

U3A NETWORK VICTORIA BULLETIN

May 2017

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

- 10 May—Presidents briefing
 - 29 May—Education Conference Bendigo
 - 21 June—Council Meeting
 - 4-5 September—Network Conference
- Also check Regional Meetings calendar in this newsletter

From the President

Welcome to this edition of the eBulletin, my first.



Firstly I would like to acknowledge the role that Elsie Mutton has played in being President for the last six years of U3A Network Victoria. She has led the organisation very ably and with the support of the Committee taken it from strength to strength.

For those who may not know me, a few quick words. I am a member of U3A Baw Baw, centred around the Drouin Warragul area of West Gippsland.

By training I am a Licensed Surveyor who has had private practice experience of 19 years, State Electricity Commission, 9 years with the last 6 years as Chief Surveyor and then 9 years as Surveyor General of Victoria. On retiring from that I did consulting work for the World Bank, United Nations and governments both overseas and local.

My goal is to ensure that Network provides value to its member U3As and supports them within our limited means.

If at any time you have an idea or suggestions please feel free to contact me.

With the recent appointment of the current Network Victoria Secretary Anne Grigg, as one of the Development Support Officers, the Network is looking for a new Secretary. Within this eBulletin there is further information about this Network vacancy. It is a real opportunity to participate in the work of the Network for the benefit of all U3As.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible either at our meetings in the city or as I travel around the state.

Live .. Learn .. Enjoy

John R Parker

President

Seniors Week

On 21 April 2017 the new and improved online event listing process for Seniors Week went live.

If your U3A is holding an event in Seniors Week make sure you register to have it listed in the Seniors Week booklet.

Your U3A will have received this information via an email from the Network office or Chris Reidy, Manager of the Festival.

PGS Funding

If you applied for Program Growth Support funding the funds allocated to your U3A should be in your nominated bank account by mid May.

Want to apply for grants?

When Network Office is notified of grants in the community we send the information to our members, mention them at Council meetings and recently put the information on our [Facebook page](#) (U3A Victoria).

Sometimes this means that your timeline for application is very short. Why not have your U3A sign up for notification of Community Grants at

<https://www.communitygrants.gov.au>

There are other grants sites out there. If you know of ones that are suitable for a U3A please let the office know so we can share the information

Position Vacant: Secretary U3A Network Victoria.

As a result of the appointment of our current Network Secretary to one of the Development Support Officer positions, we are seeking a U3A member for the position of Secretary, to participate in the work of the Network for the benefit of all U3As and to play an active role in Network activities. This is an opportunity to be part of a dynamic team that may face significant challenges as the U3A movement goes forward. If any member would like to discuss the role, please contact me on 0408 364 159 or at president@u3avictoria.com.au

The position formally starts on 1 July 2017, but we would like to have a change-over period of a month or two before then.

John Parker

President

Accommodation project

The Accommodation Project is now well advanced. Reports have been prepared for distribution to Member U3As as well as a report to the CEO of MAV seeking increased recognition of our U3As, and for assistance in particular for U3As to secure improved accommodation.

These reports highlight the results from a survey, conducted in November 2016, of the accommodation practices of a representative twenty U3As, and of other surveys.

One of the findings is that those U3As which establish and maintain close relations with their Councils achieve most effective support in securing appropriate accommodation.

Another finding is that approximately 30% of U3As have insufficient accommodation to enable them to enrol new members in 2017.

An Accommodation Handbook providing, for new and existing U3As, guidance for arranging accommodation to meet the needs of their members will be available in the second half of 2017.

Hans Eisen

Member Website Project

In response to Member U3A requests for assistance, Network Victoria has commissioned a software template to build a complete website.

The Website Template Project offers U3As a free packaged website, a written user guide, and personal mentoring in maintaining their own website aimed specifically at small U3As. The U-MAS membership system can be integrated at any stage.

The user manual covers all steps from domain name registration, website setup and ongoing basic maintenance. The template includes choice of colour schemes and basic layout options. Member U3As will be assisted to prepare their own content and data.

Samples from the Website Template will be shown at the Presidents Briefing on 10 May.

The website will belong to the U3A and its use will be at no cost, however, there is a small cost to register the U3A domain name; Network is also setting up a new, volunteer support team - similar to the team which supports U-MAS - guide U3As in operating their own website.

Interested parties can contact the Support Team through Network Office.

Susan Webster

Development Support Officer appointments

With the impending retirement of the Development Support Officer (DSO), Harry Dobson, we have made two appointments that will share the role that Harry has been undertaking. They are John Pizzey, a member of U3A Castlemaine. John commenced duties on April 18 under the guidance of Harry.



John Pizzey

The other appointee is Anne Grigg, who is currently the Network Victoria Secretary. Anne is a member of U3A Kingston and will take up her DSO role on 1 July.

The DSO role is strongly supported by the Government who wishes to see at least one U3A in every municipality. DSOs have a broad range of responsibilities: they are there to support all U3As, particularly small and struggling ones, as well as encourage all individual U3As to become active members of their regional network.



Anne Grigg

John Parker

President

U3A Education Matters.



Articles and photos on Health, Fitness and Wellbeing courses from U3As are being accepted up until **Wednesday 10 May**. Send your article to u3anec@gmail.com.



Anne Thompson

Convener Network Education Committee



The U3A Network and U3A Bendigo have combined to offer an exciting workshop AND a friendly and stimulating *optional* day of activities in Bendigo before the workshop. Come and see the sights of one of Victoria's most interesting regional cities and then learn how to find and keep tutors for your U3A

Finding and Keeping Tutors – Strategies for Success

Workshop **Monday 29 May 29** at U3A Bendigo
Optional Activity Day Sunday 28 May at various locations

What is the program for the two days?

Sunday 28th

- 11.00am Visit to the Golden Dragon Museum. Lunch afterwards
- 1.30pm Bendigo Historic Buildings Walk. Gold coin donation.
- 2.00pm Shamrock Historic Hotel Tour and afternoon tea. \$15.00
- 4.00pm Technology, Tour and Tea at U3A Bendigo
- 6.30pm Meal at local restaurant. Venue to be advised.

Monday 29th

Workshop - 9.45am for 10.15 am

Finding and Keeping Tutor – Strategies for Success

Learn as you enjoy the Workshop facilitated by the talented Jill Noble, Director, HR Pivotal.

Who is invited to attend?

Anyone from your U3A. Every member has a role in the finding and keeping of tutors. We need a range of voices including Committee members, Course Coordinators, tutors and general members. Make up a team to come.

Is there any accommodation available?

Yes! There is a wide range of accommodation in Bendigo from AirBNB to caravan park cabins to motels and hotels. Check the internet. Plus U3A Bendigo is offering limited homestay for the Sunday night. Contact Jill McArthur for details of this great offer - email: jilldm@bigpond.com

Is there public transport available?

On Monday take the 7.41 am V/Line train from Southern Cross. It will arrive at 9.49 am at Kangaroo Flat (Don't go to the main Bendigo Station.) We will have transport for you at the Kangaroo Flat station to get you to U3A Bendigo for the Workshop. There is train back from Kangaroo Flat at 16.02pm. Bring a friend from your U3A.

When can we register for the Workshop?

Watch out for the mailout from the U3A Network. Share it around, fill it out (one per member), email it back to Julie Pereira: memberservices@u3avictoria.com.au or post it to U3A Network Ground Floor 341 Queen St, Melbourne, 3000 Phone 9670 3659

Can I suggest topics or ideas for discussion at the Workshop?

We would love to hear from you. There is section on the Registration Form for you to express those requests/ideas.

Workshop Cost?

\$10.00 per participant. Payable in cash at registration at the Workshop.

U3A Regional Meetings & Workshops Schedule May-December 2017

U3A Region	Dates	Host(s) U3A	Time & Location	Contact for meeting
Outer South East and Mornington Peninsula	Wed. 17 May	Dandenong	1pm-3pm, John Paul College, McMahons Rd Frankston	Jim Archibald, President TBA Regional Rep
Northern Metro	Thursday 1 June	Banyule	9.45am-2.30pm, U3A Hall, rear 14 Ivanhoe Pde. Ivanhoe	Helen McKinnon, President Mary Wilson, Secretary Anne Heafield, Regional Rep
Outer Eastern	Friday 9 June	Upper Yarra	10am Fire Station, 37 Yarra St Yarra Junction	Anne O'Shaughnessy, Pres Raewyn King, Secretary Julian Higgs, Regional Rep
Loddon Mallee Digital Workshop	Thursday 22 June	Bendigo	10.00am, St Mary's 193High St Kangaroo Flat	Jill McArthur, President Nancy Miller, Regional Rep
South Metro	Friday 23 June	Port Phillip	1pm-3.30 Mary Keogh 224 Danks St. Albert Park	Renate Mattiske, President David Hone, Regional Rep
Eastern Metro	Monday 3 July	Nunawading	10am, Silver Grove Nunawading	Valerie Bourke, Box Hill Geoff Steventon, Reg.Rep
Western Metro	Friday 25 August	Melton	? pm, Building 3A, 20-40 Rees Rd Melton South	John Bermingham, President Jane Sultana, Secretary Fran Horton, W Metro Rep
North East Victoria	TBA Possibly Wed13 Sept	Kilmore	TBA	Paul Brinsden, President Jan Maude, Regional Rep
South West Victoria	Friday 15 Sept	Colac	10.30am, Seniors Centre, Hesse St. Colac	Michael Allison, President Di Cray, Regional Rep
Grampians	Monday 18 Sept	Hepburn Shire	10.30am, Melbourne Polytechnic., Grano St., Ararat	Robyn Lawrence, President Lynne Hall-Cavanagh, R.Rep
Outer Eastern Metro	Thursday 21Sept	Sherbrooke	10am. Seniors Community Centre, Mahony St. Upwey	Gloria Wales, President Julian Higgs, Regional Rep
Loddon Mallee	Thursday 21 Sept	TBA	10.00am, St Mary's 193High St Kangaroo Flat	Nancy Miller Regional Rep
Eastern Metro	Monday 25 Sept	Nunawading	10am, Silver Grove Nunawading	Valerie Bourke, Box Hill Geoff Steventon, Reg.Rep
South Gippsland Workshop on Course Design and Delivery	TBA in Oct	Prom Coast	Manna Gum Restaurant Broadbeach Resort Inverloch	Dave Berry, President Steve Munro, Regional Rep
Outer Eastern	Friday 8 Dec	Healesville	Time TBA, Cnr GreenSt &River St. Healesville	Julian Higgs, President /Rep Don McDonald, Secretary

Harry Dobson, May 2017