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# OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

**Hard copies of all correspondence (enrolment, renewal forms and newsletter) are available at Hello World and a few at the VIC.**

## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Members

You will all be aware that there are many members who work on your behalf to ensure the smooth running of our U3A. These members contribute their time and effort from the heart and do not seek acknowledgement nor recognition. However, sometimes we need to show appreciation for their efforts. Therefore, I would like to acknowledge here:

- Frances Writer, Committee Member, for stepping in to take over the programming role while Penny Charles is overseas. This role entails significant effort and is critical to our program of courses. Frances does this on top of her usual role of Membership and Enrolments Officer and she produces the Newsletter and she manages our web site (phew! I'm not sure where she finds the time and energy for all of this)
- Sue Urby, Committee Member, for graciously taking on a steep learning curve to do Membership and Enrolments when Frances is away and also assisting Frances generally
- Robert Sparkes, Committee Member, who has stepped into a role new to U3A, Hospitality. It is thanks to Robert that you always have a cup of tea and a biscuit available to you at your course. Robert works tirelessly for us and several other community-based groups in Gloucester.
- Claire Frew who leads several courses including Ukulele, Balance and Bones (twice a week!) and Move Along. On top of that she and Pipa Robinson (another tireless contributor to U3A along with husband Steve) recently galvanised the B&B group into cleaning up the Barrington Hall (which was badly needed).

Thank you to all of these lovely people and also to all of our course leaders, course clerks and committee members. Without you there would be no U3A Gloucester.

I also want to thank all members who made the effort to battle through the onerous voting process for the 'My Community' funding grant to which we applied last month. Unfortunately, we were not successful. However, I believe that our efforts were not entirely in vain as most of you would have made your second voting preference the Gloucester Public School project. This project attracted a grant of \$100,000 to upgrade the school playground.

This month we are submitting another grant application (this time the NSW Government's 'Building Community Partnership' program). We are applying for \$32,000 to replace chairs and install a new audio/visual system at the Citizens Centre. We have letters of support from our local State Member, Michael Johnsen, as well as from Rotary, GACCI, and the Men's Shed so we are well armed! We should know the result by the end of the year.

The last thing I want to mention is that the NSW U3A Network, to which we are affiliated, is holding its next Regional Conference on Saturday November 9 at Port Macquarie. Some of your Committee will be attending this event and you are also encouraged to attend. It is always an interesting and enjoyable day, particularly as we get to meet many other U3A members from around the region.

## UKULELE GROUP

We have been going to the hospital age care for the last 2 terms once a month to play for the residents and hopefully bring a little joy to their lives. With only a 1hour slot to play, we fit in 15 to 20 songs, some done well and some we are learning but what matters most is we brighten their day.

Our renditions are welcomed and accompanied by their tambourine, shakers and bells, a jolly time is had by all! Our hour goes quickly as we have a break to wet our whistles and have a quick chat with members of the audience.

It is difficult to pick the recent learners in the Uke group. Their commitment and enthusiasm has made them very rapid learners. As a group we now give any music put in front of us "a go" and this can often end up in hysterics.



## UP COMING EVENTS!!!!



**12<sup>TH</sup> December 12.30 – 3p.m. Christmas Party.** Come and enjoy a delicious 2 course lunch and wonderful entertainment. All monies must be in on enrolment day or before so that catering can be organised. The cost is \$25 per person. Held in the SCC

**4<sup>th</sup> November 2 – 4 pm “Fun with Fungi”** presented by Fiona Duggan at the Uniting Church Hall

**21<sup>st</sup> November, 10 – 12 p.m. Journey through Kruger, Mozambique and Swaziland** with the vibrant and entertaining Maureen Hjorth. Held at the SCC

**28<sup>th</sup> November Christmas Floral Art 2 – 4p.m.** presented by Gloucester Floral Art Group. Held at the SCC

With regards to the courses presented to you, if you feel that you could present a topic that would be suitable for U3A, please contact either Penny Charles, Lyn Stewart or Frances Writer (Programming sub-committee) to discuss this in the first instance.

If you know of anyone outside the membership who has a particular interest or vocation that would like to present, we encourage you to contact one of the above with details.

**FROM THE TREASURERS DESK**  
Enrolments at 1 August 2019

**Descriptors:**

**Fitness** Includes Walking Group, Balance n Bones, Bowls, Tai Chi, Move Along, Dancing

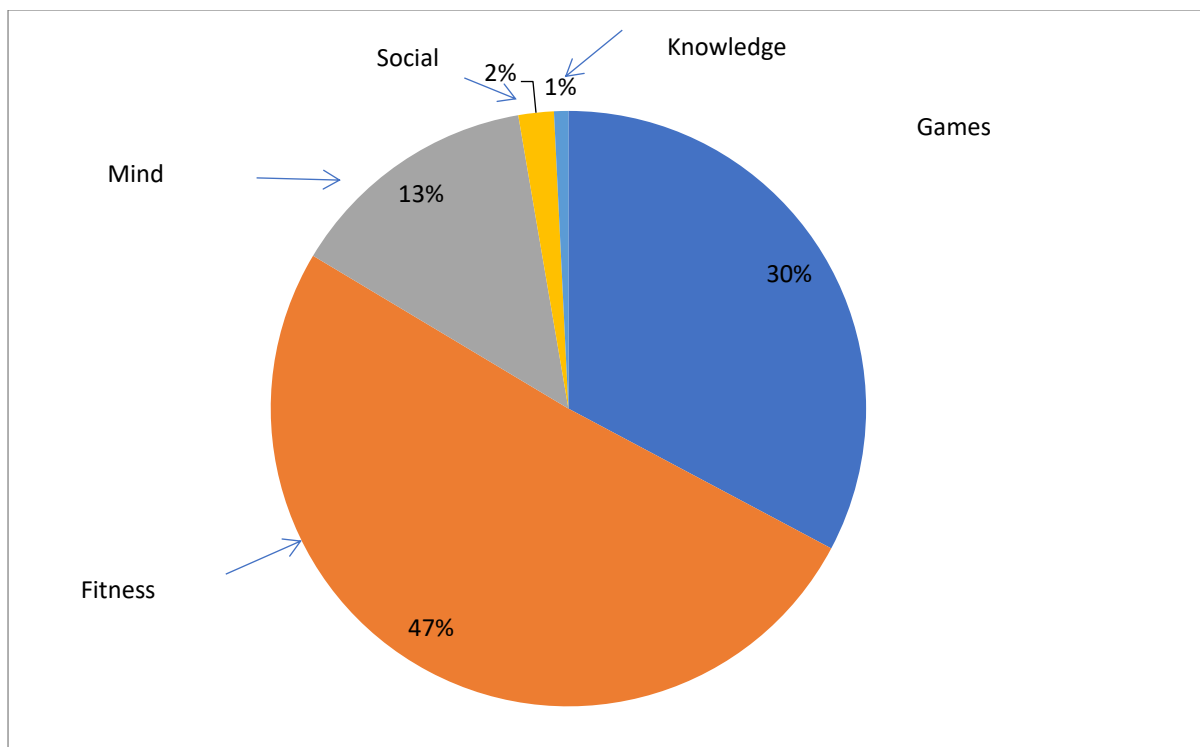
**Games** Includes Mah-jong, Scrabble, Cards

**Mind** Includes Mindfulness, Discussion Group, Books Club

**Knowledge** Includes Travel, Ukulele, Special Topics

*Note:* The above descriptors are not formalised. e.g. **Walking** could be all in the Mind; **Ukulele** could be categorised as Fitness, depending on one's finger usage; **Mindfulness** could be a Game. Let's face it, they all involve Knowledge.!!

*For member information purposes only*



**EASY WALKING GROUP**

Mary Hoggett has been conducting this walking group since the 3<sup>rd</sup> term of 2015, that's a lot of kilometres Mary and a job well done!! Lorraine Johnstone has been a very loyal Course Clerk for some 3 to 4 years. At present this is a small group, absent participants away on holidays, sick or otherwise engaged.



If you are interested in a friendly group to walk with in the park and surrounds this may be the group for you.

The circuit is not arduous and there is the opportunity to turn off half way through if it is too hard. The Gloucester park is a beautiful space and when the bridge is finally fixed the circuit will be delightful. It might help if we had some rain though! The group usually take 45 minutes to complete a circuit.

## **VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Have you any ideas that you would like to share for your U3A Xmas Lunch this year? We are looking for anyone who would like to get involved and prepared to meet and organise this very important event.

Please contact the Secretary, Shirley Smith, on 6558 9554 in the first instance if you are willing to help.

## **REGIONAL U3A CONFERENCE**

Attached to your email this term you will find the information for the above conference on the 9<sup>th</sup> November. If you are interested in attending you will be made very welcome, please contact Secretary, Shirley Smith on 6558 9554

## **A SPECIAL NOTE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS**

It has come to our attention that there are some participants who are signing up for courses and then do not attend, without letting any one know.

Please members if you cannot attend a session do the polite thing and contact your course clerk to let them know. Leaders and course clerks give their time willingly and it is very difficult to all the class to be kept waiting when people are not turning up.