

Committee of Management 2023/2024

President: Sharon Boffa



Sharon's professional life saw her balancing business roles in economic risk management and in senior management with raising a family. On retirement, she moved to the

Mornington Peninsula and was able to pursue both her passion for recording oral histories and membership of U3A Mornington.

This year, Sharon agreed to contribute to this wonderful U3A and to take on the role of President and the newly created Marketing Coordinator's role. Amongst other things,

Sharon will be seeking your suggestions, thoughts and feedback on how we can continue to improve our U3A. Many of our members have found joining U3A Mornington a life enhancing experience, a wonderful way of combining learning with making new friends in a stimulating environment. It is a testament to all those in the past and present who have volunteered, attended, tutored, and worked to make this U3A as great as it is.

Should you feel that you can contribute to any aspect of our U3A or if you have any questions, ideas or concerns, please contact Sharon at: sharon.boffa@u3amornington.org.au

She looks forward to working with you.

Vice President: Russ Incoll



A graduate Electrical Engineer, for most of his working life Russ was a company director and CEO of a manufacturing company. Later in his career he became a HR consultant

involved in executive assessment and coaching, and organisational restructures. Retiring at age 60, Russ and his wife spent the next 12 years holidaying for 3-4 months each year, leaving little of Australia unvisited.

Following his wife's death 7 years ago, Russ joined U3A Mornington at a friend's suggestion, a decision that has been a very rewarding one for him. By nature, Russ is a volunteer, and he has served as a director of Berry Street (10 years) and Oz Child (4 years), both

organisations are major secular child and family welfare organisations in Victoria. Despite this managerial experience, apart from a short stint, he resisted joining our CoM as he still enjoys holidaying. After the recent resignations from the CoM he felt he should step up again and join the CoM, on top of his role as coordinator of our Database Team and joint UMAS System Administrator.

Russ finds tutoring at U3AM to be very rewarding and he has run an eclectic range of courses including several levels of Cryptic Crosswords. To provide ongoing reference material for our many volunteers Russ recently created a website of procedures covering all the common processes carried out by our U3AM volunteers. This website provides a clear and accurate reference for every volunteer activity, quickly accessible through a tab on a browser.

Secretary: Nolene Cooney



Nolene joined U3A very soon after retiring from work and has enjoyed learning Latin, puzzling over the English language, discussing books and leading a discussion group based on a series of history

lectures.

After a school leaver job working as a stenographer, she enrolled at Frankston Teachers College as a mature aged student and spent many happy subsequent years as a primary teacher, mostly in the Frankston area and with a short but fascinating stint teaching in an aboriginal community in the Northern Territory.

Nolene's two children and their families also live on the Mornington peninsula where they are involved in various community activities. She believes this community contact is important for leading a well-rounded life and that it is only fair

to contribute to the running of such community groups, which explains her willingness to act as Secretary to U3A Mornington.

She is on a steep learning curve in carrying out these duties but will endeavour to help U3A to continue its fine work creating opportunities for friendship and learning.

Assistant Secretary: Mary Ann Fox



Mary Ann's career was in the Accounting, Financial Planning sector for over 30 years. Commencing in a Tax Accounting Practice originally, she then became an integral part in the development and

growth of a very successful Boutique Financial Planning Practice (one of the largest in Victoria). From office administration to Partnership in the business she has experience in all aspects of office administration, and management as well as dealing with government departments.

Mary Ann retired 5 years ago and takes an active interest in her children and 4 grandchildren looking after them before and after school and on occasion when they are ill. She also volunteers at Vinnie's in Hastings 1 day a week and thoroughly enjoys the feeling of giving something back to the community as well as working with like-minded fun people.

Mary Ann is also an avid artist originally joining U3A to develop new friendships and enrol in the wonderful art classes U3A has on offer. Starting with one class, she is now enrolled in 3 and is overawed by the generosity of time given and knowledge shared by the tutors.

She looks forward to helping on the committee.

Course Coordinator: Teresa Gales



Teresa arrived in Australia with her husband and two young children from UK in 1981 and soon found a job as the bursar at the local primary school, where she also became the President of the Parents & Friends Association, member of the School Council and the School

Financial Committee. She was a youth group leader for GFS girls aged 6-11 and served on the Asthma Foundation's Fund Raising Committee.

On leaving the Ministry of Education, Teresa became the Office Manager for a large clothing wholesaler in Melbourne before starting her own building company in partnership with a builder, which she continued until moving to Mornington, with her husband Terry, 10 years organisation.

ago. Teresa is a keen cook and together with Terry was a member of an Amateur Dinner and Wine Club for over 25 years. She is also a gym member and enjoys word puzzles and crosswords.

After her retirement just over 2 years ago she felt ready to become more involved in the community and found this with U3A. Joining as an office volunteer which she enjoys immensely and will continue alongside her new role. She found that taking on the role of Course Coordinator was an enormous challenge as it is a very diverse role, but with the help of many amazing people she feels that she is settling into the role. One of her favourite duties is producing the Currawong Catch Up newsletter each month. She has also found meeting the many tutors and other U3A members has been an absolute highlight of her new role. She hopes that tutors, members and volunteers find her approachable and that they all feel they are an important part of our U3A

Course Coordinator: Keith den Hartog

Keith is new to the committee and has taken on the important role of Treasurer. Profile to come.

Health & Safety Officer: Sue Kershaw

Sue returns to the committee after a short break and continues in the role of Health & Safety Officer. Profile to come.

Intergenerational Coordinator: Libby Wilson



Libby grew up on the family sheep property at Dirranbandi in Southern Queensland. There were no other kids to play with, so helping her Dad became part of everyday life. School was by

correspondence and the one-on-one attention from her mother gave Libby an outstanding start to her education.

Heading off to school in Sydney at age 9 was an absolute eye-opener as, having had dogs and horses as playmates, discovering the fun and friendship of other kids was wonderful.

Libby was undecided about what to do after high school. When a couple of friends said they were doing nursing training, it seemed like a good option and meant a way to earn money whilst travelling, which she did for two years, while based in London. Fast forward to retirement from her position as the Executive Director at Peninsula Health - high on Libby's list was to learn to play Mah Jong, and thus began her involvement with U3AM.

From walking through the doors of U3AM in 2008, it seemed only a few minutes before Libby became Course Coordinator, until 2014. Between 2008 to 2014, membership and number of classes and tutors doubled, and the Stable Block was revamped.

At Libby's instigation, U3AM members started volunteering at Mornington Park Primary School to support students with their reading and communication skills. Other joint projects were the first ever MPPS school concert, production of a CD involving U3AM members and students, and the recent project with MPPS and Monash University Arts Department. These and other projects, including some with Mornington Secondary College, resulted in Libby being U3AM's inaugural Intergenerational Coordinator in 2015.

