



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The last three months have been quite busy! So that we might have an appropriate focus on the issues needing our attention, I asked the Management Committee and other key volunteers to contribute their ideas for the development of our U3A. This resulted in a formidable list of areas on which we may focus in the coming months. If we are to achieve our desired outcomes we will need to increase the number of members who are actively engaged in volunteering. At present a heavy load is carried by some of our people. We need to spread the responsibilities more evenly in future.

One of the issues that the Management Committee has had under consideration recently is succession planning to cover all our key operational areas so that we are adequately staffed when people go on leave. We need to make this one of our more immediate priorities.

Stefanie Sowerby is our Volunteer Coordinator. She would be delighted to hear from anyone who is willing to join one of our teams and assist us in continuing the development of our organisation. Stefanie can be contacted through the Office. Please give serious consideration to giving us some of your time. I can assure you it will be a worthwhile experience and appreciated.

During Bruce Lancashire's absence I have attended Network meetings. One recent meeting focused on the way each U3A organised and delivered its programs. Each of us left with some valuable insights and alternative methods we might consider and employ to enhance our curriculum. I found that a number of other groups use the volunteering contributions made by members to give them priority access to classes. This is not an idea we will be thinking of adopting, but I was assured that these U3As are never short of voluntary labour! Hawthorn will remain positive that we can achieve our goals without this form of coercion, but it did give us some food for thought.

Parking

Following the issue of parking, which was the subject of a request in the last and this Newsletter, I have had several contacts with Boroondara Council. Our input has been encouraged and is being given serious consideration. The Mayor, Councillor Coral Ross and a number of council officers, have made site visits. They have been briefed and are familiar with our requirements. We expect to have further consultation before any implementation occurs. In the meantime thank you to those people who have observed the request to use the car park until it is full and then to only park on the south west side of Sinclair Avenue.

Car Park

The surface of the car park has again deteriorated as has been the case each winter since we came to this site. I have asked Council to cover the potholes with screenings. This is only a temporary measure which we hope will be sufficient to see us through to the end of the year when we hope that a permanent surface will be laid and car spaces marked out. We are hopeful that this will occur at the end of November when we have our brief break from classes.



Building Upgrade

At the AGM in April, Councillor Coral Ross announced the allocation of money in the Boroondara Budget for 2015-2016 to upgrade the existing buildings and make an addition, probably at the north end. We look forward to co-operating with council officers on this project which will increase the amenities available to members. We expect that we will have some space for members to enjoy social contact and additional classroom space. Initial contact has occurred and Council is aware of our needs and hopes!

Readman Series

We are in the process of organising the introduction of a continuing series of talks which will focus on issues which we think will be of interest to members. We felt, in addition to this, that the event would allow for social interaction of members.

We asked Derek Readman, who for many years was our Curriculum Coordinator and provided such a wonderful program for us, if we could give his name to the series. This, we felt, was a tangible way to recognise his immense contribution over such a long period.

Derek agreed and so we are about to launch this initiative. We have a committee, chaired by Terry Hastings, with Garry Warne, Elizabeth Pittman, Norm Fary and myself busily making the preparations. We would be happy to hear from members who have suggestions for speakers. You could give your ideas to one of us or record them in my message book in the Office. We are delighted to announce that our first speaker will be Alastair Nicholson, formerly Chief Justice of the Family Court. Details will be found elsewhere in this Newsletter and displayed on walls in classrooms. The topic for his address will be Bullying. Please put September 12 in your diary and join in this inaugural event.

Thirtieth Year of U3A Hawthorn

In November this year we will commence the celebration of our thirtieth year of operation. In November 1984 a group of Hawthorn citizens gathered at a meeting chaired by the then Mayor of Hawthorn, Councillor Hampton Beale, and accepted the challenge to set up a U3A. Along with Melbourne and Monash U3As, we became one of the first U3As in Australia. Our celebrations will focus on the contribution of those early members and our tutors who have given so generously of their time over those years.

These celebrations will include the second of the Readman series and Cliff Picton, Ombudsman, La Trobe University will be our main speaker. The theme of this first part of our birthday celebrations

will be the recognition of the contribution and creativity of our earliest members. Please put November 21 in your diaries and watch for further details in Gateway and on classroom noticeboards closer to the event.

We will keep you posted with details of future events in the next newsletter.

Some dates to put in your diary

September 12: Readman Series - Mary MacKillop Centre, enter off Havelock Road, Hawthorn), 4.00pm. The Honourable Alastair Nicholson. Topic: Bullying.

November 21: 30th Birthday/Readman Series - 26 Sinclair Avenue. Cliff Picton, Ombudsman, La Trobe University. Topic: The Beginnings of U3A, U3A Hawthorn - Early Days.

*Meg Adams
President*

VICTORIAN SENIORS' FESTIVAL 2014 at Federation Square – Sunday 5 October

The Victorian Seniors' Festival will be held again this year along the Yarra at Federation Square on Sunday 5 October. U3A Hawthorn will again take a stall at this event. If any tutors or members have suggestions or any material they would like to display to promote their courses I would be very happy to hear from them. We are doubling the space from last year so there is plenty of room.

If you are willing to volunteer to man the tent for a one hour shift on the day please also let me know. Members are encouraged to come along and support this event.

Stefanie Sowerby 9819 9459 or [0400 250 740](tel:0400250740) or email sowerb@netspace.net.au

FEES FOR 2015

Annual membership fees for 2015 are as follows:

Membership of U3A Hawthorn:

\$45 single

\$70 couple/two at same address

Member enrolling from another U3A campus

\$30 (to cover administration)

*A reminder that membership fees for 2014 must be paid before enrolments in courses this year can be processed and membership fees for 2015 need to be paid before **re-enrolments** in courses in 2015.*



MUSIC NOTES

Final Concert Dates for 2014 – Please note them in your diary

Sunday October 5: Nine Wind players from the Orchestra, 12.45pm, Deakin Edge Concert Hall, Federation Square (as part of Carnival of Learning, Seniors' Week).

Monday October 6: U3A Mixed Choirs, 2.00pm, Melbourne Town Hall.

Sunday October 19: U3A Hawthorn Orchestra, 2.30pm, Camberwell Grammar School, Mont Albert Road.

Sunday, November 23: Choir, 2.30pm, Mary MacKillop Centre, enter off Havelock Road, Hawthorn.

The U3A Hawthorn Choir has enjoyed a very satisfying and productive first half year and we look forward to new challenges. On May 13, about 15 choristers entertained the residents of the Eva Tilley Aged Care facility in North Balwyn, presenting a range of pieces from our repertoire. Our own mid-year concert was held on Sunday June 22, in the Parkview Room at the Camberwell Civic Centre, with a mixed program of folk songs, old favourites and sacred and contemporary music. Talented young violinist, Bronte Potter, was guest artist, accompanied by her mother on piano. The audience was most appreciative, and choir members wish to thank our dedicated and inspiring Musical Director, Meredith Vincent, and our dazzling accompanists, Judith Chipman and Valerie Judges, for their hard work in what they have enabled us to achieve this year.

On August 28 we will be singing at Trinity Manor Aged Care in Balwyn, and on Monday, October 6, in Seniors' Week, choir members will join with many others from U3A choirs across Victoria – as we did two years ago – to present a free afternoon concert in the Melbourne Town Hall. That is a date to put in your diaries, as is the choir's own end-of-year concert on Sunday November 23 at 2.30 in the Mary MacKillop Centre, with audience participation and refreshments to follow. We hope to see many U3A members and families there.

Bev Rangott
Choir Manager

The U3A Hawthorn Orchestra has just concluded a pair of successful concerts, starting with our first performance at MLC on July 27, followed a few days later by an adventurous and enjoyable visit to Healesville, presenting an abridged version of the concert in their wonderful Performing Arts Centre – the "Memo", the former Memorial Hall. Our conductor Willem van der Vis was in fine form, and

the highlight in both concerts was the playing of our soloist, the young cellist Jack Bailey – a name to look out for in the future.

To end our busy year, the final concert for the year will be a return on October 19 to Camberwell Grammar School with Jules Cseszkó as conductor and music by Rossini, Delibes and Haydn plus another young soloist Aaron Klein presenting Weber's 1st Concerto for clarinet. As in previous years we are following this with a school visit, again to St Roch's Primary school, Glen Iris, where we were made so welcome last year.

Shortly before this concert, nine of our wind players will perform Gounod's Petite Symphonie on the stage of the Deakin Edge hall in Federation Square during the lunch hour, 12.45-1.15, as part of Seniors' Week on Sunday October 5. We are pleased for the opportunity to show some of our musical talents on that day, joining with U3A Hawthorn's other activities on display along the riverside. There are no plans at this stage for any further end of the year music, but one never knows – watch this space!

Ruth Muir
Orchestra Manager



OBITUARY

Vale Paul Rapoport

Paul Rapoport died in June. He came to Melbourne from Poland in the 1930s and until his retirement he conducted various small businesses. During the 1990s and 2000s he was one of the best known members of Hawthorn U3A and he prided himself on attending sessions almost every day. These included Current Affairs and Indigenous Issues.

Paul was ideologically Marxist and he was well known for his left-wing approach to most issues. In order to present his own point of view he took on the leadership of his own Economics Class for many years. His late wife Celine also assisted in a French Conversation Group at Hawthorn. They are survived by two daughters.

Ron Taft

NEWSLETTER COPY DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the December Newsletter is Wednesday, November 5 2014. Please send all copy to the Office.

OFFICE HOURS

9.30am – 4pm Monday to Friday

PRESENTING TO A CLASS

If you are intending to make a class presentation using a laptop there are a few things you should know as you prepare.

First, our data projectors have cables [RGB] which will connect to Windows-based laptops. If you have an Apple product, including iPad, you will need to supply your own cable with RGB connector. This is because of the large number of different video interfaces across the Apple range.

Secondly, if you are intending to use internet access you will need to obtain a wi-fi password at the Office. You should also note that it is unlikely that you will currently be able to access the wi-fi network from the North Room due to the distance from the Office. NB: This service should not be used by class members for personal email or browsing as there is only a small capacity and such use may interfere with class presentations.

Thirdly, please note that our wi-fi is not broadband. If you intend showing a YouTube video or are streaming other video/audio media it is likely that you will have constant buffering (pauses whilst more content is downloaded). As this can be very disruptive it is recommended that you download such content to your laptop or USB device at home and play it directly from the laptop. If you don't know how to do this please seek help well in advance of your presentation date.

The final point to consider is that you should arrange a 'dry run' of your presentation so that connection issues can be overcome, you can familiarise yourself with use of the data projector and can plan the room layout for comfortable viewing by the class.

We recognise that there are limitations with our current buildings, network and equipment and we intend to address these as part of the campus refurbishment.

PARKING IN SINCLAIR AVE & ENVIRONS

Boroondara Council is currently in discussion with residents from streets surrounding our Sinclair Ave Campus about parking issues. As most street parking is by members of our U3A this is of concern to the Management Committee.

Residents have requested Council to implement parking restrictions to alleviate problems they have accessing their homes and the inconvenience garbage trucks experience in clearing their bins. This is due to cars parking too close to gateways and on rubbish days, against the bins placed on the nature strips. In addition trucks have difficulty

moving through the streets because cars are parked on both sides of the road and on the bends in positions where they narrow the space available for traffic to pass through.

The Management Committee has previously requested members to take care where they park so that the inconvenience is minimised and we maintain good neighbourly relations with residents.

We now face a situation where parking restrictions could make it difficult to access our classes.

We again request that you park in the car park and only use the street when it is fully occupied. Then when you do have to park in the street **ONLY PARK ON THE SIDE OF THE STREET OPPOSITE THE HOUSES** so that residents can access their houses and their bins can be emptied unimpeded by our cars.

We ask that you observe this request EVERY day not just garbage clearance days.

Remember it is our policy to be good neighbours.

SITUATIONS VACANT

We have vacancies on some of our teams. We would like to hear from members who would be willing to assist in the following areas:

Reception - basic computer skills needed and a willingness to learn new skills!

Working Bee participants - we need to tidy up the shed and re-organise the contents

Providore - to keep up supplies in the kitchen

Room Manager - to assist in keeping one of our rooms tidy and equipment in place

Day Manager - various tasks, not onerous on one day of the week

If you are able to assist please contact Stefanie Sowerby through the Office.

LOST PROPERTY

The Lost Property Box in the Office is overflowing. If you have left something on campus it may be in the box. Please have a look before September 12. After that date all items will be removed and taken to an Op Shop.



For bookings please telephone the U3A office
For further queries please contact:
Joan Harding 98133974 or 0408366987 or Colette Flynn 98826097

BOOKING POLICY

All tours payable at the time of placing reservation. Bookings close two weeks prior to the event.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations 14 days or less prior to the scheduled departure time = no refund due.

Tuesday September 16 2014
TOUR OF KEW CEMETERY

Time: 2.00pm

Cost: \$15

Meet: Main Gate, High Street Kew
Melway reference 45 F5

Boroondara General Cemetery, often referred to as the Kew Cemetery is one of the oldest in Victoria. Established in 1859, with an area of 12.5 hectares (3 ½ acres) it contains, remarkably, 75 000 graves. Amongst these are the graves of many prominent persons and a few rogues also! Our guide will impart many fascinating stories of the lives of those who now rest there.

Thursday October 9 2014
DISCOVER DAYLESFORD WALK

(Led by Norm Fary – fellow U3A member)

Cost: Free, however, transport and refreshments at own expense

Public transport:

Train: Depart Southern Cross railway station, 7.42 am bound for Woodend

Bus: Connecting bus from Woodend to Daylesford

Return bus leaves Daylesford at 2.45 pm or 5.15 pm, with connecting train services at Woodend to Southern Cross station.

Note: Check train/bus schedules prior to travel. For those intending to drive, please reconfirm meeting point in Daylesford (circa 10am).

Daylesford has long been a holiday town famous for its spa and its botanical gardens. The main street, Vincent Street, is quaint, Victorian, and elegant with interesting shops and eateries. The old convent is now an art gallery and well worth a visit just to see the beautiful building.

Thursday November 20 2014
SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE NEW COMMEMORATIVE GALLERIES

Time: 11:00am

Cost: Free guided tour

Meet: Ground entrance, Shrine Reception

Post tour: Refreshments at the Observatory Café located across the road in the Royal Botanic Gardens (own expense)

Much has been happening at The Shrine after construction and extension of space for the Galleries of Remembrance under the Shrine building. We shall also view the exceptional exhibition, Victorians at War, encompassing pre-Federation battles to the Afghanistan war. The Galleries costing \$45 million house artefacts, display peace-keeping operations and will be Victoria's lasting contribution to the four year ANZAC centenary.

