

U3A : OVERBERG 2010 PROSPECTUS

The following schedule of events is intended to help members plan their year ahead so that they are able to attend events of particular interest to them. This will enable them to schedule bridge, golf, births, marriages, etc, at the other times. In each case a thumb sketch of the activity is made, but more detailed descriptions will follow later.

COURSES

Victorian Britain: This is a continuation of the series started in 2009, and is an historical analysis of what made the Victorians tick in the fields of art, commerce, science and politics, and how they influenced the world. The lectures will be on Mondays: 8 February till 15 March, 7 to 28 June, and 2 to 23 August.

Perception and Age: This series examines how our perceptions of the world around us change as we grow older, both physically and psychologically. They will take place on the Mondays of: 22 March till 26 April, and 30 August to 11 October.

Finance in South Africa: This lecture series will deal with how finance in South Africa does, or should, work. It will include Stocks and Shares, Exchange rates, and the other features that affect the value of our portfolios. The lectures will be on 5 Friday mornings, starting Friday 30 July.

The Melody Lingers On: This course, presented by Alan Maker, will examine popular songs over the past 60 years and analyse different interpretations, why some worked and others did not. The series will take place on the Fridays of 5 to 26 February, and the Mondays of 11 October to 22 November.

The Joys of Science: This series of illustrated talks aims to improve the scientific literacy of members, and shows how great scientific discoveries inform our everyday lives. Set aside the Tuesdays of 9 February to 16 March, 1 to 29 June, 3 August to 14 September, and 19 October to 23 November.

Travelling Cooks: Members will be taken to various places in the Overberg where special things are prepared, such as ice-cream, soup, chocolates and other specialised dishes, which can be cooked at home. The Fridays of 5 March to 16 April will be used.

Medicine and Age: South African specialists in various fields will be taking us through Cancer, Alzheimers, Arthritis and similar afflictions, and stress, to help us understand the world around, and within, us. These will take place on the Tuesdays of 6 April to 25 May.

Dramatised Novels: Following the success of Middlemarch in 2009, this series will appear on different weekdays, and feature great novels which have been successfully turned into movies. Try 23-30 March [Madam Bovary], 6-27 August [Wives and Daughters], 3 – 28 September [Vanity Fair], 5 – 12 October [Persuasion], and 5 – 26 November [Jane Eyre].

Music: As we have had over the past few years, classical music will be presented by Deanne Powell, on the Fridays of: 23 April to 14 May, and 1 to 29 October.

How to watch Sport: This series is aimed at those who watch sport, especially on television, and would like to learn more about the intricacies and subtleties of the game. There will be a particular emphasis on the Soccer World Cup, but Rugby, Cricket and other assorted religions will also be featured, all done by experts in the field. Set aside the Fridays of 21 May to 25 June.

All the above meetings are scheduled for 10h00 at the Catholic Church Hall.

Film Appreciation: This course will be offered in six programmes of six classes each. The first programme will start on Monday 8 February and is devoted to Musicals as discussed in the course on the American Musical given during 2009. The second programme will be devoted to famous documentaries on film. [Monday nights at 19h00 at the CCH]

Whereas every care will be taken to adhere to this schedule, it must be understood that the unexpected might happen and changes will have to be made!

HOME GROUPS

As the name indicates, these discussion and study groups take place in smaller venues, usually in private homes. In each case a contact person is indicated for you to find out if space for taking part is available. If your particular interest is not catered for, please contact Allan Powell at 028 316 1251, or by email (see Committee Members details on Overview page) so that you can negotiate how you can start a group.

Contemporary Books: [Bob Zylstra - 028 312 3268]. An eclectic mixture of contemporary books based on subject matter rather than being "Contemporary Literature"; reading about that which what affects us today. The discussion to date has been stimulating, exposing the group to differing perceptions. Choices have ranged from the US's Barack Obama life story, to India's social inequities from an Aravind Adiga novel. In SA Paul Holden on the Arms Deal scandal, Peter Harris on the Delmas 4, and Ramphela Mamphela on the current political dispensation. The group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 10h00.

19th Century Novels: [Beatrice Kershaw 028 314 1229] Novels are read and analysed, with a particular emphasis on the role of women. Meeting time: Second Thursday of the month at 15h00.

Art Appreciation: [Karen McKerron 028 312 2410]. Two groups are scheduled to meet and discuss artists, and look at their work. The 2009 Wednesday group will carry on, at 15h00 on Wednesdays – surprisingly! The Monday group will be repeating at 15h00, what the 2009 Wednesday group did, since most of their members were unable to attend on Wednesdays during 2009.

Music Appreciation: [Johan Radloff 028 314 0557]. Three different groups meet to listen to recorded musical programmes done by members, on the last Tuesday [18h00], Wednesday [16h30] and Thursday [19h00] of each month.

Teddy Bears: [Margaret Annandale- 028 316 1918] For those who want to make teddy bears! They meet by mutual arrangement, sometimes for a picnic.

Bridge: [Carin Verburg 028 313 0810, or 082 613 9390] This class is aimed at beginners, and takes players to a higher level of playing in easy steps, every Thursday afternoon at 14h00. *[Please note that Monica Peters is taking a well-earned break from coaching the intermediate group]*

Conversational French: [Hans van Rensburg 028 316 1394]. This is for those who can already speak French proficiently, and need to stay in practice. Be ready on Thursdays at 15h00.

20th Century Novels: [Robin Lee 028 312 4072] Writers like Naipaul and Ishiguro have been read and analysed, and the next novelists to be discussed in this course are Edith Wharton, Ian McEwan and JM Coetzee. The course will begin on 23 March and will meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 15h00.

Mathematics Refresher: [Greta Train 028 316 1641] This is for those who wish to enhance, or revive, their Mathematical literacy. They meet every Tuesday at 14h00.

Current Affairs: [Rex Gibson 028 316 5179] Current topics like an independent judiciary, gender testing and trigger happy policemen are introduced and discussed, under the guidance of a knowledgeable person. They meet on the third Thursday of the month at 10h00.

20th Century Poetry: [Bob Hill 028 312 1463] This group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 15h00.

Homo Sapiens: [Robin Lee 028 312 4072] Books dealing with the ideas, development, and discoveries of humankind are read by members, then discussed and evaluated. Meetings occur on the first Wednesday (10h00) of each month. The first book to be discussed is "Our Post Human Future: consequences of the Biotechnology Revolution" by Francis Fukuyama.

Energy: [Dick Shone 028 316 1200] This fledgling group will be analysing the various forms of energy, and how contemporary energy problems impinge on our lives. We shall notify you later when their regular meetings will take place.

Computer Training: [Ruel Heyns 028 314 1840] these have been immensely popular in the past, and will be repeated depending on demand. At present the Beginners' Courses are scheduled for the Tuesday afternoons of 23 Feb to 30 March, and 7 September to 12 October, at 17h00. The Word Course is scheduled for the Tuesdays of 16 to 30 November at 16h00. Minimum numbers are 10 and 20 respectively. [Catholic Church Hall]

OPEN MEETINGS

These take place on Thursday evenings at 19h00, in the Municipal Auditorium, and are usually scheduled at the rate of one per month. The AGM on 4 February was followed by a presentation on latest trends in South Africa by Clem Sunter.

Further Open Meetings will feature a variety of topics as follows :

- 4 March: Meaghan McCord: *The Zambezi Shark: Habitats, numbers and the need to conserve*

- 25 March: Prof. Nick Norman: *A Traveller's Guide to South Africa's Rocks and Landforms*
- 15 April: Robin Richards: *Churchill's Strategic Errors of Judgement*
- 13 May: David Grier: *Presentation regarding his 2009 walk around the coast of South Africa and his 2010 adventure of paddling from Mozambique to Madagascar and then running the entire length of that island*
- 10 June: David Klatzow: *CSI/NCIS: Television vs. the Reality of Forensic Investigation*
- 5 August: Nick Segal: *The Current State of Water Supply in South Africa*
- 2 September: Gavin Keller: *Different Minds for Girls and Boys – a practical approach*
- 7 October: Brig General 'Boy' du Preez: *Retracing the epic flight of Pierre van Ryneveld- the other way*
- 18 November: Overstrand Conservation Foundation: *The Economic Value of Conservation the Overstrand*