



U3A HAWTHORN NEWS

Official Newsletter of Third Age Learning (Hawthorn) Inc.

Reg No A0010798X, ABN 41360939238

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President and Vice-Chancellor of Swinburne University of Technology

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Notice is given of the
25TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of
THIRD AGE LEARNING (HAWTHORN) Inc.

Location: 26 Sinclair Avenue, Glen Iris

Date: Wednesday, 14 April 2010

Time: 10.30 am

Agenda: To receive apologies and proxies

To confirm Minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting

To receive the Annual Report for 2009/10

To receive the Audited Financial Statement for the year ended
31 December 2009

To elect Office Bearers and Committee Members for the next 12 months

To appoint an Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2010

Other business of which notice has been given in accordance with the Rules

All Executive and Committee positions will be declared vacant. Nomination and Proxy Forms (both available from the office) must be deposited with the Secretary not less than 7 days (in the case of Nominations) and not less than 24 hours (in the case of Proxies) prior to the time for the commencement of the Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting will be followed by a talk.

Speaker: Lady Marigold Southey AC a former Lieutenant Governor of Victoria, Patron and former President of Philanthropy Australia and former President of the Myer Foundation.

Lunch: A light lunch will be provided for those who **notify the Office before Thursday 8 April** of their intention to attend. There is no charge for lunch but pre-booking is essential for catering purposes.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE

Because of limited parking we suggest you car pool if possible or use public transport.

Peter Anderson
Secretary

U3A HAWTHORN OFFICE HOURS: 9.30 am to 4.00 pm Monday to Friday

NEW TUTORS NEEDED

We are totally reliant on volunteer tutors to present a comprehensive and interesting program of classes for our membership. If you have an interest in a particular subject and you are prepared to share your knowledge (or if you know someone else in this position) we would like to hear from you. Please contact the Curriculum Committee (care of the Office) and one of them will get back to you to discuss your offer, with a view to possible inclusion of the course in our program.

SINCLAIR AVENUE PARKING

When using the parking area, please consider your fellow members. If using the middle of the carpark, please restrict parking to two rows and make sure there is room for cars to drive in a circle between those two rows and the cars parked around the perimeter.

Peter Anderson

EMAIL ADDRESSES AND WEBSITE

In order to make more 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

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

Our website **http://www.u3ahawthorn.org.au**

The website is fully functional. All courses, forms, and newsletters are available to download.

MOBILE TELEPHONES

Tutors report that mobile telephones are still being used during classes both for receiving and making calls. Please (1) ensure that your telephone is switched off or set to silent mode before the class commences and (2) good manners dictate that you 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. Thank you for your co-operation.

Members of the Management Committee

FEES FOR 2010

Annual membership fees for 2010 are as follows:

Membership of U3A Hawthorn	\$40 single \$65 couple/two at same address
Member enrolling from another campus	\$25 (to cover administration)

Members are reminded that membership fees for 2010 must be paid before enrolments or re-enrolments in courses for 2010 can be processed.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR MEMBERSHIP BADGE?

Badges are normally printed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays as required. New members and those who have requested a replacement can collect the badge from the office, 26 Sinclair Avenue, Glen Iris, usually within two days of joining U3A Hawthorn or making a request for a replacement. ***Please do not forget to collect your badge from the Office.***

COPY DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the June 2010 Newsletter is 7 May 2010. Please send all copy to the Office.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

End of Year Party

This year Rylands at Riversdale Road, Hawthorn was the popular venue. Although the starting time was advertised as 2.00 pm members started arriving half an hour before. There were 222 bookings for the party and some dozen or so members who had failed to book turned up on the day which made organization a little difficult.

Once again our choir entertained us during this annual function, performing admirably in the somewhat difficult circumstances that some of the audience rudely continued a lively conversation during the concert. We are indebted to the choir for the entertainment they provided and, knowing all the work that goes into the preparation for such an event, we thank them most sincerely for their presentation.

The catering provided by Rylands was excellent and I know that this took a load off the shoulders of our hard working Catering Committee.

I would like to express my thanks to those who were involved in the organisation of this successful event and to say thank you to the staff of Rylands.

Additional Classroom

Members will be aware that we suffer from a shortage of teaching space. The three rooms at Sinclair Avenue are booked solidly during the year and a number of classes are held off campus in a combination of rented premises and private homes. We have been warned that our tenure of the room kindly allowed us by Swinburne University is a limited one.

In addition we have been conscious of an unmet demand amongst our members, and other members of the Boroondara community, for training in the use of computers. This demand is evidenced by the 56 members who booked a place in our Summer School sessions on computer usage.

Your Committee has been investigating the possibility of buying and installing a portable classroom on the land to the north of our main building. The intention is to buy some 8 or 10 lap top computers for use in the new building and to run a series of classes for computing ranging from beginners, to competent and advanced users. At other times the building would be used as an additional classroom. We have commenced negotiations with Boroondara Council for permission to proceed with this idea. We have obtained one indication of costs from a portable classroom manufacturer who has also conducted a feasibility study of the site. Hawthorn U3A has adequate reserves with which to fund this project should Council approval be forthcoming.

Summer School

There is a separate report on the Summer School provided by the organizer of the committee, Marie Hamerton, who was responsible with her committee for running this most successful event. This year it was decided to simplify the organization. Last year it had been so onerous that the entire committee that ran the Summer School in 2009 resigned *en bloc*. We were very grateful for the tremendous task that they had undertaken of providing three classes morning and afternoon, utilizing our three rooms for different sized classes each day. Enrolment had to be undertaken in person on set days.

This year it was decided there would be only two classes a day all to be held in our main hall. Enrolment could be effected over a period of time in person or by mail.

This system seemed to work satisfactorily and the committee that ran the school was gratified by the extraordinary response of our members as set out in Marie's report.

Annual General Meeting

This will be held after Easter on 14 April 2010. I am pleased to advise that Lady Marigold Southey AC has agreed to be our guest of honour and to address us. Lady Southey is the recently retired Deputy Governor of Victoria and a noted philanthropist.

Rod Benjamin

SUMMER SCHOOL 2010

January weather was kind to us this year for our Summer School program and a record number of members enrolled for our 29 topics. We were even visited by a white-faced heron to the wetlands – a new bird on the block! There were 1700 enrolments by 420 members for 38 sessions throughout January.

We were very fortunate to have had such excellent speakers, many of them our own tutors and members, who gave their knowledge and time so generously to give us a wide variety of topics which ranged from the esoteric - Genetics, Philosophy and History to The Lost Dogs Home and the Music of Birds. All sessions were very well attended.

Our small committee consisted of Rod Benjamin, Mary Considine, Margaret Leach, David Kingston, Harold Dalton and Maggie Roberts. Bruce Lancashire looked after the needs of the speakers in the AV department and was present every day during January giving his expertise, hard work and enthusiasm. Mary so competently put together the Timetable, Topics pages and lots, lots more. Thank you to all who contributed to what I think was an informative, entertaining and successful Summer School program this year.

Marie Hamerton, Co-ordinator

THANK YOU JOHN, MORRIS AND PAT

Pursuit of a scientific career often means single-minded attention to the task in hand to the exclusion of everything else. **John Salvaris** is an exception to the above. For fourteen years, John has conducted classes in Byzantine History at Hawthorn U3A despite the fact that he is a scientist by profession.

John completed his pre-University education in Egypt, and then migrated to Australia and studied Biochemistry at Melbourne University. When he came to Australia, he was fluent in Greek, English, French and Arabic. After graduation, he was involved in the team developing the Salk Poliomyelitis Vaccine. He worked in the Commonwealth Serum Laboratory, before moving to the Private Sector developing Plastics Polymerisation.

But science was not enough for John. He developed his interest and knowledge of history to enable him to better understand how civilizations have developed, and are likely to develop in the future.

I have attended John's classes for six years, and can attest to his deep knowledge of his subject, and thorough preparation for his classes. Each year, he has changed his approach and emphasis, to maintain freshness in his classes, and to give his students a deeper understanding of his very broad subject. Whether it be "*The Growth of the Byzantine Empire*", "*The Balkans*", "*The Declining Centuries*", or "*The Ottomans*", one has learned the extensive and abiding contribution the Byzantine Empire has made to society.

In 1988, John received an OAM, for services to the Elderly Greek Community. John Salvaris has now retired from his Lecturing at U3A.

From all those who have attended your classes, thank you John. We appreciate what you have done, and will miss your classes and good humour. We also know that you will continue to take a great interest in current affairs both in Australia and throughout the World.

Bernard Coburn.

After 14 years **Morris Williams** presented his final Art Appreciation Class – Highways and Byways in November last, the title being "Illustrations: A Retrospective from the Collection". This topic covered cave paintings to the impressionists and what went between in a whirlwind review.

His fortnightly classes were an informal, non-technical series which considered works of various artists and periods within their historical and social contexts, incorporating a wonderful collection of slides and overhead projector presentations of paintings from his personal collection of art books.

Subjects covered included Greek and Roman art through to medieval art, early renaissance art, the advent of oil painting, neo-classicism and the dawn of romanticism, the impressionists through to the early modernists. Morris' knowledge of all the preceding topics with particular reference to romanticism was what brought him to the tutorial position at U3A following the retirement of his predecessor.

Morris' warm and gentle personality enhanced our sessions, and his fountain of knowledge of the period and the detail of the artists and the paintings under discussion seemed to have no boundaries. For many of us, I believe, the paintings came alive and changed the way we appreciate art and art history.

It would be remiss if any tribute to Morris did not include a word of thanks to his wife, Helen, who has been a wonderful support over the years in so many ways.

Morris, on behalf of all the class participants throughout your time at U3A Hawthorn, thank you for allowing us to share in your love and appreciation of art, and we take this opportunity of wishing you well for the future.

Brendan Hayward

Drum roll please! And another! **Pat Morris** deserves to be honoured for her services to the fashion industry. Prior to teaching her U3A dressmaking class which has spanned the last twenty two years (yes, it commenced in 1988), she taught in government secondary schools – Emily Mac and Balwyn High to name a couple. Back then she must have kept her students under control with her cool, sardonic wit – just as she has with our GE 02 class. Pat is famous for her innate sense of style and eye for design, textiles and pattern.

There are some students who have been with the class for all those years. Someone whispered to me on my first day three years ago that I was very lucky to be enrolled. She said she'd heard someone had to die before you could get into the class! Turns out that's really not true but it does illustrate how lucky we are to be included.

And we're good, very good at our craft – courtesy of Pat. How else would we have learned how to interpret a complex design; or rely on her watchful eye as we lay out and smooth our materials in preparation for cutting; or rescue and transform a disastrous fashion purchase; or manipulate a pattern to fit the most miniscule scrap of fabric; and my personal favourite – use a piece of dampened brown paper and a very hot iron to form the flattest of seams or darts.

It's not going to be the same without Pat. How will we survive without her droll comments and wicked humour; her attention to detail; her insightful discussions about the books she's read; the hilarious stories about her neighbours; and her devotion to her darling little dog Lucy? Our laughter- laden classes have fallen on hard times.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you Pat!

Maggie Lardi

YEHUDA SVORAY, OAM – October 1925 – January 2010

Sadly, Yehuda Svoray passed away in his sleep at the Montefiore Jewish Care Home on the morning of 7 January. A number of members of his classes were able to attend his burial, or the memorial service.

Yehuda was an extremely popular tutor during the twelve years before he ‘retired’ to Montefiore just on two years ago, although he still enjoyed an occasional visit to U3A classes, and until recently continued to give lectures at the Home.

He began ‘*Composers and their Music*’ fortnightly lectures, which he also gave at U3As at Glen Eira and Stonnington in the same week. He was an avid listener to classical music, owned his own *baton* for listening at home, but had to do without it at class, where he sometimes would be seen vigorously conducting to himself. On his wish list was to be able to conduct somebody’s orchestra “*just once, just a little bit*”.

He informed us with a magazine programme, ‘*Perspective*’, regaling us with stories of current affairs, politics, history and the arts and especially with a joke or three. There was a course on ‘*Comparative Religion*’ and ‘*Understanding and Enjoying The Bible*’, when he explained the literacy of the early Books.

A renowned raconteur, he loved a joke and appeared never to be without a smile, thoroughly enjoying life and everyone in it and had a personality seemingly ‘*larger than life*’.

Yehuda was eleven when the family left Berlin for Palestine. After excellent schooling, he especially discovered a love of poetry. He spent many years on one of the early Kibbutzim where he met and married Rachel and later moved to Tel Aviv with her and their two sons. He became a journalist and studied in England. Later he was sent to Melbourne to advise as Agent for Australians migrating to Israel. He liked Melbourne so much that in the 1970s he settled here with his family. Continuing with journalism, he was also Manager and Presenter at Radio 3EA and involved in the beginnings of SBS Radio, becoming Station Manager and Programme Manager there. He was strongly involved in Jewish community service and in 2004 was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for Services to the Community, particularly through U3A and Bnai Brith.



He loved dogs, dining, discussion, reading, travel, painting and writing and has published many booklets relating to his adventures and of his poems. His latest series (with which he would occupy his time during the annual break from U3A!) involved dissecting early books of the Bible, setting them out verse by verse, first in Hebrew, with his own transliteration, his translation into English, then a remarkably detailed personal commentary on each passage. His sense of humour got everywhere. Note this quote at the end of one of his commentaries on *Exodus*, “*So much fun is to be had in a slow re-reading of these old and wonderful texts!*”

Almost everything was fun to Yehuda and we will miss him greatly.

Sadly, Yehuda’s wife Rachel also passed away at Montefiore on 19 January 2010, aged 80.

IN MEMORY OF TIM KELLY

Tim Kelly died on Friday 5 February 2010. He was a wonderful guide through our studies of Shakespeare, Milton, Pope and Virgil. We are richer for his kind friendship and deeply appreciate the great generosity with which he shared his scholarship. He will be sorely missed and lovingly remembered by all his students at Hawthorn U3A.

(This note is adapted from The Age Death Notices. A fuller tribute to Tim will appear in our next Newsletter.)



MUSIC NOTES



Concert dates for the year:-

Orchestral Concert #1 - Thursday,	April 29	Conductor Christopher Martin
Orchestral Concert #2 - Thursday,	July 29	Conductor Willem van der Vis
Orchestral Concert #3 - Thursday,	November 25	Conductor Jules Cseszko

All concerts will be at 10.30 am in the Hawthorn Town Hall, Burwood Road Hawthorn.

The annual Choir concert will be on Saturday June 19 at 2.30 pm in the Chandelier Room, Hawthorn Town Hall, Burwood Road, Hawthorn.

RETIREMENT OF CHRISTOPHER MARTIN

It is a sad fact that the first Orchestral concert this year will be the last one conducted by our esteemed Musical Director, Christopher Martin. Chris turns 80 in April and after 10 years and 23 concerts for us he has decided to retire. Throughout his association with us he has given generously of his talents and energies and he will be much missed. With his warm and outgoing personality Chris has been loved by both players and audiences, and the orchestra has flourished under his leadership. Our audiences particularly have appreciated his warm welcomes to them and looked forward to his sharing of stories and comments during the concert – and of course his outstanding musicianship.

This final concert will be a very special occasion, with the program carefully chosen by Chris to enable family members and close friends and former colleagues to join with him and take part, and to ensure that there is a place in it for every player from all the sections of the Orchestra. Truly not to be missed by all those who have enjoyed our past concerts!

Following the concert, players and Chris’s family will join with him over a light lunch and farewell party in the Chandelier Room, a grateful tribute to a man who has given much to our U3A.

YEHUDA SVORAY

It is with much regret that we also mark the loss of another endearing musical identity who contributed so much to our appreciation of music – Yehuda Svoray, who died recently. His obituary appears elsewhere in the Newsletter

Ruth Muir.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Our very successful End-of -Year function in December would have been even more enjoyable for the organisers if a number of members had not arrived unannounced wanting to pay their money at the door. When we ask members to book for some of our functions and to pay the entry fee in advance by a certain date, we have a good reason or reasons for doing so. For the future, may I appeal to all members to respond to the “RSVP” and to be considerate of those who do the work.

It was a pleasure recently to let our gardening group know that the water tank at the rear of the office building is now operating to supply our garden. Some of you may not know that Council has installed another tank which supplies the toilet cisterns in the main building. We express our thanks to the Council officers responsible for these improvements.

At the end of 2009 Margaret Kelly moved from the position of Receptionist Coordinator to that of Assistant Treasurer. We thank her for her work during the year and are pleased to welcome Gwen Gavin to the role. I hope all existing and potential receptionists will do their best to simplify Gwen’s task. Peter Merigan, our Treasurer, is pleased to have Margaret’s support. Now, where are all those budding secretaries clamouring to take my place after nine years in the job?

Peter Anderson

AUTUMN - WINTER 2010 EXCURSIONS

*For bookings please telephone the U3A office
For further **queries**, please contact Joan Harding on 98133974 or 0408366987 or
Colette Flynn on 98826097*

MARIBYRNONG AND YARRA RIVER CRUISE WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH 2010

Last year in March we boarded the *Blackbird*, a traditional ferry boat of Lakes Entrance fame, to venture upstream on the Maribyrnong River and we learned of the close association of the waterway with the early development of Melbourne.

The tour was so successful we have decided to take a cruise downstream to the convergence of the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers, visiting the docks and Dockland areas. With the knowledgeable commentary of our Captain, we shall witness the present day development of our ports and city area. In addition we will cruise up to the Maribyrnong Road Bridge and Anglers' Pub areas. As our numbers are strictly limited, please pay upon placing your booking.

Cost: \$15 per person

Transport: Own arrangements (ample parking)

Departure: Footscray – on the western side of the Maribyrnong River (Melway reference: 42 E5)

Proceed to the end of Wingfield Street to access the river. There is a new name for the end of Wingfield Street in the latest Melway, which is called *Salt River Place*. The river ferry is 100 metres to the end of Salt River Place.

The boat leaves the dock at 10.30 am sharp and returns two hours later.

Parking: Near the boat cruise office or in the street (4 hour parking restriction)

Maximum: 28 Participants

Iced water is available on board.

Car pooling is suggested.

Please direct bookings and payment to the U3A office. Be quick to register!! Payment is due when placing your reservation.

DAY TOUR TO MARYSVILLE MONDAY 19 APRIL 2010

Many of our members have made trips to beautiful Marysville over the years but on 7 February 2009 the residents' lives changed dramatically. Many historic buildings were destroyed by the fire. All but 14 of over 400 buildings were lost. Marysville Country Bakery was left standing but not unscathed. We have organised a trip to the town. The tour includes morning tea at Maroondah Dam, lunch at the Marysville Bakery and a tour of the surrounding area. We hope that our custom will aid Marysville's recovery. Do support this cause and bring a friend or two to add to the numbers.

Cost: \$35 including morning tea, lunch and transportation

Transport: Coach departs from Hawthorn U3A, 26 Sinclair Avenue, Glen Iris

Departure: 9.15 am

Return: Approximately 4.30 pm

Note: Minimum of 40 passengers required for tour to eventuate

Please direct bookings and payment to the U3A office. Payment due upon placing reservation.

LUNCH AT OKRA RESTAURANT

TUESDAY 04 MAY 2010

Join us in our quest to sample and enjoy the varied cuisines of the world.

This time we shall lunch at Okra Restaurant which specialises in South East Asian dishes. Okra Restaurant is noted for its high quality fare, its good service and consistency. You won't be disappointed! The restaurant also offers gluten free meals.

Time: 12.15 pm

Location: 159 Camberwell Road, Hawthorn East. Melway reference 45 H12.
Beside Bilia Volvo showroom.

Parking: Metered parking on Camberwell Road.

Cost: Individual cost as per choice of menu (lunch menu guide from \$12 per serve)

As there will be no split bills, please ensure you have cash for payment.

Please direct bookings and a \$10 deposit payment to the U3A office.

TOUR OF THE ABC CENTRE STUDIOS, SOUTHBANK

THURSDAY 20 MAY 2010

The ABC Studio Centre is a working space so no two tours are ever the same. The tour is likely to include a visit to the radio and TV studio, and control room as well as an insight into a variety of other ABC services.

The Centre is a large building and the tour will involve walking in a studio environment so soft soled, comfortable footwear is essential. Elevators are used to access different levels. At the completion of the tour enjoy morning tea (at own expense) at 'Script' restaurant at the Recital Centre (opposite the ABC).

Cost: \$5 per person

Time: 9.30 am (sharp) to approximately 10.30 am

Transport: Own arrangements

Departure Point: Meet in the ABC Centre foyer, 120 Southbank Boulevard (corner of Sturt Street)

Maximum: 15 participants

Full payment upon booking at the U3A office.

ADVANCE NOTICE

TOUR OF SOUTHERN CROSS RAILWAY STATION

TUESDAY 22 JUNE 2010

Cost: nil

Time: 10.00 am to 1.30 pm (approximately)

Limit: 20 participants

Further details in next newsletter. Bookings not yet open.

Joan Harding

U3A HAWTHORN EVENTS

March 2010 Onwards

(This flyer is for your refrigerator or bulletin board)

WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH 2010

10.30 AM TO 12.30 PM

MONDAY 19 APRIL 2010

9.15 AM TO 4.30 PM

TUESDAY 04 MAY 2010

12.15 PM

THURSDAY 20 MAY 2010

9.30 AM TO 10.30 AM

TUESDAY 22 JUNE 2010

10.00AM to 1.30 PM

THURSDAY 29 APRIL 2010)

THURSDAY 29 JULY 2010)

THURSDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2010)

ALL AT 10.30 AM

SATURDAY JUNE 19

2.30 PM

**MARIBYRNONG AND YARRA
RIVER CRUISE**

Salt River Place, Footscray

DAY TOUR TO MARYSVILLE

LUNCH AT OKRA RESTAURANT

**TOUR OF THE ABC CENTRE STUDIOS
SOUTHBANK**

**TOUR OF SOUTHERN CROSS
RAILWAY STATION**

**ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS
AT
HAWTHORN TOWN HALL**

**CHOIR CONCERT
CHANDELIER ROOM
HAWTHORN TOWN HALL**

Full details of these events are in your Newsletter

URGENT – DATABASE ASSISTANCE

We are still looking for a Member who has a good knowledge of our Database software FilemakerPro Version 8 or above to assist with data processing and further development. Email us at mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au if you can help.

Hans van Dorssen, Bruce Lancashire, John Harcourt, Andrew Campbell