

### Upcoming Events

- 5 April - U-MAS user group meeting
- 6-7 May - Course Co-ordinators Forum, U3A Goulburn
- 16 May - Presidents Briefing
- 30 May - Politicians Information Session
- 20 June - Network Council meeting

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

### From the President

It is a pleasure to write this first column as Network's new president. Having served the U3A movement for many years, including eight as a Network office bearer, I feel I have a broad *and* deep understanding of the values that are important to seniors and to our U3A workers and our general members. My goals during this two-year term are to further strengthen our movement through stronger governance and process, and to continue our growth to give the benefits of U3A membership to more seniors.

I think that interest in the topic of governance demonstrated over the summer break by the series of letters and meetings among Member U3As shows that we are united in these goals. My hope is that this summer-break interest will carry through to more work between Network and all Member U3As in the coming months.

I wanted to give my personal thanks to those Network Committee members who departed at the AGM: Treasurer Tom Wong, Anne Thompson, Meg Brown, Hans Eisen, and Janice Kelly.

Finally, I wanted to explain that I will not personally be able to attend very many Member U3A events. The Network Committee does want to attend individual U3A and regional events, but I will not be able to make this a priority. I will be with you in spirit, and I hope I will be working with you all during these two years.

Susan Webster President

### Treasurer's Position Still Vacant

Network Victoria is now operating without an elected or appointed Treasurer. Our past Treasurer Tom Wong and our volunteer bookkeeper Meg Brown are keeping the financial work moving along. But Network needs a committed and experienced financial person to join the Network Committee. If any of our Member U3As have administrators who have finished working with their own U3A but would still like to continue serving the U3A movement, perhaps that person could be introduced to Network. Contact Network Office for more information.

### 2018 Profile Survey

Each year Network prepares a series of reports providing breakdowns on membership, growth, and class definitions for the Seniors Programs and Participation branch of DHHS. Most of this information comes from the Network Member Database, updated annually by each U3A.

One additional report is a survey establishing a profile of U3A membership. This survey was first conducted in 2015-2016 with six Member U3As, and Network will be approaching six new U3As during 2018 to re-run the exercise.

The survey form will be provided to individual members of participating U3As, but no information is collected against an individual's name. All results are presented in aggregate, and personal privacy is a top consideration of the team administering the survey.

### Capitation Fees due in June

Member U3A capitation fees are coming due. At the AGM on 21 March it was agreed that these would stay the same for 2018. All U3As will be sent an email, at the end of April, reminding them to update member information on U3A Network database. These need to be updated on or before 31 May. If you have trouble accessing the database or need to check your login details, please contact Network office for help. Following these updates, invoices will be sent to all Member U3As in early June.

Anne Marie Ritchie

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

## 2018 Network Victoria Team



L-R: Nancy Miller (Convener Regions Network Committee), Tracey Swadling (Administration Manager), Meg Brown (Bookkeeper), Glen Wall (Vice President), Elsie Mutton (Vice President), Susan Webster (President), Del Stitz (Network Committee), Loretta Winstanley (Network Committee and Convener Network Education Committee (NEC)), Kevin Whelan (Convener U-MAS User Group and Website Template Project), Lynn Hall-Cavanagh (Network Committee), Anne Grigg (Development and Support Officer), Ann Ritchie (Secretary), Pauline O'Brien (Network Committee). Not present: Janice Kelly (Public Relations), Di Lewis (eBulletin editor)

### ACFE/PGSF update

The projects being developed by both U3A Network and Member U3As are coming together with the final reports due at the end of May. The ACFE working party look forward to sharing the findings of all projects with you later in the year.

PGSF applications have closed. All projects will be looked at and judged on their merit. If your U3A has applied for this funding you will be advised if you have been successful or not by the end of April.

### Network Strategic Plan

Network Victoria operates under a four-year strategic plan, with annual goals set each calendar year under the umbrella plan. 2018 is the start of another four-year cycle; the planning day is being held in June to allow new Network Committee members and office bearers to prepare themselves with background information.

The Network Strategic Plan will be published on our website and available digitally for Member U3As as an aid in their own strategic planning, if they want it.

Network would like to include up to four Member U3As in this planning exercise. Those U3As interested in participating can contact the Network Office by **Friday 27 April** for more information.

Watch for separate email with information about NEC programs on Enduring Power of Attorney in cooperation with Office of Public Advocate DHHS coming soon.

### Political Campaign

The date for the launch of the Political campaign is set for 30 May. The host U3A is Port Phillip. Gabrielle Williams, Parliamentary Secretary for Carers and Volunteers, working with the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing and the Minister for Families and Children, will launch the campaign. You will receive more information about this campaign and how your U3A can be involved as details are confirmed. Gabrielle was also appointed the Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Council for Volunteers and understands the value of U3A to the community.

### Some acronyms deciphered

**ACFE** -Adult, Community and Further Education – part of the Department of Education and Training. Project funding available in some years through U3A Network Victoria

**AGM** –Annual General Meeting

**DHHS** –Department of Health and Human Services

**DSO** – Development and Support Officer – role that supports new and existing U3As and regions across Victoria

**PGSF** –Program Growth Support Program – Project funding available in some years from the Department of Health and Human Services through U3A Network Victoria

**SP&P**– Seniors Programs and Participation branch in DHHS. This branch administers the State Government's relationship with U3A Network and the U3A movement in Victoria

**U-MAS** – U3A Member Administration System - an administration system for membership and course/activity management recommended by Network Victoria and used by a number of U3As

### Distance and online learning

These two presentations were a highlight of the March Council meeting when Peter Duncan (Hepburn Shire) and Neil Shaw (Prom Coast) provided presentations and a mini workshop about their respective ACFE funded projects. They presented two models of distance and online learning that will be of interest to many U3As. For further information, or to receive a copy of their presentations, please contact them directly:

Peter Duncan: [peterjduncan@gmail.com](mailto:peterjduncan@gmail.com)

Neil Shaw: [neil@sandypointgallery.com.au](mailto:neil@sandypointgallery.com.au)

Both Peter and Neil are looking for U3As to join them in participating in the next stage of their respective programs.

Results of elections, voting on resolutions, and minutes of the Network Victoria Annual General Meeting and Council Meeting on 21 March will be emailed to all Member U3As in April.



Peter Duncan



Neil Shaw

### U3A Regional Meeting, Workshop and Seminar Schedule, Semester 1, 2018

U3A Region	Dates	Host(s) U3A	Time & Location	Contact for meeting
Eastern Metro Region	9 April	Nunawading	10am, Silver Grove, Nunawading	Geoff Steventon, Regional Rep
South Metro Region	20 April	Bayside	U3A Bayside	David Hone, Regional Rep
Northern Metro Region	24 April	Yarra City	17 Stanton St, Abbotsford	Anne Heafield Regional Rep
Outer SE & Morn Pen Region	4 May	Southern Peninsula	TBA, John Paul College McMahons Rd, Frankston	Beth Birch, Regional Rep
** U3A Goulburn Valley W/shop	6/7 May	Goulburn Valley	14 Esson St, Shepparton	Greg Barnes, Course Coordinator
Grampians Region	14 May	TBA	Melbourne Polytechnic., Grano St, Ararat	Lee Albert Regional Rep
** U3A Moreland w/ shop	<b>24 May</b> NB changed date	Moreland	21 Harding St, Coburg	Gwen Rosengren, Secretary
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

Anne Grigg , 29 March 2018