



PRETORIA

Website: www.u3a.org.za

Email: u3apretoria@gmail.com

3 July 2017

Dear Member,

GENERAL MEETING

The 3rd General Meeting of U3A Pretoria for 2017 will take place at

09:15 for 10:00 on Thursday 27 July at the
BROOKLYN METHODIST CHURCH, 209 MURRAY ST

Security guards will be on duty throughout the meeting. Please see the separate note on security on this page.

The official business of the meeting, which will be held in the church not the hall,
will be followed by a presentation by British historian

DR DEAN ALLEN on

EMPIRE, WAR AND CRICKET IN SOUTH AFRICA

The fascinating story of how James Logan, the founder of Matjiesfontein, was instrumental in developing the game of cricket in South Africa at a time when the country was heading towards war with the British Empire.

PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW AT MEETINGS IN THE METHODIST CHURCH

Doors will open at 08.45 for existing members to pay their 2017 subscription of R100. **New** members please fill in one of the forms available at the tables and then pay the **half-year subscription of R50**. Members are welcome to bring guests at a cost of R20 each, to be paid at the registration tables.

SECURITY

Our guards can patrol only Murray Street where any suspicious activity can still be seen at a distance. **Please** park as close as possible to adjacent cars so we can fit more cars into Murray Street in sight of the car guards.

PAYMENT METHODS

If possible, please pay **electronically by internet banking** (i.e. Electronic Funds Transfer, EFT), or by **direct deposit at a Nedbank branch** as this reduces the security risk posed by cash collected at the general meetings. The U3A account details are as follows:

- **BANK: NEDBANK**
- **BRANCH: HATFIELD**
- **BRANCH CODE: 160245**
- **ACCOUNT NAME: U3A PRETORIA**
- **ACCOUNT NO: 1602376972**

Please remember that all EFT payments and direct deposits must clearly state **YOUR name** as the **PAYER** to avoid misunderstandings. Please read the payment webpage or form carefully. If possible, depending on the space available, please also state what the payment is for under "Beneficiary's Reference" or "Payee's Reference", as the case may be: e.g. 2017 subs, JPO etc. Otherwise, send a separate email to U3A to explain the payment, as we sometimes receive deposits without any identification! Payment may be made at the quarterly meetings by cheque (**made payable to U3A Pretoria**) or in cash.

DATABASE UPDATE

We would like to make sure that our current membership records are correct. If you receive this email but have resigned from U3A in the past year, please remind us of that fact and we will take you off the mailing list. We would also appreciate your assistance by sending us contact details of the following members if you know them: Francois Bredenkamp, Annette de Wet, Yvonne Retief and Ronel van Biljon.

We still have a number of members who have not yet paid their subscriptions for 2017. Please send an email to U3A if you are unsure of your current membership status. Note that only fully paid-up members may participate in U3A activities.

NAME BADGES

Please remember to wear your badge (if you own one) at all U3A functions including excursions. It can be of any design and does not have to be a U3A badge. If you do not have a badge and would like one please send U3A an email or SMS Jan Meyer at 082 347-0432 with the message Name Badge followed by your first or preferred name and surname. There is no charge for this badge. Members who have ordered badges will be able to collect these at a table in the same hall as the course lists are displayed. Several badges have been ordered and printed but, months later, have not been collected. **Please contact Jan if you no longer require your ordered badge as there is no point in displaying these at every meeting.**

TEA AND SIGNING UP FOR ACTIVITIES

After the talk, tea will be served in one of the halls where you can also add your name to course or interest / study group lists and meet course leaders. PLEASE BRING A DIARY or make use of one of the special slips on the tables to record your chosen activities as it is a fundamental principle of U3A that once you have requested to be part of an activity **this represents a firm commitment**. Many courses have long waiting lists so your failure to cancel in good time means another member is deprived of the opportunity to join that group. We cannot ask course leaders to be constantly telephoning members to remind them of dates of presentations, or to cater for participants who withdraw at the last minute for avoidable reasons. Only registered U3A members may participate in courses, study and interest groups other than in exceptional circumstances where a guest fee of R20 per session will be charged.

COURSES AND STUDY / INTEREST GROUPS

The course list for the second half of 2017 is in the process of being compiled and will be available before the July meeting. We have a number of new courses on offer, as well as others that have worked well in the past, so you will enjoy perusing the list and signing up for those that appeal to you. We are delighted to have a second course being offered in Afrikaans. We would urge new members (especially the many interested in history and travel) to look in particular at the Interest groups available.

We are still looking for some fun groups or groups for socialising. What about a group that meets once a month for tea or lunch? We'd like to hear from you with regard to these ideas – or any others that you may have. *Anyone* can share interests and expertise with other U3A members, either by arranging a study or interest group where the preparation and presentation are shared equally among all the participants of the group, by presenting a course or by offering a venue for one of these. We are thinking particularly of our collection of DVDs, which could be shared by a small group in someone's home. We are also looking for members with an interest in film appreciation to assist with the popular movie club meetings that have not been offered this year due to Ann's ill-health. If you are prepared to help in any way or can suggest topics for new study or interest groups please contact **Jenny Janisch** at davenjen@mweb.co.za, 012 460-8270 or 082 923-7982.

EMAIL AND CORRESPONDENCE

We ask ALL U3A members without email to ask another member to contact them with interim information. The committee would like to thank those kind people who generously print and deliver copies of letters to members who only have postal addresses.

Although we do not allow the circulation, via our newsletters or email list or at meetings, of advertising material, information or requests not directly related to U3A activities, we will under certain circumstances promote cultural or educational events that are of benefit to our members, for instance the Brooklyn Theatre and Tuesday Forum programmes. The latest Tuesday Forum programme will be forwarded to you shortly. For further information on Tuesday Forum please contact Jenny Janisch at davenjen@mweb.co.za, 012 460-8270 or 082 923-7982.

EXCURSIONS

Please remember to state your name AND specify which excursion you are referring to when you pay bus fare by EFT or by direct deposit. Please note that you are committed to the payment of the bus fare of R130 per person, plus R10 per car for the car guard, or to find a replacement unless you cancel BEFORE the payment date specified for the excursion. Excursions arranged for August and September are:

1. A visit to a bronze sculpture foundry on the morning of **Thursday 17 August**. We have about 35 people already interested in this excursion but can possibly take 40. Please send an email to U3A with the subject Foundry if you want your name to be added to the list. There is no charge for the tour. We will find a suitable location nearby for lunch. Details will be sent to everyone a month beforehand. The bus fare and car guard fee must be paid by **17 July** to reserve your place.
2. A second visit to the Brenthurst gardens, which is fully booked, will take place on **28 September**. Everyone on this list will be sent details of payment dates, departure times etc during August.

At the end of March a small group travelled by Gautrain to and from Rosebank to join the hop-on, hop-off Green Bus tour through the leafy suburbs of Northern Johannesburg. This was followed by an optional Red Bus tour of other places of interest such as Constitution Hill. We are happy to arrange another similar trip for October should there be sufficient interest. A list will be on display at the July meeting.

No other excursions will be advertised in this newsletter as Gill Udal will be out of South Africa for four weeks during August / September. Details of later excursions will be given in the next newsletter or via interim emails, but the excellent news is that the JPO is once again offering concert rehearsals at the Linder Auditorium with four programmes planned for October and November. Details will be sent later to anyone interested in attending one or more of these events. Please send an email to U3A with the subject JPO if you wish to receive this information.

LONGER EXCURSIONS

After a successful and enjoyable third visit to the Vredefort Dome, Travel Club trips for the rest of 2017 are:

West Coast Flowers, 20-28 August

Mapungubwe, **new dates in September to take advantage of pensioner discounts!**

Magoebaskloof, 18-21 September

Hogsback and Hinterland, 17-27 October

Anne Lawrance of Sakabula Safaris & Tours, who is running the tours, is currently revising the content to improve affordability. Lists will be available at the July meeting, or you can email hilarie@telkomsa.net.

DVDs

We lend DVDS to members for a deposit of R50 per series, which is refundable only if the DVDs are returned within one month. We will give several addresses where these may be dropped after viewing but for logistical reasons the deposits can only be returned at our quarterly meetings. Please see the note re the need for shared viewing venues in the paragraph on courses and interest groups.

WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

Our website is presently maintained, very kindly, by a Cape Town U3A member, with the basic, standard look and feel applicable to many of the local U3As. We would like to customise this to better suit our specific requirements. We call on any members with web-design skills, or an interest to expand their creativity and become involved in this area, to contact us at u3apretoria@gmail.com.

The quarterly newsletter, course lists and a registration form are available on our website and on our FaceBook Group page. Members are encouraged to use these resources and also to forward photographs or other suitable material related to U3A activities to us for publication.

PROPOSED DATE OF THE LAST GENERAL MEETING FOR 2017: Thursday 26 October

The U3A Committee looks forward to your participation in our activities for the second half of 2017. Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Committee for assistance with any query.

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