

## Presidential Ponderings – June Jottings

Dear All

Winter has well and truly arrived. The trees are losing their leaves (rapidly in some cases), the winter flowers are budding (including my freesias on the front lawn) and we are rugging up to stay warm. I hope you have all had your vaccinations where possible, to ensure that we get through this winter with the minimum disruption to all our lives. We would urge you to continue to wear your masks at Karingal Place where possible.

The Volunteer Expo was a success and I hope you have admired the photos of your hard-working committee on our stand. See <https://u3af.org.au/index.php/gallery/> We had good general enquiries and a chance to mix and mingle with the many other local groups represented. Thank you to all involved.

After all the lockdowns, it appears that volunteers are in very short supply. U3A Frankston seems to be luckier than most, but we welcome anyone prepared to step up and help when needed. We hope to run a sausage sizzle again at Bunnings later this year so are looking for helping hands. Our fundraising table is continuing so clear out those cupboards, make some jam or chutney and come along and buy something in return.

We are still looking for tutors for any subject. We would love to give you a chance to impart your valuable knowledge on the rest of us. We have a couple of new courses starting in Term 3, so have a look on the website and see if anything appeals to you. Our program for Winter Warmers one off talks will be issued soon. These are free to members but if you want to bring a friend, we ask them to contribute \$2 per talk.

21<sup>st</sup> June is our Games afternoon – please do come along. If you bring a friend, then a \$2 non-member fee is payable. We have a number enrolled so far but would love to see more of you. Try Monopoly, Scrabble or any other game that interests you. For many of us this is a reminder of rainy Sunday afternoons gathered at home and joining together as a family for conversation. It is a chance to get to know some of the other members too. I will be there as I love Board Games! It is the last week of Term 2. Term 3 begins on 11<sup>th</sup> July.

We are desperately looking for extra volunteers to work in the office. Leonie does a magnificent job, but some of her colleagues are away on holiday, unwell or committed to family at the present time. If you could spare a couple of hours every fortnight, we would welcome your support even as a backup. Please consider it.

Now is Grant Time. Spare a thought for your committee – we are now actively pursuing any and every grant possible. Applications take many hours of concentration on the computer and then a great deal of patience and good luck. Please send a collective positive thought.

We are also doing a bit of clearing out. Some of our computer equipment is no longer being used. We will be listing any items available for purchase in the next few weeks, so if anything appeals to you, please let us know. Most equipment has a short shelf life for groups like ours, but for your home usage there may be a few more years ahead. Thank you, Dennis, for taking on this task.

Overall, your U3A is in good shape. Thank you and see you soon.

Andrea McCall, President