

U3A Network Qld State Conference 2023

Experience the Unforget-a-bull



‘Knowledge-a-bull’

Celebrating U3A Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

Join us in Rockhampton for the U3A Network Queensland Conference and 50th Anniversary of U3A worldwide.

U3A Rockhampton and District Conference Committee has brought together an inspiring lineup of speakers from different backgrounds and specialities who will celebrate what has been achieved in the last 50 years of the University of the Third Age, and focus on what exciting things we, in our third age, have to look forward to.

8th May, the conference will open with a Meet & Greet event to be held at the new Rockhampton Museum of Art.

9-11th May, the conference will commence at Central Queensland University with Professor François Vellas (*pictured right*) - ‘U3A in the Beginning and our Future’.

Professor Vellas is the President of the International Association of Universities of Third Age (AIUTA) and Director of the University of Third Age (U3A) of Toulouse, France. He is a PhD in Economics and UN/EU/WTO expert in Elderly and Tourism Policy and Strategy.

Professor Vellas is the son of founding member, Professor Pierre Vellas, and he will reminisce about his father’s innovative idea that led to the formation of U3A, and as the current President of AIUTA, he will describe how far the organisation has come, as well as plans for its future.

Professor Vellas will be joined in his speech, via video link, by Prof. Maria Chester, Secretary General of AIUTA, addressing ‘U3A Today’.

Maria, (*pictured below*) was born in Buenos Aires, and has travelled the world, and is currently living in Scotland.

After studying Fine Arts, Maria delved further into Art History, becoming a Professor in Pre-Columbian

Civilisations. From her first passion, Cave Art and Rock Art, Professor Chester developed an interest in archaeology, and this has served as a frame for her ongoing research.



W: u3aqld.au/conference2023

T: 0447 410 452

E: conference@u3arocky.au



Location: Rockhampton QLD

4700, Australia

Date: 8th - 12th May 2023

Cliff Picton (*right*) - 'U3A arrives in Australia'.



Cliff was a co-founder of the first branch of U3A in Australia, the U3A City of Melbourne in 1984.

Currently Cliff is a member of the Board of Trustees of Community and Family Services International at Manila based NGO. This reflects a 30-year involvement in work with refugees and socially displaced people



Jim Hales (*left*) - 'U3A Sunshine Coast – a History'. Jim Hales, a past President of U3A Sunshine Coast, initiated the establishment of the U3A Network in Queensland and served as its President for the first three years.

From these discussions on the past of U3A, the conference will continue with an exciting program of speakers addressing all aspects of ageing and our exciting future.

Come and join us to celebrate U3A at the 2023 U3A Network Qld State Conference in Rockhampton 8 – 11 May 2023. Registrations open 1 February 2023.

Enjoy a celebration of everything that U3A represents, and stay on to explore Central Queensland.

On 8 May, join us for the Meet and Greet event at the new Rockhampton Museum of Art, RMOA. Mingle and meet with old friends and make new ones while exploring the art gallery, which is seen at its best at night nestled next to the historic Customs House (*pictured at bottom*).



Sit back and relax for a horse drawn carriage ride with Capricorn Carriages along historic Quay St (available for delegates at the Meet and Greet event).

Take a walking tour of historic buildings in the city centre, and hear about the odd ghost or two! Or the visually stunning Mural Tour, (*one of which is pictured on next page*) of Central Queensland University grounds with artist Bill Gannon.

The Rockhampton Zoo and Botanic Gardens are a must-visit. The antics of baby chimps, Capri, Gandali and Mzuri are a delight for everyone. And as for the cheeky meerkats and otters, well, who can resist them!



Rockhampton, (Rocky to the locals), is the perfect jumping-off point to discover all that the Capricorn Region has to offer from the coast and reef, south to the industrial might of Gladstone, north to the Capricorn Caves, west to the historic gold mining town of Mt Morgan and beyond to the outback to unearth precious stones and prehistoric dinosaurs, and to learn about our rich indigenous history.



Keep an eye on the conference website for additional attractions such as the Capricorn Coast communities, the stunning ANZAC memorial at Emu Park, beautiful Yeppoon, the jumping-off point for a visit to Great Keppel Island.

These and many more optional extras will be progressively listed on the conference website.

Tailor your conference experience to suit, from the full package which includes the Meet and Greet, two dinners and three days of conference, or choose just the part that you wish to attend.

To register and to check out the full line-up of guest speakers, go to the conference website: u3aqld.au/conference2023/



Registrations are open from 1st February.

Pictured at left: U3A Rockhampton Vice President and Conference Chairman, Henry Cope and wife Vicki at Rockhampton Zoo.

Below: U3A Network Queensland President Rhonda Weston AM, right, with Rockhampton President Cheryl Wickes, David Weston and Rockhampton VP Henry Cope... A very knowledge-a-bull group!



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The Rockhampton Conference organising team recognises the invaluable support, financial and otherwise, provided by our sponsors who have enabled staging this historic conference to mark 50 years of U3A worldwide.

Our main sponsors are listed below and we thank those who have also helped us organise and stage this conference.



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