



# University of the Third Age

SUNSHINE COAST | December 2020



*“We are always looking for new members to add to our pool of office volunteers. In the New Year, please consider what you can offer to keep our organisation running effectively in 2021.”*

### Christmas Wishes:

It's that time of the year again, and now that most border restrictions have been lifted we can again start to plan holidays with gatherings of family and friends. I wish all our members a happy, peaceful and joyful Christmas season.

Perhaps I will see some of you at our Covid-safe enrolments at Open Day on Saturday January 9th 2021.

*Glyni Cumming*

President U3A SC

## WHAT A CHALLENGE

PRESIDENT GLYNI CUMMING REFLECTS ON THE CHALLENGES U3A FACED DURING 2020



What an extraordinary year it has been, and it will continue to affect our early planning for 2021. Our December e-Voice touches on a number of items, with more information posted on the U3A website.

### Open Day - 9 January 2021

Please come along to our Covid-safe Open Day on Saturday, 9 January and find out what U3A membership offers. More details on Page 3.

### Tutors & Volunteers Luncheon

In November, we held our annual Tutors & Volunteers Luncheon for some 60 guests at the Kawana Surf Club. This year, we presented 25-year certificates to five of our members, three in person at the Luncheon and two via post.

Everyone present was impressed with the layout of the room, with smaller table groups, individual service, and the very tasty food. We also thoroughly enjoyed the live music presented by Trevor Mitchell.

There are a selection of photos in this eVoice and more in the Photo Galleries section of the U3A website at [u3asunshine.org.au](http://u3asunshine.org.au).

### We need more volunteers

As an organisation, we are only as good as the volunteers who contribute to its running. At present, the Management Committee is operating with a committee of eight volunteers, and every one works very hard to maintain our portfolio.

Along with our Tutors, we are also well served by our Office Volunteers. Thank you to Jennifer Strike and Karen Martin who are individual Day Leaders in the Office, and they have also taken over key roles as Office Coordinator and Project Officer. They are proving to be invaluable, assisting the Management Committee with key tasks such as the roll over of classes at the end of the year and submitting the constitutional changes passed at our August AGM.

We are always looking for new members to add to our pool of office volunteers. In the New Year, please consider what you can offer to keep our organisation running effectively in 2021. If you can help out please contact Jennifer at [u3aofficecoordinator@u3asunshine.org.au](mailto:u3aofficecoordinator@u3asunshine.org.au).

*Photo: Tutors and Volunteers gather at Kawana Surf Club with U3A Management for the annual Tutors & Volunteers Luncheon*





## U3A MEMBERS RECOGNISED FOR 25 YEARS' MEMBERSHIP

At our annual Tutors and Volunteers Luncheon certificates were presented for 25 years membership of U3A. Here's some background.

Jillian Markwell plays table tennis, assists with Aquasize, and is secretary for the choir. Jill has especially asked us to find a piano accompanist for the choir, as our 5th 25-year member, Peter Williams, is not able to continue with the workload involved.

Barbara Searle is a former SATH lecturer, a Class Coordinator for four years but now she just enjoys being a member.

Judith Hume has been a class coordinator, a member of our Management Committee, a choir member, took our computer classes and was a convener of our Book groups.

Karin Svensson was unable to be present; however, she describes us as "a marvelous organization" and she has enjoyed being a member of a variety of courses such as Feldenkrais, yoga, history, geography, music, and swimming.

*Photo above: 25-Year Certificate awardees: Judy Hume, Jillian Markwell and Barbara Searle with Tutors Coordinator Wayne Curran.*

## LOOKING FORWARD

U3A MAJOR EVENTS AND ISSUES IN 2021

*Glyni Cumming, President*



There are a number of major events There are some major events and some pressing issues that U3A SC needs to address in 2021, ones requiring some input from members. Here are the ones being planned at present.

### I Age Well Expo 2021

Several key enterprises had to be set aside this year, such as our annual Trivia afternoon and the I Age Well Expo. However, the news is that the Expo will return bigger and better in August 2021. Nambour Show Grounds will be the venue, and we have been offered the use of an entire hall, to promote both courses and various performing classes, like International Dances and Ukulele and Hand Chimes.

### Strategic Plan Mid-term Review 2021

It seems churlish to blame the Covid 19 virus that we managed to keep at bay on the borders of our state, on the postponing of such a major undertaking as the Strategic Plan Mid-term Review. However, with the best will in the world, it was impossible to go ahead with planning. It will again be the hot topic in the New Year of 2021, and again, we will be looking for enthusiastic participants to give us their energy, their enthusiasm, and their ideas for U3A Sunshine Coast's future developments.

### To Hub or not to Hub 2021

Our former Grants Officer, Margaret Thomson, put a considerable amount of energy into exploring the concept of a U3A Hub based in Caloundra, and that idea remains under consideration. As a complementary project, our Communication Officer John Armstrong is developing an online Hub that will allow U3A groups to interact via social media pages.

An emerging issue is that it may be time to consider separating into smaller groups, like Noosa, for example a Northern and a Southern U3A Sunshine Coast. Just within our own Management Committee, we are very much more aware of the expense and time involved in travelling to meetings.

### Life Memberships for 2021

At our AGM in August, we ratified our first 6 of only 25 possible Life Members: Ian R. Wilson, Jim Hales, John D. Cooper, Mara Miller, Patricia Barry and Myra Timmerman. If you have someone in mind, a favourite long time tutor or volunteer, whom you believe has contributed outstanding service to the organisation, you have until February to 2021 to nominate them. Nomination forms are available on our U3A website and again, awards will be presented at April's proposed Annual General Meeting.



# BOOK NOW FOR OPEN DAY - 9 JANUARY 2021

COVID-SAFE OPEN DAY AT USC INNOVATION CENTRE

Please come along to the U3A Sunshine Coast Open Day and find out what U3A offers in terms of 'Life, Learning and Laughter'. Bookings are essential for the Innovation Centre and the U3A Office. Please contact Secretary, Dawne Clark at [secretary@u3asunshine.org.au](mailto:secretary@u3asunshine.org.au) to book. Times are available from 9am to 12.30pm.

Open Day booths at the Innovation Centre and the U3A Office will be arranged in a Covid-safe layout and social distancing will be observed during the day.

The Innovation Centre, which can host a maximum of 100 people, tutors and visitors at one time. Visitors may select one of five 40-minute time slots: 9am; 9:45am; 10:30am, 11:15am, and 12 noon. At the U3A Office, select one of the 20 minute time slots (either before or to follow your Innovation Centre time): 9.00, 9.25, 9.50, 10.15, 10.40, 11.05, 11.30, 11.55, 12.20, 12.25

## Open Day Procedure.

All visitors at the Innovation Centre

will need to sign a registration form, hand sanitise, be wrist-stamped for entry, and be given a floor plan with a list of the tutors present on the day.

Visitors will enter by the front doors, and exit via the back doors through the kitchen, where they can take a seat and wait for our USC Student Ambassador to arrive. Then they can travel in golf buggy style down to the U3A Office, in time for their course enrolment session.

## Other details:

Refreshments will be available from the Coffee Van: Please support Dave from "On the go Espresso", who will be providing us with coffee alongside the front verandah of the Innovation Centre foyer.

Parking: Parking will be available at both the Innovation Centre and alongside B Block where U3A has their office and classrooms.

Volunteers: Assistance will be available at the Innovation Centre. Our volunteers will be wearing clear identification, with yellow stars imprinted with "Ask Me".

## ENROL OR RENEW AS A U3A MEMBER FOR 2021

End of year is fast approaching so now is the time to ensure you are a financial member for 2021 and start planning the classes, courses and activities you wish to join next year.

From December 1st you can pay your membership renewal fees, payable on line through the U3A website. Prospective new members are invited to join U3A Sunshine Coast as well.

Course Listing for 2021 will be available online soon so that you may plan which courses interest you before course enrolments begin January 9th.

From Saturday January 9th 2021 course enrolments will be available on line, although tutors may put you on a 'waiting list' first before they ask for your payment.

Enrolments will be available no earlier than 7.00am so don't lose sleep about it.

# GERMAN STYLE PARTY

U3A members who have been attending the German Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced and Conversation classes celebrated the end of the year in spectacular style. We travelled to the Zum Kaiser Restaurant, located in the 100 year old German Club in East Brisbane.

Our very capable and well organised German Beginner Tutor, Sylvia Hovey, arranged the event, along with coach transport, and even included a German-based quiz to help pass the time on the coach.

We enjoyed a wonderful lunch. On offer were German favourite dishes such as pork knuckle, Sauerbraten, Schnitzel, Bratwurst, all served

with a choice of German and other international beers. After that, for those who were still hungry, there were desserts including Apple Strudel and Warm Cherry Pie.

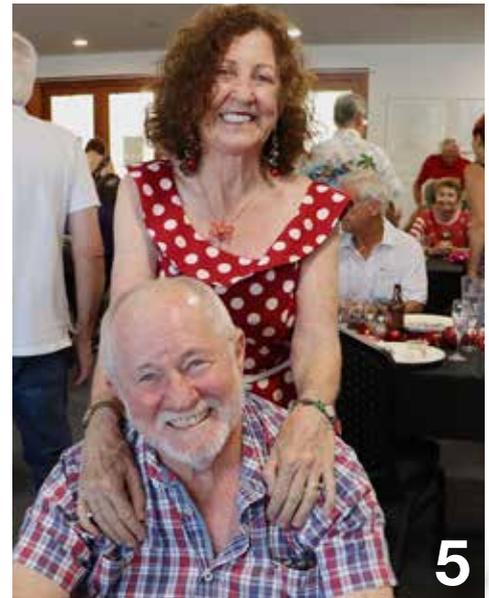
What language did we speak? German, of course, alongside plenty of English.

*Karin Leivesley, Tutor*



Above: Christine Orchard from the German Beginner's class with a stein of German beer and the Pork Knuckle. Left: Members of the German Language class at Zum Kaiser.

# U3A SUNSHINE COAST SAYS "IT'S PARTY TIME"



Some of the photos from end-of-year parties of various U3A groups:

1. International Dining Group.
2. Gaynor Day and Wendy Turton.
3. Cycle: Tour 3 members.
4. Jill and Peter Campbell.
5. Di and Richard Philp.
6. Onboard the Caloundra Cruise.
7. Jo Wheeler and Patricia Barry.
8. June and Allan Blackburn.
9. Ken and Rosemary Solomons.
10. Mara Miller and Eddie Bennett.
11. Joan Bennett with Robyn Harm.



There are many more photos of the Tutors and Volunteers Luncheon and the various U3A end-of-year parties on the U3A website.