

Staying in Touch

1 September 2020

Words from Sue...

2020! What a year it has been! When we closed our face to face classes in March, John Bartlett suggested this could last for many months which seemed impossible at that time. It is now almost six months and we are all hoping we will be able to catch up with friends and family before Christmas!

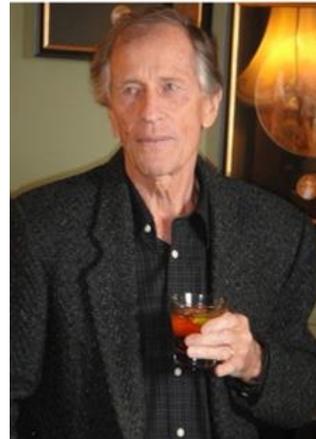
However, in some ways, thanks to the committee members, tutors and many members of U3A SurfCoast, we have been able to continue in a different format. This has obviously not been possible for all our members - an ongoing concern for us all.

The new buzz words are: 'Coming out of COVID!' The U3A committee is enthusiastically looking towards our future, assessing what we have learnt this year and what will be useful moving forwards. More to come over the next few months!

Meanwhile, later in the Newsletter, I ask you to look at 2 new courses which will be starting this term (Term 3). Both have quite limited spots so please get back to us quickly if you are interested.

Stay safe,
Sue Crowe, President

Vale- Trevor Tyson



We were so saddened to hear of the recent death of our member Trevor Tyson.

Trevor was one of the early members of U3A SurfCoast since its beginning in 2014, and an

enthusiastic contributor to Creative Writing and Philosophy. His quirky and funny stories were a weekly feature.

Pauline Edmonds says: "Our Creative Writing classes were so enriched by Trevor's unfailing visionary input. His quirky sense of humour and overall contribution made our Monday morning classes thoroughly enjoyable. He will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by us all."

Trevor will indeed be sorely missed and fondly remembered. Our sympathies to Anita and to Trevor's family. (*John Bartlett*)

FIRST NATIONS – new course

12 WEEKS course starting on Monday 14th September 1pm to 2.15pm via Zoom

This course has been designed by Di Bell (not indigenous), a teacher who works through books and videos that express the indigenous voice. This course is supported by the U3A Network and offered to a small number of U3As including Mallacoota, Kyneton and ourselves as a pilot for other ongoing programmes. An opportunity to join a class with people from other parts of Victoria!

Places in the course are limited to about 12 across the U3As, so please contact Sue Crowe at info@u3asurfcoast.org.au or kelcrowe@bigpond.net.au if you are interested.

Committee Meetings

Your committee has continued to meet monthly via zoom. Here is a screen shot of our latest monthly meeting.



YOGA FOR HEALTHY AGEING with Lesley Hughes.



We are very pleased to welcome Lesley to our Tutor team. She will be offering a couple of sessions this term. These classes will be on Wednesday 9th and 16th of September at 10am for 45 minutes via Zoom. There will only be 8 spots, so we ask that people enrolled in Annie's yoga class do not enrol at this stage. Only a

week away, so please enrol as usual on the U3A SurfCoast site or contact us at info@u3asurfcoast.org.au. If interested please get in quickly!

Writing Memoirs with Robin Purdey

Each Wednesday morning a group of writers gathered via zoom for an hour and a half to learn writing techniques that we could use and consider for our own personal writing. Everyone has a story that they would like to tell. Some of the group were writing their own personal memoir and some were writing the story of someone close to them. We shared our writing in a very safe environment. We read memoir selections from famous memoirs. Whether we self-publish, find a publisher or just print off copies for our families all of the writers enjoyed this course. (*Jennie Deneefe*)

Be Connected Digital Devices Grant

U3A SurfCoast received a \$5000 'Be Connected' grant to purchase 5 iPads to help provide social support to five members of the community during COVID restrictions. Tutors Jennie Deneefe, Jo Turnbull, Tim Kottek and Toni McCormack work with recipients to help them learn basic iPad techniques and to assist them to link to others using social media.

There are success stories already – one learner has joined U3A Zoom classes and another has been able to use FaceTime for contact with family members including sharing the ultrasound photo of a soon to arrive great-granddaughter. A third recipient is enjoying looking up history items as well as watching her beloved Bulldogs play.

Once the current loan agreements expire in December, we may be able to continue until the beginning of classes in 2021, possibly with new recipients. So let us know if you might be interested in booking a place in the program.

Poets' group in print

The poetry group has just finished its four week course by Zoom, and members' poems are being published. Robin Purdey's



poem on the bushfires was accepted for ***Messages from the Embers***, an anthology to be published soon. Funds raised from this go to *Blaze Aid*. Robin also had a poem accepted for Geelong Writers anthology 2020.

Jean Bohuslav has had a successful few weeks too, with poems published in the following web journals:



<http://madswirl.com/poetry/2020/07/enough-2/>

<https://www.kissingdynamitepoetry.com/jean-bohuslav-chicken-feet.html>

<https://bluepepper.blogspot.com/2020/04/new-poetry-by-jean-bohuslav.html>

<https://madswirl.com/author/jbohuslav/>

Congratulations to Robin and Jean. In Term 4 the group will welcome new members under the title: ***I don't really know anything about poetry!***

U3A SurfCoast Committee 2020/21

President:	Sue Crowe
Vice President:	John Bartlett
Treasurer:	Greg Brinsmead
Secretary:	Marg Parsons
Committee:	Barry Cock, Jennie Deneefe, John McDonald, Judith Meagher, Richard Porter, Mary Taylor