



U3A HAWTHORN NEWS

Official Newsletter of Third Age Learning (Hawthorn) Inc. Reg. No. A0010798X

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Notice is given of the **15th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Location	Hawthorn Town Hall, 360 Burwood Road
Date	Wednesday 19 April 2000
Time	10.30 a.m.
Agenda	To receive apologies and proxies To confirm minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 14 April 1999 To receive Chairman's Report for 1999 To receive Audited Financial Statement for year ended 31 December 1999 To consider a proposed amendment to the Association's Rules [see p. 2] To elect Office Bearers and Committee Members for next twelve months To appoint an auditor for the year ending 31 December 2000 Other 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 Annual General Meeting will be followed by a talk by our guest:

Time	10.45 a.m. approximately
Speaker	The Honorable Sir Rupert Hamer, AC, KCMG, ED, Hon LLD (Melb.), LL.M
Light Lunch	Sandwich lunch at 12.00 noon
Cost	There will be no charge for this entire event.

We are very pleased to welcome Sir Rupert Hamer to talk to us about 'The Arts in Victoria' at our Annual General Meeting. We look forward to a good turnout to hear this distinguished speaker.

Once again we urge members to come by public transport, in view of the parking difficulties in the area. There is limited parking behind the Town Hall for early birds (\$2 for 4 hours) and there is a commercial car park opposite the office in Wakefield Street (\$3 all day).

As mentioned above, the light luncheon is free. However, to assist us with catering, could you please notify the office of your intention to attend **BEFORE Wednesday 12 April.**

AND DO 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 2000. Our annual rates are \$45 for a couple/two at the same address, \$25 for single membership, and \$10 for students enrolling in our courses whose U3A membership is paid at another campus.

If the label on your *Newsletter* is marked above your name with **XX**, this indicates that you have not yet paid your 2000 subscription.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

At our Annual General Meeting there will be an election of the Committee of Management for the period 2000/2001. There are up to 15 places to fill and, while it is expected that most of the present members of the Committee of Management will offer themselves for re-election, new nominations are very welcome. Nomination forms are available in the office, and completed forms should be lodged with the Secretary at least seven days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting, i.e. by Wednesday 12 April 2000. If there are more than 15 nominations for the Committee, a ballot paper will be issued at the Annual General Meeting on 19 April.

Proxy voting forms are also available from the office (see p. 1). Completed forms must be deposited with the Secretary by Tuesday 18 April 2000.

Please note that Temporary Members approved by the Committee under Rule 5(3) are ineligible to hold office in the Association or to vote at meetings of the Association.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES OF OUR CONSTITUTION

~~At the last Annual General Meeting, Rule 19 of our Constitution was amended to reflect the wording in the Tax Department's Tax Pack. The Taxation Office later advised us that the new rule should be amended to state that, on our winding up, any surplus funds are to go to another tax-exempt organisation. Accordingly it is now proposed to amend Rule 19 by adding the words: 'and which is exempt from income tax' at the end of the first sentence. The clause would thus read:~~

19 In the event of the Association being dissolved, the amount which remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be paid and applied by the Association in accordance with its powers to any organisation which has similar objects and which has rules prohibiting the distribution of its assets and income to its members *and which is exempt from income tax*. Such organisation shall be determined by the members of this Association at or before the time of dissolution and in default thereof by such judge or magistrate as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter.

OFFICE CLOSURE

From 5 April the office will be closed on Wednesday afternoons. There has been difficulty in finding volunteers who are prepared to commit themselves on a regular basis for this day and, as it is not a particularly busy day (after the first few months) it has been decided to make this decision. NAN DURANCE has willingly committed herself to attend on Wednesday mornings from approximately 9.30 to 12.30.

We ask all members please to ensure they do not call into or ring the office on Wednesday afternoons, as we do not want unnecessarily to inconvenience the HCEP personnel, who already have enough of their own responsibilities on this afternoon.

SATURDAY SERIES OF LECTURES

These lectures will continue throughout 2000 on the last Saturday of each month from March to November. Details of the three lectures for March, April and May are on the accompanying sheet.

The lectures will follow the 1999 format and will be held in the TAFE lecture theatre TD 121, which can accommodate 100 people. Members may bring only one visitor each with them.

The booking arrangements are being changed to try to reduce the incidence of members booking and then forgetting to turn up on the day. As a trial, bookings will be accepted only during the month of the lecture, i.e. the April lecture can be booked only in April, not before.

There will be no possibility of turning up without a booking (including the name of any guest) and as usual it will be a case of first up, best dressed, SO PLEASE GET YOUR BOOKING IN EARLY in the month and keep a record of it.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT ON 1999

Reporting time is with us again and I am pleased to offer an account of our activities to our members.

COURSES

There was an increase in the number of courses on offer, with 75 ongoing and 38 short courses. As a result there were approximately 81 classes operating at any given time. In addition, the popular monthly lectures were held on Saturday afternoons, catering for 100, as well as the Summer School series of lectures in January and early February. We are grateful, as always, to our tutors and to those who administer such a large programme.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership went well past the 1000 mark during the year but, with the usual number not renewing because of illness, death or moving from the area, the membership remains around 1000. Eighty-five members of other campuses were also accommodated in our classes.

G S T

None of us has escaped the publicity and speculation concerning the GST which starts on 1 July. Your Committee has investigated the likely impact on our operations. It seems that our best option will be to take advantage of the fact that we do not need to register as 'providers of taxable supplies'. This means that we will neither have to collect the GST on our subscriptions and other receipts, nor provide regular reports to the Australian Taxation Office. However, we will have to pay the tax on our purchases, including some venue rents, and we lose our current exemption from sales tax (of around 25%) on paper, office supplies and equipment. The effect on our costs looks to be such that, for the first time in six years, our basic \$25 subscription will almost certainly have to be increased in 2001.

In addition, it is noted that organisations such as ours are required to have their income-tax-exempt status 'endorsed' or reviewed. Steps have been taken to initiate this process.

VENUES

Fifteen different halls and rooms throughout Boroondara were hired for classes at a total cost

of \$13,900. Boroondara Council made a room available at two libraries for several weekly classes, free of charge. Swinburne University likewise allowed the use of a lecture theatre for the Saturday Series and Summer School, and many classes were held in tutors' homes. All other classes were held at our Wakefield Street headquarters, owned by Swinburne University.

SOCIAL OCCASIONS

Lunches arranged for tutors and for administration workers proved to be happy occasions. Three splendid concerts, presented by our Chamber Orchestra and Choir, were enthusiastically received. The End-of-Year party saw 300 members enjoying the entertainment (again provided by the Orchestra and Choir), as well as appreciating the opportunity to celebrate with fellow students the conclusion of another happy and fulfilling year.

SHARING

Programmes have been provided for the residents of four hostels in our area, and also at the Immigration Museum, by our Drama-for-Fun group, recorder groups, choir, and an ensemble from the orchestra, in all on thirteen occasions.

THANK YOU

Apart from thanks to all our members, we must again say thank you to:

- Swinburne University for providing our office and two classrooms, and also lecture theatres;
- City of Boroondara for use of two library rooms for classes, and the Chandelier Room and Town hall for special gatherings;
- Hawthorn Community Education Project for assistance throughout the year;
- Council of Adult, Community and Further Education for a \$1000 grant towards venue hire, and a special grant of \$1000 for purchase of equipment to be used in classes, in the 'International year of the Older Person'.

We think all we 'Older Persons' who were part of U3A Hawthorn during the 'International Year of' had a very good year indeed! Long may it remain so.

Jean Giese, President

THE BALLAD OF THE SAD MILLENNIUM LUNCH

For the benefit of those disappointed lunchers and also the rest of the membership who were not involved, here is the unhappy saga of this self-funded event.

Originally the lunch was to be held at Kooyong Tennis Club in its new extended amenity, but alas this could not be finished in time. To their credit, Kooyong refunded our deposit in full and also granted us a small payment which covered the cost of mailing out notices re the change of venue.

The next choice was Chaucer's Restaurant in Canterbury. During the few days before the lunch, our Secretary, Derek Readman, was unable to get through to Chaucer's to discuss last-minute details. Then on Tuesday 22 February Derek saw a late-night news item to the effect that Chaucer's had gone into liquidation as from the previous Friday!

Wednesday morning (THE day) saw a massive telephone operation swing into action to advise all the 250+ attendees that the event was cancelled. It was marvellous organisation that only four people slipped through the advice net (Derek went to meet them at the venue to break the sad news).

We are advised that there is little hope of ever recovering our \$500 deposit, since we rank as an unsecured creditor, however, very fortunately for us, the cheque for the residue had not yet been handed over. The members concerned will receive a refund of what they have paid, less a deduction of \$2 per head to cover the lost deposit. The refund cheques will be available for collection at the office from Monday 13 March.

One is reminded of Oscar Wilde's timelessly witty play, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, when Lady Bracknell says to the foundling, Earnest/Jack Worthing: 'To lose one parent, Mr Worthing, may be regarded as a misfortune; to lose both looks like carelessness.' So much for our two lost venues!

The organisers of the lunch deeply regret the inconvenience and disappointment caused to our members—they did their best, but fate was against us all!

FRIENDS OF WALMER STREET BUSHLAND

The area where this group meets, Lower Dickinson Reserve, Yarra Bend Park, Kew (Melway 2D, F12), is now a delightful spot for a quiet picnic, with winding paths, tables, benches and a new drinking fountain being installed, together with native grasses and shrubs propagated by the Friends.

You can come any time, or perhaps when the group meets—on a Wednesday between 10 a.m. and noon, or on the first Saturday of the month between 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.—to join in the planting of grass or a bush or two.

For any further information, telephone Dympna Coleman on 9853 2690.

Clean Up Australia Day

Sunday 5 March 2000, 9 a.m. – 12 noon

Meet in the Playground in Dickinson Reserve, corner of The Boulevard and Walmer Street, Yarra Bend Park, Kew. Once again, for any further details, ring Dympna Coleman on 9853 2690.

SUMMER SCHOOL 2000

The Summer School has ended and we take the opportunity to thank all those who actively assisted with the various chores—opening up, putting up notices, looking after speakers, ferrying equipment, etc. Their contributions were pivotal to the success of the event.

HEARING TESTS

Late last year our co-house friends HCEP organised hearing tests through the H.E.A.R. Service, at which 19 people (some from U3A) were tested. Seven people had mild age-appropriate hearing impairment requiring little follow-up, but the remaining 12 had varying degrees of hearing impairment and these people were given appropriate referrals. It is anticipated that HCEP will arrange further tests this year—we will keep you posted.

NEWS FROM OUR ORCHESTRA

The Orchestra's Director, George Logie-Smith, has told us he feels he is not well enough to continue. This is sad news, as George has been Director since the Orchestra's inception in mid-1997. Many of the players were attracted to join because of old associations with George. Our thanks go to him for the work he has put into welding the members into a very fine orchestra. Members will be pleased to hear that George will keep in touch by dropping in at rehearsal from time to time.

But the good news is that the well known conductor and violinist, Christopher Martin, has agreed to be our new Director. We welcome Christopher and trust he will enjoy his association with U3A Hawthorn and the members of the Orchestra, who are eager to begin rehearsal under his baton.

Please make a note in your diaries now for the first concert of the year—details are below.

Jean Giese

AUTUMN MORNING CONCERT

Thursday 18 May at 10.30 a.m.

Chandeller Room, HAWTHORN TOWN HALL

Book with the office to help with seating and morning tea arrangements

SENIOR CITIZENS WEEK—19–26 MARCH 2000

The theme this year is 'Getting better with age' and there are lots of goodies available to senior citizens during this period:

- Free metropolitan public transport
- Free country transport (not Sunday, Monday or Friday)
- Concerts and films—free or discounted
- Discounted fee for making a new will at the State Trustees
- Seniors Expo 2000 at the beautiful Royal Exhibition Building, Carlton
- Dances, walks, gallery visits, gardens, cruises—you name it—

and masses more activities are listed in the booklet, which is available at Information Victoria, 356 Collins Street (1300 366 356) or at Coles supermarkets. Check your local paper for other events.

ATTENTION OLDER DRIVERS

The popular Wiser Driver course, designed specifically for the older driver, is to be held again at the Hawthorn Community Education Project, 24 Wakefield Street, Hawthorn. The course will begin on Wednesday 8 March and continue on 15, 22 and 29 March from 10.00 a.m. until 12 noon, and costs \$15. Issues covered include changes to road laws, confidence on the road, the impact of ageing on driving ability, fatigue and general road safety issues.

Please contact Michelle Ball at HCEP (9819 5771) to register for this course.

A & NZ LITERARY COMPETITION

U3A Central Coast (NSW) Inc. are holding another literary competition open to U3A members in Australia and New Zealand, with a closing date of 15 September 2000. Details are:

- Section 1 Short story Minimum 500, maximum 2000 words
- Section 2 Article Minimum 500, maximum 1500 words
- First prize \$200, second prize \$150, third prize \$100.

You can get a photocopy of the conditions of entry sheet in our office.

GADDING ABOUT

Here are two forthcoming events of interest:

U3A 2000 Tour of UK Universities

Leaving Australia on 24 July, tour covers 25 days touring UK universities, transfers, single-room accommodation throughout, meals (except in London), coach travel, etc. at a cost of \$5894.

Also an optional additional 8-day tour of Ireland (twin-share accommodation), coach travel, ferry crossings, etc. at \$1640. There are also additional stopover nights in London (single room) at \$110 per night. Further details are available in our office. All bookings should be made through the U3A Network office, telephone and fax 03 9652 0649, e-mail u3anet@vicnet.net.au.

Toowoomba Conference 2000

From 2 to 6 October, registration fee of \$200. Sessions: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday mornings and afternoons, sightseeing Wednesday, with daytime meals, etc., a Civic Reception on Monday night, official Conference dinner Thursday evening (optional extra \$30). Venue is the Burke & Wills Hotel in the city centre. More details are available in our office, and registration forms must be returned before 31 May 2000.

YORK AND THE VIKINGS

Odyssey Travel, a division of the A & NZ College for Seniors, has arranged a visit by Dr Peter Addyman, the Director of York Archaeological Trust. Dr Addyman, an interesting and entertaining speaker, will give a talk on York and its rich Viking heritage on Sunday 5 March at the Melbourne Town Hall from 10 a.m. You need to register your attendance on freecall 1800 025 473.

TAI CHI RECORD ATTEMPT

To mark National Arthritis Week, there will be a gathering led by Dr Paul Lam at Albert Park Lake on Sunday 2 April 2000. No experience is necessary and all ages and families are welcome, to try for the record of the largest group ever to perform Tai Chi together. Arrive at 8.30 a.m. for a 9.00 a.m. start, with a gold coin donation for entry. Make sure you pre-register for the free breakfast by ringing Arthritis Victoria on 9530 0255.

DISCOUNT FILM-GOING

Our members may like to know that the Lumiere Cinema, 108 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, advise that they have an ongoing offer (not just Senior Citizens Week). On Wednesdays only, for screenings commencing before 5.00 p.m., holders of Seniors cards are admitted for only \$2 per session.

Another note from that prolific author, ANON.

There were four people whose names were Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. An important job was to be carried out and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got very angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody would not do it. It all ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

JUNE 2000 NEWSLETTER

Copy Deadline

All copy to the Editor by

WEDNESDAY 24 MAY please

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Newsletter Despatch Janet McCombe