

Hi, Members and Friends of Coffs Harbour U3A.

We trust that everyone has found their own way to keep involved and interested as we watched this last Term pass by without our usual U3A classes and contacts to add that little bit of colour. The restrictions imposed on us during this period are being eased gradually (which is making our lives a little easier), but the problem hasn't gone away, and there is still the need for caution. Which brings us to next term...

The U3A committee met a few weeks ago, and met again with the Tutors last week to bring everyone up to date with the current situation. At this time, the rules which determine how our various venues must operate, and the restrictions on the numbers of people that can be in any of those rooms, prohibits our return to normal operations, so...

Coffs Harbour U3A will remain closed from the start of Term 3, with limited exceptions.

There are **a few classes** (with smaller numbers or larger venues), which will be able to recommence activities next term. (In some cases Tutors have indicated that the conditions imposed make a return too difficult at this stage).

Where a class is able to restart, the tutor concerned will have contacted the members of the class to bring them up to date with the changes, and to discover if members are willing to restart. In all such circumstances, every member is free to decide for themselves their own course of action – to return to class, to wait, or to withdraw. If you are contacted by your tutor, do make sure you reply and make your intentions clear. This allows your tutor to then plan ahead for the restart.

Some classes have ceased for the year. Again, those class members have been informed.

The majority of classes remain closed. In the weeks and months ahead, as restrictions are lifted and rules are changed, and numbers allow other classes to restart, then, with committee approval, the tutor may initiate the above process; class members will be contacted, etc.

All members need to be aware that all the current advice about matters of hygiene will be a part of each class' routine operations:-

- Don't attend if unwell.
- Practise hand hygiene and 'cough covering'.
- Maintain social-distancing (1.5m) at all times. (This will be necessary, and difficult at times- we cannot - crowd entrances on arrival; -brush past others in doorways; -stand around in close groups chatting. Furniture organisation will need to be controlled; etc etc...)
- Participate in maintaining a clean venue; all surfaces must be cleaned and disinfected before/after use. What this involves will vary slightly from venue to venue. Tutors will inform you at the time. We will require each member to provide their own hand sanitiser and disinfectant 'wipes'. Items lent/ borrowed should be sanitised.
- No access to kitchens.

When you return to class you will notice many changes – it will not be “the old normal”. But individually, we will be!

Much work is involved in organising these changes, and the committee would like to take this opportunity to thank our tutors, who end up carrying much of the burden that these changes and their implementation involve. Your support will make their task easier, and your time together more enjoyable (if that were possible!).

We are all looking forward to the resumption of our usual practices, but for that we will have to remain patient.

The Management Committee,
Coffs Harbour U3A

P.S. The dates for Term 3 are Monday 20th July to Friday 25th September. Term 4 recommences on Monday 12th October. All class closures will remain in place until the committee authorises a return, and the class is contacted by their tutor about restarting.