



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We are close to the end of yet another busy year at our U3A. Our renovated buildings have received much favourable comment with most people enjoying the much improved and more pleasant learning environment both inside and outside. The new building gives increased views of the wetlands and generally a feeling of being well away from the city crowds and traffic.

Being tucked away in a quiet corner has an aspect which we need to take into account and emphasise – security. The security of our buildings and contents is an issue following a break-in and burglary last August. We need to ensure that the increased number of windows and doors are closed, locked and the blinds drawn at the end of the day. This is the responsibility of the last class in each room as we do not have a caretaker. It needs the co-operation of class members to ensure that we are leaving secure premises. Some classes are particularly good at doing this task which only takes a few minutes and we thank them for their assistance. In order to ensure that all classes manage to assist we are introducing a class management system next year. It is not expected that the tutor and class facilitator (secretary) have to do all the work. We ask for class members to share the responsibility by giving a few minutes of their time to assist their tutor at the end of a session so that rooms are left in good order and secure.

The curriculum document circulated to most people electronically in early November contains the year-long courses and the short courses available to start the year. This document will not be published again until November 2018, however up-dates will be made available regularly, usually with the newsletter, so watch out for this information about courses that are new additions to the curriculum. I am sure you will have been impressed by the range of offerings for you to consider.

The course coordinators and Program Planning Committee welcome offers, information, ideas and suggestions for new courses. Please leave your suggestions and offers in the suggestion box at the office. We have a suggestion box on the counter at reception for people to leave their ideas and offers for courses and as well for any improvement suggestions that you would like to make. If you do have a contribution for consideration, please include your name and contact number as we may need to get back to you.

Members are welcome to have a cup of tea or coffee at the conclusion of, or in between classes. Room 1 is available for this purpose. When it is in use for meetings or has a class scheduled in it, the tables and chairs in the foyer are available. Please be aware of the noise level when in the foyer so the receptionists can do their work without interruption. The sound absorbent ceiling ensures that normal voice levels are not a problem.

The electronic noticeboard has been in use now for about six months. It is an excellent way of keeping abreast of current happenings and changes to programs and events. If you have not yet investigated this addition to our communication strategy please take the time to visit the foyer and have a look and then make it a regular weekly way of keeping up to date.



On behalf of the Committee of Management I extend our best wishes for the festive season, a very happy new year and enjoyable Summer School.

**Meg Adams
President**

OFFICIAL OPENING

Our renovated buildings were opened on 27 October at a function organised by Boroondara Council.

A quartet of players from our recorder group entertained members and guests as they arrived. The Director of Community Development for the City of Boroondara, Carolyn McClean, welcomed the guests and spoke about Council and U3A Hawthorn's joint role in the project and then introduced the councillor for Gardiner Ward, Councillor Coral Ross.

Since U3A Hawthorn moved into Gardiner Ward twelve years ago Councillor Ross has taken a keen interest in our activities and assisted wherever and whenever she could. After speaking, Councillor Ross unveiled a plaque which will be placed on a wall in the reception area.

The president thanked:

- Boroondara Council staff, architect Warwick Tempny and Lina Tallarida, Aged Services for their work during the project
- members for their patience during the period of works,
- reception volunteers for the continuing service they gave despite the disruption and inconveniences experienced
- the gardening group led by Clare Carlson, who saw years of work disappear in the blink of an eye and then established the new garden
- Carol Lancashire for her very heavy workload in timetabling classes out and then back into Sinclair Ave which she performed so seamlessly
- Bruce Lancashire for his attendance and contribution to the site committee meetings and for his work in the move out of and back into Sinclair Ave.

The proceedings concluded with afternoon tea. We thank Lina Tallarida for her work on the day, Julie McNaughton for catering organisation, the recorder players for their opening entertainment and members of the Management Committee for their assistance both before and after the function.

NB: We were able to hold the opening as the water pressure was finally deemed to be appropriate and as well the panels could be put back in the walkway roof.



RECEPTION HOURS

Reception will be open from 10am – 1pm only

Monday 4 December – Friday 8 December 2017

Wednesday 3 January – Friday 9 February 2018

CATERING

Our catering manager, Julie McNaughton, has been looking after the catering at our meetings and special events for 8 years. She takes great pride in her work and we appreciate her excellent provisioning.

She has one issue which causes concern - being able to cater adequately to ensure sufficient food for attendees. It is very difficult to guess how much food to order. Julie always orders generously but sometimes the actual attendance is double that indicated by the responses received. We try to be responsible and not waste our funds but it is embarrassing not to have enough, and especially annoying to be told that there wasn't enough! It would assist greatly if members could respond and indicate their intention to attend. We will still order for more than the expected number to cover last minute attendees. So please help Julie by responding whenever you can!

Thank you in anticipation of your co-operation.



MUSIC NOTES

Our mid-year orchestra concert in August with Willem at MLC was very well received despite several anxious moments on the way – it is a wonderful comfort to realise that by the time of actual performance both conductor and players have the ability to rise to the occasion; everything falls into place and worries fade away as the fine music pours forth! We enjoy performing at MLC, everything is on hand and our needs are well provided for. We are always grateful for this.

Both the choir and orchestra presented end of year concerts, the orchestra on Saturday 18 November at St John's Anglican Church, Burke Rd Camberwell, the choir a week later on Saturday 25 November at Habitat Uniting Church, corner of Burke and Mont Albert Rds. The orchestra's concert was directed by Jules Cseszkó, featuring the gorgeous 8th Symphony of Dvorak and also a trio of solo violin works from the romantic repertoire performed by Ukraine-born Liudmyla Li.

Members of our orchestra have recently started again on the celebration day of Seniors Week, 8 November, at Deakin Edge, Federation Square. Due to the fall of dates it was not convenient to have the whole orchestra performing as in the past, but we were very proud of the two small groups

who took part. First was the Avalon Jazz Band formed by our principal trombone player, Michael Cousins, combining members of Nunawading U3A with two of our own brass players. They gave us a fabulous half-hour of good old-fashioned trad jazz and we can only hope that this is only the beginning for them. We need to hear more! After a short break we then moved on to our U3A wind octet, who had rehearsed long and hard to present a delightful Mozart serenade for winds, and this too was first-class and much enjoyed. The opportunity to perform in such a special concert hall is always a highlight and long may it continue.

The recorder group has also been busy, and I recently had the pleasure of attending a concert given by them at Rylands in Riversdale Rd - a most pleasing assembly of well-chosen pieces expertly performed, introduced and led by their leader, Jeanette MacArthur. The next day four of their players provided introductory music for the formal ceremony marking the opening of our refurbished campus by the Boroondara Council, with Councillor Coral Ross presiding in our elegant new hall. We are most grateful to them for their contribution to such an important event.

Plans and programs are gradually being finalised for the year ahead, and details will be announced as soon as possible. The orchestra's first concert is expected to be on either 5 or 6 May, depending on venue confirmation. Never overlook the power of music.

Ruth Muir
Music Manager



COPY DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the next newsletter is Wednesday 7 February 2018. Please forward copy to the office.

BOOK EXCHANGE

Thank you to everyone who has supported our book exchange during the year, especially those who have donated books and the members who have come in to browse and taken items home to enjoy.

We will continue to operate next year, so please spend some time over the holiday break going through your book shelves to find some pre-loved gems to add to our collection.

The book exchange will also open during Summer School. Dates and times will be available closer to the time.

Happy holiday reading!

***Julie Angus-Kiddle and
the Book Exchange Team***

NEW MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM

Enrolments for 2018 commenced on 8 November and, for the first time, members were able to enrol themselves on-line using the new system. Now, some 2 and a half weeks later, we have received 2018 membership subscriptions from over 860 members of whom some 400+ paid using their credit card through our PayPal account.

Special arrangements were made in the office for those without a computer or who needed assistance and in the first week our volunteers helped around 200 members to login and enrol in their classes for 2018.

The feedback has been very positive with most saying it was a quick and easy exercise. We hope that has been your experience too.

If you haven't yet enrolled for 2018 you should do so soon as priority enrolments for the high demand classes will close on Wednesday 29 November. After that date, positions in those classes will be allocated in chronological order from the time of submission.

Further details of enrolment procedures can be found on the website at the following address: u3ahawthorn.org.au/enrolling.htm



CHOIR NOTES

The Hawthorn U3A Choir hopes you were able to attend its concert on 25 November. We are sure you would have enjoyed our repertoire of songs from around the world, and especially our presentation of traditional carols you may not have heard before - what a lovely contrast to the hyped-up Christmas music we are now bombarded with from every direction.

Many absences, especially in the last six months, have made this a particularly challenging year for the choir. While a fortunate few have enjoyed extensive overseas travel, personal or family illnesses have reduced our ranks on many occasions.

We are very grateful, therefore, that our extremely talented team of Musical Director Megan Austen and Accompanist Judith Chipman have achieved such fine results when choir members bring with them a varied range of musical talents and experiences. We thank them for their inspired leadership. We also thank the committee members and other choir volunteers for taking on the necessary tasks and roles to keep the choir operating this year.

Sadly, Megan is unable to continue as Choir Director next year. The choir is in the process of seeking a new Director for 2018. By the time you read this report, we hope to have some alternative plans in place.

Have you thought of joining the choir? Tenors and basses would be especially welcome. Singing together is a joyful and uplifting experience. We wish a very happy and peaceful Christmas to all Hawthorn U3A members.

***Bev Rangott
Choir Manager***

FEES FOR 2018

The annual membership fee for U3A Hawthorn for 2018 is \$50.

Members are reminded that membership fees for 2018 must be paid before enrolments in courses can be processed.



For bookings please go to the website

www.u3ahawthorn.org.au

and use the online membership system to enrol and pay (if required).

If you are unable to use the online system, please visit Reception to complete your enrolment.

For further queries please contact:

Joan Harding on 98133974 or 0408366987

BOOKING POLICY

All tour fees payable at the time of placing reservation.

Payments may be made by credit card or cheque at the office, or by paying online.

Bookings close **two weeks** prior to the event.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations 14 days or less prior to the scheduled departure time will mean no refund will be paid.

18EXC003 Monday 5 March 2018

VISIT TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Cost: free

Time: 2.30pm - 3:30pm

Location: Government House Drive, Melbourne, adjacent to the Royal Botanic Gardens and close to the Shrine of Remembrance.

Meet: Gatehouse, Government House Drive at 2.20pm

Limit: Minimum 15; maximum 35 participants. Members only, no guests.

The Government House Education Tour consists of a 30 minute tour of the State Apartments followed by a 30 min Q&A session. 1 hour total time. The Tour will usually be led by the Governor's husband, Mr Anthony Howard QC. Participants will learn about Government House and the role of the Governor, Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AC. Visitors using public transport can alight at tram stop 17 (Police Memorial Stop) on St Kilda Road, or walk from Flinders Street Station.

18 EXC001 Wednesday 14 March 2018

KOORI HERITAGE TRUST CULTURAL WALK

Cost: \$22

Time: 10.30 am sharp for one hour's duration

Departure: 2 Koori Heritage Trust,
Level 3, Yarra Building, Federation Square,
Cnr Flinders and Swanston St, Melbourne

Limit: 25 participants

This inner city walking tour shall take us from Federation Square, then along the banks of the Yarra, 'the river of mists and shadows'. Senior cultural guide, Stephen Tregonning of the Koori Heritage Trust shall explain its history, environment, changes and cultural significance.

18EXC002 Friday 20 April 2018

DAME NELLIE MELBA'S COOMBE COTTAGE GARDEN AND AFTERNOON TEA

Cost: \$25

Time: 1.30 pm to approximately 3.00 pm

Meet: 673- 675 Mountain Highway, Coldstream

Melway Ref: 281

Limit: 26 participants

A wonderful afternoon is in store as you are guided around the historic garden listening to the stories surrounding this famous location. Many artists, playwrights and Melbourne's establishment society had enjoyed Dame Nellie Melba's hospitality. Stroll through the beautifully restored garden and complete the tour with an outstanding afternoon tea.

U3A HAWTHORN COURSES FOR 2018

The Full Curriculum for 2018 is available
on the website u3ahawthorn.org.au/members
Please enrol for the classes below online or come to Reception to enrol.
You must be enrolled to attend any courses or events.

ADDITIONAL COURSES FOR 2018 to those published in the November 2017 Curriculum Booklet

18COM010: PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS FOR BEGINNERS **11.30 – 1.00** **WEDNESDAY**
Venue: SINCLAIR AVENUE ROOM 1

Tutor: Barbara Gibson *fortnightly 2nd & 4th from 14 February NCSSH*

Do you want to restore old photos, enhance favourite shots, add features or remove unwanted items, or change the size or orientation of an image?

Photoshop Elements (PE) can do all of this and so much more. This course is intended to introduce students to the basic skills needed to achieve all of these; above all we intend to have fun doing this.

It is not necessary for students to have any equipment or programs for the two introductory sessions, but If they already have any version of PE (or CS) on a laptop they are encouraged to bring these along to workshop during demonstrations. Those who only have desktop computers should bring along a memory stick to take samples home. Advice will be provided if students need to purchase a program.

Students are asked to contact the tutor before enrolling to discuss what they aim to get out of the course. (Ph. 9509 4478 or email barbarag14@bigpond.com)

18COM011: PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS – WORKSHOPS **11.30 – 1.00** **WEDNESDAY**
Venue: SINCLAIR AVENUE ROOM 1

Tutor: Barbara Gibson *fortnightly 1st & 3rd from 21 February NCSSH*

Comments: This workshop is designed for students who already have a basic knowledge of Photoshop Elements (or CS). We will work through basic applications first, then individuals will set their own tasks, and share information and ideas. The tutor will provide challenges, and decide on directions based on student input.

It is not necessary for students to have any equipment or programs for the introductory session, but If they already have any version of PE (or CS) on a laptop they are encouraged to bring these along to workshop during demonstrations. Those who only have desktop computers should bring along a memory stick to take samples home. Advice will be provided if students need to purchase a program.

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18HUM020: THE STORY OF MEDIEVAL ENGLAND 400 – 1400AD **1.30 – 3.30** **WEDNESDAY**
Venue: SINCLAIR AVENUE WEST ROOM

Tutor: Vin Underwood *fortnightly 2nd & 4th from 14 February*

This course uses the Great Courses DVDs, The Story of Mediaeval England: From King Arthur to the Tudor Conquest, as a basis for studying this very interesting period of British history. Each session is for two hours and will consist of two half hour lectures with each lecture followed by a tutor summary presented in power point and some class discussion.

18HUM027: BERLIN – AN EXCITING EUROPEAN METROPOLIS **11.30 – 1.00** **TUESDAY**
Tutor: Joe Hajdu *weekly 24 April – 8 May (3 sessions)*

A course of 3 lectures on Berlin:

1. Berlin - history

2. Berlin - famous people
3. Berlin - culture

18OUT045: MARVELLOUS MELBOURNE WALKS- WALK 5 10.00 – 12.00 TUESDAY
Tutor: Norm Fary Tuesday 15 May (1 session)

This is the 5th walk in the series which was omitted from the printed curriculum.
 Marvellous Melbourne Walk: North Melbourne (repeat)

18EXE050: FELDENKRAIS: AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT 1.30 – 2.30 TUESDAY
Venue: PARKVIEW ROOM CAMBERWELL LIBRARY

Tutor: Anastasia Bernardi weekly from 13 February to 27 November NCSSH
 Feldenkrais Awareness Through Movement is a form of movement education which utilises the neuromuscular system to improve at any age. The lessons are based on the idea that awareness and focused attention on small movements will lead to greater improvement in function than force or effort. Many of the lessons are done lying on the floor. Regular attendance is required. Student prerequisites: Bring a yoga mat or think blanket (or both) to lie on. Ability to get on to the floor and to get up is essential.

Additional courses will be advertised in Gateway – the eNewsletter as they are finalised.

AMENDMENTS TO PRINTED CURRICULUM BOOKLET

- 18COM003: Technology Workshop** – correct date is Tuesday 27 February
18COM004: Going on Safari – 19 March – 9 April (12 March is Labour Day holiday)

EXCURSIONS

– details in excursion section of newsletter or our website

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