U3A Deniliquin Inc

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2021. I do hope that everyone had a lovely Christmas and I am sure that you are looking forward to whatever 2021 brings us. Let’s hope that it is happy and healthy for us all and that we all look out for each other in these challenging times.



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON.**

The AGM was held at the Deniliquin RSL club on Wednesday 2.12.2020 which was well attended followed by a Christmas luncheon. It was fabulous to see so many people in attendance for both the AGM and luncheon – COVID changed everything for 2020 and we were not able to conduct regular classes for most of the year so getting together was very important. A big thank you to both Irene Duffy and Dorothy Reidy for continuing their classes. Irene’s classes were conducted by Zoom (which was a first for U3A Deniliquin Inc).



**U3A Deniliquin Inc 2021 committee**

The committee is as follows:

President – Alison Wilson;

Vice President – Helen Thompson;

Treasurer: Sue Gatacre;

Secretary: Gill Fraser;

Co-Ordinator: Helen Burnham

Publicity Officer: Gayle Beckton

Committee: Tom Oram; John Watters; Marg Donohue; Judith Smith; Airlie Circuitt; Jan Renwick

Winners of the Raffle at the Christmas Luncheon were:

1st prize – John Waters

2nd prize – Hazel Ladson

Following photos are from the Christmas luncheon – a very enjoyable day had by all.













***U3A President’s Report 2020***

*Welcome to the 2020 Annual General Meeting of Deniliquin U3A.*

*As you are all aware, globally 2020 has been a year like no other in the modern era. We started the year with a successful Enrolment Day. The first term started on Monday 3rd February with courses quite well attended. News of Covid 19 emerged around this time, with Intereach considering closing to the public, our U3A committee were contemplating our immediate future.*

*On 17th March it was decided to go into recess. The committee continued to meet periodically, originally in the Rotunda in the park and later at Helen Burnham’s home, we thank Helen for that. We tried very hard to come up with a plan to allow us to resume the courses we set out for the year with no success. Because of Covid social distancing constraints we were unable to get up and running again. The network Conference and workshops scheduled for 2020 were also cancelled. Helen Burnham and I did link into a Zoom meeting held by the network mid-year.*

*Sadly one of our members Verna Kriebig passed away after a short illness – Vale Verna.*

*We were unable to hold our AGM and Christmas Breakup at Intereach due to the social distance rule. The committee decided to move proceedings to the RSL. So here we are today, I am happy to see so many here for this occasion.*

*I would like to thank the committee for their valued support in trying times, Intereach for their continued association with U3A Deniliquin. The Tutors for giving up their time and you the members we thank you.*

*We the committee invite you to join us today for the Christmas lunch and hopefully we will see you in 2021 for a successful year with lots of fun times.*

*Merry Christmas to you all.*

*Alison Wilson – President Deniliquin U3A*

*2.12.2020*

The more that you read, the more things you will know, the more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”– **[Dr. Seuss](https://everydaypower.com/dr-seuss-quotes/)**

***Deniliquin U3A Co-Ordinators Report 2020***

*Hello all, isn’t it nice to be back together again!*

*2020 has been such a difficult year for U3A and our members. All started well celebrating Seniors Week, once again in partnership with Intereach and Edward River Council. This year we extended the celebrations to three events, the usual movie, a concert and Tai Chi and Meditation in the park. The movie Downton Abbey was hugely successful with over 100 people attending. The lolly bar was a huge success! 90 people attended the concert at South West Music and approx. 20 people participated in the Tai Chi and Meditation classes in the Waring Gardens.*

*A new class “How to write your life story” run by Gary Baker started at the beginning of the year which proved very popular and all the other classes continued.*

*We managed to get in a couple of interesting guest speakers and Armchair Travel presenters then Covid hit! which very sadly closed all our classes, except for the walking group, which has been going strong throughout the whole year.*

*The committee have met several times during the year endeavouring to find ways to commence some classes. As Intereach has been closed, suitable alternative venues have not been available and U3A as an organization have not recommneded recommencement of most of the classes, sadly this has been an impossible task.*

*At the beginning of the year the committee put together a grant application to Edward River Council, under a project they had going to support seniors events. Unfortunately, due to Covid this project was cancelled. However, later in the year we were advised of another project starting to support seniors, which could take place in 2021. The committee once again put together another grant application under the banner of “Reconnecting to the Arts and Music in the Bush”*

*We are very proud to annonce that we received that funding and next year will put together 4 events for our members. These will be Edward River Art Society Workshop, Old Time Dance, Music Sing Along Choir and Poetry/Story Reading. We are very excited about these events and more information will be sent to members when it is all in place.*

*We have received notification from Erica Singleton that Edward River Council will again support U3A for Seniors Week.*

*An application will go in for that funding and we will hopefully be able to go ahead with some exciting events for that, which will thankfully be a little later than the last couple of years and not quite so hot!*

*The start of next year is heading towards being jam packed, making up for the restful time we have all had in recent months!*

*Gayle Beckton has been doing a great job keeping us informed during the year with newsletters, thanks Gayle.*

*The job of co-ordinator was again made very easy by the support I receive from Alison, Gayle, Gil, Sue, Helen T and the committee. We are very pleased to be able to host the lunch today for our members as a thank you for their support and understanding throughout the year and an opportunity to all reconnect.*

*Happy Christmas and New Year and I look forward to seeing you all again in 2021.*

*Helen Burnham – Program Co-Ordinator.*

**U3A 10 Year Anniversary.**

We have reached our 10 year anniversary of U3A Deniliquin. Prior to starting – Joy Moore, Bob & Anne Apedaile were instrumental in organising a Play Reading group and a Photography group also.

U3A Deniliquin started with a project meeting on 30 November 2010 at Intereach at 10.30 am.

Minutes of the U3A Project meeting held on 30 November

Chairperson: Bobby Murphy

Present: Anne Apedaile, Robert Apedaile, Loretta Schneider, Margaret Simpson, Carol David, Bobby Murphy, Ian Mason, Fay Pattison, Marg Smith, Louise Shaw, Anne Corscadden, Dawn Bradford, Patricia Weedon, Joy, Moore, Sue Gatacre, Sue McMillan, Verna Kreibig, Marg Telford, Barbara Scott, John Waters, Wendy Beck, Marg Burgess, Dick Bolton, Marie Carter, David Schoeffel & Janny Bailey.

Apologies: Kerrie Derrin, Donald Ward, Pamela Ward, Rhonda Hetherington & Pam Ellerman.

The meeting was called to review the progress to date and to gauge definite interest in establishing a Deniliquin chapter of U3A and if agreement was reached, to elect a committee to arrange joining NSW U3A before February 2011.

Classes started on 15 February 2011 with Public Speaking and Armchair Travel and of course Play Reading continuing on just 2 days a week. Play reading continued for 9 years.

We started with 36 members and now we have 109. By 2014 we had classes on 3 days and from 2015 we have had 5 days a week. We run more classes than some of the larger member groups.

Some of these classes have been and some are still continuing such as Bushwalking, Discussion Group, Poetry, French, Japanese, German, Italian, Gentle Exercise, Field trips to Gardens and Homesteads, Local History Talks, Flower Arranging and Gardening, Cooking, Bridge, Music and Scattegories and more recently Book Club, Tai Chi, I-Pads, Mahjong and World History.

As you can see from that list we have had plenty of variety. Some of our Committee have travelled to other U3A groups for workshops and also to attend several Annual Conferences and we have been involved with Seniors Week and the Film Festival in most years.

We look forward to many more years of U3A Deniliquin and hope you all enjoy some of the classes we offer so see you all in 2021 and have a safe and Happy Christmas.

The above information was provided by Sue Gatacre – thank you Sue.

**Classes start on Tuesday 2nd February 2021**

**ENROLMENT DAY is from 9am to 12 midday on Wednesday 27th January 2021 at Intereach**.

Subs for the year are as follows:

Existing members: $10.00

New members: $35.00

**Please note that payment is either by cash or cheque – NO CARDS will be accepted as we do not have EFTPOS facilities**.

If you know of any new members please remember to tell them that they can try 3 different classes before they pay their membership.

An enrolment form is attached to the email for you to print out and fill in to save you time on enrolment day, but if you forget then there will be forms available but please bring your own pen.

With COVID restrictions in place there will be NO tea or coffee provided.

The new timetable is attached to this email also. Our co-ordinator Helen has been working very hard to provide us with an interesting timetable.

COVID has placed some restrictions on us and a few of our courses are on hold until further information is available, these classes are Tai Chi & IPad/IPhones & Mah-Jong.

Scattergories is going ahead and if you are planning on attending this course please bring your own pen. Sue will provide each person with paperwork and she will be the only person touching the timer and dice.

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The Walking Group has a new leader Carol David and her mobile number is 0407462808. Many thanks to Dorothy Reidy for all her time in leading the Walking Group previously – thank you Dorothy.

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Italian classes are no longer continuing and thank you to Amanda Barlow for her time and patience.

Arrivederci e grazie Amanda.

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As you can see from the timetable, Garry Baker is back with a new course – Writing and Publishing and another new course is Conversational French with Margaret Russell.

If any members know of anyone in the Community who would be willing to speak on their travels please give Helen a call.

If you require information in relation to the timetable please contact Helen Burnham on 0400110749 who will be only to willing to help with your query.

**Telephone Directory**:

U3A Mobile Phone: 0499839468

Alison Wilson: 0438894339

Helen Thompson: 0408893347

Gill Fraser: 0427453256

Helen Burnham: 0400110749

Sue Gatacre: 0419536738

**COVID 19 Safe Practices**:

There will be wipes and hand sanitiser provided in each class.

For the well-being and health of members if you are unwell please stay home.

The committee look forward to catching up with everyone this coming term and we thank you all for your on going patience during these challenging times.

Gayle Beckton

Publicity Officer

U3A Deniliquin Inc.

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