

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

- 19 September – Members Council
- 21 September – Combined DHHS Regional Workshop – South West Victoria region and Grampians region
- 04 October—UMAS user group
- 7-14 October – Seniors Festival
- 21 November – Members Council

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

Seniors Festival - Federation Square, October 7

Make Network your own by being part of Celebration Day, which launches Seniors Week at Federation Square on 7 October. Currently organized are performances at Deakin Edge and Riverside Terrace but there are still many opportunities for U3As that do not have performance troupes to get involved.

Every U3A is a member of Network. This year the aim of the U3A Network Marquee is to:

- promote the U3A movement to non-members
- give representatives of particular activities the opportunity to network with representatives from other U3As offering similar activities

A flyer explaining the set up was sent to all U3As on 21 August. The flyer asks for volunteers by 7 September for one or two hour blocks to staff tables in the Network marquee under the headings: **Get Exercising; Get Thinking; Get Doing; Get Involved.**

Each table will be staffed by two U3As each hour, with two or three people from each U3A. There will be activities for the public as well as demonstrations and videos and people to ask

This model will give up to 48 U3As and 120-plus members the opportunity to be involved over the day. And we hope that the tent will be abuzz with members of the public wanting to learn more about U3A.

We now urgently call for volunteers to man the tent. Expect a follow up phone call and **Seniors Festival Update** email to keep you updated.

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Volunteers who are unable to assist on Sunday 7 October, may like to staff the **U3A Information Table, Melbourne Festival Hub, Melbourne Town Hall Mon 8 Oct to Fri 12 Oct 10:00am – 4:30pm**. Time slots for the Hub are generally 2–3 hours and up to a full day. While it may be busy early in the week there will be time to participate in the variety of activities and entertainments or network with others.

To volunteer or for further information email committeemember.pauline.obrien@u3avictoria.com.au or phone 0403 770 342.

Pauline O'Brien

Issues for U3As

U3A Network Victoria recently undertook a survey of the secretaries of the 109 U3As in Victoria. Responses were received from 78 U3As, representing 72% of all U3As.

Committees of management do a great job providing courses and activities to 38,000 members across Victoria, but they do face many challenges. The results demonstrate that:

- 63% identified the supply of suitable tutors as a challenge
- 60% experienced issues with filling positions on committees of management
- 45% have issues with sourcing suitable accommodation for courses
- 37% have funding challenges.

Respondents identified a number of areas where they would appreciate support:

- Marketing (60%)
- Engaging diverse members of the community (47%)
- Policy work (30%)
- IT advice (28%) and
- Relationship building (22%).

Members can make a great contribution by volunteering to run a course, join a committee of management or help with projects or administration.

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

Help Network stay in contact with your U3A

Network regularly uses the contact details for Member U3A office bearers in the Network Member Database (NMDB), and we sometimes find that those details are out of date. Please contact Network via info@u3avictoria.com.au or 03 9670 3659 if your U3A has difficulty accessing the NMDB, or you need a reminder about your login and password details.

Adult Learning Australia resources now available for U3As

In August, we announced that Network had become a member of Adult Learning Australia (ALA). This means that U3As in Victoria now have access to ALA professional development offerings such as their series of webinars: <https://ala.asn.au/professionaldevelopment/webinars/>

We have had a number of U3As already provide their contact details so they can have access. If your U3A would also like to be included then please email your contact details (name, U3A, email address) to info@u3avictoria.com.au so they can be passed onto ALA in order to be included on their email distribution list for members

September Members Council Meeting

The next Members Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 19 September at 10.30am. Bookings are being managed via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/september-2018-members-council-meeting-tickets-49124414446>

The agenda is available via this link to Network's events page: <https://www.u3avictoria.com.au/key-events/>

The meeting pack, including reports will be distributed to Delegates by the first week of September.

Please contact Tracey at Network Office if you need any additional information: info@u3avictoria.com.au or (03) 9670 3659.

Members only portal coming soon

From late September the Network website will have a Members Portal. This will allow us to share information with Members in a more confidential and secure way. The pages under the current Members tab, plus the Regions section, will be moved into the Portal. A password will provide easy access to the portal for members.

Network will contact all U3As with password details on launch day—**20 September**. You can access the current website pre Portal website at :

<https://www.u3avictoria.com.au/>

Strategic Plan

The strategic plan has been progressing well:

- An online survey was sent to all U3A Secretaries and 78 responses were received.
- 12 interviews were done by our consultants.
- Responses were analysed and reviewed by the Network Committee.
- On 20 August a workshop was held with 16 representatives of U3As to discuss directions.

At the September meeting of the Members Council there will be a presentation on the strategic plan and an opportunity for discussion. The final Strategic Plan document will be tabled at the November meeting of Members Council.

Profile Survey

A profile survey of U3A members was undertaken in 2015. It is a requirement of the Network's funding from DHHS that a profile survey be undertaken again this year.

The Network Committee engaged Victor Szwed to coordinate and analyse the survey results. We are very grateful to the five U3As who have participated in the survey by emailing their members to complete an online survey: Goulburn Valley, Manningham, Moreland, Mornington and Wonthaggi

The results will be fed back to the U3As and an analysis will be presented at the November Members Council meeting.

Potential for U3A growth

There are nine Local Government areas that apparently do not have a U3A with an address based in the LGA (however there could be some coverage from **neighbouring** LGAs): Buloke, Golden Plains, Hindmarsh, Loddon, Queenscliff, Swan Hill, Towong, West Wimmera.

An analysis of U3A members per 1000 seniors aged 55+ in each LGA has identified scope for further growth in areas with a high number of seniors in the LGA. There would appear to be potential for growth in three corridors:

- **Northern**—Banyule, Brimbank, Darebin, Hume, Moonee Valley, Moreland, Whittlesea
- **Southern**—Casey, Frankston, Greater Dandenong, Kingston
- **Geelong**—Greater Geelong

Further consideration will need to be given to what this means for the targeting of activities such as marketing in these areas.

U3A Regional Meeting Workshop and Seminar Schedule - Semester 2, 2018
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U3A Region / ACFE Workshop **	Dates	Host(s) U3A	Time & Location	Contact for meeting
Southern & Central Metro	7 Sept OR Sept 24	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 TBC	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)	TBC	TBC	Anne Heafield Regional Rep
Grampians Region	29 October TBC	TBC	Melbourne Polytechnic., Grano St., Ararat	Lee Albert Regional Rep
Outer Eastern Metro Region	7 Dec	TBC	TBC	Bill Power Regional Rep

TBC= To Be Confirmed. Regional Workshop may replace

(T)= tentative date

Anne Grigg U3A Network Victoria 30 August 2018