

This Bulletin is distributed by U3A Network Victoria, the peak body of the U3A movement in Victoria, for information and use by Member U3As

Upcoming Events

- 20 June – Members Council
- 19 September – Members Council
- 7-14 October – Seniors Festival
- 21 November – Members Council

Also check the Regional meetings schedule on the last page of this bulletin.

From the President

The Presidents Briefing in mid-May covered several topics of importance to all in the U3A movement, including communications and grants, activities of the Education Committee, and the role of the Members Council.

I gave my own view on how to build a stronger, even more effective U3A movement – through good governance, through co-operation to share knowledge and ideas, and through open communication in all directions.

I feel it is important not to ignore questions and challenges – these inputs to our interactions and communication are often as important as positive affirmations. Alternatives and new ideas need to be examined in the arena of open, legitimate debate. The small group discussions in the afternoon provided one such opportunity.

Communication moves in all directions – one suggestion coming from the afternoon sessions was that Network distribute the monthly *eBulletin* to all general members of all U3As. I'll just point out that each U3A can make the decision whether the information in the *eBulletin* is of interest to all its general members. But certainly, I would urge all U3As to forward the *eBulletin* to all committee of management and all heads of working groups.

Another communication opportunity will be the June Members Council meeting when the topic of the role of the Members Council will again be on the agenda for



President Susan Webster welcoming Nino and Jan from our newest U3A at Myrtleford at the Presidents Briefing

discussion. As requested by Member U3As, the draft minutes of the March Members Council and the Annual General Meeting have been circulated to all Member U3As and will be posted in the new Members section of our website as soon as this is ready.

I also used my address to the Presidents Briefing to note the roles and resources that Network needs to work effectively, especially a secretary and a treasurer, and several other roles. I did receive offers of assistance for some of these roles, and I thank those people and those U3As who spoke with me and offered help.

I would like to conclude by saying that one of the strongest ways to influence the direction of Network's growth and work is to work with the Network and with the Network Committee. Anyone else interested in knowing more of the challenges facing our organisation can contact me through the Network Office.

Susan Webster, President

Notes of the presentations and small group discussion feedback will be circulated to all Member U3As shortly, together with the presentation slide pack

2018 Membership Numbers

Please update membership numbers and contact details in the [Network Member Database](#). These are important to establish our annual growth rate, and also to help with preparation of capitation fee invoices. Any U3As not clear on how to update should contact Network Office for help.

U3A Political Campaign

The 2018 U3A Political Campaign is moving on to Stage 2, with a Key Points & Speaking Notes pack to be sent to all Member U3As during June. Invitations to our launch event on 30 May were issued to all registered candidates in the electorates of U3As in the Central and Southern Metro region, but a very sparse response persuaded us to cancel this event and focus on providing all Member U3As with materials to help them talk to candidates and local councillors on a one-to-one basis.

Our campaign materials provide facts about the value and achievements of the U3A movement, and are being road tested on selected U3As now. Expect a campaign pack to

When you need support at your U3A please contact Anne Grigg Development and Support Officer
dso@u3avictoria.com.au 0408 638 151

be forwarded to all U3As later in June.

And in campaign news, Network congratulates U3A Frankston who had the honour of a visit early in May from Treasurer Scott Morrison, organised by the local member of Parliament and friend of that U3A, Chris Crewther – displaying the federal government's support for the seniors sector.

Seniors Festival: Time to Book

Does your U3A intend to be part of Celebration Day on **October 7** at Federation Square? If so, it is time to book your time slot and, or your marquee's spot.

Deakin Edge Choral and Musical Ensembles Concert: there are 10 x 20 minute time slots between 10.45 and 4.00 pm. Bookings required

Performances and Displays in the Yarra Boulevard Performance Area: 30 minute slots available from 10.30 - 4.00 pm. Possible activities include Line, Greek & Belly Dancing, Tai Chi, Exercise & Chair Exercise, Zumba Gold, Circuit, Salsa or any group movement suitable for an outside stage.

Marquees are available on request - single or double. Please note how many tables and chairs, and whether you need a parking pass so you can transfer equipment.

You can also book a spot in the large U3A Network marquee to showcase your members' art and craft or other activities if your U3A does not want a stand-alone marquee. Please email me detailing your requirements and preferred time.

To make a performance booking complete the form emailed out on May 28 or download a copy [here](#) and return to me.

For marquee booking or to request a spot in the U3A Network Marquee describe what you want and send to:

committeemember.pauline.obrien@u3avictoria.com.au

Like U3A Network's new Facebook Page



Keep up with all the latest information from Network, or send in your own news and events for possible inclusion on our page. Why not check it daily for news and reports at www.facebook.com/u3anetworkvictoria

ACFE Report news

As we come to the end of this eighteen months of this ACFE funding period I would like to thank the U3As who have put in so much effort to make their projects of value to all U3As.

The reports are now with a PHD student from RMIT who is putting together the final report for ACFE and evaluating how best to share this work with any U3A who may be interested.

Policies and guidelines plus other relevant material that has been researched and documented will become a part of the Members handbook.

This has been an interesting, sometimes frustrating activity to manage but, I think when you see what has been achieved you will agree is of great value to the U3A movement.

Thank you to all who have been involved especially the members of committee (current and past) who took on the role of working with member U3As

Elsie Mutton — Activity/Project coordinator

Pick My Project

This innovative grant initiative from the State Government is now open for applications. All Member U3As received communications via Network Office from the Department of Premier and Cabinet about how the grant system will be run. It appears to be a chance for individuals to partner with a community organisation to apply for practical, tangible outcomes – from the small and immediate (new signage for parks or centres) to very large community projects. This well-funded grant process is relatively quick, and applications for the first round close in June – so be quick. For any U3As who missed the emails, here is the link to the website <https://www.pickmyproject.vic.gov.au/>

U-MAS Annual Fees Abolished

Following changes to the sponsorship of U3A Network through the Seniors Branch, Department of Health and Human Services, Network has been able to eliminate annual usage charges for Member U3As on the U-MAS system. There are now no charges for implementing or using U-MAS.

Social Media Policy

Network Committee recently approved a Social Media Policy for its website and Facebook. A template is available for [download](#) or from Network Office.

PGSF Grant Payments

Successful U3As have already received notice of the PSGF amount. Transfers will occur in early June.

U3A Regional Meeting Workshop and Seminar Schedule - Semester 1 & 2, 2018

U3A Region/ACFE workshop	Dates	Host U3A	Time & Location	Contact for meeting
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
Eastern Metro Region	2 July	Nunawading	10am, Silver Grove Nunawading	Geoff Steventon, Regional Rep
Western Metro Region	22 August	Werribee	Werribee	Vacant Regional Rep
Southern & Central Metro	7 Sept (T)	Moorleigh	92 Bignell Rd Bentleigh East	Tony Aplin Regional Rep
North East Victoria	11 Sept	Nathalia	Nathalia	Greg Barnes Regional Rep
Outer South East & Mornington Peninsula	14 Sept	Cardinia	6E Henry St Pakenham	Bethy Birch Regional Rep
Loddon Mallee Region	20 Sept	TBA	St Mary's 193 High St Kangaroo Flat	Nancy Miller Regional Rep
South West Victoria	21 Sept	Colac	TBA	Di Cray Regional Rep
Eastern Metro Region	24 Sept	Nunawading	10am, Silver Grove Nunawading	Geoff Steventon, Regional Rep
South Gippsland Region	17 Oct (T)	TBC	TBC	Neil Shaw Regional Rep
Northern Metro Region	25 Oct (T)	Whittlesea	34 Robert St Lalor	Anne Heafield Regional Rep
Grampians Region	29 October	TBC	Melbourne Polytech- nic., Grano St., Ararat	Lee Albert Regional Rep
Outer Eastern Metro Region	7 Dec	TBC	TBC	Bill Power Regional Rep

Checklists for Hosts; agenda and minutes pro forma available from DSO dso@u3avictoria.com.au
They will be on the website after June.

Anne Grigg - 31 May 2018