



**HAWTHORN**  
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

No. 121 December 2015

## U3A HAWTHORN: 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY 2015



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A review of the year indicates a wide range of activities and challenges were successfully completed.

The following reports indicate some areas of recent activity.

#### GRANT SUCCESS

We have applied and received funding for a grant to assist in the purchase of a defibrillator for use at Sinclair Ave. The grant was made under the City of Boroondara Council Strengthening Communities process in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Balwyn. The unit will be purchased from St John Ambulance who will also provide training for us.

Currently we also have an application in for a grant from the Commonwealth Government which, if successful, will contribute towards the cost of a new photocopier.

Thanks to Bruce Lancashire who has steered his way through the pitfalls and intricacies of the grant processes with alacrity and success.

#### THANK YOU

Each year we participate in Seniors Week in conjunction with U3A Network and the City of Boroondara.

This year we had a display at Federation Square and at the Hawthorn Arts Centre in the first week of October. Both displays featured the work of our Digital photography, Stitchery, Knitting, and Patchwork classes. The work was of a high standard and very much admired

Thank you to Stefanie Sowerby and Ruth Muir for organising the Fed Square display and to Bruce and Carol Lancashire, Linda Baynham, Jennifer and Doug Dickson, Terry Hastings, Irving Miller, Johanna Kol, Brian Adams and Harvey Sowerby for staffing the display and general assistance during the day.

Our Orchestra played on the Sunday of Seniors Week at Deakin Edge. They performed the Bruch Violin Concerto with Ksenia Belenko as soloist. We were very proud of their beautiful performance which was very well received by the large audience many of whom made appreciative comments at the conclusion. Thank you to the players, and Jules Cseszkó, Nola Meredith and Ruth Muir.

The display at Hawthorn Arts Centre was organised in haste after we realised that the letter containing our participation details had been mislaid. So special thanks to Pam Crack, Ruth Muir, Lili Lippa, Linda Baynham, Chris Higgins and Stephanie Sowerby all of whom responded to the last minute request.

All of the above activities presented Hawthorn U3A most effectively to the public.

Patron: Professor Linda Kristjanson, Vice Chancellor, Swinburne University

mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au

www.u3ahawthorn.org.au

ABN 41 360 939 238

26 Sinclair Avenue  
GLEN IRIS VIC 3146

Tel: 9821 0282

NEWS



**STRATEGY PLAN FOCUS GROUPS**

We recently held three Focus Groups to give us access to members opinions and suggestions to assist us in the writing of the next three year Strategy Plan. We had the valuable assistance of three Swinburne University third year students. Kate, Ravyn and Zoe facilitated the groups and documented the information received. This activity will be part of their course work requirement and their work processes will be part of their assessment.

Thank you to those members who participated in this valuable exercise.

**READMAN SERIES**

The last Readman Series sessions for the year were held in September and October. Professor Garry Warne spoke of his work in the Gender Unit at the Royal Children's Hospital and Professor Peter McPhee 's session focused on The influence of the French Revolution on French Art . The sessions were very well attended and members expressed their appreciation to both speakers for their excellent presentations. The details of the 2016 Readman Series will be in the March Newsletter.

**PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE [formerly Curriculum Committee]**

This very important committee, chaired by Irving Miller, meets once a month. Its role, delegated by the Committee of Management, is to source, organise and recommend courses and presenters/leaders. It reviews the curriculum and attempts to fill gaps as quickly as possible. It also considers recommendations from members. In addition the committee meets with new Tutors to ensure that they are familiar with Hawthorn's methods of operation and requirements. The committee's work is approved by the Committee of Management. If you would like to recommend a possible course, topic or presenter please put the details on the form in the Office and place in the Suggestion Box. If we are to maintain a rich and varied program we need the support and input of members to augment our work.

Thanks to the Committee for their work this year.

As we approach 2016 we move into a year that will be very different from 2015 and indeed previous years. For some months we will be operating out of temporary premises without access to our present buildings which will be designated a construction area. This will require special resources, in particular the areas of flexibility, patience and forbearance will be in high demand!

During 2015 we have worked hard to plan for 2016. It has been a quite demanding time, however we are confident that this time next year we will have a much changed and improved facility that will enable us to operate in a more cohesive and effective manner and one which meets our needs much more closely than is presently the case.

**SUMMER SCHOOL**

Due to the generosity of Swinburne University we will be able to have a Summer School utilising one of the University's lecture theatres. Carol Lancashire has an excellent program planned - details are included in this Newsletter

Thank you to all those members who have given so willingly and so generously of their time and expertise during this year to ensure that we are able to maintain our programs. Your contribution is much appreciated.

Season's Greetings.

**EMAIL ADDRESSES AND WEBSITE**

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

[mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au](mailto:mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au)

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

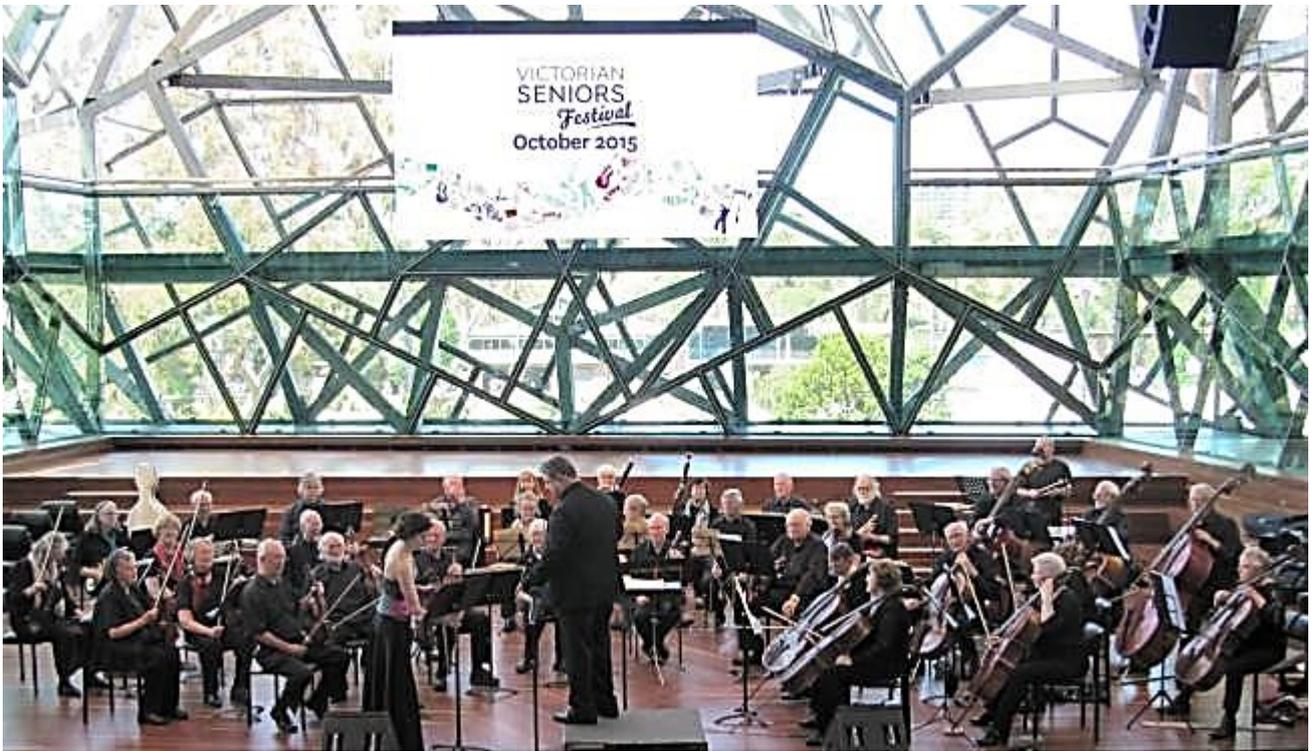
Our website is

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

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



*Meg Adams*



## MUSIC



Facing up to the end of the year also becomes the time when both Choir and Orchestra look forward to their final concerts - until the next ones of course, which we are seriously thinking about at this time. For us planners, the future is always within the here and now, with attention to forward arrangements constantly casting its shadow. Meanwhile time goes flying by so that we have to run to keep up. Right now there are plenty of possibilities but a few uncertainties still to be dealt with, so it's a matter of Watch This Space!

At this stage the Orchestra is looking back with great pride on a recent highlight, which was the opportunity to perform in the Deakin Edge Concert Hall as part of the Carnival of Learning Day on 4 October. Plenty of trepidation about whether the players would manage the difficulties of getting themselves and their instruments to the right place at the right time - for many the venue was unfamiliar - but everything worked smoothly and the performance was excellent. They looked and sounded truly professional and were really proud of themselves and the packed audience thoroughly approved. We now look forward hopefully to a reprise next year!

~ The Choir's final concert is on Saturday 21 November, 2.30pm at the Habitat Centre, corner Burke and Mont Albert Rd, Canterbury. They will present a blend of popular vocal

music appropriate to the festive season, with the chance for the audience to join in some carol-singing.

~ A week later, we have the Orchestra's end-of-year concert on Sunday 29 November, 2.30 pm at Camberwell Grammar School, 55 Mont Albert Rd Canterbury, with Jules Cseszkó conducting a program of music by Haydn, Dvorak and Max Bruch - a double concerto this time, for clarinet and violin - and featuring a contemporary work by our occasional guest French Horn player David Keeffe.

As to the year ahead - we can now confirm that the first Orchestra concert for 2016 will be with Willem van der Vis on 7 May at St John's Anglican Church Camberwell, which has proved to be a very pleasant and convenient venue. Jules already has his program for the mid-year planned but so far the venue is still in question. We will inform you in the first 2016 Newsletter.

And a note from Jeanette Macarthur re the Recorders:-

Recorder Group continues meeting weekly and enjoys playing a variety of music, which this semester has included rounds.

Three members attended the Victorian Recorder Guild's residential weekend at Myrning in October, a source of excellent playing experiences.

Happy music-making and listening for all the days ahead!

**Ruth Muir**

## WANTED, WANTED



A member who would be willing to assist in the establishment of a weekend activity group.

This is a new initiative which would cater for members looking for a weekend interest. It is proposed the activities could include attending films, gallery and museum visits, undertake walks, visit places of interest etc. etc.

Participants would be enrolled in this "class" and indicate their attendance by booking into individual activities. Where fees are involved, these would need to be paid at the time of booking. It is not envisaged that the organiser/leader does all the work, rather that it would be shared amongst the group.

Please contact Meg Adams 98305378 if you would be interested in assisting with this initiative.



## OBITUARY

### Vale Loris Grote

Loris, who has recently died, enjoyed both walking and leading U3A walks, easy and difficult.

She was excellent to relate to, talked about her adventurous travels and listened to others. These attributes obviously made her a good nurse.

Loris walked with U3A for more than 12 years and will be sadly missed by those who knew her.

**Ruth Cameron, fellow walker**



## A REQUEST FOR WOOL

From the Knitting Rugs for the Needy Group - We get through a great deal of knitting wool as we create our multi-coloured rugs and wonder if there are any people with unwanted knitting yarn (not cotton) which they would like to donate. Offerings can be left at the Office at any time and would be gratefully received and put to good use.

**Ruth Muir**

## THE CHOIR



By the time you read this you may have just attended the Choir's end-of-year concert at Habitat Uniting Church on 21 November. We hope you enjoyed our presentation of traditional and modern songs, sacred music and excerpts from musicals and opera – and the carols, including the ones we asked you to sing along with us. This time we also chose some favourite songs from musicals for you to join us in singing. The choir appreciates feedback, so please tell us about any other musical pieces you might like us to include in future.

We were especially proud to have sung 'The Heavens are Telling' from Haydn's

*The Creation*. It is so joyful to take on a beautiful and challenging work and do justice to it. We are sure you would have also appreciated the lyrical 'An die Musik' (To Music) sung by the women. And what about the men's enthusiastic rendition of 'Right said Fred' with the appropriate headgear?

The choir thanks the committee and other members who take on myriad tasks to ensure we work efficiently and effectively. (And thanks to Bruce Lancashire for filming us.) In particular we thank our expert Musical Director Meredith Vincent for her patient conducting and rehearsing of a mixed bunch with varying skills. Thanks also to our talented accompanists, Judith Chipman and Valerie Judges, who are so dedicated they consult about their holidays so one of them is always available.

U3A members, have you thought of joining the Choir? It is a most enjoyable experience.

**Bev Rangott, Choir Manager**

### FEES FOR 2016

Annual membership fees for 2016 are as follows:

Membership of U3A Hawthorn: \$45  
single or \$70 couple/two at same  
address.

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

Members are reminded that membership  
fees for 2016 must be paid before  
enrolments or re-enrolments in courses  
can be processed.

## EXCURSIONS



Each year we wonder how we can source new and interesting destinations for our monthly excursions, something to surprise and engage you and to take you to places unknown and perhaps only accessible by group bookings.

Occasionally we revisit by popular demand, those outstanding destinations as is our March excursion by the Maribyrnong River on the 'Blackbird'.

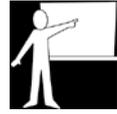
This year has been an interesting and varied program hitting off with visiting Queenscliff and a mussel farm, then came Dame Nellie Melba's 'Coombe Cottage', Hawthorn Town Hall Gallery, National Tennis Centre, Hamer Hall, Norm Fary's Kyneton walk, a great Nepalese/Indian lunch at Nirankar Restaurant and lastly Robyn Boyd's Twilight House tour in South Yarra.

A very busy year!

My sincere thanks to my ever supportive team namely Julianne Lewis, Colette Flynn, Anne Heath and Jan Noonan in planning these events.

*Joan Harding*

## SUMMER SCHOOL



Swinburne University has generously provided a lecture theatre on the Hawthorn Campus for our Summer School in January. All sessions, except for Bridge (which will be held at the Eric Raven Reserve Pavilion, Estella Street Glen Iris), will be held at Swinburne in a very comfortable and well-equipped lecture theatre. Over the summer holidays there are few students on campus and parking is readily available in the Glenferrie Road car parks. The theatre is 5 minutes' walk from Glenferrie station and the Glenferrie Road tram.

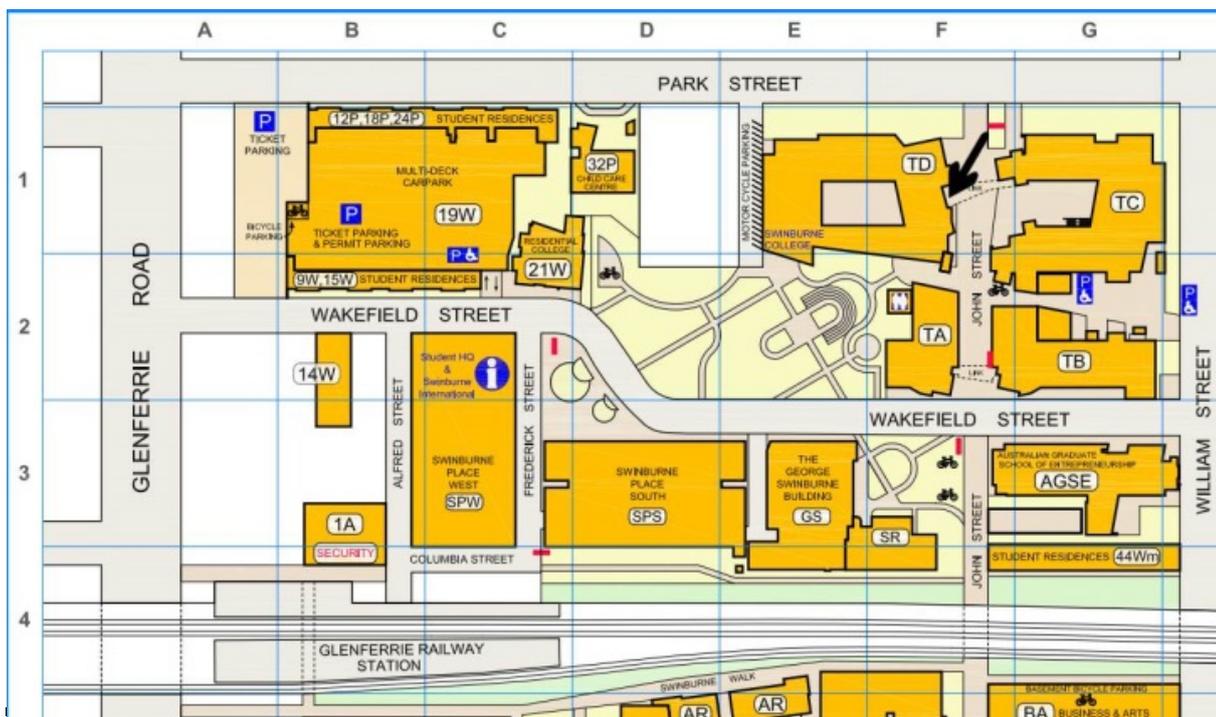
Experienced speakers will present topics in their field of expertise to provide a stimulating and diverse program over a three week period. To register please use the forms included with this newsletter.

*Carol Lancashire*

### COPY DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the March 2016 Newsletter is Wednesday 3 February 2016. Please send all copy to the Office

**SWINBURNE TAFE, Room TD 304, Wakefield St, Hawthorn – enter John Street. The room is on the third level – with lift.**



## 2016 CLASS VENUES

Everyone is wondering where they will have their classes next year. We have been very busy trying to make appropriate arrangements and are still in the process of confirming these sites. However we hope that we have sufficiently secure information to now share with you.

The classes that have been held away from Sinclair Ave during 2015, with one exception, will remain the same. So it is the classes that were held on site that will be relocated.

We expect to have the use of the Eric Raven Reserve Pavilion, Estella Street, Glen Iris and a classroom situated at the east end of the Sinclair Ave Car Park. This classroom will have the Office attached to it.. These two buildings will cater for most of the classes held at Sinclair Ave this year. Some classes will also be located at Swinburne University.

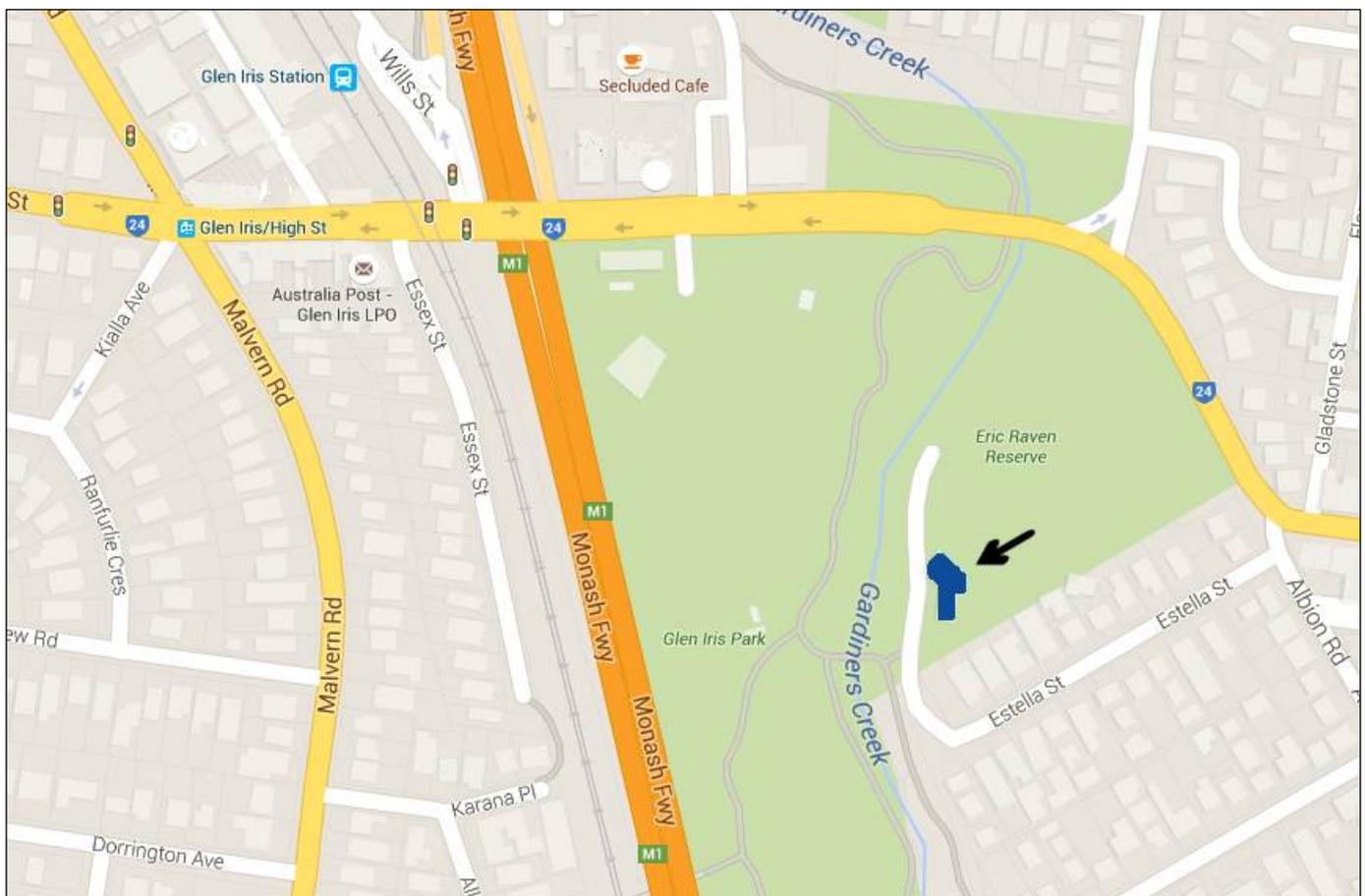
The Eric Raven Reserve Pavilion has excellent parking, will hold approximately 60 people and has good disability access. There is a bus service which operates via Woolworths Camberwell to Chadstone, and also calls at Glen Iris Station. The pavilion is currently used by two sporting bodies who have no weekday use before 4.30pm. We will need to be conscious that we are sharing the facility and ensure that our equipment is stored carefully and securely.

Please read the new Curriculum to ensure you know where your classes will be located and then organise a new route!

We will organise a Tutors briefing on site to ensure that they are familiar with the alarm, storage of equipment and other requirements which we have agreed with the sporting bodies who will have the Council Licence for the site

We do not have a return date. We will relay that in a later Newsletter.

### **The Eric Raven Reserve Pavilion, Estella Street, Glen Iris.**





## 2016 AUTUMN EXCURSIONS

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

### **PAYMENT POLICY**

Please note that reservations must be secured with cash or cheque at the office or by booking online from the Excursions page on our website.

### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

**Cancellations 14 days or less prior to the scheduled departure time = no refund due**

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Thursday  
10 March

### **MARIBYRNONG AND YARRA RIVERS CRUISE ON 'THE BLACKBIRD'**

Please note that we will not be accepting phone bookings for this excursion. Payment can be made in person at the Office or online via the U3A Hawthorn website Excursions page.

Cost: \$20  
Time: 10.30 am departure sharp  
Departure: Footscray on the west side of the Maribyrnong River.  
Proceed to the end of Wingfield Street in the current edition of Melway (also known as 'Salt River Place'). The ferry is 100 yards to the left at end of the street). Ample parking.  
Melway: 42E5  
Inclusions: Cruise only  
Limit: 28 participants

For all those members who have asked "when is the next 'Blackbird' cruise", now is the time to book! Downriver, see the largest port in the Southern Hemisphere, Coode Island, Westgate Bridge and hear the history of these rivers. We turn course upstream to see the amazing development bordering the Yarra River, high-rise, cafes - it's a total transformation. On return approximately two hours later, lunch or coffee is available at Happy River Cafe on the nearby bank of the Maribyrnong River. Please indicate if you are joining the post cruise plans so we can secure tables.

### **SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

The Office closes on Friday 18 December 2015 until Monday 4 January 2016.  
From Monday 4 January to until Friday 29 January 2014,  
the Office is open only from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm.

Normal Office Hours (9.30 am to 4.00 pm) resume from Monday 1 February 2016.

As the current office building is to be renovated, we will advise further about when and to where the office will be relocated.

Telephone: 9821 0282 Facsimile: 9822 7668

Email: [mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au](mailto:mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au)

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