



U3A Tauranga Inc.

NEWSLETTER

January 2012



PO Box 14453
TAURANGA 3143

www.u3atauranga.org.nz

Welcome back after the festive season to another full year of U3A activities. When you pay your annual subscription (\$20.00 due 1st January) you will receive the 2012 Handbook with details of the groups on offer for the year. There are 78 groups to choose from and new groups will be added as the demand grows. As well as joining a group or groups remember the general meetings on the 3rd Friday of the month at the Wesley Methodist Church Hall at 10 am. For a small charge, you can enjoy morning tea and hear interesting speakers, and it is a chance to meet other members and your committee.

The Annual General Meeting will be held next month. Full details are below. All positions are open for nomination and new people are always welcome to join the committee. However, it should be mentioned that knowledge of the computers is necessary. A nomination form is included with this newsletter, so please attend and vote if you want to have a say in the workings of Tauranga U3A.

Annual General Meeting of Tauranga U3A Inc

Venue: Wesley Methodist Church Hall, 13th Avenue, Tauranga.
On Friday 17 February at 10.00am

Agenda:

- Opening remarks/Welcome
- Apologies
- Minutes of previous AGM
- Matters arising from the Minutes
- Presentation of the Annual Report (Chair)
- Adoption of Annual Report
- Presentation of Accounts (Treasurer)
- Adoption of Accounts
- Annual Subscription
- Appointment of Auditors/Independent Examiner
- Election of Officers
- General Business
- Closing remarks

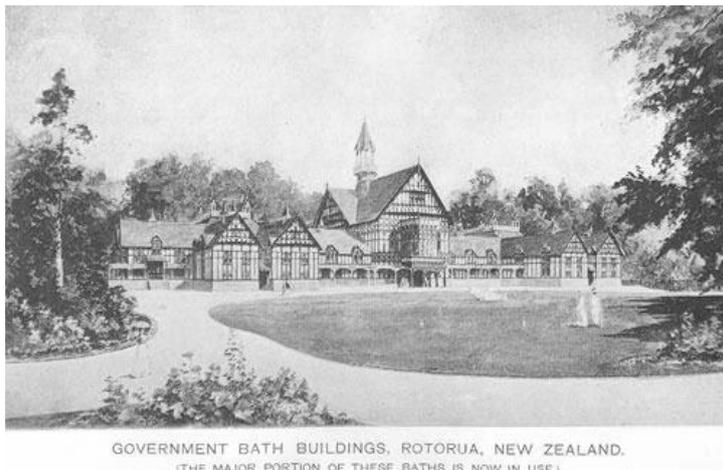
Visit to Rotorua

The Buildings and Cities Group is visiting Rotorua on Thursday 9th February and fellow U3A members are welcome to join us. Our programme includes:

1. A talk on the Rotorua Museum's Centennial Project, outlining the \$22 million extensions to the 100-year old tutor-style Bath House, completing its original architectural design (see architect's drawing below). The talk will be given by the Museum Director.
2. A guided tour of the Museum.

Rotorua and Whakatane U3A's are also being invited.

If you are interested, please phone Peter Simmons at 576 0952 by 30th January.

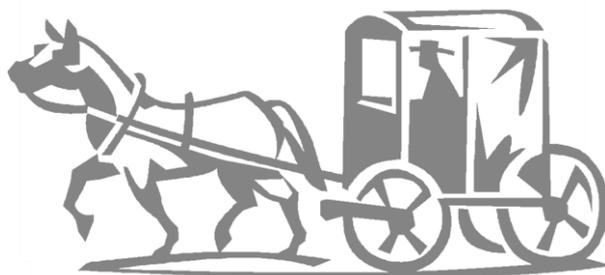


Amish Humour

Sign behind an Amish carriage:

"Energy efficient vehicle. Runs on grass and oats.

CAUTION: Avoid exhaust!"



Nature Study Group

Our annual camp was at Pirongia in the Waikato. With Ken Rose as master chef and Thelma Cane the catering magician we had good food and lots of fun. There were fabulous walks through incredible pristine bush tracks beneath majestic soaring trees and ferns.

We saw 7-million year-old limestone caves and learned of a seam of coal up Pirongia Mountain – a volcano 3 million years old. Anton taught us about the trees and tiny plants plus the insects feeling the effects of spring. We walked around lakes and through forests of manuka on board walks wet from heavy rain. To fit in with our busy days the rain fell at night and its beating on the iron roof ensured we slept well. The bush tracks were very well maintained with information plaques at regular intervals.

The last day was a trip to Kawhia, an old early New Zealand settlement on the west coast. This was the haunt of Te Rauparaha the great Maori warrior. Kawhia is where the Tainui canoes, part of the great Maori migration in 1350 AD, made their landing. There is a museum of early Maori and European settlers plus a display of weaving. It is not a swimmers beach but you can dig your own hot pool in the sand one hour either side of low tide. It was a most enjoyable visit. We had an enjoyable drive home after a special stay away.

Doreen Anderson



The U3A end-of-year
Sportacular
proved to be a
spectacular
success.

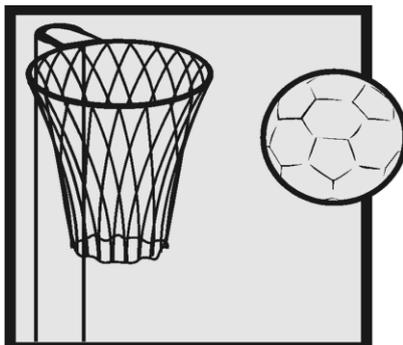
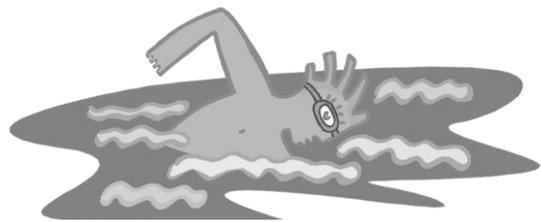
Everyone who attended really got into the sporty feeling, which was easy and casual, so shorts and t-shirts were the preferred dress of the day.

Dame Susan Devoy entertained us with some marvellous anecdotes of her life as a top international squash champion and later presented medals to Team Skateboard who won the Table Teams Quiz.

A light lunch was enjoyed before prizes were given and the Joyful Singers delighted us with a song or two.

A special mention must be made to Cyn Fielding and Jillian Brown with help from Tom Fielding for an outstanding effort in organising the event.





Classical Films for 2012

January 19	To Kill a Mocking Bird (1962) 129mm
February 16	Top Hat (1935) 99mm
March 15	Mutiny on the Bounty (1935)132mm
April 19	Friendly Persuasion (1956) 140mm
May 17	The African Queen (1951)105mm
June 21	On the Beach (1959) 133mm
July 19	Amazing Grace (2007) 116mm
August 16	Casablanca (1942) 102mm
September 20	The Song of Bernadette (1943) 156mm
October 18	The King's Speech (2011) 114mm
November 15	The Outlaw (1941-43) 116mm
December 20	My Fair Lady (1964) 170mm

Please note that these films can be changed round or substituted depending on the whims of our film fans. All U3A members welcome.

Convener - David Gordon –Phone 544-4179

Groups with vacancies

Geography Group

This group has some vacancies. We meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1:15 pm in members' homes. We study a country each month and members research topics within that country e.g. flora and fauna, ethnicity, religion, import and exports etc. It is most interesting and we all learn important facts about each country. If you are curious please contact:

Convener - Judy Jones - Phone 576 9740.

Creative Writing

There are still vacancies. It meets on 1st and 3rd Monday of the month (10.00am to noon).

Convener - Angela Dold - Phone 571 6767

Words

This is a new Monday Group(1.00 – 2.30pm) we plan to research and discuss the meanings and origins of words, and how they came into the English language.

Convener - Angela Dold - Phone 571-6767

Films: Festival and Foreign

This group has an excellent source of DVD's. The films are of special acclaim, foreign and festival, both old and new. Our venue is large so new members are always welcome.

*Conveners – Irene Cameron - phone 574 1930 or
Jim Robertson - phone 574 0960*

Acting 4 Fun

This is the new name for the drama group. Small acting scenes. Impromptu plays. Fun and laughter with NO Hamlet. Use your body and brain and enjoy good company. New members are always welcome.

Convener – Christine Johnston – phone 574 9874

Suggested New Groups

Mathematics Skills

A new member is interested in improving his maths skills. Are there any other members interested? Do we have a mathematician who could teach the subject to a group? If you are interested or could help please contact:

Thelma – phone 574 6222 or email thelmacane@xtra.co.nz

Electronic Technology

Learn to use such devices as cell phones, smart phones, ipods, mp3 players, Skype, My Sky, Facebook, tweeting and other technological devices. In order to do this we would require a list of members who have expertise in using these devices and are prepared to visit or have members visit individually, or maybe in small groups for instruction.

This idea has been around for a while. I would like any responses from members to assess this as a workable idea and whether it is something members would use.

Contact Thelma – phone 574 6222 or email thelmacane@xtra.co.nz

Facts and Figures to Date

Membership: 638

Groups: 78

The next newsletter is due in early March. If you would like to contribute an article in the March newsletter please have it in before 20 February 2012. Contributions must be short or between 200 and 250 words.

Editor: *Jane Benson* phone 548-0876 email benson.jb@xtra.co.nz

Subscriptions

Subscriptions for 2012 are **\$20.00 per person**.
Subscriptions are due at the 1st January and **must be paid by 31st March** if you wish to attend groups and general meetings.

Subscription payments may be made by cheque or **Internet Banking** to:

U3A Tauranga (BNZ) 02-0466-0014834-00.

Please ensure you put both your first and last name as payer.

Help Needed

To collect and deliver timber needed for a U3A group. If you can help please contact: Janet Ormsby - phone 576 5008

U3A Tauranga Incorporated Executive Committee for 2011

President	Ken Gillan	572-3467	kenandbronwen@vodafone.co.nz
Vice-President	Angela Dold	571-6767	anndold@xtra.co.nz
Past President	Martin Dumbill	570-0463	mp.dumbill@xtra.co.nz
Treasurer	Peter Benson	570-0570	peterigbenson@yahoo.com.au
Secretary	Sheila Forrest	544-4043	siforrest@xtra.co.nz
Groups A to F	Thelma Cane	574-6222	thelmacane@xtra.co.nz
Groups G to Z	Monica Cox	579-3616	celavonire@yahoo.com
Membership Sec.	Winn Tipping	570-2370	tipping11@slingshot.co.nz
Membership data	Don McMillan	579-4916	don.mcm@actrix.gen.nz
Publications:	(Jane Benson	548-0876	benson.jb@xtra.co.nz
Joint editors	(Lyn Gage	544-8914	supagran@xtra.co.nz
Publicity	Val Green	543-4969	valgreen46@gmail.com
Meetings/Speakers	Ruby Cusworth	544-4898	rubyros@kinect.co.nz
Skills Register	Don McMillan	579-4916	don.mcm@actrix.gen.nz
Archives	Can you offer to fill this position?		Just a little bit of time and space.

NB Because of space constraints contributions may need to be shortened and/or edited to fit.