



U3A HAWTHORN NEWS

Official Newsletter of Third Age Learning (Hawthorn) Inc.

Reg No A0010798X, ABN 41360939238

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The June Concert by the U3A choir was a real delight. The program commenced with an old English air followed by works from Mozart, Vaughan Williams, Irving Berlin, to Lerner and Lowe and a fun piece titled the Green-eyed Dragon. You will find a large photo of the choir on the noticeboard at Sinclair Avenue Campus (SAC).

Recently, our secretary, Peter Anderson and I met with Ted Baillieu who, as you all know, now leads the Victorian State Liberal Party. As a very experienced politician Ted talked to us about effective lobbying and had some interesting points to make. He pointed out that we are a large organisation that, for many people, helps to make the Third Age one of the best times in their lives and we should be putting a lot of effort into communicating this. In short, the take home message was that, in order to attain the support we need to secure our future, U3A Hawthorn should be much more pro-active in the way it presents itself to the community.

As I mentioned in my first newsletter, recruiting members is high on our agenda because, like all U3As, we constantly need volunteers, new courses, new students and new tutors. Our colourful new brochure is just one example of the way in which we are now doing that. Ray Abbot did the design and layout and Ian Pittman took the photographs while Lynne Merigan contributed to the wording and made it all happen. You will find copies of it at Reception, SAC.

The newsletter is our primary means of communication with members – it is U3A's lifeline. Our newsletter sub-committee members are Meg Adams, Veronica Cosgrove, John Harcourt and Mavis Hoy. If you have an announcement or an item of interest to our general U3A membership, drop it into reception or better still send it to our email address listed above.

This newsletter and our beautiful brochure are the work of volunteers. Members of U3A Hawthorn proudly do all the organisational work themselves – we do not have paid staff. The objective is to be able to keep fees low while at the same time remaining financially independent. If you think you can help – give the office a call.

Elizabeth Pittman

END OF YEAR GALA EVENT

**There will be much music, light-hearted frivolity, and
a surprise afternoon tea party.**

**So please take out your diary, turn to Saturday 9 December
and write**

U3A party at Leonda By The Yarra.

**U3A HAWTHORN OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday 9.30 am - 1.00 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 9.30 am - 4.00 pm**

EMAIL ADDRESSES AND WEBSITE

Many people have already taken up the opportunity to request notification of course enrolments and unforeseen changes by email. It is proposed in the near future to make more use of email for U3A Hawthorn communications. If you wish to take up this offer and have not done so already, please send a message to the U3A Hawthorn office at:

mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au

indicating that you are willing to be contacted by email. **Please include in the email your name(s) and U3A ID number(s).**

Bruce Lancashire, our orchestra percussionist, has upgraded and simplified our website. You can log on to the new website at:

http://www.u3ahawthorn.org.au

The new website is now fully functional. All courses, forms, and newsletters are available for download. Please direct your friends to the new site.

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 Derek Readman (98536463) and he will get back to you, with a view to including the course in our program.

We would also like to hear from anyone who would be prepared to give a talk in our Saturday Series (held on the last Saturday of each month from March to November). Contact as above.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INVITED

A shed where men could drop in and work on things – electrical, carpentry – or whatever men do when they have a garden shed. This project would be aimed at men suffering withdrawal symptoms who have moved into apartments etc. and have given up their garages and sheds. We also need someone to lead this project (and a shed). Telephone Derek Readman on 9853 6463.

CONTRIBUTORS WANTED FOR BOOK

A young woman named Madeleine Grummet, with a journalist background, is writing a book with contributions from Australian women about what really matters to them in everyday life. She would like to hear from women who are prepared to contribute either by interview or written material, and hopes to unearth some accumulated wisdom in the process. If you are prepared to help Madeleine would you contact her please by email mlgrummet@bigpond.com, or on mobile 0411 659 298.

COPY DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the December 2006 Newsletter is November 6. Please send all copy to the Office. Preferably, copy should be submitted to the office email address: mail@u3ahawthorn.org.au

EDITORIAL NOTE

All items published in the U3A Hawthorn Newsletter conform with the U3A Hawthorn policies and are directly related to the business of this organisation and its members.

FEES FOR 2007

Annual membership fees for 2007 are as follows:

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

NOTES FOR OUR MUSIC LOVERS.

It seems a long time since our last communication, and much has happened in the meantime. Both Choir and Orchestra have given concerts to enthusiastic audiences, and there is more to come.

The Choir presented its Annual Concert on 27 June at the Salvation Army Citadel, a favourite venue for these concerts, and featured works by Mozart in recognition of his birthday celebrations this year. They have also been involved in the biennial concert given by members of Eastern Region U3As on 9 August at the Whitehorse Performing Arts Centre, where the various groups presented choral works, line dancing, bell ringing and items from our recorder group. The afternoon finished with two numbers for massed choirs. The day was, as always, a fun-filled co-operative event.

The Orchestra's Mid-Winter concert on 10 August presented an exciting program, with our guest conductor Willem van der Vis proving an inspiring and tireless leader. Despite the challenges of the program, the players thoroughly enjoyed working with him in rehearsal and the performances were most successful and enjoyable. We were indeed lucky to have as soloist Suyeong Kang, a brilliant young violinist, who has already made a name as a performer with ABC orchestras around the country and won many awards. The combination of conductor, orchestra and soloist provided an amazing performance of the Bruch Concerto for Violin.

Christopher Martin is back from his overseas travels and is looking forward to seeing you all again. This concert will include works by Dvorak, Schubert, Faure and Bruch, and feature "Our Own" Annette Martin as 'cello soloist in two very beautiful works.

from Ruth Muir

A decorative border consisting of a series of musical notes (treble clef, quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes) arranged in a rectangular frame around the central text.

THE FINAL ORCHESTRAL CONCERT FOR THE YEAR
will be held
on **THURSDAY, 26 OCTOBER** at 10.30 am
in the **HAWTHORN TOWN HALL.**
Please note this date in your diary.

REFURBISHMENT OF SINCLAIR AVENUE CAMPUS

At the end of 2005 U3A received a grant of \$2000 from the Boroondara Community Grants Program, the funds coming from Boroondara and the Rotary Club of Balwyn. Our project was to establish our campus at Sinclair Avenue and this grant was used to repair and repaint the walls and install window coverings in the main hall.

As this area is used for many classes, groups and U3A functions to which visitors are invited throughout the year, it was important to refurbish this space to make the surroundings attractive and welcoming. We have received a lot of positive feedback that shows how appreciative our members are.

Thank you to the volunteers who gave up a Saturday morning to tidy the main hall, rearrange storage cupboards and shift unused items into the sheds so that we could get this work done.

Apologies however, to all those who have suffered during the freezing mornings but hopefully we have mastered the intricacies of the heating system so now we can be comfortable whilst appreciating our new surroundings.

The Gardening Group has also done a great job of restoring and replanting the gardens that had suffered from years of neglect. The gardens should look a treat this spring with further plans in the pipeline to make the outdoor areas inviting for more activities.

As U3A is now responsible for some of the minor maintenance around the campus e.g., putting up curtains in the north classroom or small odd jobs that require skills, we are looking for handy persons to volunteer their services. Volunteering your services helps maintain our low subscription. Where else can you get the benefits that we enjoy as members of U3A for a mere \$40 *per annum* ?

from Lynne Merigan

SUMMER SCHOOL

Our 2007 Summer School will be held from 3 to 27 January. As usual, there will be heavy reliance on the invaluable input of our existing tutors but you others lurking there in the shadows are invited to front up and offer the benefits of your expertise, either in single or multiple one and a half hour sessions.

All offers as soon as possible please to Derek Readman on 9853 6463.

ARTHRITIS

A group of researchers, including Physiotherapists and Biomechanists from the Centre for Health, Exercise and Sports Medicine at The University of Melbourne are putting on a free information session on Arthritis, particularly of the knee, 11.30 am to 1.00 pm on Thursday 12 October at Sinclair Avenue.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The Management Committee has decided to re-introduce a programme of excursions/tours, starting with an excursion to the Beleura House and Garden, Mornington on Tuesday, 21 November.

Beleura is a stylish Italianate garden villa built in 1863 with a pillared portico and ornate roof-top statuary and is a wonderful time capsule, a theatre of the past. It has a beautiful garden which was recently featured on the ABC Gardening show.

The property was bequeathed by John Tallis complete with its contents as a generous foundation to the people of Victoria in 1996 and it has only recently been opened to the public.

A bus will depart from U3A, Sinclair Avenue at 8.30 am for the Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery where members will transfer to a minibus for Beleura, returning to the gallery at 2.30 pm and arriving back at Sinclair Avenue around 3.45 pm.

Cost: seniors \$47, for entry to the house, buses there and back, morning tea and lunch – no refunds.

Bookings with payment in full are required to the U3A office by 9 October.

Maximum number for the trip is 24.

Other activities are planned but we would like to consider any ideas you might have in this area. Please telephone Muriel Mathers on 9853 8602 or Ruth Hoadley on 9819 3073.

SHAKESPEARE DVDs

We have recently acquired the complete set of the BBC Shakespeare series of 37 plays on DVD. Any Hawthorn U3A member who wishes to borrow them should telephone Ruth Boschen on 9836 2524.

EASTERN REGION CONCERT AT WHITEHORSE CENTRE

Those who were caught up with their classes and unable to travel to Nunawading for this August display of U3A musical prowess might mark the occasion in their diary for next year!

During the afternoon we enjoyed Six Choirs large and small, one cleverly singing *à capella* and some with only a few brave chaps to accompany the ladies. There was a great variety of songs; sensitive, joyful and fun and one sung in Hebrew.

Happily there was a good swag of men in our Hawthorn Choir and most impressive was when the ladies and gents sang their own parts for “*You’re Just in Love*”. The men’s voices sounded very well together and we might look forward to some more ‘solo’ work from their section?

Diverse music was heard from our own Recorder group, and from a Chorus of Musical Chimers. The Knox Bell Ringers have moved on to using these clapper-like ‘handles’, each one chiming its own note. The concentration was palpable. Apparently it was made easier by the wearing of some very colourful hats (etc.).

Knox also treated us to some slick Line Dancing. But not all items seemed ‘impossible’ as they stepped out some fun jazz steps and a rock’n’roll beat. Now we all want to “do it”.

For the next concert, if you can go by train, the Nunawading station is about 10 minutes walk from the Theatre. This year the ticket cost just \$5 and was very well worth it.

from Glenda Munroe