

# U3A HAWTHORN NEWS

Official Newsletter of Third Age Learning (Hawthorn) Inc. Reg. No. A0010798X, ABN 41 360 939 238

Number 70

**MARCH 2003**

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## Notice is given of the **18th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

<b>Location</b>	St John's Anglican Church Hall, 552 Burke Road, Camberwell (Melway 59 J 1)
<b>Date</b>	Wednesday 30 April 2003
<b>Time</b>	10.30 a.m.
<b>Agenda</b>	To receive apologies and proxies To confirm minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 17 April 2002 To receive Annual Report for 2002 To receive Audited Financial Statement for year ended 31 December 2002 To elect Office Bearers and Committee Members for next twelve months To appoint an auditor for the year ending 31 December 2003 Other business

*All executive and Committee positions are declared vacant. Nomination forms and proxy forms (both available from the office) must be deposited with the Secretary not less than 24 hours prior to the time for the commencement of the Meeting.*

The Annual General Meeting will be followed by a talk by our guest.

<b>Time</b>	11.00 a.m. approximately.
<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Peter Anderson</b> will speak about <b>Notable Events and Personalities at the MCG</b> . Peter has had an association with the Melbourne Cricket Ground and the Melbourne Cricket Club for more than 50 years.
<b>Light Lunch</b>	Sandwich lunch at 12.00 noon. To assist us with catering, could you please notify the office of your intention to attend <b>BEFORE Wednesday 23 April</b> .
<b>Cost</b>	There will be no charge for this entire event.

We are delighted that our very own U3A Hawthorn Secretary has agreed to speak to us at our Annual General Meeting. Peter, who has spent his working life in the insurance business, is very much a local boy. Educated at Camberwell Grammar, he served 15 years on the School Council and is now a Life Governor of the School.

His work has taken him from Melbourne to Adelaide, Sydney and back to Melbourne; he played first-grade cricket in all these cities, and represented New South Wales in the Sheffield Shield competition. He is now a volunteer guide at the MCG, and his talk will include an update on the major development works currently in progress (as well as some fascinating anecdotes!).

St John's Church is just south of Camberwell Junction and is therefore very well served by public transport (the best bet, or you could park and finish by tram). There is also a variety of 2-hour parking close by, with longer periods available in the carpark to the west behind Burke Road.

As mentioned above, the light luncheon is free, and all paid-up members are most welcome.

**AND DO PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE!**

## NOTICE TO UNFINANCIAL MEMBERS

This is the final issue of the *Newsletter* for members who have not renewed their subscriptions for 2003. Our annual rates are \$50 for a couple/two at the same address, \$30 for single membership, and \$10 for students enrolling in our classes whose U3A membership is paid at another campus.

If the label on your *Newsletter* is marked above your name with X X (these are NOT kisses!), this indicates that you have not yet paid your 2003 subscription.

Two wonderful concerts to note in your diary now:

### *U3A OZ PROMS CONCERT*

directed by Douglas Heywood

#### **MELBOURNE TOWN HALL**

**Saturday 22 March 1.00 p.m.—3.00 p.m.**

**Doors open at 12 noon**

Our Choir and Orchestra will be performing in a Massed Choir Concert of U3A members as part of the Victorian Seniors Festival, with approximately 250 singers taking part, and our Orchestra will be featured.

Two groups of handbell ringers will perform in the Foyer before the concert.

This is a great opportunity to display the talent existing in the U3A community and to support our own members.

**BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**—no admission without a ticket, except for performers.

Ring Nola Meredith ASAP on 9857 6578 for tickets

Tickets are free, but there is a \$2 donation at the door

Remember, there is free public transport available during the Seniors' Festival.

### *RECORDERS PLUS*

led by LINNELL BARELLI

**Thursday 1 May at 1.30 p.m.**

**Kew East Uniting Church, near cnr Normanby Road & High Street**

Donation of \$3 for admission and afternoon tea after the concert

Please book with the office of U3A Hawthorn (9818 7371) to facilitate catering arrangements

### **A new book prompted by U3A classes—*The West and China Since 1500***

Jack Gregory, who has given several courses on Chinese history to Hawthorn and other U3A branches, has recently had this book published in the UK (Palgrave-Macmillan, about \$56\*).

He begins his Preface: 'This survey of Western civilisation's relationship to the once very distant civilisation of China has been prompted by my talking, after my retirement from university teaching, to other retirees attending U3A classes'. He goes on to acknowledge his debt to the U3A organisation for providing him with audiences that stimulated him to set about writing what he describes as 'a reflection, a summing up of my nearly half a century of studying and teaching about China'.

Another China scholar has praised the book as 'a profound and innovative reassessment of Sino-foreign relations between 1500 and the present'.

\* Remember that most reputable bookshops give 10% discount to seniors.

## ANNUAL REPORT for 2003

As we prepare for another year, it is appropriate to look back on the previous one, to record our accomplishments and consider in what way we may be able to improve the services we offer to our members. Your Committee is conscious of its responsibilities and of its need to have your input. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you feel there are ways we could improve our services.

The year 2002 started with a cloud over our heads: the real possibility that, at least on a temporary basis, we would be without the use of 24 Wakefield Street as our office and its two classrooms, because of the redevelopment plans for the site by Swinburne University of Technology. Fortunately, these plans have not advanced to the point where we are under an immediate threat, but we must remain conscious of this possibility in the future.

During the year our membership numbers hovered around the 1000-mark.

There were 83 full-year courses running, and we offered 27 short courses, a series of monthly lectures on Saturdays, and our ever-popular Summer School was conducted over four weeks. Administration of the regular programme entails a tremendous amount of work involving a number of people, but our programme would not be possible without the unstinting effort of our Course Co-ordinator, Joan Donlon, to whom we are greatly indebted. The Saturday Series and the Summer School were arranged by Derek Readman, who again has earned our thanks.

Meg Adams volunteered her services by joining the Committee during the year, and also assumed the role of Privacy Officer (a copy of our Privacy Policy is available to be read in the office). Margaret Borden retired as Office Manager during the year and Meg has also assumed that role—we are grateful to Meg for giving so generously of her time.

During the year three concerts were presented by our Orchestra, and concerts were also given by the Choir and Friday Singers and the Recorder Groups. The concerts are open to the public as well as our members at a nominal donation (\$3 in 2002). Also, nine programmes were presented to residents of hostels in the City of Boroondara, so our efforts to involve the wider community in our activities and to bring some variety into their lives, continue.

Treasurer Brian Adams keeps a watchful eye on our finances and he reports that our cash balance at 31 December was in line with the previous year. Venue hire—our greatest expense—in 2002 at \$23,095 was 24% higher than in 2001. This increase was anticipated and taken into account at the time the budget was prepared, when your Committee decided not to increase members' fees for 2003.

Course Co-ordinator Joan Donlon has used her best endeavours to control the burgeoning cost of hiring venues, and we are grateful to those tutors who make their homes available for classes, as we are to Swinburne University for our headquarters in Wakefield Street and for making accommodation available for the Summer School and the Saturday Series. We have continued to enjoy and benefit from our association with Hawthorn Community Education Centre, with whom we have a harmonious relationship. We also thank the City of Boroondara for the provision of meeting rooms, either free of charge or at a subsidised rental, and for the use of facilities at the Hawthorn Town Hall for special occasions.

Our final thanks are reserved for our tutors, our members who volunteer for administrative duties and help us in other ways, and to all who attend classes regularly.

*Jean Giese, President*

### COMPUTER

Our Database Manager (who will still be available for support, checking, etc.) urgently requires an assistant for data entry and ultimately to take over this important position.

The system is fully documented in a manual (also available as an on-screen 'Help' file) and extensive training will be provided.

The applicant must be able to commit him/herself to be available for a few hours each day for up to two weeks at a time in our busy periods (early March, June, September, December, and during January). Otherwise, up to two hours on two/three days a week would cover the workload, with one assistant currently available on Mondays.

It is also preferable for the applicant to become a member of the Committee of Management, which meets monthly on the second Monday at 3.00 p.m.

Please ring Hans van Dorssen on 9509 0527 or leave a message at the office.

## ANOTHER U3A HAWTHORN MEMBER HONOURED

This year in the New Year's Honours list, Dympna Coleman was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM). Dympna is a foundation member of U3A Hawthorn and was the inspiration behind the establishment of our walking groups.

A committed environmentalist, Dympna went on to the restoration of bushland along the Yarra River bank in Kew, starting with the Boulevard and then the area around the Walmer Street bridge. With the support of U3A walkers and local residents, the Friends of Walmer Street have returned the area to attractive bushland and a welcoming habitat for native wildlife.

## STRING PLAYERS NEEDED

Juliette Zeelander, the Leader of our Orchestra, has taken over the post of conductor of the City of Melbourne U3A Orchestra. They are in urgent need of competent string players.

They rehearse on the second, third and fourth Mondays of the month from 1.00 to 3.00 p.m. at Legacy House, Swanston Street. Enquiries to Juliette on 9818 2151.

## COFFEE, ANYONE?

In 2001 the City of Boroondara established a 'friendship relationship' with the East Timorese sub-district of Same (pronounced *Sah-may*) as part of an Australia-wide effort to provide help in re-establishing ravaged communities in East Timor. Same is a coffee-growing area in the mountains behind Dili (four hours away by 4-wheel drive).

The Friends of Same, set up by Boroondara Council to liaise with Same and to co-ordinate activities, are selling the coffee here in Melbourne to support Same's struggling economy and to raise funds for schools and general community restoration. U3A Hawthorn has agreed to make the coffee available to our members.

The coffee is organically grown, 100% Arabica beans (ground) and is well priced at \$7 per 250g sealed bag. For purchase and further information, contact Jill FitzGibbon on 9882 7965.

## COMPUTER COURSES—Hawthorn Community Education Centre

HCEC is able to offer computer courses for **mature-age beginners** on Fridays, starting mid-March to end-June (10.45 a.m.–12.30 p.m. OR 2.30–4.15 p.m.). The fee per course is \$40, and is not restricted to U3A members.

We are extremely grateful for the generous support of the Swinburne Access Department in opening their facilities so that older people can acquire the basics of information technology.

To enrol, please call at HCEC office, 24 Wakefield Street, or ring 9819 5758.

## STEP SAFELY PROGRAM—Risk factors in falls

The City of Boroondara is running **free** four-week courses in falls prevention (addressing 8 simple steps to catch you before you fall!). All courses run on Thursdays from 1.30 to 4.00 p.m. at the following venues:

6, 13, 20, 27 March	Balwyn Welfare Association, 45 Talbot Avenue, Balwyn
3, 10, 17, 24 April	Alamein Neighbourhood Centre, 49 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton
1, 8, 15, 22 May	Vision Australia Foundation, 454 Glenferrie Road, Kooyong
5, 12, 19, 26 June	Boroondara Community Health Centre, 378 Burwood Rd, Hawthorn

To enrol, ring Boroondara Community Health Centre on 9818 6703 (and bring a friend!).

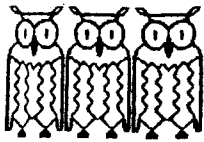
### JUNE 2003 NEWSLETTER

#### Copy Deadline

All copy to the Editor by  
**WEDNESDAY 14 MAY (noon)** please

Newsletter Editor: Helen Williams (9818 5077)

Newsletter Despatch: Janet McCombe



UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE, HAWTHORN

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Telephone: 9214 8824, 9818 7371, 9818 3466; Fax: 9819 5102

You are invited to attend our

## 2002 SATURDAY SERIES OF LECTURES

SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER

**28 September WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TO COMPLAIN ABOUT: life in the last millennium**  
**Professor Dimity Reed, retired Professor of Urban Design at RMIT**

Dimity Reed will talk about how people lived, fought, suffered and died in Europe, South America and parts of Asia between 1000 and 2000 AD. The talk will be an extension of her article which appeared in December 2000 in the *Good Weekend Magazine*—'the litany of cold, fear and hunger that was most people's reality between birth and death, defining European life between the last millennium and the late eighteenth century'.

**26 October THE FRENCH CONSUL'S WIFE**

**Dr Patricia Clancy**

Patricia Clancy will talk about Celeste de Chabrilan, who arrived in Melbourne in 1854, the wife of the colony's first French Consul. As a former Parisian courtesan, circus performer and polka dancer, Celeste was ostracised by Melbourne society. Her memoirs provide a vivid insight into life in the village of St Kilda, and the social circle in which she moved, as well as on the Ballarat goldfields. Copies of the memoirs will be available for purchase on the day.

**30 November ENCOMPASSING OCEANIA**

**Professor Greg Dening, Emeritus Professor of History, University of Melbourne**

Professor Dening follows the flight of the Yolla (shearwaters or mutton birds) on their yearly circuit of the Pacific, to make an odyssey of his own—a reflection on his 45 years of writing on the history and anthropology of Oceania.

**LOCATION FOR ALL LECTURES** Lecture Theatre TD 121, ground floor, TAFE Building TD, Swinburne University of Technology, junction of Wakefield and John Streets. Enter from Wakefield Street or Park Street (see map over)

**TIME** 2.30–4.00 p.m.

**COST** Free to members, who may each bring one friend only.

**BOOKINGS** **IT IS NECESSARY TO MAKE A BOOKING** to ensure entry to these talks; however, bookings are now accepted only during the month of the talk, e.g. bookings for October's talk will be taken only in October. This can be done on weekdays between 9.30 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. (Wednesdays up to 12.30 p.m. only) by telephone (9214 8824 or 9818 7371) or personally at the office, 24 Wakefield Street.

There will be no written confirmation of bookings; please therefore keep your own record of your bookings.

**BADGES**

**PLEASE** remember to wear your **NAME BADGE!**