

Meet the new committee 2022 - 2023

President Liz Logan



A long-held dream to move to the Gold Coast from Victoria became a reality five years ago for Liz and her husband, Rob. They both love watersports and recently bought a two-person kayak to explore the many waterways on the GC.

Before 'retirement' Liz was CEO of two small not-for-profit organisations which supported people with disabilities and serious health conditions. She managed programs, marketing, membership, fundraising, finances, volunteers, staff, strategic planning and stakeholder relationships. It was challenging but rewarding work! She hopes to use some of these skills in her new role at U3A.

Liz has worked in the higher education sector and volunteered in various organisations over the years. Liz joined U3A in 2018 to establish some new friendships and started volunteering in 2020 writing grant applications.



Vice President Irene Sachs

Irene Sachs joined U3A in 2017 and was our Program Manager from 2017 – 2020. She has now rejoined the Committee as Vice President.

Prior to retirement, Irene worked as a university librarian in Australia and overseas. She and her husband, Jim, are very keen travellers and like nothing better than to jump in their van and head to the wide outdoors.

Irene's other interests include reading, gardening, music, kayaking and walking. She is also the tutor for the monthly activity, Walk & Discover.



Treasurer Merry Cloutier

Merry got involved with U3A Twin Towns while planning retirement activities. She found the (then) Twin Towns branch seemed to offer the widest range of courses. Merry gets involved whenever she joins an organisation. Within 6 months she became Treasurer and tutor for the "Not so Famous Historical Women" and the Environmental courses! Merry has been busy with many courses and enjoyed researching the courses she's run.

Previously Merry was a business improvement consultant and a qualified accountant so her contribution to U3A has supported good practice and financial management in the organisation. Throughout her working life Merry has volunteered as mentor/advisor to various organisations both domestically and internationally. She said she doesn't plan on stopping in retirement. Besides being on the U3A committee, Merry is also on the ethics committee for QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute and a board member/Treasurer for Project Didi Australia.

Merry enjoys experimenting with a combination of art and crafts for personal pleasure only (no exhibitions planned!!), intense discussion in her Philosophy group (with the beach in the background), golf in good weather, lunch and wine with girlfriends, and devouring non-fiction books. Her husband Tom and their little Chihuahua, Luna, keep each other company at home.





Membership Officer Alison Salisbury

Alison moved to the Gold Coast in 1996 and worked at Dreamworld for 6.5 years. After 'retiring' she worked as a volunteer, firstly for The Smith Family and for the past 6 years for the U3A, in office and admin roles.

Alison's interests include sewing, gardening and reading. One of her favourite family activities is to take her granddaughters to various musicals such as Matilda, Aladdin and Frozen.

Alison assists her husband, Peter, with his 500+ birds in many ways including taking the money at bird sales. He says he doesn't see the money afterwards!



Program Manager Meg Johnson

Meg spent most of her working life in teaching positions - primary, secondary and tertiary. Her most recent teaching experience was with the Australian International School, Singapore. There she enjoyed five years of working with wonderful students and colleagues. Travel opportunities were a very welcome bonus.



Now in retirement, a natural transition for her is to volunteer time at U3A. Meg does her best to coordinate tutors and activities so the U3A members are ensured of active ageing.



Office Manager Anne Souter

Anne grew up on a farm in the beautiful Adelaide Hills. Her family moved to suburbia for her Dad's treatment for TB. She left school early to train in office-work which led to secretarial work in many interesting companies.

At age 20 Anne took up nursing in Adelaide. She worked in Royal District & Bush nursing in the Outback, including several stints with the Royal Flying Doctor service as well as in schools, prisons and factories.

Anne got her pilot's licence in the 1980s and was engaged to an engineer who, sadly, was killed in a motor bike accident. After this Anne pursued nursing contracts in the Middle East, for two years working in ICUs, in Taif, a mountain city in Saudi Arabia, then in the capital, Riyadh. This fascinating work involved Anne with expatriate communities, including joining them on archaeological digs etc.

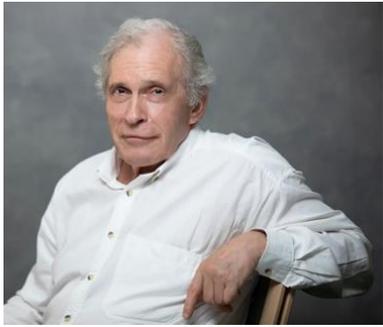
Back in Australia Anne travelled with her new partner, for 14 years, taking up jobs from Sydney to Cairns. Returning to Adelaide she spent 2 years as carer for her mother who was suffering from dementia. After her Mum's passing Anne moved to Queensland to work in dialysis units, eventually working in John Flynn Hospital which involved driving past U3A's Boyd St rooms every day.

Anne called into the U3A office, was offered membership for working only 3hrs/fortnight (great deal!). When the Office Manager retired in 2021, she ended up with the job (no other takers! She said).





**SEPTEMBER 15TH
TEA AND TALK
9AM BOYD STREET**



Former Supreme Court Judge **David Ashton Lewis**, currently heard on Radio 4CRB and a tutor in TOPICAL ISSUES with U3A will be joining us to discuss the

HISTORY OF LAW
(WHERE WE COME FROM & WHERE WE ARE GOING)
VISITORS WELCOME



Do you know of a member who is suffering from an illness, in hospital, recovering from an operation or grieving the loss of a loved one?

Advise the office, and on behalf of us all, a special card created by Margaret Buchanan will be sent.



Tweed Theatre Company
Proudly presents

**The Fabulous
40's and 50's**

Written by DOUG WILLIAMS
Directed by GARY JOHNS

TICKETS
Tweed & Murwillumbah
Information Centres,
online at tweedtheatre.com.au
1800 674 414 or at the door

2022
Tweed Heads Civic Centre
9, 16 & 23 Sept. at 7.30pm
10, 11, 17, 18, 24 & 25
Sept. at 2.00pm

Cabaret Seating
Adult: \$20.00 Table of 6: \$18.00 each

It will be hard to keep your toes from tapping when the Tweed Theatre Company brings their latest production to the stage at Council's Tweed Heads Civic and Cultural Centre auditorium during **September**.

Our committee, knowing you love this music and like to support local arts, have booked 24 seats (4 tables of 6) for the 2pm matinee on Saturday 24th September. Cabaret seating with tables of 6.

Get your tickets now at the U3A office before they sell out. It's a bargain price of \$12 each (discount)

The Fabulous 40s and 50s is a musical snapshot of those 20 years as seen through the eyes of two people who lived through them, written by Doug Williams and directed by Gary Johns.

The **Tweed Theatre Company** will present this uplifting and nostalgic look at the music which brought people close together when dancing in the 40s and began to slowly separate them when rock-n-roll was introduced in the 50s.

Look what our Book Club has been reading!

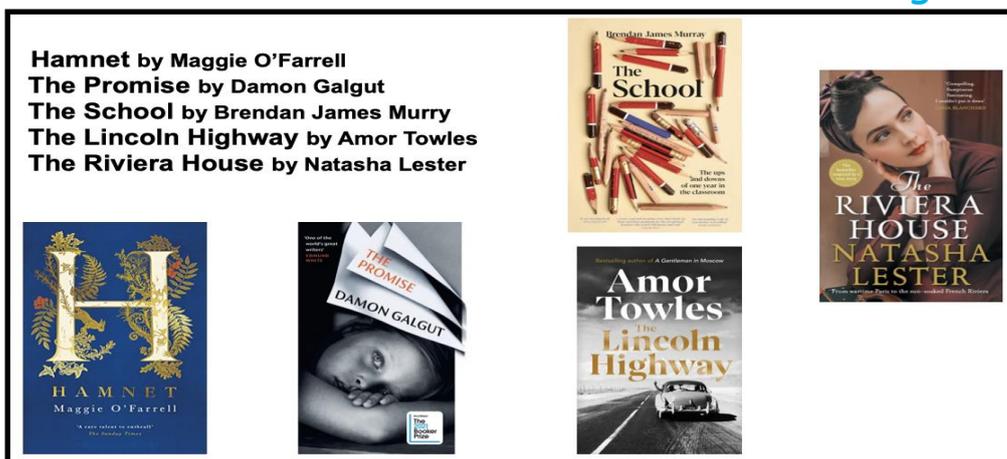


Table Tennis Thursday afternoons 1 – 3pm
Tugun Community Centre

Exercise? Movement? Fun? Social? Any skill level?
YES YES

Come join us, experience an afternoon of laughs and skilful play!



TUTORS

Bouquets and big thanks to all our tutors who contribute their time to make available the vast and varied array of classes to members. Something for everyone to stimulate the mind, please the heart and exercise the body. We hope to see them all again in 2023.

Would YOU like to offer a new class in 2023? We know there are U3A members who have amazing skills they could share with others in the new year. Please contact our Program Manager, Meg Johnson, pm@u3asoutherngoldcoast.org.au, with your proposal. It does not have to be an all year course. Perhaps you could present a short course, a time limited activity, even a one off. All new ideas are welcomed. Let's make our U3A as vibrant as we are!

OCTOBER IS SENIORS' MONTH

There's lots planned for seniors' month and we look forward to you joining us for one, or all, of these exciting activities.

ART HISTORY

Thursday 6th OCTOBER 9am, Boyd St.
Presents
FRIDA KAHLO & DIEGO RIVERA

VISITORS ARE WELCOME!



Volunteers needed!

Please contact Irene Sachs:
vp@u3asoutherngoldcoast.org.au

Tuesday 4th – Friday 7th OCT we need volunteers to service an information desk at

The Pines, Elanora, in morning and afternoon sessions. Can you help please?

This information desk is to promote U3A and its activities to potential new members.

Brochures to give out will be available.

Would you like to share your experiences of U3A with other people who are looking for interesting, social / learning groups on the coast but may not know what is available?

U3A SOUTHERN GOLD COAST
www.u3asoutherngoldcoast.org.au
 07 5534 7333

- U3A is a volunteer organisation that provides learning, physical and social activities in a friendly environment
- There are no exams; no compulsory activities. The only requirement is a desire to learn, be active and to have fun
- Programs for members and visitors encourage you to stay physically active, mentally alert and socially engaged
- Come and join a class or two. We have more than 50 classes at various locations on the southern Gold Coast
- Do you have a skill or knowledge you would like to share? We are always looking for tutors to start new classes and activities

KIRRA HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE
 1 Garrick Street | Coolangatta | 4225
 [Postal: PO Box 1005 | Coolangatta]
 OFFICE HOURS: MON-FRI 9.00AM-12.00PM

TELEPHONE: 07 5534 7333
 EMAIL: office@u3asoutherngoldcoast.org.au
 WEBSITE: www.u3asoutherngoldcoast.org.au

See website for full list of classes and venues

Connecting seniors to lifelong learning



Art and Craft Exhibition

October Monday 10th – Friday 21st
 Kay West, organiser

ARTISTS – Display your art works and volunteer on the roster for a few hours during these 12 days.



Members – please come and see our talented U3A artists and craftspeople show their work efforts over the year. There will be an opening this year! Free entry. Visitors welcome.



Bus & Discovery tour Friday 21 October

U3A Southern Gold Coast recently learned that our application to the City of Gold Coast for a grant in their 2021-2022 Seniors' Month Grants program was successful and we are now planning a Bus and Discovery tour.

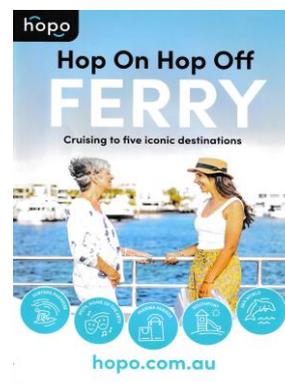
When: Friday 21st October, from 9:00am-2:30pm (starting and finishing at Boyd Street)

What: A bus trip featuring the Hop On, Hop Off ferry

Where: The bus will take everyone to the ferry which stops at Sea World, Southport, Marina Mirage and Surfers Paradise, where we'll have lunch.

Who: Members, family and friends

Cost: \$10 (which includes travel on the ferry).



A message will be sent to let everyone know when bookings open.



U3A Network Queensland news

Our U3A is supported by the statewide advisory body, U3A Network Queensland. At the first meeting of their new committee it was decided that a liaison person would be appointed to connect more closely with local U3As. Liz Logan and Irene Sachs met with our contact, Margaret Cook, President of U3A Dalby, for a discussion on how the Network could more effectively support us and provide information that would benefit our organisation. A number of topics were discussed including the possibility of developing stronger relationships with other U3As on the Gold Coast, a new database system as well as our need for suitable venues for classes.

The webinar 'Your Digital Legacy', which was held on 23 August, was arranged by U3A Network Queensland along with nbn and COTA Queensland. This webinar discussed the need for people to make appropriate arrangements to allow access to their Digital Legacy after death. For example, being able to access photos stored in the 'Cloud', online banking accounts, e-books, subscriptions, Facebook and e-health log-ins. The special event to watch the webinar held at Kirra Community Centre attracted 15 of our members who had a lively discussion about the topic afterwards. Due to the success of this webinar topic another is planned for later in the year for those who missed it. A summary report is also available in the office.

New Newsletter Editor Eli Sky

Do you have something to say to the members, something you like about U3A, suggestions for improvement or fun? Contact Eli Sky via the office to have your comments and ideas posted in Chatterbox. Our organisation flourishes because of you, ALL our members. Let us know what you think about or want from your U3A.

Many thanks to Gaye Bruerton for creating the newsletter for U3A Chatterbox over the past 2 years! Her tireless efforts have given members information and news keeping them abreast of local events.

U3A
Proudly supported by
City of **GOLD COAST**

U3A Southern Gold Coast acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we meet. We wish to pay our respects to their Aboriginal elders, past, present and emerging.



If you don't want to receive newsletters please let the office know:
Ph 07 5534 7333 email: office@u3asoutherngoldcoast.org.au