

# U3A HAWTHORN NEWS

Official Newsletter of Third Age Learning (Hawthorn) Inc. Reg. No. A0010798X, ABN 41 360 939 238

Number 72

September 2003

Post Office Box 2210, Hawthorn 3122

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Hawthorn Vic 3122

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**We are very happy to welcome back Christopher Martin:**

## U3A HAWTHORN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Conductor: Christopher Martin

**Thursday 4 September** at 10.30 a.m.

at  
**East Kew Uniting Church, Normanby Road (near High Street)**  
(Melway 45 J3)

Programme: Haydn, Symphony No. 82, 'The Bear'  
Mozart, Horn Concerto No. 3 (soloist Genevieve Clifford)  
Dvorak, Czech Suite  
Strauss, Emperor Waltz

Donation \$5

Please book with the office so that we can cater for light refreshments

## STREAMLINING OUR ADMINISTRATION

On the address label of this *Newsletter* and on the back of your name badge (except a few *really* old ones like your Editor's), there appears your enrolment number.

Please use this number as your ID number when dealing with the office—for enrolling in regular classes, Saturday Series, Summer School, giving an apology for class absence, or posting in your annual subscription.

Please try to help us with this; it will save tedious duplication of work and deliver more efficiency for your still modest annual fee.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR 2004

Those who attend current classes will already have been advised by your tutors of our changed accommodation circumstances and consequent increased running costs. These are explained in our President's report on p. 3. As from 1 January 2004, annual subscriptions will be:

Single subscription	\$40.00
Two members at the same address	\$65.00
Student enrolled at another campus	\$25.00 (a maximum of two subjects)
Part year, single (after 1 September)	\$15.00

As you are aware, 2003 students in on-going courses (see the Curriculum section of this *Newsletter*) may enrol for 2004 classes from 1/10/03 on payment of the 2004 subscription.

## SATURDAY SERIES OF LECTURES

These lectures are continuing throughout 2003 on the last Saturday of each month up to November. Details of the three lectures for September, October and November are on the accompanying sheet. Overall demand permitting, members may each bring one visitor with them.

Bookings will be accepted only for the month of the lecture, i.e. the October lecture can be booked only in October, not before. PLEASE GET YOUR BOOKING IN EARLY in the month and keep your own record of it.

## SUMMER SCHOOL

Our next Summer School will be held from 5 to 31 January 2004. While our energetic organiser, Derek Readman, has available the invaluable input of our existing tutors, he is also looking for fresh material and your ideas on what you would like included in the programme. For example, one proposal is a new class of mixed subjects, 'Kaleidoscope', in which speakers could share their knowledge/experience/talents/travels; perhaps two or three sessions each of an hour and a half, between two and four speakers per session.

We are convinced there are people with untapped skills and knowledge who are lurking in the shadows—please come out and give U3A Hawthorn's members the benefit of your experience.

Please contact Derek on 9853 6463 with your helpful ideas and offers to contribute to U3A Hawthorn.

### TWO IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

**U3A CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CONCERT** Thursday 27 November, 10.30 a.m.

St John's Anglican Church Hall, 552 Burke Rd, Camberwell

Conductors: Christopher Martin, Basil Hawkins

An exciting programme with two soloists

**END-OF-YEAR GATHERING**

Wednesday 10 December, 2.00 p.m.

Our end-of-year party to renew contacts with friends, with some items from our musical groups, plus refreshments.

### WANTED:

#### Office / desk receptionist helpers

We need helpers for alternate Tuesdays, 9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. This is a great way to contribute to U3A Hawthorn and to meet people in the U3A community. Please contact Meg Adams, 9882 6126, if you are able to volunteer a little of your time.

**A reminder for ALL our office workers:** with the difficulties currently experienced in parking, which will only increase when we lose the parking spaces behind No. 24, please remember that you will be reimbursed by U3A Hawthorn for parking expenses incurred while working in the office.

## MANAGING OUR ORCHESTRA

Ruth Muir, the Manager of our Chamber Orchestra, would like to meet someone interested in becoming her understudy.

Essential would be the ability to read music, with a love of music and experience of music in general. There is a lot to learn, and it is all very rewarding and enjoyable. For more details, ring 9818 0801.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

We have had an eventful and successful winter. Highlights have come once again from our choir and instrumentalists, who go from strength to strength. In June the U3A Hawthorn Chamber Orchestra presented a wonderful programme of music, including a virtuoso performance of a Paganini composition by young violin soloist, Lachlan Bramble, and a stirring performance of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. In July the choir provided a choral concert, which was enjoyed greatly by all. Thanks to Ruth Muir, Judith Chipman, Trish West and their musicians.

On 5 July the Committee hosted a light lunch for our administrative helpers, most of whom were able to attend. It was a most enjoyable occasion and is a small recognition of the enormous amount of time and effort put into keeping the wheels turning.

When you look at the address label of your newsletter, you will note that your identification (membership) number appears there. This is because we are reviewing our office processes and modernising some of them. We need you to quote your membership (ID) number every time you ring in to book a class, Saturday Series, Summer School, or to give an apology. This will allow our receptionists to work more efficiently in the often very busy role they perform, and will provide a better service to you.

Accommodation remains a major concern for your Committee. We have been advised recently by Swinburne University of Technology that we must vacate 24 Wakefield Street during September. Our new office will be on the opposite side of Wakefield Street, next to the 'pink house' (No. 27). We will share this building with Hawthorn Community Education Centre. The Swinburne Staff Club and the Centre for Psychological Services will occupy

the same site and there will be a small garden. Swinburne has shown great generosity to U3A Hawthorn for 19 years, and we continue to be very fortunate in our association with the University.

We have now moved into our new classrooms at Erasmus School in Riversdale Road. These rooms can accommodate up to 40 classes per week. They provide us with a permanent centre for classes and for other events in what are otherwise rather uncertain times. In addition to the utility provided by these rooms, they represent a more economical method of operating than casual hires. We would like to thank Peter Isaacson for finding the Erasmus space; Claude Miller, our Equipment Manager, for organising the transfer of furniture and the facilities in the rooms; and Barbara Coopes, Ian Coopes, Nigel Creese and Lionel De Sousa for their good nature and strong muscles in moving the furniture.

A special vote of thanks is due to Meg Adams, who is not only our Office Manager and a Committee member but, as spokesperson of the Accommodation Sub-committee, has worked tirelessly to achieve these results.

The Curriculum for the remainder of 2003 accompanies this Newsletter. There are seven new short courses, in addition to the ones continuing to the end of November.

I have been very heartened by your expressions of support and encouragement over the past few months.

*Christine Watters*, President

### WHAT DO YOU THINK OF U3A?

Your Committee needs you to tell us, in no more than fifty words, what U3A Hawthorn means to you—in terms of social contact, mental exercise, good friends gained, community feeling and support, etc. We will use this information to let other organisations know about the benefits of U3A to the community.

Please hand your contribution, either typed or in clear handwriting, addressed to Christine Watters, in to the office.

## SOME OTHER COURSES

Expressions of interest are invited for the following:

### **Computers for Mature-age Beginners**

An introduction to word processing (PC format), using e-mail and the internet.  
10 sessions in Term 4, enrolment fee \$20.

### **The Wiser Driver Course**

Keeping older drivers up to date.  
4 sessions in October, enrolment fee \$10.

For further information, please ring Hawthorn Community Education Centre on 9819 5758

## Short Story Writing Competition

U3A Sunraysia are running another competition with a closing date of 1 November 2003. Prizes will be \$300, \$200, \$100, with a limit of 2000 words. Full details are available from our office.

### **Desiderius Erasmus (1469?–1536)**

Some background to the name of our new premises:

The greatest scholar of his day, 'the Prince of Humanists' lived in times of profound change and a widespread movement to return to classical sources. He travelled Europe and was a sought-after guest of all the leading thinkers and rulers of the Renaissance period. His best-known work was *In Praise of Folly*, criticising the behaviour of the ruling classes and the church, and exposing the irony of mankind's vanities.

### ***That chicken is still crossing the road!***

Why did the chicken cross the road? [Following on from our December 2000 *Newsletter*]

**Sigmund Freud:** The fact that you are at all concerned that the chicken crossed the road reveals your underlying sexual insecurity.

**Martin Luther King, Jr** I envision a world where all chickens will be free to cross roads without having their motives called into question.

**Grandfather** In my day we didn't ask why the chicken crossed the road. Somebody told us the chicken crossed the road, and that was good enough for us.

**Hans Blix** We have reason to believe there may be potential for this chicken's capability, but we have not yet been allowed to have access to the other side of the road.

**George W. Bush** We don't care why the chicken crossed the road. We just want to know if the chicken is on our side of the road or not. The chicken is either with us or against us. There is no middle ground.

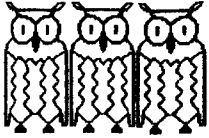
**Tony Blair** I agree with George.

**John Howard** I agree with George and Tony.

**Colonel Sanders** Did I miss one?

<p><b>DECEMBER 2003 NEWSLETTER</b> <b>Copy Deadline</b> All copy to the Editor by <b>WEDNESDAY 12 November (noon) please</b></p>
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*Newsletter* Editor     Helen Williams (9818 5077)  
*Newsletter* Despatch     Janet McCombe



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You are invited to attend our

## 2003 SATURDAY SERIES OF LECTURES

SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER

### 27 September SAVING THE LANGUAGE OF THE MANAMBU

**Professor Alexandra Aikhenvald, Professor & Associate Director, Research Centre for Linguistic Typology, La Trobe University.**

Most of the 900 languages originally spoken in New Guinea are in danger of becoming extinct. Professor Aikhenvald will talk about this, using the example of the intricate culture of the Manambu people of the Sepik River basin.

### 25 October CHINESE, AUSTRALIAN & PROUD—Chinese Australians in China during the 'White Australia' period

**Professor John Fitzgerald, Professor of Asian Studies, La Trobe University.**

This focuses on the activities of Australians in China over the early twentieth century. 'Australians in China' generally summons up images of Morrison of Peking (George Ernest Morrison, Correspondent for *The Times* of London) or China Donald (W.H. Donald, journalist and secretary to Mme Chiang Kai-shek), or perhaps the many missionaries and civil servants from Australia who spent some time in China over the first half of the 20th century. Yet the majority of Australians who went to China in the late 19th and early 20th century were Chinese Australians. What did these Australians get up to in China? The history of the Australian branch of the Kuo Min Tang (KMT) provides rare insights into the lives and times of Chinese Australians in China in this period.

### 29 November ENCOMPASSING OCEANIA

**Professor Greg Denning, Emeritus Professor of History, University of Melbourne**

Professor Denning begins his new book, *Beach Crossings: voyaging across times, cultures and self*, with the story of the most remarkable voyage of discovery and settlement in all human history. The talk will be a preview of this book, which is an account of his own voyaging and crossings as priest, scholar and writer. In it he celebrates fifty years of a life of learning. But you won't know what the most remarkable voyage in human history was unless you come along. A clue: it is 6000 kilometres long over the open Pacific Ocean to an uninhabited island—and it happened 2000 years before Captain James Cook.

**LOCATION FOR ALL LECTURES** Lecture Theatre TD 121, ground floor, TAFE Building TD, Swinburne University of Technology, junction of Wakefield and John Streets. Enter from Park Street or Wakefield Street (see map over)

**TIME** 2.30–4.00 p.m.

**COST** Free to members, who may each bring one friend only.

**BOOKINGS** **IT IS NECESSARY TO MAKE A BOOKING** to ensure entry to these talks; however, bookings are now accepted only during the month of the talk, e.g. bookings for October's talk will be taken only in October. Telephone on weekdays 9.30 a.m.—4.00 p.m. (Wednesdays up to 1.00 p.m.)

**There will be no written confirmation of bookings; please therefore keep your own record of your bookings.**

**BADGES** **PLEASE** remember to wear your **NAME BADGE!**