

Upcoming Events

- 21 March - Network Victoria Annual General Meeting and Council Meeting
- 21 March - Regions Network Committee Meeting
- 05 April - U-MAS User Group Meeting
- 16 May - Presidents Briefing
- 20 June - Network Council Meeting

From the Acting President

I hope you all had a successful 2017 year in bringing the values of U3A to the senior members of your community.

2018 is shaping up to be another busy year for U3A Network. A number of the Network committee spent the holiday break in continuing to work on U3A matters, I thank them on your behalf.

Remember U3A Network is just like your U3A, it needs members to volunteer for all its committees.

The AGM is to be held on 21 March. Nomination forms will be sent to your U3A in the next couple of weeks

As previously advised, Treasurer Tom Wong, will be leaving us at the AGM. The position of Treasurer is open to anyone who may have the skills and energy to nominate.

U3A Network has heard that a number of U3A members have received an award on Australia day. If you have someone in your U3A who received any award, we would like to hear about them and acknowledge them in our U3A matters newsletter. Please send the details to Tracey at the U3A Network office.

There has been considerable communications regarding ACFE funding. I and the U3A Network Committee continue to reply to all correspondence and telephone queries we receive. Where appropriate, I have copied all Member U3As on my responses, so that all can continue to be informed, and I will continue to do this. Information about our upcoming annual general meeting and the Council meeting following the AGM appears elsewhere in this bulletin, agenda papers for both meetings will be forwarded in early March.

Continue to live Learn Enjoy with U3A

Elsie Mutton, Acting President

U-MAS User Group

The next meeting is scheduled for **5 April at U3A Nunawading** and will include details of the 2018 First Half software upgrade. Further information in the March *eBulletin*.

Annual General Meeting

21 March, 2018, 10.30am

Multicultural Hub,

Elizabeth Street, Melbourne

The 30th annual general meeting of U3A Network Victoria will take place on 21 March, starting at 10.30am, and will be followed by a regular Council meeting. Agenda papers and nomination forms will be circulated to all Member U3As about three weeks prior to the meeting.

Positions on the Network Committee have a duration of two years; approximately half of the positions are declared vacant each year. A listing of positions is included with the agenda papers.

Positions Vacant and Filled!

The position of **Network Treasurer** will become vacant at the Annual General Meeting. The Network Treasury is well organised and is supported by our excellent volunteer bookkeeper. Anyone interested in this position can obtain additional information from the current Treasurer or the President by contacting the Network Office.

We are also looking to build up strength on the Network Committee in technology policy and oversight of our technical products like Website Template Generator, U-MAS, NMDB, and to help us expand our technology support of Member U3As. Again, interested persons can obtain additional information through the Network Office.

Network is also delighted to announce the appointment of Tracey Swadling as full-time manager in the Network Office, following the departure of Julie Mullan for health reasons and a subsequent restructure of the office. Tracey has extensive experience in the volunteer community, including Scouts Victoria and her local yacht club, Westernport Yacht Club. Network Office is now staffed five days a week 9am to 4pm.

Susan Webster, Vice President

U3A promotional video

The U3A promotional video circulated to all U3As last November is now on [You Tube](#). You can find a link to it on the U3A Network website under News & Events. This enables you to put a link to it on your website. Good luck with your promotional work and I hope this short 2 minute video proves valuable,

Janice Kelly, U3A Network Marketing & Promotions Convener

Australia Day Awards

Network Committee is delighted to congratulate our Network President Elsie Mutton on her receipt of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day Honours List. Elsie's award is for her contribution to education in Victoria. She is well known within her local municipality of Whitehorse for her community activities, and has been a guiding force at U3A Nunawading for 21 years, serving as president for four years and as course co-ordinator for many, many years, managing both leaders and general members.

Also receiving an OAM award in January is U3A Port Phillip life member Barbara Spalding, who joined her U3A on retirement in 2005 and has served in many positions, in particular managing the office functions. Her OAM award was made for service in the areas of welfare and education.

Michael Mace from Glen Eira U3A was awarded an OAM for his service to community theatre. Michael is the volunteer Tutor for the Play reading Group with Glen Eira U3A, among a long list of other contributions he has made to his community.

All U3A members join in congratulating these worthy and hard-working leaders of our movement. Many other awards have been made this season, and Network Victoria would like to be informed of them, so ensure all our award recipients are acknowledged by our movement. All U3As are urged to share their good news with Network by forwarding information to the Network Office.

PGS Continues in 2018

Network's two-year service contract is now in for signing by the Seniors Programs and Participation branch of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). After much discussion and negotiation, we have established that the Program Growth Support grant program can continue in 2018. New conditions will apply, and the PGS program will run through February - April.

Among other benefits of the service contract is the insurance coverage for public liability and Directors liability provided by the State Government agency VMIA.

ACFE Capacity Building Program

The first Member U3A-run projects under the ACFE program are completing, and the evaluation and replication aspects being assessed. Among the very successful projects are Regional Summer School in the Geelong/South Coast area, the Community Inclusiveness Model at Whittlesea, and the Transition Towns in Apollo Bay. Presentations will be given at the March Council meeting by Peter Duncan of U3A Hepburn Shire and Neil Shaw of U3A Prom Coast on aspects of their distance education-related projects.

Further information on the ACFE Capacity Building program was circulated in January with the Network President's usual welcome letter to all Member U3As, and will also be presented at Council in March.

Also, see the regional meetings and workshops schedule with this issue of the *eBulletin*.

ACFE history

The first ACFE funding was only available to a U3A if they applied through their ACFE Regional office. Funding was linked to helping members of the community getting back to work.

A small number of U3As took up the challenge and were rewarded with significant funding. When ACFE closed their regional offices, individual funding to U3As ceased and the funding came to the U3A Network office for distribution to all u3as—free of previous restrictions.

Thank you to the trail blazers in helping to get U3A recognised with ACFE.

Update your office bearers

Please remember to update your Office Bearers and Course Coordinators after your AGM on the Network Member Database (NMDB) so communications from Network are sent to the right members

Treasurers Corner - Farewell

As noted elsewhere, PGS funding continues into 2018/2019 as well as more ACFE project funding in 2018/19. Do look out for circulars from our president to your local U3A secretary.

My two year term at the helm in coordinating and running Network finances will finally come to an end at this year's AGM. It's been a pleasure and privilege to support your Committee and all the associated financial responsibilities. I am fortunate to have the strong support of our bookkeeper, Meg Brown, and I wish her well for her continuing support into 2018. To you, the members, I hope you have enjoyed my presentations at Council and got something positive out of it. I have received both good and adverse feedback from members during my term but until you sit in my chair and walk-the-talk, you won't be able to appreciate what's involved nor understand the thinking behind the actions that we take, on your behalf. It's time, for a new fresh volunteer to take over the helm and I can now start to do those things that I have been shelving for some time. Thank you again and wishing everyone in the movement, all the best for 2018.

Tom Wong, Treasurer

U3A Matters

U3A Matters is published in preparation for each Council meeting. If you have news from your U3A that you would like considered for publication, please email to The Editor U3A Matters via Network Office info@u3avictoria.com.au

Due dates for copy this year are: Friday 2 March, Friday 1 June, Friday 31 August and Friday 2 November.

U3A Regional Meeting, Workshop and Seminar Schedule, Semester 1, 2018

U3A Region	Dates	Host(s) U3A	Time & Location	Contact for meeting
** U3A Geelong/Corio Bay/Surf Coast Summer School	16-18 Jan	Each of the U3As	Various	
** U3A Darebin Tutor W/shop	23 Jan	U3A Darebin	23 Railway Place, FAIRFIELD	Ann Ritchie, President
** U3A Southern Peninsula Tutor W/shop	30 Jan	U3A Southern Peninsula	359a Point Nepean Rd, DROMANA	David Mott, Secretary
Gippsland Region	23 Feb	U3A Sale	55 Raymond St, SALE	Heather De Vries, Pres.
North East Victoria Region	14 March	U3A Euroa	Kirkland Ave, EUROA	Greg Barnes, Regional Rep
Loddon Mallee Region	15 March	Bendigo	St Mary's 193 High St KANGAROO FLAT	Nancy Miller Regional Rep
South Gippsland Region	16 March	Wonthaggi	239 White Rd WONTHAGGI	Neil Shaw, Regional Rep
Outer Eastern Metro Region	16 March	Yarra Ranges	1.00pm Japara House 54 Durham Rd KILSYTH	Bill Power Regional Rep
South West Victoria Region	23 March	Colac or Portland To be decided	TBA	Di Cray, Regional Rep
Eastern Metro Region	9 April	Nunawading	10am, Silver Grove NUNAWADING	Geoff Steventon, Regional Rep
South Metro Region	20 April	Stonnington	578 Orrong Rd, ARMADALE	David Hone, Regional Rep
Northern Metro Region	24 April	Yarra City	17 Stanton St, ABBOTSFORD	Anne Heafield Regional Rep
Outer SE & Morn Pen Region	4 May	Southern Peninsula	TBA, John Paul College McMahons Rd FRANKSTON	Beth Birch, Regional Rep
** U3A Goulburn Valley W/shop	6/7 May	Goulburn Valley	14 Esson St, SHEPPARTON	Greg Barnes, Course Coordinator
Grampians Region	14 May	Ararat	Melbourne Polytechnic., Grano St., ARARAT	Lee Albert Regional Rep
** U3A Moreland W/shop	17 May	Moreland	21 Harding St, COBURG	Gwen Rosengren, Secretary
Outer Eastern Region	22 June	Sherbrooke or Mt Dandenong	TBA	Bill Power Regional Rep
Loddon Mallee Region	28 June	TBA	St Mary's 193 High St KANGAROO FLAT	Nancy Miller Regional Rep

Anne Grigg , 31 January 2017