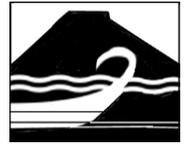




U3A Tauranga Inc.

NEWSLETTER

November 2013



PO Box 14453
TAURANGA 3143

www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz

President

Angela Dold: 571-6767
anndold@xtra.co.nz

Vice President

Chris Hector: 548-2704
chector@waikato.ac.nz

President:

Ken Gillan: 572-3467
kenandbronwen@vodafone.co.nz

Treasurer

Peter Benson: 570-0570
peterjgbenson@yahoo.com.au

Secretary

Don McMillan: 579-4916
don.mcm@actrix.gen.nz

Handbooks / Group Co-ordinators

Groups A to F

Vivienne Mills: 579-1148
mills_viv@clear.net.nz

Groups G to Z

Jean Garmonsway: 579 1918
pommyj123@xtra.co.nz

Membership Secretary

Winn Tipping: 570-2370
tipping11@slingshot.co.nz

Membership & Skill Data

Gael Smart
<finnercy@inspire.net.nz>

Publication Editor

Beryl Crowther: 544-4113
gbcrowther@gmail.com

Speaker's Organiser

Chris Hector: 548-2704
mailto:hector@actrix.co.nz

Photographer

Alan Freer: 576-5243
al.freer@ihug.co.nz

Almost
Christmas – let's usher
in summer with
fireworks!
Enjoy the holiday
season,
but don't forget the
next
meeting of U3A
on 15th November.



Election of Officers for 2014.

Notice is hereby given that an election for Officers for the next year will be held at a Special General Meeting to be held in the Wesley Church Hall, 13th Avenue, Tauranga on Friday 15th November 2013.

All positions need to be formally nominated and seconded, and forwarded to the Secretary, U3A Tauranga Inc, PO Box 14 453, Tauranga 3143, no later than 31st October 2013.

The following Executive Committee positions with specific portfolios need to be filled:

President
Vice-President
Treasurer
Secretary
Groups Co-ordinators (2)
Membership
Newsletter Editor
Photographer
Speakers Organiser
Persons may also be nominated for Executive Committee without portfolio.

GROUP NEWS – November 2013

Group Coordinators

Vivienne A-F Ph 579 1148

Jean Garmonsway G-Z Ph 579 1918

With the end of year looming up quickly, groups are planning their Christmas meetings.

Acting for Fun: This group is looking for another tutor. After many years of tutoring, Jean Davis is “retiring” and we thank her most sincerely for the time she has given to this very popular group. Please ask around for a drama tutor, as we would like this group to continue next year.

New Groups:

Current Events F:

Convener: Patmarie Morgan Ph 218 0188

Venue: Patmarie's home in Papamoa

Date: The 3rd Monday in the month

Time: 1.30pm to 3.30pm

New members are welcome to join this group.

Easy Walking Group.

Convener: Eileen Ammann Ph 571 5335

This new group ventured out to Omokoroa for their first walk.

We started by walking down the beach and over the headland, virtually walking through the gardens of the houses which are perched on the top.

There are some wonderful gardens and magnificent views over the water to



the Kaimais. From here we dropped down to the beach where we had a morning tea stop. We then continued on past the golf course and cut across to the main road past the thermal holiday park, to the Cooney Reserve on the opposite side of the peninsula. We then followed the path on the edge of the water back to the domain.



The walk took only two hours and the weather was kind to us, in that we had a little bit of everything - a typical NZ day! Beautiful sunshine, heavy showers and gale force winds!!! Of course we finished off the walk with coffee and cake and lots of chatter and laughter, planning our next easy walk.

Current Events A

A lively group of U3A members met recently at Monica Goulden's home in Tauranga. This group was the first Current Events group to begin, and has been going for many years. U3A is now up to an "F" group so they are very popular.



This group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month at members' homes, from 10.00am until noon. A lovely morning tea is enjoyed also.



Humour is always welcome in this relaxed and supportive group atmosphere as shown by Donna, Judy, Heather and Winston.



Monica (on the left) ensured all the members participated in lively discussion. Topics included the 'America's Cup', broadband costs, gardening, local council issues, education changes, and many other subjects taken mainly from the local papers.

Monica is relinquishing her role as convener at the end of this year. She has spent 5 years in the role and is willingly handing over to Anne and Bob Gudex who will be joint conveners for 2014.

Members wanting to join the new Current Events F group which meets in Papamoa contact Vivienne 579 1148.

The Hikers Group 2:

Jean is convening this new group. They had their first hike on Thursday, 10th October, a nice and easy walk along the Te Waihou Walkway. This lies alongside the Waihou river, where the water is extremely clear and pure with an intense blue colour, and is fed by many springs and from tributary streams in the Mamaku ranges. The Blue Spring is internationally acclaimed, with water from the Mamaku Plateau taking between 50 and 100 years to reach it.

During this long residence in aquifers, particles and light absorbing matter are effectively removed from the water, leaving it with a very high clarity and characteristic blue-green colour. The water supplies the local town of Putaruru.

The walkway ranges from easy walking to steeper areas with boardwalks constructed through wetland areas. A loop track provides views over a stunning area of the river and access to the northern bank via footbridges. The day was perfect, bright and sunny. The colours and clarity of the waters were just beautiful. The group agreed that if we'd taken photos of the river that day no one would believe that we hadn't 'photo-shopped' them!

My Music – Anything Goes 2:

This group will begin in February next year. Judy Elms has offered to host the first meeting.

A2Z Group

Group members braved a very wet afternoon earlier in the year to meet in a member's home at Althorpe Village in the Pyes Pa area.

Heather Ward, the convener, opened the meeting with a welcoming introduction of visitors. There were eight members present and all had interesting topics to share over the course of the afternoon.

Topics ranged from a discussion about changes in Africa since Apartheid; a thumbnail sketch of the life of poet Edward Allen Poe, and also well-known books that have been banned in some countries.

There was a book review about the life of the potter Wedgwood and a

discussion about the 70th anniversary of the Dam Busters, which included notes about the historical event.

Photo copies and articles passed around the group added interest to the discussions.

.Half way through the afternoon a beautiful afternoon tea was produced.



Members present; Jacky, Arnold, Heather, Margaret, Terry and Ann
This group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in the month at member's homes. They take turns hosting, and car pool to one another's homes. All members contribute during the meeting and any topic between A2Z is acceptable.

New members are very welcome to attend this lively group. You may visit the group a couple of times to see if it is for you or phone Heather 572 4037 to join.

New Group Suggestions:

Global Issues

In this globalised world many issues need to be understood on a global basis. Here is a chance to flex your neurons and tackle those challenging topics that most others shy away from. A very informal group with members preparing the discussion material once a month or as decided by the members.

If you are interested contact either Gray Southon: gray@southon.net or Jean Garmonsway: pommyj123@xtra.co.nz

Chess Group

A suggestion was made to begin a chess group 2 years ago but there were not enough members. If anyone is interested to be part of a new group phone Vivienne 579 1148.

New Members Meeting:

This is planned for the 28th November at 2pm in either Viv's or Jean's home.

Current Group – further details

Classical Films Group

Convener David Gordon, phone 544 4179.

Held on the 3rd Thursday of the month, from 1.30pm to 4pm approximately.

(A *War Film & Documentary* is held on the preceding Thursday of the month).

September 19: SOUTH PACIFIC (1958, 151 min., Rossano Brazzi, Mitzi Gaynor, Juanita Hall).

November 21: SHANE (1953, 118 min., Alan Ladd, Jean Arthur, Jack Palance-THE BEST WESTERN!)

December 19: MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS (1944, 113 min., Judy Garland, Mary Astor, Marjorie Main).

A delicious afternoon tea follows each film.

For more information, check the U3A website under Group News,

www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz

Helpers required:

Cyn Feilding is arranging a roster of members to help at the monthly meetings. If you are able to assist with putting out chairs, stacking them up or sweeping the floor please phone Cyn at 578 1533.

Interview with the Almoner.

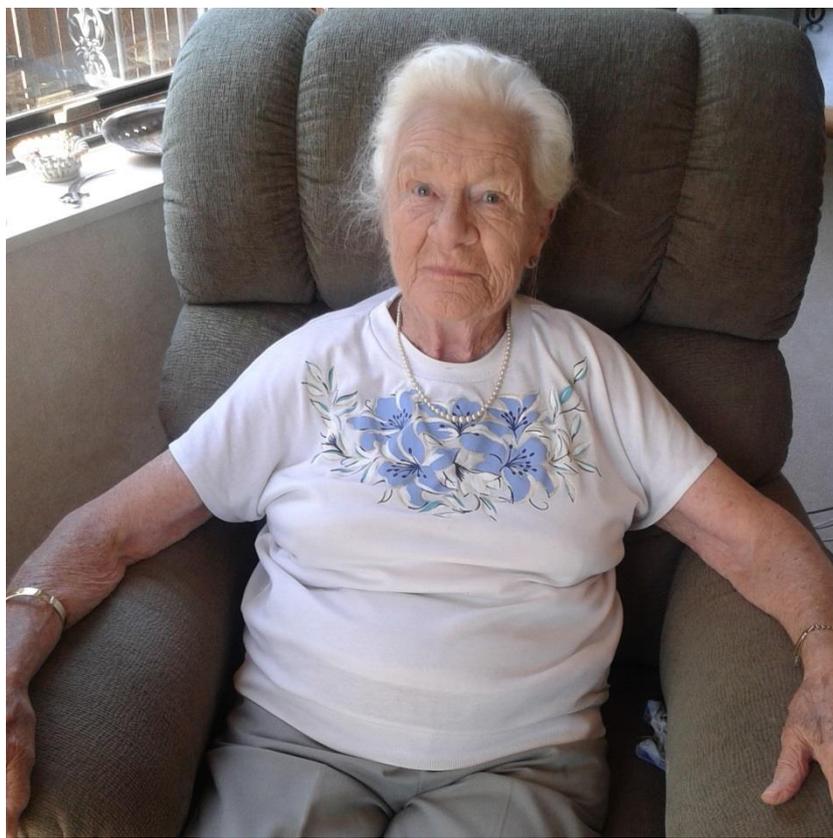
Doris Hamer, the Almoner for U3A, goes about her work quietly behind the scenes – but once she is notified of a member who is ill or bereaved, she chooses an appropriate card and sends it, with the best wishes of U3A. She does this at her own cost, and with genuine sympathy.

Doris began her working life in Shropshire, UK, training as a nurse during wartime; there was a minimum age of 19 to train in the big London hospitals, so she began locally, with 2 years of orthopaedic nursing. At 19, she did another 2 years general training in St Bartholomew's Hospital in London, while all the bombing was happening. Luckily there were no direct hits! Next was midwifery training at the City of London Maternity Hospital, riding around on a bike but not in quite the same way as in the TV series!

Following on, Doris joined the Royal Naval Nursing Service, where she met her husband (a doctor and psychiatrist). They left the UK for the Oakley Hospital in Auckland, and later Rotorua and Gisborne. Doris had 3 sons during this time. Doris' husband died while the boys were adolescent, and she later shifted to Tauranga to be closer to them – although one is now in Australia.

Doris has been a U3A member since the 1980s, and belonged to a Geography group for quite a while. Mobility now interferes with activities such as gardening, but she remains positive, with a keen sense of humour. She is now 90, but happily driving around her locality.

So, if you know of anyone in need of a cheerful message, contact Doris, on 571 8184.



General Meetings

Held on 3rd Friday of the month at 10.00am in the Wesley Church Hall,
13th Avenue, Tauranga

Speaker for Friday 15 November 2013: Chris Hector will be talking about his European travels.

November General Meeting: There will be group displays at the November meeting but no items. There will be a Christmas morning tea and following that time for members to circulate, socialise and look at the displays.

Members Forum

The editors would like to reach more members. If you have something to comment on U3A Tauranga we ask for contributions of about 50 to 100 words. Printing will depend on available space in each newsletter.

Facts and Figures to Date

Membership as at October 2013: 650

Groups: 82

The next newsletter is due in January 2014. All contributions must be in before 31 December 2013, so please note we will not accept material after this date. They need to be short, up to 200 words, and may be edited.

Editor: *Beryl Crowther* phone 544-4113 *gbcrowther@gmail.com*