

U3A HAWTHORN SUMMER SCHOOL 2018
Wednesday 3 January to Thursday 25 January 2018
Venue: Hall, Sinclair Avenue Campus

The U3A Hawthorn Summer School 2018 will run over three weeks from Wednesday 3 January to Thursday 25 January 2017. Two sessions (one morning, one afternoon) will be provided each weekday. Morning start time is 10.30am and afternoon start time is 1.30pm (except for Bridge). Most sessions are 1.5 hours in length, but there are some longer sessions – please check the timetable.

The Summer School is free, but is available only to **Members of U3A Hawthorn who have paid their 2018 membership fee.**

Please register for the sessions of your choice. This is important for our planning and it enables us to contact you if a session has to be cancelled due to an unforeseen event such as illness of the speaker. You can register at the U3A Hawthorn website www.u3ahawthorn.org.au/members. The sessions are listed under the code SUM (Summer School). Tick the sessions you wish to attend and then confirm and then finalise your selections. You may also use the paper Registration Form provided but we urge you to register online as this saves an enormous amount of volunteer time.

See **Timetable** for the list of sessions, dates and times, and **Topics** for more detail about each session.

Please assist us by registering, and then attending, sessions. It is very disappointing for speakers and organisers when members who register fail to attend. It is not possible to phone the office to advise of absence during the Summer School as the Office is operating on restricted hours throughout January.

NO PHONE BOOKINGS WILL BE ACCEPTED

TIMETABLE & TOPIC DETAIL
WEEK 1 3 - 5 January

The Wonderful World of Ants

Wednesday 3 January

Dr James Keipert
10.30 – 12noon

My interest in ants was stimulated by many fascinating observations of ants in our garden, surrounding streets and further afield, revealing the amazing antics, performance and endurance of ants. Further reading showed ants first evolved about 100 million years ago. Their social behaviour is the most evolved in the insect world. They have developed and diversified enormously into complex superorganisms, and it appears that the progress of human evolution has largely taken by the ants in much earlier times, and their collective decision-making has many similarities with our democratic process.

Working on Mallee Country

Wednesday 3 January

Em Prof Richard Broome
1.30 - 3pm

This lecture examines work in Aboriginal society as a way of understanding connection to country and of exploding the mythologies surrounding Aboriginal attitudes to work. It begins by exploring Aboriginal work and use of Mallee country along the Murray River and back country in traditional times. It then examines in the period after the invasion, the place of Aboriginal workers on the Mallee pastoral frontier and those on Ebenezer Mission, and how attachments to country were sustained in the twentieth century.

Defending Australia – a key Indigenous role in World War II

Thursday 4 January

Assoc Prof Graham Pratt
10.30 – 12 noon

This is a little known but important chapter in the role played by indigenous soldiers in the 1941-1942 period. Following the entry of Japan into the war in December 1941 Australia soon came under threat. The northern coasts of Australia were virtually undefended. A key role in this period was played by the indigenous unit known as the Northern Territory Special Reconnaissance Unit (NTSRU). The role of this unit was to watch the coasts of Eastern Arnhem Land, an area where Japanese fishermen had been active in the 1930s'. If enemy landings were to occur the unit would then become an active guerrilla force. The NTSRU filled an important gap until the main Army forces could be moved north. The unit was disbanded once the war moved north well away from Australia.

Walk a Mile in my Shoes: using new technology to tell old stories

Thursday 4 January

Prof J Farmer, Dr H Davis & Tracy de Cotta
1.30 – 3pm

Despite our modern lifestyles, there are individuals and communities who are socially and technologically disadvantaged. This includes people excluded due to place or location, such as people who are housebound, transient or refugees, socially isolated or living in rural or remote communities. Regardless of where we live, or how long we have lived there, we all have a story to tell about our lived experiences. New technologies offer enormous potential for people from all walks of life to capture, shape and share these stories with others in their local community and beyond. This interactive presentation will discuss where and why digital disadvantage exists

in modern day Australia. We will explore some ways in which digital technology might help. We showcase a range of new technologies, including social media, websites, digital stories and mobile mapping. We show how new technologies can be quickly and easily managed by seniors and others, to capture, shape and share a 'walk in your shoes'. By the end of this presentation attendees will be able to record and share their own experiences of place in short, engaging digital stories. We ask attendees bring their mobile phone or tablet, if they have one.

Modern Japanese History Part 1 - Political chaos in the 16C

Wolfe Sharp

Friday 5 January

10.30am – 12.30pm

A series of 4 lectures covering Japan from the 15th century onwards and which include the dictatorship of Toyotomi Hideyoshi, the Tokugawa Shogunate, the Meiji Restoration and the emergence of Japan as a modern industrialised nation.

In the 16C Japan had endured 100 years of civil war as feudal lords fought for dominance. Three figures were seminal in uniting the country, leading to the establishment of the Tokugawa Shogunate.

Summer Mahjong (limited to 24 players)

Ferida Felstead & Janina Noga

Friday 5 January

WEST ROOM

10.30 – 12.30

For experienced western style Mahjong players – Bookings are essential.

Captain Cook would have loved an iPhone

Dr Anthony Ash

Friday 5 January

1.30 – 3.00pm

This is no history lesson, more an exploration of the amazing progress in communications from about the time of Captain Cook. Progress was more than just technological but the liberation of mathematics upon which modern systems depend. (Please don't panic, there will be no logarithms), but it might surprise you to know a mathematical trick from the time of Euclid helps keep you safe on the internet today. It's hard to imagine coping without a smart phone or still having to watch TV on a 1950's 'Box' with a 17 inch screen. Or waiting for a telegram, or having to book an international phone call and talk for only three minutes. How things have changed! And thank heavens they have changed. We pick up a mobile phone, type in a number and in moments we are talking to a friend who might be next door or almost anywhere in the world- amazing stuff. Let me tell you a little of how all this came about.

WEEK 2 8 - 12 January

Reading the Graeco-Roman City

Dr Nick Vlahogiannis

Monday 8 January

10.30am – 12 noon

In the Graeco-Roman world, the city marked being civilised. It was the focal point of every citizen: where one lived, worked, and asserted one's identity. The city was also a political statement, irrespective of whether it was an independent Greek city-state or a provincial town in the Roman Empire. As such, this illustrated lecture will begin with a survey of the Graeco-Roman city and then, using Ephesus (near modern Selçuk on the west coast of Turkey) as a case study, we will walk the length of the ancient city, to examine how Ephesus changed under successive administrations and cultures, and what these changes meant to the population of Ephesus.

Summer Bridge (10 tables only - 40 participants)

Claus Gyrn

Monday 8 January

1 – 4pm

For experienced Bridge players – must have a partner – no single players - **bookings are essential.**

The Two Frank Thrings

Hon Prof Peter Fitzpatrick

Tuesday 9 January

10.30 – 12noon

The subjects of this talk are two men whose lives and sometimes spectacular careers spanned almost a century of film and theatre in Australia - Frank Thring the father (1882-1936) and Frank Thring the son (1926-1994). A father and son could hardly be more different - in their priorities, in their temperaments, in their styles of self-presentation, in the ways they saw themselves in relation to the Australian culture of their time. Or were they so very different, after all? This talk will review the lives of both Franks, and the particular challenges faced in depicting them.

The NBN: what it is, how it came about & where it is going

Assoc Prof Phillip Branch

Tuesday 9 January

1.30 – 3pm

The National Broadband Network was envisaged as a replacement for Australia's aging copper network that would provide sufficient communications capacity for new as well as existing services well into the future. The intention of the NBN was to replace most of the copper network with optic fibre and, where population densities are very low, by wireless. However, following the change of government in 2013 a "multi-technology mix" was adopted where end users would be serviced by a mix of copper, optic fibre, hybrid fibre-coaxial, satellite and fixed wireless networks. This talk will discuss the history of the NBN and its possible future, the different technology options NBNCo faced and the positives and negatives associated with the decisions made.

BirdLife - preserving the future of birds

Janet Hand

Wednesday 10 January

10.30 – 12noon

Janet will give a brief history of BirdLife and discuss the research works and surveys that contribute to the future of our birds. She will refer to the various websites that help with locating birds. Hints will be given on how to identify different bird populations and you will be shown many of the local birds that live around Hawthorn.

30 years of the Johnston Collection

Wednesday 10 January

Louis Le Vaillant

1.30 – 3pm

This presentation will focus on the life, collection and legacy of William Johnston (1911- 1986), benefactor of Melbourne's multi-award winning The Johnston Collection. After celebrating being open to the public for over 25 years, it seems fitting to revisit the origin of Fairhall, the exhibition-house. Learn about the life and career of William Johnston and discover aspects of his collecting interests. You will also be introduced to some of the many artists and curators who have imagined their own stories in his former house, Fairhall and how it continues to change and renew over time.

History – a Jewish Perspective

Thursday 11 January

Rabbi Gersh Lazarow

10.30 – 12noon

Summer Mahjong (limited to 24 players)

Friday 12 January

WEST ROOM

Ferida Felstead & Janina Noga

10.30 – 12.30

For experienced western style Mahjong players – Bookings are essential.

Growing up as a Muslim woman

Thursday 11 January

Sherene Hassan

1.30 – 3pm

Sherene will be talking about her journey growing up as a Muslim woman. She will then touch upon beliefs and practices of Muslims and address current issues pertaining to Islam and Muslims. There will be ample time to answer questions from the audience.

The Melbourne Athenaeum Library

Friday 12 January

Sue Westwood

10.30 - 12noon

There are two aspects to the Melbourne Athenaeum that have been constant during its 175 year history. It has operated as a library and it has always been self-funded. Historically, why did Mechanics' Institutes flourish in Australia generally and Victoria in particular? This presentation examines the history of Melbourne through its oldest library, founded in 1839.

Summer Mahjong (limited to 24 players)

Friday 12 January

WEST ROOM

Ferida Felstead & Janina Noga

10.30 – 12.30

For experienced western style Mahjong players – Bookings are essential.

Modern Japanese History Part 2 - The Tokugawa Shogunate (1603 – 1868)

Friday 12 January

Wolfe Sharp

1.30 – 3.30pm

The Edo (Tokyo) Period of Japanese History witnessed an era of peace and stability which lasted for almost 250 years under the rule of Shoguns. The stability of the State was paramount.

WEEK 3 15 – 19 January

The Aftermath of Military Conflict in the Middle East: Personal perspectives as an Australian Army peacekeeper and peacemaker.

Monday 15 January

Steve Meekin

10.30 – 12noon

The presentation will draw on personal experience of three deployments to the Middle East: two under UN auspices in the Sinai, 1982-1983, and the Iran/Iraq war ceasefire, 1988-1989, and one involving the search for Saddam Hussein's weapon systems in 2003. The presentation will cover the strategic considerations leading to the creation of each mission, the roles of the military forces in each operation, the Australian contribution and some personal perspectives as a participant.

Summer Bridge (10 tables only - 40participants)

Monday 15 January

Claus Gyrn

1 – 4pm

For experienced Bridge players – must have a partner – no single players - **bookings are essential.**

How I learnt to stop worrying and trust the Australian Intelligence Community

Tuesday 16 January

Ian McKenzie

10.30 – 12noon

The talk will be divided into two parts. First: a baseline introduction on intelligence, including the Australian agencies, functions, governance and relevant legislation. Second: briefing and discussion on current public issues such as surveillance vs privacy, media handling and accountability.

The Spanish Difference

Tuesday 16 January

Christopher Wood

1.30 – 3pm

This illustrated talk explores Spanish history, art and architecture to discover how and why Spanish culture, with its myriad gestures, painted sculpture, powerful folk tradition flamenco music and dance, distinctive cuisine and costume and bull fights is so different from its Western European neighbours. Chris Wood is the founder and a

director of Australians Studying Abroad. He has published books and many articles on history, architectural history and cultural tourism, narrated documentary films and appeared many times on ABC radio; his photographs are published in some 300 books. Over the years Chris has led hundreds of ASA tours.

Australian Garden Designers of the 21st Century

Wednesday 17 January

Dr Anne Vale
10.30 -12 noon

Science, architecture or the arts are just some of the paths taken by influential Australian Garden designers. Collectively they have a wealth of expertise, passion and individual vision for garden making in Australia. They include: Arno King, Fiona Brockhoff, Grady Brand, Paul Bangay, Myles Baldwin, Janine Mendel, Andrew Laidlaw, Phillip Johnson, Kate Cullity, Jim Fogarty and Michael Bligh. Collectively they have a wealth of expertise, passion and individual vision for garden making in Australia. What influenced their design ideas and how they have expressed their own philosophies?

The richest lands of all Mare Nostrum: Berbers, Carthaginians, Romans and Greeks in North Africa

Wednesday 17 January

Iain Shearer
1.30 – 3pm

Focusing on modern Algeria, this illustrated lecture will examine the gloriously rich history of the peoples who inhabited this land prior to the arrival of Islam. Heroes and antiheroes, from Massinissa and Pompey, Dido and Aeneas, to Julius Caesar and Cleopatra Selene, will all figure large in our examination of the region. Indigenous Berber kingdoms fought with Carthaginians and Romans alike, before being subsumed into Augustus' Imperium. 400 years of peace and prosperity, built on the back of an incredibly fertile agricultural landscape, has left behind some of the most spectacular and complete examples of Roman towns and cities. We will look at the writings, myths, and stories used by conquerors and conquered alike to define their own history, from tragic Sophonisba to St. Augustine.

The Golden People: Bulgarians and Thracians

Thursday 18 January

Iain Shearer
10.30 - 12noon

This illustrated lecture will examine the history of the many peoples who once inhabited the landscapes of modern Bulgaria. From the extraordinary Varna treasure, a hoard of the oldest worked gold found anywhere in the world, dating to the 5th millennium BCE, to the visually stunning frescoed burial mounds of Thracian kings, contemporaries of Alexander The Great, the rich lands of Bulgaria have supported human civilisation since ancient Europeans first built villages and towns. We will explore the myriad of cultures who made this land of fertile plains, green mountains, and great rivers, their home in the last 7000 years. From Orpheus to Spartacus, Justinian to Stalin, all have defined the history and people of 'Golden Thrace'.

Port Phillip Bay Steam Excursion Ferries

Thursday 18 January

Bruce Gooley
1.30 – 3pm

Each year Bruce Gooley presents a series on maritime history. In this session he will look at the wonderful era of steam ferries in Port Phillip Bay.

A Musical Journey of Exuberance

Friday 19 January

Peter Hardham
10.30 - 12noon

A look at the lives and music of "Little Richard and Etta James". Following Peter Hardham's popular presentation of "The History of Blues Music", at the last Summer School, and in the midst of a world of doom, and gloom, Peter is proposing to take you on a Musical Journey of Exuberance, by examining the extraordinary lives and creativity of the legendary Little Richard and Etta James, blues, rock and gospel musicians of the 50s, 60s and 70s, whose legacy lingers on today, and whose work has influenced many other musicians, including the Beatles and The Rolling Stones. Their music combines the great fusion of African Rhythm and European Melody. Peter will be assisted by his colleague, and radio presenter, the redoubtable "Max Crawdaddy".

Summer Mahjong (limited to 24 players)

Friday 19 January

WEST ROOM

Ferida Felstead & Janina Noga
10.30 – 12.30

For experienced western style Mahjong players – Bookings are essential.

Modern Japanese History Part 3 - The Meiji Period (1868 – 1912)

Friday 20 January

Wolfe Sharp
1.30 – 3.30pm

After two centuries of political stability the rule of the Tokugawa Shogunate began to unravel under pressure from intellectual forces and the impact of the West. After the Meiji Restoration, modernization occurred at a frenetic pace as Japan moved rapidly from a medieval state to a modern industrial society.

WEEK 4 22 – 25 January

Summer Bridge (10 tables only - 40 participants)

Monday 22 January

Claus Gyrn
9.30 – 12.30

For experienced Bridge players – must have a partner – no single players - **bookings are essential.**

When Human Beings are like drunk robots: driverless vehicles, ethics & the future of transport Prof Robert Sparrow
Monday 22 January 1.30 – 3.00pm

It is often argued that driverless vehicles will save lives. In this lecture, I treat the ethical case for driverless vehicles seriously and show that it has radical implications for the future of transport. After briefly discussing the current state of driverless vehicle technology, I suggest that systems that rely upon human supervision are likely to be dangerous when used by ordinary people in real-world driving conditions and are unlikely to satisfy the desires of consumers. I then argue that the invention of fully autonomous vehicles that pose a lower risk to third parties than human drivers will establish a compelling case against the moral permissibility of manual driving. As long as driverless vehicles aren't safer than human drivers, it will be unethical to sell them. Once they are safer than human drivers when it comes to risks to 3rd parties, then it should be illegal to drive them: at that point human drivers will be the moral equivalent of drunk robots. I also describe two plausible mechanisms whereby this ethical argument may generate political pressure to have it reflected in legislation. Freeing people from the necessity of driving, though, will transform the relationship people have with their cars, which will in turn open up new possibilities for the transport uses of the automobile. The ethical challenge posed by driverless vehicles for transport policy is therefore to ensure that the most socially and environmentally beneficial of these possibilities is realised. I highlight several key policy choices that will determine how likely it is that this challenge will be met.

Cosmology – how a tiny species on a little planet has measured the universe Assoc Prof Alan Duffy
Tuesday 23 January 10.30 – 12noon

In the last century humanity has undergone a revolution in our understanding of our place in the Universe. Alan Duffy will explore the techniques and tests that have lead us to the astounding realisation that most of the Universe is both invisible and unknown to us, yet so precisely measured we can confidently predict how the entire Universe will end.

From concrete to technological prisons Prof Mirko Bagaric
Tuesday 23 January 1.30 – 3pm

As governments plan to spend more on building (expensive) bricks-and-mortar prisons to house an increasing number of offenders, there are other more modern technological alternatives that Professor Mirko Bagaric, an internationally renowned expert in punishment and sentencing, will explain to us.

Current issues in State Politics John Pesutto MP
Wednesday 24 January 10.30 - 12noon

Local member John Pesutto MLA will discuss some of the current issues in State Politics.

Early Films of Melbourne Chris Long
Wednesday 24 January 1.30 -3pm

Since the birth of film production in Australia in 1896, documentaries and newsreels have been the staple of local film production, which mostly served as supporting material for imported feature films. Local feature film productions - only a tiny proportion of the local films produced – have received more than their fair share of study, while the documentaries have mostly been ignored. Chris has selected several films of early Melbourne to show the varying ways in which the city was portrayed by pioneering film makers;

- The 1896 Melbourne Cup
- Marvellous Melbourne, Queen City of the South (1910)
- Melbourne Today (1931)
- Melbourne (1929 – 1934)
- Robert A Juckert's Home Movies (1928 – 1930)

Modern Japanese History Part 4 - Later Meiji and Taisho Periods: (1890 – 1920s) Wolfe Sharp
Thursday 25 January 10.30 – 12.30

With modernization and industrialization Japan strove for equality of status among the nations of the world. Ambitions of Empire soon followed after Japan defeated China (1894-5) and Russia (1905) in successive wars to establish its credentials as a leading power in the Far East. It ultimately led to the “Dark Valley” of Japanese History.

Energy Freedom: lower energy bills and increased comfort Beyond Zero Emissions
Thursday 25 January 1.30 -3pm

This presentation will outline an approach to home energy that looks at efficiency and solar together. It is a nine-step approach to making existing homes cost much less to run and be much more comfortable during extremes of hot and cold weather. The talk will address issues including: what's better for heating - electricity or gas? how to prioritise home improvements related to energy? what are the economics of solar panels? is double glazing worth it? does it make sense to get a battery or go off-grid?