Best Open Day Ever!

Well, what a start to 2020! It was a wow of an event at Gympie Bowls Club.
Co-ordinator Fran Gregory had everything and everyone well organised by the time the doors opened at 9.00am. Members flowed in and enjoyed the atmosphere generated by the Committee, Tutors, Facilitators and by Members themselves.
Everyone had a great time checking out classes, examining memorabilia, watching the slide show and chatting with friends over a cuppa. Founding member Carol Nugent said it was “the best one we’ve ever had.”
Treasurer Mary Inman and Helping Hand Michelle Smith renewed over 100 memberships, with estimates of new enrolment adding half of that again. All of that before the first class starts.
There was a great write up in the Gympie Times, thanks to Sue Bagust and

Money Matters
As Treasurer, I am happy to report that membership numbers at the end of the first week of classes is a total of 146 memberships. There are 40 new members and 106 renewals. Additionally, the total number of members now attending classes is 185 attendees and that only covers seven out of eighteen scheduled classes.
You can pay your membership and class fees in any of three ways - in class at the first lesson of the term or by deposit to our account or by direct debit transfer from your account.

Linda Johnson & Jan Cotter

Bendigo Bank
BSB: 633 000
Account: U3A Gympie Inc
Number 156 399 636
President’s Report to Members

January 2020

January certainly proved to be a month to remember. Our first activity for the year was our Open Day, on Tuesday 14th. It was described by many as the best Open Day ever. Congratulations to everyone involved in making that happen, and heartfelt thanks.

Unfortunately, just a few hours later the same day, Sue Bagust tendered her resignation as President. By the end of the following day, we had just five people left on the Committee.

After checking both our constitution and By-laws, a flurry of activity left us with a plan of action to remedy this situation. A Special General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th to elect a new Committee.

With so many resignations, it was decided all positions would be declared vacant. I urge all members to consider nominating for one of the ten positions available. There are details on our website (u3agympie.com) and available from your Tutor. This inconvenience notwithstanding, the year is off to a great start.

Enrollment is up, with several classes filled to capacity. New classes are starting and some continuing classes are being revitalised. We are also on the lookout for new venues and, as always, ideas for new classes. Give Denice a call on 0490 757 458 if you think you could Tutor or Facilitate a group.

By this time next month, there should be a new President writing this Report. I wish that person all the luck and goodwill in the world. I am sure you, the members, will give them your welcome and support, whomever it may be.

2020 promises to be a great year!

Class News

Advanced French will now be held each week on Mondays, from 10.45 at Gympie Library. (Except 3rd February, when it will be at Emilia’s.)

The Garden Group will hold its first meeting of the year at Bunnings Coffee Shop. The venue changes each week, so always phone to check.

Lawn Bowls can now offer classes under shade-cloth. If you would like to join this group, please give Denice a call.

A new Cooking Class is starting at 9.30am on Friday 7th, and weekly thereafter. It will be held at Avenues. (1.30 - 3.30 on 14th February.) A great class to join for new ideas and inspiration for healthy cooking with wholesome ingredients.

Drawing

This class helps students develop the ability to draw what they see in a realistic style. We start with guided practice in the five perceptual skills needed for realistic drawing. Skills for drawing people are the focus of term two, with a wider range of materials and techniques explored later in the year.

It offers instruction for beginners and challenges for the more experienced students. A wide range of subjects are drawn, including the lion displayed by the students in last year’s class, pictured above.

Social News

Board Games meet every Wednesday in the Food Court at Central, from 9 to 11am. Come and chat, join in the games or just watch us all having fun as we get those “little grey cells working”.

Mah Jong has moved to Gympie Library in Mellor Street due to renovations at the RSL. Perhaps you’ve always wanted to learn the intricacies of the Game of Four Winds? Mah Jong for beginners or experienced players from 1 to 3pm.
An open letter to all members

Dear Members

On Tuesday 14\textsuperscript{th} January, we held our best Open Day ever. Congratulations to everyone involved, and many thanks for your efforts.

Unfortunately, it was followed by a number of resignations from the Management Committee. Those resigning cited a variety of reasons for their decision.

As a result of these resignations, it is necessary to hold elections to the Committee once more.

All positions will be declared vacant and all members are eligible to nominate for any position. I encourage all members to give serious consideration to nominating for one of the positions.

There will be a Special General Meeting, to discuss the future of U3A and to conduct elections. Further information will be provided at this meeting and members will have the opportunity to ask questions of the Management Committee.

Elections will follow immediately after this discussion.

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\textbf{Special General Meeting} \\
Commencing at 9.00am \\
Wednesday 12\textsuperscript{th} February 2020 \\
at \\
Gympie Bowls Club \\
16 Bowlers Drive, Southside \\
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The purpose of this meeting is \\
1. To discuss the future of U3A Gympie and \\
2. To elect members to the Management Committee. \\
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All members are invited to attend \\
All members are encouraged to nominate for a position \\
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\textbf{Management Committee Positions:} \\
All members are encouraged to nominate \\
\hline
President \\
Vice President \\
Treasurer \\
Secretary \\
Class Coordinator \\
Publicity Officer \\
Newsletter Editor \\
General Committee Member \\
General Committee Member \\
General Committee Member \\
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(The President assigns roles to the three ordinary Committee members and may change their titles and responsibilities according to need. Other position descriptions are attached.)
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