



**UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER: April 2017**

U3A CT, PO Box 785, Howard Place, 7450  
Administrator Telephone 021 532 7522

\* Email: [u3a.ct@sybaweb.co.za](mailto:u3a.ct@sybaweb.co.za) \* Website: <http://www.u3a-ct.org.za>

## **FORTHCOMING U3A GENERAL MEETINGS**

**BAXTER: April 2017:** Because the meeting falls on Freedom Day, a public holiday followed by a long weekend, we had originally intended to cancel the meeting, but please note that it will now take place on **Thursday April 27**. The speaker is **John Matisonn**, speaking about *South Africa's rapidly changing politics: where are we heading?*

**May: No meeting** because the Baxter is fully booked with school drama festivals.

**June:** We have accepted the Baxter offer of two meetings on **Thursdays June 1 and 29**. On **1 June**, **Eve Dunnell** will speak on *The Russian Revolutions – February and October 1917*, while on **29 June (the AGM)**, **Lauren Platzky** will be the speaker.

**ATHLONE:** Wheatfield Bowling Club, 15 Orange Avenue, Belthorn Estate: 10.00 for 10.30.

**Thurs 18 May:** The speaker is from **ASSITEJ**, the sponsor of Cradle of Creativity Festival, which takes place 17-27 May.

**Thurs 15 June:** TBA

**ATLANTIC SEABOARD:** St Peter's Anglican Church Hall, Park Ave, Camps Bay: 10.00 for 10.30.

**Thurs 11 May: Mary Burton:** Topic: *The Truth and Reconciliation Commission*

**Thurs 8 June: Dave Steward,** De Klerk Foundation: Topic TBA

**FALSE BAY:** Fish Hoek Civic Hall: 9.30 for 10.00.

**Wed 17 May: Tony Budden:** *Hemp and its future applications in South Africa*

**Wed 21 June: Cheetah Outreach:** Topic TBA

**TYGERBERG:** Bellville Civic Centre: 9.45 for 10.30.

**Thurs 11 May: Alison Dawson:** CTCC: *Solid waste management*

**Thurs 8 June: Adv. Paul Hoffman:** *Accountability*

## **COURSES OF INTEREST**

**Tai Chi.** Due to increasing numbers, this has moved from Meadowridge Library to the Bergvliet Rotary Hall.

**Yoga.** Due to increasing numbers, this has moved from Meadowridge Library to the Plumstead Scout Hall.

**Painting with Acrylics.** Philip Glazer is now teaching painting with acrylics at Meadowridge Library on a Saturday, at a cost of R5 per session.

**Current Political Topics.** New group leaders Hans Bohle and Gordon Metter are to meet with Sylvia Schrire.

**N.B.** Schedules of all our courses (with contact details) are available at all Baxter meetings, and in a monthly bulletin as well as on our website. Please refer to these to find out when

and where everything is happening. **Special Events** can be advertised in this newsletter if a notice is sent to us in good time.



**Photo of disas taken on a hike at the top of Table Mountain recently with the Mountain Meanders hiking group.**



**Members of the Mountain Meanders hiking group admiring the spectacular views on a recent hike.**

## **U3A VIDEO ON YOUTUBE**

Allen Lang has updated the U3A site to include a copy of the U3A Cape Town TV Production video on the site. If you open the website (<http://www.u3a-ct.org.za/>) and go to the last paragraph on the home page, you will see the link (on the last word "here"). If you click on this, it will take you to the YouTube video, starring Eve Dunnell, Jackie Lange and Sylvia Schrire, presented by Charissa Bloomberg.

## **RED CROSS WAR MEMORIAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**

The Children's Hospital Trust sent out an invitation to all U3A members to a keynote lecture by Professor Ian Goldin, founder of Oxford University's Oxford Martin School of Research. Professor Goldin will talk about *Some of the global issues, trends and innovations that will shape and affect our collective future*. This will take place on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April from 10h00 to 12h00. RSVP: Liz on 27 (0)21 6867860 • Email: [liz.linsell@chtrust.org.za](mailto:liz.linsell@chtrust.org.za)

U3A will donate R5 000 to The Children's Hospital Trust.

## **STAMPS FOR ASTRA**

Brenda Shear (tel. 021 686 4668) is collecting used envelopes with stamps still attached. These are processed by a group of mentally challenged people.

## **COMPLETE SET OF BEETHOVEN'S WORKS DONATED TO U3A BY TERENCE TEGNER**

As he was relocating to Belgium, Terence Tegner from Fish Hoek generously donated a complete set of Beethoven's works on audio discs to U3A. The discs are being used and appreciated by Peter Joubert's music group in Marina da Gama.

## RECENT MEETINGS AT THE BAXTER

### **February 2017. Prof. Jenny Day: Does South Africa have a water crisis?**

Professor Day, working at the Department of Biological Sciences at UCT, is an ecologist. She told us that South Africa and many parts of the world are experiencing not one crisis, but several crises, due to global warming and climate change.

South Africa is the 30<sup>th</sup> driest country in the world. The year 2015 saw the lowest recorded rainfall in South Africa (2/3 of the mean rainfall). The year 2016 was the hottest year on record worldwide.

In South Africa, the current drought is exacerbating the crisis. Professor Day warns that the need for water will eventually outstrip supply. Inadequate infrastructure, its maintenance and lack of political will often contribute to the situation.

Professor Day discussed possible ways of dealing with the crisis.

This talk certainly brought home to all the seriousness of the water situation.

### **March 2017. Dean Allen: Empire, War and Cricket in South Africa: Logan of Matjiesfontein**

*Dean Allen* is a lecturer and historian, and the author of this book. He gave a lively talk on his book.

His story is about James Douglas Logan who emigrated from Scotland to South Africa at the age of nineteen. The book explores how James Logan made his fortune in nineteenth century South Africa through business, politics (he nurtured a close relationship with Cecil John Rhodes and other influential people) and a high profile association with the British Empire's favourite sport – cricket.

The book describes how Matjiesfontein was created and how the opportunist Logan developed this little Karoo town into a renowned health resort, attracting the rich and famous – including South African novelist Olive Schreiner and England cricketer George Lohmann. Realising the important role of cricket in uniting people, James Logan was instrumental in developing this game in South Africa.

## OUTINGS WITH DAVID GAMSU

In March, the Newlands Brewery tour took place. This was shortened due to the many stairs and age group of participants. The interesting tour was followed by a beer tasting and explanation of four different beers. Afterwards, there was an enjoyable time of fellowship in the brewery pub.

A guided tour of De Goede Hoop Temple Masonic Lodge will be held on Saturday 13 May at 10.30 a.m. Please contact David at [juda@telkomsa.net](mailto:juda@telkomsa.net) or phone 021 4391301.

## ON TOUR WITH DERICK RULE

### **U3A TOUR TO ADDO ELEPHANT PARK & EASTERN CAPE**

On the 19th March, some 50 U3A members gathered at Cape Town International Airport to meet for the tour to the Eastern Cape. We arrived in Port Elizabeth for a splendid lunch at Blue Waters Cafe on the Summerstrand beachfront. After lunch everyone enjoyed a walk up Happy Valley and a foot splash in the sea nearby. This was followed by a short drive to Avoca Citrus Farm on the Sundays River, near the village of Kirkwood. This was the venue for our two nights stay, close to Addo Elephant Park. The hospitality by the owners Dave and Judy Smith and Riaan and staff at Avoca was amazing, as was our day in the park the following day. We saw hundreds of elephant, being advantaged by the height of the coach (60 seater) to look over the vegetation and the other vehicles. Many other species of animals were spotted, including buffalo, zebra, kudu, eland, sable antelope, hartebeest and warthogs. The highlight was viewing elephant from an underground hide where the elephant were so close one could count their eyelashes! On day 3 we departed from Avoca, and stopped in the village of Bathurst for a visit to the Agricultural Museum with its fascinating display of old farm kitchen utensils, farm machinery and carriages. A delicious lunch on the banks of the Kowie River in Port Alfred followed. The next three days were spent in the very remote Eastern Cape village of Begha River Mouth with its pristine environment of river, sea,

sand, dunes, birds, fauna and sparkling sunshine. It was especially wonderful to see members enjoying the surf on boogie boards, and sliding down the sand dunes on dune boards. Wonderful catering was provided by the talented Mrs Jenny Moodie (one of only five people who reside in the village permanently) in her restaurant M&J's Country Kitchen on the main coastal road (R72) in the small village of Wesley. The village was originally a mission started by the Wesleyan Missionary Society. Here guests enjoyed the handicrafts in the craft centre, as well as the exquisite handmade furniture made on the premises. On day 6, guests departed from Begha village, thoroughly tired but relaxed, with a packed lunch on board provided by Jenny Moodie. We headed for East London airport for the return flight to Cape Town.

For the benefit of those U3A members who do not have emails, the following tours for 2017 are still in the programme:

May 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>. Kruger National Park (fully booked);

June 4<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>. Kruger National Park (a few spaces still open);

June 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. Matjiesfontein/Sutherland (still some spaces);

August 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>. West Coast Flower Tour (spaces still available);

Sept 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>. West Coast Flower Tour (spaces still available);

Oct 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>. Matjiesfontein/Sutherland (spaces still available).

To book for u3a tours, call Derick on 021 532 0374 or on 082 457 2965 or email him at mwemrule@iafrica.com

### U3A PENS FOR SALE

There are still some high-quality U3A ballpoint pens, R40 each, on sale at the registration table at the monthly meeting.

### MEMBERSHIP FEES

***Please note that the "registration table" is open from 09:30 to 10:15 exactly....***

- U3A Cape Town membership fees for **new and lapsed members:**

- > Members on **email** or **residing** at Woodside Village, Pinewood Village or Norfolk Place: **R50**

- > Members requesting **snail mail:** **R70**

Please pay fees at our meetings, or use an EFT (banking details: Standard Bank, Pinelands Branch code 036309, A/c no. 373 993 943)

- **Direct cash/cheque deposits must include R15 extra for bank charges.**

- **Members renewing** pay R10 less in all cases as the R10 joining fee is omitted.

#### **SUBSCRIBE to YAHOO EMAILS**

Send an empty email (no subject, no body) to:

[u3act-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:u3act-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

OR contact Sherlayne on: [u3a.ct@sybaweb.co.za](mailto:u3a.ct@sybaweb.co.za)

**N.B. Unless members accept the invitation to join Yahoo, they will not receive newsletters, course lists, monthly bulletins or any communications from U3A!**

**AN APPEAL:** Please keep us notified of changes in your *postal, telephone, fax* or *email* contact details. Postal address: U3A, PO Box 785, Howard Place, 7450.