

HAWTHORN CAMPUS NOTES IX

APRIL 1987

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE ?

Australian industry receives constant criticism when it comes to planning for the future and anticipating future trends, so it was disturbing to learn at the U3A Hawthorn March Forum that the Commission for the Future, specially established to look at long range planning, has no security of tenure on its own future at all.

Speaking at the Forum, Commission member, John Burke, said that not only was John Howard publicly committed to disbanding the Commission when and if the Liberals win government, but it is not even certain that the present Government, which established the Commission less than two years ago, will continue funding.

During its short existence, the Commission has organised seminars on the likely effect of technology in relation to people including such areas as health, education and the law and science, to mention a few. It has also published excellent articles by leading scientists and other experts, some in booklet form and others in the bi-monthly magazine "In Future".

The basic aim, says John Burke, is to study the impact of technology on people with a view to gaining a greater understanding and preparedness for its effect on society generally. He stressed that older people have a contribution to make to this process, particularly in the area of feed-back.

About 120 members attended this important forum and questions to the speaker were constructive and pertinent but unfortunately had to be cut short when time ran out.

HOW DOES IT WORK ?

New members are often surprised that the low annual fee gives entry into any number of courses. With the influx of enrolments for 1987, perhaps some explanation is timely.

The U3A Hawthorn is a 'self-help' association and, as such, no member receives payments for services, whether they are tutors, committee members or administrative staff. It is this high level of volunteer effort which helps keep costs to a minimum, but even so, the budget is very tight. In the past year, besides fees, very minor income was obtained from photo-copying charges, book sales and donations, while a small grant from the Regional TAFE Board went to tutors' workshops.

But sponsorship in kind is most significant and this has come from -

Hawthorn Community Education Council

- fostering and developing U3A in the initial years;

Swinburne Ltd.

- providing accommodation at 24 Wakefield Street in the form of office and classroom space, plus power, cleaning and house maintenance;

Hawthorn Municipal Council

- providing classroom space at very minimal rent at the Tresise Centre, Recreation Centre, Library and Community House;
- providing the Chandelier Room at the Town Hall for large meetings;
- providing free photo-copying of Campus Notes, etc.;

Malvern Municipal Council

- providing classroom space free of charge - one morning;

John Gardiner High School

- providing free use of art room - one afternoon;

Hawthorn Artists' Society

- use of fully equipped studio - one afternoon;

M.L.C.

- providing free use of classroom space for joint U3A/MLC programs.

U3A volunteers work alongside paid staff who co-ordinate other programs or perform administrative duties. The Adult Education Officer sees to general administration at 24 Wakefield Street and is available to support the U3A if and when required. By sharing premises in the community education centre, human and physical resources, as well as funds, can be used to the best advantage. Ideas and companionship are shared too and younger people learn from the expertise and experience of older people.

The past year has seen the U3A Hawthorn consolidate its organization while fiercely maintaining the original philosophy of the movement, aiming for the highest standards of learning and the promotion of a positive image of older people within the community. Membership, with some turnover, remains at about four hundred and sixty with more than fifty courses being offered. Members can feel very proud of what has been achieved.

RESEARCH PROJECT - THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF AGED MIGRANTS

During 1987, the Hawthorn Community Education Centre will supervise a research project into the educational needs of older migrants in our region. The tasks involved will be shared by the research panel, with membership from the Council of Adult Education, Swinburne College of TAFE and the Hawthorn Library, working alongside our staff. John Balfour of U3A Hawthorn will carry out much of the qualitative aspects of the research.

This will be a most worthwhile, exciting project for two reasons. Besides the findings to be presented to the education authorities for their future planning, it also offers the prospect of concerned community members working together.

Assistance would be welcomed from any other U3A members, especially in the collating, editing stages. Full acknowledgement of the contribution of all those concerned is assured and out of pocket expenses for travel, etc. will be made good, should they arise.

If you see social research as a challenge, wish to be part of the project and need more information before committing yourself to help, please call at 24 Wakefield Street or ring Judy Elsworth on 819 8824.

RESEARCH PROJECT INTO OSTEOPOROSIS

If you are one of the many people who suffer from this disabling disease, you might like to take part in an investigation being organized by the Mount Royal Hospital. An extract from their letter gives information from their National Research Institute of Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine -

"I am writing to you with regard to recruiting persons over the age of 50 to take part in a dietary study related to Osteoporosis. Osteoporosis "thinning of the bones" is a major disabling disease in the older age group. Initially I am very interested to hear from any persons with a brother or sister in the Melbourne area who also would be willing to be interviewed. I shall be focusing mainly on the intake of foods during childhood with some questions on current food habits.

Later in the year I shall be commencing the major part of the study and would be interested in hearing from any women over the age of 60 who might be willing to take part.

All information is completely confidential and the requirements of participation in the study are outlined in the accompanying information sheet. Participants are not bound and are free to withdraw at any time."

Should you like to share in this research, please register your interest with Carol Nowson, Research Nutritionist, National Research Institute of Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine, Mount Royal Hospital, Parkville, Telephone 387-2211 Ext. 332. She will then contact you when the project is due to begin, and make arrangements to visit you or for you to go to the Centre. Further information is available at the U3A office in Wakefield Street.

AWARD FOR U3A TUTOR

Personal Emergency Services, Adult and Child Literacy programmes and Adult Education are just some of the areas in which U3A tutor, Judy Lee, has participated in a voluntary capacity during her busy life. Her voluntary contribution in these fields was recognised at the end of last year when she received the Telecom Advance Australia Award of Merit.

Despite her voluntary activities, Judy also found time to study part time at Monash University for an Arts degree, majoring in Anthropology. This led to her accepting a position as research assistant at Monash University, North Aboriginal Research Centre for a period of time.

Judy is a foundation member of U3A Hawthorn and conducts the Anthropology course (see 'A Spectrum of Studies' page 5).

---oOo---

U3A members who have been at Wakefield Street over the summer months may have met Lyn Armstrong, a young student nurse from the Gippsland Institute. Lyn was with us for work placement over the holidays to gain experience working with older people. Her remarks on leaving are worth passing on. When asked had she benefited from her time with us, she replied that she had learnt a great deal, the most important thing being "...to treat older people as people". In a very small way we have contributed to creating positive attitudes within the community. At least one geriatric nurse will have an enlightened view of her patients.

A SPECTRUM OF STUDIES

ANTHROPOLOGY

Owing to family illness, the convener of this group, Judy Lee, has been forced to take leave for the rest of the year. The class is very concerned about the cancellation of this course and we wonder whether there is anyone among our members who could continue with it, if only during the time when Judy is absent.

Please advise us on 819 8824 if you can help in any way at all.

ART APPRECIATION

A course of the history of art from the Primitive, Greek and Roman through the Italian Renaissance to the present day, covering architecture, painting and sculpture.

Convener: Martin Merchant.

ART - ORIENTAL:

This course which includes excursions to Oriental galleries, introduces students to various aspects of Oriental Art, lasts for 5 to 6 weeks.

Wednesday mornings. Convener: Ernestine Lobb.

AUSTRALIAN HISTORY:

A look at some aspects of the social and cultural history of Australia. Topics treated will depend on students' interests and will be drawn from - the foundations pre 1850, immigration, education, the legacy of gold, "the legend of the nineties", the federal movement, major developments 1900-1940.

Monday afternoons. Convener: Gordon Wilson.

GENEALOGY:

Are you interested in tracing your origins? If so, then this beginners workshop in genealogy would be a good place to start.

Tuesday afternoons at the Hawthorn Recreation Centre.

Convener: Marjorie Stone.

KNITTING & CROCHET:

Brush up your skills in these crafts or develop new skills and gain added satisfaction by making garments for yourself, family or friends.

Instruction ranges from beginners to advanced - from childrens and adult clothes to toys and household linen.

Tuesday afternoons at the Hawthorn Recreation Centre.

Convener: Alma Bourke.

MYTHS & FACTS OF AGEING:

An informative 5 week course which explores the challenges faced by older people, methods of dealing with problems that may arise, and ways in which old age can be made enjoyable and rewarding.

Thursday afternoons. Convener: Elizabeth Turner.

NUTRITION & HEALTH:

In today's society we are continually subjected to enticing food advertisements and articles on miracle diets. This popular course is designed to help you distinguish between fact and fiction, its relevance to health and the prevention of illness.

Tuesday mornings at Wakefield Street. Convener: Greta Burman.

SOCIAL ISSUES:

Studies range from multi-culturalism through racism to children and the law, the Family Court and victims of crime, in considering the important social issues of our time. Bio-ethics, the problems of adoption (national and international), abortion and euthanasia also come under scrutiny.
Wednesday afternoons. Convener: Herbert Liffman.

SOCIOLOGY/PSYCHOLOGY:

A course offering a mixture of philosophy, psychology and sociology. A simple yet comprehensive guide to the types of psychologies and therapies now available from both Western and Eastern societies.
Friday mornings at William Tresise. Convener: Alex Gale.

TRAVEL & YOU:

Using slides and a wealth of personal experience, Harry provides advice and useful hints to would be travellers, brings back memories of trips gone by and shows the world to those who want to enjoy travel in home comfort.
Wednesday afternoons. Convener: Harry Bonney.

NEW COURSES

LIVING SKILLS

Convener: John Balfour

This program is divided into five segments.
You may enrol in one or more segments.
Places will be limited in Segments 1 and 5 - so please apply early.

1. Working with Dreams - A Jung-ian Approach
Four introductory sessions beginning May 20th - 2 p.m.
2. Relating to Others -
This program will be presented by guest speakers including Dr. Richard Griffith, Psychiatrist and Judy Stanton, Psychologist.
Begins on July 1st - 4 sessions.
3. Various Aspects of the World We Live In -
Guest speakers will include Dr. M. Shoobridge and Mr. J. Lim from Beijing. Begins on August 5th.
4. Useful Information -
In this program we shall have speakers from the police on home security, the law society on legal matters and so forth.
Begins September.
5. Relaxation - classes will begin October.



CURRENT COURSESART - BEGINNERS

A self-help group doing Practical Art in a variety of styles.
Friday afternoons.

CAR MAINTENANCE

Convener: Thalby Reidy-Crofts

A 10 week course to help you understand how your car works - in conjunction with M.L.C. Particulars available from office.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Convener: William Zimmerman

Group needs 12 players.
Wednesday afternoons at William Tresise Centre.

CURRENT AFFAIRS - AUSTRALIA & THE WORLD

Convener: Bernard Haugh

Current affairs around the world and how they may affect Australia. Class members determine the topics they wish to discuss and participate in collecting information.

Thursday mornings at the William Tresise Centre.

CURRENT AFFAIRS - S.E. ASIA

Conveners: Gerald Noble
Jean Aikenhead

A weekly discussion group concentrating on current happenings in lands to the north of Australia.

Tuesday mornings at the William Tresise Centre.

ECONOMICS FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

Convener: George Charles

This discussion group will emphasise the natural economic forces which influence day-to-day living and current affairs. Its aim is to create a greater awareness of the world about us. Thursdays at William Tresise Centre.

HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY

Conveners: Greta Burman
Claire Pullen
Frances McCallum

Tuesdays at Wakefield Street

LITERARY STUDIES - Levels I & II

Convener: Connie Anthony

These courses explore our literary heritage of Australia authors and notable poets - then possibly take a glance at world literature. A reading list is set well in advance. Tuesdays at Wakefield Street.

MUSIC APPRECIATION

Convener: Ven Houston

This course looks at the structure and history of music in opera, dance, chamber, vocal, choral & other areas. Tuesdays - 39 William Street.

NUTRITION

Convener: Rosemary Hepburn

Thursdays at the William Tresise Centre.

PHILOSOPHY

Convener: Joan Drake

A self-help group to study the Deakin course in 20th Century Philosophy - starting with Existentialists. Tuesdays at Augustine Centre.

LANGUAGESFRENCH - BEGINNERS

Convener: David Sliwka

FRENCH - INTERMEDIATE

Convener: William Zimmerman

ITALIAN - 1ST & 2ND YEAR

Convener: Maurice Berah

JAPANESE - BEGINNERS

Convener: Joyce Berdy

JAPANESE - 1ST & 2ND YEAR

Convener: Geoff Matenson



CURRENT COURSES WITH NO VACANCIES

ART (PRACTICAL)

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS

PIANO STUDIES I & II

ART APPRECIATION

Convener: Sue Van Dorssen

LANGUAGES:

FRENCH - CONVERSATION
BEGINNERS

GERMAN

LATIN

```

*****
*
*           A PLEA TO & FOR ARTISTS           *
*
*           A PRACTICAL ART TUTOR             *
*
* is needed urgently.  Is there no-one amongst our *
* 420 members who is willing to take on this role, *
* or who knows someone who might be able to do so? *
*
* Please give the matter some thought and contact *
* Nan James or Margaret Drake on 819 8824 if you can *
* help in any way at all.                       *
*****

```

AN INVITATION TO BUY
THE FORTHCOMING BOOK

"IMAGES OF HAWTHORN"

The members of the Hawthorn Artists Society are making their contribution to the Bi-Centenary of Australia by depicting the community of Hawthorn in the 1980's with a collection of paintings and drawings. Our homes and surroundings will be presented in a book titled "Images of Hawthorn".

People relate to places, and Hawthorn is a very special place to many of us. It is unusual for an inner suburb to have so much rural as well as urban landscapes, with its beautiful river flats, its parks and its many picturesque old houses which reflect its history.

This book aims to portray the unique character of Hawthorn as it is perceived and expressed by the artist's eye and hand. The pictures celebrate the place that is home to us - the streets, the old and new buildings, the people who live, work and study in them, in the first suburb established over the Yarra River.

"Images of Hawthorn" will be available from September and will be produced in both a soft cover edition (\$9.95 per copy) and a more durable hardback edition (\$14.95 per copy).

Should you wish to purchase a copy of this excellent book, order forms are available from U3A Hawthorn and the Town Hall, also some prominent Melbourne outlets.