



University of The Third Age
In Toowoomba Inc

NEWSLETTER 2025 TERM 2

WE WELCOMED 143 NEW MEMBERS IN TERM 1

U3A NEWS : EVENTS : COURSE / CLASS NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a busy start to the year. The many class options offered in Toowoomba, Pittsworth and Crows Nest have been well attended. The PPC in Matthews Street is particularly busy with all but three class timetable slots booked in Term 1. Our Tutor Liaison Officer Marie Kajewski and Assistant Liaison Janelle Connolly and I have been interviewing possible new Tutors to start in Term 2.

With six new Tutors starting in Term 2 in Toowoomba, suitable/affordable venues have been at a premium. Tutors outside the PPC have been asked in the past to find their own venue. As U3A requests that venues be the most economical for our Members, Tutors have asked for recommendations. Both UniSQ and UQ who have facilities in Toowoomba have been approached with no joy. Many church and public halls have considerably increased their hire fees. Investigation of the local 'Den' owned by Scouts Queensland, although a good price, was deemed not suitable in its present condition. Ideas are welcome.

Would you like to volunteer as a Tutor?

We are particularly seeking Tutors for 'Low Impact Exercise' (presently a waiting list), 'Android Devices – Beginners' and 'Table Tennis'. If you can help, please contact Marie Kajewski – tutorliaison@u3atoowoomba.au

- We are urgently seeking a Course Book/Newsletter Compiler. Would you like to volunteer?

Our AGM this year is on Wednesday 23 rd April. Sadly, we will be bidding farewell to 5 members of the Management Committee. You will have already received the details and Nomination Form by email or collected from the office.

- Judy McWilliam, our Vice President has been a member and Tutor for 9 years, 2 years on the Committee, 1 year as Tutor Co-ordinator, 1 year as Notes and News and Event Organizer (Showcase).
- Rod Pullinger, a U3A member and Management Committee for 5 years. He has been responsible for writing and reviewing many of the Policies for U3A, Sponsorship Officer, Risk Management and Maintenance Officer as well as Complaints Officer. Responsible for the best jokes on Committee days!
- Michelle Pullinger, a U3A member and Management Committee for 5 years. She has served 4 years as our Membership Secretary and a regular Office Volunteer as needed.
- Janelle Connolly, a member for 13 years and

Management Committee 7 years. She has undertaken the tasks of Assistant Secretary and Assistant Tutor Liaison as well as part time Catering Organizer.

- Tom Fusae, a U3A member for 13 years and Committee 1 year. A Tutor for 7 years and Course Book/Newsletter Compiler for 2 years. Tom has joined 'The Friends of U3A'.

Thank you all for being such valuable volunteer members of the Management Committee team. Your commitment, skill and determination despite challenges has made a real difference. You have willingly given of your time and energy for the Members of U3A in Toowoomba Inc. We will officially honour you at the AGM.

When you see any of these members as they continue in their classes/groups please show your appreciation to each personally. Thank you.

I wish you all a Happy Easter and an enjoyable holiday time with family and friends.

Penny Protheroe



During the busy period of Toowoomba Open day and the Tutor information morning The newly formed "Friends of U3A" were on hand to help.

Thank you to Susan Kiepe, Robyn Adams, Barbara Hodson and Hazel Fusae



Web Address:

u3atoowoomba.au

Facebook:

facebook.com/toowoombau3a



Philharmonic Performance Complex, 7 Matthews Street Harristown, Toowoomba Qld 4350

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4pm during term

Phone: 4687 7659 **Email:** info@u3atoowoomba.au



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NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMPORTANT DATES 2025

Term 1 ends	Friday April 4
Annual General Meeting	Wednesday April 23
Term 2 Starts	Monday April 28
Term 2 Ends	Friday June 27
Tutor Information Day Bookings Essential	Thursday July 3
Term 3 Starts	Monday July 21
Term 3 Ends	Friday September 19
Term 4 Starts	Monday October 13
Appreciation Luncheon all Volunteers	Saturday November 1
Term 4 Ends	Friday December 5

TOM FUSAE PUBLICATIONS COMPILER

This Newsletter is Tom's last publication as he is retiring from being our U3A Compiler of the Course Book and the 3 Newsletters. Tom has been amazing to work with having considerable technology skills as well as endless patience! Tom saw this task as a whole package, not only as the Compiler but also negotiating the best deal for printing and posting of the Course Book. We will miss you.

Hopefully another Member will volunteer to help.

Penny Protheroe - Editor



CATERING OFFICER

Libby Forster has been appointed as Catering Officer

Congratulations and thank you Libby

**Share your Interests
Become a TUTOR**

TUTORS

We extend a special thanks to our **108 Tutors** who offer their skills as volunteers for an amazing variety of classes. **134 classes to be offered in Term 2.** As well as Tutors we have **14 'Class Convenors'**, a total of 124 for our Tutor Liaison Officer Marie Kajewski to email and communicate with. Great job Marie! Challenging task at times. Marie's Assistant, Janelle Connolly is retiring at the AGM. We have been most fortunate that Marlene Norris, a member and former Tutor has already stepped in to help. Marlene with contract and legal background has been contacting Tutors and is preparing policy and procedures for Tutors who hire venues outside PPC. Thank you Marlene.

Our Tutor/Volunteers **Appreciation Lunch** has been booked for **Saturday 1st November at Concordia Lutheran College**, Stephen Street Campus. We did consider other venues but decided to return to Concordia. Issues we had in 2024 have been sorted out. Concordia always gives U3A a 'good deal'. Put the date in your diary!

REMINDERS TO TUTORS

It is a timely reminder to all Tutors that all class groups you convene are U3A classes, advertised, supported and **insured** by U3A. It is U3A members who pay to join the class.

Another reminder to Tutors: Your end of term Attendance sheets need to include **all** class dates. If your group meets on days outside of U3A published term dates these days need to be listed.

NEW BRANCH OF U3A TOOWOOMBA PROPOSED FOR THE LOCKYER VALLEY

Barbara Hodson, an active member of 'The Friends of U3A', is proposing this idea but will need a Steering Group to discuss and move the idea forward. Barbara has already done lots of groundwork.

Did you know U3A Toowoomba already has about 40 members who live "down the valley"? Barbara lives at Plainlands and travels to Toowoomba for classes.

If you are interested please contact her through the U3A office.



**MANY THANKS TO OUR VALUED
COURSE BOOK 2025
SPONSORS :-**



U3A PICKLEBALL



Now Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 8.30 to 10.30am at The Glennie School. Times were changed to fit in with the school's timetable.

We now have pickleball on Saturday afternoons from 2.30 to 4.30pm at The Glennie School for \$12. We are looking for new players for this session.

Please contact Tutors Wendy Davies 0428 280 955 or Julie Grant 0417 651 717 if interested

CROWS NEST TUTOR LYN WETZIG'S CLASSES



Eating for Health - a new course that ran in Term 1 only

Photography for Fun - Terms 2 & 4



Weaving for Beginners - Lyn is offering a **new** exciting class in Term 3

All start at 1.30pm on Tuesdays
Contact Tutor Lyn Wetzig 0411 054 366

A LAYMAN'S LOOK AT THE WEATHER



On Wednesdays in 2nd Term Dougal will refresh the basics of weather, and look at how these have helped build the predictions from all the meteorological organisations.

This short course will show multiple sources to use the basics to give participants some extension to the media summaries for their particular location and sources to watch to be better prepared for coming weather. How did Cyclone Alfred effect you?

Dougal Johnston

STEELE RUDD AND HIS DOWNS CONNECTION



"A very enjoyable time was experienced by the first group to take the course "Steele Rudd and his Downs connection". Members for a second course are invited to select an historically interesting topic. Held in the Historical Society building, Lindsay Street, Tuesday mornings from 11:30 to 12:45. See course book for more details."

Returning in Terms 2,3,4.

Noel Lipp Tutor

RAMBLING WRITERS



Several new members were welcomed in Term 1 and it has been lovely to see how enthusiastic those members have been with their story writing. As a group we have enjoyed many different stories relating to specific topics and we have all been encouraged to write and discuss those stories. Whereas our group does not aspire to become authors as such, we do love to remember, relate and reflect on our past, present and future and put it into words. Well done guys!! I am proud of you all and hope to see you all back next term.

LAWN BOWLS VICTORIA ST



Continues to be 1:00 to 3:00pm on Tuesdays
Toowoomba City Bowls Club - Bill Tedford

BITCOIN COURSE

will not run in Term 2,
but will return in Term 3



APPLE DEVICES

APPLE IPAD BEGINNERS

Classes resume in Term 3



CROWS NEST SPACES AVAILABLE IN TERM 2

COMPUTER SKILLS MADE EASY

"Computer Skills" F/N with Graham Moore. Individual requests and assistance catered for. Variety of topics covered including basic skills. Text Graham PH 0400 580 103 incl. Name and Member number. Ref. C.B. p13

NATURE JOURNALLING

F/N with Rosalie Eustace. Exciting new group. Enjoy nature through art and writing. Contact Rosalie PH 07 4697 8058 or email. Ref. C.B. p26



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NEW COURSES FOR TERM 2 *ENROL NOW*



PAPER CRAFTING

Do you have an interest in paper crafting? Do you want a creative break from today's challenges? Give greeting cards that perfectly fit the moment; handmade cards crafted by you with loving care. Adding to your passion for memory keeping, I will take you through an exciting journey with scrapbooking. Create beautiful work that you will be proud to give as gifts. Ask for a full course description including schedules and costs. Multiple choices for days and times are available.

Tutor: Jan Howley
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
(4 enrolments in each class)
Phone Jan on 0414 767 203 for more information



LATIN (BEGINNERS)

To learn Latin properly requires a lot of effort but this course replaces all the effort with stories. The first Cambridge Latin Book is stories about people who lived in Pompeii.

Tutor: Andrew Tyson
Weekly: Monday – 10.30am – 12.30pm
Venue: PPC – The Lab
Phone: Andrew Tyson on 0439 038 071



UNDERSTANDING AGED CARE SUPPORT CHANGES

Are you aware there will be changes to Aged Care Packages and payments for permanent residential care beds?

From 1 July 2025 home care packages will no longer be graded from Level 1 to Level 4, the new Support at Home model being implemented on 1 July 2025 will provide a Plan for your support needs.

Enrol NOW in 2 sessions:
Tuesday 27th May and Tuesday 17th June – 9.30am to 11.30am
Venue: St Pauls Lutheran Church Hall, Phillip Street.
Tutor: Linda Vohland
Phone: 0404 291 029



MICROSOFT OFFICE 365 THE BASICS

This course is a great way to get started or enhance your skills in Word, Excel and Powerpoint.
Suitable for all beginners.

Tutor: Suzanne Strong
Weekly: Monday 2pm – 3.30pm
Venue: PPC – The Lab
Phone Suzanne on 0429 821 767



STAYING SAFE USING YOUR ANDROID PHONE

A course designed for Seniors to understand cybersecurity; Learning Social Media safely and effectively; downloading and organising apps, online security and privacy practices; video calling and staying connected with family; staying informed and up-to-date, dealing with cybersecurity issues. (Ensure your phone is charged before attending class).

Tutor: David Parker
Every 1st & 4th Wednesday of the month
9.30am – 11.30am.
Venue: Pittsworth Function Centre
Phone: David Parker on 0414 984 186



A SWEET USE OF ADVERSITY

National Servicemen and Vietnam 1965 – 1972

The reality of service in Vietnam for "Nashos"; their choices, experiences and rehabilitation.

Tutor: Bob Whittaker
Weekly: Wednesday 9am – 10.30am
Venue: PPC – The Lab
Contact Bob on 0409 892 088



JAPANESE CROCHET

Watch this space
Possibility for Terms 3 and 4



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OPEN MORNING TOOWOOMBA 2025



The Open mornings at the beginning of our term were very busy. Thank you to all our Volunteer Tutors for being present so Members and future Members could speak with you about your course.

We shared many photos from Toowoomba, Crows Nest and Pittsworth on our Facebook as the events were in progress.

Thank you to Marie Kajewski, Tutor Liaison, Leanne Ploetz, U3A Secretary, Inge Gajczak, Pittsworth Coordinator and Kelly Keleher, Office Administrator for travelling to Crows Nest and Pittsworth. Thanks to Graham Moore for being on hand at both to assist with Member Wizard.

Penny Protheroe
President and Crows Nest Coordinator



**Share your Interests
Become a TUTOR**

**Join a U3A class today. Enrol now before the start of Term 2
Look up available courses and classes on our Website**



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In Toowoomba Inc

OPEN MORNINGS

CROWS NEST



PITTSWORTH



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Showcase 2024 was held in December after our class year finished and was a stunning success exhibiting a wonderful display of art and craft. The concert part of the show was enjoyed by an enthusiastic audience who appreciated and tapped

along with the energetic and talented musicians and choristers.

Those of you who do not follow our Facebook page would not have seen the multiple photos and videos we posted for enjoyment and appreciation. Here are some.



Come and enjoy the talent on display at the next showcase. I am sure our talented Music Groups and Arts and Crafts Groups will once again have for us a

delightful morning of entertainment and displays of items. We may even get a little Shakespeare!

Penny Protheroe



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PICKLEBALL ACTION

For those with lots of energy and fitness

U3A Pickleball now has over 70 weekly players. We play Mondays with 6 courts, Wednesdays with 3 courts, Fridays with 6 courts and Saturdays 3 courts. **The times changed this term** - now 8.30-10.30am Mon, Wed & Fri. (It was 9.30 to 11.30am). We commenced Saturday afternoons 2.30 - 4.30pm due to the demand, with waiting lists during the week. *If interested in playing Saturdays please contact the tutors Wendy Davies 0428 280 955 or Julie Grant 0417 651 717*



WEDNESDAY PICKLEBALLERS



JIM OLIVER READY TO SERVE



FRIDAY PICKLEBALLERS



U3A TREASURER JULIE GRANT IN ACTION



FINISHING ANOTHER PICKLEBALL GAME



IAN AND ROZ MCKELVIE ENJOYING THEIR "PICKLING"

ACTIVITIES

PITTSWORTH PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS Tutored by Inge Gajczak



Practicing new found skills at the Pioneer Village Pittsworth



Yandilla Church and Cemetery



Highland Cattle

SENIORS EXPO attended by U3A in Toowoomba



MORE TOOWOOMBA ACTIVITIES



STROLL PATROL
Tutor Anna Carson. New Walking group in 2025
A more relaxed group



LEADLIGHTING
with Tutor Cathy Brown



U3A IN TOOWOOMBA - NEW INTERESTS NEW FRIENDS

ACTIVITIES FROM ARTS AND SCIENCE TO "HOLDUPS"



PENTEL DRAWING - Judy McWilliam

Pentel drawing is learning the art of drawing with lead pencil and colouring pencils. We copy different pictures according to what we like eg. Animals, Flowers, scenes, buildings, boats, people, anything we think we can attempt to draw. We are a happy group who help each other and exchange different ideas.



**"HOLDUP" AT THE BULLS
HEAD INN DRAYTON**

An interesting lecture about our local Bushranger "Thunderbolt" and his exploits was well attended at the Bulls Head Inn Drayton



THUNDERBOLT LECTURE
By Bruce Arthur



ARCHAEOLOGY SCIENCE CLASS - Bruce Arthur



QUILTERS with their current project... Cats!
- Michele McGill



EATING FOR HEALTH AND NUTRITION FOR LIFE

Tutor Lyn Wetzig Crows Nest



GUEST SPEAKER JANE SMITH

Tutor, John Price - Davies presenting a thank you gift to Jane Smith, author of 'One Free Woman', who was invited as a guest speaker in John Price - Davies' class. She spoke about her book on the true story of Hannah Rigby the last female convict at the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement.

John's class is "Founding of the Moreton Bay Convict Settlement"



MARIE INVITED TO UPDATE CLASS

Tutor Liaison Officer Invited to talk and enjoy lunch with the Card-500 Group

Neil Maher invited me to give a short talk about the changes in U3A and join them for lunch on 25th February at their meeting place, Club Toowoomba. It was an enjoyable experience meeting and chatting with the group and lunch was yummy. Thank you for the opportunity, Neil. It is great that you are doing your best to keep your class informed about U3A developments in general.

Marie Kajewski (Tutor Liaison Officer)



ARCHAEOLOGY CLASS being given a demonstration of GPR(Ground Penetrating Radar). What is there to find in the courtyard of the Philharmonic Society? Sorry folks. No treasure!

The machine did detect underground utilities. In this case water drainage pipes. It was interesting to view the readout on the attached monitor. A fascinating class with excellent research and presentation by our U3A Tutor, Bruce Arthur.

If you would like your group to feature in newsletters, on Facebook or in the Course Book, please send a couple of photos and some words to Kelly at the Office info@u3atoowoomba.au
Facebook Admins are Penny Protheroe, Anna Carson and Graham Moore



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35 YEARS! 1990 - 2025

Revisiting History – Toowoomba U3A

Where did this little journey start for me? I sat beside Carolyn Armstrong at the 'U3A Cinema Outing' Group with Tutor Marie Kruger. Carolyn said to me 'I am in the Our Tree of Knowledge book'. The movie started but I just had to do some research.

The book 'Our Tree of Knowledge – U3A in Toowoomba Inc. 30 years - 1990 to 2020' was

published in November 2020 with acknowledgements to The Toowoomba U3A Book Committee and The Rainbow Writers Working Subcommittee. "Compiled in good faith from memories and records which were often sparse and incomplete".

Penny Protheroe



Carolyn Armstrong

'I believe an organization runs more smoothly if everyone contributes, whether as a Chief or an Indian'. Carolyn Armstrong. Well said!

Carolyn's comments in 2019: 'I joined U3A in 1991. The old Empire Theatre before renovation was an old, dilapidated building strewn with rat droppings, but it served its purpose as a meeting place. Peter Evans was the President, and I became the publicity officer (Carolyn was on the Committee at the first AGM on 29th January 1991.) and remembers having a lot of fun putting the Newsletter together each term. With fewer numbers, the group was more casual and less structured than it is today. There was no formal logo but a picture of an open window was used which represented 'Opening up new Horizons'. (From Our Tree of Knowledge).

"More recently I have enjoyed singing classes, and a friendly lunch group that continued for many years with Lorna Hopgood. I have always appreciated the challenge of learning something new, and the generosity and knowledge of the tutors."

Carolyn 8th March 2025.



Jenny Geddes, Ngaire Sorrensen (Tutor – Wonder of Watercolours), Caroline Franklin. When Jenny was asked about her long membership with U3A she said "U3A keeps me young through U3A friendships and Tutors"

March. 2025

Penny Protheroe

LET US HONOUR THOSE WHO JOINED U3A IN 1990 – 1995.

Members attending classes in 2025 to the best of my knowledge:

Hazel Eason (1186) currently in the monthly Friday Movie Group

Michael Rooke (1598) Tutor of Circle Dancing (and other classes previously) also comes to Singing for Fun. Poet extraordinaire at Tutor Luncheons.

Netta Obst (1523) currently in Chamber Singers

Elina Mikkonen (1477) currently in Aquatic Exercise

Group on Thursdays but not recently.

Jenny Geddes (1262) currently doing Intermediate Ukulele and Wonders of Watercolour. Jenny is listed as being a member of the first Art class in 1990 held in Russell St opposite St James Church (p85)**.

Caroline Franklin. Joined the first Art Class with Jenny. (p85)** She took time off and has returned to Watercolours and Lead Lighting Continuing.

Carolyn Armstrong (1013). Currently in 'Cinema and Lunch Outing' group. Helped produce the Newsletter in earlier times. On Committee 1991, Publicity Officer.

See over page for page 21 a 1990 Newsletter extract "Our Tree of Knowledge"

[NOTE: dates and class information used above are from digital records held by U3A. Carolyn's date of joining is stated as 1996 on that record but as she was on the Committee in 1991, I have used that date. (p14 and 116. Our Tree of Knowledge)

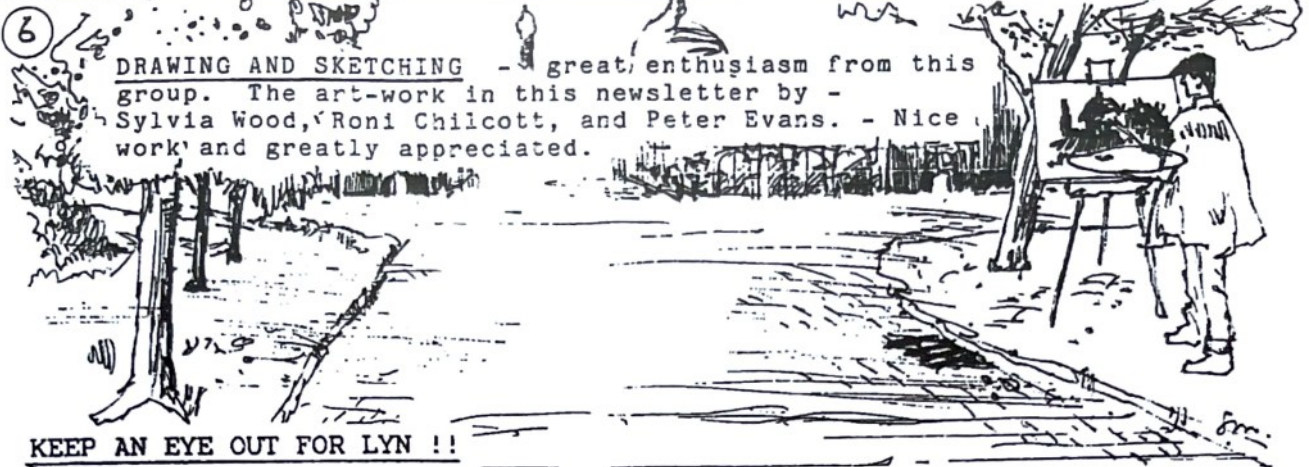
**Page 85 of the Our Tree of Knowledge



Opening up new horizons

NEWSLETTER HISTORY SEPTEMBER 1990 PAGE 21 EXTRACT "OUR TREE OF KNOWLEDGE"

in Toowoomba



6 **DRAWING AND SKETCHING** - great enthusiasm from this group. The art-work in this newsletter by - Sylvia Wood, Roni Chilcott, and Peter Evans. - Nice work and greatly appreciated.

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR LYN !!

Lyn Clough, member of the Steering Committee, has agreed to act as a Members' Liason Person to call on class groups from time to time to keep you posted on what is going on for us all.

Anne Campbell has taken the place of Anne Webster on the Steering Committee and is responsible for Venues for classes. Thanks to Anne Webster for her input in the early days.

We're quite proud of what is only our second Course List - it lists 40 choices for our membership which is now close to 300 - and, more important, those 40 include many of the subjects which respondents to the original survey asked for.



Thank you.....

The co-operation of the Toowoomba T.A.F.E. College in allowing use of our U3A Room as we do, needs to be acknowledged as a major benefit to the Organisation. Its location in the central city area is convenient for many members and we hope our association will be a long one.

With the opening of the new T.A.F.E. building we are likely to have use of extra space in the Empire Theatre on occasions.

Thanks also to George, husband of member Sarah Wilson, who is responsible for the Notice Boards in the U3A Room. Great !!

STOP PRESS

Christmas is ahead. At the General Meeting on September 18th., we will begin to let you know about plans for a Christmas Party for us all. Already, some classes are planning their own little "do" but this will be our first big chance to celebrate and enjoy a totally social function.

DONT FORGET - 18th SEPTEMBER, WESLEY HALL - 10 a.m. BE THERE

