

# СВІЙ ДО СВОГО



**Ukrainian International Directory**

Ukrainian Community Issues Newsletter



## **СВІЙ ДО СВОГО Ukrainian Community Issues – 19 July 2017** **Ukrainians Organisations in Australia**

I write this newsletter in the hope the New Ukrainian Migrants can better understand us, the old diaspora, and despite some perceived difference between us, in reality it does not exist. In fact, I am comfortable to say that I don't know of any "old Ukrainian" who does not love the "new Ukrainians" in Australia.

Yes, the initial shock experienced by the "old Ukrainians" in hearing Ukrainians speaking Russian was a barrier. However, we have to accept the fact that the majority of Ukrainians in Ukraine their default language is Russian, for reasons we all know. This is no different to that of the "old Ukrainians" in Australia resorting to our default language of English or Ukrainians from Bosnia speaking Bosnian and the list goes on. The most important issue is that we have Ukraine in our hearts.

I ask the New Ukrainian arrivals to understand the circumstance which we came to Australia; under a cloud of Russian influence and aggression in Ukraine, which we find very distasteful.

We can overcome this difference, if we are all willing.

### **1950 circa Migration**

The original wave of migrants arriving in Australia as refugees in the 1950 circa, arrived in this unknown country, strived hard just to survive. We had no friends, family or other Ukrainians to lean on or give us any guidance, direction or support.

We had no Ukrainian schools, books or teachers so as to maintain our native language. In fact, our priority was to spent every waking hour, in the first 10 years just surviving, working and learning the English language and the way of life in Australia.

Today, we should be very proud of the achievement of our refugee forefathers who have provided us with the Ukrainian Communities Infrastructure of Community Centres, Churches, Schools, Youth, Scouting and Sporting Facilities right across Australia. Most of the facilities we have, were built in the first 20 years.

In fact, to put thing into perspective, in Victoria alone, I have estimated that the present-day value of all these facilities to be in the order of \$80 million. This is impressive.

Further to this, our forefathers established an extensive network of Ukrainian organisation across Australia and this network extends across the world where 20 million Ukrainians in diaspora are united.

Remember, behind this network are local branches and groups of Ukrainians volunteering, rolling up their sleeves and give their time and effort to unit Ukrainians Australia wide.

## Complacency

In the following years as our life in Australia improved considerably, many became complacent, as well as many assimilating into the broader Australian community through mixed marriages etc.

Also, complacency has led to “leave it up to others to do the work”. As such our ranks, progressively diminished.

I admit that in the last 50 years more could have been done. At times, there has been growing dissatisfaction of our leadership as our Infrastructure deteriorated and expenses increased. I for one, have been a huge critic during these times.

Despite this, the Ukrainian community has actively rallied in support of Ukraine in the Orange Revolution, the Revolution of Dignity, the G20 in Brisbane Putin protest and the establishment of the Australian Embassy in Kyiv, just to name a few.

There are many Ukrainians around Australia who have rolled up their sleeves and contributed in a meaningful way showing a significantly improvement. Our younger generation and many of the new arrivals have taken up leadership roles, while our Ukrainian schools are experiencing increasing enrolments. This speaks volumes of our growing success.

Recently, in Victoria there has been a concerted effort to raise ourselves from the doldrums which has proven fruitful. Yes, this came with blood, sweat and tears combined with a great deal of hard work to achieve what we set to achieve.

The Association of Ukrainians in Victoria Board has a vision and has programs and projects that will revitalize the community to a fruitful end.

## Association of Ukrainians in Victoria

The AUV consists of a Central Branch, located in Essendon, with branches in Noble Park, St. Albans, Wodonga, Geelong and Newborough. There is also a Sunshine Hromada.

The Central Branch has a Board of 15 Directors including the President, and an Internal Auditors committee. Similarly, each of the Branches has a Board of Directors and internal audit.

Each of these men and women who have taken the responsibility to steer the community have all rolled up their sleeves and put in the hard work to ensure we are a viable and strong community. Each person is hardworking decent and dedicated.

In the last 12 months AUV's membership has increased by at least 25%.

## Australian Ukrainian Congress

Unfortunately, there are people in our community who believe they have all the answers to everything and are prepared to drive a wedge into our community.

I refer to the Australian Ukrainian Congress, run only by one person, Andrew Olexander. This so called organisation, to the best of my investigation and knowledge, is not registered with ASIC or any other Australian Authority. It appears, to be just a Facebook Group with no substance or support behind it. Their greatest claim to fame is the 520 “Likes” posted on this page.

I have many friends who had “Liked” this page, including myself. Why, because they have nice articles including tasty salo with salt “zakuska” and other such niceties. However, every so often, there is a “knife” blade thrown into the official Ukrainian Community.

It begs belief why such activity is aimed at destroying a long-standing community. To the best of my assessment, after lengthy discussion with Andrew Olexander, it appears he has some long-standing grudge with one or more of our leadership. He has spent lengthy telephone call to me denigrating many decent Ukrainians who I have known almost a lifetime.

Andrew Olexander, through the Australian Ukrainian Congress Facebook page has espoused many innuendoes, made misleading statements, made accusations and exaggerated the truth; in doing so has swayed and convinced a few people that the existing leadership group in the Association of Ukrainians in Victoria and the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organisations have an ulterior motive.

By way of history, Andrew Olexander; was a former (Liberal Party) Victorian shadow minister for youth, the arts and consumer affairs, and the first Australian of Ukrainian descent elected to an Australian Parliament in 1999.

It was reported on the ABC: *“Mr Olexander is gay, and since losing Liberal preselection he has accused the party of being homophobic. The report continues to say he was caught drink-driving, and has also been in trouble for not attending Parliament.”*

It was reported in the Herald Sun: *“Mr Olexander sparked controversy when he crashed his vehicle into four parked cars while drunk, causing almost \$40,000 damage. He had a blood-alcohol reading of 0.129 several hours after the crash in Beach St, Port Melbourne, on July 11 2004. He was axed from the Liberals in 2005”.*

It was also reported on the ABC that *“Liberal leader Robert Doyle says Mr Olexander has brought the party into disrepute. “I hope that the public would understand that we have offered Andrew Olexander unbelievable support, but there comes a time when that support must be withdrawn,” Mr Doyle said.”*

Andrew Olexander, being a Victorian Member of Parliament for 6 years was in an ideal position from the floor of Parliament to further the cause of Ukraine. A search of Hansard could only reveal two speeches where he referred to Ukraine during that whole time he was in Parliament and then he did not correct the spelling of Chernobyl.

I think that Andrew Olexander, should reflect on his own behaviour before accusing others of being dishonest, making outlandish innuendoes and fictitious claims.

In my humble opinion, there is nothing to “Like” on the “Australian Ukrainian Congress” Facebook group.

## **Australian 70-year Ukrainian Support Structure**

**Appendix A**, details the strong Ukrainian organisational structure in Australia, it is secure and has been tried and tested over the last 70 years.

Sure, I don't know of any organisation that has not faced some teething problems. But these are always overcome by the good will within the community.

I ask all New Arrivals to consider joining with us and making our Community more vibrant and stronger. The old Diaspora does care about you – you are our closest ties to our homeland, Ukraine.

Michael Karaszewycz  
Editor, Ukrainian International Directory  
[www.UkrainianDirectory.org](http://www.UkrainianDirectory.org)

**Attached Appendix A**

## Australia's Ukrainian Federal Body

### Союз Українських Організацій Австралії

Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organisations  
Peak Body for Ukrainians in Australia  
*P.O. Box 251, Essendon, Victoria, 3040, Australia*

**Website:** <http://www.ozeukes.com/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Australian-Federation-of-Ukrainian-Organisations-79542805667/>

**Contact:** Chairman, Stefan Romaniw OAM

**Email:** [chairman@ozeukes.com](mailto:chairman@ozeukes.com)

**Mob:** 0419 531 255

## State Associations

### Українська Громада Вікторії

Association of Ukrainians in Victoria  
*P.O. Box 78, Essendon, Vic, 3040*

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Association-of-Ukrainians-in-Victoria-208622155932364/>

**Contact:** President, Mr Slawko Kohut

**Email:** [admin@auv.org.au](mailto:admin@auv.org.au) , [communications@auv.org.au](mailto:communications@auv.org.au)

**Tel:** (03) 9375 1781

### Українська Громада АСТ

Ukrainian Association of the ACT  
*P.O. Box 1132, Canberra, ACT, 2601*

**Contact:** Peter Lutak

**Email:** [petro@live.com.au](mailto:petro@live.com.au)

### Українська Громада Південної Австралії

Association of Ukrainians in South Australia  
*P.O. Box 42, Hindmarsh, SA, 5007*

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Association-of-Ukrainians-in-SA-470651106383675/>

**Contact:** President, Mr Frank Fursenko

**Email:** [frank@frankfursenko.com](mailto:frank@frankfursenko.com)

**Mob:** 0412 267 880

### Українська Громада Квінсленду

Ukrainian Community of Queensland Inc  
*PO BOX 152, Holland Park, QLD, 4121*

**Website:** <http://www.ukrqld.com.au/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/UkrQld/>

**email:** [info@ukrqld.com.au](mailto:info@ukrqld.com.au)

**Ukrainian Community Centre**

*47 Galsworthy Street  
Holland Park, QLD, 4121*

*(07) 3420 5764*

**Contact:** President, Mr Stephan Chomyn OAM

**Email:** [stephanchomyn@hotmail.com](mailto:stephanchomyn@hotmail.com)

**Mob:** 0400 181 959

### Українська Громада Західної Австралії

Ukrainian Association of Western Australia in Perth Inc  
*PO Box 420, Dianella, WA, 6059*

**Website:** <http://www.ukrainiansinperth.com/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Ukrainians-in-Perth-Western-Australia-133188643415548/>

**Contact:** President, Mr Mykola Mowczan

**Email:** [uawaperth@gmail.com](mailto:uawaperth@gmail.com)

**Mob:** 0412 228 056

### Українська Громада Тасманії

Association of Ukrainians in Tasmania  
PO Box 558, Moonah, Tas, 7009

**Website:** <https://ukesintas.wordpress.com/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Association-of-Ukrainians-in-Tasmania-111216412343167/>

**Contact:** President, Mrs Marina Ladaniwskyj

**Email:** mladaniwskyj@gmail.com

### Об'єднання Українських Громад НПВ

Ukrainian Council of NSW  
PO Box 270, Lidcombe, NSW, 2141

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/UkrainianCouncilOfNSW/>

**Contact:** President, Mr Marko Shumsky

**Email:** mshumsky@optusnet.com.au

**Mob:** 0414 649 148

## Youth Organisation

### Спілка Української Молоді Крайова управа

Ukrainian Youth Association in Australia  
PO Box 5252 North Geelong 3251

**Website:** <http://www.cym.org/au/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/au.CYM/>

**Contact:** President, Mr Adam Jartym

**Email:** ky-australia@cym.org

## Scouting Organisation

### Пласт Крайова Пластова Старшина

PLAST Federal Executive

**Website:** <http://www.plast.org.au/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/plastaustralia/>

**Contact:** Mr Philip Botte

**Email:** philip@orrong.com.au president.kps@plast.org.au

## Religious Faiths

### Українська Католицька Епархія Австралії, Нової Зеландії та Океанії

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Australia, New Zealand and Oceania  
35 Canning St, North Melbourne, Vic, 3051

**Website:** <http://www.catholicukes.org.au/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Ukrainian-Catholic-Church-in-Australia-New-Zealand-and-Oceania-543143552412073/>

**Contact:** Bishop Peter Stasiuk

**Email:** eparchy@catholicukes.org.au

**Tel:** (03) 9320 2566

### Українська Епархіяльна Пасторальна Рада

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy Pastoral Council  
PO Box 218, Glenroy, Vic, 3046

**Contact:** Mr. George Fedyszyn

### Українська Автокефальна Православна Церква

Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church in Diaspora, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand  
6 McKay Gardens, Turner ACT 2612

**Contact:** Director (Chairman), Very Rev. Fr. Michael Solomko.

**Email:** helen.kasyan@outlook.com

**Mob:** 0423 799 699

**Contact:** Director (Secretary), Mrs Helen Kasyan

## Українська Автокефальна Православна Церква (Київського Патріархату)

Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Kyiv Patriarchate

**Contact:** v.o. Administrator Volodymyr Tkaczuk

**Email:** lidiasukacz@yahoo.com

## Other Ukrainian Organisations

### Ukrainian Studies Foundation in Australia

*PO Box 270, Lidcombe, NSW, 2141*

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/UkrainianStudiesFoundation/>

**Contact:** President, Mr Marko Shumsky

**Email:** mshumsky@optusnet.com.au

**Mob:** 0414 649 148

### Наукове Товариство ім. Шевченка

Shevchenko Scientific Society in Australia

**Contact:** President, Prof Marko Pavlyshyn

**Email:** Marko.Pavlyshyn@monash.edu

**Tel:** (03) 9905 2259

### Ліга Вільної України

Australian League for a Free Ukraine

*25 Wickham Grove, Strathmore, Vic, 3041*

**Contact:** President, Mr Michael Moravski

**Tel:** (03) 9379 6682

### Союз Українок Австралії

Ukrainian Women's Association in Australia

*87 Kerrs Rd, Mount Vernon, NSW, 2759*

**Contact:** President, Mrs Halia Kasian

**Email:** ukrwaa@gmail.com

### Українська Центральна Шкільна Рада

Ukrainian Council of Education in Australia

*PO Box 8076, Dandenong, Vic, 3175*

**Contact:** President, Mrs Orysia Stefyn

**Email:** orysia.stefyn@gmail.com

**Mob:** 0422 737 404

### Крайова Управа – Братство 1-ої Дивізії УНА

Brotherhood of Ex-Servicemen in Australia

*10 Adare St, Elizabeth East, SA, 5112*

**Contact:** President

**Email:**

### Українське Вільне Козацтво

Ukrainian Cossack Society

**Contact:** President, Petro Deriashnyj

**Email:** deriashnyj@optusnet.com.au

## Banking

### Dnister Ukrainian Credit Cooperative Ltd

*912 Mt Alexander Road, Essendon VIC 3040*

**Website:** <http://www.dnister.com.au/>

**Contact:** Chairman, Mr Wal Mykytenko

**Email:** wmyten@alphalink.com.au

**Tel:** (03) 9375 1222

## REMEMBER

Each of the above organisation has branches across each State in Australia