

tuesday forum

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Dear Members

A little late, but here is all the information you have been waiting for with regard to the rest of the year. I want to thank Ray for managing to put together a very interesting and varied programme for us, in between going to and fro between Pretoria and Krugersdorp to see to alterations to his new home. We are fortunate that he generously offered to continue as programme organiser this year even though he has now resigned from Forum. We shall miss him and all the help he has given us, especially on the technical side, but he hopes to attend meetings whenever he can, even when he has moved. He wanted to arrange the music talk for our November meeting, but Peta will be involved in rehearsals that morning, so she will entertain and inform us about the cello in October.

I asked for volunteers to take over the programme organising job, and Irene Downer has answered the call. She has been working with Ray on this programme in order to get practice before she takes over for next year. So we welcome her onto the committee and hope she will enjoy her time with us in this role. Helga Nordhoff has offered to create a website linked to U3A as the two organisations have close ties. Most U3As have speakers every month, but because so many of you belong to both organisations, Pretoria U3A only has a speaker for the quarterly general meetings. Helga has started creating the website and it should be completed quite soon. It will carry the programme information as well as information about Forum for U3A members. Thank you, Helga, for putting us on the map, so to speak.

We have settled happily into our new home. The atmosphere at Skuilkrans is welcoming, and the parking is easy and safe. Moreover, it is financially better for us. At our recent committee meeting, Wendy told us that we were now in a position to fulfil one of the original aims of Forum: **service to the community**. We always have a Benefit Morning at the end of the year, but this is over and above that. For some time we have held onto a fair amount of money as a backup in case of emergencies. Now we feel that the future looks good and we can disburse some of that money. We have given several donations: to the Music Department at Tukkies (where we used to fund three bursaries in return for the use of the Musaion) to help a student, to the Precious Babies organisation, to the Gracia Child and Youth Care Centre (both recipients of our Benefit Mornings), and to Tape Aids for the Blind (which has been a long-standing charity for Forum). We shall have a different beneficiary for the November Benefit Morning, and have already received suggestions.

One last request: PLEASE wear your name badges. It makes it much more sociable to know who you are speaking to when you mingle before and after the talk. I keep mine in my glove box so that it's always available when I arrive at the meeting. I don't have to remember to bring it along, although I must remember to take it out and put it on!

Regards and best wishes

Jenny

Committee members to contact if you have any enquiries or want to give apologies are:

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