

### Upcoming Events

- 4 October—UMAS user group
- 7-14 October – Seniors Festival
- 21 November – Members Council
- 14 December—Network Office end of year closure

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

### From the President

Our September Members Council meeting saw Network present two pieces of the strategic work occupying so much time this year for Network Committee members. Planning Convenor Del Stitz presented the draft Network Strategic Plan for 2018-2021, noting to Council delegates the extensive range of inputs to the plan received from Member U3As. This *eBulletin* and those of the past few months have also contained material from the strategic planning process. The final document will be tabled at the November Council meeting, and copies will be emailed to all U3As and will be posted on our website.

Also, Vice President Glen Wall took the Council meeting through planning to date on the rules review being organised to start in early October. The rules revision has been an agenda item at each Council meeting this year; more information appears elsewhere in this issue of *eBulletin*. Thank you to those U3As who are prepared to participate in this exercise.

I have another volunteer to announce this month : one of our U3A Brimbank workers will be trialling as minute taker for our Network Committee and November Council meetings. While we still have only a regulatory secretary, we are trying to break the secretary's role into smaller responsibilities which can be assigned elsewhere, to make the role less onerous and easier to fit into.

Whilst talking about roles within Network, I want to thank Loretta Winstanley for her work as a member of the Network Committee during 2017-2018 and as convenor of the Education Committee during 2018. Family health reasons have forced Loretta to withdraw, and I know she is disappointed to leave behind the plans she was developing for new educational initiatives. In light of the review of train-

ing needs being developed in the strategic plan, it has been decided to place the Education Committee in abeyance for the present. Members of this committee are finishing off the new course co-ordinators handbook, an ACFE 1 project, which should be available soon. Several members of the Education Committee have worked on its projects for four and five years; all Network is grateful for their contributions. Hopefully some will be able to return to the Education Committee in the new year.

Susan Webster, President



A highlight of September Council – Dr Kate Donelan, President of the new U3A at Port Fairy, receiving the membership certificate from President of Network Victoria, Susan Webster

### 2018-2019 ACFE 12-Month Grant Conditions

U3A Network Victoria has now received confirmation from the Adult Community and Further Education (ACFE) Board that they have granted \$150,000 funding for the period July 2018 to June 2019 to build Capacity and Capability in our U3As.

As with the previous 18-month grant, ACFE is granting these funds to sponsor work on specific, negotiated activities. U3A Network Victoria is encouraging Member U3As to participate in these activities and projects.

If your U3A believes you have the resources to take on a project or part of a project, there are four activities with projects that need to be completed by the beginning of May, 2019.

An Information Sheet and an application form has been sent to your U3A. Please remember, there is no pressure for a U3A to take part in these projects; it is up to each U3A to decide if you have the resources (time and people) to complete a project.

Cont...

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

If you would to discuss a possible project, please contact me via the Network Office or email me at [elsie.mutton@u3avictoria.com.au](mailto:elsie.mutton@u3avictoria.com.au). The deadline for submission of projects is **25 October 2018**.

Elsie Mutton OAM, Vice President ACFE 2 Coordinator

### Review of Network Rules of Association

A Taskforce is being formed to consider the recommendations for changes to the U3A Network Victorian Inc Rules and Constitution (December 2013) resulting from the work of a Network Sub-committee lead by Hans Eisen in 2017, suggested changes proposed by U3A Geelong and the work completed in developing the Network Strategy Plan. The taskforce will oversee the drafting of the resolutions to effect changes to the Rules taking into account the following:

- Whether the proposed changes in Rules are consistent with the purpose of the Association
- The likely impact of the changes on the organisation's ability to operate effectively
- The need to ensure that proposed changes do not impact negatively on relations with funders and other stake holders.

The resolutions and supporting explanations to any proposed changes to the U3A Network Victoria Inc Rules and Constitution December 2013 will be put to a meeting of members.

#### Next steps:

Rules Change Taskforce recruited

- Taskforce will work through issues to develop proposed changes
- Seek legal advice on the effect of the changes and drafting of resolutions
- Proposed changes and reasoning circulated to Member U3As for feed back
- Final proposed changes notified via Notice of Special General Meeting at appropriate time

Any member of a U3A committee interested in being a member of the Rules Change Taskforce please contact Network Vice-President Glen Wall through the Network office.

### When is your AGM?

It would be helpful to our Development and Support team if each U3A would advise the month in which its AGM is held.

Please send the information to:

[projectofficer.sue.cullen@u3avictoria.com.au](mailto:projectofficer.sue.cullen@u3avictoria.com.au)

### Strategic Plan Update

A presentation on the directions being considered in the strategic plan development was made to the September Members Council meeting.

The strategic objectives being proposed for Network Victoria are:

- Foster the development and sustainability of U3As
- Provide opportunities for U3As to share and learn
- Advocate on behalf of U3As to government and other potential sponsors and supporters
- Improve the capability of U3A Network Victoria

A copy of the presentation outline will be available from the Network website soon.

U3As are welcome to provide comments on future directions to [info@u3avictoria.com.au](mailto:info@u3avictoria.com.au) in the next couple of weeks.

The final strategy plan will be tabled at the November Members Council meeting on 21 November.

### Calling all creative thinkers!

U3As are full of good news stories about great courses, events and the benefits of joining U3A. Many of you share these stories through your newsletters so please continue to send them to Network. However, in addition to the writing and collection of stories, there is a need for help with several of the marketing and communication goals. Can you please share this request with your U3A Committees and general membership and let me know of anyone in your U3A who would be interested in joining the marketing sub-committee? There are many aspects to the marketing role including developing a new newsletter for people outside of the U3A movement, implementing awareness raising campaigns and so on.

If you would like more information or are interested in helping please email me at [marketing@u3avictoria.com.au](mailto:marketing@u3avictoria.com.au) or call the Network office on (03) 9670 3659.

Janice Kelly

### Regional Workshop Series

The first of the series will be held over two days at **Colac** on **November 12 and 13**.

The topics selected include Governance, Tutor Development, Distance Education, Healthy Active Ageing and Community Inclusiveness.

The dates for 2019 are being worked on as Regional meetings are held in the next month or so. Once dates are locked in and a volunteer to act as the liaison for each region has been found, planning will begin in earnest.

## New Members Portal Launches

U3A Network Victoria is pleased to announce that the new Members Portal is live on our website. The Portal is a secure area which is accessible to Member U3As via a simple password. This initiative has been developed in response to feedback from our Member U3As and is part of Network's preparation for the future. Having access to a secure area will allow us to make more information available to you, without the risk that sharing information in the publicly available areas of the site bring.



Login screen for new Members secure area

Overview of the implementation of the secure area:

The implementation of the secure area is happening in three stages:

**Stage 1:** Moving some parts of Network's current website into the secure area

**Stage 2:** Updating the secure area with more information and resources for Member U3As

**Stage 3:** Implementing ways in which U3As can communicate with Network and with each other inside the Portal

**When is the Portal live?:**

Stage 1 commenced on Monday 1 October, with the following pages from the website being moved into the secure area:

- Info about Network
- Resources
- NMDB reporting and databases
- Key Events
- Regions

These pages are no longer available on the public areas of the site from 1 October.

**How to access the new Members Portal:**

You will be able to access the new Portal via the following address:

<https://www.u3avictoria.com.au/members-secure> or click

on **Members** tab on the website home page – there are three locations:

- Top menu
- Links under banner
- Footer

You will need a password to access the secure area:

There is one password for everyone to use to access the new Portal. Please contact Network Office via (03) 9670 3659 or [info@u3avictoria.com.au](mailto:info@u3avictoria.com.au) if your U3A is not yet aware of the password.

Please note that this password is not the same as your U3A's login to the Network Member Database.

Please keep the password in a safe place – and please do not share it with your general membership. This area is designed for use by the people who represent our Member U3As. If there are any security issues in the future, we will change the password, and advise you of the new password.

Request for feedback:

We are keen to hear your feedback once you have started to use the new secure area, or any suggestions about additional features to add in the future. Please forward your ideas, suggestions and any questions to Tracey at Network Office via [info@u3avictoria.com.au](mailto:info@u3avictoria.com.au)

## Regional Representative needed for Gippsland

All U3As greatly appreciate the time and dedication of the members who take on the role of regional rep.

It means running or supporting each regional meeting in your region (somewhere between one and four meetings depending on the region; attending a regions meeting four times a year in the afternoon of the Council meeting and occasionally providing an ear for the Development and Support Team.

Gippsland region is currently without a rep so we ask that you consider this please. More information can be provided if someone is interested. Contact [dso@u3avictoria.com.au](mailto:dso@u3avictoria.com.au)

<b>U3A Regional Meeting Workshop and Seminar Schedule - Semester 2, 2018</b>
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U3A Region / ACFE Workshop **	Dates	Host(s) U3A	Time & Location	Contact for meeting
South Gippsland Region	10 Oct	Cranbourne	TBC	Neil Shaw Regional Rep
Northern Metro Region	25 Oct	Whittlesea	Peter Lalor College Robert St Lalor	Anne Heafield Regional Rep
South West Victoria / Grampians Regions  Workshop +Regional meetings	12 + 13 November		Colac	Sue Cullen Project officer, U3A Network Victoria
Outer Eastern Metro Region	7 Dec	TBC	TBC	Bill Power Regional Rep

Anne Grigg U3A Network Victoria 28 September 2018