PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR IS NEARLY OVER

During 2006 U3A Hawthorn’s 90 classes have been well attended. Our thanks go out to the tutors and all the other people who freely give their time and without whom the organisation would founder. The curriculum for 2007 looks as though it will be equally good. Enrolments are open for next year’s classes, some of which have limits on the numbers, so book in early if you are really keen on a particular subject. The same applies to the Summer School talks. The latter program is a wonderful collection of talks and I have found three that I will certainly attend and I am sure everyone will find at least one or more to interest them.

OUR 21ST BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Over a period of three weeks I have visited nearly every class conducted by U3A Hawthorn to invite you to join in this celebration which will take place at 1.30 pm on Saturday 9 December at Leonda by the Yarra.

It promises to be a great occasion. Our orchestra and choir have put together a wonderful program of light entertainment, the venue is delightful with windows looking out on the Yarra and there will be afternoon tea and the Leonda bar will be open for business.

Remember you cannot just turn up at the door for this event!

Bookings and payment ($10) must be made in advance because we have to let Leonda know how many people will be attending well before the celebration date.

If you have not already received an invitation, please pick one up at the office at Sinclair Avenue or ring for one to be posted out to you.

I am really looking forward to celebrating our 21st with you on 9 December.

Regards

Elizabeth Pittman

HOLIDAY OFFICE ARRANGEMENTS

Sinclair Avenue Office will close on Friday 15 December 2006 and re-open on Tuesday 2 January 2007. Office hours during January will be from 9.30 am to 1.00 pm, Monday to Friday. Normal office hours (as below) will resume on Monday 29 January 2007.
ABOUT YOUR ENROLMENT OR RE-ENROLMENT

All financial members are invited to apply as soon as possible on the enclosed enrolment form for courses that are being mounted by U3A Hawthorn in 2007.

(Please note: Members who were on waiting lists for 2006 courses MUST forward a new enrolment form for 2007 Courses.)

If you have PAID your subscription for 2007 and sent in your election for those courses you have attended in 2006 and wish to continue attending in 2007, then no further action is needed unless you wish to apply for other courses in 2007.

If you have NOT PAID your subscription for 2007 and you wish to continue attending those courses in which you were enrolled in 2006, then you must:

1. Pay your subscription for 2007 ($40 single, $65 for a couple or $25 if you are a member of another U3A campus).
2. Complete a new enrolment form for each 2006 course that you wish to attend again in 2007.
3. Complete a new enrolment form for any other courses that you wish to attend.

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 Muriel Mathers (98538602) and she 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. Telephone Derek Readman on 9853 6463. (See also Summer School.)

SHAKESPEARE DVDs

We have 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.

COPY DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the March 2007 Newsletter is February 12. 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.

We’ve had a year of wonderful concerts by both the Choir and the Orchestra with audience numbers growing and our musical reputation spreading far and wide. Now it’s time to look ahead and plan for next year, and there is much to look forward to. To give you all a chance to plan too, here is some advance news for you regarding music-making and performances in 2007:-

CONCERT DATES FOR 2007

PLEASE BE SURE TO PUT THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY SO THAT YOU DO NOT MISS OUT ON THE TREATS IN STORE!

U3A Choir
Saturday 5 May at 2.30 pm at Sinclair Avenue

Orchestra of U3A Hawthorn
Thursday 17 May at 10.30 am at Hawthorn Town Hall
Thursday 9 August at 10.30 am at Hawthorn Town Hall
Thursday 22 November at 10.30 am at Hawthorn Town Hall

The Choir is first on the concert calendar with an experiment – a performance in the main room at Sinclair Avenue on Saturday afternoon 5th May at 2.30 pm. We are hoping that this will allow many interested people who are unable to come on a weekday to attend and enjoy our musical offerings. It will also give our beautiful piano a better chance to be heard; it sits silent much of the time and is craving recognition! Setting a date early in the year enables us to plan a second concert towards the end of the year, if our public shows interest in such a venture, so let’s see!

The first Orchestral concert is as usual in the Hawthorn Town Hall on Thursday, 17th May at 10.30 am. Conducted by our Musical Director Christopher Martin, it will feature Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony and a welcome return by Benjamin Martin, always a popular performer with our audiences, to play a Bach keyboard concerto.

The Orchestra’s concert on 9 August at 10.30 am will be conducted by Willem van der Vis, who gave us so much pleasure with his vital leadership of the Winter concert this year. His program is still to be decided.

The final Orchestral concert will be on 22 November at 10.30 am with Christopher back at the helm.

Ruth Muir
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
The Management Committee has re-introduced a programme of excursions/tours, the first being an excursion to the Beleura House and Garden, Mornington, held on Tuesday 21 November. There has been a most encouraging response, with the event fully booked.

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.

ANCIENT REQUEST FROM NAN INGLIS
If any past student of Italian has a copy of the text book by Giorgio Milesi titled *ITALIANO VIVO* just sitting on a shelf and would be interested in selling it, please ring Nan Inglis on 9830 5947. This text is now out of print; but Nan still feels that it is by far the best for teaching and for learning, and would prefer to continue using it if possible. She will need at least ten copies for her classes in February 2007 and would greatly appreciate your help. She will keep a list of any offers and will provide contact between buyer and seller.

ANYONE FOR BOCCE?
Any members interested in playing the Italian bowls game Bocce? If so, please advise the office or Muriel Mathers (9853 8602) and we’ll see if it will be possible to run the class at Sinclair Avenue.

A SPECIAL NOTE TO OUR ORCHESTRA PLAYERS
Derek Readman, who is our Curriculum Manager, is wondering if any of you would like to offer group tuition in your instrument in 2007. There have been enquiries for this type of course, so if you are interested, Derek would like to discuss it with you – his phone number is 9853 6463, or by email on dreadman@bigpond.com.au.

BERYL FRENCH
It was with great sadness that members of the Thoughts and Ideas Group heard of the death of Beryl on 4 October, aged 86.

Beryl was a founding member of the Thoughts and Ideas Group in 1986, and was convener of the Group until 2005. The Group continued with a high membership all that time, with much thoughtful discussion and a great variety of views and opinions, but always within a good natured and good humoured environment, due to Beryl's wise and gentle guidance.

Beryl would advise newcomers to the Group of our one rule "Any topic may be discussed, provided no one is offended."

In the latter year, due to ill health, Beryl could only attend intermittently, accompanied by her daughter, Margaret, who also has become a valued participant in the Group.

Beryl will always be remembered by the Group, and everybody who knew her, with high esteem and great affection.

Geoff Coulsell