

NEWSLETTER

September 2021

Current situation

Members are enjoying face to face classes in the library and the Digital Hub. Cryptic crosswords is unable to return to the pub due to density restrictions so is continuing by email but small groups are meeting in parks to pool ideas and have a laugh. Basic French and The Garden Plot have been postponed until next year.

Smorgasbord attracted 18 members who enjoyed a video featuring Roy Orbison. This was a taster for a music course to be organised by Peter Leonard next year. If you would like to share a favourite music video, do contact Peter

The U3A computer, data projector and PA system have been extracted from the Turf Club room. The PA system is in the care of Elaine Jacobsen who will take it across to the library for Conversing in French and Literature. The library has an overhead data project and an adaptor cable for connecting laptops to it but there are no speakers. If audio is required, Erica has lent U3A a bluetooth speaker which is in Anne's care together with the computer and data projector.

Vaccination policy

This has been a hot topic at the NE Regional meeting and the Network Council meeting. Your Committee encourages vaccination for your personal safety and that of your family and your community. At this stage vaccination status is not a condition of membership or participation in face to face courses. Following the State Governments new goal on *Living with Covid*, Network will run a workshop on the impacts this goal will have on U3As in October. Watch this space!

Vaccination certificate

This may be required for certain activities eg the Northern Territory is issuing travel vouchers to fully vaccinated tourists. Your Certificate is in your MyGov profile and can be downloaded onto your mobile phone. If you don't have a smartphone and/or a MyGov profile, Centrelink can help you and, in the future, your doctor may be able to help.

1. Network is running a session on

Vaccine passport, health record, and My Gov

October 14, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

<https://u3anetworkvictoria.zoom.us/j/87430483729pwd=MVM1TjZSaWFtUHQxZHp5Ti9LRGg1UT09>

2. Here is a link for the tech savvy:

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/getting-help-during-coronaviruscovid-19/covid-19-vaccinations/how-get-proof-your-covid-19-vaccinations#gettingproofonline>

3. Book a one-on-one appointment at the Digital Hub to set up a MyGov profile
0447 093 888.

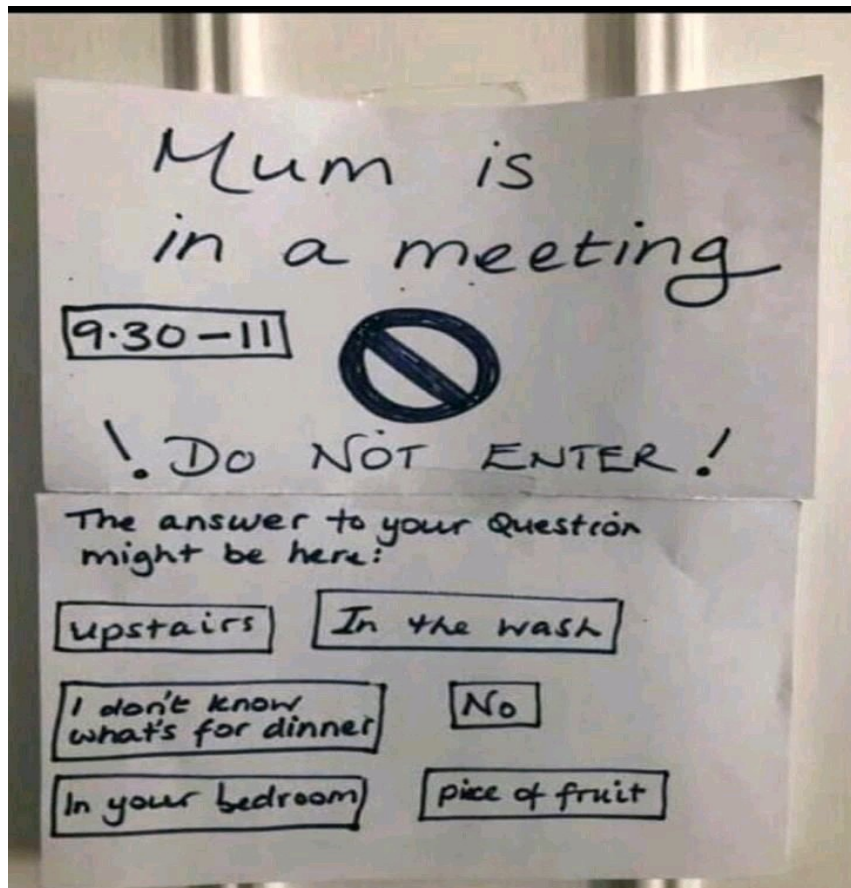
Succession planning

Your Committee is looking for some help next year. There are 8 committee members and 2 will not be nominating for committee in 2022. There are vacancies for the following roles:

- Minutes Secretary – agenda and minutes only
- Newsletter editor – create monthly newsletter from minutes and other material
- Public Relations/Promotions – foster relationship with the Chronicle and Council
- Booking venues – requires knowledge of tables in Word
- Technology support hardware – get to know the U3A hardware and instruct others in its use.

Nominees have to be on email and, if possible, on a tablet or computer. Volunteers will be mentored into roles: there is no expectation that they will come onto Committee and be fully active immediately. Please think about giving some time to U3A in return for the pleasure U3A gives you. For more information u3awangaratta@gmail.com or Anne 040 435 651 or Erica 0400 945 726.

Two bits of humour.....



Extract from notes about *Australian History that you were never taught* by Jim Poulter on the subject of The Aborigine Sense of Humour.

I could regale you with many stories of joke names Aboriginal people have given to various places when asked by settlers, but many of them are not really suitable for a family newspaper. So I will content myself with telling how the Moomba Festival of Melbourne got its name. This was told to me by Eric Onus, the brother of Bill Onus, who gave the festival its name. So it

is in effect straight from the horse's mouth.

Bill was a highly respected Elder who had a souvenir shop in the Dandenongs. In the early 1950's he was invited by the Lord Mayor onto a committee to plan a new festival for Melbourne. At the start of the meeting Bill was told that they wanted to have an Aboriginal name that meant something like *'Let's get together and have fun'*. Bill then put to them that instead of just having an Aboriginal name, why not make the whole festival a celebration of our unique Aboriginal culture? The answer then came back, *'No, we want it to be like Mardi Gras in Rio de Janeiro'*.

Bill in disgust muttered *'Moomba'* and was greeted with the happy response that it sounded like a great name. They assumed it meant having fun together, but 'moom' is your backside and 'moomba' means you are talking out of it.

Enjoy the break and the warmer weather.

Anne Bittner
Secretary
U3A Wangaratta