

**JABBERFEST – 10:00AM MONDAY 13 MAY 2024  
NEW LIFE CHURCH CENTRE – ARTHUR STREET GRAFTON**

**SESSION 1**

**Australia at the**



**Summer Olympics**

Australia has competed in every Summer Olympic Games. In 1908 and 1912 Australia competed with New Zealand under the name Australasia. An excellent opportunity to test your knowledge and memory on this interesting and timely topic. A gift to the last person standing.

**SESSION 2**

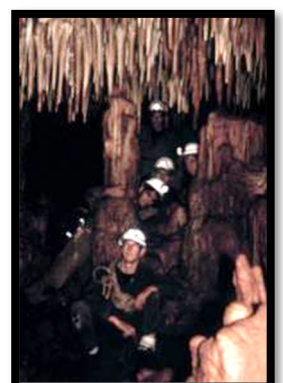
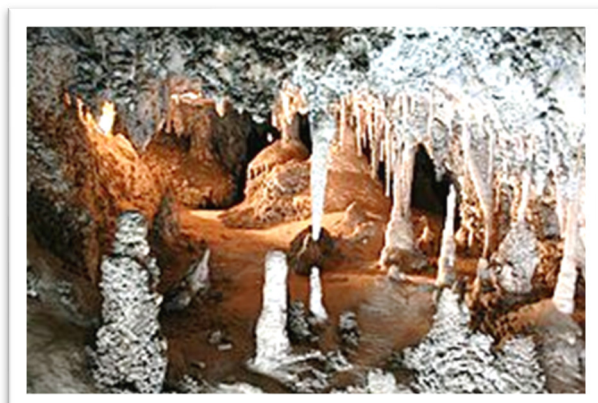
**CAVE EXPLORATION (AKA THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SPELEOLOGY)**

**GUEST PRESENTER - OUR VERY OWN HARRY JONES**

MEMBER OF SYDNEY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND QANTAS CAVING GROUP

Welcome to the world of Caving, Speleology, Spelunking – Going down.

A world of total darkness, of absolute silence, of mud and dust, stalagmites, stalagmites, oolites and helictites. Of underground rivers flowstone and calcite. A home to bats, guano, spiders, blind fish and challenges – tight squeezeways, 100ft abseils into unknown passageways, cave diving through waterfilled duckunders AND the emergence into "Fairy Lands" festooned with all the formations imaginable, crystals reflecting the light of ones headlamp in a blaze of subterranean magic.



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Good morning, everyone.



Here we are rapidly approaching May, and those Autumn breezes are becoming gustier. My birthday is the 16<sup>th</sup> April, and it always amuses me how I am usually reaching for a jacket (the first of the season) on that special day. It was the same when I was living in Queensland's Central Highlands – a very different climate to the Clarence Valley – my birthday seemed to mark the day on which warmer clothing suddenly became more comfortable.

With all those public holidays now behind us, most of our U3A groups should now settle into their regular routines. Several are now seeing a slow improvement in attendance figures; others are still struggling to return to pre-Covid figures. Please see the latest Courses and Interest groups list enclosed in this Journal. Our applications for new membership continue to trickle in at a steady pace, but alas our Jabberfest attendance remains disappointingly low.

I believe we are offering a good range of topics and activities in our monthly Jabberfest programme and that both Jabberfest and our regular interest groups provide a continuing opportunity for our members to acquire new interests and skills and to widen their social contacts. What do you think? If you have any ideas how we can extend our list of courses and interest groups, or if you have any ideas for future Jabberfest programmes, please speak to a member of the Committee. Better still, please join the Committee.

At our next Jabberfest, Harry Jones will be speaking about cave diving, a most interesting hobby which few of us have ever experienced. And Kevin will be giving us another quiz – an experience where few of us get the answers right, and where someone else always wins the chocolates. Actually, Kevin will be very busy next Jabberfest, as I have made a sudden decision to visit my family in Perth and Sydney – a school play (grandson), a school rock concert (granddaughter) and Mothers' Day celebration all beckon. Have fun in my absence.

*Alysan Pender*

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## UPCOMING JABBERFEST PRESENTATIONS

MONTH	TOPIC	PRESENTER
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
AUGUST 12	HOW TO TALK TO A DEAF PERSON IN AN EMERGENCY	JIM READ (SES)

## IN MEMORIAM

We are saddened to report the death of Pat Connelly, long-time member of Grafton U3A, and one-time Committee member.

Of course, everyone in Grafton knew Pat for his "Dame Edna" persona, but not everyone was aware of the many other causes he championed, especially his involvement with youth, and youth suicide prevention. Pat spread happiness and good around him; something the world could use a lot more of.



## COURSES AND INTEREST GROUPS update – ALYSAN PENDER

Please contact your group Leader if you have any questions.

**ARMCHAIR TRAVEL GROUP** will meet on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 2.00 pm. John Rhodes will be recounting his travels through Europe and Asia commencing in London. Enquiries: Magda Mussarad 6644 9309.

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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### POETRY WRITING GROUP REVIEW

At our second meeting of the Poetry Writing Group, we firstly read out our Freestyle 'homework poem' on the theme of "TRAP". Some interesting interpretations were read. Harry Jones then detailed the many different forms of poetry from Acrostic to Ballads to Epic to Haiku (Japanese style). After some discussion we, decided to attempt writing an Acrostic Poem. An ACROSTIC poem is where certain letters in each line spell out a word or phrase or the Theme of the poem. Typically, the first letters of each line are used to spell the theme. So, we had a 5-minute task to write an acrostic poem using the letters of our first name.

Here is my attempt:

**K**eeps me busy  
**E**veryday  
**V**isiting a café  
**I**ngesting coffee  
**N**ice and hot

Our 'homework' for our next meeting is to write another Acrostic poem with the theme **AUTUMN LEAVES**. Harry Jones then suggested that lines 3 (T), 6 (N), 9 (A) and 12 (S) had to rhyme. At our next meeting at Dougherty House 10:00am on 2 May, Harry will also give a talk on the History of Poetry.

We welcome more members. Contact Leader/Coordinator Ken Woodward on 6643 1012. *Kevin Dixon*

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### A PUZZLE TO PONDER.....

A **Rebus** is a representation of words with pictures, letter names, or symbols that suggest the sound of the words. A *Rebus* was first used in English in 1605 by William Camden.

Can you solve this REBUS puzzle!

**YYUR; YYUB. ICUR YY4me**

Solution will be given at the next Jabberfest. *Kevin Dixon*

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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 Alysyan Pender who can be contacted on 0447 270 997.

## The top 10 scams reported to Scamwatch in 2023

### Investment scams



### Romance scams



### False billing



### Phishing



### Jobs scams



### Remote access scams



### Online shopping



### Threats based scams



### Identity theft



### Rebate scams



Australians reported a record number of scams last year, with losses totalling \$2.7 billion, a new report from the consumer watchdog has revealed.

More than 601,000 reports about scams were made in 2023, up from the [507,000 reported in 2022](#), the latest Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC) Targeting Scams report found.

Investment scams stole more than any other type of scam, accounting for more than \$1.3 billion in losses, the report said.

**People over 65 were more likely to lose money than any other age group and were the only age group that lost**

*Total losses reported in Scamwatch data may be lower than the total losses recorded by all agencies in the ACCC Targeting Scams report.*



We welcome new member Dino De Guisti. We trust that you enjoy your association with Grafton U3A and take the opportunity to avail of the various courses and interest groups available.

## 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 June 2024 edition is **Friday 31 May 2024**. Contributions to the editor: Dennis Kelly email: [thehifields@bigpond.com](mailto:thehifields@bigpond.com)

