



NEWSLETTER

MARCH, 2018.

U3A GOLD COAST INC.

Learning for Pleasure

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Southport Inc.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2017-18

PRESIDENT: John Donnelly
Vice-President: Lesley Goodman
Secretary: Peter Knight
Treasurer: Doug Oliver

Executive Committee:

Alice Fairley
Marvin Summers
Robyn Clark
Lyn Mayer

Class Co-Ordinator:

Alice Fairley

Office Manager:

Marvin Summers

Social Committee:

Lyn Mayer

Fire & Safety Officer:

Lyn Sturm

Griffith University Liaison Officer:

Newsletter Editor::

Beverley Veivers

The Presidents Message.

Welcome to our last Newsletter before our AGM which will be held on Wednesday 21st March ,10.00am at the Lawson Street Community Centre.

This year we will be celebrating our 30th year Anniversary of U3A Gold Coast Inc. and we are inviting every one to attend, to bring a plate to celebrate the occasion.

We are pleased to welcome Andrew Carter to our management team, Andrew who is one of our French Tutors has taken up the position of Assistant Class Co-ordinator - please extend him your full cooperation in this pivotal roll.

At the AGM the existing team will step down, and the new Committee will be elected. Some of the team will not stand again, including myself.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Committee and all the volunteers on reception for their support and commitment to U3A, without them there would be no U3A.

Not forgetting our newsletter editor and our theatre goer's coordinator. Thank you all.

Just a reminder, the Commonwealth Games, which will begin on 4th April and end on the 15th. We are advised that there will be heavy traffic from the 26th March. **All U3A class's will be closed from THURSDAY 29th MARCH and reopen on MONDAY 16th APRIL**

Also keep in mind that Easter Friday will be on the 30th.March

Regards, John Donnelly. (President)

U3A Gold Coast Inc.

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

to be held at 10.00am on WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH 2018 in the COMMUNITY CENTRE MEETING ROOMS PA1 and PA2

Information regarding the election of the Executive and Ordinary Members of the Management Committee conducted at the 2018 AGM as headlined above will be as follows:

1. All present Executive and Ordinary Committee Members must stand down at the AGM.
2. Nominations for all Committee Member positions will then be put to the AGM for the Members to vote on.
3. Any two Members of the Association shall be at liberty to nominate any other Member to serve on the Management Committee in an Executive or Ordinary position.
4. Such nominations must be on the prescribed Form and these are available from the U3A Gold Coast Inc. Office, first floor, Australia Fair, Southport, or can be downloaded from the U3A website atu3agoldcoastinc@weebly.com or can be downloaded from the attachment to this email.
5. The Forms require the name (printed) of the person nominated and their signature as well as the names (printed) and signature of the persons nominating and seconding.
6. The complete Nomination Forms must be lodged with the Association's Secretary at the U3A Gold Coast Inc. Office in Australia Fair no later than 3.00pm on 8th March 2018.

30th ANNIVERSARY of U3A Gold Coast Inc.

U3A Gold Coast Inc. celebrates 30 years on 22 March 2018 and we will be celebrating it with a cake following the AGM on Wednesday 21 March. You are welcome to bring a small plate and join us.

Kind regards

Peter Knight (Secretary)

**AGM NOMINATION FOR ELECTION OF
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS
U3A GOLD COAST INCORPORATED
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TO BE HELD ON 21st MARCH 2018**

Position of:.....(please print)

Name of person Nominated:.....(please print)

Proposed (Nominated) by:.....(please print)

Seconded by:.....(please print)

Being a financial member of the University of the Third Age Gold Coast Incorporated, I hereby sign as:

PROPOSER (Signature)

SECONDER (Signature)

I hereby accept the above nomination

NOMINEE (Signature)

POSITIONS VACANT:

**PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, and
SIX COMMITTEE MEMEBERS**

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“Treasurer’s Money Box”

I readily admit it; I made a mistake in last month’s Money Box. And I learned a lesson: don’t take what you are told at face value, always check your facts before putting your foot in your mouth.

We **OWN THE MARGARET STREET HALL!** After boldly (or foolishly) stating last month that we do not own the Margaret Street Hall, several members with long memories suggested (kindly) that I should have checked my facts first. So I did some research. I can now report that I found a copy of the original 1998 Deed of Agreement for the sale of Margaret Street hall from the Scout Association of Queensland to U3A Gold Coast Inc. I also found the letters from our solicitor (of that time) concerning the \$15,000 cheque that we raised to pay for the building.

I also found the lease agreement by which we lease from Gold Coast City Council the land on which the Margaret Street Hall sits. I noted that the lease places the restrictions on us that I mentioned at the 24th January Tutors’ Meeting. So I hope that the matter is now beyond dispute! My first action was to apologise to Joan Haydon and set the record straight. Time to move on.

At this time of year, unsurprisingly, our finances are in excellent shape because we’ve receive most of our yearly income from the renewals and new members during the period November 2017 to February 2018. It is now time to draw up a budget so that we spend that money, generously entrusted to the Committee by the members, wisely. The Committee is working on a budget to present at the AGM on 21st March.

By the time you read this newsletter, the auditors will have finished the annual audit review and provided the audit report for the Committee to respond to and submit to the AGM.

The Committee has finished the stocktake of our assets. We have also done a condition survey and, at time of writing, are seeking a suitable person to do an inspection and report on repairs to the Margaret Street Hall. We are also working on the cost of replacing unsafe and unrepairable furniture and equipment, as well as repairing those items that can be repaired. This information will be fed into the budget for the AGM.

We are also reviewing the term deposit in time for the AGM. This was established many years ago from member contributions to what was originally a Building Fund. After our purchase of the Margaret Street Hall, funded by grant, the Building Fund was changed to a Maintenance Fund. We shall look at drawing on this fund for the repairs needed at Margaret Street. The AGM will be asked to consider the committee’s report on the term deposit review.

I have made progress with the By-law 5.5 Class Activity report mentioned in my February Money Box. Lyn Mayer is now on board for the Social Group activities and I am working with Patti Pickup for the Theatre Group activities. I shall work my way around the other classes in coming months to implement these standard procedures for accounting for class activities and raffles. By the way, I’ve basically borrowed Patti’s tried and proven procedures to design the standard procedures and paperwork for the rest of the U3A. Thank you, Patti.

Joan Haydon and Bronwyn Keddie have now stepped away from their previous roles as Treasurer and Book Keeper. Thank you to Joan and Bronwyn for their dedication to these tasks.. My thanks also to Andrew Carter, who has now come onto the Committee as Alice Fairley’s Class Coordinator assistant, and has also generously stepped in as the replacement signer of cheques and approver of online payments - at least until the next Committee is elected at the AGM.

At the 12th February meeting, the Committee approved a set of criteria for refund of membership fees for members that have resigned. This enables the Executive Committee (President, Secretary and Treasurer) to approve and pay the refund without waiting for the next Committee meeting if the resignation is for the following reasons:

1. When a member is unable to take up membership prior to the commencement of the first semester because of an unexpected relocation of residence beyond reasonable travelling distance from Southport.

5.

2. When a member is unable to take up membership because no places are available in their preferred classes three weeks after the commencement of semester 1, without the member being forced onto the waiting list.
3. When a member unintentionally pays membership fee renewal and/or new member joining fee and annual fee more than once for any membership year or half-year
4. When a member is unable to take up membership because of illness

Remember the U3A motto: Learning with Pleasure.

Doug Oliver
Treasurer

This Month in History

1st March 1975 Colour television is broadcast in Australia for the first time

3rd March 1942 Japanese forces carry-out air raids on Broome during World War II

4th March 1804 The Second Battle of Vinegar Hill rebellion of Irish convicts at Castle Hill, west of Sydney. The First Battle of Vinegar Hill was also an Irish rebellion at Wexford in Ireland in 1798.

10th March 1959 Australia's population reaches 10 million

12th March 1868 Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, was picnicking at the Sydney suburb of Clontarf, when Irish Fenian Henry James O'Farrell fired a revolver into the Duke's back, in Australia's first attempt of political assassination. The original Battle of Clontarf took place in Ireland on 23rd April 1014, when Brian Boru defeated the Vikings.

15th March 1877 First cricket test match between Australia and England at the MCG. Australia won.

17th March 465 St Patrick's Day: 1,563rd anniversary of the death of St Patrick, patron Saint of Ireland

22nd March 1988 30th anniversary of the founding of U3A Gold Coast Inc.

26th March 1909 Chips Rafferty is born at Broken Hill

29th March 1901 First Federal election in Australia

Doug Oliver

World History Tutor

Irish smiles:

Paddy says "Mick, I'm thinking of buying a Labrador.

"Blow that" says Mick, have you seen how many of their owners go blind?"

“Position Vacant – Assistant Treasurer”

We are looking for an Assistant to the Treasurer U3A Gold Coast Inc. We have long had an Assistant Treasurer but, with the departure of Joan Haydon and Bronwyn Keddie, the position is now vacant.

Basically, the Assistant shares the workload with the Treasurer.

What would you do?

- Cash Book entries, banking, petty cash, bill payments, budgeting, financial reports, EFTPOS terminal
- Class activities accounting and raffles accounting
- Asset repair and replacement, minor equipment purchases, cleaning, pest control, fire safety, insurances, stocktakes, condition surveys, asset register
- Administer our leases for Margaret Street Hall, Australia Fair, MFD and EFTPOS terminal
- Support the auditor
- Treasurer’s newsletter articles
- Compliance with legislation and our Constitution
- Attend Committee meetings and do Committee duty
- Stand-in for the Treasurer during the Treasurer’s absence

Qualifications and Experience

Must be a U3A Gold Coast Inc member, keen, willing to learn and committed to serving our members. It would be nice if you had bookkeeping or accounting experience but it is not essential. The treasurer will train you.

Hours:

At least one day a week; two days a week during the busy period November to February. Extra days for training during first month or so.

Place of Work

Committee Room at our Australia Fair offices.

Remuneration

The joy of serving the members, the friendly atmosphere of the committee room, and the occasional thank you from members who appreciate what you are doing for them.

Applications

Please call Doug Oliver, Treasurer, on mobile 0416 982 806

Class Coordinator's Report

Hello everyone

2018 has got off to a strong start with **over fifty classes** on offer. Alice has once again done a magnificent job in organizing the rooms, the scheduling and all the other varied tasks required to make this happen. This year I've joined the team as Assistant Class Coordinator : my name is Andrew Carter, I've been a French tutor for the last two years and now I'm delighted to have the opportunity to work with Alice to help ensure the smooth running of our programmes.

Alice and I have been visiting all classes over the last couple of weeks, to see how things are going and to get student and tutor feedback. If you have any ideas, suggestions or problems, do not hesitate to contact us! (**Thank you to all tutors** for your ongoing enthusiasm and hard work.)

One thing we already know – we need new tutors! We are actively looking for a Computer Tutor (Smartphones and Tablets), a Yoga Instructor and a tutor to lead the Armchair Travel group. Maybe you're interested? Maybe you know someone else who might be? If so, please contact either Alice or me, we'd love to hear from you!

Two date changes to note :

1. **30th anniversary Showcase** : due to reasons beyond our control, the date has been changed to Wednesday 16 May. (No classes will be held on this day.) More about this next month ...
2. **The Annual General Meeting** : due once again to reasons beyond our control, the date for this event has been changed to Wednesday 21 March. No classes will be held on this day.

A reminder also that due to the **Commonwealth Games** there will be no classes between (Good) Friday 30 March and Friday 13 April inclusive. The office will also be closed over this period.

Some class notes :

1. There will be no **Fitness for Over 50s** class on 27 March – nor on 19 & 26 June.
3. Due to the large numbers in the **Yoga** classes, we are looking to create a possible third group.
4. Some class times have been changed at **Margaret Street** on Wednesdays. Revised times are as follows :
 1. 9am – 11am Table Tennis (Upstairs);
 2. 11:30am – 1:30pm Ukulele Beginners (Upstairs);
 3. 2pm – 4pm Ukulele Advanced (Upstairs);
 4. 2pm – 4pm Guitar (Downstairs)

Finally, a reminder that classes and tutors are encouraged to share their photos and news on our **Facebook** page. If you need any help with this, Office Manager Marvin Summers is the lady to contact.

Happy learning

Alice Fairley
Andrew Carter
(Class Co-Ordinators)

BLEACH FESTIVAL

This showcases local artists with a series of events under the banner of BLEACH*ATFESTIVAL 2018. It will be a spectacular series of events showing what & who makes the Gold Coast such a special part of the world.

A few programmes are in the U3A office for your perusal....or...bleachfestival.com.au

Patti Pickup



WE NEED YOU

URGENTLY needed are VOLUNTEERS to help out with Reception Duties in the Australia Fair office.

The hours are either from 9am to 12.30pm covering the morning shift, or 12.30pm to 3.30pm covering the afternoon shift, and it is completely up to you as to which shift and day you prefer to help out with these duties.

Our receptionists are U3A's front line contact with the community which is a most important role. Full training is given because you have to be aware of the overall aspects of how U3A functions.

It would be helpful if you have some typing and computer knowledge as well although it is not a priority for the reception desk.

Marvin Summers, Acting Office Manager

E: u3agoldcoastinc@bigpond.com

P: 55916671

SOCIAL NEWS

Hi everyone

7 people, including myself, went on a Terry's Bus Tour last Friday 23rd February, to the Scenic Rim of Northern NSW. It was a totally wet day but it could not dampen our spirits. We had our morning tea at the Beaudesert Library which has a covered area and was very comfortable. We had lunch at the Kyogle Bowls Club for a lovely two course meal and tea/coffee. The views were lovely as it is a very picturesque area. Although we just couldn't see the mountains in the background, it was still a most enjoyable day.

Thank you to the ladies for supporting these bus trips

I was hoping to organise a morning boat cruise in March. However due to the Commonwealth Games traffic disruptions, I have decided to leave this for another time.

Our **GET TOGETHER LUNCH** will be held on Saturday 24th March at **SUNSET WATERFRONT CAFÉ**, Marina Mirage, 11.30 am for 12 noon. Hope you may be able to come.

Lyn Mayer

WALKING FOR PLEASURE

NEXT WALK: Saturday 10th March, 2018.

TO: Coolangatta & Tweed Heads. Lunch at Tweed Heads Bowling Club.

MEET: at 9 a.m. Opposite Scarborough St entrance of Australia Fair.

Diane Newbould.

Longtime journalist and occasional broadcaster, Douglas Kennedy, is taking on a new role conducting a Monday morning (11.15am-1-15pm) arts and current affairs forum with U3A Gold Coast.

Kennedy, who spent nearly a quarter of a century looking after arts and entertainment for the Gold Coast Bulletin and five years on Brisbane's ABC as a theatre reviewer, has split his two hour session into two distinct sections.

The first half looks at various aspects of the arts, including the background to arts activities on the Coast, as well as insights into his own knowledge of theatre history.

This section will be peppered with stories and quotes from his experience coupled with his extensive knowledge of the medium.

In the first couple of weeks the group has explored a host of theatrical hideaways sprinkled with anecdotes and references worthy of an Aladdin's cave.

So far we've examined censorship in the Queensland, looked at some aspects of the history of radio drama and used entertaining accounts of some of theatre's most colourful stars from the past and present.

There will also be room for reviews and views from the floor as we make our through a labyrinth of material crossing, local, regional, national and international boundaries.

In the next few weeks Kennedy is planning to look at Music Hall (coming to the Gold Coast Little Theatre), Irish Music (St Patrick's Day is almost upon us) and entertainment from the world wars (Anzac Day is not far behind).

The second part of the program takes its lead from the daily headlines as the group examines issues at home and abroad capturing national attention.

The class members are encouraged to take an active role in both the program, and its content, with many of the story ideas originating from the floor.

In the first couple of weeks the group has looked at, and discussed extensively, the political state of the nation, gun controls and home safety (with the emphasis on seniors), among other topics.

There's also room for lighter topics such as the opportunity for concessions on the Coast as well as the best way to tap into the myriad of activities on offer for all ages.

While the subject matter is not exclusively aimed at seniors we do take a special interest in the issues which touch on the lives of our ageing population.

The statistics suggest that the Coast is becoming a haven for Baby Boomers who are flocking to our area at the rate of 4000 a year.

This has been acknowledged by the Gold Coast City Council, which plans to make senior goals an important part of the post Commonwealth Games budget.

But it is also worth remembering that the bean counters, number jugglers and demographic analysts now call 70 years the new 50.

Turning 55 is simply the start of a new beginning into which our class plans to breathe life.

The result – is hopefully - an active and lively morning designed to whet the appetite for the arts and current affairs.