

From the President

First, my apologies for the absence of this newsletter in the first week of the month. We were busy with a number of matters, including some personal travel preparations, which set us back. Anyway here we are.

Second, I am pleased to announce that the committee agreed to a reduction in our annual member fee to \$15 per person. Our club has adequate reserves to cope with contingencies and our immediate requirements for equipment will be covered by a grant of \$2,000 from the Department of Social Security which was successfully pursued by our club's Vice-President, Dot Andrews.

Third, in response to requests, we will have a leaflet with the Tuesday Forum speaker program for the coming term available for distribution to our activity groups at the beginning of each term.

In other news, our most recent outing to the Tweed Regional Museum at Murwillumbah drew twenty members. The Museum prepared for our visit and provided a staff member to give us the background to the museum building and introduce us to the displays. Why are the things I had when I was young considered to be museum pieces nowadays?



Our most recent Tuesday Forum featured a presentation by Lenna Kelson, one of our U3A members. Lenna spoke on the Story Dogs scheme, which aims to provide opportunities for children in schools to improve their reading by reading to dogs outside the classroom. Lenna takes her dog, Sooti, into a local school and she is enthusiastic about the program. Thanks, Lenna (and Sooti) for your presentation.

Are there other members who would like the chance to tell the club about something similar? Please approach Dot, our speakers coordinator, or myself. Your presentation does not need to be so long as to occupy a full ninety minutes – we can schedule a shared

session. Assistance can also be provided to prepare a Powerpoint presentation if you want to show your photos or present slides with information.

Our series of vignettes of club members by Gloria Constine concludes with this issue of the newsletter. If any member has a project or other written contribution they would like published in this newsletter format, please see me.

Only one more Tuesday Forum this term! On 28 June we will have Marie Matthews from the Lismore Rainforest Botanical Garden (see below). We have a recess for the school holidays and resume on July 18.

Support for our speakers causes

Thank you for your generosity! Members opened their wallets and purses to kick in when we had a quick whip around for a couple of our recent presenters at Tuesday forum. We raised \$360 for Kim Elderton from Mercy Ships and \$50 for Lenna from Story Dogs.

More information is available at mercyships.org.au and storydogs.org.au if you would like to donate online.



Outings

The committee decided to replace a couple of Tuesday Forum speakers a term with an outing to a local destination of interest in keeping with our U3A objectives. We need destinations that are cheap (or free) and are generally accessible within the time normally allotted to Tuesday forum so that those of us with other commitments can participate. We would love ideas and feedback but, particularly, we would welcome any member who would be prepared to adopt this as their own project.

Roger Curran

Our final speaker for Term 2

27 June – Marie Matthews

Lismore Rainforest Botanical Gardens. The dream of establishing a Botanic Garden in the Lismore area had been around since 1988. The Gardens finally opened officially in June 2013, partly due to the work of the Friends of Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens. Marie

is president of the garden's volunteer group. She will tell us about the recent developments on the garden including a sensory garden, a Japanese bridge, coastal plants garden, hoop pine forest walk with a labyrinth at the summit, an aboriginal plant use talking sign, plus some native bee boxes. Marie and her team sure know how to get things done!



New Course - Learning about Orchids



Ken Wood is a member of Ballina U3A who has been running this course for their members for three years and he is now doing the same for our members. The group will meet on the third Saturday in July, August, October and November from 9 until 12 at Nareda Price's home - 107 Station Street Mullumbimby. The cost is \$13 per session. If you missed the earlier sessions you are still welcome to join.

To join the group or to find out other information phone Penny Fox on 6680 1600.

Getting to know us better

Member Gloria Constine asked some U3A members to provide a photo of themselves at around 20-30 years of age, a recent photo and less than fifty words describing an event where they were courageous or in an adventure or a funny incident. Here is the final instalment:

Gloria Constine

A young child living in London, I was



staying with a neighbour's family up North. A bunch of us took their dog for a walk, when their small dog was attacked by a larger dog. There was a lot of blood and I couldn't stand by, so rushed in, grabbed the small dog out of the grip of the other one, and ran off with it. I was very happy that it didn't give chase or bite me.

Pat Irvine

Held up in pay office.
Four men, two guns, one brand new axe.
They left axe behind, with fingerprints!



There's a conversation starter, if ever there was one. At least Pat is here to tell the tale ...

*Many thanks to Gloria for the work that she has put into compiling these profiles.
If anyone would like to continue with the project, please speak to Gloria.*