

RESUMPTION OF CLASSES

This must be the most satisfying communication your Management Committee has had with fellow U3A Ipswich & West Moreton members since pre-COVID19.

In this email we confirm that the following classes will resume from Monday, July 13 and the dates and venues for those classes.

In order to do this the Management Committee has ensured that all requisite health regulations, of the Queensland Government as well as of the various venues which we use, are fully complied with.

It is worth repeating that each tutor has the final say on whether their classes resume or not. It is important that tutors are comfortable with the conditions under which we resume.

The decisions of each tutor will be respected by the Management Committee.

All of us by now could repeat the following in our dreams but here are the basic ground rules again:

If you have any symptoms of cold or flu do not come to class.

If you feel ill during a class you must go home immediately.

Always carry a pen in case you have to sign something.

Bring your own drinks and food and do not share.

Gatherings before or after class are prohibited.

Always maintain social distancing.

If you bring a mat, towel or equipment such as for art or photography, do not share it.

Follow the rules given by your tutor and on posters in all venues – such as in one door and out the other.

Be prepared to help clean chairs and surfaces at the end of each class.

Be aware that the police and council officers have been doing spot checks – contravening the rules would jeopardise our lease agreements.

The fines for not obeying the rules are \$1,334.50 per person as well as \$6,672.50 for the organisation.

TIMETABLES

Timetables will be on Facebook and our website but to help you these are the classes which are not yet commencing: Book Club; all Card games; Computers; Current Affairs Discussion; French (all); German; Investing; Language & Literature; Mahjong; Movement to Music; Philosophy; Photography; Science; Writing.

These classes are resuming: Booval– History; Yoga for Health; Tai Chi; Card Making; Acrylic Painting; Yoga; Guitar Basics. Woodend– Seniors Exercise; Cryptic Crossword; Table Tennis; Drawing (all); Italian; Japanese; Jewellery with Beads; Film Discussion. Humanities Building- Yoga for Daily Life; Line Dancing. Library– Write Your Life Stories. Norths Leagues Club– Spanish.

SHALOM HOUSE ENTRY

Members accessing Shalom House must now enter the hall through the side entrance as a new concrete path has been laid. The front door will be locked to deny entry but it is to be used for all exiting the room. The same goes for Woodend – entry and exit must be by different doors.

Please check the U3A Facebook page and website for updates, class timetables and COVID-19 SafePlan specifically related to U3A Ipswich & West Moreton.

MORE SPACE FOR US AT BOOVAL

The creche which has been using our Booval office every Friday is closing. All of their equipment has been cleared out of the office so we now have full use of the house.

INCORPORATIONS ACT CHANGES

On 16 June changes were introduced to the Incorporations Act by Queensland Parliament with the passing of the Associations Incorporation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020. The Act was last amended in 2007.

Some of the law changes start now but will have little impact on U3A Ipswich & West Moreton but one change coming by 30 June 2021 will help us. We are an incorporated association also registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and from that date we will no longer have to submit annual financial reports to the Office of Fair Trading if we meet our financial reporting obligations to the ACNC.

Another important change, anticipated to be by 30 June 2022, is the requirement for incorporated associations to have an internal grievance or dispute resolution process in place. We do but we will be updating that to comply with the grievance procedure in the new model rules.

All incorporated bodies have been given the right to extend the period within which the AGM must be held so we now have 12 months from the end of our financial year to hold the AGM. It is important that all members feel they are able to attend the AGM so it is most likely that we will take advantage of this and defer our AGM until such time as regulations allow such a gathering.

AND THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE?

That means the Management Committee positions will not be declared vacant until the AGM is called. However, we have had a number of resignations from the Management Committee this year with the most recent one being our treasurer, Rena Wright who has just undergone eye surgery and is without transport.

We have thanked Rena for her preparedness to step in as treasurer when our previous treasurer withdrew and Rena has made sure she remains a fixture on the volunteer list. Karen, our vice-president and chair of the Audit & Finance Committee, is temporarily undertaking the duties of treasurer.

We need a treasurer, however, as the workload needs to be more evenly spread. Another committee member prepared to take on the role of volunteer co-ordinator would also be much appreciated. Under our constitution the Management Committee has the capacity to appoint members to fill these casual vacancies. Of course, all positions, including those appointed by the Management Committee, are declared vacant at the next AGM.

So if you are able to help out, at a time when there is much to be done by the Committee, you will be forever loved. If you want to fill one of the vacancies and not stand again at the AGM that's also OK.

But we do need two or three members to step forward to help out at the Committee level. If you are prepared to help please contact us.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The fee for half-year membership from now until the end of the year will be \$35. The Management Committee wants to recognise the patience, the tolerance, of members so for all current financial members who renew their membership at the end of the year the fee will be reduced to \$50 as a one-off adjustment. The fee for new members signing up remains \$70 for the full year, entitling members to sign into as many classes as they wish and as are available.

....we're almost there.....

YOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Ian, Karen, Robyn, Yvonne, Amanda, Norah