



JABBER JOURNAL

GRAFTON U3A INC. (UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE)

PO Box 688 Grafton NSW 2460

www.grafton.u3anet.org.au

"Sharing our knowledge, skills and experience in a friendly convivial way"

JULY 2016

JABBERFEST – 10.00AM - 11 JULY 2016 – GRAFTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

"MEMORIES OF THE FILM INDUSTRY"

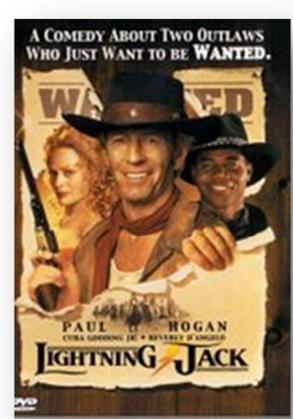
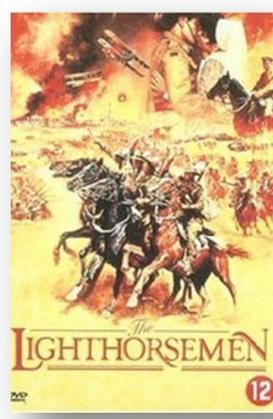
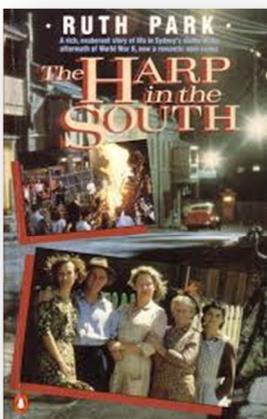
FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF PRODUCTION DESIGNER - BERNARD HIDES

Our guest presenter, Bernard Hides, who is also a member of Clarence River U3A, joined the ABC Television Art Department as a draughtsman in 1958 at a time that was very early in the development of television production in Australia. While there and over several years being with some very talented and generous people he was taught.....

- The history of Art
- The meaning of architecture and style
- About shape and form
- About costumes from all periods
- How to read script
- How to present an idea

And so..... **How to design a production**

After honing these skills in the late 60's and 70's on drama productions at the ABC, Bernard went freelance in 1973 pitting himself against the world. He worked all over Australia and South East Asia with various Australian, European and American television and film companies as a Production Designer. Eventually in 1990, he arrived in Los Angeles remaining there until 2006 before retiring to Australia to settle in Yamba. Some of the actors who worked on productions he designed were Tatum O'Neill, Jenny Agutter, Sean Penn, Broderick Crawford, David Hemmings, Brian Brown, Russell Crowe, Rob Lowe, Heath Ledger, Paul Hogan, Anne Phelan, Graham Kennedy and William Holden. Shows included The Lighthorsemen, Casualties of War, Lightning Jack, JAG, Harp in the South and Smallville. He was nominated for awards by the Art Directors Guild and the Australian Film Institute. Do come along for what promises to be an entertaining insight into the world of film and television.



JUNE JABBERFEST WRAP

Committee member Pat Connelly welcomed an audience of 121 with a generous dash of Aussie humour before introducing Lesley Apps from the Daily Examiner who demonstrated the online process for lodging copy for the Community News segment of the Examiner. Brian Carter then shared a delightful little story titled "The Post Office". Fiona Duggan and Robyn Adams (President of Clarence River U3A) spoke of the upcoming joint Christmas in July luncheon affording members of each U3A the opportunity to meet new friends in the relaxed atmosphere of the Harwood Hilton on 31 July. Payment for the outing is due today. Alysyan Pender addressed members with details of course updates as follows – 'Geology Wonders of the World' is now in recess but will restart again in the future. A new course covering the Industrial Revolution comprising 36 chapters will commence on Friday 24 June and run for 9 sessions covering 2 chapters each week. Following a break, the course will then resume to cover the latter 18 chapters. Armchair Travel group on 28 June will have Morrie and Fiona Duggan as presenters covering their recent adventures in Iceland. Pat Connelly then adjourned the meeting for morning tea.

Following the break, David Abrahams introduced guest speaker Robyn Adams speaking on the topic "An Insight into the World of Archaeology". Robyn's interest in the topic was awakened at age 10 by a teacher who thought he was punishing her by sending her to the school library. However, it was there that she discovered a mound of National Geographic magazines from which she gleaned far more than he could teach her. She continued to misbehave so that she would continue to be sent to the library. Ten years later, she travelled overseas with two friends to see for herself amazing man-made structures. Her life changed when they travelled to Israel to escape the English winter and were accepted to work on her first dig at Masada in 1964. The dig was a massive undertaking involving 200 people including 50 young international volunteers.



ROBYN - MASADA DIG



ROBYN & FAMILY - OMAN CIRCA 1970

Robyn displayed a number of photos from that dig as well as other sites she visited. From that time on, she spent much time sitting in ruins in Israel, Greece, Italy, Malta, Albania, Turkey, Jordan, Iran, Egypt Oman and Peru. However, life moves on and her dream of becoming an archaeologist faded into the background but was never entirely forgotten. In 1998, she rediscovered her dream enrolling as a distance learning (very) mature age student through UNE in Armidale and some ten years later in 2008 she finally graduated with a major in archaeology. Robyn then fielded questions from the audience before being thanked and presented with a creation crafted by the artisans at the Mens shed. Pat Connelly announced the lucky door prize winner - Elizabeth Holdway before closing the meeting.



Christmas in July Luncheon



Bookings for the luncheon are now closed and there is now a waiting list "in case". Members who have not yet paid are reminded that payment must be made at July Jabberfest. Fiona Duggan

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Enclosed with your journal, for those members yet to pay their annual subs, is a renewal notice (attached to email) for your attention. Your response will be welcomed. If you wish to discontinue membership, a call to Carole Cairns 6642 4615 or a note to that effect would be appreciated - thanks.

Mens Shed member, brilliant craftsman and resident Pommy funny guy Trevor Layland has come up with a novel way (pictured) in which to pay U3A subscriptions. However, not everyone is required to pay the Treasurer with gold coins in a pirate's chest. Ho Ho Ho!!



VICE-PRESIDENT'S LETTER... Dear Members



From
David Abrahams

We should all be heartened by the excellent attendance at the June Jabberfest, which at 120+ would be close to the best on record. The format we are using is proving popular with members and your Committee is making an effort to provide a variety of attractions.

The Committee is also assessing the possibility of expanding our space at Dougherty House into the adjoining room, which has a connecting door providing easy access. If the idea comes to fruition, with a paint job, carpet and whatever furnishing and equipment needed for our members the room will be presented as a comfortable and attractive facility available for several of our current Groups using external premises as well as new groups. Members will be updated on progress in regard to this extension.

The Annual General Meeting is fast approaching and I ask that members consider nomination for Committee to provide further experience and knowledge to the executive. The AGM program is included in this Journal – in addition to the formal process morning tea will be provided with special refreshments to savour. Afterwards entertainment will be provided by a number of our Interest Groups including Good Vibes, Tai Chi, Instrumental Groups and others of our many Groups. Further details will be published in the August edition of the Jabber Journal.

The Men's Shed has now received the defibrillator and new air conditioners will soon be installed at our Rooms. Our Treasurer, Bruce Carle is responsible for the addition to our assets, which will add to safety and comfort of our members and I applaud his efforts in the concept and successful application for a Grant to bring the operation to its conclusion.

ANGEL AT THE POST OFFICE

This story was narrated by Brian Carter at the June Jabberfest and is reprised below for the benefit of members not in attendance.

This story renews your faith in mankind. Someone in the Postal Service needs to be rewarded. We do not know who replied but there is a beautiful soul working in the Dead Letter Office who understands LOVE.

Our 14-year-old dog Abbey died last month. The day after she passed away my 4-year-old daughter Meredith was crying and talking about how much she missed Abbey. She asked if we could write a letter to God so that when Abbey got to heaven, God would recognize her. I told her that I thought we could and so, and she dictated these words:

Dear God,

Will you please take care of my dog? She died yesterday and is with you in heaven. I miss her very much .I am happy that you let me have her as my dog even though she got sick. I hope you will play with her. She likes to swim and play with balls. I am sending a picture of her so when you see her you will know that she is my dog. I really miss her.

Love, Meredith

We put the letter in an envelope with a picture of Abbey and Meredith and addressed it to God/Heaven. We put our return address on it. Then Meredith pasted several stamps on the front of the envelope because she said it would take lots of stamps to get the letter all the way to heaven. That afternoon she dropped it into the letter box at the post office. A few days later, she asked if God had gotten the letter yet. I told her that I thought He had.

Yesterday, there was a package wrapped in gold paper on our front porch addressed: "To Meredith" in an unfamiliar hand. Meredith opened it. Inside was a book by Mr. Rogers called, 'When a Pet Dies.' Taped to the inside front cover was the letter we had written to God in its opened envelope. On the opposite page was the picture of Abbey & Meredith and this note:

Dear Meredith,

Abbey arrived safely in heaven. Having the picture was a big help and I recognized her right away. Abbey isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me just like it stays in your heart. Abbey loved being your dog. Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets to keep your picture in so I am sending it back to you in this little book for you to keep and have something to remember Abbey by.

Thank you for the beautiful letter and thank your Mother for helping you write it and sending it to me. What a wonderful mother you have!!! I picked her especially for you. I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much. By the way, I'm easy to find.

I am wherever there is love!!!

With much love GOD

LATERAL THINKING PUZZLER

A CHESS PIECE

Two grandmasters played five games of chess. Each won the same number of games and lost the same number of games. There were no draws in any of the games. How could this be so?

Last Month's Solution

They were playing tennis. At 30-all Ben hit a shot out. Archie then served an ace to win the game and match.



We welcome new member – Tony Eather. We trust that you enjoy your association with Grafton U3A and take

the opportunity to avail of the various courses/interestgroups on offer.

COURSES/GROUPS UPDATE

ARMCHAIR TRAVEL

At our next meeting at 2.00pm on Tuesday 26 July, Peter Smyth will continue the presentation of his recent Christmas trip to Europe. For further information or if you would like to recount your own experiences to the Group contact Magda Mussared 6644 9309.

HISTORY CLUB

Due to illness and other unfortunate events to our dedicated members, the group will be in recess until further notice. *Nola Mackey*

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Another program from the Great Courses Series. The lecturer is Dr Patrick Allitt, Professor of American History at Emory University and the program consists of 36 lectures to be covered over a period of 18 weeks. The series may be split into 2 x 9 week sessions, to be determined by the group as the course proceeds. The group meets from 10.00-12.00 noon on Friday mornings at the U3A rooms Dougherty House. The program commenced on Friday 24 June but members are welcome to join the group at any time. It is proving to be a very interesting and well-presented course. Warren Grant has agreed to act as convenor. Enquiries to Warren on 6642 3517 or Alysian Pender 6644 5397.

MENS SHED

In the process of expanding our premises, Kevin Watkins has come up with these brilliant new tables (pictured). He was assisted in the design phase by Greg Ryan whilst undertaking much of the construction work himself with assistance from other members. And yes – the wine cask tops are Lazy Susans. *David Abrahams*



The aquarium pictured above has graced the waiting room of the Oncology/Haematology Unit at Grafton Base Hospital since last year and is a creation of the artisans at our own Mens Shed. The aquarium is stocked by Fish Scales and Furry Tails Pet & Aquarium Supplies.

WOODWORK FOR WOMEN

Kevin Watkins has agreed to lead another Womens Woodwork course at the Mens Shed. The course will be conducted for approximately six weeks from 9.00 - 12.00 noon on Tuesday mornings commencing 12 July. This course has been held several times over the past few years and offers a great opportunity for women to learn new skills. Expressions of interest forms will be available at July Jabberfest. Enquiries to Alysian Pender 6644 5397

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

With the Annual General Meeting (AGM) coming up next month (see attached notices), it is almost time to elect a new committee to manage Grafton U3A for the next twelve months. We are fortunate to have a band of men and women on committee who are practical, dedicated and friendly people who do a very good job and hopefully the majority will nominate for re-election in August. Membership of the committee is not an onerous task but is very fulfilling with each member having a set area of responsibility. The AGM provides an opportunity for all U3A members to make a difference by nominating for Committee.

EDITOR CONTACT

Contributions to the Jabber Journal are always welcome. We reserve the right to edit or refuse material submitted for publication.

Closing date for submissions for the August edition is **Monday 25 July 2016.** Editor Dennis Kelly thehifields@bigpond.com

COURSES AND GROUPS

COORDINATORS

ALYSAN PENDER 6644 5397 PAT CONNOLLY 66426695

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE - YOU MUST CONTACT THE CONVENOR PRIOR TO JOINING COURSES/GROUPS

COURSE/GROUP	CONVENOR	PHONE	LOCATION	DAY/DATE	TIME
ARMCHAIR TRAVEL	Magda Mussared	6644 9309	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	4 th Tuesday	2.00 – 4.00pm
BOOK DISCUSSION	Mary-Lou Brown	6644 5167	Library	3 rd Monday	2.00 – 4.00pm
BUSH WALKING	Peter Mears	6643 5748	The Great Outdoors	Watch Journal for details	
CHESS	Stan Mussared	6644 9309	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	1 st & 3 rd Thursdays	2.00 – 4.00pm
COMPUTER USERS GROUP	Tom Dennis	6642 2502	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	Alternate Fridays	2.00 – 4.00pm
CREATIVE WRITING	Dorothy Hillis	6642 7427	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	2 nd Tuesday	1.30 – 4.00pm
DISCUSSION GROUP – ALTERNATE IDEAS	Noelene Bryant	6649 4407	Room 4 South Services Club	Tuesdays	1.00 – 3.30pm
EARTH'S CHANGING CLIMATE	Nick Reeve	6642 5367	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	In recess	
FIVE HUNDRED CARD GAME	Gwen Rudder	6642 1377	South Services Club	Thursdays	9.30 – 11.30pm
GOOD VIBES VOCAL GROUP	Helen Hearnshaw	6642 5073	Conservatorium	Mondays	1.00 – 2.30pm
GUITAR	Leonie Hayes	6643 2211	Leonie's home	2 nd & 4 th Wednesdays	1.30 - 3.30pm
HISTORY CLUB	Nancye Eggins Nola Mackey	6642 4147 6644 9465	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	In recess	
INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION	Warren Grant	6642 3517	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	Fridays	10.00 – 12 noon
LANGUAGE – FRENCH	Andre Cunin	0422448434	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	2 nd & 4 th Wednesdays	2.00 – 4.00pm
LANGUAGE – GERMAN	Ralf Junger	6642 3484	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	Thursdays	10.00 – 12noon
MAHJONG	Joan Ingram	6642 1560	CWA Rooms	Wednesdays	9.30 – 12 noon
MAHJONG FOR BEGINNERS	Mary-Lou Brown	6644 5167	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	Tuesdays	9.30 – 12 noon
MEDITATION	Noelene Bryant	6649 4407	Room 4 South Services Club	Tuesdays	9.45 – 11.30am
MENS SHED	Frank Heppell David Abrahams	0407259949 0407413813	Brewery Complex	Wednesdays	8.00 – 3.00pm
SCRABBLE	Alysan Pender Vanda Geremia	6644 5397 6642 7880	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	In recess	
TABLE TENNIS	Ken Jackson Eric Wheeler	0400080136 6642 1857	Grafton Golf Club	Tuesdays	2.00 – 4.00pm
TAI CHI	Nancye Eggins Raelee Baird	6642 4147 6644 8406	Room 4 South Services Club	Tuesdays	11.30 – 12.30pm
THE WORLD'S GREATEST GEOLOGICAL WONDERS	Morrie Duggan	5549 3202	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	In recess	
UKELELE 1	Leonie Hayes	6643 2211	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays	1.00 – 2.30pm
UKELELE 2	Leonie Hayes	6643 2211	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays	2.30 – 3.30pm
UNSOLVED MYSTERIES	Maree Burrows	6642 1640	U3A Rooms Dougherty House	Watch Journal for details	
WOODWORK FOR WOMEN	Kevin Watkins		Mens Shed	Watch Journal for details	

GRAFTON U3A INC.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Fourteenth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Grafton U3A Inc. will be held at 10.00am on Monday 8 August 2016 at the Grafton Community Centre, Duke Street Grafton.

Any non-financial members may pay their subscription prior to the meeting. Members must be financial in order to qualify to vote at the meeting.

AGENDA FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- WELCOME & APOLOGIES
- MINUTES
Confirmation of minutes of AGM held 10 August 2015
- REPORTS
 - President
 - Treasurer
- ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Seven ordinary members of Committee
- APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY AUDITOR
- PRESENTATION
- AWARD OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP
- RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCOMING COMMITTEE
- PROPOSALS FOR ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR AHEAD

NOTE – If you are unable to attend and wish to appoint a proxy, the appropriate proxy form may be obtained from the Secretary.

The AGM is an important function and a chance for us to reflect and celebrate the good things we have achieved and the pleasant times we have shared together over the past year, as members of Grafton U3A. I do hope that you can join us.

David Abrahams

Vice President

GRAFTON U3A INC.
Nomination for Committee

(Two financial members to nominate)

We the undersigned, being financial members of the Grafton U3A Inc.,

wish to nominate

(please print)

for the position of on the committee of

Grafton U3A Inc. for the year 2016/17.

Name

Signed.....

Name.....

Signed.....

I declare that I am a financial member of Grafton U3A Inc. and am willing to accept the above nomination.

Signed.....

To be handed to the Secretary, Carole Cairns, or posted to The Secretary Grafton U3A Inc., P.O. Box 688 Grafton. NSW 2460 **by Monday 1 August 2016.**