

## DRAWN TOGETHER



## Drawn Together Celebrating Seniors Week 2020

**When:** Saturday 15 August at 10:30am

**Where:** Streamed on [qpac.com.au](http://qpac.com.au) via YouTube

**Runtime:** Approximately 40 min

QPAC's **Drawn Together** invites people all over Queensland to share morning tea with friends and family, young and old, celebrating the powerful relationships that exist across generations. From the comfort of your own home, join our morning tea as our guests discuss the big, complicated and fun issues of our times.

Hosted by QPAC Scholar in Residence **Professor Judith McLean**, this free online event marks the commencement of **Queensland Seniors Week 2020** and includes performances from some of Queensland's most outstanding artists – western classical and traditional Asian fusion ensemble **JADE New World Collective**, **Babushka Cabaret**, the **Brat Pack Tappers**, Cairns indie-folk artist **Greta Stanley** and Townsville musical theatre performer **Sarah Murr**.

Gather for morning tea at home as our own morning tea guests – **Dame Quentin Bryce**, **Aunty Colleen Wall**, Creative Director of Briefs Factory **Fez Fa'anana** and internationally renowned didgeridoo performer and pianist **David Williams** – discuss ideas of happiness, heritage, the value of the arts in a community and for individuals, and those things that can make all of us a little bit wicked. Special messages will be delivered by QPAC Chief Executive **John Kotzas**, COTA Queensland Chief Executive **Mark Tucker-Evans**, Minister for Communities, Disability Services and Seniors **Coralee O'Rourke** and Minister for the Arts **Leeanne Enoch** throughout the event.

[RSVP ON FACEBOOK](#)

### Your event checklist!

#### Pre event:

- **IMPORTANT:** **Drawn Together** will be streamed on the [qpac.com.au](http://qpac.com.au) website via YouTube from 10:30am on Saturday, 15 August 2020. Ensure that you have tested your ability to stream YouTube from your Smart TV or device prior to the concert date to avoid any last-minute technical hiccups!
- Invite friends and family, young and old, to your own **Drawn Together** morning tea on Saturday, 15 August 2020

#### Event day:

- Gather friends and family at your place by approximately 10am on Saturday, 15 August (for a 10:30am start). Boil the kettle, unpack the treats... and get ready for the show!
- Visit our website at [qpac.com.au](http://qpac.com.au) and click on any **Drawn Together** tile on our website homepage. You'll be directed to the **Drawn Together** event page where you can click on the YouTube link and start watching the show from 10:30am

## Dates to Remember

4th August - Tuesday Lunch  
10<sup>th</sup> August - Committee Meeting  
11<sup>th</sup> August - Tuesday Lunch  
15<sup>th</sup> August - Drawn Together  
18<sup>th</sup> August - Tuesday Lunch  
25<sup>th</sup> August - Tuesday Lunch  
28<sup>th</sup> August - Newsletter Items due  
31<sup>st</sup> August - Coffee with Friends

Bendigo Bank  
BSB: 633 000  
Account: U3A Gympie Inc  
Number 156 399 636

# From the President

## August 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to the August newsletter. What a month July has been! With classes resuming I guess we have all been a bit busy getting back to the new normal.

I had my grandson from NSW stay with me for 2 weeks. No problems getting into NSW but coming home, was in the queue for over an hour! That was when I picked him up, but when I took him home, the queue moved along nicely. I'm not doing that trip again for a while, let me assure you.

Of course, on the Bruce Highway, my car decided to burst the turbo pipe. Luckily I found a mechanic who fixed it for me, but my car is now at the mechanics waiting for the dr to do a transplant on it. Hopefully I get it back by the end of the week.

As I sit here and write this, I can see gentle rain falling outside. I hope those who really need it are watching the same thing. I wish I could hear the rain falling. Hopefully when I get my hearing fixed it will once again be one of life's little pleasures.

I have finished my poncho, and really enjoy wearing it. I don't have a photo, but I love it!

Next on the list is a 'corner to corner' blanket. First time doing one of these, so I am curious to know how it will go. I will keep you all informed.

That's about it from me, keep safe and well everyone

Evie



**Happy  
Birthday!**

Happy birthday to  
everyone  
celebrating their  
birthday this month.

Lyn Hills  
Helen Slater  
Wendy Reeve  
Faye Dobson  
Elen Hurst

# From the Vice President

On 15th July 2020 the Volunteers Management Meeting was attended, via Zoom, by five managers (some managers represent several organisations) and one guest speaker. Here's a report of the meeting.

Wendy Flikweert – U3A Vice President – Excited to advise that most classes have started up again. Volunteer Tutors on any subjects would be welcome and can contact Denice the Class Coordinator. U3A is also looking for more venues to use for classes, meetings and to call home.

Judith Cumner – Jessie Witham Centre – Centercare – are in need of more volunteer drivers to take people to medical appointments. (If you are interested contact Carely O'Donnell on 0408 992 822, the Coordinator for the Gympie Regional Volunteers through the Cooloola Human Services Network.)

Rebecca Edmonds – Gympie Regional Council – more grants are coming and groups are welcome to phone Rebecca and talk about their applications.

Brenda White – is the convenor for Trauma Teddies – wool donations are needed so knitters can knit these teddies. If you would like to be a knitter you would also be welcome. Contact Brenda through Carley O'Donnell on 0408 992 822.

Terry Steele – Chairs the Tin Can Bay Disaster Management. Covid-19 has put a halt to all meetings but are preparing to start up again.

Carley O'Donnell – Monday 31st August 2020, at Regional Training Centre, 37 Nash Street, for Governance Training. This course will start 10am and finish approx. 1.15pm. Cost to be advised. The Regional Training Centre have free monthly webinars for people to view on a range of subjects.

Guest Speaker – Mary-Jane (MJ) Diacopanagiotis, Business Development Officer for Care of Queensland. MJ is based in Brisbane and joined our zoom meeting. The new program she wanted to tell us about is the "Your Caring Way". This program focuses upon carers wanting to pursue their own goals, like a totally new career.

Their Vocational Coaches will provide ongoing and individualized support to ensure you are connected, empowered, and on your way to success. The Your Caring Way program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

Carley thanked MJ for joining us and telling us about Your Caring Way. Carley asked if MJ had any flyers on the program, Wendy also said that U3A had several carers who attend classes and may be interested so would also like some flyers. MJ got addresses from Carley and Wendy to send out the flyers.

With no further business to discuss Carley declared the July Zoom meeting closed.

Regards,  
Wendy

## Meet the Secretary Claire Truscott

After retiring from full time work at the end of last year, I was looking forward to having the time and ability to learn about, explore and do all the things I had always been too busy to get to. I joined U3A and particularly enjoyed the variety of topics covered in the classes, the friendships I have formed not to mention the social get togethers.

Then Covid-19 happened and lock-down proved challenging given how busy and active I have always been. There were only so many cupboards to tidy and house cleaning that I wanted to do. Wanting to give back, I took on the role of Secretary and I look forward to contributing to the U3A community.

During this time I also accepted a part time role at Gympie Chiropractic. Talk about being busy again.

My goals for the next 12 months include travelling with my husband Barry, making some time for long walks on the beach, special time with my grandchildren and having some quiet time with a cuppa and a good book.



---

## Class News

It's great to have classes back in action and to see them so well attended. I hope everyone has happily settled in to the new venues. If a problem arises, please contact me.

While Aquacise classes are still on hold, members are enjoying getting active again with Tai Chi and Line Dancing. There are a couple of places still available in both these groups.

Publicity Officer Lynlie will be visiting our budding artists in the new painting class. Expect to read about them in September

I apologize for any inconvenience to the IT classes over the first couple of days. It was unfortunately beyond my control. On a positive note the opportunity to have two separate classes, Beginners and Advanced Laptops, has been successful. There are also a couple of places available in these classes.

Elizabeth Power is starting our new Discussion Group. Read more about it elsewhere in this newsletter.

Friday 7th August will be our first Garden Group meeting and I am suggesting the Museum Cafe 9.30am. I have some names from enrollment day and am still looking for a convener for this group. Interested parties can contact me on 0490 757 458.

Please take the social distancing seriously as we do not want a second wave like Melbourne.

Stay well stay safe.

Denice

### **New time for Board Games**

**10.00am every  
Wednesday**

**We meet at Avenues for  
two hours of friendly  
competition and banter.**

### **Money Matters**

The following link:

<https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au/topic-library/introduction-to-online-banking/>

is a course on online banking that may be of interest to our members.

Also, <https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au/topic-library/introduction-to-mygov/>

All about myGov.

Mary

## Back With a Bang

Just like Arnold Schwarzenegger, we're back and in fine form. U3A classes filled quickly and Class Coordinator Denice McDougall has, through determination, hard work and perseverance, sought and located suitable buildings and rooms to enable compliance with social distancing rules.



The Line Dancers are one class that proved popular and is currently filled to capacity. They're happily "toeing the line" as they boot scoot across the floor of the Nashville Scout Hall, under the guidance of tutor Annette Jensen.

The Retro Juke Box Singers have returned to their old haunt, the AICM rooms in Channon Street. With their new PA equipment they're Rockin' & a Rollin' with the best of them, belting out their favourite songs from the 50's & 60s's, every Tuesday from 11am. The new PA system, purchased with money from Gympie Regional Council Community Assistance Grants has Bluetooth connectivity which we use to connect to two cordless microphones also purchased with Grant money. Roll on Retro!

Most of our usual classes are still available, with a few new ones added, so check out the schedule and see what's on offer. You can always contact us to find out what's on and where it's at.

Don't forget our weekly lunches, at Charlie's Hotel for Term 3, and join us for our next Coffee with Friends at the Coffee Club on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August from 2.30pm. It's a great way to meet up with fellow members, make new friends and find out what's on the go with U3A Gympie.

Lynlie Cross

## New Discussion Group

Are you interested in sharing your thoughts on a range of matters that have an impact on our society? Do you want to open your mind to listen to the viewpoints of others? Then, join the **U3A Discussion Group**. No prerequisite skills or knowledge are required.

The Discussion Group will provide an opportunity for all participants to share their opinions on a range of relevant, contemporary issues. The group may explore different viewpoints on such issues, identify any problems, consider likely causes and answers to the problem, and suggest possible implications for the present and the future. Just come with an open mind to enjoy a balanced discussion, not a debate or a public speaking activity. All in a friendly, relaxed environment.

Join facilitator, Elizabeth Power, on the **first and third Thursday of the month, from 10am at the Art Gallery**. Elizabeth has spent over forty years as an educator with fifteen of those years training adults in workplace communication within the TAFE sector.

**Contact our Class Coordinator Denice on 0490 757 458**

# Your Caring Way

Are you a carer or do you know a carer? Then this new program, funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services, maybe of interest to you.

Your Caring Way is a new program of services that focus upon carers wanting to pursue their own goals, like a totally new career. Carers change lives in so many ways and whilst a selfless act, we understand that carers need to realise their own dreams too.

Now we're here to support you in identifying and achieving your own goals in life. We're here to listen, assist in learning and ultimately create a step-by-step plan towards achieving fulfillment in your own life. We are at the heart of what we do, and we are committed to be there for you, from start to finish.

Our Vocational Coaches will provide you with ongoing and individualized support to ensure you are connected, empowered, and on your way to success.

Plan – a coach will work with you to create a personalized plan based on your own life goals and aspirations.

Grow – gain the skills you need to fulfil your goals through a range of study, training, or on-the-job opportunities.

Achieve – whether it's employment, volunteering, or even further study, we will help you to live your best life.

We want to inspire positive change by connecting people to real opportunities. Connect with us today and let us inspire you!

Connect with Your Caring Way

Phone: 1300 585 636

Email: [info@yourcaringway.com.au](mailto:info@yourcaringway.com.au)

Website: [YourCaringWay.com.au](http://YourCaringWay.com.au)

Facebook: [facebook.com.au/YourCaringWay](https://facebook.com.au/YourCaringWay)

## Newsletter Contributions

Please submit all contributions no later than the 28th of the month.

The newsletter is published on the 1st of the following month.

Please keep publication dates in mind for any time sensitive contributions.

## Donations Needed

**Our new Craft Group has a couple of members knitting Trauma Teddies for charity**  
**Donations of yarn would be greatly appreciated**  
**Contact President Evie**

## Covid 19 March 2020

Corona Virus

Has overtaken us

Appearing out of the blue

Leaving us wondering what to do?

Social distancing is part of life

No hugs, no kisses, to save our plight.

If you're old you must stay home

Even though you are all alone.

Food can be delivered to your door,

No going "shopping" as before!

Telephone and internet is your communication

Radio and television your education.

Books, solitaire, or a board game

Help fill the day and keep you sane,

Or with paper and pen you could scribble

Loads and loads of drive!!!

A sign of the times for me and you

Is when your "wheelie bin" goes out more than you do!!!

Jess Fleming

Poetry Group

05.04.2020