President’s Report to Members, December 2019

Thank you for electing me your President for 2020. Life certainly hasn’t been boring since I took on the role, and I’ve heard some thought-provoking ideas on how to make U3A an even more useful part of our wider community here in Gympie, both from inside and outside our organisation. Although the law of averages suggest that we may not achieve all of these goals, so far we have quite a list for our U3A committee to work through in 2020 including:

- Investigate grants and opportunities available to give U3A Gympie a permanent home, which would be used for classes as well as storage.
- Investigate opportunities to form Community Partnerships, which will give U3A members a bigger and more visible role in our community as well as increase our likelihood of being awarded grants. Some of these partnerships could involve working with younger people which would be challenging as well as exciting, but more about that later in 2020 when everyone gets back from their Christmas break...
- Actively look for tutors for new subjects such as Pilates, yoga, tai chi, meditation/relaxation, AUSLAN, Spanish, speciality cooking.
- Introduce monthly talks by guest speakers on subjects like basic first aid and CPR, positive ageing, local history, health tips, workshops for simple DIY around the home (i.e. changing a washer or a light globe).
- Lessen ongoing expenditure by sourcing free venues for classes (e.g. Council, shopping centres, other community organisations and clubs, residential assisted living facilities). An added advantage to using public venues is that U3A is seen out and about in the community, which means free publicity if we provide suitable identification for every U3A public appearance.
- Review U3A publicity to lessen costs and improve reach as well as our public image.
- Conduct internal reviews on expenditure items to lessen costs and maximise our efficiency.

(Continues page 2)
Money Matters

Although U3A Gympie is run entirely by volunteers, there are still many expenses to be covered by the annual membership, class and activities fees. A membership enables member’s to enrol in classes and/or take part in other activities. The fees are used to pay for:

- Public liability insurance for all our classes and activities
- Copyright and performing rights fees
- Venue hire
- Maintaining and replacing equipment
- Internet, including access, Website & Facebook
- Advertising
- Printing and stationery
- Supplies for classes & activities

Class fees for term 1 can be paid at our Open Day, at the first lesson of the term or prepaid by deposit to our account with the Bendigo Bank, or as a direct debit transfer from your bank account.

Our bank details are:
Name of Account: U3A Gympie Inc
BSB: 633 000
Account Number: 156 399 636

Members are requested to either enter their membership number and surname (845 INMAN) or their surname, initial and the first three letter of one of the class or activity they are attending (INMAN, M RET). Receipts will be issued and distributed for the fees paid.

Please contact the Treasurer (0417 433 034 or treasurer@u3agympie.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

President’s Report (continued)

- Review our social events and venues to:
  - Identify which venues are best liked by our members,
  - Investigate the possibility of “specials” on lunch menus for our group seeing that we are a large group,
  - Explore offering events like social strollers (river walk), monthly movie mornings, bus trips to wineries or shopping hubs, Rattler trips.

- Take an active role in the Gympie community by participating as a group in events like:
  - Connecting the Community
  - Gympie Show
  - Winter Trees on Mary
  - Seniors Week
  - Gold Rush Parade
  - Mary Street Christmas.

  These events will also give U3A members the opportunity to work together on craft projects over a long period leading up to the event, which will be fun as well as productive. Each one of these events will be directed by an Events Manager, who will be responsible for the smooth running of the event so there will be clear lines of communication. Your committee has already begun this initiative with Fran Gregory taking on the responsibility of Events Manager for our U3A Open Day on 14 January.

- Subsidise ongoing running costs by applying for RADF grants to help fund individual classes (e.g. Drawing, Creative Writing), as well as U3A craft participation as a group in long-term projects such as Mary Street activities and the Gold Rush parade.

If you’ve got any ideas to add to this list or you’d like to give me feedback on your experience or your support for any of these ideas, you can reach me on suebagustu3a@westnet.com.au. I’d love to hear from you, and email is best because then I’ve got your ideas in writing which makes it easier for me to remember and to get back to you easily.

2020 looks to be an exciting and productive time for U3A Gympie, and I anticipate a fun year ahead for all of us.

Looking forward to hearing from you,
Sue Bagust
Fran has organised functions, coordinated events and created publicity material. This led to her working as a journalist for the Gympie Life newspaper and as a sales rep for The Weekly Observer newspaper. Her involvement with so many community groups means if you don’t already know Fran, chances are you know somebody who does.

Fran is Team Leader for our 2020 Open Day. Do come up and introduce yourself to Fran, because Fran loves meeting people.

Meet the Secretary – Francoise Gregory

If you haven’t already met Fran in her role as U3A’s French tutor, perhaps you will have met her in one of her many other community roles.

Since arriving here in 2005, Fran has volunteered at:
- Mary Valley Rattler
- Little Haven Palliative Care
- Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast 2018
- Gympie Show
- Gympie Regional Art Gallery
- Gold Rush Festival
- Gympie Gold Mining Museum.

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New Logo

As mentioned in my final President’s Report last year, U3A Network Queensland is currently negotiating to trademark U3A. For us, it means a re-design of our logo and overall image.

We made a first step in this last year, with the introduction of a uniform look, to be worn when promoting U3A. It consists of the wearers own plain white shirt, topped with a royal blue scarf.

And now we have a new logo. I hope you like it.

IT Classes

I ended up stepping back into my role as tutor for these classes at the end of 2019. I was glad to see a few of the old gang still learning new things and to meet some new members keen to get started. Of course, we ended the year with a special morning tea at Gunabul Homestead.

In 2020 classes will continue to be held on Wednesdays, but with a new tutor, Michael Crowe.

He is very knowledgeable and will hopefully find many new learners keen to start their journey into this digital age and be able to keep our enthusiastic returning learners on their toes with new information and tips.

We are hoping Telstra Angel, Kerri-Anne, will be back with us this year. She is a fountain of knowledge and very patient too.

Anne Manson
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>CLASS / ACTIVITY</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>FREQUENCY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>French - Beginners</td>
<td>9.00 – 10.00am</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Gympie Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>Aqua-jules</td>
<td>7.45 – 8.45am</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Gympie ARC</td>
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<td>Drawing</td>
<td>9.00 – 10.30am</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Gympie Community Place</td>
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<td>German</td>
<td>9.00 – 10.30am</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Gympie Art Gallery</td>
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<td>Creative Writing</td>
<td>10.30am – 12.30pm</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Tuesday of month</td>
<td>Gympie Community Place</td>
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<td>11.00am – 12.30pm</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>AICM</td>
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<td>Singing for Pleasure</td>
<td>2.00 – 3.30pm</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Tuesday of month</td>
<td>House Class</td>
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<td>French - Advanced</td>
<td>9.00 – 10.00am</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<td>Smartphones &amp; Tablets</td>
<td>9.00 – 10.00am</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>USC Gympie Campus</td>
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<td>Laptops</td>
<td>10.30 – 11.30am</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>USC Gympie Campus</td>
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<td>Book Worms BC</td>
<td>9.00 – 11.00am</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday of month</td>
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<td>Mahjong</td>
<td>1.00 – 3.00pm</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Gympie Library</td>
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<td>Book Marks BC</td>
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<td>My Kind of Poetry</td>
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<td>Line Dancing</td>
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<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>Garden Group</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
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<td>Varies – phone to check</td>
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<td>Memoir Writing</td>
<td>12.30 – 2.30pm</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<td>TUESDAY LUNCH</td>
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<td>12.40pm every Tuesday</td>
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<td>Phoenix Hotel</td>
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**CLASS & ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE 2020 – Term 1**

**For more information on any class or activity:**
- u3agympie.com
- 0490 757 458