



Newsletter

Learning for Pleasure



ABN 17 993 804 260

Together, we will shape our U3A group to be the best

NOVEMBER NEWS

issued 1 December 2020

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Management Committee

EXECUTIVE:

President	Jenny Broughton
Vice-President	Currently vacant
Secretary	Julie McVarnock
Treasurer	Michael McDonald

ORDINARY:

Lou Stevens
Paul Miles

Officers and Volunteers

Class Coordinator	Presently vacant
Fire Warden, A. Fair	Lyn Sturm
Media Editors	Paul Miles Jenny Broughton
Office Manager	Presently vacant
Social Convenors	Margaret Karakatsanis Pat Jones

We are grateful to the Office of the Hon Rob Molhoek, MP for Southport, for the printing of this Newsletter.

How to contact us

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Web: u3agoldcoast.weebly.com

Facebook: U3A Gold Coast Inc Southport

Office Hours:

9.00am–3.30pm : Monday to Thursday
9.00am–3.00pm : Friday

Important Dates

See p 4 for all the important dates you need to put into your diary for 2021

Remember that re-enrolments for next year ARE NOT automatic!

To be in any 2021 classes you must pay 2021 fees and complete a new study programme.

President's Message

Hullo All. Well, it has been a very full month with Renewals starting and long queues...

Read more on p 2

President's Message

... because of our safety protocols. Apologies if you have had to wait to renew, but thank you for your patience. We have to do the right thing, and at times it has been difficult.

The end of Semester parties have had to be cancelled, but we are hopeful that next year will be better. Perhaps classes can meet outside to enjoy the end of the year with fellow students.

Lou Stevens and Kath Power have been extremely busy putting everything administrative in place for next year, and we thank them sincerely for all their hard work and dedication. **But I now also have a HEARTFELT PLEA for other members in 2021 to volunteer to help out in the front office and/or join our Management Committee. And I am really not exaggerating by saying that WE DO NEED more people helping to keep U3A alive.** If you could find it in your hearts to join us, it would be much appreciated. It does not involve much effort ("more hands make light work"), and can be very rewarding.

Basically we need to ensure that there is a continuity of people who are both willing to help, and also have skills that are needed to keep the U3A administration running. Front Office duties involve manning the desk for 3 hours, either from 9.00 to 12.30, or 12.30 to 3.30. (If you have special skills, we occasionally also ask people to help out with such things as typing.) Being on the Management Committee is a bit more specialised. The sorts of skills which we particularly need at present are backgrounds in bookkeeping /accounting, administration, and/or IT. So we need people who know what they are doing – and/or are willing to learn. Please visit the office and put your names forward if you could help. It would really be appreciated.

To finish, Christmas is fast approaching with the end of the second Semester. We do hope you all have a safe and happy Christmas and come back to join us again in 2021.

Very best wishes from

**Jenny Broughton
(President)**



From <https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/346003183841279083/>

A Reindeer caught laughing at Rudolf in image above



From <https://www.bbc.com/news/in-pictures-46467400>

**A certain politician allegedly calls koalas 'tree-rats'.
Hard to imagine a more Australian icon/image here!**



From <https://www.facebook.com/wwfaustralia/photos/a.10150127451123712/10158948702043712/?type=3>

The Social Pages

Christmas cards from the Needlework Class



Keyboard class enjoying music after Covid closure



In Painting Class Brian portrays his granddaughter



Opening the shutters on Camera Club activities



Sally focuses on the elephant in the room



IMPORTANT NOTICES

Important Diary Dates – for this year and next

2020

Fri 4 Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last day of U3A classes Office closes 2pm
Mon 7 Dec to Fri 10 Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office opening hours – 10 am to 2 pm

2021

SEMESTER ONE

Mon 25 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australia Fair Office reopens 10.00am – 2.00pm – Admin & Registrations only
Tues 26 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australia Day public holiday – no classes
Wed 27 Jan to Fri 29 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australia Fair Office open 10.00am – 2.00pm – Admin & Registrations only
Thu 28 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tutors' Meeting 10.00am – AF Study Room
Mon 1 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semester 1 commences – Classes start
Fri 26 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewal Registration ends – close of business
Mon 1 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New registrations only
Thu 18 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AGM 10.00am – Southport Community Centre
Fri 2 Jul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semester 1 ends (Last day of classes)

SEMESTER TWO

Mon 2 Aug	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semester 2 commences – Classes start
Fri Dec 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semester 2 ends (Last day of classes)
Mon 6 Dec to Fri 10 Dec	AF Office open for Administration & Renewal
Mon 13 Dec 2021 →	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U3A closed for Christmas Holidays

Quote of the Month

"I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach."

Ebenezer Scrooge, character from
A Christmas Carol

Charles Dickens (1812-70),
Victorian era English novelist, social critic

New Proposed Course for 2021

Facts & Figures 2021

Tutor: Doug Young

This will be a hands-on, interactive, discussion-based subject with the only pre-requisite being a basic understanding of using a mobile phone. A large-screen Powerpoint presentation will illustrate each topic, and attendees will be able to follow the proceedings on their smartphone, tablet or laptop computer. They will be encouraged to follow the sites further at home.

The lecturer for this subject will be Doug Young. Doug moved to the Gold Coast in 1982, after thirty-one years in industry as an accountant, computer programmer and eight years as Head of Department Business Studies at the Devonport College of TAFE. In those days computers were primitive and very expensive. There was no internet or social media. Today we ALL have a wealth of information at our fingertips, as simply as on our phone.

The problem is knowing where to find it. Facts & Figures answers that problem. Doug trusts that those attending will enjoy the material he has selected as much as he has enjoyed collecting it.

STOP PRESS: We have found a time slot for Doug and this class weekly on Thursdays at Australia Fair between 9.00am and 11.00am. The expression of interest form is on the noticeboard in the front office.

Mariella parades her avenue of Jacarandas



We're green with envy at Ella's mushrooming talent



A Note from Alice Fairley



To all Tutors of U3A Gold Coast Inc during my reign as Class Coordinator

On a personal note, even though I stepped down as Class Coordinator at the General Meeting on 17 September 2020, I would like to take this opportunity to say **THANK YOU** to you all – especially to those for their courage in **being there** in the uncertain time of the coronavirus during 2020. Let's hope 2021 will be a better year.

Firstly and foremost, it is important to acknowledge how your contribution towards the success of our U3A group has been made by voluntarily giving over your valuable time, for all your hard work and dedicated service to provide enjoyment to U3A members, and for supporting U3A's slogan "Learning for Pleasure". This includes the amazing displays of your classes' talents at Bi-annual showcases over the years – **all of this has been very much appreciated.**

For my part, I have enjoyed the challenge and found it rewarding to see a wide and varied range of classes take shape for members to enjoy over my seventeen years as Class Coordinator, and been privileged to have worked with such talented Tutors.

With Christmas not far away, I would also like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and all the best for the future.

With heartfelt thanks.

Alice Fairley

Member 1996 – Life Member 2012
Class Coordinator 2003-2020

27 November 2020



ART IN THE PARK

*MARGARET STREET HALL AND PARK
SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER FROM 10AM*

*Original artwork from U3A art classes,
including framed and unframed paintings,
canvases, pots, clocks, bowls greeting cards
and much more.*

Great Christmas gifts from only \$5





*U3A Southport
wishes you a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year*