eyes. We know everything that moves round here.

Ah there goes John, he'll tell us what's the go. What? Never heard of U3A, you two need a life, you know.

Every Monday for an hour, down at the DSC, you can hear great speakers and even have a cup of tea, or coffee.

On other days you can feast on a wealth of activities and education.

You can learn French, German, Italian, Japanese, or calm yourself with meditation. If you have the urge to move, there's cycling, water aerobics and dance.

Go rambling in the Redlands or try your hand at, oo-la-la, Pentanque.

There's Arts and crafts of every type, Board games, Computers and Photography.

Or you can travel the world from your armchair, or study History or Philosophy. there's writing and there's poetry; reading a play or a book.

And the survival skills like CPR, Tai Chi and learning how to cook.

If you think you have an inner Beethoven, there's piano, and Ukelele.

If the outdoors and nature is your thing, there's gardening and Botany.

Whatever you would like to learn, there's something here to do.

And if you like to steal the show, then Theatre is for you.

But I must love and leave you. I've got Canasta and then Chess.

He's such a know all really. But we've got to admit he's right I guess.

Yes, I can't believe for 25 years I've lived here and didn't know.

That for just 5 bucks every Monday at U3A, I could have had a cuppa and a show.

This poem was written by our 'Writing for Pleasure' Tutor, Elizabeth Jeffs, published in our July 2023 newsletter, and presented at the Official Opening of our 25 Year Anniversary at the Redland Museum in the same month.

We thought our new members may enjoy this poem which is a good overview of what U3A Redlands District has one offer and a reminder that many people do not know about University of the Third Age or U3A.

I'm sure many of you can relate to the words of the poem '*I can't believe for 25 years I've lived here and didn't know.*'

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD

Tell your friends all about U3A Redlands District and all our activities/classes and encourage them to become a member and then join up to classes.

<https://u3aredlands.com.au/classes/>

GET INVOLVED – BECOME A TUTOR

Do you have a skill, a particular knowledge, or a passion you are willing to share? We would welcome Tutors in Art, Line Dancing, Computer Skills, Yoga, Exercise, Auslan, Indigenous studies or more.

We mostly have term classes that run throughout the year, but also happy to run short courses. If you are interested, view this video:

<https://u3aredlands.com.au/volunteering/>

or contact Julie in the office 3821 3888

Office hours 9am to 12noon Monday to Friday.

WE WELCOME VOLUNTEERS

Volunteering is one of the best ways to make friends. If you can spare 3 hours once or twice a month, you could become part of our Office Admin team. On-the-job training is available. Check the website or contact Julie in the office 3821 3888 - 9am to 12noon Mon to Fri.

<https://u3aredlands.com.au/volunteering/>

ONE-OFF EVENTS (Dates TBC)

This year we are planning Theatre and Dancers Show, Bunnings BBQs, a Trivia Night, a Car Boot Sale, Cake Stalls, and more. We will need volunteers for each of these events for say 2-3 hours. Jobs could include counter and raffle sales, morning tea helpers, at home cake and sandwich preparation, and BBQ and parking helpers.

Please contact Julie 3821 3888 at the Office to register your preference.



Writing for Pleasure

The pen is mightier than the sword.



Two writers' thoughts on starting back at U3A for 2024.

WE RETIREES

By: Patricia Ketteringham

Holidays are over. Kids are back at school. Traffic clogs the highways. 2024 has arrived. We rejoin our U3A classes and have lunches with friends. It's where we put the world to rights and talk of places to explore. Better get your holiday booked. It's only ten months to Christmas.

MY THINKING CAP

By: Helen Goleby

It's time to join my writing class. I'd better put my thinking cap on. Now where did the term "put your thinking cap on" come from? I searched for its history and found that it used to be called a 'considering cap'. Can you imagine going to your wardrobe and retrieving this particular cap before beginning to think? That's food for thought. Now, where did THAT phrase 'food for thought' come from?



Monday 9.00 for 9.30am
Donald Simpson Centre
172 Bloomfield St, Cleveland

February 19: WHAT IS RDCOTA

Presented by: Judith Chapman
Vice-President of RDCOTA.

Have you ever wondered what RDCOTA is? What is the history, and what services and advocacy does RDCOTA provide? Judith, the Vice President of RDCOTA will unpack the answers to these and other questions in this informative and interesting session.

February 26: AN OVERVIEW OF PALLIATIVE CARE

Presented by: Dr Rob JAFFREY,
Retired Palliative Care Specialist

Today's topic will provide a general but comprehensive overview of the field of Palliative Care, covering its origins and the many and varied issues that arise during end-of-life care that Palliative Care encompasses.

Please note, it will not be possible to provide comment on the specific management of current or past individual cases.

March 4: OUR TWO MOST FAMOUS POETS

Presented by: Anne McBurnie, Francis Gosling and Guest Performer Oscar Neisler.



Banjo Paterson



Henry Lawson

Banjo Paterson and Henry Lawson are two of Australia's iconic poets.

Their verse and stories have long been revered. However, behind the scenes they had human frailties like us all.

Banjo waltzed with more than Matilda and Lawson said he preferred to sip lemon squash in town rather than traverse the outback.

Hear their stories and some of their amazing poetry.

March 11: BIRDING AROUND THE WORLD

Presented by: Dr George CHAPMAN

In this presentation, George will weld a series of anecdotes about his birding around the world into a coherent narrative, liberally illustrated with photos.



LAWN BOWLS – LEARN TO PLAY

You are welcome to join in the opportunity to learn how to play Lawn Bowls.

All bowls equipment supplied.

Dates: March 21 & 28
April 4, 11, 18 & 25
(as the 25 April is ANZAC Day, this will be discussed with the participants)

Time: 4:00pm – 6:00pm
Venue: Cleveland Bowls Club
Middle Street, Cleveland
Cost: A six week course for \$60.

Please contact **Keith on 0409 790 487.**



CPR AWARENESS TRAINING

Since July 2022 over 100 U3A Redlands members have completed the 90min CPR Awareness Training Session.

Did you know 76% of cardiac arrests occur in the home? Therefore, the life saving techniques you learn from this session, could help save the life of a loved one.

During Term 1 2024, two new CPR Awareness Session options will be held.

Tuesday, 27 February - 4:00-5:30pm

Thursday, 21 March - 4:00-5:30pm

Venue: Cleveland State High School
Cost: \$7 to attend either class

Please do not hesitate to contact **Robyn Tennant on 0432 829 947** if you have any questions or you would like to enroll in either of these sessions.

MAHJONG MADNESS 5 APRIL 2024



This was such a popular event last year , so another day of fun is being planned for Friday, 5 April.

All experienced Mahjong players are welcome to organise their tables of four, or as singles.

Registrations will open at the end of March, with full details available in the March Newsletter.



Save the date and get your tables together

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