



# U3A HAWTHORN NEWS

Number XLII  
March 1996

24 Wakefield Street  
Hawthorn Vic 3122

Telephone: 9214 8824, 9818 7371, 9818 3466

Notice is given of the

## 11th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- LOCATION** Lecture Theatre BA 201 (ground floor), Business and Arts Building, Swinburne University, John Street, Hawthorn (see map on the reverse of the Saturday Series notice)
- DATE** Wednesday, 10 April 1996
- TIME** 10.00 a.m. Morning coffee  
10.30 a.m. Annual General Meeting  
Apologies  
Confirmation of minutes of previous AGM  
Presentation and adoption of Chairman's and Treasurer's reports  
Election of Committee of Management (see p. 4)  
Election of Honorary Auditor  
General business  
10.45 a.m. (approx.):
- SPEAKER** **Professor Iain Wallace**, Vice-Chancellor, Swinburne University of Technology, talking about:

## DEVELOPMENTS IN TERTIARY EDUCATION

- LUNCHEON** 12 noon
- COST** There will be no charge for this entire event.

We are delighted to have so distinguished a speaker as Professor Wallace to talk to us at our Annual General Meeting and we look forward to an impressively large turn-out of our members.

Once again we would urge members to use public transport if at all possible, as parking is so difficult in the Swinburne area, even during nominal vacation periods. However, if private transport is necessary, please contact the office for further information about parking.

As noted above, there will be no charge for the luncheon for our members on this occasion, but to help us to cater accurately, could you please notify the office of your intention to attend before 3 April.

**AND PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE!**

### NOTICE TO UNFINANCIAL MEMBERS

This is the final issue of the *Newsletter* to be sent to those members who have not renewed their subscriptions for 1996. Rates are \$40 for couple/two at same address, \$25 single, \$5 for U3A members enrolled at another campus.

THIRD AGE LEARNING HAWTHORN (INC.)

University of the Third Age

MINUTES OF THE TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held Swinburne University of Technology

John Street, Hawthorn

20th April, 1995, at 10.30 a.m.

CHAIR Betty Marginson  
IN ATTENDANCE Sixty-six Members  
APOLOGIES Barbara Balfour Joan Strachan  
Joe Kennrick Jean Jackson  
Tessa Gunn Bruce Laing  
Shirley Bissett Bobby Bird

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 24th March, 1994.

EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING 1st December 1994

As minutes of both meetings were circulated with Notice of Meeting it was moved by Keith Finlay and seconded by Ruth Gaensler that they be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chair spoke briefly to the report on the part played by the U3A movement to the older community. As the report had been circulated it was agreed that it be taken as read and adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer spoke briefly to the report and accounts. Moved by Rae Alexander and Seconded by Judith Lahey that Report and Accounts be adopted.

Carried.

The Chair extended thanks to Lola Stewart on the performance of her role as Treasurer.

ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A Ballot was held to elect 15 Committee Members from a candidature of 18. The Ballot was conducted by Deirdre Jane and Harold Fraser, Honorary Life Members, and after a brief adjournment to permit counting of votes the following members were elected to the Committee.

Hans van Dorssen	Ralph Mottram
Helen Williams	Judith Lahey
Lola Stewart	Felix Carrady
Jean Giese	Joan Strachan
Ronald Taft	Pam Rogers
Lois Astley	Rae Alexander
Derek Readman	Alexe Gale
Laurel Hollow	

Chair extended congratulations to successful candidates and thanks to the unsuccessful candidates. It was hoped that the latter 3 would be asked to serve the Association in a co-opted manner.

HONORARY AUDITOR

Mr Charles Davidson current auditor, regretted his inability to be present but had advised his availability to continue to act. His re-appointment was moved from the Chair and carried.

Chair closed the Annual General Meeting and welcomed the Forum Speakers, Professor George Singer and Mrs. Lisl Singer, who addressed members on the subject "Making the most of later life".

Following their address Betty Marginson spoke for all present in her warm thanks.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 1995-96

The year 1995 saw a great interest in U3As across Victoria, with many new campuses commencing operation. Hawthorn U3A has maintained its impetus, with the membership passing the 800 mark. We conducted 61 courses, mainly on a weekly basis, which were well attended. The 25 short courses (8-12 weeks) proved popular.

In September a monthly **Saturday Series** of lectures (to which members could invite a friend) was commenced in a lecture theatre at Swinburne University. A community bus was used to transport a number of less mobile members to these lectures. This popular activity is scheduled again for 1996.

**Summer School** took the form of thirteen lectures spaced over three weeks, plus two courses instructing students in basic computer skills. Quarterly **Social Forums** provided an opportunity for a general gathering of students, with an address by an interesting speaker. A **Drop-in Centre** on Friday afternoons attracted members who appreciated the informal opportunity to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea with students from classes other than their own.

A **celebration** in December marked the end of a successful year of learning and friendship. There was entertainment from various courses and displays of work done through the year. Judith Lahey, the organiser, lost count at 250, as the Hawthorn Town Hall filled up with the chatter and laughter of third-age learners.

We hear many expressions of pleasure from our **tutors** at the responsiveness and eagerness to learn of their mature students. The students in turn appreciate the dedication of the tutors, many of whom conduct one or more classes every week. In 1995, 64 tutors gave their services, but with the expanding membership, we *urgently* need more tutors and classes.

The task of **administering** such a large organisation without paid help is quite formidable. Our grateful thanks go to all involved: our Course Coordinators—Hans van Dorssen and helpers on the computer, and Joan Donlon and helpers with venue and class arrangements—work tirelessly throughout the year with hardly a break. Derek Readman and his curriculum development committee search constantly for new courses and tutors. Derek also organises the Saturday Series and the Summer School lectures. Lois Astley and her team of receptionists are called upon to exercise much patience and to answer more and more difficult questions as the organisation expands. Our capable Secretary, Joan Strachan, is a tower of strength, as is Lola Stewart, the Treasurer, who does far more in a management role than the position of Treasurer calls for. Our communication with members is vital and the main vehicle for this is the Newsletter. The Editor, Helen Williams, gives unstintingly of her time and talent, and has gathered a team of helpers for photocopying and despatch. There are so many who willingly 'muck-in' when needed and the small, cramped office is often ringing with laughter.

U3A shares the Wakefield Street house with the **Hawthorn Community Education Project**. Judy Elsworth, the Coordinator, and her young adult educators are a valuable source of advice and stability in day-to-day matters.

Hawthorn U3A is indeed fortunate to be under the wing of Swinburne University. We are grateful for the provision of our Wakefield Street headquarters and their maintenance. At a meeting during the year with Peter Veenker, Director of Swinburne TAFE, we were promised extra permanent accommodation for U3A on the completion of the new TAFE building in Park Street. We are looking forward to this. Classrooms, lecture theatres, laboratories, with facilities, are made available whenever possible, as well as library borrowing privileges for tutors. Our students are also able to attend some Swinburne lectures by arrangement. We value our strong connection with Swinburne and thank them for their interest and support. We are very pleased that the Vice Chancellor, Professor Iain Wallace, is able to accept our invitation to be guest speaker at the Annual General Meeting in April.

There is a constant search for suitable venues for our increasing number of classes. We were again grateful to receive a **grant** of \$1200 from the Adult Community and Further Education Council to help with our hiring costs. The **Boroondara Commissioners** have maintained their assistance in the photocopying of our Newsletter, and also concessions in the use of the Town Hall, rooms at libraries, and subsidising the hire cost at the Hawthorn Leisure Centre. We thank them for their support.

A self-help organisation of the size and breadth of U3A Hawthorn is quite remarkable. The strength lies in the cooperation of all members in the task of providing high-standard learning opportunities in our third age. This starts with an enthusiastic **Committee of Management**, and I thank them for their help and support through a year of exciting growth and planning.

*Jean Giese, Chairman*

# COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

At our Annual General Meeting, there will be an election of the Committee of Management for the period 1996/97, as all appointments to the Committee are for twelve months only. As we go to press, at least two of our current Committee are not standing for re-election, and there will be vacancies to be filled.

Nomination forms are available in the office, and should be lodged with the Secretary seven (7) days prior to the Annual General Meeting, viz. by 3 April 1996.

## PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE AVAILABLE FOR RE-ELECTION

Rae Alexander, Tutor Liaison, tutor	Derek Readman, Curriculum Committee
Lois Astley, Office Coordinator	Pam Rogers, Tutor Liaison, tutor
Jean Giese, Chairman, tutor	Lola Stewart, Treasurer
Laurel Hollow, Assistant to Treasurer	Joan Strachan, Secretary
Judith Lahey, Assistant Office Coordinator	Hans van Dorssen, Course Coordinator
Ralph Mottram, U3A Network, tutor	Ronald Taft, Curriculum Committee, tutor
	Helen Williams, Newsletter Editor

## MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE NOT AVAILABLE FOR RE-ELECTION

Felix Carrady	Alexe Gale
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If there are more than 15 nominations, a ballot paper will be issued at the Annual General Meeting on 10 April.

## 1996 SUMMER SCHOOL

This was voted a great success by those who attended, especially in the computer classes, and we anticipate repeating the event in the same format next summer. There were, however, quite a few people who registered their interest and failed to show up, thereby depriving themselves of some very interesting experiences. Have so many memories failed us all at once?

## GARDENING AS THE ROOT OF ALL GOOD?

There was a most interesting article in the *Age* on 29 January that all of you may not have seen. It quoted Dr Alan Goble, chairman of the Heart Research Centre, who strongly believes in gardening as exercise. A list of activities was given ranging from picking vegetables or potting up plants (equal to strolling), through weeding and pruning (equal to callisthenics or lawn bowls), loading garden rubbish (golf), power mowing (power walking), digging (swimming) to hand mowing (aerobics or cycling on the flat).

While moderation in all things is of course the ideal, Dr Goble says you are your own best guide to the amount of exercise that is good for you. Your limit is to be puffing slightly or at least to be aware of your breathing. But think of it: you can become fitter while providing beauty and/or fresh food for the table, and at the same time receive nourishment for the soul. Thomas Brown was not alone in thinking that 'a garden is a lovesome thing, God wot!' Even for the less active, the sight of pleasant greenery (preferably your own, but that provided by the Council gardeners will do) has a marvellously soothing effect on the mind. And a build-up of crossness with the world is usefully dispersed with a bit of digging or pruning!

So let us all think more about growing things (ecologically and politically correct) and start turning our exercise time into more than walking around the block.

*[Your Editor's problem is that U3A Hawthorn keeps running so many fascinating and irresistible courses that her own garden is reverting to primeval jungle.]*

## DROP-IN CENTRE

Although a few members appear to have enjoyed this opportunity to meet other members of U3A on Friday afternoons, the general support was not sufficient to warrant continuing for 1996. Should interest be expressed later, we will reconsider the decision.

**JUNE 1996 NEWSLETTER**

**Copy Deadline**

All copy to the Editor by Thursday 23 May please

# SATURDAY SERIES

This series of Saturday afternoon lectures, which was inaugurated last year, was well received by members and therefore the series will be continued this year, from March until November.

An initial programme of three lectures has been arranged (detailed below and summarised on the separate sheet herewith) taking us through to the end of May. Later newsletters will carry details of subsequent lectures in the series.

As previously, the lectures are free and attendance is open to members and friends. The lecture theatre will hold around 150 people comfortably. Telephone or personal enrolments will be on a first-come, first-served basis and there will be no written confirmation of bookings. IT IS IMPORTANT therefore to keep your own record of your bookings.

## Saturday 30 March

### **PATSY ADAM SMITH: THE LONG, LONG TRAIL**

Patsy was recently involved in the presentation of awards to women who, during the Second World War, had worked in the fields harvesting corn, hops, potatoes, etc. and also on Beaufort bomber production. She will talk about the trials and tribulations of this work, and also what she saw in Darwin last year.

## Saturday 27 April

### **PROFESSOR GREG DENING: Who or What Killed Captain Cook?**

Sir James Watt, the Queen's Surgeon, thinks it might have been a vitamin-B deficiency that killed James Cook. Read the packets of your breakfast cereals carefully: miss out on myathin and thyacin and you will become cranky and imprudent—imprudent enough to do silly things in front of Hawaiians out to kill you. Well, certainly the Hawaiians killed Captain Cook on Valentine's Day, 1779, but not because he didn't have a proper breakfast. They killed him because—but that's what the lecture is about!

The discussion about what killed Captain Cook is one of the great debates in anthropology today, but Professor Dening thinks he has had the right idea all the time.

## Saturday 25 May

### **MRS SYLVIA CHERNY: History of Glass Vessels from Roman Times to the 19th Century**

In this illustrated lecture, Mrs Cherny will introduce us to the magical qualities of glass that have inspired craftsmen and artists to produce not only utilitarian objects, but also intricately decorated ornaments for ceremonial occasions.

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Are you an active member,  
The kind that would be missed?  
Or are you just contented  
That your name is on the list?  
Do you attend the meetings  
And mingle with the flock?  
Or do you just meet in private  
To criticise and knock?  
Do you take an active part  
To help the work along  
Or are you satisfied to be  
The kind who just belongs?

Do you work on committees,  
To this there is no trick,  
Or leave the work to just a few  
And talk about the clique?  
Please come to meetings often,  
And help with hand and heart.  
Don't just be a member  
But take an active part.  
Think this over, members,  
You know what's right from wrong.  
Are you an active member  
Or do you just belong?

Reproduced with thanks from the *Sunshine Coast Newsletter*

### **BOOKKEEPER NEEDED**

We most urgently require a person with computer and book-keeping skills to act as an Assistant to the Treasurer. With the proposed transfer of our financial accounts to the computer, we need someone who could handle this work on behalf of the Treasurer.

Please contact the Treasurer, Lola Stewart, on 9813 1583

## WELCOME TO THE INTERNET

One of our members, Tom Balfour, is a tremendously keen user of the Internet and is most anxious to find converts to this addictive [his word] pastime. He has established a temporary Senior Home-page [i.e. advertising page] (<http://netspace.net.au/~balfot>) which can go around the world, and contacts can be made with discussion groups, chat groups, even talking to people (if you have a modem and Internet connection plus a small, inexpensive program). Our technological wizard is willing to teach Internet skills to computer-literate members in their own homes, at no cost for his help. For more information, contact Tom on telephone 9889 1781, fax 9650 5282, e-mail [balfot@netspace.net.au](mailto:balfot@netspace.net.au).

## VALE TO MEMBERS

We have been notified of the deaths of

Eugenie Clark, died 1 February 1996

Frederick Christian Folkard, died 8 February 1996.

We would like to express our sincere sympathy to their relatives and friends.

## INTERESTING COURSES ELSEWHERE

### COMPUTERS

In view of the apparently insatiable appetite of U3A members for computer courses (the Summer School had myriads more applications than could be accommodated), we bring to your notice that the Hawthorn Community House at 39 William Street, Hawthorn, has several computer courses currently running. Although these have already started, it might be worth your while to get in early for the next term (telephone 9819 2629). Prices are very reasonable, and details of the current ones are:

Introduction to Windows	12 Feb. to 25 Mar.	Cost \$85.00
Word for Windows (version 6.0)	13 Feb. to 19 Mar.	Cost \$85.00
Excel	14 Feb. to 20 Mar.	Cost \$85.00

### TAI CHI IN THE PARK

We have often had requests for Tai Chi classes but have never been able to nail down [!] a tutor. The Hawthorn Community House also runs a Tai Chi course on Wednesdays, 2-3 p.m., in Central Gardens, with the tutor Mr Han Jin Song of Tai Chi Australia. The full cost is \$55 for 8 sessions, and it would be worth checking on 9819 2629.

### SCULPTURE

Irene Harvest (9578 6732) of Prahran U3A advises that she has vacancies in her self-help sculpture course. There are some charges for rent, clay and firing. Please contact her direct if you are interested.

### TUTORS WANTED!

We have much interest, but sadly no tutors, for the following subjects:

Archaeology	Maritime History
Calligraphy (History)	Great Philosophy
Older People and the Law	Wine Appreciation
Computers	

Please contact Derek Readman if you could tutor in these or any other subjects of general interest

## ENROLLING IN U3A HAWTHORN CLASSES

### PLEASE NOTE

- 1 Enrolment forms are found at the end of the Newsletter. It is essential that one form should be completed for EACH course you wish to take, accurately including telephone number and postcode, and returned to the office at 24 Wakefield Street, Hawthorn, 3122, without delay.
- 2 WAITING LISTS are not carried over from year to year. If anyone was unsuccessful in joining a particular class in 1995, please submit a new enrolment form for 1996.
- 3 Notification of acceptance in the course will be posted to you two weeks before the commencement of the class.
- 4 All classes run for the year unless otherwise specified.
- 5 Any member who is absent from a class for TWO CONSECUTIVE CLASSES *without* notifying the office or the relevant tutor will be deemed to have withdrawn, and the place will be offered to a member on the waiting list.