



UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (U3A)

2022 PROSPECTUS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this *Prospectus* is to give our members the reasoning behind the choice of topics for the courses that will be offered throughout the year.

UN Theme for the Year

The United Nations has declared 2022 as the *International Year of Glass* (IYOG). In its briefing document, the UN declared: *Our vision of a United Nations International Year of Glass (IYoG2022) is to celebrate the past, present, and future of this transformative material following the United Nations' goals in Agenda 2030. Specifically, to:*

- Demonstrate the role of glass in advancing civilization throughout recorded history.
- Organize international glass science and art festivals, with workshops to excite and inform the public of this rich history, and highlight links between glass, art and culture.
- Stimulate research on glass amongst organizations in education, industry, research and the public domain, including museums, to address the great challenges the world faces: achieving sustainable and equitable growth, and improving the quality of life everywhere.
- Build worldwide alliances focused on science and engineering for young people, while addressing gender balance and the needs of developing countries/emerging economies.

Lectures on glass will commence during the first week of the 2022 season and will include topics such as:

- History of glass
- Optical use of glass
- Artistic glass
- Manufacture of glass.

Our series on geology will include the mining of silica which is an essential component of glass manufacture

Local Government

The recent municipal elections appear to have become a watershed in our political landscape. The importance of municipalities and local affairs have certainly been highlighted. We will accordingly start the year by exploring this important aspect of our society.

- The new Executive Mayor, **Dr Annelie Rabie**, has agreed to speak to our members at our opening session of the year, Monday 24 January.
- That will be followed by four more sessions on topics such as analysis of the results of the Municipal elections, an assessment of the Overstrand Municipality and the role of municipal bylaws.
- The final session will comprise a discussion with a panel of experts on the relationship between the Overstrand Municipality and voluntary organisations (NGO's).

Annual General Meeting

Equally important is our speaker at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) where we invite someone who can speak on a topic of national concern. **Ms Judith February**, the well-known journalist and political commentator, has agreed to be our main speaker on Thursday 8 March at 17:00 in the Sandbaai Hall.

As usual, the new committee for the year will be elected at the meeting. This is one of the few occasions when we will serve refreshments and where there is an opportunity for social interaction. Please diarise this event **now**.

Themes for the Year

The rest of the programme is subdivided into themes (courses) that reflect the priorities established by the two member surveys that were conducted in 2014 and 2020. These include:

- Environment
- History – Local and International
- Politics and Local Affairs
- Medical Topics
- Music
- Art
- Travel and Adventure
- Science, in particular Palaeontology and Geology
- Literature

- Biographies
- Education
- Finance and Business
- Philosophy
- Infrastructure

In addition to the social event following the AGM, an “End of the Year” social occasion has been included in the programme.

Meeting Structure

Our meetings in the Catholic Church Hall (CCH) have also recommenced subject to the protocol requirements. Our management of Zoom technology is now well under control which enables us to offer “hybrid” meetings in which Zoom presentations into or out of the hall are conducted simultaneously with live presentation in the Hall. This arrangement will continue.

We plan to offer only two lecture courses per week on Mondays and Fridays. A variety of DVDs will be shown on Tuesday but these meetings will not be transmitted via Zoom due to copyright protection.

As in previous years, there will be no U3A courses during the Fynarts Festival, and there is a Recess in the middle of the year.

A programme of Easter Music will be offered in the Catholic Church Hall on Tuesday 12 April, but will not be relayed via Zoom since the bandwidths that are available are not really suitable for good quality music.

All meetings commence at 10:00 except for the AGM which will commence at 17:00.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the home groups had to be cancelled. Some of these are planning to resume.

- Easy Exercise, Monday mornings (Anina Lee)
- Art Appreciation, 1st Wednesday of the month (Karen McKerron).
- 19th Century Novels, 2nd Thursday of the month (Cookie Kershaw)
- Modern Novels, 3rd Wednesday of the month (Letitia Snyman)
- Wine tasting visiting different wine estates, 3rd Thursday of the month (Hanns Bohle)
- Current Affairs, 1st Thursday of the month (Hanns Bohle)

Further announcements will be made in this regard as the Covid-19 restrictions become clearer.

Membership

The committee wishes to extend its heartfelt gratitude to the many members who have paid their annual subscription despite the fact that we could not hold meetings in the church hall. The committee has tried its best to fill the void and offer courses via Zoom. Thank you for the patience and perseverance for those who did manage to master this new technology.

The Committee intends to organise meetings in the Hall on every date scheduled in the 2022 programme. In most cases, these will be 'live' meetings, with a speaker and/or DVDs and interaction between speakers and the audience. In some cases, the speaker may be present via Zoom, especially when a prominent expert cannot travel to Hermanus.

Membership fees for 2022 remain at the 2020 level of R150.00 per person and the Committee urges members to renew membership payments as these are essential to the survival of U3A: Overberg.

The usual R10 payment for members and R25 for visitors at the door at each session will remain in force to defray the costs of the venue and the technical equipment.

We trust that our usual membership will find the proposed programme for 2022 sufficiently interesting to renew their membership. Thank you as always for your loyal support.

Courses during the First Semester

24 January – 27 May 2022

COURSES	DAY	DATES	COURSE ORGANISER
Address by the Executive Mayor of the Overstrand, Dr Annelie Rabie	Mon	24 Jan	Letitia Snyman
International Year of Glass including Mr Johan Pretorius on the history and optical use of glass (4)	Fri	28 Jan – 18 Feb	Gert Claassen
Local Affairs including speakers like the Municipal Manager Mr O'Neill and Dr Werner Zybrands (4)	Mon	31 Jan – 21 Feb	Robin Lee
History of Battleships during the ages – from the Greeks to the present by Rod Pringle (4)	Fri	25 Feb – 18 Mar	Gert Claassen
Medical Topics including CT and MR scanning, Ageing and Anaesthetics (4)	Mon	28 Feb – 21 Mar	Phil Harries-Jones
South African History including “Frontier Land” by Dr Dean Allen and the “Duke from Haenertsburg” by Andre de Villers (4)	Fri	25 Mar – 22 Apr	Robin Lee and Gert Claassen
Environment including the SA Bee Industry and Genetically modified organisms by Dr Mashele (4)	Mon	28 Mar – 25 Apr	Barbara Pretorius and the Botanical Society
Education including Dr Jane Hofmeyr and a panel of experts on home-schooling (4)	Mon	2 May – 23 May	Robin Lee
Geology including the mining of Silica for the glass industry plus a field trip (3)	Fri	6 May – 20 May	John Bristow
Quaternary geology, anthropology and climate change of Walker Bay Area by Dr Hayley Cawthra plus a field trip (1)	Fri	27 May	John Bristow
Studies of the Pringle Bay baboon population by Jenny Parsons	Mon	30 May	John Bristow
FYNARTS		2 Jun -10 Jun	No U3A programme

Recess 13 June – 1 July

Courses during the Second Semester

4 July – 26 Nov 2022

COURSES	DAY	DATES	COURSE ORGANISER
Travel and Adventure including an overland journey from Cairo to Cape Town by Hanns Bohle	Mon	4 Jul – 25 Jul	Gert Claassen
Music including the 200th anniversary of the birth of Cesar Franck an understanding of African Music (5)	Fri	8 Jul – 5 Aug	Caroline van Niekerk
Literature including presentations on the works on the SA Nobel laureates Nadine Gordimer and JM Coetzee and Booker Prize winner Damon Galgut (3)	Fri	1 Aug – 15 Aug	Robin Lee
Andrew Murray and the Scottish Ministers by Andrew Murray (2)	Fri	12 Aug – 19 Aug	Gert Claassen
“Out of Africa” including prof John Compton on “Human Origins” (3)	Mon	22 Aug – 5 Sep	Gert Claassen
Scientific Biographies on the lives of the astronomer Sir William Herschel, Michael Faraday, Marconi and Raymond Dart (4)	Fri	26 Aug – 16 Sep	Gert Claassen and Mike Brownlee
Medical Topics (3)	Mon	12 Sep – 26 Sep	Phil Harries-Jones
“A journey deep into the roots of nature” by Vic Hamilton-Attwell (2)	Fri	23 Sep – 30 Sep	Gert Claassen
Water and Electricity Infrastructures (2)	Mon	3 Oct – 10 Oct	Gert Claassen
Monitoring trend in the Southern Right Whale Population by Dr Els Vermeulen (1)	Fri	7 Oct	John Bristow
Finance and Business (2)	Fri	14 Oct – 21 Oct	David Carter
Introduction to Philosophy by Father Gerard Walmsley (3)	Mon	17 Oct – 31 Oct	Gert Claassen
Presentations by Local Artists (3)	Mon	7 Nov – 21 Nov	Caroline van Nierkerk
Music Therapy and Spirituality of music by Dr dos Santos and Roy Page-Shipp	Fri	28 Oct – 11 Nov	Caroline van Nierkerk
The new James Web satellite telescope by Pierre de Villiers (1)	Fri	4 Nov	The Hermanus Astronomy Club
Excursion	Fri	26 Nov	
END OF THE YEAR SOCIAL EVENT	Mon	29 Nov	

2021 COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN	Letitia Snyman	082 324 2122 274omanor@gmail.com
VICE-CHAIRMAN	Robin Lee	028 312 4072 robinlee@hermanus.co.za
SECRETARY	Therina du Pisani	082 335 8797 therinadupisani@gmail.com
PROGRAMME COMMITTEE	Gert Claassen Phil Harries-Jones John Bristow Peter van Niekerk Caroline van Niekerk	083 602 5254 gc2441@gmail.com 082 567 1212 philhj@iafrica.com 082 571 3004 jwbdia@gmail.com 082 807 4981 072 447 0321 caroline@mweb.co.za
TREASURER	Rod Pringle	083 303 9688 rpringle@global.co.za
MEMBERSHIP	Patrick Monaghan	083 226 1426 monaghan.pj@gmail.com
PUBLICITY	Hester Venter	082 601 9961 hestermaria@whalemail.co.za
COMMUNICATION	Gillan Bowie	082 928 7376 gillanbowie@gmail.com
FACILITIES	Ed Meyer	082 880 7604 edsalmeyer@telkomsa.net
TECHNICAL	John Taylor Joseph Ngoma	079 392 7282 buchananjohnt@gmail.com 071 965 9201
LIBRARY	Roger Hendry	082 565 8378 rohendry@mweb.co.za