

TERM ONE: 29 JANUARY 2018 – 13 APRIL 2018

Your Chairperson's Report



Well, here we are at the end of another year! 2017 has just flown - it seems the older we get, the quicker the time goes by..... It has been a busy and exciting year for U3A Gawler and the Committee has been working very hard to keep things running smoothly. We have seen several new groups start up and continue very successfully.

U3A groups from Yorke Peninsula and Mt Gambier visited the Gawler area and invited us to meet up with them. We shared a meal at the Gawler Arms with both groups and had a wonderful time. It was great to meet in person and to share ideas and experiences.

As most of you are aware, I will not be continuing as Chairperson in 2018 and would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their encouragement and support. Both the Committee and members have been wonderful, which has made my time with U3A Gawler very enjoyable.

I would like to urge as many of you as possible to attend the AGM early next year and to consider standing for a position on the Committee. To ensure that you get the most out of your membership, it is important that the Committee knows how you would like to see U3A operate, hear your concerns, ideas and thoughts....

On behalf of myself and all the Committee, I would like to wish you all a very Merry and Safe Christmas and very Happy New Year.

CORAL GOWLAND 0412 481 015

Your U3A Committee is:

Chairperson - Coral Gowland;
Secretary - Fran Mason;
Treasurer - Peter Adams.
Committee –Diane McGough
(Deputy Chairperson),
Sue Stanner,
Ray Connor,
Jean Connor,
Daisy Cussans,
Margaret Raggat

Gawler U3A appreciates the ongoing support provided by the **Office of Tony Piccolo** (Member for Light) in supplying printing.

U3A would like to thank all those who volunteer their Time, Effort and Expertise in providing activities and services for U3A Members. Without all those volunteers we would have no U3A Gawler.
Thank you!

30th
anniversary

We are looking for members to help organise our **U3A Gawler 30th ANNIVERSARY** in October, including celebratory activities and an update of our History booklet. Please let us know if you are interested. Ring 0421 604 670 or email u3agawler@gmail.com

“REGISTRATION DAY”

Wednesday 10th January 2018

10 am to 12 noon

at Gawler Sports and Recreation Centre

\$25.00 registration covers all activities
(If you can, please have the correct monies)

New members welcome

Enquiries please contact by phone or email
0421 604 670 or u3agawler@gmail.com

New U3A Term starts Mon. Jan 29th, 2018

New courses for Term 1, 2018 will be

**Beginners' Ukulele
Tai Chi Beginners
Friday Craft and Leisure Group
Technology of Today**

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

**Beginners' Ukulele
Bell Chimers
Book Club with a TWist
Chair Dancing
Creative Writing
Computing Help Desk
Craft & Leisure Group
Craft Circle
Discussion Group
Fun Games Afternoon
Harmonica
Intermediate Tai Chi
Jam Session
Mah Jong
Ramblers
Scottish Country
Dancing
Scrabble
Shibashi/Tai Chi
Tai Chi Beginners
Technology of Today
Ukulele (Gawler Ukes)**

NEW

BEGINNERS' UKULELE

Starting Tuesday 20th Feb until April 10th, 2018

10.45-11.30am

All a Beginner needs is a Ukulele and an electronic tuner. These can be purchased from “B Music”, 154 Murray St, Gawler. (Let them know you are learning with Gawler U3A.) If you can count to **four** you can play the ukulele. Most importantly bring yourself. A beginner's book will be available for \$5. For more information please ring **Diane on 0407710903**

CRAFT AND LEISURE GROUP

Fridays from 9 am – noon

Our group is a very social group, with female and male members sharing and teaching.

Available to members is the use of some **craft equipment for making teddies, card making and pastels.**

We also have equipment for **decoupage and wood-burning** but at this stage there is no instruction available for these.

If anyone is keen to learn, **or knows how to use the equipment we have**, we welcome them to join us.

There are other members who do their own craft e.g.: knitting or colouring-in and jigsaws. Anyone who would like to join us on a Friday morning is most welcome.

NOREEN (Ph 0417 844 384)

NEW!

TECHNOLOGY OF TODAY

Friday fortnightly 1.30 – 3.00

Interested in learning more about buying a tablet or computer, using your Smart phone, the internet, Google or Facebook?

Want to know more about the NBN, or making money on the internet?

Brett Johnson is running a course in Term 1 to help you become more knowledgeable in all these areas. Ring Fran on 0421604670 to learn more.

FROM YOUR EDITOR DIANE MCGOUGH

There is a **Members' Noticeboard** at the end of the newsletter. At any time should a member like to advertise an item for sale, tell members of a special event, news, stories, engagements etc please email it to me at u3anewsletter@gmail.com. (Depends on space and vetting by the Executive U3A Committee.)

All submissions for the next newsletter to be received by the editor
no later than APRIL 6th 2018

preferably by email to u3anewsletter@gmail.com
but if you have no access to email please **ring FRAN on 0421604670**

U3A are always looking to improve **communication** with members. If you have changed your email or just obtained an email address please let U3A know by emailing u3agawler@gmail.com

As the U3A is always looking for **new members**, if you know of anyone who is looking for something different to do, encourage them to join the U3A.

Please seriously consider a role on the Committee

so that U3A Gawler can continue to be a successful community organisation. If you would like to discuss the role of a committee member or an executive role please contact any committee member or email u3agawler@gmail.com

More hands less work

Gawler U3A's web address is www.u3agawler.org.au

(We do like to keep the website up to date but sometimes we encounter technical difficulties)

Information about Courses, and Leaders' contact details, can be found in the Gawler U3A term programme

We are lucky to have the Gawler Sport and Community Centre to hold our courses and events.

Through the efforts of **Tony Piccolo** (Member for Light) U3A Gawler have this venue at very good rates. Because of these special rates, it is very important that plenty of notice is given to the Centre for **booking or cancellation**. This is to ensure U3A Gawler have enough funds and a room is available. If not enough notice is given, we can be charged the **full** rate.

Should a member/leader wish to book a room for a U3A purpose,
please do so through Berlinda on 0434485989
or email u3aroombooking@gmail.com

A Message from the Secretary

You may have noticed some differences in the list of activities available for 2018. As happened in 2017, we have a short 8-week **Beginners' Ukulele** course starting in February, after which those who have decided to continue will join the *Gawler Ukes*. **Tai Chi Beginners** once again starts off the year and morphs into the *Continuing* group as the students and the months progress.

Before the *Craft Circle* started in Term 4 the Committee was approached by the leadership of the *Gawler Craft & Leisure Group*, which was already meeting on Friday mornings, on whether they could be incorporated within U3A. After several meetings and discussion with your Committee and Executive, we are delighted to announce that this is going ahead, which means that we now have **TWO CRAFT GROUPS**, both held in the STUDIO on different days of the week.

The Wednesday afternoon *Craft Circle* is very unstructured, with members bringing their own project, or several working together tutoring, learning and chatting with each other, all at the one large table. Every second week this changed slightly when a chat topic was introduced for those interested in taking part in the *Circle of Life* sub-group. This coming term a "Show and Tell" format will be trialled instead.

INSTRUCTORS NEEDED

The Friday morning *Craft and Leisure Group*, on the other hand, is much more organised, with a large collection of craft material stored in their cupboards, waiting for those interested to access them. If you have any expertise at all in the crafts mentioned in their paragraph on Page 2, and would like to learn, or help teach others those skills, please get in touch with Noreen. The two dozen or so **new members of U3A Gawler** and their leaders will welcome you with open arms. We **welcome** them, and hope they will find some of our other courses to be of interest as the year progresses.

IMAGINE! If you have the time and the interest, you could join both craft groups!

WRITING YOUR OWN LIFE STORY has been running for many, many years, and Pat James has been its leader for the past 22 of those. Pat has decided to retire, however, and the group has made the decision to disband. **FUN FIXING FOTOS** will be in recess for most of this year, with leader Helen Turvey busily visiting and hosting overseas family. The **THEATRE GROUP**, organised by Linda Johnston, will not be meeting for discussion after attending their chosen shows.

We sincerely thank the leaders of each and every group, past and present, for the work they have done and are planning for 2018.

Fran Mason (Secretary) 0421 604 670 (u3agawler@gmail.com)



Gawler Ukes

Another year has come and almost gone. Fellow Ukers, as well as playing together on Tuesdays, have played at Residential Homes and enjoyed theme days at the centre and made new friends.

Christmas is with us - a time to reflect and look forward to a new year, new surprises and new accomplishments.

I would like to give a very special "Thank You" to Ray and Jean who have helped with the distribution of music to fellow Ukers and all it entails. They have decided to have a break and relax and enjoy playing the Ukulele. Their boots are going to be hard to fill.

Our final day we are having Xmas Celebrations with some Ukers providing entertainment for their fellow Ukers. **Merry Xmas Everyone and Happy New Year**

Diane McGough 0407710903 or email u3auke@gmail.com

Craft Circle

The *Craft Circle* (incorporating *Circle of Life*) began in Term 4 with 16 people attending, and has become very popular for those who like the idea of coming together with their individual craft, and chatting the time away. There has been a lot of knitting, but also crochet, painting and hand quilting. Many of us were interested in taking on a special project, knitting strips for blankets to be put together and donated, as well as learning how to make Twiddlemuffs for dementia patients. If you have any **8-ply wool** which you could donate for these, it would be greatly appreciated.

Every second week some of us moved to a second table to discuss the *Circle of Life* topic set by Linda. If numbers were lower than normal everyone present in the room participated. The December topic of "10 things that annoy you and 10 things that make you happy", aroused much agreement and laughter.

As the weeks progressed we have come to realise that many of those attending have done some amazing craft over the years. To encourage them to share their work, this coming term we have decided to change the alternate weekly topic to a "**Show and Tell**" format within the whole group. We will pick the name of willing participants out of a bag, with one or two bringing some of their work every second week, and telling us the story of how they began their journey with that particular craft. If you are a 'crafter' and would like to join us, please ring Fran on 0421 604 670. You are more than welcome!

Fran Mason & Linda Johnston



Gawler U3A Theatre Group

The Therry Dramatic Society's recent production was advertised as "Alan Ayckbourn's delightful and entertaining comedy, murder mystery thriller". "**It could Be Any One of Us**", whilst having all the usual high standards of acting and production, left us feeling bemused and somewhat let down in its silliness. There will be no meeting in Term One 2018. **Linda Johnston 82528525**

Scottish Country Dancing

Our numbers have been up and down during this year with people sick or on holiday but that hasn't stopped us from having enjoyable classes with plenty of fun. Unfortunately, because of people being away or having other commitments, we are not able to give our usual demonstration at the end of year breakup party. We would love to welcome some new dancers in the new year so if you would like to get some fun exercise please come along and give us a try. Talk to me or any of our dancers on Enrolment day and we will answer any questions you may have - or you may like to phone me on **8523 5006. Jacqueline Lerwill**

The Jammers

2017 has been an eventful year for your players. We have experimented with a variety of styles and genres. Our natural strength appears to be in Country tunes, but as we have learned to play some faster rhythms we have also enjoyed some new Bluegrass renditions.

We are on the hunt for sheet music for older Country songs, but other music as well, and would appreciate it if you could rescue any of the same if you think there is some about to be thrown out.

Our accordion player needs to read from sheet music as do the guitars and other instruments playing the lead. All players have become proficient in reading chord charts and we look forward to sharing this knowledge with newcomers in 2018.

Of note are the major advances all the instruments have made in 'picking' tunes and patterns. The ukulele and banjolele players are to be congratulated on their tenacity.

The Community Singalong booklet seems to be a good idea and may well be useful again in the coming year. We take this opportunity to thank all our supporters this year and wish you a relaxing, well-earned break.

Information is available from **Ann Weiss, 0415 663 041**

Book Club with a Twist

Term 4 has seen our small group once again being challenged by the genres we have chosen to read. At our November meeting not only the variety within the topic (an autobiography or biography), but also the way we went about choosing the person or book involved, was of great interest. We heard about the lives of a famous Australian sportswoman, an immigrant who has become famous in several different fields, the New Zealand WW2 soldier who won the Victoria Cross twice, and a lady who was personally known to the member, along with the author, her daughter; all very diverse, all fascinating. The next choice – an anthropomorphic story (talking animals) had us reading and discussing *Animal Farm*, *Tailchaser's Song* and *The Ancient Solitary Reign*, at least two of which 'raise(d) questions about our interpretation of what it means to be civilized and how corruptible a concept that can be.'

We chose to keep busy over the next 7 weeks (we meet 1st February), by taking on two books each: a **book of 500 pages or more**, and a **cookbook with a story**. And (why not!?) to make it all the more enjoyable, we will choose a recipe from the cookbook and bring printed copies with us to share, as well as the cooked food itself! We will meet at 6.00 pm to share the meal before discussing the books chosen. Please get in touch if our Book Club sounds at all interesting. We would love you to join us.

Fran and Graham Mason 8523 2844

Ramblers

We enjoyed four lovely walks in Term Three and were blessed with very accommodating weather each time. Quite a large number turned up so we can see the keen Ramblers. Keith's last leg to Henley Beach was picturesque along the River Torrens. A variation of the Hissey Loop in Para Wirra by Mike was scattered with lovely Spring flowers and some wildlife. Colin's Deadman's Pass, which was started from the top and reached by bus, was a pleasant meander on a warm day. The last walk led by Jo was to the Anzac Murals in the city, some taking photos of plaques of battles their family had been involved in, and finished off with a walk on the other side of the Torrens.

37 of us had Xmas lunch at the SLUG and LETTUCE Hotel in Parafield Gardens and had a Merry Old Time. In 2018 we have four walks planned, three of which are new to our members. Although we are a fairly large group we always welcome new members. *Mike and Jo Riley.* 8284 1126

Computing Help Desk

It appears that we are all happy and confident in our Windows skills - no calls for help all last term. There is more to life than just Windows, and if you wish to extend into document creation in MS Word, spread-sheeting in MS Excel, visual presentations in MS Powerpoint (or their non-Microsoft equivalents) or image processing in Photoshop or equivalents, help is at hand - just don't ask me about genealogy, although we do have a couple of very well-informed members in that field.

I won't be sitting waiting in the foyer at the Centre this term, but if you give me a call I'll arrange to see you there at two o'clock on any Thursday. **Stan P. on 8524 8245**

Bell Chimers

Another good year behind us. We rehearsed, laughed, joked and then had lunch together.

We had several engagements this year. The group had a return visit to Eldercare at Smithfield. We all enjoy our visit to them: the ladies, gentlemen, carers and bell chimers. They all make us so welcome. It is a pleasure to go there.

The group had a "Christmas in July" lunch. A great time was had by all. It's so good when we get together for a meal, laughter and friendship outside our classes. We visited Trevue in August, and met up with Norma who lives there. Norma was one of the original Chimers.

September brought an invitation to play for the Weight Watchers' party. After playing we stayed to supper. Not a lot of weight watching; the food was superb. A great night. We were also invited to play at Pam Edwards' birthday party and met up with lots of friends.

November brought us another invitation to Trevue. This time we played carols. It was nice to hear everyone singing along. This month we are playing carols for the Craft Ladies group at Hillier Park.

We also have our group Christmas Lunch. Looking forward to that.

The group have had a very successful 2018 and are looking forward to 2018. Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year from all the Bell Chimers

U3A CHRISTMAS PARTY 2017

What a great party!! So many members came and enjoyed the company and the variety of food they all brought to the party. There was entertainment provided by the Jammers, the Gawler Ukes, the Bell Chimers and Chair Dancers. Unfortunately, because there was so much going on, there was no time for Scottish Dancing Participation, although everyone got up for Auld Lang Syne. There were raffles, puzzles and a lot of catching up with each other. Our thanks go to the Christmas Party team headed by Sue Stanner, and the Red Cross ladies, for giving us such a great party.

It was an even more special day as there were **Life Member Presentations** by Coral Gowland, our President, to some very special people. Presentations went to the following, and our Congratulations to them all!



JACQUELINE LERWILL
Committee 2004-2008; 2011-2013
Chair Dancing 2003 on (15 years)
Scottish country dancing T4 2007 on.



JUDITH DAVIES
Secretary 2011-2015
Computer skills 2007-08, 2010-11



ARTHUR DAVIES
Committee 2006, 2007
Treasurer 2009;
Secretary 2010;
Chairperson 2011-2013
Presenter/ leader of many
courses in the cultural,
scientific, musical and
computing areas from 2001



NORMA HAMILTON (presented at home)
Committee member 2004-2008; 2010-2014
Chairperson 2005, 2008.
Discussion Group Leader T4, 2015.



PAT JAMES
(Life Member 2010)
Certificate of Appreciation
presented at her farewell lunch
for 22 years as leader of
Writing Your Own Life Story.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Well what can I say!!!! You did us proud by giving so generously so many presents for St Vinnies. Jane from St Vinnies came with a van to my house to pick them up and was overwhelmed with your generosity. (Jane will be speaking at our A.G.M.)

Jane has asked me to pass on St Vinnies' Sincere Thanks and *the thanks from all the children who will receive the presents.*

A BIG Thank You from me (Diane) also. It was a brand-new idea started last year and it has proven to be an idea embraced by you all. When I took them home to be collected by St Vinnies the presents filled the boot and back seat of my car.



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 14th MARCH at 2.00 pm

Do you have a few hours per month to help Gawler U3A continue working as well as we possibly can?

At the AGM in March, several of our Committee members will not be standing for re-election, including our President and Vice-President.

We need new people who would be willing to join our **COMMITTEE** for 2018.

(The President and Vice-President are then elected within the committee.)

We also urgently need members who are interested in taking up the following positions:

1. **WEBSITE COORDINATOR**

2. **DEPUTY TREASURER**

Neither of these positions should take up much of your time, but are very important for the ongoing running of U3A Gawler. If you are interested, **please let us know asap** as it would work really well if we can show you what is required before our courses begin in January. Ring 0421 604 670 or email u3agawler@gmail.com



U3A members would like to send their heartfelt sympathy to Jennifer Young, leader of the Mah Jong group and her family for the loss of her beloved husband Bob in November this year.

