



# USA HAWTHORN NEWS

Number XLIV

September 1996

24 Wakefield Street  
Hawthorn Vic 3122

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## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Over 100 members gathered on 13 August in the Hawthorn Town Hall's Chandelier Room to hear the carefully chosen programme presented by our Choir, under the direction of Judith Chipman with accompanist Juliet Yim. The choristers obviously enjoy making music together and we were delighted to be invited to hear the pleasing results of their labour. A delicious morning tea rounded off a very happy morning of music and companionship. Our congratulations to all concerned.

We have had our share of winter ills and even our house has not been spared. Classes were cancelled for two days in August while our sewerage was unblocked, the yard excavated and pipes renewed. The electrical system went out in sympathy and the Swinburne electricians hurried to our aid as smoke issued from the fuse box. At times like these we are especially grateful that our little house belongs to Swinburne and that the institution attends to our troubles.

We are glad to welcome back to his Italian and German classes our tutor Rom Schiavon, after major surgery. Alison Loftus-Hills is also making progress and we were pleased to learn that she hopes to resume her meditation and relaxation classes next year. A spell in hospital did not keep Ven Houston away from his students in the music appreciation classes for very long, we are glad to note. Our loving thoughts are with our Secretary, Joan Strachan, who is home from hospital now after almost three months, but unable to venture out yet.

In seeking to put our records in order, we have discovered that we are missing a copy of the December 1987 Newsletter. Does anyone have a copy that he/she would like to give us, so that we will have a complete Newsletter file?

I hope you remember with pleasure the happy end-of-year break-up gathering we had last December. Well, we have booked the Town Hall again for Tuesday 3 December (more details later in the Newsletter), so please mark the date in those overloaded diaries.

*Jean Giese, Chairman*

### DATES FOR 1996/97

<b>1 October</b>	Beginning of enrolments for <b>existing</b> students in 1996 courses which are continuing in 1997. Membership fee for 1997 must be paid before enrolment is accepted.
<b>2 December</b>	Opening date for <b>new</b> enrolments in ongoing courses and new 1997 courses (as advertised in the December curriculum). Membership fee for 1997 must be included with enrolment.
<b>Last week Nov./ first week Dec.</b>	This is the concluding period for 1996 classes.
<b>13 December</b>	Office closes for 1996, but enrolments and cheques for 1997 membership will be processed
<b>Mid-January to mid-February</b>	Summer School (full details in December Newsletter).
<b>13 January</b>	Office open part-time, from 9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
<b>3 February</b>	Office open full-time from 9.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.
<b>Third week Feb.</b>	Classes commence for 1997.

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

New members from 1 September to end 1996	\$10
1997 Membership of U3A Hawthorn	\$25 single \$40 two at same address
1997 Member from another campus studying at Hawthorn (covers badge, quarterly newsletter, curriculum)	\$5

## SATURDAY VIDEOS

The programme for the next three months will be:

### 14 September

***The Red Balloon*** A small boy finds a balloon which follows him everywhere and fills his need for friendship.

***Heaven's My Destiny*** Looks at how space travel has given some astronauts a new perception of man's place in the universe.

### 12 October

***Shakespeare: A Day at the Globe*** A history of early theatres and in particular the operations of the Elizabethan theatre connected with Shakespeare's plays, the Globe.

***Betty Davis's Eyes—what makes a star?*** Clips from films look at legendary stars Sarah Bernhardt, Shirley Temple, Joan Crawford, Errol Flynn and Bette Davis.

### 16 November

***Panels of the Altarpiece*** Looks at the *genre* of the medieval altarpiece and the Sienese artist Stefano di Giovanni ('Sassetta'), c.1392–1450, whose *Polyptych of San Francisco* took seven years to complete.

***Kiri Te Kanawa*** She sings songs by Schubert and Strauss, and three delightful pieces by Walton, setting poems by Dame Edith Sitwell.

The video show runs from 2.30 to 4.00 p.m. at 24 Wakefield Street. Numbers are restricted to a maximum of 20, and bookings should be made at the office in the usual way. Tea and coffee will be provided, but please bring your own biscuits, etc.

## YARRA RAMBLERS

It is with regret that the four Yarra Ramblers' leaders have advised the Committee that they are unable to continue in 1997 for varying personal reasons.

The walking group has a strong core of enthusiastic members, but the continuation of the group is now dependant upon:

- a) offers of help from members who are prepared to form a small committee to run the group; and
- b) offers from U3A members who may not be members of the Ramblers, but who would be prepared to lead a walk occasionally.

At present there are two standards of walk: Easy, 6–8 km, and Medium, 11–14 km; the walks are held on Wednesdays and Thursdays, usually about four a month. However the frequency, days and grading could be altered, depending on the response to this notice.

Please make all offers of help to the office receptionists, who have a file to record details.

# THE TEMPTATION OF TRAVEL

For those members who wish to taste the joys of travelling, either within Australia or without, consider the following:

## SHEPPARTON

A conference is being held at Goulburn Valley TAFE, Shepparton, from 20–23 September, to discuss future directions for U3As. Costs are very reasonable: registration fee is \$48, plus accommodation at Dookie College (3 nights with continental breakfast) \$69 total. Included is a 3-hour session on the Internet. Contact the U3A Network office on 9652 0649 for more details.

## NORTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES

Members travelling in this area have been invited to visit the Northern Rivers U3A campus at Lismore. Contact the President Don Kinsey (892 026) or the Secretary, Pat MacLaren-Smith (283 026). The invitation is from Bruce Cameron, psychology tutor at NR U3A, whose booklet, *Lifting the Lid on Life Spoilers: an adaptation of Transactional Analysis* is available in the library at 24 Wakefield Street.

## DARWIN

Up North next year there will be a very fun-filled and educational five days called **Dalliance in the Dry**, from 29 June to 5 July 1997. Contact Darwin U3A, P O Box 119, Darwin 0801. With temperatures of 22–30 degrees, it sounds great for escaping a Melbourne winter!

## OVERSEAS

The U3A (UK) Travel Network organises tours for its UK members, mostly to Europe. If you are interested in travelling with like-minded people, you can join through the Victorian Network for \$10 per year, receiving four issues annually of *Travel News*. Contact the U3A Network office (9652 0649) for this one also.

## VALE TO A MEMBER

Irene Phyllis Jessup, a valued member of the Tuesday morning Book Discussion Group, died on 2 July after a serious illness which led to her withdrawal from the Group earlier this year. We had hoped it would be a temporary withdrawal, but alas, that did not happen.

*Pamela Rogers*

## END - OF - YEAR GATHERING

HAWTHORN TOWN HALL, 2.30 p.m. TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER

This will take the form of a short concert followed by a social get-together with refreshments.

Please mark this in your diary and let the office know that you are coming, to help us organise the catering.

## A CHRISTMAS GIFT?

When you are wondering about an original gift for a good friend at Christmas, what about a year's membership of Hawthorn U3A? Just that initial nudge could make a friend's life so much more fulfilled and invigorated—after all, we are such a lovely lot to know!

## 1997 SUMMER SCHOOL

We plan to run the Summer School lectures each working day (one talk per day) for four weeks from mid January to mid February.

We are looking for a few **VOLUNTEERS** to help with running the lecture venue. Duties are to assist with opening, running and closing the lecture venue—not exactly onerous! Please remember that U3A is a **self-help co-operative group**, and it is unfair to leave all the work to a small percentage of willing hands. 'Ask not what U3A can do for you, but ...' how about getting up ... and doing something for U3A?

Details of the actual lectures will appear in the December 1996 Newsletter.

## COMMUNITY DIRECTORY ON AUDIO TAPE

Boroondara Council's most recent Community Directory has been put on to audio tape for the use of people with limited or no vision or who are unable to read. The Hawthorn Community Education office has copies, if you know anyone to whom the Directory would be useful.

## ASPECTS OF RESEARCH

### HELPING IN RESEARCH

Dianne Sheppard, a postgraduate student at the Neuropsychology Research Unit at Monash University, is studying aspects of Parkinson's disease. She is looking for control subjects among members of the general community (50–70 years) who do NOT have this disease, in order to do comparative skill tests (apparently interesting and fun to do). She would be grateful if anyone wishing to help could telephone her direct on 9905 3956.

### RESULTS OF RESEARCH

A couple of interesting studies are reported in the *Bulletin of the Australian Psychological Society*, one from France and the other from Switzerland. The first claims that exercising the brain 'through regular planned activity' is equivalent to the effects of jogging on the body; the French slogan is 'jog the brain'. The second maintains that 'both physical and mental activity will promote health and quality of life, and prolong life expectancy'.

We in U3A have always believed that these things are true—now serious research is reinforcing our 'gut feelings'. Keep up the good work, and (wherever possible) walk to your classes for the best of both development areas!

## WHEELCHAIR NEEDED

We have a need for a light-weight folding wheelchair to be kept at 24 Wakefield Street or at the Hawthorn Community House. Is there one out there that could be lent to us or donated? Please contact reception if you can help.

## PENFRIEND, ANYBODY?

One of our members has passed on a request from a friend living in Hayle, Cornwall, for a pen-friend for 'a very nice lady in her late sixties' in their U3A group. The writer enclosed a copy of the brochure for their U3A branch, very new and still small, and it would surely be most interesting to make a new friend in another U3A group so far away. The hopeful recipient is: Mrs Velma Doidge, 45 Mellanear Road, Hayle, Cornwall, England.

## SATURDAY SERIES OF LECTURES

The Saturday Lecture Series is maintaining its popularity. The lectures continue to be free and open to members and friends (a good opportunity to induct said friends into the campus as paying members!). It is necessary to book, and telephone or personal enrolments will be on a first-come, first-served basis. As there will be no written confirmation of enrolments, it is essential that you keep your own record of bookings.

### Saturday 28 September

**Mr DAVID van ITERS**ON, Dutch Consul General: *Dutch Exploration of Australian Waters*

Mr van Itersen has made a study of Dutch exploration in this part of the world. In this illustrated talk he will concentrate on the period from 1606 to 1696, including the wreck of the *Duyfleen* ('Little Dove') off Cape York in 1606 and the last major expedition under Dirck Hartog.

### Saturday 26 October

**PROFESSOR GREG DENING**, *Captain Bligh and the Feather Girdle*

If the 22-year-old George III needed a crown and to sit on the Coronation Stone of Scotland and Ireland to be made King of England, then 12-year-old Pomare needed to be wrapped in a red feather girdle five yards long and to stand on the sacrificial stone while he 'ate' the eye of a human victim, to be made King of Tahiti. There was something strange about this feather girdle: Captain Cook described it, Captain Bligh drew it, and Professor Denning tells a story about it.

### Saturday 30 November

**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 CLUB

Since the Wakefield Street office has to be opened once a month for the **Video Series**, it has been decided to expand this activity to include others. Some suggestions are:

- a) Group meetings to talk about
  - i) life experiences (some members have already registered for this)
  - ii) hobbies
  - iii) gardening
  - iv) 'turning points in my life'
  - v) travel experiences
- b) play/poetry/book readings
- c) games of bridge/chess/mahjong/scrabble/solo
- d) video production using the HCEP video camera, e.g. video-taping U3A activities
- e) sharing a favourite video/tape/CD

or anything else suitable for inclusion in this Saturday club activity. We are also prepared to accommodate a request to start (a) a debating team and (b) a film/TV discussion group.

The intention is that all these activities will be **SELF-PROPELLED**, that is, participating members will organise their own regular meetings with only minimal office assistance. Any member who is interested in participating in these, or other, Saturday afternoon activities is invited to register interest by telephoning the office.

## **NETWORK NEWS**

The latest issue of *U3A Network News* is available for anyone who would like to pick up a copy at the office. This publication, which your Editor has milked for a few of the items in the material you are reading, contains some most interesting longer articles on future issues for U3As in general.

### **SOME DATES TO NOTE**

#### **1-7 SEPTEMBER 1996**

##### **ADULT LEARNERS' WEEK**

This year's theme is *LIFELONG LEARNING FOR ALL*, which recognises the essential role of learning throughout all people's lives—in the workplace, community, home and in retirement.

#### **FRIDAY 27/9/96**

##### **UNITED NATIONS DAY FOR OLDER PERSONS**

At *'MAKING THE MOST OF LIFE'* there will be activities and displays, both indoors and out, held at the Health Function Centre, Caulfield Racecourse, from 10 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

#### **16-23 MARCH 1997**

##### **SENIOR CITIZENS' WEEK**

The theme is *'AGE—A NEW ADVENTURE'*, which encourages older people to 'adopt an adventurous outlook and to explore opportunities, to actively engage in social, recreational and educational pursuits'. By the way, applications can be made for 'encouragement grants'—has anyone any ideas? Applications need to be made before 6 September 1996, so there is not much time to be adventurous!

#### **1999**

##### **INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR OLDER PERSONS**

The United Nations General Assembly has declared that 1999 will be the *International Year for Older Persons*, with the theme being 'Towards a Society of all Ages'. State and Federal groups will take a partnership approach to planning for 1999, rather than have a patchwork range of differing activities.

### **AMENDMENTS TO CURRICULUM 1996**

The separate sheet issued with this *Newsletter* covers alterations and additions to the Curriculum (which of course you have all retained!) issued with the June *Newsletter*. By publishing the full details of our curriculum only six-monthly and not three-monthly, we will make a considerable saving in postage and paper (think of the trees) and also put a lesser strain on the goodwill of the Borondara Council, who have allowed us free photocopying access.

**DECEMBER 1996 NEWSLETTER**

**Copy Deadline**

All copy to the Editor by Thursday 21 NOVEMBER please

# UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE, HAWTHORN

*Incorporated as Third Age Learning (Hawthorn) Inc.*

*24 Wakefield Street, Hawthorn, Vic., 3122*

*Telephone: 9214 8824, 9818 7371, 9818 3466*

**You are invited to attend  
our**

## **SATURDAY SERIES OF LECTURES**

**Location** Swinburne University of Technology  
Business and Arts Building  
John Street  
Hawthorn

Lecture Theatre No. BA 201 (see map overleaf)

**Programme** See the *September Newsletter* for full details.

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|---------------------|---|
| <b>28 September</b> | <b>David van Iterson</b><br><br>DUTCH EXPLORATION OF AUSTRALIAN<br>WATERS   |
| <b>26 October</b>   | <b>Professor Greg Dening</b><br><br>CAPTAIN BLIGH AND THE FEATHER<br>GIRDLE |
| <b>30 November</b>  | <b>Patsy Adam Smith</b><br><br>THE LONG LONG TRAIL                          |

**Time** 2.30 p.m.—4.00 p.m.

**Cost** FREE

Attendance is open to members and friends.

Bookings should be made on weekdays between 9.30 a.m. and 4.00 p.m., either by telephone (9214 8824 or 9818 7371) or personally at the Wakefield Street office.

There will be no written confirmation of bookings. You are therefore asked to keep your personal record of the date of each lecture for which you book.

**Remember, a name tag in place helps identify the face.**