



U3A Frankston Inc. Reg. A0012933T  
ABN 66 471 091 445

# *Newsletter*

**November 2008**

**Merry  
Christmas  
2008  
and a  
Happy  
New Year  
for 2009**



When writing to U3A,  
please address all mail to:

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# ***FROM THE PRESIDENT***

*Dear Members*

**The end of 2008 is fast approaching, so I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2009.**

To date, our year has been a satisfactory one with the success of the computer classes and of several other courses.

I can understand the disappointment being felt by a few tutors in so far as the small numbers for some classes, however, I feel that success should be seen more in the satisfaction of their students rather than their numbers. I wish to assure all tutors that their hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated by all members and the Committee.

I am pleased to know that our PowerPoint presentation equipment is being made use of and is proving to be a very popular class asset. A training program for this equipment is in hand.

Our web site will be up and running in time for the start of the 2009 U3A year and we are hoping that this will improve enrolments for next year.

*Anthony Raphael, President*

## **CLASSES FOR 2009**

**Accompanying this newsletter you will find a brochure outlining the U3A Frankston courses on offer for 2009. Please take the time to study the brochure carefully to select those courses of study that will give you the most satisfaction.**

**In all, there are approximately 30 courses on offer with the possibility of more to come if more tutors can be found.**

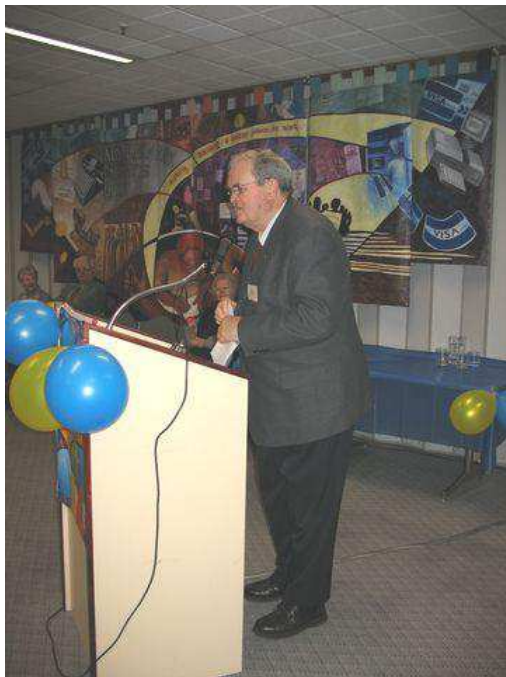
**In many cases there are progressive levels so beginners in a particular course can study at an appropriate pace whilst those with prior experience can progress to higher levels.**

**The range of courses extends from arts to crafts — from creative writing to foreign languages. There are computer classes and a couple of walking groups. Or, you may prefer the Current Affairs group, the Egyptology class or the study of Greek Mythology.**

**They are all there for you to enjoy, detailed in your “Class Outlines for 2009.”**

## Celebrating 20 years of U3A Network-Victoria

Everyone was there for this significant event! The first President of the U3A Network-Victoria, Dr. Jack McDonell AM, other Network Presidents, representatives of the eleven founding Network U3As, State Government guests from the Department of Planning and Community Development and the Federal Government and delegates from U3As all over the State. The occasion was marked with a program that gave all the participants an overview of the Network's proud history.

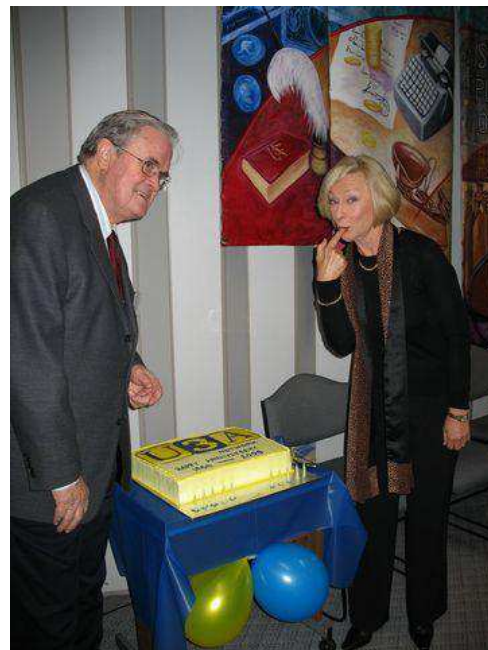


*Jack McDonell AM*

Highlights of the program included Sheila Moore's moving "Welcome to Country". Sheila, is a past Network Secretary and Office Administrator and is still working hard for U3As throughout Victoria. Dr. Jack McDonell set the scene with a graphic description of the first workings of the fledging Network. With a lot of support from COTA's CEO Cliff Picton, and as early as February 1985 the three existing U3As, Monash, City of Melbourne and Hawthorn decided to endorse the concept of an ongoing "Network Committee". By 1998 growth and funding demanded a more formal organisation and a report from a working party was adopted, leading to the establishment on 15<sup>th</sup> June 1988 of the U3A Network-Victoria Inc. a new organisation with its' own constitution. Of course, like any change, a few anxieties surfaced around the possible loss of autonomy of individual U3As

and some matters of finance. As Dr. McDonell said this "took some time to resolve, but resolution was achieved with courtesy and grace on all sides". In all a Network of 82 U3As in 20 years is a unique achievement and provides a platform for growth into the future.

Alison Carlson – a former Network President – presented a lively photo history of many of the venues, events and personalities of the past 20 years. From broom cupboards to now non-existing venues to 341 Queen Street, from exhibitions at the Immigration Museum to Conferences at the CAE and Hotel Y. Alison's commentary and Jan Wood's photos brought the past 20 years to life. No one who attended could fail to be taken up with Alison's enthusiasm. The recently appointed Ambassador for Ageing, Noeline Brown, had just flown in from Newcastle that morning and was welcomed by fans and the audience. Her warmth and engaging address that outlined her learning journey, demonstrated that she was a role model for active and positive ageing.



*Jack McDonell and Noeline Brown cut the cake.*

The celebrations were rounded off with the cameras coming out as Ms. Brown cut the Anniversary cake. Over the buffet lunch delegates reflected on the history, the achievements and the future journey of the U3A Network. It was a celebration of the auspicious beginnings and wise decisions of the Network founders.

***Congratulations U3A Network-Victoria on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary from all members of U3A!!!***

*Reprinted from U3A Network Newsletter, June 2008.*

## **TELSTRA CONNECTED SENIORS**

Telstra runs a program tailored to help older Australians learn more about technology. It offers individual self teach guides and also offers eligible community groups the funding opportunity to run training courses.

U3A Frankston is eligible.

So far, last year and this year, U3As Croydon, Benalla and Kilmore have received grants.

The program provides educational materials needed to master mobile phones, the internet and emails, making it easier for seniors to keep in touch with family, friends and the world around us.

U3A Frankston may apply for a grant to run courses if there is sufficient interest amongst members. So, let the office know if you are interested.



Telstra runs a series of free workshops for registered members. These cover the subjects:

- Understanding your mobile
- Understanding how the internet works
- Understanding emails.

The workshops are held at 248-260 Bourke Street, mainly on Thursdays, from 12:00—2:00 pm. There are a number of workshops still to run in November and December.

- Thursday, November 6 — Understanding the Internet
- Thursday, November 20 — Mobiles
- Thursday, December 4 — Sharing digital photos on line
- Thursday, December 11 — Understanding mobiles

If these are of interest to you, get in early as places are restricted.

Individuals who already have internet access can become members by logging on to [www.telstraseniors.com.au](http://www.telstraseniors.com.au) to register. Registration then only requires clicking onto “BECOME A MEMBER NOW”. If you do not have internet access you can contact Telstra on a special Telstraseniors number 1800 728 766 and register as a member.

*David Abbott*

# Yes! Another Rambling year has nearly flown by ...

2008 has resulted in some varied and interesting new walks around Melbourne. Here are just a few examples:

Part of the new Eastlink trail, Elegant Conclaves around East Melbourne; the Williamstown Walk; Helga's floating bike trail had us all intrigued; Patterson River walk where we viewed the big change in houses along the river; plus many other walks.

Our final outing of the year was at Sorrento, devised by Joan Welsh, ending with D'Lish Fish and Chips.

Already, we are planning next year's Rambling. Just a reminder if you want



*Sometimes we come across some strange things on our rambles.*

to suggest a walk you think we could do. Please let Bill Blackham know the details. We invite any U3A members who would like to join us on our “Rambling Walk and Chat” to enrol with the U3A office in the new year. Our gentle four to six kilometre walks occur on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month, starting at 9:15 am and finishing around 2:00 pm depending on our walk location. You bring your own lunch and drink to have at the end of each walk. Yes, sitting around again continuing our chat. Our aim is to make your gentle walks interesting and good exercise, while making new friends and seeing what Melbourne has to offer — always with lots to take in and enjoy. We also look forward to hearing about the overseas trips taken by some of our group during 2008.

U3A Frankston looks forward to seeing new members joining our Rambling Walking Group next year. Bill Blackham is happy to hear from “Interested & Maybe new Ramblers”. He can be contacted on 03 9785 7896 most evenings after 7:00 pm.

Thank you to all the U3A members who have walked with Ramblers in 2008. We have enjoyed your company and chats, and look forward to seeing you again. And we invite new U3A members to join us.

**Have a interesting Holiday break.  
See you all again in 2009.**

*Patricia & Bill Blackham*

## NEWS FROM CREATIVE WRITING 1



Dear fellow writers and U3A members.

Another year is ending and we have had a marvelous input of inspired work including fairy stories (some you could even read to your grand-children!!), stories about the green bags that threaten to take over the world, stories about keys and key rings, stories from our imagination and short writings about all manner of things in class.

Each one different!!!

There will be a change next year. Because of my family commitments, John Tinney has committed himself to being tutor for

the first term, I will do the second and fourth terms and the third one will be run by class members (which should be lots of fun and add variety to our programs).

A big thank-you to Jeanie for her help with the photo copying and the tasty fruit loaf she always makes when one of us has a birthday celebration. Also, a special thank-you to Brenda who managed to get us a grant to offset much of the costs involved in producing our annual anthology. (There is a certain sense of achievement seeing your work in print and being able to share it with the ones that matter in your life.) We also thank Kathleen and Brenda for chasing up everyone's contributions for this year's anthology, plus sorting and editing. It is a big job that they do well.

Finally, enjoy your Christmas and the holiday break, and stay well. Come back next year, full of enthusiasm and passion for your subject.

*Margaret Ulbrick*

## NEXT YEAR'S NEWSLETTERS

In order to encourage all members to have an input into the Frankston U3A Newsletter we list below the timeline for 2009.

It is intended to produce one per term, so please make a note of the submission dates.

Items ready for publication in the Newsletter can be left at the Office or sent directly to our Editor, John Tinney, by these dates.

1 <sup>st</sup> term	6 <sup>th</sup> March
2 <sup>nd</sup> term	5 <sup>th</sup> June
3 <sup>rd</sup> term	28 <sup>th</sup> August
4 <sup>th</sup> term	20 <sup>th</sup> November

**Ideas:** A photo of your class in action; a short report of a class activity; an example of a worksheet used by your class — SO talk amongst yourselves and see if we can have *all* classes represented during the year.

*John Tinney, 280/8 Robyns Road, Frankston South 3199  
janddtinney@bigpond.com*

## OUR JEANIE — WALK OF FAME FINALIST

On behalf of U3A Frankston members we wish to congratulate Jeanie Wannan on being acknowledged as one of the 30 finalists in the "Star Zone Walk of Fame Local Legends 2008".

Jeanie — you may not have achieved a star this time around — but you achieve a star every day in our book.