



A Note from the (New) President

Hello Members,

My thanks to everyone who attended the AGM. It is always very important for members to attend this annual meeting and to express their views on what their elected committee should be considering on behalf of the wider membership.

I want to thank all of our new committee members for stepping forward to volunteer their time and effort to ensure that our U3A continues to improve and deliver the services that our members have come to expect.

I am delighted that this year we have a full committee from day one. Notably, we have an equal number of male and female members on committee, which I believe is a precedent. Please make the effort to get to know those committee members with whom you are not yet acquainted and make your ideas for a more wholesome U3A known to them.

This year your committee will continue to focus on making improvements to the way in which we operate for the purposes of transparency and efficiency. For instance the committee will be investigating better use of technology to simplify membership renewal and course registration and also to make our bookkeeping and reporting easier.

The committee will also be focused on attracting funding with the aim of upgrading with Council's support the facilities at the SCC to make activities there more enjoyable for our members. An immediate target of course will be the installation of an upgraded audio/visual system including a hearing loop to assist our members with hearing challenges.

We will also be applying for community grants such as those made available by the Holiday Coast Credit Union to enable us to improve facilities for our members (for example replacing chairs).

Most importantly, your committee will focus on enacting a calendar of social events so that our members have more opportunities to get together as a whole and enjoy themselves. Last year's 10th Anniversary and Christmas functions demonstrated the value received by members from such events.



On behalf of your new committee I wish you a healthy and happy year with your U3A and we look forward to seeing you and talking with you throughout the next 12 months.

best wishes

Gavan



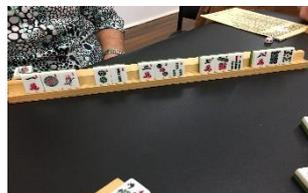
THE NEW BOARD (from left to right)

JENNY SHAW, SUE URBY, DANNY GREEN, GAVAN BETHKE, ROBERT SPARKE, SHIRLEY SMITH,
FRANCES WRITER, (MISSING CHARLIE FAULKNER)

NEW COURSES FOR TERM 2

BEGINNER MAHJONG

Mahjong is not like that seen on computers which is merely matching Pairs.



Proper Mahjong is a skilful game that will improve your memory and help to keep your brain active. There will be exhibition games being played on enrolment day Monday 29th May from 10a.m. Come along and see how it is played and if you like the idea, you can join in with the new group.

Beginner Mahjong will be played on Monday afternoon to begin with at Uniting Church Hall from 2p.m. to 4p.m.



When you have got the gist of the game you can then join with the other two groups currently playing. Monday morning at 10am in the Uniting Church Hall and the other is on at Senior Citizens on Tuesday afternoon at 2p.m.

Back by Popular Demand - Circle Dancing

Circle Dancing will be offered again this Term. A lovely, gentle but fun variety of dances. A great introduction to all the social, mental and physical benefits of dance but enjoyable for confident dancers as well. No partner needed.



Don't miss out, as numbers are limited by the size of the hall!

Cost \$10 per session is payable at enrolment.

(Covers costs incurred by teacher from Taree)

COME ALONG AND HAVE A SING A LONG

Thursday 23rd May from 12p.m. at Senior Citizens Hall. Bring your own lunch and bring your singing voice to sing along with the "BUGS" who are our very own U3A Ukelele groups.

You will remember the Ukelele group from our Anniversary lunch last year and our Xmas party last year.

This lunch is the social event for this term and will be very casual, just bring your own food or else set up a table and join together with friends and enjoy an afternoon of song and laughter. The new Beginner Ukelele group will be joining the more experienced players.

The usual \$2 fee is all that is to be paid so come along and join in the happy throng!!!!

SQUATTING ON THE LIVERPOOL PLAINS

Once the Blue Mountains were crossed the great expansion of the Australian pastoral industry began.



Lyn Stewart will share her interest in the squatting movement from the Hawkesbury to the Hunter and then to the Liverpool Plains.

Thursday 6th June, 2p.m. to 4 p.m. Senior Citizens Hall

GEOLOGY – PLATE TECTONICS – A REVOLUTION IN THE EARTH SCIENCES

Morrie Duggan will present this information to you. Around 50 years ago a major revolution occurred in the earth sciences that totally changed our understanding of how the Earth works and explained many previously controversial and unexplained observations.

Plate tectonics provides a unifying framework that explains continental drift, mid-ocean ridges and oceanic trenches and the distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes.

Thursday 20th June, 2p.m. to 4p.m. Senior Citizens Hall

GALAPAGOS

Come and play with Sea Lions, Sharks, Iguana's, Penguins and more in the Galapagos Islands archipelago.

Ashleigh Hickman will introduce these wonders to you on:

Thursday 4th July, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Senior Citizens Hall

EXERCISE CLASSES

These classes are currently full. If you wish to join in we can take a reserve list, so see us at the enrolment day.

The Barrington Hall class can still take numbers, this is on Monday mornings 8am. To 9 am

As you can see we have a varied course again this term so we wish you well and hope to see all of you or some of you at enrolment morning on the 29th July.