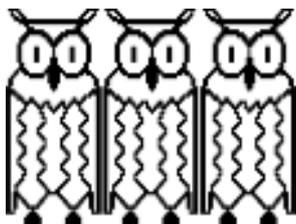


UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



U3A HAWTHORN NEWS

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Official Newsletter of Third Age Learning (Hawthorn) Inc.

Patron: Professor Linda Kristjanson, Vice Chancellor, Swinburne University

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



YOUR U3A. WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO MORE?

Interestingly, Hawthorn is one of the oldest U3As in Victoria. I was reminded of this fact recently at the occasion to mark the first 25 years of the U3A Network in Victoria – the network which brings all Victorian U3As together and seeks to share information, resources, policies and more. As the certificates recording the membership of the individual U3As were presented, each president was asked to state briefly what had been the characterising features which had ensured continuity and continuing enthusiasm. I said that in my view Hawthorn has been “successful” because of the large enthusiastic membership, the number and variety of its programmes, and the dedication of its honorary secretaries.

Our Programme Planning Committee, together with the Excursions Committee, seeks to ensure that our programme offerings are interesting, varied, and appropriate to our membership. While many courses go on for years we do need to look for new courses because the demands change. For example, there is a growing demand for courses in information technology such as maximizing your use of an iPad or using Skype. The Programme Planning Committee has recently identified several areas where they believe there are gaps in our curriculum. They include Australian history, natural history, meteorology, art appreciation, health and wellness including nutrition, and computers. Can you offer a course in one of these areas or do you know someone who could?

Alternatively, can you offer a course in some other area likely to interest our members? It could be for a one and a half hour session or for one session a week for the year? Would you offer a course if you could find someone to assist you to plan and present the course? Do you know someone who could offer an interesting course who has not been approached? Would you be prepared to ask and to help with the details on the application form?

Briefly, the procedure for including a new course is to complete a form, available from the U3A Programme Planning Committee or from the U3A office. The completed form is then submitted to the Programme Planning Committee for consideration to ensure that it is likely to meet a need, can be suitably accommodated and does not clash with other course offerings. The form then goes to our Course Coordinator, Joan Donlon, who ensures that the details are included in the curriculum for the next semester.

Our Music

We have many strengths. Let me mention two in particular – The Orchestra of U3A Hawthorn and the Choir of U3A Hawthorn. Both of these groups have given public concerts recently. The Orchestra, conducted by Gyula Cseszkó, gave a concert in the Performing Arts Centre of Camberwell Grammar School, which included Schubert's Unfinished Symphony together with works by Britten and Delius. Janneke Ferwerda was the soprano soloist for three Mozart arias. We were honoured to have our Patron, Professor Linda Kristjanson, Vice Chancellor of Swinburne University, in the audience.

If you missed this concert, you might like to come to the final Orchestra concert for 2013 which will again be held in the Performing Arts Centre at Camberwell Grammar School on **Sunday October 20 at 2.30pm**. The conductor will be Willem van der Vis.

The Choir gave a concert in the Parkview Room of the Camberwell Civic Centre on Sunday, 16 June. The Choir, conducted by Meredith Vincent, presented a fine collection of traditional English songs and was supported by Alan Moore a guitarist and folk singer. Its final concert for 2013 will be in the Parkview Room on Sunday 24 November at 2.30pm.

Seniors' Week

The annual Seniors' Week commences on Sunday 6 October. There will be a U3A display at Federation Square where most Victorian U3As show something of their activities. Hawthorn will be represented. In addition there will be many special activities directed towards seniors in the community.

International U3A Conference, Melbourne Town Hall, October 14 and 15, 2013

I am hoping that a number of Hawthorn U3A members will join me at the U3A Asia Pacific International Conference to be held at the Melbourne Town Hall on 14 and 15 October. It is being organized by the U3A Victoria Network and the Asia Pacific Alliance and has as its theme "Ageless Learning Begins with U3A." It promises to be an interesting conference and an opportunity to meet fellow learners from a variety of backgrounds and countries. The conference registration is \$120 and the conference dinner is an additional \$60. For further details, please email: conference2013@u3avictoria.com.au

Annual Subscriptions

After a careful review of the finances and especially the increased fees payable to the U3A Network and the reduction in recent grants, the cost of upgrading the office computers and the rises in the costs for electricity and insurance, the Committee of Management decided that a small increase in the annual subscription was necessary. The 2014 fees will be Single \$45, Couples \$70 and Associates \$30. While we do have some financial reserves, we wish to be prepared for a time when we will have to furnish and equip additional classrooms.

I hope that you enjoy all your U3A learning opportunities in the Spring term.

*Norm Fary
President*

COPY DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the December Newsletter is November 1, 2013. Please send all copy to the Office.

SOME REMINDERS

Tutors: Please turn out the lights, air-conditioners, and lock up your rooms if it appears that there are no further classes occurring after yours.

All Members: Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off or set to silent mode before the class commences and 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.

Students: Please be mindful of the fact that, if you wish to enrol in some of the more popular classes (for example languages and bridge), you can only enrol in one category/class, not two.

OFFICE HOURS

9.30 am to 4.00 pm

Telephone: 9821 0282 Facsimile: 9822 7668

Email: mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au

Website: <http://www.u3ahawthorn.org.au>

A REMINDER

If you want to borrow any equipment for use away from the Campus, please ask at the Office. We have a process for borrowing and return of our equipment.

FEES FOR 2014

Annual membership fees for 2014 are as follows:

Membership of U3A Hawthorn:

\$45 single

\$70 couple/two at same address

Member enrolling from another campus: \$30 (to cover administration)

Members are reminded that membership fees for 2014 must be paid before enrolments or re-enrolments in courses can be processed

EMAIL ADDRESS AND WEBSITE

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

mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au

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

Our website is **<http://www.u3ahawthorn.org.au>**

All courses, forms, and newsletters are available for download from this website.

CARNIVAL OF LEARNING



Every year, at the commencement of Seniors Week, U3A Hawthorn has a tent at Federation Square, alongside many other organisations, where we display some of our activities.

This year the date is Sunday October 6, and in order to make this a success and advertise our extensive programme we would very much like to hear from you if you have some creative ideas for displaying in a confined area. We would also like a few volunteers to help out at the tent for an hour during the day from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

It is quite a fun day and easy to access by public transport. We would only ask each of you to be on hand for an hour to discuss with the public the range of activities we can provide. We can give you a brief rundown on this if you are not altogether familiar.

Please contact Stefanie Sowerby on the following if you can help:

Email: sowerb@netspace.net.au

Home Ph: 9819 9459

Mobile: 0400 250 740

MUSIC NOTES



A welcome break between Orchestra concerts provides a chance to tidy up plans for the final concerts and to send out information to all those interested.

Looking back: - the Choir held its mid-year concert on June 16, the first time in the new Parkview Room, and the mixture of folk songs, contemporary and sacred music was well received by an appreciative audience. The Guest artist, Alan Moore, provided some entertaining original guitar and vocal arrangements, and the day was judged a success by all.

On Sunday 14 July the Orchestra thoroughly enjoyed performing in their latest venue, the wonderful Auditorium at Camberwell Grammar School and, with a large and appreciative audience and unfailing support and co-operation from the school staff, we were indeed very fortunate. The novelty of a young soprano as guest soloist was very popular, and Janneke Ferwerda's offerings of three Mozart Arias preceded by brief interviews with conductor Jules were much enjoyed.

Looking ahead: - A recent initiative for the Choir comes from their former Director and a current accompanist, Judith Chipman, who is offering a series of workshops for members wishing to improve their singing and sight-reading skills. The results of this will come to the fore in the final Orchestral concert for the year, when the Choir is combining with the orchestra's players to perform several extracts from the ever-popular Gilbert and Sullivan series. This will be a highlight for us all, and will take place on Sunday October 20 at 2.30pm, once again at Camberwell Grammar School, with Willem van der Vis in charge. As was

proved to be successful last year, this programme is specially designed to appeal to all the family, young and old, and excerpts from this programme will again be performed later at two Primary schools in the area. Both players and schools are looking forward to this, and we remind you all that grandchildren will be especially welcome! This should be a very special day, and full details will be published soon on the Orchestra's website and in flyers around Campus.

The Choir's final concert will be held on Sunday 24 November at 2.30pm, again at the Parkview Room, and the audience will be invited to join in carol singing to honour the festive season.

To conclude, please mark these two important dates in your diary and come along to support your U3A's musicians: -

Sunday 20 October, 2.30pm: Orchestral and Choir concert, Camberwell Grammar School.

Sunday 24 November, 2.30pm: Choir concert, Parkview Room, Camberwell

A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM THE ORCHESTRA MANAGER

Many years have rolled by since I took up the enthralling job of promoting and developing our Orchestra, and it is inevitable that I face up to eventually handing it over to the care of someone else. I am hoping that there is someone who would be interested in joining our team to learn what is involved and to undertake a possible "apprenticeship" so that we can make secure plans for the future. The main qualities needed would be a love of music and a reasonable knowledge of music in general, combined with the ability to attend to the details or organisation and communication which "keeps the show on the road". Over the years I have been careful to document all the necessary procedures, and these are on file and available for reference. I would of course be happy to talk it over in detail with anyone interested in considering this.

Though at times demanding, it is a wonderful job, creative and heart-warming, providing friendship and a great feeling of well-being and shared satisfaction. It has been and is continuing to be a learning experience, and though I have no immediate plans of retirement, it would be reassuring to know that there is someone who would comfortably slip into this important role when necessary. I would love to hear from you, my phone number is 9801 0801.

Ruth Muir

AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

During May and June earlier this year I conducted several sessions on my favourite hobby – the study of the American Civil War 1861 to 1865. We explored the causes, the strategies, the battles, the leaders and the consequences of this tragic event that cost over 600,000 lives.

The excellent source material and photographic records makes it possible to really come to grips with the events as they unfolded. As a group we explored such topics as Lincoln's leadership, the military tactics of Robert E Lee and the famous battles such as Shiloh and Gettysburg. We even discussed the visit of the confederate ship CSS Shenandoah to Melbourne in early 1865! Due to the rich material that is available on this subject it makes it possible for those attending to really participate in the discussion sessions.

At the end of the last session we were led by U3A Choir members in the singing of the great civil war hymn *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*. Our thanks to Meredith and the choir members for this excellent

support. The photo taken by Bruce Lancashire shows the civil war session group with choir members behind the US and Confederate flags.

*Graham Pratt
Session Leader*



OBITUARY



We mourn the passing of Hans van Dorssen, Life Member of U3A Hawthorn. Hans was a long standing member of some 20 years and made a significant contribution to our organisation, having written the database system which has been the mainstay of our Office. Hans was also instrumental in developing many of our office procedures, for example handling of enrolments. He also created our first website.

Hans withdrew from his position of Database Manager in 2012 as his health deteriorated, yet continued to provide support and advice in a consultancy role.

Always a keen lawn bowler, a Memorial Service was held for Hans at the Malvern Bowling Club where his achievements on the green were remembered.

Our thoughts are with his wife Sue and their family at this sad time.

SPRING/SUMMER EXCURSIONS

For bookings please telephone the U3A office

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



BOOKING POLICY

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

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations 21 days or less prior to the scheduled departure time = no refund due

Wednesday September 4, 2013

HISTORIC GEELONG – A WALKING TOUR

Cost: Transportation at own expense - refreshments/tour free of charge
Time: 11:00am
Meet: Outside Geelong railway station entrance
Limit: 30 participants

Join our President, Norm Fary, for a great day exploring the history of Geelong, the port of disembarkation for many miners who were en route to the Victorian goldfields. The tour includes the waterfront, public gardens, churches and local houses.

Details:

- Train from Southern Cross station at 10 am; return from Geelong at either 3.29 pm or 4.28 pm.
- You may prefer to drive to Geelong and longer-term parking is available several blocks away to the north or west from the railway station.
- There will be an opportunity to purchase coffee and lunch, but you may wish to bring your lunch and eat it in one of the many parks. We will take a 45 minute break.
- Please wear your U3A name-tag so that others can quickly get to know you.
- Consider bringing a bottle of water, perhaps UV cream, perhaps a hat and comfortable shoes.

*Note: This walking tour replaces the proposed trip to Ararat in the Gold Town Series.
It was felt that the limited train service to Ararat made a very long day.*

Monday October 14, 2013
'THE BRIARS' AND THE ROYAL CRANBOURNE BOTANIC GARDENS TOUR

Cost: \$64

- Inclusions:** Morning tea, lunch, entry to 'The Briars' & Cranbourne Gardens and transportation by coach
Time: 8.45am sharp, returning approximately 5.00pm
Meet: Sinclair Avenue U3A – departure by coach
Limit: 48 participants

'The Briars' is one of Mornington's oldest properties, first settled in 1840 by Captain James Reid. On tour we shall have morning tea at the Visitors' Centre, followed by a short audio-visual presentation explaining the history of the area. A fascinating tour of the homestead follows.

Next, we board the coach and head to the beautiful Amstel Golf Course where we will have lunch at the Club Rooms, overlooking the smooth, rolling putting green.

We then drive onto the Royal Cranbourne Botanic Gardens, established in 1970 for the purpose of conservation, research, display and enjoyment of Australian Native Plants. You will have time to wander the gardens at your leisure and may even enjoy a coffee the Boonerwurrang Café.

Bring a friend!

****SPECIAL TWILIGHT EVENT****

BURNET INSTITUTE
U3A HAWTHORN, U3A DEEPDENE AND SOROPTIMISTS INTL. (VIC)

Thursday October 17, 2013

**SEX, DRUGS AND RISK: UNDERSTANDING AND REDUCING
RISK BEHAVIOURS IN YOUNG PEOPLE**

- Cost:** Gold coin donation
Inclusions: Light refreshments will be served
Time: 5.30pm for 6pm start for 2 hour duration
Limit: 30 participants
Location: Alfred Centre (entrance B at rear of building)
99 Commercial Road (corner Punt Rd), Prahran
Map: Collect at office when making reservation

Our presenter for the evening will be Professor Margaret Hellart – Head, Centre for Population Health and Associate Director, Burnet Institute; Adjunct Professor, Departments of Epidemiology and Preventative Medicine, Monash University.

Is it Alzheimer's or deliberate forgetfulness on our part? Why is it important to understand that young people (or at least some of them) have always taken risks, had sex, drunk alcohol and done drugs?

We need to be honest, objective and evidence based when trying to reduce harmful outcomes of risk behaviours in young people.

This talk will focus on Burnet's Centre of Population Health's work to measure and understand risk behaviours among young people (both with the 'general' population and within marginalised subgroups) with the aim of reducing harmful outcomes – be they related to sex, alcohol, drugs or a combination of all three.

Monday November 25, 2013
LYON HOUSE GALLERY KEW
PRIVATE ART COLLECTION

Location: 219 Cotham Road (corner Florence St) Kew
Parking: Park on Cotham Road
Time: 1.30pm sharp until 2.45pm
Cost: \$22
Limit: 25 participants

In the year 2000, Corbett Lyon and Yelji Lyon combined their interests in contemporary art and architecture to develop a new home and to also display works from the Lyon collection of Australian contemporary art. The private house and collection are open for limited public viewing on designated days of the year. The collection includes paintings sculpture, video work and installations by many leading Australian artists and will be of great interest to all art enthusiasts.

Joan Harding
Excursion Co-ordinator

NO LONGER USING YOUR COMPOST BIN?

Members of the Gardening Group are wanting Compost Bins so that they can recycle green material and improve our garden soil. If you can assist by donating a bin please contact the Office and leave your name and contact number. Arrangements will then be made for collection.

WANT TO TRY YOUR HAND AT LAWN BOWLS?

The Hawthorn Bowling Club has offered "Come and Try Sessions" and would provide some instruction at no cost. If you are interested, contact Ian Eichfuss on 9818 1611.



