

Upcoming Events

- 22 August – Items for September Council due at Network Office
- 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

At the Presidents Briefing in May, I listed positions and roles that were vacant or available within the Network Committee. Several U3A members have responded with offers and enquiries. I am delighted to announce the appointment of Helen Elliott as a member of the Network Committee, and to welcome back Janice Kelly who is now able to resume her role on NetCom for the rest of her elected term.

I have also received interest in the position of Network Treasurer. Filling this important position will greatly strengthen the Network Committee.

The position of Secretary is also vacant, although we have a member who is prepared to fill this role in a regulatory sense. Taking on a new role is a commitment by any member and expresses a desire to contribute to the good things our U3A movement achieves for seniors. A new Secretary will enable all NetCom members and all U3As to work more efficiently and to give more to others.

Network has several other roles we are looking to fill – publicist, editor, data analyst, technology support. Anyone interested in joining the Network team can contact me through the Network Office.

Susan Webster, President

Website Template Project

The volunteer team that helps U3As build their own website has finally caught up with their backlog and can accept new interest. Those U3As which still use a community portal to provide information to members and public can contact the Network Office to be put in touch with the Website Template Project (WTP). Please let us know of your interest by emailing info@u3avictoria.com.au

Changes to Network website

Network Office has recently made some changes to the [Members Section](#) of its website. These changes were implemented to add more information for Members U3As to access about Network's activities as well as resource information to assist U3As manage their activities. The section is now in four parts:

- Overview of information about Network's activities, including the current strategic plan
- Resources for U3As, including the Reference Handbook, policy templates and information about insurance, copyright and capitation
- Network Member Database, including the login portal and the User Guide
- A listing of key events coming up. This is also where we place the documentation from meetings that have already been held

Some parts of the redeveloped Members section are still under construction. If you have any suggestions about what you or your U3A would like to see on Network's website, then please contact Network Office.

Funding Campaign

U3A Network Victoria has developed materials to support a four-year funding strategy plan; these were introduced at the June Members Council meeting.

The documents are being used by the Network's Campaign team and are available to all U3A Committees to personalise to your U3A and use at the local level (with your Council and State/Federal MPs as appropriate).

The package of documents was emailed on Friday 29 June and addressed to Presidents and Secretaries. Please look out for it.

If you need support in locating information or identifying your politicians please contact Anne Grigg

dso@u3avictoria.com.au

Capitation Fees Now Due

We thank all U3As who have updated their details on the Network Members Database (NMDB), allowing Network to issue capitation invoices based on your current number of primary members – that is, full fee paying members. Payment of capitation invoices is now due.

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

ACFE 1 Ends

The 18-month capacity building program under Network's service contract with the Adult Community and Further Education (ACFE) Board is finishing. The report on the outcome metrics of the program has been submitted to ACFE.

This is the list of projects carried out under the five activity streams of the program :

Activity 1: Policy and Research

There were eight projects under Activity 1:

- Network: Research into the role & responsibility of Network Victoria
- Network: Engagement by U3As with relevant community organisations. This was undertaken by a contracted research person
- U3A Bendigo researched 'How to cater effectively for the wellbeing of others'
- U3A Box Hill researched 'How to achieve a better gender balance in U3A classes'
- U3A Nunawading developed a Risk Management model
- U3A Yarra City researched the Ageing Project - what it means and resources available
- Network researched into expectations and practices of pre- retired and newly retired seniors. This will be finished by end of 2018
- Network established the dollar value to the community – what is saved in health system costs and so on.

Activity 2: Appropriately resource the U3A Network Victoria office to support Member U3As

There were four projects under Activity 2 which were all the responsibility of Network:

- Revise Network strategy document
- Enhance functionality of Network website
- Revise / upgrade the Reference Handbook
- Create a U3A Victoria style manual – this is in progress.

Activity 3: Coordination and Integration

There were four projects under Activity 3.

- Network: Develop and hold the U3A Network Conference
- Network: Expand relevant partnerships with stakeholders
- Network: Represent U3A on Ministerial Council for Volunteers and other like-minded community groups
- U3A Whittlesea: Develop a resource guide to interact with cross sections of community organisations to meet educational needs of Senior Victorians.

Activity 4: Building Community Engagement and Awareness

There were three projects under Activity 4:

- Network: Develop an effective community engagement and awareness strategy and develop promotional material and rollout communication strategy
- U3A Ballarat: Building awareness throughout the U3A Network
- U3A Apollo Bay: Transition Towns.

Activity 5: Pilot Educational Program

There were 16 projects under Activity 5:

- Benefits of Tutoring Brochure (Network Education Committee)
- Tutor Bank Network Education Committee)
- Education Matters Network Education Committee)
- Update Course Coordinators Handbook Network Education Committee)
- U3A Southern Peninsula: Workshop on Tutor and Committee training
- U3A Moreland: Healthy U3A Groups – governance
- U3A Darebin: Tutor training workshop
- U3A Goulburn Valley: Coordinators workshop
- Network: Research and develop delivery of Distance Education
- U3A Hepburn Shire: Distance Education
- U3A Prom Coast: Distance Education
- Network: Update UMAS Handbook to be finished end 2018
- U3A Geelong: Geelong Region Summer School
- U3A Bendigo: Performing Radio Plays
- U3A Yarra City: How to set up a bike group
- U3A Nunawading: How to get your U3A More Physically Active.

Presidents Briefing / Council Communications

Notes of the presentations and the small group discussion feedback from the Presidents Briefing in May were circulated to all Member U3As, and are now available as well on the Network website – Members - Key Events <https://www.u3avictoria.com.au/key-events/>. Presentations and draft minutes from the June Council will be circulated to Member U3As in July and placed on the website at that time.

Presentations at June Council covered :

- The funding campaign and the marketing campaign
- Status report on the ACFE capacity building program
- Proven Grant Seeking Techniques – Alex Robertson of U3A Ringwood
- Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Workshop Program
- Seniors Festival

The final general business item was Role of Member

Council. This item had been voted during the AGM in March for inclusion at June Council, but no business was brought forward from Member U3As on this item in June.

Agenda papers for the September Council will be on the website in late August. U3As wishing to place an item on the agenda for the 19 September Council should contact the Network Office by mid August.

Regional Workshop Series

As part of the funding package from Seniors Branch (DHHS) a Regional workshop series has been developed. It was introduced at the Council meeting and discussed more fully at the Regions meeting in the afternoon. (Most Regions have a representative who attends this meeting).

This will provide an opportunity for pairs of Regions to hold local, funded workshops on a range of topics provided in the package.

The final package will be distributed to each U3A after this term break (aiming for July 20).

Decisions about if/when they run in your region will be discussed at your next Regional meeting or by group email for those not holding another meeting this year.

Strategic Plan

A copy of the [Strategic Plan 2014-2018](#) is available on the website. Network has now engaged Margaret Burdeu of BurdsIView to assist in development of a strategic plan for the next four years. There will be many opportunities to contribute to the development of the plan, leading to a presentation at the Members Council in November.

In the meantime, anyone with views on future strategy is invited to provide comments to info@u3avictoria.com.au

Profile survey

As part of our reporting obligations to our funding bodies, the Network conducts a survey of a sample of members of U3As every two years. The survey helps us to document the characteristics of U3A members and the benefits that members derive from participation in U3As. We are currently contacting six selected U3As to determine their willingness to participate. The survey will be conducted online for those who have email, or on paper for those members without email. Participating U3As will have access to results, prior to summary results being presented at the November Members Council.

Regional Rep needed

Our thanks to Heather De Vries of U3A Sale who has acted as the Regional Rep for Gippsland and has now resigned.

Gippsland Region now needs a new rep to attend Regional meetings after the quarterly Council meetings and provide feedback to Network.

If this is you, please talk to the President of your U3A!

Seniors Festival

The 2018 Victorian Seniors Festival will take place across Victoria throughout October, with Celebration Day on Sunday, 7 October, at Federation Square in Melbourne.

Eight days of free public transport, including all V/Line services, will be provided to Victorian Seniors Card holders across the period 7 - 14 October, 2018.

Those U3As planning to perform or hold displays or marques on Celebration Day should have registered their intentions by now; further information will be available shortly. Queries can be directed to Pauline O'Brien (committeemember.pauline.obrien@u3avictoria.com.au).

Recognition for U3A Members – Francis Bonnici OAM

Frances Bonnici, Italian tutor at U3A Box Hill, was awarded an Order of Australia in the Queens Birthday Honours List for her work teaching children, particularly in the Maltese community. Network congratulates Frances and all our other U3A members receiving honours.

Network is always delighted to congratulate those U3A-ers receiving such recognition – we just need U3A to inform us of their members' successes.

National body provides film tickets

The U3A national body, U3A Alliance Australia has facilitated members to take up free tickets to a special advance preview of the movie *BookClub*.

The lives of four lifelong friends are turned upside down when their book club tackles the infamous *Fifty Shades of Grey*. In this comedy, the women rediscover romance, new and old, and inspire each other to make their next chapter the best chapter. Stars Diane Keaton, Jane Fonda, Candice Bergen and Mary Steenburgen.

For more information and to download complimentary tickets click here: <http://www.showfilmfirst.com/pin/586050>

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

Eastern Metro Region	2 July	Nunawading	10am, Silver Grove Nunawading	Geoff Steventon, Regional Rep
Western Metro Region	17 July	Werribee	Hoppers Crossing Sports Club	Neil Head Regional Rep
Southern & Central Metro	7 Sept	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	TBA, John Paul College McMahons Rd Frankston	Bethy Birch Regional Rep
Outer Eastern Metro Region	20 Sept	Sherbrook	11am, Sherbrooke U3A, Upwey Seniors Community Centre, Mahoney St., Upwey	Bill Power 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	Possible Workshop Series	Di Cray Regional Rep
Eastern Metro Region	24 Sept	Nunawading	10am, Silver Grove Nunawading	Geoff Steventon, Regional Rep
South Gippsland Region	17 Oct *	TBC	TBC	Neil Shaw Regional Rep
Northern Metro Region	25 Oct *	TBC	TBC	Anne Heafield Regional Rep
Grampians Region	29 October	TBC	Melbourne Polytechnic., Grano St., Ararat	Lee Albert Regional Rep
Outer Eastern Metro Region	7 Dec	TBC	TBC	Bill Power Regional Rep

* - Tentative date

Anne Grigg - 30 June 2018