



JULY NEWSLETTER

Membership information

I would like to remind Members again about hard copies **“not”** being posted to U3A members receiving emailed copies.

Hard copies available at Hello World and a few at the VIC.

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Two terms completed already this year, time flies when you're having fun! I hope you are enjoying the courses as much as I enjoy mine. I must acknowledge the great programming work being done by the Programming Sub-committee: Penny Charles and Frances Writer. I know that Penny has lots more in store for us when she returns from her well-earned holiday in Europe. If you have any subject areas that you are passionate about and would like to lead a session on them, or would like to see them presented please send your ideas to the Sub-committee via our Secretary, Shirley Smith, (secretary@gloucester.u3anet.org.au). One of my ideas is to have sessions presented on the topics of Elder Abuse and Estate Planning. Please let me know if these would be of interest to you via the Secretary.

You may be aware that we have recently submitted an application, sponsored by Mid Coast Council, to the NSW Government's "My Community" program for a grant to upgrade the Senior Citizens' Centre. If successful an amount of \$50,000 will go towards the cost of a new audio/visual system, new chairs and renovations to the toilets. To obtain these funds we must go through a competitive voting process, which means that **WE NEED YOU TO VOTE**. If we do not get enough votes in our region (based on electorate boundaries) we will not succeed. Please take the time to either go online to Service NSW or visit the Council Office in King Street and ask someone to help you to vote there. The enclosed flyer provides the details of what is required.

You should get a surprise when you visit the Senior Citz' in the new term. I am advised that Council is having the floors resurfaced and new carpet tiles laid (in anticipation of receiving funding). We are grateful to Council for this work.

Finally, I must make you aware that your Committee has asked me to advise you that no non-Committee member is authorised to make any decisions affecting U3A activities regardless of how minor those decisions may seem. This includes anything related to purchases, use of venues or arranging activities in the name of U3A. There are several good reasons for this policy including legal (because we have contracts concerning the use of venues such as the Uniting Church Hall), insurance (for example, members will not be covered by our policies in the event of an incident at a members's home) and regulations (for example, all financial expenditure must be authorized by the committee prior to being made). If there is an imperative to act you must contact a member of the Committee for advice first. President (me): 0414 325 366, Treasurer, Danny Green 0438 185 631 or Shirley Smith 6558 9554.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our next **Enrolment Day on Monday, 22nd July, Uniting Church Hall, from 10 a.m. Refreshments will be available for your enjoyment.**

Best wishes
Gavan Bethke

FROM THE TREASURER

As your newly arrived Treasurer, I thought that it may be timely to provide some early feedback on how our funding is applied.

As we are only half way through this year, I looked at last financial year expenses and revenues for a fuller analysis. These reveal the following:

1. Our total expenses and revenues practically negate each other. to generate a break even result.
2. Memberships paid represent 28% of total revenue with Course Fees at 65%.
3. Offsetting these are Venue Hire at 48% of total expenses and direct Course Costs at 9%.
4. We held an excursion which cost slightly more than that charged (10% vs 6%).
5. Administration expenses (postage, office supplies, printing, advertising, insurance and network) comprised 15% of total expense.
6. We purchased new items of equipment (10%) and conducted our anniversary event (8%) also.

It can be seen that we operate at the margin sufficient to cover the fixed costs associated with running the organisation.

O.H. & S. Issues

Whilst at classes could you all please be aware of your surroundings and possible accident areas. The halls that we use are very safe and we do not have any issues with them, however for instance, bags on the floor with long loopy handles are very dangerous, a person could easily trip over. We all want to be safe and certainly do not want to have a fall. If there is anything that you feel is unsafe please bring it to the attention of the Course Clerk who will take the appropriate action to rectify.

IT IS NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN!!!!

Pat Fitzgerald turned the young age of 89 in May this year. Pat has been with U3A for a short time and last year took on Indoor bowls. Pat with her quick understanding has proven that it is never too late to learn new interests and never too late to learn new skills and make new friends.

Pat's bowling is incredible, astounding all of us with her bowling style and accuracy. She is showing an excellent understanding of Mahjong and enjoys the game immensely.



Beginner Mahjong

We had 11 new players this term learning and mastering this addictive game. We will have another Beginner Mahjong in term 3 and this time it will be on Thursday afternoon 2 – 4 and held in the SCC. As we didn't have a full term learning we would like to encourage those beginners who would like some more tuition to come along to this course. This is going to be a full term of tuition.

Try something new – and Fun

What is the best way to keep fit, exercise your brain *AND* enjoy a great social activity? Dancing of course! Circle Dancing (AKA International Dancing) has been running now for three terms and is a great way to spend a Monday afternoon. A lovely, mostly gentle variety of dances even for those with two left feet! No partner needed! Come join us again in Term 3 and find out what it's all about. Two sessions this term 2 and 9 September at the Uniting Church Hall. Cost is \$10 per session.



Term 3 or 4

What does fungi do for You?

Hidden under your feet and in the crevices of rocks and trees are many colourful surprises. Sometimes you will find a spectacular scarlet fungi which is gone the next day! Learn more about this fascinating and photogenic world in *Fun with Fungi*, Monday 4 November 2019 at 2pm in the Uniting Church Hall. Learn why they are just not just a curious delight but also an important part in the good functioning of the natural world - or just enjoy the glorious photography!



Country Womens' Association – not always what you think!

CWA is 90 years old in Gloucester. Come help us celebrate, hear some great stories, learn some of the amazing things we do. And of course - enjoy a great morning tea!

The Country Womens' Association began nearly 100 years ago as a way of country women, so often living isolated and precarious lives, to support each other. Over the years it has grown to an organisation that covers all of Australia and

undertakes many varied activities to support women and their families in Australia but also internationally. They are strong advocates for good change and you will be surprised at some of the issues and activities where it has succeeded.

VOTE FOR FUNDS FOR GLOUCESTER

FOR THE UPGRADE OF OUR SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE

The Gloucester District University of the Third Age (U3A) is being sponsored in an application for NSW Community Grants funding.

If successful, the funds will be used to upgrade our Senior Citizens Centre.

\$50,000 will be used to cover the cost of:

New carpets	\$20,000
Audio/Visual system including a hearing aid loop	\$16,500
Upgrade of toilets	\$12,350

We have to compete with many other organisations in other places throughout our State Electorate. Success will depend on how many votes are submitted by residents in our region.

Therefore, ***YOUR VOTE IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT!!!!***

Voting is open between **15 July and 15 August**. You will be able to vote through Service NSW and to do this you will need:

A MyService Account with NSW Government (you may already have one):

Go online to www.service.nsw.gov.au or

visit the NSW Service Desk at Council Chambers in King Street and

Sign Up (if you do not have an account) or

Log in (if you have an account).

You will need to provide your medicare card number to verify your name and age and your NSW residential address.

HELP GLOUCESTER WIN STATE GOVERNMENT MONEY!!!!

In the past we have helped out with this charity in the form of Card Mornings, this time they are asking for help with handing out pamphlets and other little jobs at Chill Out. If you feel that you can help, please ring

Marg Collett on 0419412694.

GOOD STUFF

GARAGE SALE

SATURDAY 27TH JULY 9a.m. TO MIDDAY - CHILL OUT FESTIVAL

2 QUEEN ST, NEAR THE ROUNDABOUT

GLOUCESTER GRANDAIDS

PLEASE COME AND BUY, TO ENABLE US TO
HELP AFRICAN GRANDMOTHERS HELP THEIR FAMILIES.