



*U3A East London Newsletter*  
*The University of the Third Age*

Newsletter Number 52

November 2011

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*Message from our Chairman*

*Dear U3A members*

*As 2011 draws to a close, we reflect on what has passed, from the U3A perspective, through the many courses, talks and discussions that have stretched, challenged and informed us on many different subjects and get new understanding and are challenged to seek more information on others, for the fellowship we share over refreshments as we get to know one another better and share our interests and passions.*

*I would like to thank the course leaders for their hard work and dedication and, in some cases, for opening up their homes. I would also like to thank the committees, past and present, for their hard work and diligence and for always being available. Thank you, too, to those who help behind the scenes in one way or another and also to **you, the members**, who support U3A East London so faithfully. We look forward to 2012 where we aim to build on the strong foundation which is in place and take U3A to new heights.*

*May I wish you one and all a blessed festive season.*

*Regards*  
*JOHN PEARSON*

*Upcoming Speakers at the AGM and General Meetings (9.30 a.m.)*

|                         |   |                                 |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| <i>10 November 2011</i> | <i>Trip to Tibet</i>                        | <i>Ralph and Rosemary Anley</i> |
| <i>9 February 2012</i>  | <i>A talk on his recently launched book</i> | <i>Colin White</i>              |

**Kindly take note that the U3A cannot be held responsible for the views and opinions of the speakers. These are entirely theirs and may not represent the views and opinions of the U3A and the Committee.**

**Course news**

*Music A, B and C*

To finish off the year, these groups will meet at **09h30** on their respective days and are asked to bring along a lunch contribution. After tea, they shall watch a DVD and then enjoy their “bring and share” lunch.

***Long Grass Whispers – Tuesday 8 November***

By popular demand, this group will again meet at Parklands at 08h30 and continue their interesting walk through the Parklands/Berea Gardens area. All are welcome.

***Current Affairs – Thursday 17 November***

John Pearson will be discussing “**The Population Explosion and Feeding the Masses**” With the birth of the 7 billionth child into our world very recently, this is very topical and should promote interesting discussion.

We would like to take this opportunity to place on record our thanks to Colin White for his many years of hard work and dedication in running the Current Affairs course. We would also like to thank Gavin Stewart, Terry Briceland and John Pearson, for filling in for Colin in his absence. With Colin’s recall to the bench, he will be stepping down as course leader of this very popular course

All other November courses will run according to the program

***Please note that all 2011 courses end in November 2011.***

**U3A COURSES OFFERED 2012**

Thank you to Anne Cooke, course convener, who has put together this program for the first part of 2012. As more members come forward with offers to run courses, more courses will be added to the program.

Sign- up sheets for all the listed courses will be available from 08h45 at the November General Meeting on Thursday 10 November.

*Please be sensitive to the fact that the “block bookings” for closed courses have caused dissatisfaction in the past and we would prefer members to make the effort to attend the meeting and enrol themselves on the various courses. There are obvious exceptions to this where a member is sick, out of town, or otherwise indisposed.*

**POETRY APPRECIATION**

Poetry appreciation and analysis, to be led by Keith Tankard, an experienced lecturer. Poems to be explored are of the less well known and copies will be made available by the Course Leader.

Every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at St.Andrews at 10.00a.m. Starting date 7<sup>th</sup> February 2012

**COMPUTERS**

The courses offered are MS Word and Excel, dependent on the response from members. John Thompson will be leading this course

Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at St. Andrews at 10.00 a.m. Starting date 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012 **Please bring your own (or borrowed) laptop to the course.**

**CONVERSATIONAL GERMAN**

This course is led by Wisegard von Oertzen and is held on the 1<sup>st</sup>. Monday of the month at 10.00 a.m.at her home at 120 Settlers, Gonubie.

Starting date 13<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

A basic knowledge of German is required.

### **LONG GRASS WHISPERS**

This is for those who enjoy the outdoors. A guided walk led by Rose Anley, Members are reminded to bring water, sunhats etc. You will be amazed at the wealth of nature when you take time to look. Meet at the home of Rose at 14 Logan Drive, Nahoon at 8.30.a.m. Starting date to be advised as per newsletters.

### **ONE ACT PLAY READING**

Play reading in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere led by Anita Laing. Venue St. Andrews at 10.00 a.m. Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month (*please note this change of days*). Starting date: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

### **CONVERSATIONAL FRENCH**

Conversational French led by Joan Barrow to be held at her home. 8 Strelitzia Drive , Beacon Bay. Every second Wednesday of the month at 14h00 Starting date: 8<sup>th</sup> February 2012. Time 2.00 p.m. A basic knowledge of French is required.

### **MUSIC APPRECIATION**

This very popular course caters to all tastes and is divided into three groups. Should any of the days be oversubscribed, they will be accommodated on one of the other days. Course Leader is Deanne Driver. Venue 11 St. Andrews Road Commencing dates:  
Course A 20<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at 10.00 a.m. 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month  
Course B 27<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at 10.00 a.m. 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month  
Course C 21<sup>st</sup> March 2012 at 10.00 a.m. 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month

### **BOOK CLUB**

This group will appeal to all the book lovers among us. Each month a different subject is suggested for reading, and the books are then discussed the following month. Course Leader is Anne King and the course is held at the home of Denise Fielding. 12 Princess Rd. Bonza Bay. Starting date: 25 January 2012 at 10.00a.m. Unfortunately this course is restricted to a maximum of 15 members due to space constraints. Should there be an overwhelming response we can aim at setting up another Group.

### **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

This highly informative course deals with current matters of a variety that will stimulate the interest of all members. The Course Leader in the past has been Colin White but he has been called out of retirement to sit on the bench in Umthata. . We are looking for volunteers amongst our members to assist with this course on a rotational basis in 2012. Gavin Stewart and Terry Briceland have both indicated their availability to assist. Hopefully Colin will be free on the odd 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month and, with a few

more members coming forward, we should be in a position to present a very exciting and interesting Current Affairs program in 2012.

Venue St Andrews 10.00 a.m. Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.

To commence 16<sup>th</sup> February 2012 when Terry Briceland will be discussing “The Daily Dispatch and Related Matters”

### **CREATIVE WRITING**

For those members who wish to improve their writing technique, this course is led by Gavin Stewart whom you all know as ex-editor of the Daily Dispatch and Prof of Journalism at Rhodes University, Grahamstown.

Venue St. Andrews at 10.00 a.m. every 4th Friday of the month.

Starting 27<sup>th</sup> **January** 2012.

### **MAHJONG**

Learn to play this ancient and fascinating Chinese Board Game.

Due to logistics, this is limited to 16 members.

Course Leader Alan Woodhurst

Venue 12 Hudson Ave, Vincent.

This 7 lesson series will commence at the end of April 2012 – exact date to be confirmed by newsletter on the 1st, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month, from 09h30 – 12h00

### **GENERAL MEETING**

Held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at St. Andrews at 09h30

Matters regarding the association are discussed and a Guest Speaker is invited to talk on a subject of general interest. We have a wealth of talent on our very own doorstep and are able to present a variety of topics.

Starting 9<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

*Please note that when a St. Andrews course falls on a Public Holiday, it will be cancelled, as the facilities are then used by the Croquet Club.*

### **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON – 24 November 2011**

Time: 12.30 p.m. for 1.00 p.m. Venue: The Fig Tree Cost: R80 per person.

We are very fortunate to have secured the talents of the play reading group, who will be entertaining us with two short plays during the course of the luncheon. Thank you to Course Leader, Nita Laing, the “actors” and “actresses” who are very busy with rehearsals, and also to U3A member, Beryl Mcleod, who has written one of the plays especially for the occasion.

Bookings with payment for the luncheon close on Thursday 17 November 2011.

### **NEXT NEWSLETTER**

This will be dispatched towards the end of January, 2012.

*Enjoy your year-end festivities, in whatever format they may take, enjoy the fellowship of family and/or friends, party moderately, travel safely and keep smiling!*