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We send our thoughts, prayers and best wishes to the people who are suffering from the effects of the devastating bush fires in the Blue Mountains of New South Wales.

16th October, 2013

What's Happening?

THIS IS A PRINTED VERSION OF THE NEWSLETTER THAT GREW ONLINE BETWEEN JUNE AND OCTOBER 2013.

Congratulations! You have received the 4th issue of the Newsletter of U3A Network WA. This publication has been growing live online over the last few months as news was received by the Editor. Contributions to Issue 4 closed on 15th October, 2013. Watch the next issue grow on our U3A Network WA website. Previous issues are available for printing from the .pdf link at the top of the webpage.

We represent approximately 1,500 individual members in eight areas across the State of W.A. Everyone has a story. All individual members are encouraged to submit articles of interest to the Editor. These might include good news stories, visits from interesting Guest Speakers, most popular courses, successful excursions, or ideas that have worked for your group.

One idea is to describe what is happening in a photo. Even better, is when the picture says it all. Go the smartphones!!!!

AGM REPORT

The second Network AGM was held in the Social Sciences Lecture Theatre at the University of WA Perth on 3rd July, 2013 at 3.00 pm. U3A members from a diversity of regions and districts across the state had just completed a full day's seminar program of lectures and guest speakers. Most of the audience promptly escaped from the auditorium, leaving a handful of Network Delegates and observers to stay on for the AGM.

There were Network people who had been in the same vicinity all day, throughout morning tea and lunch, but who had never met their counterparts from other districts. This was remedied with a swift identity call after which it became apparent that there were representatives from five of the 8 member clubs present; Armadale, Bunbury, Mandurah, Naturaliste and Perth. The proceedings began, and it was all over in three quarters of an hour.

Chairman Peter Flanigan's report described the search for funds, and the work that had been done on the strategic plan to promote both existing and new U3A groups. The Secretary Norma Vaughan reported on the various means of communication that had been set up, and their level of success or otherwise. Facebook received the thumbs down and the meeting resolved to suspend it.

The Financial Statement was submitted and accepted in Treasurer Don McDonald's absence. The only funding we had received was from fees and the only expenses were for Incorporation and our Alliance subscription. A motion to keep the fees at .50c per head for the coming year was carried.



L to R. David Box, Peter Flanigan, Norma Vaughan

Elections were dutifully carried out, with the Chairman vacating his chair by at least an inch. Not surprisingly, the existing Management Committee was re-elected, with a note that the Chairman was required to stand down after his next term of office. That leaves twelve months to find another volunteer.

Any Other Business included a suggestion to schedule a meeting to be held in the South-West, and a query about paying Insurance to NSW which Peter Flanigan agreed to follow up in his capacity as WA's Alliance Representative. A plan for an open discussion to be held at the end of the meeting has been pencilled in for next year, as has a 'meet and greet' opportunity. It was a long but satisfying day.

Norma Vaughan
Posted 10/7/13

Asia Pacific Conference

14th and 15th October, 2013

Information and Registration Form may be downloaded from the Victorian Network website. <http://www.u3anetvic.org.au>

U3A NETWORK Vic
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A Victoria and the Asia Pacific Alliance
International Conference

"Ageless Learning Begins with U3A"
14 and 15 October 2013

AUSTRALIAN REGISTRATION FORM
(For participants who live in Australia)

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Your Name:

Name of U3A:

Home Address: Post Code:

Telephone Home: Mobile:

Email Address:

Payment Ref:

Conference Registration: \$120.00 per Person \$

Conference Dinner: \$60.00 per Person \$

Total \$

PAYMENT METHOD:

Send cheque/money order made payable to: U3A Network Victoria
P O Box 322
Nunawading VIC 3131

Electronic Funds Transfer: *
Bank: Commonwealth Bank of Australia
BSB: 063-011 Account No. 10087257
Account Name: U3A Network Victoria
* Please Insert in the Reference Field: Your Name and Email Address to identify the Registration

Please provide your Full Name and Email address on electronic payment transfers to assist our accounting. Also send your Registration Form as soon as the payment has been made.
Note: Registrations with payment or funds transfer details must be received by 13 September 2013
For further enquiries please email: conference2013@u3avictoria.com.au

Posted 14/5/13



Our Chairman Peter Flanigan has recently returned from attending the above Victorian Conference in October 2013. We look forward to hearing about his trip in the next Newsletter.



Adult Learners' Week is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate, promote and advance adult learning in all its forms. By celebrating Adult Learners' Week together, we can raise the profile of adult learning and highlight its value.

How can I get involved?

Adult Learners' Week is an opportunity for organisations that offer any form of adult learning activity to either present a special promotional activity or to label their existing learning activities as Adult Learners' Week events.

If your organisation offers any form of adult learning such as courses, classes, lectures, exhibitions, tours, training programs, tutoring, discussion groups – then Adult Learners' Week is an opportunity to celebrate and promote what you do. You could hold an open day, set up a display at work or in a community centre, host a learning expo, present demonstrations or performances – anything that offers members of your organisation or the local community an opportunity to find out where you are and what you do. Adult Learners' Week events should be promotional in nature and usually free or low cost.

More information from:-

www.adultlearnersweek.org

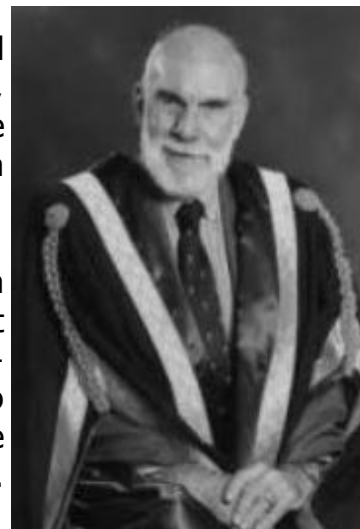
Posted 27/7/13

Perth U3A Seminar

Some 140 U3A members attended the recent seminar run by Perth U3A and held at the University of WA on 3rd July, 2013. The organising committee led by John MacDonald is to be congratulated on a highly successful day.

The Theme of the day was ***Australia; Our Sense of Place in the 21st Century***. There were three main speakers with an introduction by Professor Alan Robson.

Professor Geoffrey Bolton AO (pictured), gave an historical survey of the factors leading to British settlement in Australia, including great power rivalry, particularly with the French. The subsequent development was of a European society planted in a distant and potentially hostile part of the world.



The adherence to the British Empire and the White Australia policy were instinctual reactions to this threat. It took the best part of two centuries before Australians began to feel comfortable as "part of Asia". Now that our trade and commerce is so much linked to countries other than Europe and America we have no choice than to interact with our immediate neighbours.

This theme was expanded by the second speaker, Jim Barns, with particular reference to the countries of the Indian Ocean. "Australia is a two ocean country", he emphasised. With the bulk of the population on the Pacific coast this often gets overlooked.

The Indian Ocean carries vast amounts of trade in strategic materials, many of its bordering countries are expanding their economies at rapid rates and Australia needs to sit up and take notice. We should be giving more emphasis to this part of the world in school programs.

Carina Hoang, spoke of her experiences as a refugee from Vietnam - a "boat person". It was a remarkable story of courage and perseverance in the face of enormous obstacles. So many of the survivors of these epic voyages have gone on to make new lives for themselves in Australia and elsewhere including the speaker herself who has recently written a book simply entitled "Boat People".

Her story is very pertinent to the current situation. Refugees can and do make immeasurably valuable contributions to the society that takes them in.

Peter Flanigan 27/7/13

*Know of a good tip or trick?
Please share it with the rest of us. Email the Editor.*

TRAVEL

Details of a travel program to China have been circulated from the Eastern States through the U3A Alliance and to all State Networks. The information is distributed to U3A Network WA as requested.

Odyssey Travel have prepared a cultural exchange and travel programme to proceed following the U3A Beijing International Education Forum 2013 to be held on the 2nd November.

CHINA HIGHLIGHTS POST CONFERENCE TOUR
14 Days Program in Beijing, Xi'an & Shanghai
29 October to 11 November 2013

Odyssey are offering an additional \$200.00 discount on the normal cost for bookings received prior to the 20th September.

Click on the links below for program details and booking form.

[China Promotion](#)
[China Booking Form](#)



Thank you again to the groups who have contributed news and photographs about their activities to this issue of the Online Newsletter.

News

from Geraldton U3A

We had a wonderful speaker: Mr. Horrie Curley, who earned his living as a 'dogger'. He has appeared in National Geographic!

Great sense of humour - a fine Aboriginal who told us he was now 84 years old, reckons all the walking he did while stalking wild dogs has kept him fit.



Also we visited the award-winning historical garden at Greenough Museum: no nasty pesticides; no dig and almost weed-free: great lesson.

Another successful recent event was a poetry afternoon: each member presented 100-word biography of poet, and read one poem. That afternoon every member present participated, it was truly rewarding.

Claire Gallichan, Sec. Geraldton U3A
 Posted 20/9/13

Where is Geraldton?
 424 Klm North of Perth.



SOUTH WEST MEETING

On Tuesday 24th Sept Busselton U3A hosted a meeting of representatives of four local U3A Groups – Busselton, Bunbury, Manjimup and Margaret River. Peter Flanigan, Network President, and his wife, Rosemary Grigg were also present.



L - R Sue Kennedy, Joy Phillips, Liz Bursey (Manjimup U3A), Rosemary Grigg (Perth U3A)

A sumptuous spread, put on by Busselton U3A, greeted the participants as they arrived. It was to be a working lunch. Peter opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and outlining the structure of U3A in Australia, including state networks the U3AAA and U3A Online. He then invited everyone to tell their U3A stories.

There was a wide ranging discussion with all delegates participating. Each group outlined their programs and there was a very fruitful exchange of ideas. Problems such as attracting and retaining members, insurance, obtaining speakers, accommodation and persuading people to take leadership positions got a good airing.

The meeting concluded at 3 pm with some further refreshment to see people on their way. All agreed it had been a worthwhile experience. Many thanks to Creena Holly, Busselton Secretary, and her assistants for making the arrangements and for preparing the delicious food.

BUNBURY U3A

Later in the week we attended one of Bunbury U3A's regular meetings held at the ECU Campus.



Daisy Harries and Rose Roseveare (Bunbury U3A)

South West Meeting - Continued.

There was a very informative talk by an operative from DFES about bush fires and house fires. It was extremely interesting in view of the number of fires there have been in recent years.



L to R. Joan Birkett (Bunbury U3A), Joan Shorter, Tresner Shorter (Bunbury U3A)

After that we were invited to the lovely old Rose Hotel for lunch. Country hospitality was to the fore once again! Many thanks to Daisy Harries and Joan Birkett for arranging it all.

Peter Flanigan

Posted 5/10/13

U3AA Alliance Meeting – Melbourne Conference

14 - 15th October 2013

As our State Representative, Peter Flanigan will be attending the U3AAA conference in Melbourne on 14th - 15th October, 2013.

Please click on the link to view the Agenda.

[AGENDA](#)

If there is any matter that your club would like to have brought up at the meeting, please contact Peter.

Email: u3apeteraa@bigpond.com

Phone: 9447 4195