



-July 2021 Edition-

[Our website](#)

From the President

Hello Members,

Hope you are all enjoying the winter break - including the welcome rain. I know I am, but we do have an exciting Term 3 coming up, and our Sign-On Day is on next week.

To sign on for Term 3 classes, please come to the Indoor Bowls Hall at 35 Graham Street this coming Tuesday 6 July 2021. The doors will be open from 1:00 to 3:00pm and there will be committee members and tutors available to answer any questions you may have. Why not bring a friend along to see the great selection of classes and activities on offer? New members are always welcome, and we have a special membership offer: Join in Term 3 and pay only \$10 membership fee for 2021.

As we head into Term 3, we have the very real threat of COVID looming over us. We at U3A will closely monitor the government restrictions and abide by them. Of course, we shall let you know any decisions made as soon as possible.

It is now a government requirement that all clubs, businesses etc. have the Check In Qld app available. As U3A Gympie doesn't have a set home, we are not required to do this. However, whenever you come to a class, a meeting, or whatever, you must check into the venue using the Check In Qld app wherever available. For our own U3A insurance purposes we must all continue to sign our attendance sheets as usual.

Looking forward to catching up with you all in Term 3.

Until then, keep safe.

Evie

Editor's note: Our President Evie is featured in our Getting to Know... item later in this newsletter. Yes, she is our Miss July :-) so don't miss it!



Birthday Greetings to all members celebrating a birthday this month!

Class Coordinator's Report

Dear Members,

Over half the year gone and we have been busy planning our 2nd half.

I am pleased to advise we have three new classes on offer:

Lani Roberts, a writer in her own right, has offered to take our **new Memoir Writing class**.

Trudy Graham, another writer with many awards, is offering a **5-week workshop on Creative writing**.

Pickleball will be held on Thursdays at Kandanga, led by Margaret Gillett. A fun sport suited to seniors.

Full details of new classes and changes to existing classes appear below.

Sadly our Telstra Smartphones tutor has moved onto new beginnings, with our grateful thanks to Kerri and her employer for the wonderful help provided. We are urgently looking for a tutor familiar with smart-phones at the basic level. If you or anyone you know can help, please get in touch.

Phone Denice on 0490 757 458 for this and for any enquiries about classes.

The name of our former Chit Chat group is changing to "Conversation Group" to better reflect what they do. They like to research and discuss contemporary and societal issues in a relaxed and friendly way, not just pass the time in idle chat.

Enjoy your break and see you all back on the 12th July.

Denice

TERM 3 NEWS!

New Classes

Creative Writing Workshop – a 5-week course commencing on Friday, 16 July from 10.00am to 12.00pm at the Gympie Art Gallery, 39 Nash Street Gympie.

'Over 5 weeks, we will work through the stages of producing a creative work of fiction, from the concept through to development, including mood, the opening, building the story, and the ending. We will also learn how to give and receive constructive criticism, and finally how to edit and polish our finished story.'

The tutor, Trudy Graham, will be at the sign-on day to take your registration. Due to COVID rules, we cannot take more than six participants at this venue.

Memoir Writing – commencing on Wednesday, 14 July from 10.00am to 12.00pm at Sherwood Hall, Avenues, 37 Red Hill Road Gympie. This class will be held every 2nd and 4th week of the month during Term 3. Tutor is Lani Roberts.

'The course offers practical and achievable steps to get you started or to polish your existing

work. Classes will include simple step-by-step processes, ideas and techniques to help structure your thoughts, recall memories or improve your writing style. We'll also do fun and thought-provoking writing exercises, share our stories, have a few laughs, and encourage each other's writing journey.'

Social Pickleball – commencing on Thursday, 15 July from 9.30am to 11.00am at the Kandanga Tennis Club, 1 Pine Street Kandanga.

'Pickleball is a real sport and really fun! Think of it as table tennis, meets tennis, meets badminton. Played on a small court, simple rules, under arm action, light weight bat and ball: means anyone from school-aged children to elderly retirees can enjoy the game of pickleball.'
The tutor, Margaret Gillett has invited interested parties to join her at the Kandanga Tennis Club on Tuesday, 29 June and 6 July from 8.00am to 10.00am to either play a game of Pickleball for \$3.00 or to watch the game being played.

Changes to ongoing Classes

Conversation Group (formerly known as Chit Chat) – will be continuing to meet at Gunabul Homestead, 9 Power Road Gympie. However, they will be now meeting from 10.30am to 11.45am. The first meeting will be held on Monday, 19 July 2021 and then continue to meet every 1st, 3rd & 5th Monday of the month during Term 3.

'Share this opportunity to come along and contribute to friendly and informative conversation on a range of contemporary topics. You can contribute your views and opinions, and perhaps broaden your thinking, over coffee or tea, in an enjoyable and non-judgmental atmosphere.'

History Class – now being held on Tuesdays from 11.00am to 12.00pm at the Gympie Art Gallery, 39 Nash Street Gympie.

'History is sometimes call the "pastness of the past"—the ways people in distant ages constructed their lives—involves a sense of beauty and excitement, and ultimately another perspective on human life and society.'

This term, the class will be researching the ancient Roman city of Pompeii, located at the base of Mount Vesuvius.'

Painting Class – now a *HOUSE* class so please contact the Class Coordinator on 0490 757 458.

Widgee Board Games – are continuing at the Widgee Memorial Hall on the 2nd Thursday of each month during Term 3 however, the games are now starting from 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

Social Activities

Coffee with Friends – 9.30am, last weekday of the month during Term 3 at the **Rusty Rails Café**, Gympie Station, Tozer St, Gympie.

Tuesday Lunch – 12.30pm, every Tuesday during Term 3 at the **Phoenix Hotel**, 29 Red Hill Rd, Gympie. Enjoy a meal with friends from their 'Seniors Home Style Classics' menu.

**New offering in Term 3 –
Social Pickleball**

A game underway at
Kandanga Tennis Club
- why not give it a try?
Thursdays
9:30 - 11:00 am



Featured Class - My Kind of Poetry

The members of U3A My Kind of Poetry are a friendly group from all walks of life and backgrounds who appreciate words.

On the last Thursday of each month (except December) we enjoy 2 hours of entertainment from 10:00am – 12:00 midday.

Whatever the Theme for the day, we always end up laughing.

Although one or two of our members do write their own poetry, most of us turn to our bookshelves or Google to find poems to fit the theme. It really doesn't matter if you draw a blank, just choose something you enjoy.

There's no limit to the type of poetry either. From Pam Ayres to Byron; Roald Dahl to Lawson; Thomas Hardy to Banjo; if it fits the theme or appeals to you that's fine.

Poems can be serious, moving, thought-provoking or hilarious (and they often are).

If you enjoy reading, listening to, commenting on and sharing verse (and even if you're not sure), why not come along and see how we spend the time. Attend a class for free - try before you buy!

Last Thursday of the month 10:00am - 12:00 midday at Jessie Witham Centre, Church Street Gympie. BYO Morning Tea.

The Barmaid, the Actress and the Reverend

The Genealogy class uncovered a wonderful story from 1883 about two "ladies" who stole a man's purse containing some 20 sovereigns. They had met the gentleman in a hotel, and whilst he was distracted, relieved

him of his weighty leather purse. They were duly arrested and held over for Court, but were eventually released without charge.

Why, you may ask?

Because the gentleman—*The Reverend*—failed to appear in court.

So, we wonder—what exactly was the Reverend doing in the hotel with the barmaid and the actress and such a large sum of money?

You too could uncover a juicy tale or simply find a missing ancestor if you join the Family Genealogy Class, Tuesdays 9:30-11:00am at the Art Gallery. Limited spaces available.



U3A in the Community

Retro Jukebox Singers

Well here we are with another Term finished and I ask you, where did it go? We've had a good run in regards to Covid and wish to continue in the same manner. Always remember to sign In and sanitise where ever you go.

The Retro Team have been working hard as always and had great pleasure in performing for the Grevillea Gardens Aged Care Centre on 1 June 2021.

What a turnout it was. Audience and staff participation was spectacular and cheering for more. A repeat performance has been booked for 3rd August.

With Retro, we make the effort to pay a visit once a month, to a different Centre. What a lovely way to brighten up the lives of some people, who may never really get out for the day.

If you would like to join us for a morning of Sing-A-Long and laughter please contact Denice McDougall, class coordinator.

We would love to see you there.

Thank you Team Retro. Cheers Margaret Tienan

From the Treasurer:

Dear Members

Update on the Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund grant - I have just been advised that our new 3m x 3m marquee is on its way to Gympie.

As mentioned last month, we now have two digital cameras so we will be keeping one to be used by the committee, and the second to be used by our **new Helping Hands volunteers** (who are happy snappy shutterbugs or dare I say posers? – in a good way, of course) If this sounds like you and you have time to **go to some** of our classes, activities, events or functions and take photos for our website, Facebook, newsletters, community new articles, promotional material or just for fun – please contact Mary on 0417 433 034 or at treasurer@u3agympie.com

It was noted at the recent State Conference that members' photos were no longer on their badges so I contacted our very own '*She Who Must Be Obeyed*' - our insurance broker - and was advised that the only requirement they have is that all classes and activities attendance records must be signed (not initialled) by attendees. After further discussions it was agreed that all attendees will continue to initial the attendance records for Term 3 and that from Term 4, all members will be required to complete a new Membership Form that will have boxes for members to record both their signature and their initial.

Keep safe and enjoy the break.

Mary Inman

Treasurer

Dates to Remember

6 July - Sign-on Day 1.00 - 3.00 pm

12 July - Commencement of Term 3

13 July - Tuesday Lunch

13 July - Management Committee Meeting

20 July - Tuesday Lunch

27 July - Tuesday Lunch

29 July - Coffee with Friends



Getting to Know - Yvonne Artho

Our President

Hi, my name is Yvonne Artho, or Evie as I am more commonly known. My early life was spent growing up in the sleepy fishing village of Byron Bay. I have lots of stories about watching the whales being brought in from the jetty, just growing up free and easy.

I lived in the Bay for 47 years and ran a swim school for 22 of those. I also worked as a cook, before moving to Melbourne. That was a culture shock, let me assure you. But I loved Melbourne, so much to do, so much to see, so much to learn. I moved around a bit - first to Ayr, then the Sunshine Coast, then Wollongong, before settling in Gympie in 2013 and getting to know this fabulous town.

I became involved with the golf club for a short while, until injury made it impossible for me to play, then joined U3A, and Gusto at the AICM. I also sew for Boomerang Bags once a fortnight. I love all sorts of craft, and have turned my garage into a sewing-craft room.

I teach a gentle water exercise class for U3A twice a week. What a great group of ladies I have met there – I now think of them as friends. Our class is very social, and we have coffee after each class...not sure if it would be so popular without the coffee afterwards...lol.

That's me, all wrapped up in a few (hope not too many) words.

New Game - Word Up!

A new game has been released on the Be Connected Learning Portal.

By popular demand, we have a brand new game for wordsmiths - Word Up! This classic brain teaser challenges you to create words from the available letters to score points. The longer the word, the higher the score. All against the clock!

Can you beat your best score? Word Up! is available on all devices.

Go to Be Connected -Topic Library - Games Centre [here](#)



Widgee Board Games

Some players enjoying a game of Rummy during June. This is a social function at just \$2 per session.

1:30pm - 3:30pm, 2nd Thursday of the month at Widgee Memorial Hall.

Newsletter Contributions

Please submit all contributions no later than the 28th of the month.
The newsletter is published in the 1st week of the following month.
Please keep publication dates in mind for any time sensitive contributions.

Send contributions to: newsletters@u3agympie.com



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