

Coffs Harbour U3A-
2020 into 2021- Bulletin No.1 (27/11/2020)

A Message to All Members and Friends.

Topics: **1. Communication** **2. Website** **3. AGM** **4. Fees for 2021**
5. How Can I Help? **6. Coming Events**

As we draw to the close of what has been a very different and difficult year, we no doubt have started to think ahead to next year . There is much information to pass on to you, both about how we are going to make that transition, and what next year is going to look like. Too much information for one bulletin, so I will break it up into more easily digested parcels.

The organisation that provides our bulk omail /email systems has informed us of a number of problems that this year's increased loading has caused. Some member U3As have experienced delivery issues, with some mail-outs failing to reach all/some members. To ensure that any such failure does not interfere with your receipt of these 'Bulletins', each of them **will be placed on the 'Home' page of our website, where they can be read and /or downloaded by 'clicking' on them**, as has been the case with all the important communications this year (2020). Do check that page in the weeks ahead if you have concerns.

Website

So, while on the subject, our website has a new look! Go to <https://coffs.u3anet.org.au/> and have a look. For those of us who use tablets and phones to access on-line material, it should work in a more 'friendly' way. Test out your member's login on the *Membership* page. And the *Events* page, for what's on, and when, in these coming weeks. But do not anticipate that any event will be like its predecessors. The rules currently do not allow that!. For the time being, things will be necessarily different.

[Before leaving the subject of the website: some members may have previously made bookmarks or other links to pages / logins etc on our old website. These will probably no longer function, and will need to be redone for the new website.]

2020 A.G.M

We were able to hold our AGM on 23rd October. Many thanks to those who made the effort to book in, sit socially-distanced, and participate in the meeting. We welcome Ann S. onto the committee, but farewell Lionel G; Karen B; and Penny H. We will miss them, and the efforts they have put in on behalf of the members. In particular, Karen has been responsible for bringing the Newsletter back to life over the past 21 months, but is unable to continue with the task. If any member feels they would enjoy editing our U3A newsletter, do get in touch. You don't have to be a committee member for this engaging task. (But, in the same breath- if anyone feels they have something to offer fellow members, the committee will welcome you!)

Fees for 2021

These were determined at the AGM.

For **new members** joining in 2021, the fee remains at \$75.

For **all renewing members** in 2021, the fee has been set at just \$40. This will apply to 2020 members, who missed so much this year, and also to renewing members from previous years. (The joining /renewing membership process will be covered in a forthcoming bulletin).

How Can I Help?

We have a number of members whose internet / email access is limited, even non-existent. Without it, these members will struggle to stay in touch with their U3A.

Do you know any member who is in such a position, or is connected but uncomfortable with the technology? And are you in a position to assist them during this transition period into 2021?

If so, it will be greatly appreciated by everyone involved in the organisation (through to next February) if you could render such help where you can, or let us know in cases where you cannot.

We will not be able to run “mass rallies” like, for example past Enrolment Days, when those members could turn-up pay fees , huddle around boards to see what was on offer, talk to tutors, then enrol, all involving queues and contact – basically no-go-zones now. We will be there, but in a different form and style.

Any help you can give another member who needs it will help prevent one dislodged rock becoming a landslide, and be much appreciated by those who are at the bottom, looking up!

Coming Events

Today:- 2020-to-2021 Bulletin No.1 arrives. And is read! Good to see you made it to here!
Visit the website! <https://coffs.u3anet.org.au/>

Soon: Bulletins No.s 2 and 3 -Courses / Classes / Paying Membership / Enrolment Day

Monday 30th November:- Courses become available for viewing on website *Courses* page

Friday 4th December :- Last Day of our U3A classes for 2020.

Note: No End-of-Year Activity- eg Trivia - Cancelled for 2020

Monday 7th December:- Coffs U3A Membership is Open for 2021. (Bulletin No2 will have details)

Wednesday 13th January 2021- Enrolments open. A very different Enrolment Day

Wednesday 27th January '21 – Tutor's Meeting. 9.30am-11.30am

Monday 1st February -First day of Term 1, 2021

Stay safe over the break. The following website will give you the up-to-date “Covid rules” that should guide your activities specially if family activities are being planned.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules>