



Newsletter #1 - March 2021

WELCOME to our very first mid-term Newsletter! So much has happened since February 2020, we felt the need to let you know how 2021 is going, and some new developments we reckon you'll love:

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

First, I'd like to (on behalf of all U3A members) thank our presenters who make all our activities possible. I thought you might like to see what our most popular activities were for this term? History at Nowra (with Lloyd Pitcher); Cosimo De Medici (with Patrick De Gabrielle); Let's Do Lunch (with Sue Reeves); Peopling the Pacific (with Peter Bindon); Merribee Gardens (with Glennis Brooking); John's Camino Walks (with John Davis) and 3 Views Walk (with Graeme Cord). And in a sign that COVID restrictions are truly lifting we were able to return Learning to Sing (with Ona Frazier).

We do still take members' health and safety seriously, so you'll see our current COVID restrictions below.

It's been great to see many members returning to our activities during term 1 and we look forward to many more joining or re-joining us for on-going and new activities in Term 2.

Warren Mason, President Shoalhaven U3A

IMPORTANT DATES for your Diaries:

Term 1 ends Thursday 1st April 2021

Term 2 starts Monday 3rd May, ends Friday 25 June 2021

U3A NETWORK NSW CONFERENCE: will be held in Wagga 12-13 April 2021. Many of our Committee members will be attending, and we hope to bring back new ideas and choices for our members.

TASTE OF THE RIVERINA TOUR

This educational travel program will operate during the 4 days prior to the U3A NSW Wagga Wagga Conference on 12th & 13th April, 2021 and is primarily for Conference attendees.

Commencing on Friday 9th April and visiting Junee, Coolamon, Griffith & Leeton it will culminate in Wagga Wagga on 12th April in time for participants to register for the conference.

Participants will travel by private car to minimise the cost and car-pooling is suggested. A detailed itinerary is available by email from densimond@bigpond.com. The program includes: 3 nights accommodation, all entry fees as listed in the itinerary, 1 Continental Breakfast, 2 Dinners, 1 Afternoon Tea and Services of a Program Leader.

Program Per Person cost: Single Room \$670. Double or Share Twin Room \$5485

Partners of Conference attendees may accompany participants.

AS AT 22ND MARCH we can still accommodate: 1 x female to share accommodation with another already booked; two more (or a couple) to share the last accommodation.

Further information from Denis Simond on 0407 776 778.

COVID UPDATE:

As of Friday 19th March, NSW Regional Restrictions affecting us are as follows:

2 sq meters between participants

Masks are not obligatory

If possible, register attendance via a QR code

Maintain good hygiene, both personal and in premises.

Website: Thanks to Peter Eales, we have a fabulous new website (<https://shoalhaven.u3anet.org.au/>) that provides easy access to all our information and activities, including on-line enrolment.

**AND NOW SOME OF OUR POLICIES,
ADMINISTRATIVE THINGS YOU MIGHTN'T KNOW:**

Cancellation of course bookings: once you have enrolled in a course and paid, we count you in as confirmed and may decide to run or not run a course depending on numbers enrolled. So if you later wish to CANCEL your enrolment, that can have significant effect on location, viable numbers, cost recovering etc. So there can be **NO REFUNDS OR CREDITS** except in really extenuating circumstances, which will need to be approved by the President.

Emergency contacts in our records: We take our 'Duty of Care' seriously, and if you are unable to tell us yourself, we need to have on hand the phone number of the person of your choice to contact, in the unlikely event of an emergency! Please ensure you supply/update these details when you enrol next!!

Office Hours: Before Term 2 starts, our office will be open from 10am to 2.30pm on April 19, 20, 22 and 23.

Once term starts (3rd May), we have volunteers in the office between 0930 – 1230 each Monday – Wednesday – Friday, if you need to enrol, update your details, or just ask a question.

Course Venues: our regular venues are Rooms 4 and 5 at 48 Berry Street Nowra, the CWA Rooms at 39 Berry Street (up the laneway), the Senior Citizens Centre (also up that laneway), the Community Centre at Culburra, the Uniting Church in Berry, the Maritime Museum in Huskisson and a few others (plus necessary venues for Ten Pin Bowling, Bowling, Golf, Croquet etc). We are always looking for other suitable venues that might work as we develop more activities – if you can suggest a likely place, please let us know. Anywhere in the Shoalhaven is possible!

SOME CURRENT FUN ACTIVITIES:



Fabulous outlook from our Three Views Walk at Kangaroo Valley on 17th March.



Happy Sounds Shoalhaven – will be singing again with us in Term 2 2021 – for anyone who just loves to sing!

NEW COURSES / INITIATIVES anticipated for Term 2 - not yet finalised, but we hope for:

A TOPIC for each TED Talk of Men will be published in the Activities Brochure

OPERA presentations and discussions

A tour of Bluescope steelworks in Wollongong

Visit to the Fleet Air Arm Museum

Terry Crockford curating a series of one-hour talks on Destinations – favourite places we have travelled

And maybe, to encourage you to bring your friends, tell them about U3A offerings, we could run a **Member get Member** campaign – there are literally thousands of retirees in our region who would seriously benefit from the socialisation, friendships, information and other activities we share so happily. **What do you think would be a suitable/reasonable incentive/ reward when an enrolment is the direct result of your actions?**

COVID MONITOR: VOLUNTEER WANTED

To: monitor the state government's health COVOD regulations for changes relevant to us; formalise our room cleaning policies and procedures; monitoring signatures and maintaining the member Participation Declaration register; researching and buying the cleaning materials most practically effective for our operation; maintaining our attendance records for both visitors and students.

Interested? Not too hard – pls contact Eric if you'd like to help in this 😊