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LM Digital Day Out 2017 Cover Note
6th April 2017

Dear Presidents, Secretaries and Course Coordinators of the Loddon Mallee U3As

At the LM U3A Regional Meeting in Bendigo on Thursday 23rd March 2017, the members present decided that the LM Mallee U3As would come together in 2017 for a Digital Day Out. U3A Bendigo was asked to host the event. I, Michael Gallagher, U3A Bendigo Technology Support Convener, was asked to convene it. Thursday 22nd June was set as the date.

I am pleased to accede to the LM Regional Committee's request to convene DDO 2017 for U3As, as well as their members, gain significant benefits when members develop digital competencies. I believe we can learn lots from each other about how to use digital technologies to support activities and how to assist members gain competencies. I suggest that the morning session of DDO 2107 be devoted to hearing how the LM U3As benefit from the use of technologies, about the problems they solved to gain those benefit, about the assistance they offer members in the use of technologies and about their technology hopes and plans. I suggest that a set of parallel workshops be run in the afternoon. At last month's Regional meeting, several smaller U3As requested a workshop on how to set up a website—that topic could be covered on one of the sessions. (Matters that could be addressed in that session are detailed in the attached *Setting up a Website* discussion paper). U3A Bendigo's Technology Support Team offers Learning About Your Technology sessions—they are willing to discuss and demonstrate what they do in their groups in a workshop session. (A summary of the sessions they offer to U3A Bendigo members is attached). I am sure there are members of other LM U3As who would like to run other afternoon sessions.

Please find attached a proposal that specifies 1) the purpose of DDO 2017; 2) how it will be funded and catered for; 3) a preliminary draft of a program for the day; 4) a proposed DDO 2017 Planning Timeline. I would be grateful if you would have your interested members discuss the proposal and provide me with feedback by email or phone by Friday 19th May, as detailed in the Planning Timeline. Finally, please have your members who would like to offer afternoon workshop sessions contact me to discuss possibilities and presentation requirements.

Hoping that together we can put together a program that will benefit all LM U3As,

I remain
Yours truly

Michael Gallagher
LM DDO 2017 Convener

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