FROM THE PRESIDENT
June was a fairly uneventful month overall, with one significant exception. On Monday, 24th Gympie Regional Council held a consultation session to inform the planning of Council’s Ageing Strategy. The Ageing Strategy is a priority in Council’s Corporate Plan and is due to be completed by 2022.

We worked in groups, examining three topics related to older people:
What is good about living in this area?
What is challenging about living in this area?
What are your hopes for the future of this region?

Collectively we identified strengths which include the friendliness of Gympie; the number and variety of volunteers & clubs; the parks and historical facilities; the community facilities such as the library, ARC & the bus service; our location and access to Sunshine Coast & Brisbane; the ambulance, health, fire and emergency services; shopping and free parking.

Challenges identified included the hills; accessibility of parking; transport within Gympie, to Gympie from outlying communities and to the Coast; accessing medical facilities and services; maintenance of roads and footpaths; facilities specifically for Seniors, Seniors Groups and groups servicing Seniors; provision of more doctors, especially specialists; communication of information specific to Seniors.

Our hopes for the future started with cheaper rates; we hope for growth in the community and in employment; a revitalisation of Mary Street and the local tourist facilities; an increase in the medical and hospital services & facilities; significantly improved parking; wider range of aged care services and places, including non-care residential; a one-stop Seniors Information service; and did I mention lower rates?

The meeting was scheduled to run for an hour but actually went over an hour and a half. I expect there will be further opportunities to have input on this important part of the Council’s Corporate Plan, so if there is something you think we missed, let a committee member know, or contact the council directly.

ALL CLASSES RESUME MONDAY 15TH JULY
Classes are $20.00 per unit. Weekly classes have 1 Unit per Term (4 per year), fortnightly classes have 1 Unit per Semester (2 per year) and monthly classes have 1 Unit per year.

Payments can be made in class in the first or second lesson of each unit, or directly into our account with the

**Bendigo Bank, BSB: 633000**
**Account Name: U3A Gympie Inc**
**Account Number: 156 399 636.**

Please put your initial and surname in the “description” space on the deposit slip.
Beginner's Mahjong
The group is going very well with several players now beyond “beginners”, moving to Intermediate. Two new players joined just before the end of second term; a warm welcome to Joyce & Margaret.
In Term 3, once everyone is up to speed, we hope to have a small Tournament between players.
It's such fun and we're all learning, even me. Come join us at the Gympie RSL, every Wednesday, from 1.00 to 3.00pm. We often meet earlier for lunch from 12 noon, in the Restaurant or Coffee lounge.

GARDEN GROUP
The Garden Group will meet at 9.30 am this Friday 5/7 at 5 Iron St Gympie. Please bring cuttings and plants to swap.

Unfortunately, the Australian Bonsai Demonstration has been cancelled but will be reset later.
New members are welcome.
Karen 0477045067

WINTER TREES ON MARY
Come along on 17th July
Enjoy the street party
Support your Retro Jukebox Singers
Check our the splendour of the decorated trees

DATES TO REMEMBER
4th July - Reports & Agenda items due to Susan
9th July - Committee Meeting
12th July - Gympie Living items to Lynlie
15th July - Classes resume
16th July - Tuesday Lunch (Gympie RSL)
17th July - Winter Trees on Mary
23rd July - Tuesday Lunch (Gympie RSL)
30th July - Tuesday Lunch (Gympie RSL)
31st July - Coffee with Friends (Decks on Mary)

Get ready for the Duck Pond Dash!
This year the Dash will be on Sunday, 18th August.
It is a major part of local Seniors Week Activities, so mark it on the calendar in **big** letters.
See you there!