



PREPARING FOR 2021 IN COVID TIMES

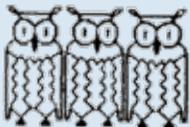
Friday 27 November	Last day of classes for 2020
Monday 30 November 10am	Commencement of Membership Subscriptions for 2021 (\$30) Commencement of online enrolments for Summer School U3A
Mon 30 Nov - Wed 2 Dec 10am - 12noon	Office open for assisted Membership subs and Summer School enrolments.
Thur 4 Dec - Sun 3 Jan 2021	Office closed - no email or telephone support will be available
Monday 4 January	Release of 2021 Curriculum online and paper booklets available for collection at 26 Sinclair Avenue at U3A Office from 10am (in a box outside the office). Note: Enrolments do not commence until Thursday 7 January 10am
Thursday 7 January 10am	Enrolments for 2021 courses commence online. (Subs from 30/11)
Thurs 7 - Fri 8 January 2021 10am - 12 noon	Office open for assisted Membership subs and 2021 course enrolments
Friday 8 to Friday 22 January	Summer School by Zoom
Wednesday 13 January 2021 10am - 12 noon	Office open for assisted Membership subs and 2021 course enrolments
Wednesday 20 January 2021 10am - 12 noon	Office open for assisted Membership subs and 2021 course enrolments
Mon 1 - Fri 5 February 2021 from Monday 8 February 2021	Office hours 10am - 1pm Courses commence
	Normal office hours 9.30am - 4pm

Please note: The Office will be operating under COVID restrictions with 1.5m distancing and reduced numbers of people indoors. Therefore it will be much faster to enrol and pay membership subs online using paypal or credit card. Members can make payment by online bank transfer as well as making a deposit into the U3A Hawthorn at your bank branch.

Payments at the Office will be contactless, no cash will be accepted.

Further details on Page 4 and 12 of this newsletter.

NEWS



Patron: Professor Pascale Quester, Vice Chancellor, Swinburne University

mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au
www.u3ahawthorn.org.au
ABN 41 360 939 238

26 Sinclair Avenue
GLEN IRIS VIC 3126
Tel: 9821 0282

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

CONTENTS

Preparing for 2021 in COVID times	1
Letter from the President	2
FAQs re 2021 Program	4
Program Planning Committee	5
COVID-19 Member Commitment	6
Retiring Tutors and Convenors	7
Summer School - January 2021	10
Procedures for renewing membership and enrolling in courses	12

U3A HAWTHORN COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

President: Irving Miller
Vice President: Stefanie Sowerby
Secretary: Bruce Lancashire
Treasurer: Ellen Stoddart
Meg Adams
Ron Box
David Bennett
Norm Fary
Nathan Feld
Judy Hamann
Ruth Muir
Sue Waller

U3A HAWTHORN INC

26 Sinclair Avenue
GLEN IRIS VIC 3126
Tel: 9821 0282

mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au
www.u3ahawthorn.org.au
ABN 41 360 939 238

**PATRON: PROFESSOR PASCALE
QUESTER,**
Vice Chancellor,
Swinburne University

It is difficult to believe that it is ONLY November 20. To me the year seems to have gone on forever.

What an extraordinary year we have all experienced. I am looking forward to the end of 2020, a year of Pandemic, lockdowns, restriction of movement, cancelled holidays, isolation, anxiety, not seeing family and friends, the constant fear of contracting the virus and much more.

Hopefully most of that is behind us and we can look forward to 2021 with enthusiasm and optimism in our "Covid-19 normal safe world".

It is customary at this time to review the year. This time I will give you the abridged version.

In January we had a stimulating, varied and extremely well attended Summer School program.

We thank Anne McQueen-Thomson and her team for organising that program and we look forward to what they have on offer in 2021. Next year Summer School will be presented ENTIRELY via Zoom so you will be able to participate from the comfort of your home, eating and drinking as you desire, dress is optional, you can turn off the camera if you wish. And best of all = NO FACEMARKS!!!

You can enrol for Summer School 2021 from 10.00am on Monday 30 November when you can pay your Membership Subscription for 2021. There is more information about re-enrolment and payment elsewhere in this Newsletter, please READ IT.

Our academic year got off to a great start, with a record number of new courses, 1575 members and numerous classes and activities fully booked by early February. We were off and running.

And then Covid-19 appeared, a worldwide Pandemic. The "rest is history" as they say.

On 23 March the Management Committee took the difficult but necessary decision to shut the Campus and suspend ALL CLASSES! What worried me most then was: what would be the circumstances which would let us to re-open? Would U3A Hawthorn survive if ALL classes were cancelled?

As you know technology saved us. Before April, I had never heard of Zoom or Webex. I knew people used "teleconferencing" but had not experienced it myself. The Courts operated on face-to-face confrontations, not platforms [which I thought involved railways.....silly me!!].

By late April/early May we had purchased 8 Zoom licences and were providing remote learning to our members in about 60 courses each week. This has been our "knight in shining technology armour". In May we even conducted our AGM via Zoom, and it was a painless experience thanks to our "tech guru" and Secretary, Bruce Lancashire. Thank you Bruce.

I even completed presenting my "Crime & Punishment" course via Zoom, so 2020 wasn't all bad.

The Management Committee has continued to meet monthly via Zoom, as have other critical sub-committees; such as Program Planning. So the organisation has continued to work hard during this difficult time. We have submitted Covid-19 Safety Plan to Boroondara Council for approval. I am delighted to report that our Plan was approved in record time and highly commended. Whilst the Plan is a Management Committee project, particular thanks must go to Sue Waller, Carol Lancashire and Judy Hamann for their contributions to the successful outcome.

This comprehensive plan means that we can re-open in a limited, but safe manner, with face-to-face learning in 2021. Not all classes will return on a face-to-face basis, and where they do not, the classes will be via Zoom or similar platforms. So check the 2021 Curriculum carefully to see whether the course you wish to enrol in is face-to-face or online.

The 2021 Curriculum will be released online, and as a paper booklet available at the Sinclair Avenue campus on Monday 4 January 2021 from 10.00 am. Members will then have a few days to decide what interests them, but you cannot enrol immediately. Course enrolments will not start until Thursday 7 January from 10.00 am, online or with Office assistance on Thursday 7 and Friday 8 January from 10am until 12 noon.

As in previous years, some very popular courses will be given "priority class enrolment".

In the Law, "time is of the essence", so it is at U3A Hawthorn, so diarise these crucial dates and follow them. Again there is more detailed information elsewhere in this Newsletter, please READ IT.

Whilst some tutors have retired, overwhelmingly most of our wonderful teachers will continue next year either online or face-to-face. We will have about 135 individual classes/activities from the start of February 2021. As the year progresses, more will be added and will be advertised in Gateway.

Currently our Covid-19 Safety Plan only allows use of the Campus on the basis of 4sqm per person. This means that the Hall can only accommodate about 37 people, Rooms 1 & 2 combined 15 and the West Room 11; a total of about 60 members on site, plus a couple of receptionists and office staff. Of course the Plan requires that we adhere to social distancing rules, extensive and daily cleaning, as well as the wearing of face masks at all times - whilst in class too. Members attending F2F classes will have to sign an "COVID Commitment form" too.

Space will be at a premium during 2021 for face-to-face learning.

We have been fortunate to gain an additional learning space at Frog Hollow Reserve Pavilion in Camberwell from Council, at the usual community rate, a peppercorn rent.

In my view our "Covid-19 normal" 2021 is looking a very positive learning experience with a mixture of Outdoor activities, face-to-face and remote online courses via Zoom and other platforms.

The most significant negative impact has been Covid's effect on our musical and Bridge programs. Because of the restrictions our U3A Hawthorn orchestra, and our Choir, the Gateway singers, have NOT been able to rehearse. It is doubtful that either group will be performing a concert in the foreseeable future.

So in 2021 perhaps the orchestra and the choir might improvise by performing as ensembles. As restrictions ease their opportunities will open up and their creative skills will re-emerge.

I am confident that music will return to our U3A next year. We will be able to continue the Saturday Matinee series, even if the Hall only permits 35 guests and a couple of artists. Who knows, by March or April the space restrictions might be down to 2sqm, and, if so, we can return to a Hall filled with music lovers on a Saturday afternoon.

No world-wide pandemic, lockdown nor shortage of toilet paper was going to stop U3A Hawthorn, I should never have worried. We have survived 2020 and adapted to new ways of learning and of staying connected. In our 3rd Age, we face 2021 with strength, togetherness and optimism of a better year than the past.

Finally, on behalf of the Management Committee, I wish everyone a safe, healthy and enjoyable holiday season. We look forward to seeing you back at U3A Hawthorn in 2021, whether it be on on screen at Summer School, in Zoom classes or face-to-face at Sinclair Avenue, or in outdoor activities.

*My very best wishes
Irving Miller
President*

17 November 2020



Thank you to the Gardening group who have continued to look after our garden through the lockdown. Now the jacaranda tree is starting to bloom.

FAQs re 2021 PROGRAM

Will there be a Summer School?

Yes, the Summer School will be on Zoom from 8 - 22 January. See the program in this Newsletter.

Will there be face-to-face courses in 2021?

Yes, tutors/convenors were offered the choice of delivering their courses on Zoom or as face-to-face courses. The majority of courses will be face-to-face.

When will the Curriculum for 2021 be released?

The 2021 Curriculum will be released online and in booklet form (online and available from 26 Sinclair Avenue) on Monday 4 January from 10am.

When can I enrol?

Enrolments for courses will commence on Thursday 7 January from 10am?

Why are enrolments so late this year?

Until we have clarity about what restrictions there will be in COVID-normal, it is difficult to timetable courses. We are also waiting for confirmation of some of our venues for 2021. Rather than have the enrolment process in the busy time before Christmas, we have opted to start enrolments in January.

Can I enrol at the office?

There will be a limited number of times when in-person enrolments can take place at the office - see Page 1 of this newsletter. However they may take time as only one person can be admitted at a time, so be prepared to be patient. It will be quicker to enrol and pay your membership subscription online.

Will all 2020 courses run in 2021?

No, courses do not automatically continue from year to year. It depends on the willingness of the tutor to continue. In 2021 some courses will not start at the beginning of the year because of COVID restrictions, such as Bridge, Orchestra and Choir. We will monitor the restrictions and make courses available when it is deemed safe to do so.

What happens if there is a COVID outbreak in Victoria/Melbourne?

We operate in accordance with government restrictions and recommendations. As we would be considered a high risk group, we take every precaution to ensure the safety of our members. In the event of further outbreaks we may need to close the physical buildings and classes for a period of time and revert to Zoom classes.

What precautions is U3A Hawthorn taking?

U3A Hawthorn has developed a detailed COVIDSafe plan which has been submitted to and approved by Boroondara Council to recommence operations at 26 Sinclair Avenue and the other Council venues which we use. Our COVIDSafe plan can be viewed on our website u3ahawthorn.org.au/forms.

What are the requirements of members?

Members attending face-to-face activities are required to read, sign and return to the Office the COVID Commitment form which is included in this Newsletter and will be available at the Office and from your tutors in 2021. It is also available on our website u3ahawthorn.org.au/forms.

What differences will I notice under the COVIDSafe plan?

As requirements will change over time there will be changes in how we operate. The number of people in each room will be limited as required by the social distancing requirements. Kitchen facilities are likely to be closed. Separate exits and entries to rooms have been established. Masks will need to be worn in accordance with regulations. Hand sanitising and wiping down of the items you have touched such as desks etc will be required.

What if I do not feel comfortable about attending in-person?

It is your choice to enrol and attend courses. If you are not comfortable about attending in-person you may find some Zoom courses which suit you.

What if I am feeling unwell?

If you are feeling unwell, do not attend courses or activities.

What if I am diagnosed with COVID-19?

If you are diagnosed with COVID-19 please inform the Secretary immediately by email, secretary@u3ahawthorn.org.au, so that information can be provided for contact tracing of any people you may have been in contact with at U3A Hawthorn.

NEWSLETTER MAILING

The U3A Hawthorn quarterly newsletters are published at the end of February, May and August and November. The link to the Newsletter on the U3A Hawthorn website is emailed to all members who have provided their email address.

Newsletters remain on the website and can be viewed at any time. Newsletters can also be viewed at Reception and a small number of paper copies are available for collection.

However, because of the increasing costs of postage and printing, members who wish to receive the newsletter by post must pay an annual fee of \$10. This can be organised at Reception.

Note: the irregular Gateway e-newsletter is not available for postage, but a copy can be viewed at Reception.

PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE (PPC)

The role of Program Planning Committee is to seek out and develop new course offerings as well as to maintain an overview of the courses offered.

The PPC looks at the whole course offering including Summer School, Readman, Excursions and the Saturday Program.

Many tutors and convenors have delivered courses over many years and have provided great stability and expertise. These wonderful people are the backbone of our organisation.

However each year we need renewal. We need to offer new courses with new tutors/convenors as well as to replace tutors and convenors as they retire. The whole concept of the U3A movement is members providing courses and activities for other members.

Over time interests of members change. Younger members may look for different types of courses from older members. Therefore we seek to provide diversity to best meet member needs. Success is not the size of the group, success is the quality of interaction and the learning experience provided.

In the time I have been course co-ordinator I have noticed much more interest in physical activities and courses with a social component, such as mahjong. Short courses and single sessions have also become very popular to fit in with our busy lifestyle, travel and family commitments

Languages continue to be very popular, especially the beginner languages, as members prepare for overseas travels (and we hope that in the future this will again be possible). However a beginner language becomes Year 2 the following year and so we have an on-going need for more language tutors if we wish to offer a beginner course the following year. Some of the more experienced language conversation groups operate as self-help groups, rather than having a tutor as teacher.

Discussion groups are always keenly sought after, whether they are book groups, philosophy discussions or current affairs and social issues discussions. However we need more people willing to convene such groups. It is not an onerous commitment - it requires someone to be an organiser and facilitator to get group involvement.

TUTORS, CONVENORS, PRESENTERS

Tutors teach/train course participants. They are responsible for devising, researching and delivering course information and skills development over one or more sessions. They also moderate class discussion and are contact people for the course.

Convenors take responsibility for the organisation and management of a course or indoor or outdoor activities. They set the parameters for course operation and moderate class discussion and are the contact people for the course. They may organise presenters from within the course or non-members of U3A Hawthorn, introduce and thank these people.

Presenters may be members or non-members who are invited by tutors/convenors/the course coordinator or members of sub committees to make a presentation to a class on a specific topic as part of a course. This may be a short 10 minute presentation in a discussion course, a full session presentation such as for the Readman series, Armchair Travel, Health series, or for a one-off event etc.

MEMBERS OF THE PPC

Carol Lancashire (Chair)
Meg Adams
Penny Baker
Sharron Bedford
Ron Box
Laurie David
Barry Fenton
Joan Harding (Excursions Convenor)
Anne McQueen-Thomson (Summer School Convenor)

We would welcome new members to this committee. You need to be willing to assist in seeking new tutors and courses and promoting ideas for new courses and activities. There are so many potential new tutors and courses, but we need more volunteers to spread the load and broaden our contacts.

TUTORS & CONVENORS WANTED

After a very difficult 2020 year, we are keen to be able to extend our course offerings throughout 2021.

At the start of 2021 year we may be restricted in class sizes and the number of rooms we can use, but we would like to offer more diversity as the year progresses with hopefully a vaccine available.

We are seeking offers from members and non members. Share your interests and expertise by providing a year-long course, a short course or a single session.

Contact Carol Lancashire or a member of the Program Planning Committee to discuss your ideas: courses@u3ahawthorn.org.au

Thank you to the volunteers who have worked so hard as Zoom Hosts during the COVID-19 lockdowns to ensure that so many courses could continue.

Linda Baynham
David Bennett
Nigel Hannam
Bruce Lancashire
Lily Lau
Michael Mullerworth
Sue Waller
As well as those members who hosted courses using their own Zoom licences.

U3A HAWTHORN COVID-19

MEMBER COMMITMENT

U3A Hawthorn will recommence face-to-face courses and activities in 2021. This decision was taken in accordance with the Victorian government Health Department directions and with the approval of Boroondara Council, the owner of our primary facility at Sinclair Ave, Glen Iris. Council approval required the production of a COVID-19 Safety plan which will govern our operations until the pandemic emergency is over. A copy of this plan is available on our website (web link to be provided when plan approved).

Part of that plan includes that members who decide to rejoin face-to-face classes acknowledge that there may still be some residual health risk in doing so, that they are joining voluntarily, and that they will abide by the health and hygiene requirements in the plan.

Each member, including tutors/convenors, will be required to sign this form and return it to Reception for filing. Similarly, volunteers in all other roles such as Reception duty, Committee of Management, must also sign a copy of the Acknowledgement and Commitment Form and lodge it at the U3A Hawthorn Office.

Tutors/convenors also must accept overall responsibility for ensuring that their classes are conducted in accordance with the health plan. They must mark a roll for each class and this may be called for in case contact tracing is required.

It is to be understood that the decision to attend a class at U3A Hawthorn is solely voluntary and that ultimately individual members must consider their own circumstances, including any pre-existing health conditions, in reaching their decision and before committing to face-to-face learning. This commitment also recognises that U3A Hawthorn's requirements outlined in this plan are part of its commitment to help to protect your fellow members.

This requirement remains in place until rescinded or altered due to changes in the pandemic crisis and associated government policies.

MEMBER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND COMMITMENT

In voluntarily participating in a face-to-face activity at U3A Hawthorn I am aware that my participation may expose me to some residual risk from the current COVID-19 virus.

To minimize risk, I commit to following the requirements of the U3A Hawthorn COVID-19 Safety Plan, including:

- * NOT coming to class if I am unwell, especially if the symptoms include cough, high temperature, breathing difficulties or other respiratory conditions.
- * Only attending face-to-face classes I am formally enrolled in
- * Adhering to the social distancing requirement of 1.5 metres between members.
- * Committing to following stipulated hygiene practices, including using provided hand sanitizer and wipes and participating in any other hygiene activities as required
- * Bringing my own bottled drink to class if desired.
- * Providing my own exercise equipment (e.g yoga mat) and removing it on completion of the class.
- * Leaving campus immediately as soon as my class has concluded.
- * Immediately notifying U3A Hawthorn if I test positive to COVID-19.
- * Wearing an appropriate face mask in accordance with regulations.

I accept that if I do not strictly comply with the Plan, I will be asked to immediately leave the class and the campus, and I hereby acknowledge that I will immediately leave.

I also accept that should I not be able to comply with the Plan, I will not attend classes, and/or may be asked to leave the campus.

I accept that in signing this form I will take full responsibility for my own actions to comply with the Plan and minimize the risk of the COVID-19 virus to myself and other members of U3A Hawthorn.

Name:.....(Please print)

Member No.....

Signed:.....

Date:.....

RETIRING TUTORS AND CONVENORS

RON JAMES

Everyone at U3A Hawthorn, especially the members of the Thursday morning Current Affairs Class, offers Ron James their congratulations and best wishes for his retirement from presenting the Thursday Current Affairs lectures.

There have been many highs and lows with Ron's dealings with the committees of management over the ten years of his incumbency. However, it remains that Ron developed that class coded CU01 into one of the most successful classes in the Hawthorn curriculum. Ron took over from Max Oberman who had adjudicated so ably for about fifteen years. Working from Max's successful base, Ron developed the class to an attendance of at least 100 each week. It became a social event as much as an educational and debating institution within an institution, U3A Hawthorn. Morning tea was enjoyed by many, as much as they enjoyed the class. Speakers were warned not to overlook to pause their presentation at 11 o'clock for morning tea.

Ron's style of leading discussions and not lecturing his audience (very often) and making constant use of the excellent audio-visual facilities offered at Hawthorn, appealed to most of the audience. Well, you can't please all the people etc. Ron was happiest with a large audience spurred into passionate discussion; the more arguments, the better. The still unanswered question is whether the views expressed and pursued, sometimes vehemently, by Ron are his views or just an attempt to stir the possum.

Success came from hours spent in research looking for the latest, and it had to be the absolute latest, overseas, and local news on controversial but relevant topics. Ron let it slip that he would rise at some ungodly hour on Thursday mornings so that his video clips were hot off the 'ether'.

No doubt many of the speakers that Ron attracted will breathe a sigh of relief when they hear the news and know that he will not be hassling them again. But what speakers - the diversity, the quality, the variety and only the occasional controversy or flop. Capacity classes for speakers shows the appreciation for the quality speakers who presented at Ron's behest.

In later years there was a pantomime to start the new year's first class. On several occasions Qantas Chief Captain James (Acting, Retired and NCTBICA*) entertained us with make believe travel plans for everybody for the year ahead, even providing individually named Boarding Passes for members one year. There was the mock wedding, when everybody received a personalised invitation to that year's forthcoming Royal Wedding. Nearly every member attached the authentic looking invitation to their refrigerator; many are probably still there today.

One disappointment for Ron was the failure of the Lynn Schifftan Memorial Debates to fire up and take on a life of their own. Some were willing, a few were able, and most just wanted to be spectators; a fact of life for

CU01 as for the world in general. That said, it must be acknowledged that Ron was ably assisted by a group of competent volunteers who helped him with the success of the class each week. Sincere thanks to these members; no names, but they know who they are.

As all U3A members know, life begins at retirement, so Ron, enjoy your new life without the weekly commitment to U3A Hawthorn, not only to Thursday mornings but to the time spent in preparation. Not a true retirement however, as Ron is continuing his association with Stonnington U3A.

Congratulations also, for choosing to retire at the peak of your career at Hawthorn.

Ron James - best wishes for your future.

(*NCTBICA – Not Certified To Be In Charge of an Aeroplane)

Paul Redmond

When the Thursday Current Affairs class was cancelled due to COVID-19 lockdown, the left over morning tea money was donated to the Royal Children's Hospital.

Unfortunately at this stage, large classes such as this are unable to take place on campus. We await further news on restrictions for 2021.



Lǐ, XIǎoqīng, Lǎo Shī (AIMEE LI)

Aimee Li, U3A tutor 2016-20, is taking a break from teaching her Mandarin Chinese course. In acknowledgement of Aimee's contribution to U3A Hawthorn over the last 5 years, herewith is a synopsis of Aimee's story and her involvement with U3A Hawthorn.

To be part of Aimee's subject is to experience much more than language. In amongst nǐ hǎo (hello), xiè xie (thank you) and other elementary mandarin words that are inevitably a part of any introductory course was a wide variety of other elements. These included videos of Chinese culture including places to visit (exciting for potential travellers), events in China's development as a nation (for the historically minded) and significant festivals (of which there are many in China).

Periodically there were off-campus events. These included interpretative tours of the Terracotta Warrior & Cai Guo-Qiang sculptures (NGV), of the Heavenly Queen Temple (Chinese Buddhist temple in Footscray), and the Chinese Museum (Chinatown). These tours were followed by long lunches (at Chinese restaurants, of course).

There were several cooking lessons (and lunches after) at Aimee's home in Balwyn. Prawn and Pork Dumplings and Sichuan Water Boiled Beef are two of the recipes acquired. There were celebrations of Chinese festivals as they came around (more food), including the Mid-Autumn Festival (about lunar appreciation and moon watching), when moon cakes come to the fore.

Aimee came to Australia in 2011 from China where she worked as a curator, associate professor of cultural relics and museology, in Gansu Provincial Museum. It is located in the City of Lanzhou, on the ancient Silk Road, and is considered one of the most valuable museums in China for its long history and amount of culture relics held (350,000 pieces).

Fine arts are in the family. Her husband, George Sun, is an interior designer and an exterior renovation designer with notable public sculptures to his credit in China. Her daughter, Echo Sun, is currently studying Industrial Design at RMIT. Aimee herself is an accomplished watercolour painter, as a hobby, but with ambitions to go further.

In Chinese culture the lǎo shī (teacher) is a revered person (much more so than in Anglo-Celtic culture). And Aimee is revered by her U3A Hawthorn students who thank her for the knowledge and skills imparted, the time spent in preparation, the encouragement as we stumbled along, for the laughs, and especially the companionship.

Have a good break but come back soon!

Nigel Flannigan



Aimee and the group at a Chinese restaurant

SIMON SPURGEON

Simon Spurgeon has been the convenor of the Men's Book Club for five years, and has recently passed the baton to Tony Roberts.

With Simon's engineering background, he organised the meetings and book lists very methodically. So, we all knew when the next meeting was, where it was and which book we were covering.

In his pleasant manner, Simon kept the meeting flowing, and diplomatically advised any long-winded bookie to finish. Under Simon's watch the group has nearly doubled in size from six to eleven.

The group continued during COVID by using Zoom. Not the same as meeting at someone's house, and sharing afternoon tea, but well done all the same.

From all our members a sincere thanks to Simon.

Stuart Cleland



GARRY WARNE

Members of the Short Walks group will be sorry to hear that Garry Warne has decided to step down as leader of our group next year, but we hope he will continue to be involved and join us on walks whenever possible. I feel sure all members of the group will want to thank Garry for his dedicated leadership over the past few years.

Under his leadership, we ventured far and wide, discovering new and interesting places, mostly within an hour's drive of Hawthorn U3A. Many of us who grew up in Melbourne were surprised to discover places we had no idea existed. Members of the group share the responsibility of researching and leading individual walks, but as Coordinator Garry was responsible for putting the yearly program together, taking into consideration likely weather conditions at different times of the year. These details are then submitted for inclusion in the U3A website.

Another important responsibility that Garry took on was to make all members aware of safety requirements during walks and the need to keep together as a group, to ensure that no-one was left behind. Walking was fun with Garry as leader and we did a great deal more than just walking; in particular, he made us aware of our beautiful surroundings, especially the birds we heard and saw along the way. We always managed to finish our walks within easy reach of a good coffee shop where we could relax, gather energy and have a good chat before the drive home.

As the new Short Walks Coordinator, I realize I have a hard act to follow, but fortunately Garry has offered to pass on his knowledge and useful tips along the way. Thanks Garry - I feel sure I will be making use of this offer regularly.

Marg Deighton

OTHER RETIRING TUTORS

Lily Adolphe and **Eva Carew-Reid** took over as convenors of the Moderate Walking group in 2019 and are not going to continue in 2021. Lily has been very active in both of the monthly walking groups and has brought enormous expertise and organisation to the role. Lily has also worked as a receptionist at U3A Hawthorn for a number of years. We wish Lily well for her plans for the future. We look forward to Eva's continued volunteer involvement in various ways. Thank you both for your work.



When Millie Campain retired as tutor of the French Advanced Conversation course during this year, **Marie-Anne Cusson** took on the role for the rest of 2020. Marie-Anne will not continue next year and we thank her for her work this year.

Monika McCallum stepped in as tutor of Continuing German at the beginning of the year and has since worked as joint tutor with Terry Hastings. Monika has moved to Germany for an extended period of time, but we hope to welcome her back in a tutor role sometime in the future. Thank you Monika for your enthusiasm and expertise this year.

With John Cook's departure to live in Queensland last year, **Loraine Permezel** stepped into the role of convenor of the Wednesday Photography group this year, but will not continue next year. Thank you Loraine for taking on this role in what has proved to be a very difficult year and also Karin Watts who has managed the zoom sessions for the class. Anne Griffin and Karin Watts will convene the course in 2021.

Greg Jerram took up the role of convenor of the Talking Films group again this year after a break of some years. A very difficult year for the movies group. Thank you Greg and also Colleen Clift who convened the zoom sessions this year and will continue as convenor next year.

At the beginning of this year **Heather Nankervis** established a Solo short course which **Sally McBride** took over as a year-long course. Unfortunately it was not able to continue and Sally has now moved out of Melbourne. Thank you to both of you.

Tami Wong established the Eastern Mahjong group in 2019 and had led an enthusiastic group of players. Tami is taking some time off in 2021 but we hope she will be able to return as tutor in the future. Ellen Bowman has kindly agreed to convene the course as a mutual support group.

SUMMER SCHOOL JANUARY 2021

- The U3A Hawthorn Summer School 2021 runs over 11 days from Friday 8 January to Friday 22 January. All sessions, except for Summer Mahjong will be held on zoom.
- The Summer School is free, but is available only to members of U3A Hawthorn who have paid their 2021 membership fee.
- Please enrol for the sessions of your choice on the U3A Hawthorn website u3ahawthorn.org.au/members The sessions are listed under the code SUMMER (Summer School). Enrolling is vital so that we can send you the zoom link. It also enables us to contact you if a session has to be cancelled due to an unforeseen event, such as illness of the speaker.
- U3A Hawthorn Reception will be open for a very limited time for assisted enrolments and membership payments. However we encourage people to enrol and pay membership subscriptions online where possible. No phone or email bookings will be accepted.
- The Zoom link will be emailed to you, for each session you are enrolled in, at 1pm the day prior to the session.
- Please open your Zoom link 10 minutes before the session's start time. This will enable us to admit all participants in order to start punctually.
- No enrolments for the session will be accepted after this time.
- The link is for you only and may not be forwarded to anyone else.

The November 2020 Presidential Election –What Happened and Why.

Friday 8 January 10.30am

**Graham Pratt
21SUM001**

We will examine the results nationally and in key states. How close was the final outcome? Was there a clear cut winner? How accurate were the polls? What factors influenced the outcome of the election? Does the whole process seem to be fair and democratic.? What can we expect from the winner? Going forward to 2021 will the US be less partisan or more divided?

Islam in Australia

Monday 11 January 10.30am

**Prof Greg Barton
21SUM002**

By many indicators, today Australia leads the world in the growth of social diversity driven by migration: half (49%) of all Australians were either born overseas or have at least one parent born overseas. Within Australia's diversity, a variegated Muslim community has emerged, making up 2.6% of the population, or more than 660,000 people. Australia society has continued to maintain a robust commitment to multiculturalism and religious diversity. Nevertheless, there are worrying signs that, in the face of anxiety about terrorism and violent extremism, undercurrents of intolerance and prejudice are growing and surfacing in political discourse and social activism.

Introduction to the Russian Alphabet

Monday 11, 18 & 25 January, 2 - 4pm

CANCELLED

**Jill Scurfield
21SUM003**

This is a basic complete course to introduce you to the Russian alphabet (32 characters). Once you have mastered the

Are you StrokeSafe?

Tuesday 12 January 10.30am

**Toni Arfaras
21SUM004**

The Stroke Foundation is a national charity that partners with the community to prevent, treat and beat stroke. In this session a speaker from the Foundation will address what a stroke is, how to recognise the signs, what to do if someone is having a stroke and how to prevent stroke. You will have the opportunity to ask her questions and find out how you can become StrokeSafe and potentially save someone's life!

China: Yesterday, Today, and (possibly) Tomorrow.

Wednesday 13 January 10.30am - 12.30pm

**Wolfe Sharp
21SUM005**

China has been the subject of much criticism in recent years, primarily emanating from the U.S. To understand any society it is important to look at its history, culture and the influences which guide its policies. This lecture will briefly cover the ancient past of China, touch on its enduring philosophies, discuss its more recent development as an emergent Great Power, and look at some future possibilities.

Summer Mahjong

Wednesday 13 January, 10am – 12noon

**Janina Noga
21SUM006**

This session is for experienced players of Western or Eastern Mahjong. If possible tables will be set outside. Eastern mahjong players will need to organise a group of 3 or 4 to play together. You will be contacted by email if this course is unable to proceed because of COVID issues.

India's Tropical South – Kerala and Tamil Nadu

Wednesday 13 January, 2pm

**Frank Devlin
21SUM007**

Enjoy Kerala's lush tropical forests, seemingly endless "Backwaters" and the Western Ghats mountains. Visit the

ancient port city of Cochin, once the centre of the spice trade, and then hike in tea plantations at Munnar in the mountains. Cross into Tamil Nadu and visit the vibrant temple city of Madurai. Return to Kerala via the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary before enjoying days on the Backwaters stretching 75km south of Cochin. Finally, visit Kovalam, an attractive small resort and fishing port on the Malabar coast.

Did non-Roman Lives Matter? What Roman slavery was all about.

Saul Bastomsky

Thursday 14 January, 10.30am

21SUM008

Only five societies in world history were truly dependent on slave labour. Ancient Rome was one of them. The talk will deal with where these slaves originated and were used, how much they cost, how they were treated and regarded and what the effects of slavery were.

Greeting cards, Postcards: A Colourful History

Laura Debernardi

Thursday 14 January, 2pm

21SUM009

Enjoy an afternoon reminiscing over your favourite cards. Learn about the history of cards, which date to ancient China where messages of goodwill were exchanged to celebrate New Year, and to early Egyptians who used papyrus scrolls to send greetings.

Dragging Australia into C21st—Manufacturing, Technology and Innovation

Assoc Prof Peter Moar

Friday 15 January, 10.30am

21SUM010

After 20 years collaborating on global projects including space engineering, Peter Moar asks why Australia is at the bottom of the table in innovation and research, and what should be done to remedy this.

Surveillance - Friend or Foe?

Ian McKenzie

Monday 18 January, 10.30am

21SUM011

Western societies are increasingly worried about surveillance becoming too intrusive. This talk will cover how surveillance works in Australia, the way it has changed over recent years, and whether, in the age of the internet, we should be concerned about the state, or the private sector, or both.

Landscape and Identity in Australian Art

David Henderson

Tuesday 19 January, 10.30am

21SUM012

This lecture will take the form of a chronological survey of some of the leading figures in Australian landscape painting from colonial times to the present. It will discuss the relationship between Australian painting and broader currents of Western and Modernist art within the context of the emergence of an authentic national identity.

COVID-19 - putting a good crisis to use

Prof Rob Watts

Wednesday 20 January, 10.30am

21SUM013

COVID-19 has exposed the scale of long term, fundamental economic, institutional and ideological changes underway in Australia since the 1980s. In this presentation Professor Rob Watts Describes the current crisis, explores the evidence and outlines some new policy ideas for dealing with the current crisis.

Summer Mahjong

Janina Noga

Wednesday 20 January, 10am – 12noon

21SUM015

As per 21SUM006

Australia as a Dependent Middle Power: Prospects for the Future

Dr Alan Patience

Thursday 21 January, 10.30am

21SUM014

Australia's mainstream politicians, foreign affairs and defence bureaucrats, as well as outspoken members of the commentariat, routinely assert that Australia is a middle power. This presents serious problems for the country's foreign policy in the event of conflict in the Asia-Pacific, especially conflict between China and the USA. The presentation will contend that it is time for Australia to transcend its dependent middle power status, to become an internationally respected "global citizen". It will focus particularly on the recommendation of the late Malcolm Fraser that Australia should abandon the ANZUS alliance with the United States.

Yoga - Wisdoms, Theory and Practice

Mahes Karuppiah

Thursday 21 January, 2pm

21SUM016

The ancient gem of yoga practice moves sensationally and adapts seamlessly into the 21st Century. Yoga is a time tested, holistic, essential preventive health practice, a synthesised system of sequential postures which helps balance the body programmers, flexes and tones up the nervous system, switches on the brain and allows for the blooming of the self into healthy, happy, fulfilled beings. Drop in for an hour to understand the essence of yoga for you and gain physical, emotional and spiritual insights which can make your life positive, fulfilled and productive.

Securing Australia's interests in a decade of disruption

Prof Rory Medcalf

Friday 22 January, 10.30 am

21SUM017

A crisis-prone 2020 has ushered in a decade of disruption. Australia must protect and advance its interests, values and identity against a widening horizon of risk, from the impacts of COVID-19 to strategic rivalry between China and the United States. In this presentation, noted policy commentator Rory Medcalf will offer an assessment of Australia's options for national security in a world where our interests outweigh our capabilities. His remarks will draw upon his recent book Contest for the Indo-Pacific.

PROCEDURES FOR RENEWING MEMBERSHIP & ENROLLING IN COURSES FOR 2021

MONDAY 30 NOVEMBER – ONLINE MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS COMMENCE 10AM

Please note that the 2021 Curriculum will not be released until 4 January 2021 and enrolments will open from 10am Thursday 7 January. Therefore you can wait until this is published before completing enrolment subscriptions. If you wish to enrol in Summer School sessions we ask that you pay your membership subscriptions before Friday 8 January.

MONDAY 30 NOVEMBER – 2021 SUMMER SCHOOL OPEN FOR ENROLMENTS, 10AM

The 2021 Curriculum and Summer School can be viewed online and online enrolments for Summer School and online membership payments can commence. The 2021 Summer School will be using Zoom for all sessions except mahjong.

ASSISTED MEMBERSHIPS AND ENROLMENTS

The Office will be open for very restricted hours for those who wish to be assisted to make payments and/or to enrol in Summer School
Monday 30 November - Wednesday 2 December
10am - 12 noon.

Note: there may be waiting time as only 1 person can be assisted at a time.

MONDAY 4 JANUARY 2021 - RELEASE OF 2021 CURRICULUM, 10AM

You can view the curriculum:

- on the Membership system
- Curriculum booklet
- collect a paper copy of the Curriculum Booklet from outside the U3A Hawthorn office at 26 Sinclair Avenue.

THURSDAY 7 JANUARY - ENROLMENT IN 2021 COURSES COMMENCES, 10AM

This can be done online or the Office will be open for assisted enrolments:

- Thursday 7 January, 10am - 12noon
- Friday 8 January, 10am - 12noon
- Wednesday 13 January, 10am - 12noon
- Wednesday 20 January, 10am - 12noon

PRIORITY ENROLMENTS

Most courses in 2021 have NO priority enrolment. However because of COVID restrictions some face-to-face courses may have more limited numbers, so you should enrol early when enrolments open on 7 January 2021.

The courses which have priority enrolments will be marked in the Curriculum. At this stage we do not have a complete list of the priority courses - it will depend in part on COVID restrictions.

To take advantage of priority enrolment you must pay your Membership Subscription and enrol in the course between 10am Thursday 7 January and 4pm Friday 15 January. You will be waitlisted and entered into the

course manually on Friday 15 January. After that date no priority is given to 2020 members of the course.

SKILLS COURSES

For some courses, such as languages, art courses and orchestra and choir where there is a required skill level, any new applicants may be contacted by the tutor for assessment. Information about this is provided in the course descriptions online. This does not apply to courses labelled Beginners.

RESTRICTIONS ON NUMBER OF COURSES YOU MAY ENROL IN

In order to provide opportunities for as many members as possible to take part in courses, individual members will be restricted in the number of courses within some categories that they may enrol in during the period Thursday 7 January to Friday 22 January. For example members may enrol in a maximum of one Bridge course, only one French course may be selected, only one current issues course may be selected. This will be clearly stated in the relevant course descriptions. After 22 January, if places are still available, this will be reviewed and may be changed on a case by case basis.

Note: In the November – February period enrolments by telephone or email will not be accepted as this is a very busy time in the office.

Note: No cash will be accepted at the office – only contactless transactions will be processed.

ENROLMENTS AND PAYMENTS

To complete the membership renewal and enrolment processes:

1. Login to u3ahawthorn.org.au/members with your membership number and password
2. Pay Membership - you can pay in several ways
 - online with paypal or your credit card
 - make bank transfer online
 - visit your bank and make a bank deposit to U3A Hawthorn
 - come to the U3A Hawthorn office to make your payment by card (no cash).
3. Go to Courses and select the courses you wish to enrol in
4. View your cart and checkout
5. You can view My Enrolments to see the courses you have enrolled in.