



## Schedule of Lectures February to November 2020

Venue: RJM Hall, Randjes Estate,  
6 Randjeslaagte Road, Highlands North. 26.14S 28.09E  
Website: <http://www.u3ajoburgeast.co.za>

Tea and coffee are served at 09:30. The lecture starts promptly at 10:00

The registration and attendance tables and tea facility will close at 9h50 so that all support staff can attend the start of the lecture.

| Date  | Speaker  | Title                                | Blurb  |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>11 February</b>  | <b>Mike Crouch</b><br>BSc Elec Eng Wits, FSAIEE<br>Past President of SA Institute of Electrical Engineers (SAIEE). | <b>Fibre Optics a modern Miracle</b> | <p>Our lives are deeply involved with the Mobile Telephone, commonly called the Cellular Telephone or simply the Cell Phone. Cell phones allow us to communicate over the entire world at the touch of a button on a little electronic wonder that we keep in our pocket or handbag. The cell phone also enables us to carry out a host of other functions such as take pictures and movies, access sources of information on virtually any subject, navigate, play music etc., etc.</p> <p>Unseen behind the cell phone or our TV systems, is a vast network of telecommunication systems using satellites and undersea cables. This lecture will describe the cable systems, their digital technology and optical fibre transmission medium in fascinating non-technical language. How was fibre invented, how is it made what does it do and how does it affect our lives. You will be able to examine pieces of undersea fibre cable.</p> <p>If you enjoyed my satellite lecture earlier in 2019 you will enjoy the Optical Fibre lecture even more!</p> |
| <b>17 March</b><br><i>Note the change to the third Tuesday of</i> | <b>Karen Denton</b><br>Age Related Macular Degeneration (AMD).<br>Ambassador: Retina South Africa                  | <b>Art and Vision Loss</b>           | <p>This talk will explore the varying effects that different eye diseases had on ten famous artists. Each artist has been chosen because of popularity and the type of eye disease that affected their work through the years. Would Rembrandt, Degas, Monet,</p>  |

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| <i>March to accommodate Purim</i> |   |  | van Gogh and others have produced different work if their eyesight had been perfect? A comparison is drawn between diagnostic techniques and treatments then and now.   |
| <b>14 April</b>                   | <b>Ferial Haffajee</b><br>Associate editor at The Daily Maverick and Fin24.   | <b>Social Media: a rising threat to media freedom.</b>       | The Internet and the powerful social media platforms now host some of the worst forms of violence against journalists. They are recognised by the United Nations agency which deals with media freedom, UNESCO and other global free media advocates as a rising threat to media freedom. Ferial will talk about this trend and will include her experiences and their effect on her own life and career as a journalist. |
| <b>12 May</b>                     | <b>Douglas Gibson</b>   | <b>South Africa – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.</b>         | Ambassador Douglas Gibson, now a writer, lecturer, non-executive director and chairperson of the Audit and Risk Committee of a large company, and formerly an attorney, MP, Opposition chief whip and ambassador to Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar (Burma), remains an optimist about South Africa. He will look back briefly, discuss some current issues, and sketch how he sees the future.                      |
| <b>9 June</b>                     | <b>Adrian Tiplady</b><br>Head: Strategy & Business Systems at the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory, responsible for managing South Africa's involvement in the international SKA Project as well as the construction and operation of the MeerKAT radio telescope. | <b>South Africa taking Centre Stage - the SKA Case Study</b> | Adrian will explore the case of the SKA project, explore its scientific objectives and technical accomplishments, and discuss how South Africa has used the project to catapult it into a global leader for the development of mega-science projects.   |
| <b>11 August</b>                  | <b>Sheree Bega</b><br>Saturday Star News Editor and environmental reporter. Winner of the Gauteng CSI/Sustainability Category in the Vodacom Journalist of the Year Awards for 2019.  | <b>Vaal River pollution</b>                                  | As an environmental reporter at the Saturday Star, I've covered the crisis of sewage pollution in the Vaal River system for many years. In the talk, I will speak about the origins of the crisis - the river was described as a "sewer" in the 1970s already - the drivers of the current collapse of the system; the effects on the river ecology and downstream communities; the role of climate change in this        |

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|                    |  |  | disaster; why the pollution of the Vaal matters to South Africans and how this crisis is symbolic of the sewage crisis that is unfolding in many other river systems and communities in South Africa.  |
| <b>8 September</b> | <b>Alastair Meredith</b><br>Art specialist<br>Strauss and Co   | <b>An Unsung History: Some Underappreciated South African Artists.</b> |  |
| <b>13 October</b>  | <b>Kathy Munro</b><br>Hon Associate Professor, School of Architecture and Planning at Wits University and Chairperson, Johannesburg Heritage Foundation.         | <b>The Blue Plaques of Johannesburg and Heritage near and far.</b>     | The Blue plaque is an iconic symbol of heritage. There are some special series of blue plaques. This talk explains the blue plaque and its meaning. Introduces some of the blue plaques of Johannesburg and tells the story of some unusual places people and events that have been awarded a blue plaque by the City and by Johannesburg Heritage Foundation. We look at Blue plaques in London and elsewhere on the world and come back to a discussion of the wider South African heritage canvas and some blue plaques in Tulbagh and Cape Town and show how blue plaques can be used to rescue forgotten history. The final part of this talk raises your interest in a possible blue plaque for Randjeslaagte Estate and progress on this idea.  |
| <b>10 November</b> | <b>Ed Jordan</b><br>Global Head of Wealth Experience at Standard Bank Wealth, a key leadership role focusing on Client Centricity, Staff Experience and Culture. | <b>Turning Point</b>   | Ed Jordan is a high performance business coach and speaker. His talk will track his career through the arts and media into the corporate world and beyond!<br>Ed is a SAMA award winning, multi-platinum selling musician, a Naledi award winning theatre producer, a published author and playwright, the co-creator of the Beautiful Creatures brand and composed and produced the music for first two "Spud" films, starring John Cleese. He has also worked as a composer with artist William Kentridge and released five solo albums featuring the songs "Always" and "African Christmas" which have become South African standards.<br>TV presenting credits include Deal or No Deal, Popstars, Super Saturday, Fast Forward, Big City and The Wedding Show, and Radio credits include hosting the breakfast show on Kaya FM 95.9. |