



NEWSLETTER

April 2024

U3A Southport won first prize of \$2,000 in the recent *Greater Bank Community Funding Program Competition!* A huge thank you to all members who voted – an amazing 2,300 times!



Photo from left to right: Kim Carter, Amanda Cowser, Joe from Greater Bank, Lou Stevens and Amanda de Fina.

This money was used to purchase much needed equipment such as a portable projector, new card tables, a double-sided portable whiteboard and some more A frames for signage.

Do you like to play an instrument? Jazz up your life and enrol in our **Acoustic Jam Session** and have some fun with others who like to play!



1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month 1.00pm-3.00pm upstairs at the Margaret St Hall.

IMPORTANT:

There will be **No Classes on the Easter Public Holidays - Friday 29 March and Monday 1 April and ANZAC Day Thursday 25 April.**

Easter Raffle

Thank you to everyone who supported our Easter Raffle. Congratulations to the winners:

1. Pat Rowe
2. Tina Northover
3. Cindy Staples
4. Margaret K.

Our thanks also to Woolworths & Coles Australia Fair, Sue Ward and Diane Newbould for their kind donations.

We wish everyone a Safe & Happy Easter!



Acknowledgement: The U3A Southport Newsletter is kindly printed by the office of ROB MOLHOEK M.P. Member for Southport.



NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT & CLASS CO-ORDINATOR

Lou Stevens

Annual General Meeting

Thank you to all those members who attended the AGM on Thursday 21st March 2024.

Elected 2024 Committee

President: Lou Stevens

Vice-President: Amanda de Fina

Treasurer: Wendy Barker

Secretary: Amanda Cowser

Committee Members:

- Lesley Northey
- Kim Carter
- Robyn Todd
- Trish Darnedde
- Gloria de Villiers
- Michelle De La Rente (Social Committee)
- Penny Lawson (Social Committee)

Achievements in past 12 months:

- ✓ Increased classes from 55 to 70.
- ✓ Increased membership from 350 to 560.
- ✓ Fundraising that created the first surplus bank balance.
- ✓ Increased exposure by attending events and promoting U3A Southport at Seniors Health & Lifestyle Expo and Botanical Bazaar.
- ✓ Collaboration with Retail First to promote Seniors' Month in Australia Fair with interactive displays by U3A classes.
- ✓ Obtained large retail space in more prominent area of Australia Fair for U3A art exhibition, sales and promotion.
- ✓ Promotional talks at Men's Sheds, Probus and other organisations.

A summary of the President & Class Co-ordinator's Report follow and the *Minutes of the 2024 AGM are available at www.u3asouthport.au/2024-agm/*

It has been a massive 12 months since the last AGM. Part of our Strategic Plan was to double our membership within three years – well, we are almost there in just over 12 months. Another was to increase the number of classes on offer – the number is rising on a weekly basis and we now have the largest and greatest variety of classes ever.

Some things we don't have control over are our continued lease agreement with the GCCC for Australia Fair premises and the on-going state of disrepair at Margaret Street. We currently hire 19 rooms per week at the Community Centre and this will increase to 21 in Semester 2. Although we now have the funds, thanks to a surplus last financial year, for hiring more space at the Community Centre, availability of suitable rooms on an ongoing basis presents a problem.

Our sub-lease at Australia Fair is the subject of discussion with the Gold Coast City Council and Australia Fair Management and is currently on a month-to-month basis. The Management Committee's discussion with Australia Fair Management has been fairly positive and we believe we should be secure for at least the next 12 months.

The lease on our Margaret St Hall will likely not be renewed in 2027 as there is a lot of work that needs to be done to the building.

Be assured we are working very hard with Australia Fair Management and the Council to secure a suitable future location in the Southport area which fulfils our needs and is close to public transport.

Membership Fee Increase for 2025

A very minimal increase of \$5.00 per annum for 2025 was agreed at the AGM.

CLASS ENROLMENTS

To assist us with classroom limits, we ask that *members please enrol in classes before attending.*



NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT & CLASS CO-ORDINATOR

Lou Stevens

APOLOGIES

Please note that you must advise the office (ph. 5591 6671 or email u3agcfrontoffice@gmail.com) or your tutor if you will be absent from a class; or if you no longer want to attend the class.

AUSTRALIA FAIR PARKING

A reminder: **Australia Fair** (off Marine Parade, Southport) offers up to **3 hours free parking**. After the first 3 hours fees apply.

Australia Fair **Metro** (Young St & Garden St) offers up to **2 hours free parking**. After 2 hours fees apply.

NEW CLASSES



Basic Computer Skills – Beginner
5 weeks only from 18 April on Thursdays 11:15am - 12:45pm in the Australia Fair Study Room.

This is a class for people who have never used computers before.

Basic Computer Skills – Intermediate
5 weeks only from 4 April on Thursdays 9:30am – 10:30am in the Australia Fair Study Room.

You will need a Windows 10 laptop, charger, mouse and an empty USB drive and an email address. This class is not for beginners.

Chinese History
5 weeks only from 28 March on Thursdays 10:00am - 11:30am at the Southport Community Centre.



This class continues the history of China post Qing Dynasty.

Dance for Fitness & Fun A

Due to the popularity of this class, an additional class has been added on **Mondays 9:00am – 10:00am in the Margaret St Hall – Upper Level.**



Ukulele for Beginners
Weekly on Wednesdays 11:30am - 1:00pm at the Margaret St Hall – Upper Level.

No previous experience is necessary and those with some experience are welcome. You must have your own ukulele and bring a music stand if you have one.

CLASS CHANGES

Cards – Bridge for Beginners

Time and Venue Change: Weekly on a Tuesday 9.15am-12.30pm at the Southport Library.

Cards – Bridge Social

Time Change: Weekly on a Tuesday 9.30am-12.00pm at the Margaret St Hall – Upper Level.

French Beginners & French Intermediate

These classes will recommence as soon as a new tutor is confirmed.



Fitness A & B

As the Tutor will be away, there will be **no classes on Tuesday 2 April, Thursday 4 April and Tuesday 9 April.**

SEEKING TUTORS

We are currently seeking tutors for French, Tai Chi, Auslan (Australian Sign Language), Pilates and Japanese.

If you could take any of these classes or know someone that could, please let the office know.

You can find further details on all classes on our website: [CLASSES \(u3asouthport.au\)](http://CLASSES(u3asouthport.au))



NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT & CLASS CO-ORDINATOR

Lou Stevens

HOTA ITALIAN RENAISSANCE ALIVE EXHIBITION / GRANDE EXPERIENCES

**FRIDAY 12 APRIL
11.15am**



COST: \$25 PER PERSON

Friends and family welcome

Witness iconic works like the Sistine Chapel, Mona Lisa, and Birth of Venus in a stunning digital multisensory gallery, accompanied by a powerful operatic musical score. Experience an immersive journey celebrating Europe's cultural rebirth. From the creators of *Van Gogh Alive*, this mesmerising experience covers the 14th to 17th centuries, showcasing masterpieces by Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Botticelli, Caravaggio and more. You'll be immersed in the era's explosion of art, culture, architecture, sculpture and literature.

INCLUDES:

11.30am Italian *Alive* Renaissance Exhibition Tour.

LUNCH OPTION:

Either BYO lunch in the park or lunch at the HOTA café or restaurant at your own expense.

MEET AT: HOTA Art Gallery, 135 Bundall Road, Surfers Paradise, at 11.15am.

\$25 Book and pay at U3A Reception.

Bookings Close Friday 5 April

SURFERS PARADISE RIVER CRUISE

**MONDAY 22 APRIL
10.30am – 12.00pm**



COST: \$38 PER PERSON

Friends and family welcome

INCLUDES:

1½ hour sightseeing cruise and morning tea. Sit back, relax & enjoy the magnificent views as you cruise past homes of the rich & famous. Listen to a fun facts commentary as you cruise.

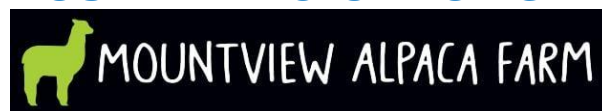
DEPARTS:

River end of Cavill Avenue, Surfers Paradise

\$38 Book and pay at U3A Reception.

Bookings Close Monday 15 April

BUS TRIP TO CANUNGRA



TUESDAY 7 MAY

COST: \$50 PER PERSON

Mountainview Alpaca Farm is calling us! Get up close and personal with the alpacas. Walk, pat, feed and get a "selfie" with an alpaca - then take a leisurely stroll, grab a bite to eat (own expense) and fossick around Canungra's interesting shops including the fabulous Vault shoe shop. Limited places so book early - **includes return bus and entry to Alpaca Farm.**

PICK UP: 9.30am at SOPO.

\$50 Book and pay at U3A Reception.

Bookings close Tuesday 30 April



SOCIAL EVENTS

TEN PIN BOWLING

FRIDAY 12 APRIL
1.15PM



ZONE BOWLING, SURFERS PARADISE

*(upstairs beside Timezone in the Paradise
Centre, Cavill Ave)*

COST: \$18.99 PER PERSON
(Pay direct on day)

INCLUDES: Game, ball and shoes

Interested? Place your name on the
Noticeboard at Reception, or give us a call on
5591 667.

Organiser: Margaret K. ph. 5572 6050

THE NEXT "GET-TOGETHER" LUNCH

SATURDAY 27 APRIL
Approx. 11.30am / 12.00pm

will be held at

ROSS EVANS NURSERY - CAFÉ 63



300 Oxley Drive, Coombabah
(Bus No. 713 from Southport and return)

Interested? Place your name on the
Noticeboard at Reception, or give us a call on
5591 667.

Organiser: Pat Jones ph. 5528 0837



Come along to one of our
Monthly **"Get-Together Lunches"**
on the last Saturday of the month.
Try some different venues on the
Gold Coast and meet new friends.
Details are on the noticeboard or call
the office for more information.



ANZAC DAY 25 APRIL

Anzac Day Ceremony – Broadwater Parklands

THURSDAY, 25 APRIL 2024 | 5AM TO 10AM



Honour Anzac Day, a solemn occasion of remembrance in Australia and New Zealand dedicated to those who served and perished in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping missions. This National Day of Reflection acknowledges the contributions and sacrifices of our servicemen and women.

Service Times

5am Dawn Service

9am Citizen Service

Come together with your community to pay tribute to our heroes and express gratitude for their unwavering dedication and bravery.



"The inquisitive mind of a child"

*Why are they selling poppies,
Mummy?*

*Selling poppies in town today.
The poppies, child, are flowers of love.
For the men who marched away.*

*But why have they chosen a poppy,
Mummy?*

*Why not a beautiful rose?
Because my child, men fought and died
In the fields where the poppies grow.*

*But why are the poppies so red,
Mummy?*

*Why are the poppies so red?
Red is the colour of blood, my child.
The blood that our soldiers shed.*

*The heart of the poppy is black,
Mummy.*

*Why does it have to be black?
Black, my child, is the symbol of grief.
For the men who never came back.*

*But why, Mummy are you crying so?
Your tears are giving you pain.
My tears are my fears for you my child.
For the world is forgetting again.*



KEEPING YOUR VALUABLES SAFE

While the best place to store your valuables within your home is in a safe, this isn't an option for everyone. Here are some suggestions where your valuables probably won't be discovered. Remember, the main thing you're looking to do here is store things in places where a thief wouldn't automatically look, so feel free to get creative and stray from this list.



In your pot plants

If your home is full of potted plants, the space between the pot and the decorative container can be a great place to store valuables (in a waterproof container of course). Just remember where you've put them.

In the pantry

Almost any food container that you can't easily see into provides a potential hiding spot for valuables like an empty biscuit box, baking powder tin, cereal box, etc (stashed with valuables) placed at the back of your pantry.



In the laundry

Your laundry isn't going to provide much value to thieves, so they'll tend to focus their attention elsewhere. This means that you should be pretty safe to make *use of an old washing powder box*. For extra security, you can bury them underneath the laundry powder, in a bag of course, to keep the powder off them.

In the garage box pile

Most of us have a pile of boxes in our garage that are full of things we hardly ever touch. This means that thieves probably won't touch this pile either, giving you a golden opportunity to hide larger valuables.



In paint cans



You can also consider using a paint can that's been cleaned out to hide things. This one is generally a lot more effective if you've got multiple pots in your cupboard or garage.

Inside a book

Books can be pretty good hiding places for small valuables like your passport. If you're the type who has endless books in your home, no thief is going to rummage through them. This means that you can safely hollow out the centre of one (or simply purchase a ready-made one) and hide small items within the pages.

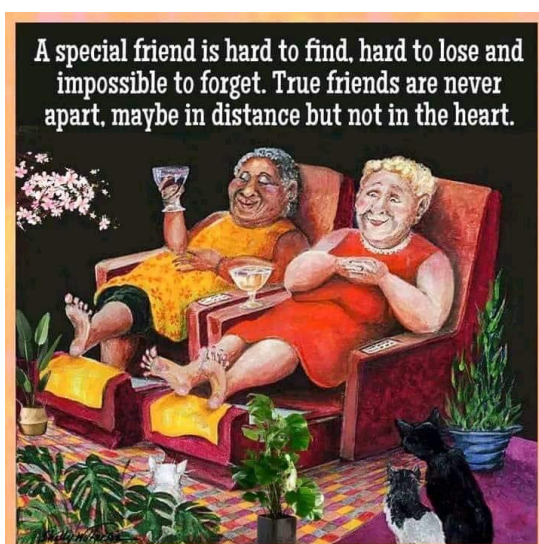
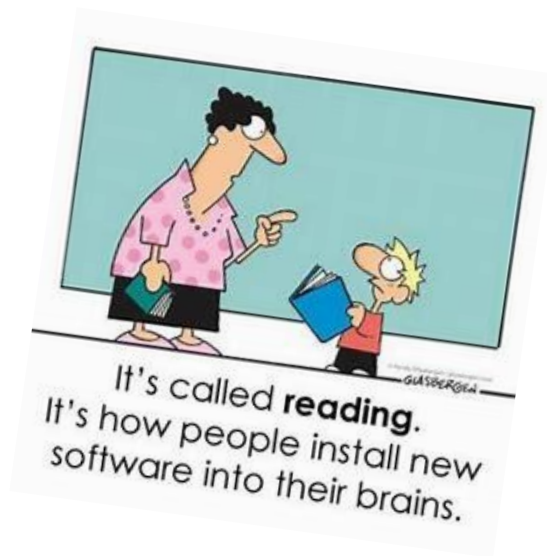


Remember where you have put things and tell at least one trustworthy family member.

Although these hiding places are good in a pinch, *the best way to protect your belongings against would-be thieves is to make your home as unappealing as possible. This means having good locks on all doors and windows, installing a security camera system, and ensuring that your home looks occupied, even when it isn't.*



JUST FOR FUN!



U3A Southport Shirts

Long sleeve polo shirts are now available. You can also have U3A logo embroidered on your own item of clothing if you wish.

\$30 Short Sleeve

\$32 Long Sleeve

\$11 Embroidery on your own item of clothing



Order and pay at reception. Wait time 2-3 weeks.