



DECEMBER 2010

**Presidents Note****TO ALL MEMBERS OF U3A.**

2010 has been another good year for Tauranga U3A, judging by the steady increase in the number of members and of study groups.

We had an enjoyable end of year function on 19 November at Wesley, well organised by Vice-President Ken Gillan and his Social Committee. Thanks too, to Uli Hoppe, who told us about some of his experiences managing hotels throughout the world. By the sounds of it, he has many more experiences to tell us, so perhaps his talk could become an annual event, like the very funny DVD supplied to us by Doreen Anderson and shown at our function. Apparently, this DVD, which is in English (or, rather Yorkshire), has been shown in Germany and other European countries as part of their New Year celebrations, but never, for some reason, in UK.

Thanks to everyone on the Committee for their work throughout the year and those persons who help at the monthly meetings with the sound and screen systems, especially for the showing of the DVD at the function.

Finally, special mention of and thanks to Thelma as chief Co-ordinator of Groups – after all, the main purpose of U3A.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our members.

*Martin Dumbill,  
President*

**Next General Meeting Details**

**Date:** 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2011

**AGM & Election of Officers for 2011**

**Speaker:** Carol Gordon. *Our Aging Population.*

**Cost:** \$3.00 per person. Please pay as you enter

**Next Committee Meeting:  
Friday Jan 21<sup>st</sup> @ 10am.**

**In Memory Of**

Audrey HORE, 1 Vale St W, 576-6345 On 22.09.2010

We give sincere condolences to family, friends, specialists, support services, work mates and others involved in the tragedy at the Pike River Mine, Greymouth where explosions caused the death of 29 miners. A truly dreadful event.

**Reports of Speakers at General Meetings****October 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**PETER JACKSON** gave a passionate talk about **Tea Making in South Africa**. 'Tea', in South African Dumbo language means 'hello'.

Visual Displays and power-point pictures gave us an insight into the process and manufacture of tea. Our favourite beverage is of the Camelia family, mainly found in North East India. Seeds taken from India were planted along the way to South Africa where it became a major crop. It takes about four and half kilo's of picked plant to make one cup of green tea. After processing there can be six different types of tea depending on moisture density. Selling tea is tricky as it picks up 'taints' and 'moisture' easily. When packed it needs 5 layers of paper to help keep out moisture, plus three sheets of tissue. Peter explained the difference between 'loose leaf' and 'tea bags' stating that one is as good as the other, depending on the density of the tea. (Moisture content).

**PETER OTWAY**. Was introduced by Peter Simmons who told us Peter Otway had 'surveyed' all around the world. Highlights from his talk - 'The Secrets from the Ice Sheets' - are:

- Antarctica is twice the size of Australia.
- Its normal temperature is between -26° to 27° in summer at the South Pole, and down to -60° in winter.
- Can you imagine wind up to 300 k's per hour?
- Ice sheets on the move are carving out huge valleys, proving that 41 million years ago the

temperature was sub tropical, leaving fossilised forests and dinosaurs imbedded in the ice.

- Huge crevasses developed, 100 metres across.
- Peter showed pictures of spectacular icebergs carrying their penguin passengers. In winter the ice almost doubles reflecting light back into space.
- Shackleton, 100 years ago, stood and watched his beautiful ship being crushed by the increasing ice as winter approached.
- Data revealing climate variations over the last five million years, had been gathered from bars which had been driven down into the ice base.
- 98% of scientists around the world agree Antarctica has had peak warm times during its 400,000 years of development.
- From 1950 to the present time CO<sub>2</sub> gasses have tripled. The sea absorbs some CO<sub>2</sub>'s but not all, which is making our seas more acidic.
- Graphs, showing the rise of global temperatures reveal that a rise of between 2 and 5° can be expected over the next century. So, as the worlds forests reduce, so the absorption of CO<sub>2</sub>'s is reduced, making glaciers and the arctic sea ice warmer. In about 30 years the surrounding sea ice will disappear. As the atmosphere warms up there is greater precipitation (rain), or snow, over the Antarctic.
- Peter explained that the hole in the ozone layer is expected to close over in the next 50 years or so, if the positive world wide reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> action continues.
- Large outlet glaciers are showing classic Drastic Retreat traits similar to the Alaskan tidewater glaciers. To date the thinning and accelerated movement shows a possible 60 metre rise of sea level before the ice cools totally. World wide sea rise of 59 cm is expected before the end of the century **at least**. Greenland and the Arctic are in similar situations.
- It is expected that 140 million people around the Pacific will be displaced
- Dry is getting dryer. Wet is getting wetter.
- **Good News:** Because we now know what is happening we CAN plan for the future.

It was a privilege to hear and see the information Peter Otway presented, hence the extended coverage of some highlights of his talk.

Members who enjoyed Peter Otway's talk at the October General Meeting (on the Antarctica and its implications for global warming), will be interested to know **Otway Massif** was named in acknowledgement of Peter's mapping of this prominent feature.

Members are recommended to look at the website, [www.hedgehoghouse.com](http://www.hedgehoghouse.com), which is run by his good friend Colin Monteath. It includes polar photos by excellent photographers, including Peter Otway,

## 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2010

Uli Hoppe, past president from 2009, has worked in all top positions required as an International Hotelier, mostly in the Middle East. It was unfortunate Uli was unable to conclude his talk to speak about his time in Australia, and then NZ. However, his descriptions and stories gave the audience laughs aplenty and an insight into his working life, especially during the Revolution in Teiran.

One interesting fact was that we N.Z.'s usually go to restaurants to 'eat out', while overseas it is the bigger hotels that attract people for dining experiences. When a hotelier requires senior engineers, they look to Chief Engineers from ships as they understand the massive boilers and maintenance required in similar large working environments.

One anecdote Uli told was when he was employed in a kitchen under a 'mad Italian' chef. It was Uli's job to cook 'the duck' for some very important guests. Uli knew there was no more poultry available so he watched and basted them diligently. However, the mad Italian, who had had more than his usual amount of alcohol, was in a volatile mood. Uli, momentarily distracted by another job, caught a ferocious look from the mad Italian who had lifted a large knife. Glancing at the stove Uli saw black smoke pouring from the oven – and took off with the mad Italian pounding behind him around the kitchen. The staff laughed madly as Uli, chased by his would be assailant, leapt over the bench tops. Uli finally escaped the wrath of the drunken chef. Later, New Year's Eve, all kitchen staff were given the night off. But the mad Italian raised a hand, pointed to Uli, and said 'You are on the yearly kitchen inventory tonight.' Uli asked, 'Why me?' The chef smiled and said – 'Remember the ducks!'

We look forward to hearing Uli speak at a General Meeting next year to tell us more stories.

## **HANDS UP**

Cancer is a major disaster for health in N.Z. (and elsewhere). There is information showing how N.Z.'s bowel, lung and prostate cancers could be halved. Bureaucracy tends to prefer no changes.

Are there people who would be prepared to study the double blind test results etc, so they are well informed? An orchestrated voice then may be better heard.

Anybody prepared to put up their hand to find out more please phone David Walpole, Ph 576-0578. If sufficient people are interested we may create a group or a course.

**Your 2011 Handbook & receipt will be issued on payment of your 2011 subscriptions. Included is your account, which can be paid by cheque, internet banking or at the Annual General Meeting Feb 18<sup>th</sup> 2011.**

**Note:** All members and those interested in the following groups - *Classical Films, War Film & Documentary, and Latin Group* – A full list of films to be shown throughout 2011, plus expected speakers for the Continuing Education Tauranga (to which all U3A members are invited), will be printed in the January Newsletter. Please keep these details for your 2011 information.

**The U3A Christmas Luncheon** held on 19<sup>th</sup> November was a happy occasion for the 106 people who attended. Young Talita Petero, a budding pianist, entertained during the meal of ham, salads etc. For sweet we enjoyed mini pavs, berries, Christmas pudding, fruit salad and cream – all beautifully presented.

Prior to the meal Uli Hoppe, 2009 President, spoke. (See above). We watched a video and what a video. If I said we all 'cracked up' I am sure you will understand. It is the most viewed English video outside England, called 'Dinner For One'. I believe it was made in Germany. Truly hilarious. Spot prizes were won by lucky numbers.  
Ed.

### THE RECIPE



This is the **Crock-Pot Christmas pudding** served at the Christmas Luncheon. It is fortunate for us the chef had the recipe and allowed us to share it.

**SAUCE.** 1 ½ cups sugar. 3 ½ cups boiling water. 2 tbsp butter. Place in crockpot & boil for 20 mins. (Can be done on stove top)

**PUDDING.** 3 tbsp melted butter. 1 ½ cups of milk. 1 tsp salt. 2 tsp Baking Powder. 2 ¼ cups of mixed fruit (up to 1 kg). 1 heaped cup brown sugar. 2 ¼ cups flour. 1 ½ tsp mixed spice. 2 ¼ tsp Baking Soda.  
Mix all ingredients together place on top of sauce. Cook on high for approximately 3 to 4 hours.  
Can soak the fruit overnight in brandy or sherry etc.

### U3A Tauranga Contacts

Address: U3A Tauranga Inc. PO Box 14453, Tga 3143

Website: [www.u3atauranga.org.nz](http://www.u3atauranga.org.nz)

Almoner: Doris Hamer. Ph 571-8184.

[hamer@bopis.co.nz](mailto:hamer@bopis.co.nz)

### U3A TAURANGA INC STATS

Total Membership at 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2010 - 632

Total Number of Groups - 74

### U3A TAURANGA INC

The Largest U3A in New Zealand

We believe we are now the **largest U3A in NZ** organised under a single committee. We want to keep

growing and can do so as long as we have a committee capable and willing to help you all enjoy the groups offered.

We have managed to keep subs to \$20, while making sure we have sufficient funds to cover replacement of equipment, breakages and loss etc. But we want to look further – for this we need your input. Please let the committee know your thoughts, how can we change for the better and how we can help you enjoy U3A more.

## Annual General Meeting

18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2011 – 10 am

13<sup>th</sup> Ave Wesley Church Hall

### Please attend

Following is the list of Committee positions plus nominations received. As you can see, most positions have a nominee. However, it is healthy to hold an election rather than everyone being accepted unopposed. Therefore, please continue to forward nominations to: U3A Secretary, Box 14453, Tauranga 3143, **prior to 9<sup>th</sup> Feb.**

POSITION	NOMINEE
<b>Committee Positions</b>	
President	Ken Gillan
Vice-President	Angela Dold
Past President	Martin Dumbill (Automatic)
Treasurer	Paul Wooding
Secretary	Sheila Forrest
Groups Coordinator	Thelma Cane
Groups Assistant	Monica Cox
Membership Sec.	Winn Tipping
Membership Assistant	Don McMillan
Publications	Janet Ormsby
Publicity	Val Green
Skills Register	Don McMillan

### Non Committee Positions

Meetings	Ken Rose
Funding	Peter Simmons
Web Master	Alan Freer
Web Assistant	Betty Clethero
Almoner	Doris Hamer
Archivist	

N.B. **The first Newsletter for 2011** will be issued Mid January. Any news, views or interviews should be with me **by Friday Jan 14<sup>th</sup> 2011**. Don't forget to let me know what you would like to read during 2011. Merry Christmas, happy New Year and safe travelling. Janet Ormsby. (Publications Editor).



### BRIDGE GROUP – The Mount/Papamoa.

This group needs just two more players to start the group next year. Contact Thelma 574-6222.

## NATURE STUDY GROUP



The Nature Study Group of 21 members, has just returned from two nights away at Aongatete Lodge. Why, you may ask, would you opt to sleep away from all your home comforts for two nights, in the bush? Well the answer is simple.

No traffic noise, only the spooky call of the Morepork in the dark. No sea lettuce – only a crystal cold stream splashing down a water slide into a deep swimming pool hidden in the valley.

No sunburn – only tall Rimus and Pungas shading winding bush tracks, thick with leaf mould and interspersed with interesting fungi and ferns.

No helicopters whirring overhead – only the skirl of Pigeon wings startled while eating berries from the Pigeonwood trees, and the bell sounds of Tuis high in the canopy of leaves.

No starvation diets – only the letting out of belts from eating masses of delicious lasagne for lunch and dinner and then more apple crumble and custard for breakfast!!

The Lodge is a warm clean venue well appointed and without the need to trek outside in the dark. We all learned a lot of fascinating information about a host of creatures and plants from the more knowledgeable members of the Group.

A thoroughly enjoyable stay away. Credit must go to the excellent organisers, Kath and Ken Rose and their amazing helper Thelma Cane. Yes, she is our U3A Group Magician. Thelma truly is a wonder woman and never needs sleeping pills!

Thanks to you all for a fun event.

*Doreen Anderson – Nature Study Group.*

## News from the Groups

### NEW GROUPS

#### **Chi Kung**

Chi Kung is a form of health development which promotes good health and longevity. In appearance it is somewhat like Tai Chi.

Convener: Helen Main Ph 574-1717  
Tutor: Dr Alistair Bourne  
Venue: 2 Chelsea Crt, Bethlehem  
Meetings: Every Wednesday  
Time: 2pm to 3 pm

#### **Apple Mac Course.**

This is for Apple Mac Computer Users.

Convener: Monica Cox Ph 579-3616

This course will run for the number of sessions as required. First course will start in February 2011.

## GROUPS STARTING IN 2011

### **Mah Jong.**

#### **Singing for Joy.**

Details will be in the January Newsletter. If you are interest in either of these groups contact Thelma Ph 574-6222.

It has been a busy year with 12 new groups formed. A number of groups have closed for varying reasons. We currently have a total of 74 groups.

Next year we will have some groups running as **courses** for varying lengths of time. We hope this will provide another way of learning new skills and prevent group closures. These courses are:

<b>Bucket Group</b>	2 Courses. March-July. August-Nov.
<b>PowerPoint</b>	As required
<b>Apple Mac</b>	Number of sessions as required.
<b>Digital Photography</b>	– for beginners. A basic 4 week course to learn to use your digital camera.
<b>Convener</b>	Will be appointed at first session
<b>Venue</b>	71A Carmichael Rd, Bethlehem
<b>Meetings</b>	3,10,17 & 24 March 2011
<b>Time</b>	10 am

**COMPUTER PHOTO'S.** A short course showing uses for photos loaded on your computer, apart from making DVD's and email attachments. Screen savers. Desktop Pictures. Slide presentations for yourself or friends, family and others. Making albums and cards etc.

**Convener** Monica Cos Ph 579-3616  
**Venue** 107 Orange Lane, Bethlehem  
Meetings To be advised

### TO JOIN A GROUP

PLEASE check our website when you are wanting to join a group. Vacancies are marked in red. If the group has a vacancy contact the convener directly

**OR**

Contact the groups' coordinators Thelma 574-6222 or Doreen Ph 576-3058.

A big thank you to our Conveners for all their work. We appreciate all your efforts and U3A would not be in such good heart without you.

From Doreen and I, our very best wishes for a Happy Christmas and summer holiday time. We look forward to an interesting 2011 for all our U3A groups.

*Thelma Cane – Groups' Coordinator.*

*Merry Christmas  
Happy New Year  
And Safe Travelling*

