



USA HAWTHORN NEWS

Number XLVI
March 1997

24 Wakefield Street
Hawthorn Vic 3122

Telephone: 9214 8824, 9818 7371, 9818 3466

Notice is given of the 12th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Location	Ethel Swinburne Hall, Swinburne University (corner of Burwood Road and John Street)
Date	Wednesday, 9 April 1997
Time	10.30 a.m.
Agenda	Apologies Confirmation of minutes of previous Annual General Meeting Presentation and adoption of Chairman's and Treasurer's Reports Election of Committee of Management (see page 2) Election of Honorary Auditor General business

Proxy forms (available from the office) must be deposited with the Secretary not less than 24 hours prior to the time for the commencement of the Meeting.

The AGM will be followed by our guest speaker:

Speaker **Professor the Hon. Evan Walker**, B.Arch.(Melb), M.Arch.(Tor),
Hon.Doctor of Technology (VUT), FRAIA, HFRAPI,
who will talk about:
**MY FATHER'S SCHOOL: A memoir of an early experiment
in progressive education**

Luncheon 12.00 noon—light sandwich lunch

Cost There will be no charge for this entire event.

We are delighted to welcome to our Annual General Meeting so distinguished a speaker as Mr Walker, who has been an outstanding architect, a member of the Victorian Legislative Council for 13 years until 1992, including eight years as a Minister, a leading academic figure for many years, a member of the Council of the Victorian College of the Arts and its President since January 1995—to list only a fraction of his achievements. We look forward to an impressively large turnout of members to hear one of our local luminaries and to enjoy a general get-together.

Once again we urge members to use public transport if at all possible, as free parking is so difficult in the Swinburne area. There is parking behind the Hawthorn Town Hall (\$2 for 4 hours) and there is a new car park available in Wakefield Street immediately opposite our office (\$3.00 all day).

As noted above, the luncheon is free but, to assist us with the catering, could you please notify the office of your intention to attend before Wednesday, 2 April.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE.

NOTICE TO UNFINANCIAL MEMBERS

This is the final issue of the Newsletter for members who have not renewed their subscriptions for 1997. Our annual subscription rates are \$40 for couple/two living at the same address, \$25 for single membership, and \$5 for students enrolling in our courses whose membership is paid at another campus.

If the label on this Newsletter is marked above your name with **, this indicates that you have not yet paid your 1997 subscription.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

At our Annual General Meeting, there will be an election of the Committee of Management for the period 1997/98, as committee members enjoy only 12 months' tenure of office. There are up to 15 places to be filled. Nomination forms are available in the office; these should be lodged with the Secretary at least seven days prior to the Annual General Meeting, i.e. by Wednesday, 2 April 1997.

~~Proxy forms are also available from the office. These forms must be deposited with the Secretary no later than 24 hours prior to the time for the commencement of the Meeting.~~

Present members of the Committee offering themselves for re-election:

Rae Alexander	Tutor liaison, tutor
Lois Astley	
Hans van Dorssen	Course co-ordinator (computer)
Jean Giese	Chairman, tutor
Laurel Hollow	
Nan Inglis	Tutor liaison, tutor
Bev McIntyre	Publicity
Ralph Mottram	Tutor
Derek Readman	Secretary, curriculum development
Pam Rogers	Tutor liaison, tutor
John Salvaris	Tutor (co-opted to fill vacancy during year)
Lola Stewart	Relinquishing Treasurer but available for committee
Ron Taft	Curriculum committee, U3A Network, tutor
Helen Williams	Newsletter Editor

If there are more than 15 nominations, a ballot paper will be issued at the A.G.M. on 9 April.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

We have provision in our Constitution for the appointment of ten honorary life members in recognition of their 'long and meritorious service'. We had eight members who had been so honoured. We are sad to report the death of one, Margaret Drake (see separate notice).

Two more of our original tutors and committee members have indicated that they will not be continuing to teach. Your committee has been pleased to vote them as life members:

Greta Burman, who has been a tutor since our inception, a committee member until 1995 and a willing helper in the office.

Alexe Gale, who has led one (and mostly two) classes a week from 1985 until last year, and served on the committee of management until 1995.

We thank and honour Greta and Alexe, two among many who enthusiastically give their time and talents to our organisation.

OBITUARY: MARGARET DRAKE

Many members will be sad to learn of the death of Margaret Drake on 11 December 1996.

Margaret was a foundation member and was Secretary of U3A Hawthorn from November 1984 until October 1992. As an educationalist she contributed more to the establishment of the campus than any other person. Those of us at U3A and Hawthorn Community Education who knew Margaret well will remember her for her fine mind, quirky sense of humour and commitment to her ideals.

HELP NEEDED FOR RESEARCH PROJECT

The Department of Social Science at RMIT is conducting a research project, 'The Rise and Fall of Full Employment Society'. They are anxious to talk to people in the following groups:

- i) Men who in the 1950s worked in clerical jobs or in retail.
- ii) Men who in the 1950s worked in professional/managerial employment.
- iii) Women who in the 1950s were 'home makers', with husbands working in clerical or retail jobs.
- iv) Women who in the 1950s were 'home makers', with husbands in professional/managerial work.

If you can help provide information and would be available for interviews to be arranged (probably at our office), please contact Ms Anita Seibert on (03) 9660 2910 as soon as possible.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 1996-97

The University of the Third Age continues to be the fastest growing organisation amongst older people in Victoria. Our Hawthorn campus is almost embarrassed by the number of new applications for membership, presenting a challenge to our administration to find new courses, tutors and venues to meet the demand, as well as attending to the processing of membership and course enrolments. Because of the dedication of all our administration workers, we have been able to cope, and have received many compliments on our efficiency (and forgiveness for the occasional slip-up).

Lois Astley has relinquished the onerous task of Office Manager after eight years of sterling service. We thank Lois and welcome Margaret Borden, who has agreed to be her replacement. Lola Stewart, our splendid Treasurer, also finds it necessary to relinquish this post but has agreed to stand for the committee again, so continuing to give us the benefit of her experience and managerial skills.

We express our thanks to all those involved in our administration, the committee of management and our able and willing tutors—not forgetting our students, without whom we would not exist.

Our membership now stands at over 950 and there were between 70 and 80 courses running at any one time in 1996, mostly on a weekly basis. This is the core of our activity—over 2000 course enrolments were processed during the year. We are able to offer a wide variety of subjects in history, the arts, philosophy, classical studies and current affairs. It is hardest to meet the demand for practical classes where tutors are scarce, classes of necessity are small, and the venue must have special facilities. On the other hand, we offer 17 language classes, and music is emerging as a special interest in our campus. A total of 160 students are enrolled in our two music appreciation classes, a jazz class, four recorder groups, one music theory class and the choir. Elsewhere in this *Newsletter* you will see a notice canvassing interest in a chamber music group.

The lectures in the monthly Saturday afternoon series are popular, as members appreciate being able to bring a friend to the Swinburne lecture theatre where these are held. An expanded Summer School programme was offered over the holiday period, spread over four weeks in January and February and comprising 41 lectures or classes. Despite the fearfully hot weather, these were very well attended and our thanks go to all who made it possible.

A Research Sub-committee was appointed to prepare the third four-year report on U3A Hawthorn. As part of this exercise, a letter and questionnaire are included with this *Newsletter* and we request members' co-operation in returning the completed questionnaire promptly. These four-yearly reports are an important contribution to material and/or research on Adult Education in Australia, and Hawthorn campus is one of the few campuses to collate this material.

We have enjoyed some very happy social occasions during the year. The end-of-year celebration in the Town Hall was again a great success, with over 300 members attending. A lunch to express appreciation to all those engaged in administration was enjoyed by 30 workers. A lunch was also held to thank our tutors, when 55 were able to accept the committee's invitation. Recently, a morning-tea gathering was held to welcome new tutors for 1997 and introduce them to our ways and to key administrative people.

Along with the Hawthorn Community Education Project, which shares 24 Wakefield Street, we are grateful to Swinburne University for its provision of the house and for the helpful assistance from staff and administration in making facilities available to us where possible. We are looking forward to the extra, permanent accommodation promised by Swinburne.

The Boroondara Council has maintained its support in making the Town Hall available from time to time and also library rooms for classes, as well as subsidising the hiring costs at the Hawthorn Leisure Centre. Sadly, the use of the Council's photocopier for the production of our *Newsletter* and *Curriculum* has come to an end. The Council has promised us instead a photocopier on permanent loan (to be shared with HCEP) but we will have to find the costs of paper and maintenance of the machine from our own funds. A grant of \$1200 to help with venue hire was also gladly received from the Adult and Further Education Council of Victoria.

I think we can be justly proud of our achievements in 1996. A completely self-help organisation of the size and breadth of U3A Hawthorn constantly needs new people to come forward with offers of courses, tutoring and administration work if it is to remain vital and meet its goals. Our thanks go to all who have contributed thus far. We look forward with confidence to the year ahead.

Jean Giese, Chairman
March 1997

SATURDAY VIDEOS

The Saturday programme of video showings started last year as an extension of the Saturday Lecture Series. It is intended to continue with this programme for the time being, and review it after a few months. Thereafter, its continuation will depend on the demand.

The programme for the next three months will be:

LOCATION	24 Wakefield Street, Hawthorn	2.30 p.m.	first half-hour video
SATURDAY	15 March / 12 April / 17 May	3.00 p.m.	tea/coffee break
		3.30 p.m.	second half-hour video

The videos come from the State Film Library collection, and our aim is to cover as wide a range of interests as possible, for example:

Elephants: their last stand	A Year to Remember series
The Great Primitives	Orchestra series
Africa before the Europeans	Virginia Woolf and other authors
The Americas before the Europeans	Travel documentaries

What exactly will be shown will depend on the availability of videos at the time, but the office will be able to provide details closer to the day of showing.

Numbers will be limited to 20 maximum. Entry is free but is restricted to MEMBERS ONLY. Bookings are necessary and should be made on weekdays between 9.30 a.m. and 4.00 p.m., either by telephone (9214 8824 or 9818 7371) or personally at 24 Wakefield Street. Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. There will be no written confirmation of bookings, and you are therefore asked to keep your personal record of the date and time of each video showing for which you book.

Tea and coffee will be provided, but please bring your own biscuits or whatever, and PLEASE remember to wear your name badge.

CHAMBER MUSIC GROUP

Following the enthusiastic support for our choral and recorder groups and the high standard of their work, I have cherished a dream that it might be possible to form a chamber music group.

Recently we have had the good fortune to enlist George Logie-Smith's interest and he has agreed to be the musical director if we find there is enough interest in such a group.

Many of our members will perhaps know of George Logie-Smith's work at Geelong, Scotch and Haileybury Colleges and with the Astra Chamber Music Society. He is well known throughout Australia as an adjudicator and as guest conductor at music camps and with many choirs and orchestras. Recently he was awarded an Honorary Fellowship with the Australian Music Examinations Board for his services to that Board.

All we need now are members (and friends who could join Hawthorn U3A) who would like to play in a chamber music group that would have day-time rehearsals. Ruth Muir has agreed to be Secretary of the group. Interested musicians should send particulars of the instrument they play, their standard and/or years of experience with it, to Ruth c/- 24 Wakefield Street. If anyone would like to chat to Ruth, she is happy to receive calls on 9818 0801.

Jean Giese

FORMER STUDENTS OF ITALIAN

Have you a copy of *Italiano Viva* by Giorgio Milesi which you are no longer using, and would you consider selling it to a new student? We have just learnt that this textbook is out of print, and there are some new students who have not been able to purchase it. If you can help, please ring the office to leave your name and telephone number, and Nan Inglis will contact you.

TELELINK PROGRAMME

The U3A Network organises a programme for housebound (or temporarily housebound) people, who are linked by telephone for 45 minutes for weekly classes. At present they have U3A tutors in subjects such as armchair travel, personal development, history, music and current affairs. If any U3A Hawthorn tutors are willing to be involved in this scheme, please ring Alison Carlson at 9652 0649 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday.

SATURDAY SERIES

This popular series of Saturday afternoon lectures will be given from March to November, on the final Saturday of each month. Details of the first three lectures are:

SATURDAY 29 March CHRIS WOOD THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPES OF SICILY

This illustrated lecture investigates the layers—ancient Greek, Muslim, Byzantine, Norman, Angevin, Spanish and Bourbon—that together comprise Sicily's culture. Mr Chris Wood places the island's 'embarrassment of architectural and artistic riches' in their historical context, and also looks at Sicilian folklore, society and literature to make sense of urban and rural landscapes that are the products of repeated cultural collisions.

SATURDAY 26 April FRANK VAN STRATEN MELBOURNE'S THEATRE HERITAGE

Frank van Straten presents ABC Radio's weekly 'Nostalgia' programme. He is passionate about all forms of theatre and in this talk will indulge his enthusiasm by outlining Melbourne's long and proud theatre tradition, using historic images and sound.

SATURDAY 31 May HELEN FERBER STAGECOACH TO BIRDSVILLE

In 1893 German immigrant Dr Edward Hoche, his Australian wife and three young children made the six-day journey to Birdsville by stagecoach and buggy through the December heat into a typhoid epidemic. Mrs Ferber, the couple's granddaughter, discusses how she combined material from original letters and her own research to recreate the lives of this family, both in South Australia and in the doctor's home town of Hamburg, for her recently published book *Stagecoach to Birdsville*.

- LOCATION FOR ALL LECTURES** Lecture Theatre BA 201 (on right, same level as entrance from Plaza)
Business and Arts Building
Enter from John Street or William Street (near Fire Station)
Hawthorn
- TIME** 2.30–4.00 p.m.
- COST** Free to members and friends. The lecture theatre will hold up to 150 people comfortably.
- BOOKINGS** It is necessary to make a booking. This can be done on weekdays between 9.30 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. by telephone (9214 8824 or 9818 7371) or personally at 24 Wakefield Street. Bookings are on a first-come, first-served basis, and to save administrative time there will be **NO WRITTEN CONFIRMATION** of bookings. Please therefore keep **YOUR OWN RECORD** of the dates for which you have booked.
- NAME BADGES** Please remember to wear your name badge.

There will be details of later lectures appearing in the June *Newsletter*.

QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET—AND LOTS MORE

In January the *Age* put out an article on various 'foodie' tours which are running in Melbourne. Judy Elsworth of Hawthorn Community Education Project says that she went on the 'Foodies' Dream Tour' of the Queen Victoria Market late last year and found it very informative and friendly, with lots of delicious **samples en route**. [Your Editor has been a weekly devotee of the QV for more than twenty years and can certainly recommend it as one of our outstanding tourist attractions.] The QV two-hour tour costs \$15 per person (bookings on 9568 9601). Other tours include 'Chinatown Heritage and Culinary Walk', (\$35, 9819 3666), 'Gastronomic Tours of Victoria Street' (\$40, 9348 2221), and others, some on the rather expensive side.

There will be a copy of the article in the office if members would like to inquire further.

CLASS ENROLMENT IS ESSENTIAL

There seems to be some ongoing confusion for a few of our members between REGISTRATION as a member of U3A Hawthorn and ENROLLING in a particular class.

Please remember that, no matter when you joined U3A and filled in a registration form, or how many years you have attended a particular class, it is necessary to ENROL each year for each class you wish to attend. Current members of a class are given preference in re-enrolling near the end of each calendar year, after paying the following year's subscription.

COMPUTER ASSISTANCE

We urgently require a back-up person for our database system.

No data entry is required, but you must be computer literate.

The program we use is Filemaker Pro.

Please contact Hans van Dorssen at the office,

9214 8824 or 9818 7371

SENIOR CITIZENS' WEEK—MARCH 1997

Boroondara Council will be doing us proud with their launch of Senior Citizens' Week this year. They will put on:

AGE OF CHOICE EXPO

Official 1997 Senior Citizens' Week Launch & Luncheon with Elaine Canty

Hawthorn Town Hall, 360 Burwood Road, Hawthorn

Friday 14 March 1997, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Free activities and displays include:

Official SCW Launch and Lunch — Elaine Canty — 'Achieving One's Full Potential'	
Aromatherapy Introduction	<i>Recollections</i> book launch
J. B. Were Personal Investment Advice	Cooking Small, Eating Well
RSPCA (pet care, cat park, pet advice)	Historic Town Hall tour
Retirement Services Centre	Gardening advice
Fitness testing and advice	Australian Guild of Realist Artists
Boroondara Walk—1880s Hawthorn	Kew Line Dancers
U3A Hawthorn Choir	Tennis lessons
Golf lessons	

Our very own choir will be singing from 2.30 to 2.50 p.m., and for the rest you can pick up a brochure at the Hawthorn Town Hall detailing the times for the above activities, or ring 9810 4744 or 9810 4711.

TEMPTATIONS FOR TRAVELLERS

The U3A Network has notified us of several overseas events in the future of possible interest to any footloose members who would like to incorporate participation in these when jaunting overseas.

1997 U3A National Conference (UK)

This will be held at Liverpool University from 11 to 13 September, and overseas visitors are most welcome. The contact person is Lin Jonas, Office Manager, The Third Age Trust, 26 Harrison Street, London, WC1 H8JG, UK.

2nd European Summer University

The first of these was held in 1996 and was a great success. This year's event will be at the University of Surrey, Guildford, UK, from 21 to 27 July 1997. The theme will probably be 'Making Sense of Life' (with multi-faith, philosophical, psychological, etc. approaches) and the language will be English. Contact the Network office (9652 0649) for further details.

International Association of U3As (IAUTA) CONGRESS 1998

This will be held in Southern Germany on 10 to 13 September 1998, although there are not many further details yet. The previous congress in 1996 was held in Nantes, France, and was apparently a great success. Again contact the Network office (9652 0649) for more information.

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND LITERARY COMPETITION 1997

This year there are three categories in this competition: short story (500–2000 words), article (550–1500 words) and one-act play (maximum 25 minutes, 4 characters). The entry fee is \$3 per entry, and prizes are \$150, \$100 and \$75. The closing date is 12 September, and further conditions of entry are available from the office.

U3A SPREADING OVER EUROPE

Recently the *U3A Act Inc News* in Canberra reprinted an article by Robert Nurden in *The European* newspaper of 16 October 1996. While the article is too long to reproduce in full, I will attempt to summarise the main points for you. [*Those précis exercises at school have ultimately been useful!—Ed.*]

There is a quiet revolution altering the face of adult education in Europe. Many social factors have combined to create a class of learners with time on their hands, disposable income and a thirst for knowledge. The new generation of 'eternal students' is made up of over-50s.

The population of Europe is ageing and by 2026 the prediction is that half the population will be over 55. Redundancies and early retirement due to technological changes have increased dramatically. While many people would prefer to be working, they find that their wealth of experience has lost a lot of its value in the more youthful quick-fix thinking brought about by computer technology.

People over 55 years of age control about two-thirds of western Europe's savings, and their expenditure remains fairly constant up to age 75. They have vast amounts of capital to expend, which goes mainly on leisure activities. [*We must bear in mind that retirement benefits and pensions in northern Europe are far superior to those in our 'lucky' country—Ed.*]

Many people in northern Europe are buying holiday or permanent homes in the south, the favourite places being Spain and Portugal. As a result they are taking up learning the local language and history in order to fit into their new 'space' more comfortably.

The rising divorce rate is leaving many people in their fifties on their own, and they are finding that a return to education is an avenue to greater sociability.

Many young people, particularly from eastern Europe, have married Americans and moved to the United States. Their parents remaining in Europe are learning English in order to communicate with their in-laws and grandchildren.

Women in particular are seizing the opportunity for a 'second choice', and are catching up on the higher education that for differing reasons was not available to them earlier.

One of the most popular courses with Third Age students is ~~information~~ technology—one of the reasons for their having leisure time in the first place! They see their PCs as an effective way of communicating with others, especially the younger generation.

Italy and Germany have dedicated huge resources to Third Age education, and Britain, Spain and France have also encouraged it on a less formal basis.

Educationists are only slowly becoming aware of the growth of this distinct movement, and it is hoped they will eventually realise that the mature students, in languages in particular, prefer a serious, grammatical approach to the trendy textbooks designed for teenagers.

As the Third Age education movement inevitably grows throughout the world, it will eventually be recognised and supported by more and more governments.

OUR CHOIR—MALE VOICES NEEDED

Our U3A Hawthorn choir continues to expand and to provide enjoyment for both the choir members and their audience, but we have a sad imbalance in that we have relatively few male voices. You need not fancy yourself as one of the three tenors we hear about endlessly, but please come and join in the very rewarding experience of group singing with a delightful group of people directed by the patient and understanding Judith Chipman.

JUNE 1997 NEWSLETTER

Copy Deadline

All copy to the Editor by Wednesday 28 May please

Editor: Helen Williams, telephone 9818 5077