



## SUCCESSFUL NETWORK CONFERENCE

The first state conference under the auspices of U3A Network WA was held earlier this month in the Uniting Church Conference rooms in the centre of Perth. Some 60 delegates from 16 different U3A groups attended over the day and a half and many fruitful discussions were held. The theme of the conference was Working and Growing Together. Most topics revolved around this theme with a number of speakers from a variety of U3A groups, small group discussion and a panel discussion to wind up proceedings.



Enrolment – the first morning. Rosemary Grigg, reception. Norma Vaughan (second in line)

The keynote speaker on day one was Julie Porteous, Queensland Network President, who talked about the national scene and how U3A had expanded in recent years in Queensland. “Expect a 10% loss of members each year, so aim for twice that number of new members to ensure growth”. It was an inspiring call to arms. Keep growing or fade away.

Sheila Twine, president of U3A Mandurah, followed with a description of what their group has done this year in their “Encore” program to reach out to the community so as to spread the word to a wider audience. Other groups spoke about successful programs they had run and a small group discussion followed.



Listening to words of wisdom

Day two started with the Network AGM. This was followed by an address by June van de Klashorst, chair of the Seniors' Ministerial Advisory Council (SMAC). She talked about the increase in the number of seniors in recent years and the importance of catering for this demographic. U3A is well positioned to take an active role in this. But seniors won't just come to U3A. We must demonstrate we can supply their needs.



Julie Porteous with June Van de Klashorst and Cheryl Cundall, Wanneroo delegate.  
Back : David Fenton, Conference MC, the Minister for Seniors, Paul Miles, and Christine Norman (Mandurah)

## WORK TO BE DONE



The new committee: Don McDonald (Pres), Christine Oliver (Sec), Christine Norman (com), Peter Flanigan (V/Pres), Jim Barns (com). Abs : Jean Duff (treas).

*Peter Flanigan*