



## THE QUARTERLY FLYER



**December 2012**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

### **U3A Rockhampton**

President - Ann Findlater 4922 1581  
Vice Pres - Philip Morisette 4928 7769  
Past President - John Elson 4928 6859  
Treasurer - Valda Carter 4928 2119  
Secretary - Hazel Halliday 49266728  
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Activities Coords - Beth Elkins 4936 4953  
Publicity - Cherith Weis 4933 3516  
Quarterly Flyer Editor – John Elson 49286859

**P O box 1860, Allenstown, Rockhampton, 4700**

**General Meeting**

**1<sup>st</sup> Monday of Month at Frenchville Sports club**

**No joining fee**

Annual membership fee is \$15.00 per year, payable before end of June,  
\$7.50 payable to the end of year

**Web Site [www.u3arockhampton.org.au](http://www.u3arockhampton.org.au)**

## President report

Hello fellow U3A Members.

We are coming to the end of 2012 and Christmas is almost upon us again. The older we get the faster it seems to go but I am sure that this year has gone much faster than usual. It just seems like yesterday that I took over from John as President, and that was at the beginning of March.

Since I wrote my last report we have held our Senior's Week Concert which was very successful again as we have so many talented people amongst us. I would like to thank Arch Finlayson for updating our constitution which has been sent on to the Department of Fair Trading.

Sadly, Maxy has had to give up the job of Secretary because of her health and we wish her all the best for the future. Our Assistant Secretary, Hazel has stepped up into this position and I thank her for her help as she is doing a marvellous job. What would we do without her? A big thank you Hazel! Before we know it the AGM will be upon us in March and we have several vacancies coming up on the Committee. We need a new Secretary, Treasurer, Guest Speaker Co-ordinator and Social Co-ordinator, as these people will be retiring. Please think about taking on one of these positions and if you would like to know more, come and talk to me about it. It is very enjoyable being on the Committee as we all work together and help each other. If anyone had told me a couple of years ago that I would be President I would have said they were mad but here I am and enjoying it. I would like

to wish each of you a very happy and safe Christmas with your families and a very Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing everyone back at our first meeting for 2013 which will be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Take care

**Ann Findlater - President**

## Editors Report

G'day, Gentle people, I hope that this edition finds you all where you want to be (financially, healthy and socially). Our Christmas luncheon is on today and I hope to take a few photos for the flyer? I hope that you enjoyed the day as a lot of people worked hard to make it a nice day for you. **Ask not what your club can do for you BUT what you can do for your club? JFK.** There are a lot of Committee members retiring this year some have been on the committee for over ten years and its

time to have a break and let somebody with fresher ideas.

This way our club grows and keeps up with the times, give it some serious thought?

**Kindest Regards**

**Jon'o**

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## Eulogy for Fred Jacobs

Printed with permission of Mr R Jacobs, supplied to Gwen Simpson, CMC.

At six years of age, Fred arrived in Albany, Western Australia with his parents and three brothers, from Wales. They made their way to the Peel Estate, where his Father was employed getting soldier farms going. The family then moved to Fremantle where Fred left school just before he turned fourteen. After a succession of jobs, mainly seasonal around Fremantle and Perth, at the age of seventeen he ended up on Pindawa Station. He began learning the trade of managing stations and farming and by 1937 he had set himself up as a wheat farmer on 100 acres of leased land at Webin.

With the coming of World War 11 Fred tried to enlist at Geraldton in 1940, being rejected because he was a "Primary Producer". He went back home and promptly sold his holding, enlisting in Perth as "unemployed". He was accepted and ended up in the 7<sup>th</sup> Division, whereupon he was sent to the Middle East, seeing action in Palestine and Syria. At the end of the campaign he returned to Freemantle for leave and then off to a succession of army camps, ending up in Maroochydore, where he met up with Maureen Watson, in the Pharmacy Business, his future first wife. At the end of the training there it was off to the Kakoda Track!

Of 2000 troops sent, only 200 survived and Fred was amongst this lucky few! They were then sent to the Atherton Tablelands for much needed R & R and then Fred managed to get leave home to visit his family in Western Australia. After more training it was back to New Guinea, in Markham Valley.

They were flown there but landed short at Nadzab, having to walk the rest of the way up the valley. By the time they got there Lae had already fallen so they had to walk all the way back to Nadzab. About this time he was affected by Malaria and had to separate from his unit, just getting back in time to be involved in action around Shaggy Ridge.

Again he was one of the lucky ones who survived and was eventually returned to the Atherton Tablelands.

After the R & R and more training, Fred set off to the staging island of Morotia and then onto the landings at Balikpapan. As a sergeant he was issued with maps and photographs for the landing which he kept and after sixty years only recently donated them back to the 2/16<sup>th</sup> Battalion War Museum. Soon after the Japanese surrendered, Fred as an “old hand” was sent back to Perth and discharged. With the aid of his brother, Arthur, who was a transport officer in the Navy, Fred made his way back to Maroochydore and Maureen!

They married in February, 1946, and Fred was apprenticed to the business but due to law changes could not be registered.

Their solicitor found a loophole in the law and Fred became the Business Manager and Partner, the only one in Queensland! Fred’s only child, Robert, was born in 1951.

Fred settled down to being active in the community, holding positions in the local RSL Branch and setting up two golf clubs although he never played himself. Trying his hand also at banana farming at Buderim it was also successful but he gave that up as it was taking too much of his time. He also dabbled in tropical fish breeding but was forced to give that up due to illness. As soon as he got better he bred birds with a vengeance, joining the Australian Pheasant Club because he thought the discounts were so good, and became the Breeder of the Year!

Fred retired in the late seventies and moved to Buderim for a few years, gardening vegetables and boasting that he never had to buy any! When this all got too much for them they moved to Maroochydore and in 1997 Maureen was diagnosed with cancer. After a successful operation they moved to Rockhampton to be near their son, Bob. Fred then became a fulltime doting grandfather! In early 1999 Maureen died.

Fred tried to occupy himself but it wasn’t the same. Luckily a mutual friend introduced him to Avian, who had also lost her partner. This was the best thing that happened for both of them and Fred picked up again and in September of 2000 they married! Fred was on the go all the time and they built a house on Van Haeren Street together. They

also went cruising several times and he too became involved in U3A. As his illness progressed and he was diagnosed with Alzheimers he started to slow down a lot and had to rely on Avian more and more. They came to the Alzheimer’s centre in 2004 and they were very regular attending members. Avian donated many things to the kitchen at the centre, such as an electric knife, and they enjoyed most of our social activities up until Avian’s passing in early April, 2012. We looked forward to their visits, with Fred, spick and span, hair done just so and Avian with her colourful hand bags and matching shoes, topped off by her lovely jewellery. When Avian died unexpectedly, Fred had to move to Bethany and then the Benevolent Home. Fortunately by then his dementia had advanced and he didn’t really understand what was happening. We will miss both their company and beautiful smiles. They are united once more!

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## **CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS**

**© Rita Diplock (24.10.12)**

We celebrate our birthday when it comes around each year.

We celebrate our Saviour’s birth as Christmastide draws near.

It is a special time for us as we recall His birth, When God put by His majesty and came, a child to earth.

Not to a mansion was He born or palace rich and fine,

But to a humble tradesman’s home, a home like yours and mine.

No rich food on their table, it was simple barley bread

And Mary would have patched and darned with needle and with thread.

Perhaps He heard His mother sharing hints and recipes

With relatives and friends and other nearby families.

I wonder if when work was slow and ends proved hard to meet

When Jesus blessed the bread they found there’d be enough to eat.

He would have watched His siblings in their squabbles, smiles and tears

And understands our inner heart, our hopes, our hurts and fears.

His younger brothers growing would come to the workroom floor

To learn the honest trade their father Joseph worked before.

He knew earth's loves and loyalties although He  
was divine  
And at His mother's pleading once turned water  
into wine.  
And when at night the lamp was lit and on its stand  
placed high  
Did He think upon a cross on which He'd hang and  
die?  
So welcome now the Christ child who is worthy of  
all praise,  
Emmanuel – God with us who has walked our  
earthbound ways.  
So celebrate our Saviour's birth, come worship and  
adore  
Our God who lived and died for us and reigns for  
evermore.

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Hi to all the members of the U3A,  
**My name is Sue Dasecke**, I am the instructor for  
U3A Line Dancing Class, our ladies are a friendly  
& happy group, we look forward to meeting up  
each week, for dancing & a get together, if you  
love music & a chat, then you will just love to  
share the afternoon with us. When our ladies have  
a Birthday we celebrate by having a nice cup of tea  
or coffee with lots of nice things the ladies bring  
along to share, after blowing out the candles &  
munching on the cake, we have group photos, so  
we can all remember the special occasion, than we  
get back to the dancing hopefully to burn off those  
extra calories we just put on!  
With the summer closing in fast it can get a little  
hot, we do drink a little more, but it doesn't seem  
to bother our girls too much, they bring along a fan  
& a bottle of water & manage to cope with the heat  
quite well, it is a great way to exercise & have a  
nice get together at the same time, why not come  
along & join in our class. We would love to see  
you there to share the afternoon with us, we have a  
wonderful group of ladies, who will make you feel  
so welcome as we are more like a family than a  
class, where everyone gets along so well, & cares  
for each other.  
If you would like to join us, you will find us at the  
Square Dance Hall, corner of Kent & Fitzroy  
Street, each Friday from 2.00-4.00pm, why not  
come along and join us, we would love to see you  
there & have lots of fun & laughs while being a  
part of our Line Dancing Family.

A policeman spots a black guy dancing on the roof  
of a car. He radios for backup, saying... "I've got a  
darkie dancing on a Volkswagen. ""You can't say  
that over the radio." replies the operator "You have  
to use politically correct terminology . ""OK" he  
says "Zulu.... Tango.... Golf...."

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**Our photography group** was formed after our  
June monthly meeting in an effort to put our digital  
camera collection to more use. A survey had shown  
that 80% of Australian households had a digital  
camera but mainly used in a point-and-shoot mode,  
taking photos of grand-kids or on holidays. The  
rest of the time the camera sat gathering dust in a  
draw somewhere.

A call for interested people to explore, experiment  
and learn to get more from these sophisticated little  
electronic marvels gave us a list of 25 plus names.  
After a couple of meetings to organize days and  
events, we settled on Thursdays as the day to suit  
the majority of our group to meet for shoots and to  
review the following week.

Many of our group were novices with limited  
understanding of their camera but, with the help  
and guidance of a couple of our group who are also  
members of the Rockhampton Camera Club, we  
now have a better understanding of photography  
and are now achieving some great results.

We have visited various sites around Rocky as a  
group including the Botanical Gardens, Kershaw  
Gardens (with waterfalls), the Woolwash area,  
Fitzroy River south bank and ,just recently, Keppel  
Sands at low tide. These were selected to give us a  
variety of subjects like water, reflections, shadows,  
objects (boats) as well as one session practicing  
portraits in a studio atmosphere. The review  
sessions at the COIN rooms have been beneficial  
to have our Camera club members suggesting  
where we might think about improving our  
techniques as our photos are shown on the big  
screen for us all to inspect. I firmly believe that we  
have improved vastly and moved from the original  
concept of what use we put our cameras to.

I am hoping our attending members will contribute  
samples of their works to the December monthly  
meeting (Show and Tell) on December 3rd at the  
Frenchville Club. Maybe you'll be suitably  
impressed enough to join our group and join in the  
fun of photography.

**Phil Morisette - Co-ordinator**  
**Ph 4928 7769**

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**HOT TOPIC!** Crikey! It's started again and it makes my skin crawl!

We, in Central Queensland, are in the 30's (that's temperature-wise – not age of course!) and retail flyers and supplements have been delivered to our letter boxes.

Junk mail is in plague proportions in this town, but I guess it keeps someone in business!

One of the “Chain” stores advertises “shape-wear” in their catalogue!

Well – you ask – what has the temperature got to do with shape-wear? Think on it! The humidity in C.Q. at this time of the year is something-else! A time when the lightest of clothing and materials that breathe, are the correct and most comfortable mode of fashion!

To even push an article which comes into the “under-wear” line and call it shape-wear is an insult to us – the women of this beautiful state of Queensland, albeit a state which enjoys warm temps in Summer and in parts, a cold Winter. And – do you know something? I have watched these junk flyers during Winter this year, as I have been meaning to write about shape-wear for some time and never at any time have I seen shape-wear advertised in Winter. One would think that the wearing of this line of tummy tucker would be “cert” in cold climes! But no! The nuts in the advertising rooms of big business think that we women should be trussed up like prized stuffed Christmas turkeys.

With that thought in mind, I have taken my mind back to those days of the corset!

Having had polio as a child at the age of ten and starting work at the Toowoomba Chronicle around the age of fifteen, Mother made me wear one of her boned corsets - 'It'll keep your back straight', said she (they fitted well as we were about the same figure size). The “shape wear” certainly kept my back straight which had developed a curve due to contracting Polio or Infantile Paralysis as it was then known.

However, the Office Boy was quite a flirt and if he was in the strong room, you avoided that area of the office. One day in the office as he walked past me, he flicked my rear and obviously the tips of his fingers caught the whale bone tips of the corset!

I think that was my introduction to severely bad language – words I had never heard before. What are you wearing – adjectives/swearing edited? I think all I said was – 'Serves you right – that'll

teach you' – and went off to giggle with the other office girls! He gave me a wide berth after that.

I recall we, the women of Australia wore all sorts of under-wear in the form of what is now called “Shape-wear” and I guess I will miss a few. There were standard corsets, corselets, step-ins, girdles,

some which came have way down to the knee and up to the bosom including a bra, (yikes)– did we really wear them?

My old dictionary says –referring to corselets as a piece of armour to cover the trunk! Says it all!

I think we all wore un-comfortable suspender or Garter belts for the purpose of keeping our stockings aloft – never could be classed as shape-wear, tho'.

Those were the days when we wore fitted frocks and maintained the silhouette-type look for quite a number of years, and then we found COMFORT – we found loose fitting clothes as I recall in the Seventies. A-line frocks and it was the era when elasticised waists crept into fashion and we could breathe again.

Sometimes I think we have become too comfortable in our skin – but please, no shape-wear for me especially not in this sub-tropical climate! Come back in winter, and you, the retailers out there in consumer country may get a sale or too!

I have canvassed opinions from women who would be in their late sixties now on the subject and this is probably the best of them and covers the subject well. I quote: “All I can say is that I remember pain associated with this topic. Suspender belts were worn at school. Why were we put through so much, needlessly?? Can you imagine the females of today wearing such things. Everything is now left to hang out for display and comfort. Berlei was one brand. It's not a topic which brings pleasant memories.....The hot days in Queensland and always feeling like a trussed up turkey ready for the oven comes to mind!! I didn't relish the loo stops either - a major operation. It's a wonder that our innards aren't all hanging out of place and not knowing where they belong. I would even go so far to say that wearing them, was gender abuse. Did men wear such things - well, trusses for certain problems in the southern area I guess.

I don't recall them ever being called trusses (for women) but they were!!! These things would not be included in the subject of “the good old days” conversations in my book. I had a pair of pregnancy ones, along with those thick matron's



stockings and my legs now are the worst in the country for veins....so what was the point of it all???



Here is a photo I took in the Gayndah Museum a couple of years ago – what a frightening thought – Electric corsets! Had to be designed by the opposite gender, eh? What woman in her right mind would ever think of such a monstrosity or even consider wearing it?

**Have a safe comfortable Christmas, fellow members! Cherith Weis**

**What is your computer doing now?** What has your computer been doing this week, I know you all look at it and say "what are you doing now" Remember YOU are in control, SANTA Claus or Tinker Bell isn't sitting beside you, they're not looking over your shoulder. I know you are tired SANTA Claus or Tinker Bell isn't sitting beside you, they're not looking over your shoulder. I know you are tired and a cup of coffee would fit the bill..Go and get it AND drink it in the kitchen, don't drink or eat near your computer. It never gets hungry nor thirsty. The cost of repairs goes up rapidly if you own a laptop. A new stand alone keyboard is cheap but to replace the keyboard in a laptop may also mean the coffee got further inside than you hoped. Moisture and electricity don't mix. Congratulations your new computer has just arrived and you are not sure where it should go. Well here are some hits that might help you in the long run. If it is a tower type computer box it should be sited off the floor in a well vented area, like on the edge of the desk. If it goes on the floor it will soon fill up with carpet and floor dust. You will require access to the DD or DVD drive and to the various USB and HDMI ports, so on the desk makes it easier.

A telephone outlet should be close by and access to at least 4 General Power Outlets. One for the

computer, the monitor, the printer and one for any other external devices that require a power point .your desk should be around 710mm high and when you add the 20mm for the keyboard you will be at an ergonomic typing height. Your monitor should be placed at eye height and be approx at arms length. So till next time our website has interesting items to help you learn  
<http://www.u3arockhampton.org.au/computer.htm>  
 Santa Claus is just around the corner  
<http://www.claus.com/index.php>  
**Merry Christmas Nick Quigley OAM**

**Colleen Young** entered an Australia Wide Competition conducted by Scenic Tours in 2012 and was fortunate enough to be the winner. The competition was to celebrate Scenic Tours being in operation for 25 years and entrants were to write about their experiences with that company.



**Town Square in Rothenburg, Germany, November, 2008**

A Dream Come True and Celebrations on Scenic Tours. This tour to Canada and Alaska came to fruition because of my husband's desire for many years to cruise to Alaska and my dream after my mother had passed away, to spend the first Christmas (white) without her, at Lake Louise in the Canadian Rockies. Also what could be a better prelude to celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on 6 November, 2005? We had been advised that sometimes it doesn't snow at Christmas in the Rockies and naturally a cruise to Alaska is not possible in winter so when this tour was advertised, it suited us fine and perhaps it might just snow in September at Lake Louise!! After seven glorious days of food, wine, shows and scenery on our Alaskan cruise on the "Diamond Princess", we commenced our bus tour over the Rockies.

Enroute to Lake Louise, we detoured to Peyto Lake, a deep blue colour made all the more spectacular because the first snow of the season had just fallen that day. However, would it snow at Lake Louise? The “jewel in the crown” soon came into view and all my visions of this winter wonderland were realised with



### **Graham and Colleen, Ollantaytambo, Peru, September, 2009**

the magnificent chateau on the edge of a deep blue lake surrounded by mountains lightly bathed in their first snow fall of the season. On retiring, little did I realise that my dream was about to come true as during the night, heavy snow had fallen and

Graham woke me at 4.00am to a winter wonderland illuminated by a full moon. We were now smitten by the Scenic Tours Adventure, so over the next 2 years, we planned on shifting from the great Australian dream of the home on a ¼ acre block, into our rental unit which we would renovate into a “Grey Nomad Pad” therefore allowing us to retire and follow the senior Aussie dream of being “Grey Nomads” and travel at leisure. However, on our first holiday to Perth in January, 2008, we were involved in a car accident which resulted in a stay in intensive care and further rehabilitation in WA until well enough to fly to Rockhampton. The question was, would we ever be well enough to travel again? However, after a couple of months rest, the lure of recuperating on a Scenic European River Cruise seemed a possibility.

Our journey commenced in mid November, 2008 and the cruise we selected allowed us to travel business class for a little extra if we upgraded to a Junior Suite. This was a necessity after our injuries and the cruise was superb because we only had to unpack once. Ishvan, our butler made our

journey from Amsterdam to Budapest into a memorable event. Our wish was to experience an “early white Christmas” and hopefully some Christmas markets would be open. We did not have to wait long because as soon as we arrived in Germany, the snow commenced, so much so we were in a snow storm on a walking tour of Bamberg. Luckily the Christmas markets had opened in Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest. The holiday was completed with a visit to the UK to see our daughter in London and a Christmas Church Service with a cousin at Canterbury Cathedral.

After negotiating walking in snow and on cobblestones with our injuries, we decided to delete “Machu Picchu” from my bucket list in September, 2009. Our first experience of climbing an Inca ruin was ascending the 350 steps up to the top of the imposing Inca fortress towering over Ollantaytambo, the oldest continuously occupied settlement in the Americas. Apart from visiting Machu Picchu, another highlight was the Iguassu Falls between Argentina and Brazil especially since 10 days before a flood had occurred and consequently they were flowing (gushing) at 7 times the normal rate. The long walkways over water out to vantage points over the falls, was not for the faint hearted. A bonus for the soccer followers on our tour was attending a World Cup Qualifying Soccer Match between Argentina and Peru in Buenos Aires.

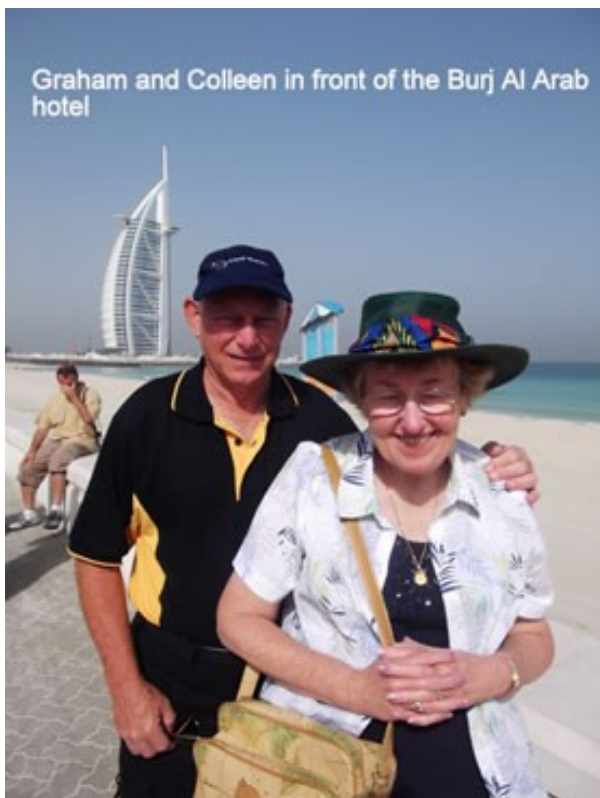
While recuperating after having corrective foot surgery at the commencement of 2010, we organised our next tour which we were eagerly looking forward to in May, 2011. The Ancient Lands tour of Egypt and Jordan then Dubai would allow Graham to wipe the Pyramids of Giza from his bucket list and to celebrate my 65<sup>th</sup> birthday on 3 June, firstly in Cairo, Egypt then flying to Amman, Jordan.





### Winter Wonderland at Lake Louise, Canada, September 2005

However, it seemed as though the Revolution in January was going to jeopardize our plans, but fortunately we took a punt, paid our balance then Mr Mubarak resigned. To witness first hand the ancient wonders of the world especially in Luxor and Abu Simbel, walk into Tutankhamun's tomb as well as 3 other tombs in the Valley of the Kings, visit Cairo Museum and the relaxing cruise down the mighty Nile, we were ever so thankful that we had elected to travel to this country at an unpredictable time when tourism had dropped by 85%. My 65<sup>th</sup> will be a birthday to remember because Hanan, our Egyptian Tour Director and Egyptologist organised a birthday cake for the three of us who were celebrating birthdays within close proximity, on the Nile Cruise. I doubt that my celebration on the Scenic Enrich night with dinner at a local Jordanian family home on the



actual date, will be repeated in the future! Our host even finished the meal with a birthday cake. The tour of Jordan was enhanced by visiting biblical sites and the magnificent lost city of Petra.

What a contrast awaited us when we arrived in Dubai – from magnificent ancient buildings in Egypt to incredible modern structures that left us wondering as to how they were constructed and

actually still standing. Another stark contrast was the shopping – being hassled in the bazaars in Egypt to window shopping, perusing, to choose and purchase at leisure in the thoroughly modern malls which supplied free shuttle buses to and from the hotels.



**Kalocsa Embroidery, Hungary**

We shall celebrate both birthdays while touring Scandinavia & the Russian River Cruise next May/June. Because of the change of itinerary as a result of Scenic Tours commissioning Scenic Tsar, firstly it will be Graham's birthday the day we depart Rockhampton for our overnight stay in Brisbane prior to departure. As mentioned in the previous paragraph, I doubted whether my birthday celebrations would be repeated, but now I am sure they will, as my birthday is 3<sup>rd</sup> June, the day we travel on the Allegro from Helsinki to St Petersburg to board Scenic Tsar for her maiden journey! We also intend completing the European rivers cruise down to the Black Sea, when on this journey, we will most likely be lounging on the top deck admiring the views with not a snowman in sight! Our crew made a snowman to adorn the top deck during the somewhat chilly 2008 river cruise.

**Footnote:** The last paragraph detailing our planned holiday was postponed owing to the Scenic Tsar not being registered in time. We were advised of this scenario on arrival in Brisbane and could have still continued with the Scandinavian sector. However, we decided to do the full itinerary next July/August and hoped we could travel on an alternative holiday somewhere instead of coming home with 2 untouched ports. Seems unbelievable now but one of the two only tours available, was the Black Sea Explorer Cruise including Gallipoli and within 24 hours Scenic had us traveling to Istanbul with a 50% discount and



we will enjoy our Russian Cruise with a 50% discount now in 2013!



**Mahjong 2012** is still very popular and our group is slowly increasing. The group is very friendly and welcomes new members and gives them all the help they may require. We meet every Tuesday at "The Women's Health Centre" at 1PM until 4PM. Cost is \$1 a week and this goes toward paying for afternoon tea and on each members birthday we get a cake. On special occasions like Easter & Melbourne Cup we have a Pizza luncheon. At our Christmas breakup we have a Chinese Luncheon, then play our final Mahjong for the year. Wishing everybody a Very Happy Festive Season, look forward to seeing you all again in 2013

**Best Wishes Mary Lowe**

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### **Yearly report - U3A Embroidery Group**

Our group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month. Our attendance averages about eight. We usually start the year with a joint project. Everyone helps each other. After this we all do our own pieces, hardanger seems to be the most popular.

We enjoy our afternoons amid lots of pattern sharing and helpful tips. Plenty of talk and laughs as well.

Emmie has worked many pieces of hardanger designing to suit the size of the fabric. Evelyn made a beautiful dress for a doll she has had since childhood, using ribbon embroidery.

Barbara worked little blue wrens. Peg made a candle wick quilt for a grandchild. Chris and Jeanette very nice surface stitchery. Beth's crewel work table was beautiful. Along with crochet and knitting we cover quite a lot of different stitchery. Emmie looks after the group when I can't be there. Thank you Emmie. I have enjoyed it all year and thank you all for coming. We will do it all again next year.

**Pat Lorraway**

### **THE QUEEN AND I**

An article appearing in the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2012 edition of "The Bulletin" moved me to write the following lines. It concerns the Queen's visit to *Rockhampton* on 15<sup>th</sup> March 1954

The article deals with my encounter with Her Majesty. It was all the more memorable because it coincided with my grandfather's seventy-seventh birthday.

We were thrilled to learn H.M. was due to drive down our street, Barambah. Eagerly did I await her arrival as I climbed on to the top of the front fence. She appeared in due course, the Duke of Edinburgh beside her. Imagine the scene. Here in the flesh was our beautiful young Sovereign Lady and her handsome prince I had seen previously only in pictures.

I began cheering my head off. If memory serves me correctly, I had our own Australian flag in one hand and the Union Jack in the other.

Her Majesty looked at me, gave me a dazzling smile, and waved. It is a gesture which is surely one of her greatest assets, if not the greatest. Her smile was mentioned on the 3 June edition of *Weekend Today*. Perhaps her touch could be called "Elizabethan Magic," a suitable alternative title to this work.

In any case, she won me in that instant. Something definitely passed between us – something spiritual. I became a Royalist on the spot and remain one to this day. Yes, I'm a confirmed monarchist, particularly where the Queen is concerned, not that I'd become a republican once she dies. I share in her joys and sorrows, and always will.

The late great Sir Robert Menzies, when describing his reaction to our beloved queen, quoted the famous lines: "*I did but see her passing by, and yet I love her till I die.*" These sentiments I understand, appreciate, and endorse.

I know some think I'm impressionable, and maybe I am. I would point out to them that it exemplifies the cardinal importance of the personal touch which H.M. The Queen wields so well. I would also remind them of the old saying: "*The child is father to the man*". by Rod Stickley

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### **Gordon the Rooster**

Trevor the farmer, was in the fertilised egg business. He had several hundred young layers (hens), called 'pullets' and eight or ten roosters, whose job was to fertilise the eggs.

The farmer kept records and any rooster that didn't

perform went into the soup pot and was replaced. That took an awful lot of his time so he bought a set of tiny bells and attached them to his roosters. Each bell had a different tone so Trevor could tell from a distance, which rooster was performing. Now he could sit on the porch and fill out an efficiency report simply by listening to the bells. The farmer's favourite rooster was old Gordon, and a very fine specimen he was too, but on this particular morning Trevor noticed old Gordon's bell hadn't rung at all!

Trevor went to investigate. The other roosters were chasing pullets, bells-a-ringing. The pullets, hearing the roosters coming, would run for cover but to farmer Trevor's amazement, Gordon had his bell in his beak, so it couldn't ring. He'd sneak up on a pullet, do his job and walk on to the next one.

Trevor was so proud of Gordon, he entered him into the West Berks County Fair and Gordon became an overnight sensation among the judges. The Result. The judges not only awarded Gordon the No Bell Piece Prize but they also awarded him the Pullet surprise as well. Clearly Gordon was a politician in the making: Who else but a politician could figure out how to win two of the most highly coveted awards on our planet by being the best at sneaking up on the populace and screwing them when they weren't paying attention.

**Anne Docherty**

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## YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT

Have you ever sat down and considered the amount of food consumed in a day. Who prepares it and is it something that a friend might be interested in learning about. U3A Cooking is just the place to share your Food Experience. You might have a family recipe passed down from years ago or something new that you have found that is worth passing on.

At the previous meet someone is tasked to prepare lunch and someone for sweets for the next month. The cook for the day buys all the ingredients and is reimbursed by the group. Group members pay \$10 each for the day, which is pretty cheap for a two course dinner. Preparation is carried out by all members, chipping in to peel, chop and stir as is needed. on top. For more information and to see some of our recipes take a look on the U3A website

**Nick Quigley OAM**

<http://www.u3arockhampton.org.au/cooking.htm>

## I REMEMBER

I remember the cheese of my childhood,  
and the bread that we cut with a knife,  
when the children helped with the housework,  
and the men went to work not the wife. The  
cheese never needed an ice chest,  
and the bread was so crusty and hot,  
the children were seldom unhappy  
and the wife was content with her lot.  
I remember the milk from the billy,  
with the yummy cream on the top,  
our dinner came hot from the oven,  
and not from the fridge in the shop.  
The kids were a lot more contented,  
they didn't need money for kicks,  
just a game with our mates in the paddock,  
and sometimes the Saturday flicks.  
I remember the shop on the corner,  
where a pen'orth of lollies was sold  
do you think I'm a bit too nostalgic,  
or is it....I'm just getting old?  
I remember when the loo was the dunny,  
and the pan man came in the night,  
it wasn't the least bit funny  
going out the back with no light.  
The interesting items we perused,  
from the newspapers cut into squares,  
and hung on a peg in the outhouse,  
it took little to keep us amused.  
The clothes were boiled in the copper,  
with plenty of rich foamy suds  
but the ironing seemed never ending  
as Mum pressed everyone's duds  
I remember the slap on my backside,  
and the taste of soap if I swore  
anorexia and diets weren't heard of  
and we hadn't much choice what we wore.  
Do you think that bruised our ego?  
or our initiative was destroyed  
we ate what was put on the table  
and I think life was better enjoyed.

**John Kowalski**

A six year old goes to the hospital with  
her mother to visit her Grandpa.  
When they get to the hospital, she runs  
ahead of her mother and bursts into her  
Grandpa's room .....  
"Grandpa, Grandpa," she says excitedly,  
"As soon as my mother comes into the  
room, make a noise like a frog!"  
"What?" said her Grandpa.  
"Make a noise like a frog - because my  
mother said that as soon as you croak,  
we're all going to Disney Land!

Off the Internet

## Christmas Diner 2012



## Guest Speaker



Professor Sue Scott

## U3A SINGING GROUP

The U3A Singing Group this year has been hampered by my unexpected absences through illness. Despite this the group has pulled together in the good times and given me 100% of their attention to detail as we have performed six times at various venues during the first five months of the year. Then we had a few months break and regrouped again with three concerts so far to arrange before Christmas. The Carer's Concert at Heritage Village on October 17th was well received with a lovely morning tea and many



interesting stalls and craft to do during the morning.

We welcomed several new members during the year and they are now part of our group. We are very fortunate to have as members, good male voices which gives depth of sound to each performance. The men love to sing together and often we have requests for them to perform at venues. We'd like even more men, so think about joining us, chaps.

This year we started to have "High Tea" on the first Tuesday of each month to celebrate the various members' birthdays for that month. This has proved very popular and chocolate cake and pumpkin scones are sometimes requested and some of the group oblige and bring them along. When everyone gets "high" on chocolate there usually is much more laughter that particular week. Comradeship is first class always.

So remember dear folk, we are waiting every Tuesday morning for new members to come along. If you can walk you can dance and if you can talk you CAN sing.

#### **Glenda McDonald Tutor Singing Group**

As sub-editor I would like to **congratulate John Elson** on his fine effort getting the Quarterly Flyer to you. It was a big learning curve, but made easier with the use of the new U3A laptop.

Technology is charging ahead in leaps and bounds but contributions to the Flyer still arrive handwritten which means John or someone else has to write them up. If you have a computer, you have the means to provide a digital copy either via Email or on a USB stick. We can scan photos and drawings and fix them to be suitable for the QF. On another note we need to congratulate John who has become a new Grand Dad again. His daughter Louise had her first 8lb 3oz daughter and named her Charlie Isabel.

#### **The Ipad is here to change the way we think using technology**

It was interesting to meet one of our members in Sydney recently. She and her husband had just returned from a cruise. I noticed she was holding an **Ipad** and using it to communicate via Email, store her holiday photos, watch movies, read books and keep up with all the gos on world affairs. The Ipad is a flat tablet type of computer with

incredible capabilities. Ipad come in two types one with just WiFi and the second with WiFi and cellular 3G phone capabilities.

Ipads are changing the way teachers and students interact at school and there are no limitations in business apps (applications) to help you, compile, present, control and entertain. Ipad connects to Microsoft exchange, enterprise and virtual private networks and the world wide web.

You don't need a keyboard, there is one built in and there are over

275,000 applications available, some free and some costing you as little as a \$1.

To have a look at a demo of the new

Ipad go to

<http://www.apple.com/au>

The Ipad comes in two sizes and either black or white and standard and mini.

The standard Ipad is 241mm x 185mm x 9mm and weighs 654grams. Memory wise the Ipad comes in 3 capacities and dollar values, 16Gb - \$539, 32Gb- \$649 and 64Gb - \$759. There is little variation in prices across a broad number of stores stocking the device. You can check yourself by looking at <http://www.shopbot.com.au/m/?m=ipad> It is also a good idea to buy an accessory to assist in the protection of your Ipad from drop damage. The Ipad will give you approximately 10 hours between charges and can be charged either by a USB power socket or plugged into a USB port on your computer.

The possibilities at a meeting could be surprising. With a bit of programming and you just sitting in the meeting room, you could collect the activities sheet, get the latest copy of the minutes and the Quarterly flyer, take photos of the speaker and your friends around you. You could look up the Frenchville Club and see what was on for lunch and check on your emails and Face Book just using the local WiFi at the club. All you need to do is show your Frenchville Club membership card and There is no need to buy anymore paper books, you can use one of the apps to download and read your books on the Ipad.

So what are you waiting for, give Santa a call and put your order in.

**Nick Quigley OAM**

