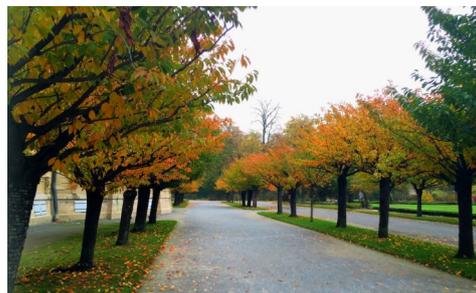




President's

Report



Welcome to the official start of autumn, although fortunately for Queenslanders, early autumn is really an extension of our summer. Our first school half semester is well underway and many of the teething problems of opening the new office and classrooms in our "Cottage" have been sorted out. We must give our thanks to Office Coordinator, Deb Mitchell, Julie-Anne, our Administrator and the larger than usual band of Office Volunteers who have done extra duty to ensure the work is getting done, phones are being answered, enrolments updated, and visitors are welcomed into our new home.

We now have several classes making use of the two classrooms, so our thanks also go to those tutors and coordinators who have been doing their best to manage this new situation. We would like to remind all those who are coming to the building for classes, to see the office staff, or just to check out this lovely new space, of a few points that have become important to those who work in the office:

- It is often quite noisy in the foyer where Reception volunteers sit - lots of echo, no window covering or artwork up yet - so please be mindful that the office volunteers are taking phone calls and doing their tasks. Thanks to those classes who have organized their outdoor tea breaks - it makes a positive difference to the office volunteers.
- Our Administrator, Julie-Anne, sometimes needs some quiet time to do complex tasks so if her door is shut check with office volunteers if it's OK to disturb her.
- We will always welcome people for visits, reminding everyone that our current Office hours are 9.00am to 12.00mid-day even if there are cars in our parking lot outside those hours - this usually means there is a class underway.
- Visitors and class participants are welcome to make tea or coffee, and we ask that you leave your gold coin in the box provided. Costs might vary with time but for now your gold coin will contribute to payment of supplies.
- Please wash up your cups and return them to their usual storage OR put them in the dishwasher. Please don't leave anything in the sink. We have cleaners who will do floors and bathrooms, but the kitchen is in the care of those who use it.

So enough with the rules! You will note the new veranda floor coating has been done by the time this newsletter comes to you, and the tarmac parking area in front is underway. We have closed the offices for the few days needed for both jobs, but we hope to be back in full swing with doors open by Thursday 5th March.

Janese Lowe and her Building Committee are still working to finish off other outdoor tasks that make this building complete. You will see the installation of U3A Redlands signs, shade sails and an area of timber decking, over the coming weeks.

With the responsibility of a brick and mortar building to maintain, we have asked one of our new U3A Redlands Management Committee members, Tony Maher, to take on the role of maintenance management - we are unofficially calling him our *Building Manager*. There is a myriad of tasks that will always need to be done, and Tony will have the contacts to achieve what is required. On that note we must thank Russell De Leacy from the Singing Group who noticed our new shed was a bit of a mess, and without request or hesitation, did a great tidy up so we have the space to properly store equipment and goods. In the coming weeks *Building Manager* Tony will review the register of what we have in storage.



Tony Maher



There are some dates to remember for the coming weeks and months:

- * Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser **1st March** - should be all over when this newsletter goes out.
- * Mid-semester break-U3A Redlands Office closed **Friday 3rd to Sunday 19th April** with U3A Office opening on Monday 20th April
- * U3A Network Queensland State Conference **12th to 14th May** at Sunshine Coast University, Sippy Downs - information on [u3aql/product/network-conference-2026/](https://u3aql.com.au/product/network-conference-2026/)
- * U3A Redlands Performance Groups Variety Show **21st May** - Mooroondu Road Community Hall, Thorneside – booking details available in April.

Many of you will be aware that Julie-Anne, our Office Administrator, is retiring when we can find someone to fill that role – a more relaxed life of caravanning and travel awaits her. Julie has served in that capacity with U3A Redlands for nearly two years, during which she has broadened the responsibilities associated with the role. So finding a suitable replacement will be a big challenge. We have placed a Position Vacant advertisement in the Community Leader newspaper for the March edition.

To all our members, thank you for your patience in dealing with our new office, classrooms and procedures, and the wonderful volunteers who help to keep it manned. As always, we are grateful to Shane Holborn who manages the DPI facility – he has been very generous with his time and efforts in ensuring U3A Redlands has a home and the opening of our building has been successful.

Patience and kindness are key principles for all of us as we navigate the world we live in.

Liz Sanderson

Hear Ye!



Wanted Urgently!!!

Publicity Officer

We want to ensure the community knows who U3A Redlands is and what we do!

This is how we grow, how we continue to provide services to our members, how we stay connected with our community and other volunteer organisations.

For this we need a Publicity Officer to sit on the U3A Redlands Management Committee. The Committee works as a team so no one person does all the heavy lifting.

If you are good with words, have ideas on promotion, and have a couple of hours to spare each week, please consider joining us.

Call the office on 3821 3888 during office hours and let us know if you are interested or need more information.



Writing for Pleasure

New Building Hosts First Classes

These photos show a couple of the classes now using the larger classroom in our new building. The *Writing for Pleasure* class, tutored by Liz Jeffs, prefers the boardroom seating arrangement, while George Chapman's *DNA - A Brief History* class is using the theatre seating arrangement. The smiles on the faces suggest they are enjoying their new venue.

Other classes making use of our new home include *Japanese, Spanish, CPR, Computers - Tom's Help Desk, Camera Club, Wine For Fun and Public Speaking*. It has also been ideal for holding a variety of other meetings and training sessions.

When you visit the new building, be mindful of noise levels so that Office Staff can carry out their work with little distraction.



DNA—a brief History



A Callout

For Anyone Good With Tools.

The Redlands U3A 'Cottage' is now operational and there will be ongoing jobs to provide comfortable usage by U3A Redlands members. The types of jobs will be broad-ranging but generally small which could suit a home handyman business – must have an ABN. Ideally, their business would be Redlands-based and have experience working with not-for-profit organisations. If you have family members or know of someone who could be interested in this type of work, please let us know by:

Contacting Tony Maher through **building@u3aredlands.com** and ensure you add "Maintenance" in the subject of your email.



From Writing for Pleasure.

The Pen is mightier than the Sword...

This month the Writing for Pleasure group were to write a short, short piece on "The Email". Here are two different perspectives.

Helen Goleby

The Email

It was still dark. I reached for my phone. 4.50am. Yawning, I opened my emails.

"Your bank account has no credit. Please contact this number immediately."

What? I rang, shaking with fear.

The man's voice was soothing as he asked for my account number and password, promising that he would investigate and ring me back.

I waited fretfully. I had fifty thousand dollars carefully saved for an overseas holiday

With beloved friends!

Nothing was happening. Anxiously I opened my account.

"Account withdrawal \$50 000 4.55am Friday 13 February. Nil balance."

Tricia Ketteringham

The Email

I take my mobile from its charger. Open my email. Only one.

Dear Patricia, I saw you on 'Friends' and liked you instantly.

I'm 22, single and work near Frazer's Café. I could meet you there at 12 tomorrow. They don't accept cash so could you bring your card? Please come. You look lovely and I'd be privileged to have you as my friend. Leo. Photo attached.

I open the photo: blonde, wavy hair, tall, fit, and slim, dressed in clean jeans and t/shirt. A girl's dream guy.

I reply: 'Love to. See you tomorrow,' and close my police mobile.

U3A Enrolling Clarified

There has been some confusion about how and when people enrol in U3A and its classes.

Membership

EVERY year, we all pay (renew) our membership (\$40 single, \$75 couple) to remain a financial member of U3A. This can be done by:-

- ◆ On line – Renew Membership (card)
- ◆ Visiting the U3A Office (cash or card)
- ◆ Ringing the U3A Office (card)

The membership is valid for one calendar year, but we are usually able to pay from October for the following year. This is advertised in the newsletter towards the end of the year.

Enrolling in Classes

EVERY year, we enrol in the class/es we want to attend, even if we have been attending the class for several years. This can be done by:-

- Logging into MyU3A (Member Login) and ticking the classes you want to join, OR
- Asking your tutor to do this for you, OR
- Asking the Office or Tutor Liaison to do it for you.

This can NOT be done until 1 January when all the classes are set up for the new year.



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



March 09 Joice LOCH, one of Australia's Most Decorated Women
Presenter: Pam TRANTER OAM, Forum President, Researcher and local Volunteer
Introduced by Norma FORREST
 Joice NankVell Loch MBE, born in Ingham, Queensland, was a humanitarian, author, and World War refugee rescuer. She aided displaced communities in Eastern Europe and Greece, co-founded educational projects, and wrote travel books. Her fearless relief work earned her international recognition as one of Australia's most decorated civilian women.

March 16 Getting to know some U3A Redlands District Management Committee
Facilitator: Col SUTCLIFFE OAM
 What do you know about some of the Management Committee at U3A Redlands District? This is an opportunity to get to know them better.

March 23 Scams and being aware of how to avoid them
Presenter: Bridget FANNIN, Customer Relationship Specialist Bank of QLD
Introduced by Liz JEFFS
 Learn how to outsmart today's most convincing scams in this essential talk on mobile, email, and social-media fraud. From romance and investment traps to identity theft and impostor schemes, discover the red flags, real examples, and practical strategies that help protect you, your money, and the people you care about.

March 30
 A special Guest to share with us today.
 We will have a special flyer for this session.
 Keep an eye out for the flyer in 2026!!!



Cost \$6.00 per Session

Fellowship and catch up with fellow attendees (9.00 – 9.30 am).

Enjoy the fun of learning from Guest Speakers (9.30 – 10.30 am).

Stay for a cuppa (10.30 to 11.00 am).

Encourage your friends to come along.

Would you like to know about **Batteries**?

You may have some of these common items that use batteries:- hearing aid, kitchen scales, pacemaker, TV remote, e-bike, electric vehicle, glucose monitor, toothbrush, car starter, mobile phone, torch, power tools, shaver, blood pressure machine, vacuum cleaner, kids toys, GPS, hair clippers, lawn mower, and many more.

A proposed 3-week course (1-2 hrs each) is planned to cover these topics -

- Main types of batteries, plus some basic electronics
- Safety in handling batteries with an emphasis on lithium types
- Fixing simple battery issues

Most people who deal with electronics/electrics agree with this statement:

"many problems in this area are connection problems".

If you have a multimeter, bring it to the course, but it is not essential.

Contact: Peter Brigg on **0448 850 876**



LEARN TO PLAY BOWLS

CHANGE OF DAY/DATE

Please note that due to unforeseen circumstances the day of the Learn to Play Bowls lessons has unfortunately been changed from Saturday to Thursday, starting Thursday 5 March, at 9 am to 11 am; the last class will be on 9 April.

Please advise Bob Wood by email at bwood_4161@yahoo.com.au, or on 0481336814 before 5 March, if this change is not suitable for you.



CPR Awareness Training Final session

For **\$7.00** (paid prior to attending the session) U3A Redlands Members can learn the life saving techniques of CPR. This fee can be paid online after enrolment or via EFT to:

BSB: 124025

ACC: 10545277

Reference: Your SURNAME and "CPR"

Alternatively contact the office on 3821 3888 to pay via credit card.

Tuesday, 17 March

The CPR Awareness Training session lasts for 90 minutes and you get to take home the Handy Hints booklet with you.

This class will be held in The large meeting room at the new U3A Office at the Redlands Research Facility in Delancey Street, Cleveland.

ALL SINGERS WELCOME

The U3A Singers meet every Saturday morning at the Redlands Coast Museum (60 Smith Street, Cleveland). New members are welcome, but please ring Russell, the Co-ordinator, before enrolling, on 0435 266 309. Members of this group must also become members of the Museum, but there are no weekly fees.



Armchair Travel And Tourism

On March 5 Anne McBurnie and Francis Gosling will transport us to the Deepest Darkest Jungles of Peru.

You will see how to catch Piranhas on the Amazon River.

In the deep south of Peru is Lake Titicaca the largest fresh-water lake at high altitude in South America. Said to be the birthplace of the Incas, it is here that the Uros people live on floating reed islands.



Keep a look out for Paddington Bear!!!!

I would like to welcome everyone who signed up this year (new & regular) to enjoy the travels together and the socialising afterwards. I would also like to thank Jennifer Brew who has been my offsider, Marj and Jamie who work their skills in the kitchen, Denise Kolcze who will greet you at the door while Anne is away. There is a \$5 cost each for the morning meetings.

Make sure you are enrolled in U3A before attending the meeting.

Upcoming meetings are:-

2 April 2026 – Col Sutcliffe OAM on Australian ANZAC Memorials.

7 May 2026 – Catherine Biship on Uluru Road Trip Part 1.

4 June 2026 – Catherine Biship on Uluru Road Trip Part 2.

The meetings are still at the Uniting Church Hall, Passage Street, Cleveland on the first Thursday of the month for a 9:30 start.

John Kolcze

0427 244 301

WINE for FUN



The first meeting of the year for the Wine For Fun group was held at the newly completed U3A Cottage. This first meeting was also unique in the fact that only one male, Tim Vero, could make the evening and he was a very brave man indeed with 10 women to contend with over the course of two hours.

The new organisers for the group, Liz Sanderson, Mary Andrew and Catherine Vero, were the initial presenters and were given a theme for their selection of two wines each. Liz's chosen theme was "Christmas Cheer", while Mary's was "Summer Sipping" and as Valentine's Day was just around the corner Catherine's theme was "Romantic Rouges". Charcuterie boards and other nibbles were set out around the table with some food matching over the evening. For those who may not be familiar with wine tasting each serving of alcohol is measured and an opportunity to sip, taste and discard is provided.

First order of business was to thank our founder and past organiser, Michele, whose generosity in sharing her industry experience and knowledge, and sometimes her home, was greatly appreciated by us all. Thankfully Michele is still part of our group and keeps us on track!

Liz popped the cork on her first drink which was a delightfully refreshing Limoncello Spritz, low in alcohol and suitable for that first Christmas day toast. Next came the lunchtime sparkling of choice, a sparkling Pinot Noir Chardonnay, fabulous for the main Christmas meal.

Mary presented two very drinkable summer wines. The first was a Pinot Gris which everyone deemed a delightful white wine while second, a Grenache Rose was quite vibrant and best served chilled.

Last on the tasting menu were the two reds chosen by Catherine - both were shiraz but one was a sparkling. While the sparkling shiraz was received well it was the still shiraz that won the day, winning the majority of the votes for the evening.

During the tasting many aspects of the wines' attributes are discussed such as tannins, colour, "legs", taste, the origins of the grapes and so on. And the general knowledge of these things is shared with the group by the presenters who have researched their selection but also primarily by Michele, our fabulous past organiser and Peter. Both these two people have such an extensive knowledge of the industry and we are very privileged to have them in our group.

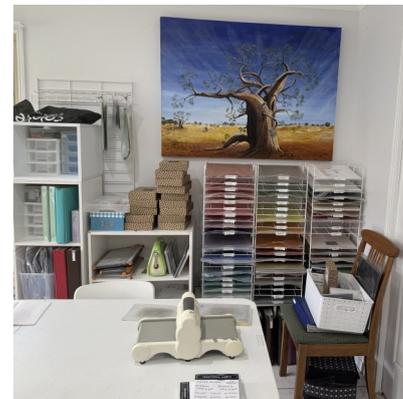
For any new people wishing to join a second WFF group it is only 4 people away from starting so if you are thinking about it please contact the office for further details or if you are already on the waiting list and know some people please encourage them to join! It's fun, it's social and it's a learning experience.

I finally figured out what I want to be when I get older. Younger
Note to self: Do not sit on the floor without a plan on how to get back up.

Ed



Showcasing Cardmaking



Tutor: Margaret Moroney

When: Third Thursday of the month: 10:00 - Noon

Where: Own home

What an eye opener!! Margaret has a work area set up in her home where she can cater for ten people seated at tables, as well as being surrounded by the required materials for cardmaking. This group has been functioning for ten+ years.

Her classes – Regular and Technique - alternate monthly. For Regular class, Margaret sets up packs with the required equipment for each member to make a card. She demonstrates and explains how to make the card beforehand. The cost for this class is \$20, which includes the equipment.

As the card in the Technique class is more difficult, Margaret provides the guidance necessary to complete it. This class is \$25 for equipment and morning tea.



Sample card for Technique Class

U3A Redlands District Inc. 2026 Management Committee		
President	Liz Sanderson	president@u3aredlands.com.au
Vice President	Tauba Naftal	vicepresident@u3aredlands.com.au
Secretary	Teresa Meyer	secretary@u3aredlands.com.au
Treasurer	Charles De Wet	treasurer@u3aredlands.com.au
Tutor Liaison Officer	Mary Smith	tutorliaisonleisure@u3aredlands.com.au
Office Co-ordinator	Debra Mitchell	coordinator@u3aredlands.com.au
Events Co-ordinator	Yvonne Medhurst	events@u3aredlands.com.au
Publicity Officer	Wanted	Can you fill this space?
Committee Members	Bruce Gilbert	Tony Maher
Committee Members	Ian Wallace	Trish Winter
Newsletter Editor	Lurline Slater	lurline.s13@gmail.com
Newsletter article cut-off	1 April 2026	
📞 3821 3888 Julie-Anne Morris		✉ PO Box 1231, Cleveland QLD 4163
@ admin@u3aredlands.com.au		🌐 www.u3aredlands.com.au
🏠 Redlands Research Facility, Delancey Street, Cleveland		📘 U3A Redlands District