

The Athenaeum has four rooms which are available for renting during office hours on weekdays. A schedule of evening availability will be posted separately.

1. The Newbery Hall lecture theatre
2. The Drawing-room(s).
3. The Board room (Dorothea Bleek room).
4. The Alex du Toit room.

A fifth room, the Goodwin Room, is currently let to a small commercial organisation. It has its own separate outside entrance.

A small kitchen is available, where hot drinks and light meals can be prepared by tenants.

The manageress occupies a self-contained apartment at the back of the building.

Newbery Hall

This lecture theatre accommodates 90 persons comfortably. The dimensions are approximately 9 metres by 15 metres, i.e. the floor area is about 135 square metres. The room is air-conditioned.

It is equipped with a Hitachi CPX2510 data projector, which will display on to a large screen images or videos from a laptop computer placed on the lectern. A VGA connection is provided for this, on the lectern.

A Samsung DVD player is built into the lectern.

There is a public address system, based on a 60-Watt DSPPA MP-7806 amplifier, with two Gemini UHF-216 wireless microphones, one hand-held and the other head-mounted. Both microphones can be used simultaneously, which is practical when the chairman of a meeting wishes to introduce a speaker, or to make comments or handle questions from the floor. It is possible to use a conventional (cabled) lapel-mounted microphone instead of the head-mounted wireless microphone if the speaker prefers.

The lighting is based on 18 banks of triple fluorescent tubes, which can be switched from near the lectern so that there is illumination from 18, 36 or 54 tubes. There are also dimmable downlights (GU-10 LEDs) in the ceiling.

There are racks for the display of artwork, notices, etc., along the sides of the hall, and separate sideways-pointing mercury-arc lighting is provided for these.

Measures are currently being taken to provide backup electrical power, so that the Newbery Hall lecture theatre can be used during load-shedding. The audiovisual equipment and LED downlights will be supported. We expect to have this in operation shortly. Provisional details are available [here](#).

Drawing-Rooms

These two elegant interleading rooms with bay windows are of dimensions 6 metres x 5 metres and 8 metres x 5 metres. The total floor area is approximately 70 square metres. They are commonly used for social functions.

(On Wednesdays the drawing-rooms are only available after 09h30, at present.)

Board-Room (Dorothea Bleek Room)

The room, of dimensions 6 metres x 5 metres, is equipped with a large boardroom table, which seats 12 people comfortably. Member societies use it mainly in the evenings. (At present it is also used by a member society between 09h00 and 13h00 on the 3rd Thursday of each month.)

This room is sometimes rented ad hoc by corporate bodies of sectional title premises.

Alex du Toit Room

This large room, of approximate dimensions 9 metres x 6 metres, is sparsely furnished. At present it is used on weekday evenings after 17h30; and by drama and dance groups over the weekends.