



U3A HAWTHORN NEWS

Official Newsletter of Third Age Learning (Hawthorn) Inc.

Reg No A0010798X, ABN 41360939238

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

During my Presidential address to the AGM, I tried to impress on those present that the seamless facilities that they enjoy at Hawthorn U3A **do not just happen**. During my year as President I became painfully aware of my ignorance of the energetic paddling that goes on under the calm water on which float more than 90 classes that run quite smoothly throughout the year. It is a small group of dedicated people, the Curriculum Planning Committee assisted by our Course Coordinator Joan Donlon, who choose subjects, find tutors, arrange the timetable and hire off-site premises for a number of classes because, despite these splendid facilities these three rooms are almost fully occupied during our year. **It does not just happen**.

The courses run by our tutors **do not just happen**. They spend many hours in the preparation of their material and expend considerable energy in its presentation.

And then there is the Summer School. I include the magnificently successful 2009 Summer School because it was planned in 2008. The School ran from the 5 to 30 January 2009 during Melbourne's hottest four weeks on record. A record number of members, 1745, enrolled for the 59 lectures on offer. I will leave it to your imagination to envisage the work involved in arranging topics, lecturers, enrolling those who attended, arranging class lists, purchasing and setting up this room with the right sound equipment, a new screen and the variety of other pieces of electronics required by the lecturers. These ranged from projectors for film, overhead projectors, a projector for power point presentations, a projector for photographic slides, a CD player and videos. And all of these had to be ready and in working order for the differing demands of the lecturers. **It does not just happen**. Bruce Lancashire was in attendance every day to make sure that all this equipment functioned as it should and Peter Anderson was at hand to assist generally in the running of the school. I must mention Joan Harding who stepped in as organizer when planning was just under way. Joan was ably supported by the other members of her Committee Paddy Wagstaff, Colette Flynn, Julianne Lewis, Elizabeth Walker, and Graham Barber. **It did not just happen**.

The three concerts performed by our orchestra in the Hawthorn Town Hall and the two concerts by our choir **didn't just happen**. Many hours of rehearsal and organisation are put in to achieve these popular and enjoyable performances. Ruth Muir devotes her tireless energy to organising these activities.

We used a special purpose grant of \$3,500 through the U3A Network to promote existing and new programmes. We used these funds to pay for a series of advertisements in the *Progress Press* to encourage its readers to attend the well known speakers who were to address Peter Isaacson's Current Affairs group. Peter is to be congratulated on the calibre of speaker that he was able to engage. On most of these occasions we had difficulty in accommodating all those who turned up. Our main hall can seat over 100 and it was full.

On Sunday 5 October we participated in the U3A Carnival of Learning in Federation Square that was held as part of Senior's Week. Again Ruth Muir carried the load of organising the activities conducted by Hawthorn throughout the day.

Twelve members attended a course run by a St John Ambulance instructor at our premises on 10 December and were trained to administer CPR. It was paid for from our funds. Fortunately it has not been necessary to call on their services.

Our end of year party was again celebrated in the Hawthorn Town Hall. We were put in a Christmas mood by our choir, which performed with its usual élan, so that we thoroughly enjoyed the occasion and the food and other refreshments provided by our Catering Committee and its many helpers.

We have now settled firmly into our premises at Sinclair Avenue. We are grateful to the Council of Boroondara for allowing us the use of these premises and for the many comforts provided by the Council at considerable expense, all at no charge to us. Probably the facilities that are most appreciated are the air conditioning systems and the marvellous kitchen.

There are so many people to thank for their work during the year, all the members of the committee, but foremost our Secretary Peter Anderson whose devotion to the cause is quite outstanding. He is closely followed by a number of others, Bruce Lancashire for his electronic expertise and for running our website, Mary Considine for managing the roster of receptionists and for instructing her group in handling our new EFTPOS machine, Mavis Hoy for her work in producing the Newsletter and our Treasurer Peter Merigan, who keeps our books in immaculate order.

Rod Benjamin

U3A HAWTHORN OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 4 pm

NEW TUTORS NEEDED

We are totally reliant on volunteer tutors to present a comprehensive and interesting program of classes for our membership. If you have an interest in a particular subject and you are prepared to share your knowledge (or if you know someone else in this position) we would like to hear from you. Please contact the Curriculum Committee (care of the Office) and one of them will get back to you, with a view to including the course in our program.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Technically minded people to occasionally help with audiovisual equipment for specific classes and to teach other members the ropes.

If you can help please contact the office on 9821 0282.

EMAIL ADDRESSES AND WEBSITE

In order to make more use of email for U3A Hawthorn communications **it is essential that you notify any changes in your email address by sending an email to the U3A Hawthorn office at:**

mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au

indicating your email contact details. **Please include in the email your name(s) and U3A ID number(s).**

Our website **http://www.u3ahawthorn.org.au**

The website is fully functional. All courses, forms, and newsletters are available to download.

OFFER OF ASSISTANCE

Are you familiar with our website? Are you confident with internet browsing and emails? Is your PC doing what you want it to do? If not and you'd like a helping hand, our Webmaster, Bruce Lancashire, has offered to assist members wherever possible. You can either email him direct to webmaster@u3ahawthorn.org.au or leave a message for him at the Office. He can then make arrangements with you.

FEES FOR 2009

Annual membership fees for 2009 are as follows:

Membership of U3A Hawthorn	\$40 single \$65 couple/two at same address
Member enrolling from another campus	\$25 (to cover administration)

Members are reminded that membership fees for 2009 must be paid before enrolments or re-enrolments in courses for 2009 can be processed.

COPIES OF PLAYS AVAILABLE

We have been given multiple copies of a number of plays by well-known playwrights (David Williamson, Arthur Miller, Henrik Ibsen, William Russell to name a few). Tutors and members are welcome to borrow these. Any queries, ring Jean Giese on 9890 2189.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR MEMBERSHIP BADGE?

Badges are normally printed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays as required. New members and those who have requested a replacement can collect the badge from the office, 26 Sinclair Avenue, Glen Iris, usually within two days of joining U3A Hawthorn or making a request for a replacement.

COPY DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the September 2009 Newsletter is 7 August 2009. Please send all copy to the Office.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 1 APRIL 2009

Our 2009 AGM was held on 1 April. There were 97 members undeterred by the date, who attended in company with Councillors Coral Ross and Dick Menting, Secretary of U3A Network Tom Potter and members of staff of the City of Boroondara. We received apologies from local members Ted Baillieu and Bob Stensholt (because Parliament was sitting) and from our Patron, Professor Ian Young.

The meeting passed a Special Resolution which, among other things, provided for the creation of the position of Vice-President. Our hard-working Web Master, Bruce Lancashire, was duly elected to that position. President Rod Benjamin, Secretary Peter Anderson and Treasurer Peter Merigan were elected unopposed. Retiring committee members Fred Bolza, Mavis Hoy, Lynne Merigan and Ruth Muir were re-elected unopposed and we were delighted to welcome Marie Hamerton and Joan Harding to the committee. Marie has been a conscientious office receptionist for some years and Joan is a member of our curriculum sub-committee, organiser of outings and played a huge role in helping organise this year's Summer School.

Rod Benjamin's Annual Report appears on the front page of this edition.

At the conclusion of the meeting we were addressed by Dr Beth Wilson, Victorian Health Services Commissioner, who entertained and informed us with amusing and serious anecdotes from her experiences in that role.

Attendees enjoyed a light luncheon at the end of formalities.

Peter Anderson, Secretary

SINCLAIR AVENUE PARKING

When using the parking area, please consider your fellow members. If using the middle of the carpark, please restrict parking to two rows and make sure there is room for cars to drive in a circle between those two rows and the cars parked around the perimeter.

Peter Anderson

CATERING SUPERVISOR

Pam Anderson has supervised our catering for the past four years. Because of injuries she sustained in a fall three months ago, she is unable to continue in that capacity and we need a replacement. No previous experience is necessary but we DO need someone to replace Pam and organise refreshments at concerts and at two or three other functions in our calendar. **Please phone Pam on 9817 5879 if you can help.**

DIRECT2CARE INFORMATION SESSION

Tuesday 23 June 2009, 11.30 am to 1.00 pm at Sinclair Avenue in the Main Hall

Direct2Care is a free advisory service that can direct you to the care services that are available to the elderly in the community.

Hawthorn U3A has been approached by the Boroondara Council to run an information morning for this new initiative funded jointly by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and the Victorian Government Department of Human Services.

The initiative is a free information service that can put you in touch with such services as: help at home with cleaning or housekeeping, help with showering or dressing, nursing services, basic home maintenance, respite services, support for carers of people with dementia, and many other services available to older persons in the community.

The meeting will be addressed by Debbie Phillips who is with the Direct2Care demonstration site in Knox. This is the first of 14 sites to be established in Australia. Debbie will speak for some 15 minutes and then will be available to answer your questions.

Would you please contact the Office and let them know of your intention to attend this free information session.

Rod Benjamin



MUSIC NOTES

Firstly, the main dates for your diaries:

Saturday, June 13	Choir concert, Chandelier Room, Hawthorn Town Hall, 2.30 pm
Thursday, August 13	Orchestral concert, Hawthorn Town Hall 10.30 am
Thursday, November 26	Orchestral concert, Hawthorn Town Hall 10.30 am

PLEASE BE SURE TO WRITE THESE DOWN NOW, AS YOU ARE OUR PRIME AUDIENCE AND PUBLICISTS, AND WE NEED YOU TO SPREAD THE WORD!

I often reflect on and rejoice in the power of music to fill all the gaps, smooth over the rough spots and delight, entertain, transfix. Certainly the music makers of U3A Hawthorn are busy experiencing these influences at the moment. By the time you read this, the Orchestra will have presented its first concert for the year, when we honoured the 200th anniversary of the death of Josef Haydn by performing an early symphony and a later cello concerto. The cello soloist was our own Faye Goldsmith, and the occasion was significant as Faye's beloved mother, Joyce, died on Easter Sunday at the age of 93. Joyce was a prominent musical identity in Melbourne, and played violin in our Orchestra for three years in her mid-80s, just prior to closing the lid on her violin case for good. Her wonderful musicianship and quirky and bold sense of humour had made her our "special pet", and we all have shared a little in Faye's loss.

Now we are planning the August concert with Willem van der Vis conducting. As usual with Willem, it will be a lively program – some Russian, some French and proudly a work by one of our members, Barry McKimm, principal trumpet in the Orchestra. His composition *Dandenong Suite* traces the evolution of a city, and each is prefaced by a poem by an Australian poet, read by another U3A member, Beverley Menzies. It is a very exciting prospect, at the moment a work in progress, which should create great interest. Definitely not to be missed!

Ruth Muir

CHOIR NOTES

The choir is currently preparing an entertaining programme for their concert to be held on Saturday 13 June at 2.30pm in the Chandelier Room at the Hawthorn Town Hall. All are welcome. Just book at the Office 9821 0282 and pay \$5 at the door.

The In Harmony group which meets on each first, third and fifth Friday in the month was very pleased to welcome Meredith Vincent this year. Meredith is a singer/accompanist and she now accompanies the group. The In Harmony singers will also present a short bracket of songs at the June concert.

WANTED URGENTLY— MALE SINGERS

We need more male singers. Please come along and join our select group of men. If you are able to read music and sing in tune we can guarantee enjoyment. We would also welcome a pianist/singer to help our two efficient accompanists, Patricia West and Ruth Muir. If you would like to join us in this capacity please contact Judy Chipman (9848 6036).

Judith Chipman

DVDs: SELF LIFE NOT SHELF LIFE

Please note that copies of the documentary DVD – "Self Life not Shelf Life" – Positive Images of Ageing, made by members of the Clunes Neighbourhood House, which is based on interviews with members of their community and incorporating scenes of our Orchestra in rehearsal, are now available for borrowing from the Office. The piece runs for 44 minutes, is cleverly edited using the Orchestra's music as background, and is insightful, inspiring and most entertaining.

Joan Harding

DATABASE MANAGER

We are very fortunate at U3A Hawthorn to have Hans van Dorssen, our Database Manager. He has personally crafted our database application – refining and adapting it to our changing needs over many years. It is central to everything we do as it manages all the information about memberships, courses, venues, tutors and, of course, class enrolments. The application is written in FileMaker Pro [for Windows] using its inbuilt scripting capabilities. Hans is looking for someone with the skills of analyst/programmer/database manager – preferably with a good working knowledge of FileMaker Pro – who would be interested in assisting, and then taking over the role of Database Manager. If you can help, please email Hans van Dorssen at hansvd@optusnet.com.au to arrange a meeting and a demonstration of our database system.

Bruce Lancashire

JIG-SAW PUZZLES

The jig-saw puzzles are now stored in the shed behind the Office. If you would like to borrow one or more puzzles, please ask me, when I am in the Office, for the key to unlock the shed.

Hans van Dorssen

MOBILE TELEPHONES

Tutors report that mobile telephones are still being used during classes both for receiving and making calls. Please (1) ensure that your telephone is switched off or to silent mode before the class commences and (2) good manners dictate that you do not answer or make any calls during the class. In an emergency, please excuse yourself from the class and make or answer the call outside the building. Thank you for your co-operation.

Members of the Management Committee

ABOUT MY AGE

About My Age (<http://www.aboutmyage.com/>) is a free national community based website for people over fifty. The website is based on the social networking concept, utilising issues and topics relating to the over 50s age group and is a forum for members to communicate and interact with each other. Currently, there are many U3A members among the thousands of members. However, *About My Age* would like to extend their services to more U3A members.

Extract from an email from About My Age Pty Ltd

REQUEST FROM U3A NETWORK

U3A Network is a small, central organisation which co-ordinates the distribution of funds from the Victorian State Government to local U3As in Victoria. They have asked us to advertise that they are in urgent need of volunteers for their Marketing and Publicity Committee. If you are available to help them, Network Office can be contacted by telephone on 9670-3659, or by email at u3anet@vicnet.net.au.

*Lynne Merigan,
Network Co-ordinator for U3A Hawthorn*

WINTER AND SPRING EXCURSIONS

For bookings please telephone the U3A office

*For further **queries**, please contact Joan Harding on 98133974 or 0408366987 or Collette Flynn on 98826097*

*Payment is due **at least 21 days** prior to tour departure unless stated otherwise.*

In case you are unable to join your tour on the morning of departure, please telephone Joan Harding prior to 9.00 am on the abovementioned mobile telephone number.

AUSTRALIAN JAZZ ARCHIVES TOUR AND JAZZ BAND

- MONDAY 20 JULY 2009 -

Attention all jazz lovers! Last year's tour was such a success that it was decided to repeat the visit. This year's exhibition features Ross Anderson's New Melbourne Jazz Band (originally the Storyville All Stars) and covers their 30 year history to present day. Included in the tour is a live jazz performance, and the visit ends with a delicious afternoon tea.

Cost: \$10 per person

Depart: Koomba Park, 15 Mountain Highway, Wantirna. Melway reference 63 C8. Plenty of parking on site.

Commencing: 1.00 pm sharp

Concluding: Approximately 3.30 pm

Transport: Own arrangements

Please direct bookings to the U3A office.

MELBOURNE WINTER MASTERPIECES SPECIAL EXHIBITION

NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA BLOCKBUSTER

SALVADOR DALI

- WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST 2009 -

This is the first collection of works drawn from two great collections: the World Museum of Florida USA, and the Fundacio Gala Salvador Dali Museum in Spain. The exhibition traces the genius of Dali from a 14 year old Impressionist painter to his paintings addressing science and physics, created as an artist in his seventies. The collection includes more than 200 works, including painting, drawing, watercolour, etchings, jewellery, sculpture, fashion, cinema and photography.

Cost: \$23 per person including an introductory talk

Time: 1.00 pm – meet at the Information Desk

Location: National Gallery of Victoria (NGV), 180 St Kilda Road, Melbourne

Transport: Own arrangements

Please direct bookings to the U3A office.

GOLDEN DRAGON CHINESE MUSEUM BENDIGO

- TUESDAY 08 SEPTEMBER 2009 -

Visit the famous Australian Chinese Cultural Centre opened in 1991 to document, interpret and preserve the Chinese heritage in Australia. From the early immigration of the Chinese to the gold fields, to the present day, you will see the beloved and longest Imperial Chinese Dragon in the world, and tour the classic Chinese gardens.

- Cost:** \$45 includes coach travel, morning tea, lunch and entrance fees
Departs: Departs from U3A Sinclair Avenue at **9.00 am sharp**
Returns: Approximately 5.00 pm
Limit: 49 participants

Cancellation penalty – no refunds.

Please direct bookings to the U3A office by Tuesday 25 August.

HISTORIC WALK IN FITZROY

- WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER -

Take a stroll through the streets of early Melbourne with Norm Fary, our own U3A Hawthorn member, to see the historic buildings of Fitzroy and hear the stories from another age. Look up; it's amazing what you will see. Pause for a coffee break to refresh on the walk.

- Cost:** Nil
Depart: **10.00 am sharp**
Location: Meet on the corner of Nicholson Street and Victoria Parade, Fitzroy – on the St Vincent's Public Hospital corner
Refreshments: Own cost
Limit: 20 participants
Duration: Approximately 2 hours – please wear comfortable walking shoes

Please direct bookings to the U3A office by Thursday 01 October.

Joan Harding

U3A HAWTHORN EVENTS

June 2009 to November 2009

(This flyer is for your refrigerator or bulletin board)

FRIDAY 12 JUNE 2009

1 PM

**TOUR OF COSTUME COLLECTION
BULLEEN**

SATURDAY 13 JUNE 2009

2.30 PM

**U3A CHOIR CONCERT
HAWTHORN TOWN HALL**

TUESDAY 23 JUNE 2009

11.30 AM - 1 PM

**DIRECT2CARE
INFORMATION SESSION
Sinclair Avenue, Main Hall**

MONDAY 20 JULY 2009

1 PM - 3.30 PM

**AUSTRALIAN JAZZ ARCHIVES
TOUR AND JAZZ BAND
Koomba Park, Wantirna**

THURSDAY 13 AUGUST 2009

10.30 AM

**ORCHESTRAL CONCERT
HAWTHORN TOWN HALL**

WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST 2009

1 PM

**NATIONAL GALLERY VICTORIA
SALVADOR DALI EXHIBITION**

TUESDAY 08 SEPTEMBER 2009

9 AM - 5 PM

**GOLDEN DRAGON CHINESE MUSEUM
BENDIGO**

WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2009

10 AM - 12 NOON

**HISTORIC WALK IN FITZROY
Corner Nicholson Street and Victoria
Parade (St Vincent's Hospital corner)**

THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2009

10.30 AM

**ORCHESTRAL CONCERT
HAWTHORN TOWN HALL**

Full details of all these events are in your Newsletter