



Sally Chandler's success with art classes via email

"Welcome to our online, inhouse, incarceration program," wrote tutor Sally Chandler in a greeting to students continuing art classes remotely using an email-based tasking and work submission method.

With a distinguished career as an educator, Sally saw opportunity rather than obstruction in the current stay-at-home COVID-19 environment, and was determined to continue her 'Watercolours: Realism to Abstraction' classes while not being able to meet as a group.

"When this Coronavirus came along everything closed down and I thought, 'how can I keep it going?'" Sally said. So, she decided to set her students a task each week, an art challenge, via email. They would work in their own time and in their own space to complete the task then return an image of the artwork via email, with everyone invited to comment on each other's work.

So, was this successful? "I was absolutely gobsmacked!" Sally said. "They did much better working that way than coming to the studio for a class."

"While they enjoy the sociability of meeting as a group, chatting about travels and what's happening in their lives, the art can become secondary

to meeting up. Also, creating art is a very solitary activity so it can be difficult to focus in a group activity where there are distractions in socialising. I was fascinated as to how well the classes worked, from an educator's point of view."

One recent art challenge aimed to honour the outstanding work of the artist Christo. Christo with Jeanne-Claude are famous for wrapping buildings in fabric including Berlin's Reichstag and swathing areas of coastline, even entire islands. Christo died recently in New York, aged 84.

"I call the assignments 'challenges' because I try to extend the students' thinking of art and its history, to push them to challenge themselves and to think outside of just copying what you see," Sally said. "I challenge students to create a more of an abstract form, which presents the greatest challenge in art.

"I thought as a tribute to this great artist I would challenge the group to choose an object and create a wrapping that would elevate it beyond the realms of the mundane to being a work of art," Sally said.

"One of the group, Gerry Luhman, took up the challenge with gusto. He first created the drawings of how his wrapping/unwrapping contraption would work, which was artistic in



itself, then he made the wrapping for his object and constructed a hoist to lift/lower the wrapping. The final phase was to video the end result for all to see, which used technology to reveal this art in dynamic form.

Sally said that other students were also innovative in combining technology with art, such as using timelapse photography to create moving light paths presented in a two-dimensional photo.

Given the success of the online method, Sally may continue with art classes via email.

Photos: Sally Chandler in her Buderim Studio, Gerry Luhman's tribute to Christo, and Dawn Campbell's art contribution.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

PRESIDENT GLYNI CUMMING'S JULY MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBERS OF U3A SUNSHINE COAST



Dear Members,

If you've ever been out fishing on a small boat and tried to land a large, slippery fish, you'll understand just what your Management Committee has been experiencing trying to get us all back to our beloved classes!

The Challenge:

Before U3A Sunshine Coast classes can recommence, our secretary has been making a maximum effort to contact each venue used, work out how many members can use each venue, calculate venue fee reductions based on how much class time we have already missed, and prepare a Safety Action Plan and Risk Assessment to be employed by every tutor.

The Good News:

From Monday July 13th, class enrolments will be open for Term 3, which will recommence July 20th. Current USC advice re' 'vulnerable' age groups, as well as two valued tutors being absent owing to illness, will affect the running of some classes; however, other courses will be available on line from July 13th, with the adjusted course fee clearly stated.

And the U3A Office is reopening!

Our Office Day Leaders, supported by their office volunteers, have cheerfully agreed to reopen our U3A Office on July 13th, from 9-12 daily. However, with only two volunteers allowed to work in the limited office space, please be patient if you ring them to ask for assistance.

Our Tutors' task:

Before returning to our classrooms from July 20th, all our tutors need to be fully briefed, so they can look after their students' safety. They will receive detailed instructions from our secretary, and these may include:

- Limiting class sizes and setting up a waiting list
- Members to only attend class if they are well
- Maintaining appropriate distances between seating
- Using hand sanitisers
- Wiping down furnishings after use
- Stepping outside for fresh air after each hour of in-class time.

Why is all of this necessary?

We need to ensure we do not put our members at risk, and we have all seen how contagious this virus is, especially for our older more vulnerable age group. Current government health advice specifically targets us, especially when we meet in group activities.

Date Claimer:

Please note on your calendar that our AGM will be held on Saturday August 8th.

Many thanks to our M.C. team for completing the documentation to email/ post out to our members, and the safety requirements for our postponed Annual General Meeting to take place at the North Shore Community Centre, 701 David Low Way, Mudjimba, on Saturday August 8th at 10.00 am.

Please come along to ratify your M.C. committee, to acknowledge and honour this year's nominees for Life Membership, meet our young Bursary awardees and hear how the university has been managing during the CoVid 19 crisis.

Asking questions at the AGM:

With so much happening since we last met, you may have questions to ask of your committee. Remember these must be placed on the Agenda, so do send them in to the secretary by Wednesday July 15th: u3aoffice@u3asunshine.org.au or: secretary@u3asunshine.org.au

Call for Volunteers to assist at the AGM on Saturday August 8th:

We will provide a morning tea after the AGM; however, we will need some assistance, from any volunteers who have helped us previously – and any new volunteers who might care to assist. Please give Wayne Curran a call on 0419669131 if you'd like to help on the day.

We will also need assistants to 'mark the roll'. If you would like to help out, please phone Glyni on 0448 194 264.

I look forward to seeing many of our members at the AGM on August 8th.

Glyni Cumming

President

BERNADETTE MOORE JOINS COMMITTEE AS MEMBER LIAISON

I was recently appointed to the Management Committee, and as part of that appointment have been asked to take on the membership portfolio banner.



This is my first communication to the more than 2,100 members of U3A Sunshine Coast. The Membership Liaison Officer role is new in the committee lineup, so we are discussing what are the potential duties of this role that would value add to the organisation.

There seem to be several possible components of the role. On the broadest level this role will take responsibility for trying to map some of the trends in membership. This data should help future planning of issues such as course topics, models of course delivery and course locations.

Secondly, underpinning an organisation of this complexity need to be foundational policies and practices. This role will work in collaboration with other members of the management committee to ensure equitable and safe policies shape all organisational practices.

Finally, but perhaps most importantly it is hoped that this role will provide a direct communication channel between members and the management committee.

We are interested in hearing your voices and opinions. Your experiences positive and negative are essential in growing the strength of the organisation. So, my job is also to be available, to listen to your thoughts and to share your experiences with the committee.

If you want to get in touch please feel free to contact me either by email on bernadette.moore@hotmail.com or give me a ring on 0417374286. If I don't answer leave a message and I will get back to you.

Looking forward to a year of getting to know you and your thoughts

Bernadette



UNIVERSITY LEADERS RECEIVE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA AWARDS

Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Greg Hill has been awarded an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for his distinguished service to education while Professor of Nursing Jeanine Young is now a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her significant service to tertiary education, to medical research, and to nursing.

Professor Hill has been Vice-Chancellor since 2011 and has provided significant support to U3A Sunshine Coast during his tenure at USC. In a congratulatory letter to Professor Hill, President Glyni Cumming wrote:

“On behalf of the Management Committee of U3A Sunshine Coast and our 2000 plus members, we are delighted to see that your lifetime’s contribution to education has been recognised in an award as an Officer of the Order of Australia in this year’s Queen’s Birthday Honours List.

“As Vice-Chancellor and President, you have made a significant contribution over the past 15 years to the growth of the university – as well as the development of other USC campuses in Queensland and interstate, and we know how much you have contributed to sport on

the Sunshine Coast, including being Director of the famed Lightning Netball team!

“We have been so pleased to have you as our Patron of the U3A Sunshine Coast, as you have always supported us, and helped our organisation to grow as an educational institution. It is thanks to that ongoing support, that U3A Sunshine Coast has had a central home for our office team of volunteers, and the use of a computer lab and a classroom for some of our tutors’ classes, as well as access to a lecture theatre for our AGM, and the use of the Innovation Centre for our annual Open Day.”

Professor Young has worked for USC since 2013. She specialises in infant care practices, breastfeeding and safe infant sleep environments, and is passionate about supporting culturally appropriate strategies to reduce Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health inequalities.

She is an active member of Queensland’s child death review panels and works closely with the ‘Red Nose’ organisation.

Photo: Professor Greg Hill AO and Professor Jeanine Young AM (USC Photo) USC text provided by Terry Walsh

NEW U3A ROLE FOR COLIN MADDOCKS

U3A Network Queensland have announced the appointment of Colin Maddocks, a former President of the U3A Sunshine Coast Management Committee as Communication Officer for the U3A Network Queensland to fill a vacancy following the resignation of one of their members.

Quoting from the U3A-NQ news release, “Colin has many skills and experiences to add to the expertise of the committee. Colin has worked with the U3A Sunshine Coast Association in many roles over the past 5 years. He was President of the U3A Sunshine Coast Management Committee in 2018 and 2019. He was Chairman of the organizing subcommittee for the 2016 Annual State Conference and MC for that conference. He was Chairman of the Strategic Plan Development and the Hubs Development Subcommittees. He has been a tutor, and has also given lectures/talks for a range of U3A groups and he participates in U3A classes.

“Colin enjoys working with people, and encourages teamwork and consultation. One of his first activities on the Network Committee was to facilitate the recent Risk Management Assessment workshop for the Committee.

“We look forward to his contribution to our U3A Network team.”*

**Excerpt from U3A Network Queensland June Newsletter*

JO EVANS MOVES ON TO NEW BEGINNINGS

Unfortunately, with the closure of our U3A office, our first paid employee, Administrative Officer Joanna Evans has moved on to other enterprises in her life.

In her time with U3A-SC Jo established excellent working partnerships with the Management Committee, office volunteers and the University.

Jo coped efficiently with many challenges, put in place sound record keeping and forward planning initiatives, and managed advertising promotions for our various projects.

We wish Jo all the best in her future endeavours.





HAND CHIMES CLASS BEGINS 21 JULY

U3A is excited to have Wendy Turton tutoring a class in Handchimes at Mapleton Community Hall on Tuesdays from 10.00am to 11.30am commencing 21 July 2020. Handchimes and music will be supplied. If you are interested in this class, you can enrol online through the U3A website www.u3asunshine.org.au Course Code 20MAT310.

Wendy was the Conductor of Cairns Tropical Chimes and has a background as a Classroom Music Specialist. Her aim is to help members train to be performance ready in the use of these beautiful instruments with the aim of holding concerts at events during the year.

The music skills taught by ringing are many. Players can learn about note duration, rhythm, harmony, and melodic line. Through ringing, players will increase their independent thinking, listening skills, attention span, physical coordination, self-discipline and personal expression.

They also gain social and emotional skills through collaboration and the development of self-esteem. Working with a group of ringers teaches tolerance, patience, support, and cooperation, to name a few. Most of all, players will have instant success and experience the delight of sharing music with friends.

Using handchimes requires tables, foam (to damp the chimes and protect them), and music. Each player (10 for 3 octaves) has one or two handchimes and stands in a semicircle behind the tables. Players can learn to ring and damp, ring note durations, scales, chords, and melodies.

The group will function best with 10-14 players. Members will be encouraged to suggest musical pieces for the class repertoire. There will also be time for social interaction and morning tea.

To find out more about classes or to register please go to the U3A website.



NOELA BURTON RETIRES

Noela Burton, Professor Greg Hill's secretary, has retired from her job at USC.

Our Secretary, Dawne Clark, said that Noela has been so supportive of our various endeavours, such as making bookings for our venue use and following up enquiries for events like our annual Open Day.

President Glyni Cumming said, "we will really miss Noela but wish her well in her retirement. Thank you Noela."

Photo: Dawne Clark presents a farewell gift of flowers to Noela.

SENIORS WEEK GOEL VIRTUAL

This year Queensland Seniors are celebrating with a range of virtual events and if allowed some physical events focussing on three main themes: Inclusion and Belonging, Connection, and Diversity.

Event registrations are open now for either a physical or virtual event on the Queensland Seniors website.

CELEBRATING OUR NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Our wonderful Life Members for 2020 will be honoured at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 8th August at the Mudjimba Community Centre.

These members will be presented with their certificates and badges at the AGM:

John D. Cooper, Myra Timmerman, Jim Hales, Mara Miller, Ian R. Wilson and Patricia Barry.

"Congratulations and thank you for your outstanding contributions over many years to the continued success of the U3A organisation," said President Glyni Cumming.



John D. Cooper



Myra Timmerman



Jim Hales



Mara Miller



Ian R. Wilson



Patricia Barry