

**JABBERFEST – 10:00AM MONDAY 8 APRIL 2024  
NEW LIFE CHURCH CENTRE – ARTHUR STREET GRAFTON**

**SESSION 1**



Mobile Vet is a veterinary practice that provides top-quality mobile and in-house veterinary care and an animal hospital in South Grafton. Laura Goodwin will be making a presentation sharing information about pet health and the range of services they offer to contribute to the wellbeing of pets in our community. In addition, she will be providing details of two upcoming events in early April that may be of interest.

**SESSION 2**

**LEGACY - 100 YEARS OF "KEEPING THE PROMISE"  
GUEST PRESENTER – BOB MCFARLANE**

In the trenches of the Western Front during World War I, a soldier said to his dying mate "I'll look after the missus and kids". This became known as The Promise.

Bob will talk to us about the work undertaken by Legacy and will include photos of King Charles commencing the Torch Relay in London celebrating Legacy's Centenary.

By way of history, in 1946, two Grafton Country members of Sydney Legacy B.T. Barnes and R.E. Dawborn initiated the idea of a personal contact group.

By April 1948, Sydney had taken action in the hope that it would result in the formation of a group in Grafton and the inaugural meeting of the Grafton Legacy Group took place on 6 April 1949. In May 1953, Legacy Co-ordinating Council granted a Club Charter that was presented to Foundation President A. Lipman at an Inaugural Dinner. Grafton Legacy recently celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Good morning, everyone.



Suddenly, the U3A year is well under way. It's nearly Easter, everyone is looking forward to the end of daylight saving and there is definitely an autumn breeze in the air at times. I am always amazed at how quickly the year flies by.

Most of our U3A groups are running along as planned, with only a few glitches and we are getting a slow, steady trickle of applications for new membership. Our Jabberfest programme is almost fully committed to paper now and promises to be both interesting and entertaining, offering a wide variety of subjects and activities during the coming months. Alas, last month's Jabberfest suffered a last-minute change of subject, when the advertised guest speaker pulled out at short notice, but Kevin was able to substitute a subject planned for later in the year – he spoke about his experience taking part in the ABC TV program Hard Quiz. It proved to be a most interesting and entertaining talk. I hope he will be in a position to provide us a follow up talk if he selected to compete in the "Battle of the Duds" later in the year.

Bruce Carle, our hard-working Treasurer and Coordinator at the Mens Shed, is continuing to juggle all his responsibilities and is giving consideration to the options available for an eventual move of the Shed from the Brewery site when the lease expires in approximately two years. They have recently lost access to their old meal room and office at the current site, but seem to have managed, without too much stress, a transfer to another adjacent (smaller) area at the Brewery site. Many thanks to Bruce and all the members who assisted with the relocation.

We have no social events in the pipeline at present as it is felt that we have insufficient committee members to assist at the moment. Have I mentioned we are looking for 2 new committee members?

We are also **STILL** seeking more volunteers for the Jabberfest morning tea roster. You would not be expected to appear at every Jabberfest, but we need to know who would be available to help from time to time. Please see Anne Reeve if you are willing to put your name on the list.

At our next Jabberfest we will consider another aspect of war service – the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Legacy. The way the world seems to be going, unfortunately, we will never be totally free of the topic of international conflict and its long-lasting effects.

I look forward to seeing you all on the 8<sup>th</sup> April.

*Alysan Pender*

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## UPCOMING JABBERFEST PRESENTATIONS

MONTH	TOPIC	PRESENTER
MAY 13	CAVING (SPELEOLOGY)	HARRY JONES
JUNE 17	ONLINE HELP How to cope when asked to do things online	MARIA WORMALD Service NSW
JULY 8	ONE + ONE MEMBER INTERVIEW	KEN WOODWARD Interview by Mike Gillespie

## COURSES AND INTEREST GROUPS update – ALYSAN PENDER

Please contact your group Leader if you have any questions.

**ARMCHAIR TRAVEL** will be held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00 pm. Alysan Pender will be talking about her recent travels to Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia. Enquiries: Magda Mussarad 6644 9309.

**SINGING AROUND THE PIANOLA** Alas, our session advertised for 15 March was cancelled at short notice. We will attempt to reschedule after Easter and April Jabberfest. Enquiries: Alysan Pender 0447 270 997.

**POETRY WRITING GROUP** will be meeting once a month on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month from 10:am to 12:00 at the U3A rooms. Leader: Ken Woodward 6643 1012.

**ART GALLERY VISITS** will hopefully commence in April, after Easter. Enquiries: Alysan Pender 0447 270 997.

**CRAFT GROUP** has now gone into recess.

**NEW GROUP: A FIELD GUIDE TO THE PLANETS - Leader: Morrie Duggan.** One of the Great Courses, the lecturer is Prof Sabine Stanley, attached to the Dept of Earth and Planetary Science at Johns Hopkins University. To be held at the U3A rooms on Friday mornings, 10:00 to 12:00. Starting date to be advised at April Jabberfest. Enquiries: Morrie Duggan: 6649 3202.

PLEASE NOTE: (1) ALL OF OUR GROUPS WOULD WELCOME MORE MEMBERS.

PLEASE NOTE: (2) IF YOU WISH TO START ATTENDING A GROUP, PLEASE CONTACT THE GROUP LEADER AS A COURTESY BEFORE TURNING UP.

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## GRAFTON U3A COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Due to a relocation and an illness, there have been, for several months, two vacancies on the committee of your Grafton U3A. In order for the committee to function efficiently in undertaking the tasks associated with managing the activities of Grafton U3A, it is essential that we have a full complement of members of that committee. The tasks associated with membership of the committee are certainly not onerous. All members are therefore asked to give serious consideration to putting themselves forward to serve on the committee. Should you require any information or have questions please feel free to approach any member of the current committee or our President Alysan Pender who can be contacted on 0447 270 997.



We welcome new members June Blackadder, Alexandria Marja, Helen Richards, Margaret Wright. We trust that you enjoy your association with Grafton U3A and take the opportunity to avail of the various courses and interest groups available.

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## I.C.E. EMERGENCY CARD

Some years ago, members were issued with an **In Case of Emergency Card**. You are asked to check and ensure that all the details on the card are up to date and to have it with you when attending Grafton U3A events. If you do not have a card, please note that new ones will be available shortly.

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## MARCH JABBERFEST WRAP

Vice-President Kevin welcomed members to our March Jabberfest and also welcomed new members June Blackadder, Susan Adams, Alexandra Marja, Helen Richards, Leanne Warwick and Margaret Wright. He then introduced the representatives from local travel company Action Coaches. Details were provided of a number of their upcoming tours from single day to multi day tours such as the Silo Art tour through Western New South Wales. Copies of tour brochures for upcoming tours with full details were made readily available to interested members. The meeting then adjourned a little early for morning tea.

Due to a family emergency, our scheduled guest presenter was unable to attend. Stepping into the breach at very short notice, Kevin Dixon gave a detailed and amusing presentation of his appearance on the ABC television show Hard Quiz including details of what goes on behind the scenes. President Alysian then provided details of updated information on several courses/groups, details of which also appeared in the Jabber Journal. She then re-iterated the need for additional volunteers for the Jabberfest morning tea roster and the need for volunteers to step up to take over management of the morning teas from Ann & Nick Reeve who have served in this capacity over a considerable period of time. Two vacancies remain on the management committee meaning that several current members have had to undertake additional responsibilities. In the circumstances, organization of social outings have had to be curtailed. Alysian reminded members that guest presenter for April Jabberfest will be Bob McFarlane from Grafton Legacy that recently celebrated its centenary. The lucky door prize was won by John Higham. The meeting was then closed.

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## EDITOR CONTACT

Contributions to the Jabber Journal are welcome, however, we reserve the right to edit or refuse material submitted for publication. Closing date for the May 2024 edition is **Friday 26 April 2024**. Contributions to the editor: Dennis Kelly email: [thehifields@bigpond.com](mailto:thehifields@bigpond.com)

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## A POEM ABOUT LIFE AS IT WAS.....

We met and married a long time ago  
We worked long hours when wages were low  
No telly, no bath for times were hard  
Just a cold water tap and a walk in the yard

No holidays abroad, no carpets on floors  
We'd coal on the fire and never lock doors  
Our children arrived (no pill in those days)  
We brought them up with no State aid

They were safe going out to play in the park  
And old folk could go for a walk in the dark  
No Valium, drugs and no LSD  
We cured most of our ills with a good cup of tea

No vandals, no muggings (not much to rob)  
We felt we were rich with a couple of bob  
People seemed happier in those far off days  
Kinder and caring in so many ways

Milkmen and paperboys would whistle and sing  
A night at the pictures was quite a wild fling  
We got our share of troubles and strife  
But we had to face it – the Pattern of Life