



University of the Third Age ● Pretoria

Website: www.u3apretoria.org.za

Email: info@u3apretoria.org.za

January 2020

Dear U3A Member,

Thanks for your membership of U3A Pretoria.

Please keep this letter for reference during the coming year as it contains most of the essential information previously included in our quarterly newsletters. The latter will now focus on news of recent and current events and will be sent out only by email. The letters and other important information will be available on our website and Facebook page, and at quarterly meetings. Course lists will be sent out by email, and will still be posted twice a year to members who do not have an email address.

Please note the new email address for U3A Pretoria, above.

For now, both the old and new email addresses are active.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

The dates of the quarterly meetings for 2020 are: Thursdays 27 February (AGM), 28 May, 30 July and 29 October. The Agenda for the AGM and a committee nomination form can be found at the end of this letter.

Quarterly meetings will continue to be held at NG KERK SKUILKRANS on the corner of CUSSONIA Ave and JAN ALBERTS St, Val de Grace, **approximately 2 km east of the entrance to the Botanical Gardens in the same road.** Secure parking is available in the church grounds and on the field opposite.

PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW AT QUARTERLY MEETINGS

Doors will open at 09.00 for current and prospective members to pay their 2020 subscription of **R100**. People joining from July onwards will pay **R50**. Guests are welcome at a cost of **R30** each, to be paid at the registration tables.

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.** Please do NOT give a committee member cash to pay on your behalf.

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 (the Payer) and what you are paying for** as the **Beneficiary's / Payee's / Recipient's Reference**, to avoid misunderstandings (we have received unidentified deposits in the past). Please read the payment webpage or form carefully and clearly state this, e.g. "J SMITH Ballet" or "J SMITH Subs 2020". **Do NOT give U3A as your name! U3A is YOUR reference** to know who you have paid.

If you realise, after paying, that you forgot to state your name in the Recipient's reference, please send a separate email to U3A to explain the payment. If you prefer to pay cash, you may do so at the quarterly meetings.

Please note that members who have not paid their subscriptions by 31 October will be removed from the mailing list.

OTHER CHARGES

Courses: R10 per session **payable at the first meeting** to cover the cost of tea and biscuits. An additional levy may be payable to cover any material costs.

Interest groups are free to set their own charges, as many of these incur additional costs e.g. hire of venue, payment to car guards, and gifts to guest presenters, as well as the cost of providing refreshments. We ask all interest group co-ordinators to ensure that their expenses are shared between the members, as no individual should have to subsidise the cost of any U3A activity.

NAME BADGES

Please remember to wear a name badge **at all U3A functions including excursions** as this identifies you as a member of U3A. It can be of any design and does not have to be a U3A badge. Free name badges will be issued to **new** members only. These can be ordered at quarterly meetings or by sending an email to us with your name as Subject.

TEA AND SIGNING UP FOR ACTIVITIES

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 constantly telephone members to remind them of presentations, or to cater for participants who withdraw at the last minute for avoidable reasons.

COURSES AND STUDY / INTEREST GROUPS

Only registered U3A members may participate in courses, study and interest groups other than in exceptional circumstances where a guest fee of R30 per session will be charged. U3A traditionally invites **course leaders and interest group co-ordinators** to a 'thank you' breakfast – this year's will be on 6 November.

If you are prepared to offer a course, run an interest group, 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

If you do not have an email address, please ask a member who does have this facility to contact you with interim information.

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, e.g. Tuesday Forum.

EXCURSIONS

Details of both one-day and longer excursions will appear in our quarterly newsletters and in addition will be on display at general meetings. The following refers to **one-day** excursions:

1. Proposed excursions will take place **ONLY** if the number of participants warrants the hire of a bus. Please remember to state your name **AND** specify which excursion you are referring to when you pay by EFT or by direct deposit. (See the information on Recipient's Reference, above.)
2. The cost of the bus will be R150 per person in 2020. The bus is booked in advance and the size and cost are dependent on the number of participants. We are charged for the

driver's time as well as the fuel costs. To standardise the fare throughout the year, smaller buses with fewer occupants are subsidised by larger buses with more paying passengers.

3. **Please note that you are committed to the payment of the bus fare, or to find a replacement, unless you cancel BEFORE the payment date specified for each excursion.** We cannot use U3A subscription funds to pay YOUR bus fare if you do not meet your commitments in this regard. Refunds are not possible for this reason. Refunding members also creates considerable additional work for our Treasurer.
4. It is occasionally possible to allow guests on some excursions for an additional fee of R30. We will inform you of this in advance.
5. Please wear your name badge and arrive promptly at the appointed time as we cannot wait for latecomers. Until specified otherwise, excursions will leave from the NG Kerk Skuilkrans. A car guard will be on duty.

Suggestions for future excursions are welcome.

DVDs

We lend DVDs from our library to members at every meeting for a deposit of R50 per series, which is refundable only if the DVDs are returned no later than the next general meeting. You are welcome to make suggestions for new DVD series or to lend/donate any of your own DVDs to our library. Please treat our DVDs with care to ensure that they are not damaged.

The U3A Committee looks forward to your participation in our activities during 2020. Their contact details follow.

Gill Udal – Chair	082 578-4192	gillmudal@gmail.com
Jenny Janisch – Deputy Chair	012 460-8270	davenjen@mweb.co.za
John Lambert – Deputy Chair	012 460-5089	lambertb@mweb.co.za
Ken Brown – Treasurer	012 804-8248	kvbrown@mweb.co.za
Hilarie Riphagen – Minutes Secretary	012 345-3196	hilarie0001@gmail.com
Verna Brown	012 804-8248	kvbrown@mweb.co.za
Rae Labuschagne	012 664-3321	raelab@telkomsa.net
Jan Meyer	082 347-0432	admin@merchantbrokers.co.za
Gerda Rautenbach	012 361-1372	gerdar@telkomsa.net
Jean Richter	012 345-4077	jeanierichter@gmail.com
Yvonne Shapiro	083 268-2763	yvonne.t.shapiro@gmail.com
Philip van der Merwe	012 460-9036	vdmerwe.philip@gmail.com
Colleen van Niekerk	012 361-4833	barryvan@telkomsa.net