



U3A HERVEY BAY INC

Newsletter Jan – Mar 2018

Management Committee for 2017

Patron - Councillor George Seymour

President – Noel Partridge

Vice President – Peter Wells

Secretary – Diana Wyllie

Treasurer – Alison Taylor

Committee Members - Denise Hardy, Lyn Quince

Course Co-ordinator - Peter Wells

Publicity, Webmaster and Newsletter Editor Lyn Quince

Events Co-ordinator – Denise Hardy

**Committee meetings are held at the USC rooms
on the third Friday of the Month at 9.30am.
(during Jan & Feb they will be at the Public Library)**

All members welcome to attend.

Thanks to the office of Ted Sorensen MP for the printing of this Newsletter

Don't forget you can find us on Facebook –

<https://www.facebook.com/u3aherveybay/>

GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Well I guess now that the U3A Christmas Party has come and gone, it means that the festive season and the end of the year is here. It therefore seems appropriate to reflect upon the highlights of this past year, and look ahead to the next.

Sign-on Day this year saw the usual flurry of activity as course programming was nearing completion, tutors went about organising their material and sign-on sheets, and many of you looked at what was on offer and opened your wallets to sign-on and pay your subscription ... and nearly 170 of you joined U3A HB for 2017.

This year saw another diverse program of courses with many of the old favourites, and some new additions such as Psychology, Play Reading, Theory Design & History of Art, Writing For Pleasure, and History of the Victorian Age. Many of you may remember a degree of confusion and uncertainty as we came to understand the different business model and requirements of the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC), the new owners of the HB 'campus'. With a greater enrolment in campus-based courses, uncertainty of class sizes, and an obvious need to accommodate these University courses, we had to manage the uncertainty and limited accessibility to classrooms ... especially at start of the academic year, the 2nd semester and during examination periods. We need to anticipate this disruption and uncertainty again next year. Many thanks must go to our course coordinator Peter Wells who negotiated a licence agreement with USC for a classroom to be allocated this year. A similar arrangement is being sought for 2018.

I would like to highlight a couple of activities this year, outside of the usual course programming, that demonstrate the remarkable skills and potential that U3A people possess, and that we as an organisation can undertake. There was our support of and involvement in the FCRC sponsored Writers Festival called 'Lines In The Sand'. Secondly, the creative writing talent of 19 of our members was recently realised when their work was collectively published in Third Age Words - A Compilation Of Written Work From Members Of Hervey Bay U3A. We all must thank Lyn Quince for her sterling effort and skill in editing and coordinating this publication. You can buy your own copy of this professionally produced publication, and enjoy hours of very pleasant reading for only \$15, by contacting Lyn or any Committee Member.

I would like to personally thank the members of your Management Committee who volunteer their time, commitment and efforts to manage the business of our organisation ... keep the 'ship' on course, keep necessary records in good stead, pay the bills, coordinate courses, manage websites, publicity and advertising, listen to your wants & needs and importantly think about the future and what comes next.

Thanks to our Secretary - Diana Wyllie for her coordination, energy, attention to detail and source of ideas. Thanks to our Treasurer - Alison Taylor for her hard work, enthusiasm and reliability. Thanks to our Course Coordinator - Peter Wells for his ability to 'herd cats' and keep a sense of humour. Thanks to the Coordinator of our Website, Newsletter and Publicity - Lyn Quince for her tireless and reliable work, great wealth of corporate knowledge and dedication to the successful running of our organisation. And lastly but certainly not least, many thanks to our Events Coordinator - Denise Hardy for her hard work, thoroughness, reliability and sound practical advice.

Next I must thank our many and varied volunteer tutors for their great dedication and undertaking to give their time, energy and creative spirit to organise and conduct the various courses we have on offer. And finally I must thank you, all of you, for your interest and participation in our organisation. Connecting people like you to the interest, enjoyment and stimulation of lifelong learning is what we are about. I encourage you to get involved and commit yourself as much as you can ... encourage your friends to join ... this will strengthen and grow our organisation, and increase the diversity and variety of courses we can offer.

I wish to thank those of you, some 67 all up, who came to the Christmas Party at the RSL Club last week. We all enjoyed a wonderful time with great Christmas fare, quizzes, raffles, the enchanting bush poems by Danleigh Stenzel, and less than enchanting comments from your truly playing MC. We all need once again to thank Denise Hardy for her great success in coordinating this event. This one occasion on the calendar when many of us get together was used to mark two significant events.

To recognise individuals who have made a significant and enduring contribution to our organisation, Life Membership of U3A HB was awarded to Marie Eardly- Harris, and Rob Loveday. I offer our warmest congratulations and best wishes to both of you. The Christmas Luncheon was deemed to be a most fitting occasion to launch our creative writing publication that I mentioned earlier. This was done with uplifting words by Robyn Dowling from the FCRC Library.

Well next year will be upon us soon. I would ask you all to note and please support the following key events:

- Information Day at Stockland Mall - 18 Jan.
- Information Day at Stockland Mall - 1 Feb.
- Sign-On Day at RSL Club - 6 Feb.
- AGM at USC (location TBA) - 16 Mar.

I would strongly encourage you all to attend our AGM ... come along, encourage other U3A members to attend, bring some ideas, have your say, take the step and join the management committee if you can devote a little more time and would like to contribute. We are keen to focus on growing the organisation ... more members, more tutors, expand the program of courses on offer. Even at our current size, we are seeking additional venues to achieve greater flexibility & variety.

Let me conclude by wishing you all a very safe and happy festive season ... best wishes to you and your families ... and looking forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Noel Partridge
President
U3A Hervey Bay

COMING EVENTS

1. SIGN ON DAY

Tuesday Feb 6, 2018. 10am – 12 noon
Hervey Bay RSL

Come along and register for classes for 2018. Meet with tutors and have a cuppa with old and new members.

Membership fees may be paid on the day. Annual membership is \$30

2. INFORMATION STANDS AT STOCKLAND

We are having two information stands to promote U3A at Stockland Shopping Centre. These will be on Thursday 18 Jan and 1 Feb between 9am and 4pm. If you could spare an hour or two to help spread the word about U3A could you please email Diana – herybayu3a@yahoo.com.au

3. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will be held on Friday 18 March at 9.30am at USC. Nominations will be called for following Sign On Day. Only financial members will be eligible to vote.

LIFE MEMBERS PRESENTATION

At the annual Christmas lunch two long time members were presented with life memberships. Rob Loveday and Marie Eardley-Harris have been volunteer tutors for many years, Marie tutoring French and Rob the History of Language and Culture and more recently co-ordinating the Moral and Ethical Dilemmas group. They were both well deserved awards.



Marie receives her life membership from President Noel

Christmas Lunch

Members enjoyed a great day at the annual Christmas lunch. Bush Poet, Danlee Stenzel entertained everyone with his sense of humour. Lunch was followed the launch of Our latest publication *Third Age Words - a compilation of written work of members of U3A Hervey Bay* which is now available for purchase. Cost is \$15. It will be on sale at our information stands at Stocklands on 18 January and 1 February and at Sign on Day 6 February.



COURSES FOR 2018

There will be some new classes for 2018 plus, of course, all the old favourites. Below are some of the new ones.

HISTORY ON THURSDAY CLASSES 2018

4. Armchair Traveller – visiting Bulgaria, Ethiopia, Sri Lanka, Mexico and Peru – starting 1 March for 5 weeks.
5. Colonial Australia – from the emigration procedure to the goldfields and bushrangers. Starting 19 April for 5 weeks.
6. The Renaissance – an exciting and controversial period in European history. Starting 23 August for 5 weeks.
7. Also on Thursday, a new course:
8. Planet Earth – what is weather? Why does it rain? Is the climate changing? Why do we have seasons? And much more. Starting 11 October for 5 weeks.
9. A new writing course:
10. Writing for Beginners – a 5 week course on the basic skills of writing in a variety of styles. Starting 19 July.

MOVIE GROUP

Lyn Quince will be co-ordinating a movie group. The group will attend a movie each month, probably on Tuesday, depending on screening times. Afterwards, if they wish members will have a cuppa at the coffee shop and discuss the film and plan their next outing.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

- Peter Wells is hoping to run a German for Beginners class, depending on numbers of interested members. More information will be available at Sign on Day.
- Nychelle Hanlon has advised that if there is enough interest she will have a two session course on Samsung (Android) for Beginners. Again talk to Nychelle at Sign on Day.

HOME ASSIST SECURE

Michael Kovacs, Coordinator of Home Assist Secure, advises that his organisation is able to provide assistance to eligible people for minor home maintenance repairs and minor home modifications. Staff can provide a free home safety and security audit of your home. They also provide an information and referral service.

Eligible clients are those –

- 60 years or over
- Any age with a disability
- Have a Pensioner Concession card

Phone 1300 642 123



COMPUTER CARE AND MAINTENANCE TIPS

You need to perform some basic maintenance on your computer to keep it running in top shape. Here's some advice to keep your computer secure and performing optimally:

- **Windows Firewall:** Turn on the Windows Firewall feature to stop people and programs from downloading malicious code and viruses to your computer from the Internet.
- **Antivirus software:** You can use antivirus software such as Windows Defender, which comes with all Windows 10 computers, or a third-party antivirus program such as MacAfee, to scan your computer and remove viruses.
- **Use System Restore:** You can create a System Restore Point to save current settings and revert to those settings if your computer begins having problems. This can happen after installing a new program or driver for hardware.
- **Optimize your hard drive:** Optimizing your hard drive cleans out any damaged or obsolete files to improve your computer's performance.
- **Battery life:** If you have a laptop or tablet, you should be aware that all batteries wear out and your computer's is no different. If your battery doesn't hold a charge as long as it used to, consider buying a replacement battery from the manufacturer.
- **Perform a Disk Cleanup:** Use the Disk Cleanup feature to free up some disk space on your hard drive. This helps your computer perform better.
- **Set up a password:** By assigning a password to your Windows user account, you may prevent people from accessing your files and personal data.
- **Protect your laptop from damage:** If you have a laptop invest in a good case for your laptop to protect it from damage when travelling. Also, get a screen protector, which is a thin sheet of plastic that you place across your screen to prevent scratches.
- **Consider using a picture password:** If your computer or laptop is in a spot where other people surround you, consider using a picture password, which is almost impossible for people to get past. Also be aware that using a pin rather than a password is probably the least secure way to go because it's so short and made up entirely of numbers.

(from Computers for Seniors for Dummies – cheat sheet)