

EASTERN

Regional President: David Rosenwax AM drosenwax@bigpond.com

Regional Course Coordinator: Mary Healy-North maryhealynorth1@bigpond.com **Enquiries only**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: You do not need to book for any courses at COA Centre Woollahra.

EASTERN REGION OF SYDNEY u3a

Annual General Meeting and Election of Office Bearers

Will be held on: **21 March 2025 commencing at 12 noon at: COA Centre – 25 Rowe St Woollahra**

Bookings for the AGM essential. Contact Secretary Sandy See at sandra.l.see@gmail.com

Please consider standing for a position on the committee.

Nomination forms will be emailed to Eastern members and must be returned to the Secretary before 14 March 2025.

COA CENTRE WOOLLAHRA

25 Rowe St

wheelchair access, train station nearby, bus stop nearby

FRIDAYS AT COA CENTRE WOOLLAHRA

Every Friday from 7 Feb 10:30 to 12:00

A variety of presentations of general interest looking at topics relevant to us in today's world.

NO BOOKINGS are required.

International Relations

1. In defence of our humanity

7 Feb

Professor Stephen Hill speaks about his book '*In Defence of our Humanity*' and his experience working in the United Nations.

Presenter: Professor Stephen Hill

Law

2. Kidnapped

14 Feb

The kidnapping of Graeme Thorne in 1960 – an event that gripped the nation.

Presenter: Mark Tedeschi AM KC

Art

3. The Boom Gate Gallery, Maroubra

21 Feb

The history and the exhibitions of The Boom Gate in Maroubra.

Presenter: Elizabeth Day

Art

4. Outsider art

28 Feb

A visual journey on the highways of creativity, madness and outsider art. There are many Old Masters but why no Old Mistresses?

Presenter: Lydia Fegan

Science

5. Why does carbon dioxide cause global warming?

7 Mar

Trace amounts of greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide cause climate change, but more prevalent atmospheric molecules we breathe, oxygen and nitrogen do not. Why is this so?

Presenter: Don Napper

History

6. The Coast Hospital

13 Mar NOTE THIS IS A THURSDAY

When plague leprosy scarlet fever infected many of Sydney's poorest citizens, they were cared for at the Coast Hospital established in 1881 (later the Prince Henry). Every story from the hospital cemetery is sad in a different way, be it of a child, widow, nurse, or ambulance driver.

Presenter: Debbie Rudder

Law

7. Understanding Australian Law - Part I

21 Mar

Where do laws come from? How does the system work? What are the legal dimensions of current events?

Presenter: David Hirsch, Barrister

A short AGM for U3A Eastern Region will follow this talk at 12.00 midday. All members are welcome to attend.

Law

8. Understanding Australian Law - Part II

28 Mar

Where do laws come from? How does the system work? What are the legal dimensions of current events?

Presenter: David Hirsch, Barrister

Music Appreciation

9. Handel's Messiah

4 April

We learn about the history of this famous oratorio, how it became one of the best known and frequently performed works in Western music.

Presenter: Andy Bromberger

Science Chemistry

10. Lessons in Everyday Chemistry

11 Apr

No, not about that fantastic bestselling novel. We will discuss some everyday items and observations, along with some demonstrations, all OH&S compatible. If attractive, could become a series.

Presenter: Em Prof Ben Selinger AM

18 Apr – No u3a Talk – Good Friday - COA CLOSED

25 Apr – No u3a Talk – Anzac Day – COA CLOSED

Information Technology

11. Robotics and AI

2 May

An introduction to the concept of robotics and artificial intelligence by a software engineer with experience in educative robots.

Presenter: Cedric Muller

Politics USA

12. American elections-time for a re-set

9 May

Discussing how the 'modern' way of choosing candidates has failed to select the best and the brightest.

Presenter: Harry Melkonian

History Australia

13. Sir Peter Cosgrove AK CVO MC

16 May

Sir Peter will talk about his service as 26th Governor General of Australia, 2019 - 2024.

Presenter: Sir Peter Cosgrove AK CVO MC

Technology

14. AI and seniors

23 May

What is AI all about? Where is it at and where is it heading? Accessing and using AI is not difficult at all, once you know how.

Presenter: Peter Thorpe

History

15. Humanitarian aid

30 May

We will hear about experiences working as a humanitarian delegate in a range of contexts over more than 16 years.

Presenter: Robyn Baxendale

Technology Innovation

16. Iconic Australian inventions of our time

6 Jun

A look at the people and science behind some of our classic Australian discoveries and inventions from the 19th century colonial era to our present time.

Presenter: Ian Thompson

History Western Sydney

17. City West

13 Jun

Come and hear the history of Ultimo and Pyrmont, then the Parramatta River upstream from Gladesville Bridge and finally Parramatta and the infamous Female Factory.

Presenter: Trevor McAlister

Sociology

18. Retirement and ageing

20 Jun

Catherine Rickwood is a change maker, provocateur and researcher on age-based stereotypes, committed to change through storytelling.

Presenter: Catherine Rickwood

Medical and Legal

19. Voluntary Assisted Dying

27 Jun

Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) laws are in place in all Australian states and allow people with a terminal or incurable condition and unbearable suffering, the right to a quick and peaceful death with medical assistance.

Presenter: Penny Hackett, President, Dying with Dignity NSW

BONDI JUNCTION: MILL HOTEL

59B Oxford St

Book Group

EASTERN CRIME READERS GROUP

Third Tuesday from 18 Feb 10:15 to 12:00

The group discusses a wide range of crime fiction and tries to select the best titles from international and Australian authors.

Leader and Bookings: Sandy See sandra.l.see@gmail.com
0412 044 811

BONDI JUNCTION: WAVERLY LIBRARY

32-48 Denison St

Level 1 Study Room 4

Book Group

WAVERLEY BOOK GROUP

First Thursday from 6 Feb 2:00 to 4:00

Everyone suggests a book they have read or would recommend. New members very welcome.

Bookings: Jennifer Woodroffe
jenniferwoodroffe@hotmail.com (preferred)
0418 40 4881

Mathematics

MATHS IS FOR EVERYONE

Every second Monday 3 Mar to 12 May 10:30 to 12:00

Each meeting presents a talk on a mathematical topic. After a break we will have a discussion of some puzzles which will be circulated a week before the meeting.

No knowledge beyond school level is assumed.

Bookings and Presenter: Andrew Holt
aholt171@gmail.com

CLOVELLY SENIOR CITIZEN CENTRE

40-42 Arden St

On street parking, buses nearby

Discussion Group Movies

FILM DISCUSSION GROUP

Alternate Tuesdays from 4 Feb 10:00 to 12:00

Share your opinion on acting, characters, plots, cinematography.

Leader and Bookings: Graham Blazey
gblazey@optusnet.com.au 9365 1961

Discussion Group

CURRENT AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP

Alternate Tuesdays from 11 Feb 10:00 to 12:00

Join us for occasional debate and social interaction if you are interested in the world around you.

Leader: Gwen Zeller gswzeller@gmail.com 0404 781 162
Bookings: Marise Segelov marisesegelov@gmail.com
9363 4023 or 0410 514 866

PADDINGTON: EJ WARD CENTRE

189 Underwood St (cnr George St) bus stop nearby

Language French

FRENCH CONVERSATION (Advanced)

Every Thursday from 6 Feb 10:30 to 12:00

French language level: it is conversation, not a lesson.

To get the most out of this group, you need to be able to speak some French intelligibly and understand others who speak French more fluently.

Leader: Michelle Scheibmair 0414 978 917

Bookings: Paula Mackintosh pmackint1@yahoo.com
0425 074 488

PRIVATE HOMES

Book Group

ROSE BAY BOOK GROUP

First Wednesday from 5 Feb 2:00 to 4:00

Everyone gets to choose a book to discuss. We take turns to meet at each other's homes. New members welcome.

Leader and **Bookings:** Judy New 0414 686 844 or
9371 7250

Music Appreciation

DISCOVERING FINE MUSIC (Randwick)

Every second Monday from 10 Feb 2:00 to 4:00

We listen to compositions from the great masters, focusing on their lesser-known works, as well as composers who are often overlooked today. We also include Australian composers and performers. Group participation warmly welcomed as are new members.

Leader and **Bookings:** Julie Reid julievreid@gmail.com
0411 575 157

Book Group

NORTH BONDI BOOK GROUP (max 10)

Third Wednesday from 19 Feb 2:00 to 4:00

People come with suggestions of authors to read and discuss. Conversation pivots around what people have read of the author. At other times we pick a genre to read and discuss: thrillers, biography, history, science fiction. New members are very welcome.

Leader and **Bookings:** Liza Cohn liza.cohn@yahoo.com
9389 1336