

Presidential Ponderings for February 2023

Dear All

Welcome to the beginning of the new term here at U3A Frankston. Judging by the happy faces this morning, you are glad to be back. I was also delighted to see new faces joining us for the first time – thank you. And thank you to Leonie and Jody who were working flat out to enrol everyone.

To the tutors – this year should be less fraught as we move towards a living with Covid environment. Thank you again for your commitment to U3A Frankston. Please have a look at our Guest Speakers list as well as some of our extra-curricular activities.

We received another grant from BeConnected just before Christmas and I am delighted to report that we have purchased iPads and one android to enable us to broaden our offerings to the less computer literate amongst us. More details on the training and loan scheme will be made available in due course.

Many of our classes are now full and some have waiting lists. If you do drop out, withdraw or go away for a length of time, please let us know so that the next one on the list can step up if possible. It is gratifying to see so many of you interested in so many different things.

Now is the time of year that we look to our AGM. It will be held on 28th March and I urge you to consider putting up your hand for a role on the committee. We are also looking for computer people to offer us support and some tutoring. Your current committee have done a marvellous job, but we are all tired and need your input. Details of how to nominate will be made available by the Secretary very soon. It is a very worthwhile role and I can assure you we are in good shape going forward. Our relationship with the Council is very positive and we are constantly building friendships with other groups around us to ensure that you have interesting speakers and a variety of offerings.

Our pop-up kiosk is still there in the kitchen, so I would urge you to contribute in either money or goods – or both!

As I mentioned in my email last weekend. The world of hacking and scamming is growing. Please be careful in any of your email or banking transactions. These scammers prey on people in our age group particularly because they feel we are more gullible and vulnerable. Please demonstrate that we are not!!

Our weather continues to surprise us – four seasons in one day as usual. I do hope you have been able to keep warm and cool when necessary and that your gardens are coping. I think some of the plants are unsure about summer being late or winter early? Even my cat is unsure whether to shed her winter coat or hang on to it just in case.

I look forward to catching up with those of you enrolled in either my Zoom or History class and to seeing the rest of you enjoying U3A Frankston. Thank you for your continued support and have a great year.

Regards

Andrea McCall, President