U3A Tauranga Inc.

NEWSLETTER
January 2014

PO Box 14453
TAURANGA 3143

www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz

President
Chris Hector: 548-2704
chector@waikato.ac.nz
Vice President:
Vivienne Mills: 579-1148
mills_viv@clear.net.nz
Past President
Angela Dold: 571-6767
anndold@xtra.co.nz
Treasurer
Peter Benson: 570-0570
peterjgbenson@yahoo.com.au
Secretary
Lati Moodie: 574 9028
latimoodie@gmail.com
Handbook / Group Co-ordinators
Groups A to F
Marlene McLaren: 021 255 2465
marls.mclaren@gmail.com
Groups G to Z
Jean Garmonsway: 579 1918
pommyj123@xtra.co.nz
Membership Secretary
Winn Tipping: 570-2370
tipping11@slingshot.co.nz
Newsletter Editor
Beryl Crowther: 544-4113
gbcrowther@gmail.com
Speaker's Organiser
Joan Gooch: 021 022 3281
joanjimgooch@gmail.com
Photographer
Alan Freer: 576-5243
al.freer@ihug.co.nz
Committee Support
Ken Gillan: 572-3467
kenandbronwen@vodafone.co.nz
Don McMillan:579-4916
don.mcm@actrix.gen.nz

It's another fresh start – make the most of 2014, beginning with our first meeting of the year on Friday 21 February.

GROUP NEWS – January 2014

Group Coordinators
Marlene (A-F) Ph Jean (G-Z) Ph 579 1918

Stop Press : Please note the correct phone number for Maggie Windsor-Brown, convenor of the Singing For Joy group, is 573 8164.

The Easy Walking Group
In September the Easy Walking Group was formed with seven members and has since grown to around 14. However it has already undergone a name change and the group is now to be known as the Weekend Walkers. We feel this better reflects the group as walking for 2-3 hours at a steady pace is not that 'easy' for everyone.

We all seem to get along well and the chat keeps up with the pace we set ourselves. So far we have walked the Omokoroa headland, Mount and foreshores, Waikareao Estuary, Salt Marsh/Fergusson Park, and finished the year with a McLaren Falls walk and picnic lunch. We like to complete all our walks with a leisurely coffee at a nearby café.

In the coming year we hope to discover other walks around the beautiful Tauranga region. If you think this sounds like a group you would like to be involved with please phone Eileen on 571 5335 or email at ammann@xtra.co.nz

New Groups:

Digital Photography 2:
For members who would like to learn more about using their digital cameras; discuss any issues they might have with their cameras or with photography in general. If you would like to be part of this new group please contact the Groups Co-ordinator.

Chess: There is interest in this group to begin in the New Year. Contact Vivienne if you are interested.

Global Issues: The Convener is Gray Southon. There are five members registered for this group so another two or three members are needed to get started. This group will begin in February 2014

Windows 8
Tutor: Ken Rose
Venue: 10 James Henry Ave, Papamoa
Times: Friday afternoons
A first time beginners class for Windows 8 new users. There is only one lesson ready at the moment; its purpose is to teach new users of Windows 8 how the Start Screen and Charm Bar work. This is a must-know to begin to use Windows 8 - it is so very different from any previous operating system. Members intending to attend the class will need to bring their own Laptop which has Windows 8 as the operating system; the computers battery must be fully charged for the lesson. I have one U3A laptop computer available for someone operating a desktop with Windows 8.
If there is only one member needing help I will make some suitable time arrangement with them. I can only take four people at any one time.
When members have had time to practice what they learn during the first lesson, I will run a further course..
I hope I can help members understand early stages of *, it is such a strange system when first looked at.
Ken Rose

Computer Support Group A now has 1 vacancy.

Applied Metaphysics
Convenor: Mike Trow Phone 574 5589
Venue: Members' homes as arranged
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month
Time: 10.00am – noon

In Applied Metaphysics we discuss anything to do with the mind (whatever that is!) This includes a wide range of theories and writings connected with using the mind - from ancient philosophies to popular affirmations, interpretations of religious teachings, yoga, and strange ideas spinning off from research into quantum mechanics.
We call it Applied Metaphysics because the aim is to discover practical ways to apply our minds and thinking to improve our lives and circumstances, health and happiness.
We look at what we can learn about the mind and thoughts and how to use all this in a practical, everyday way.

Wait Lists: names are being taken for the following:
Calligraphy course 2014
Digital Photography for Beginners
French for Travellers course 2014
Digital Photography Enhancing

ETHNIC DINING

Ethnic Dining 1, the first of four groups active within U3A, has been meeting monthly for over two years. The group has never visited the same restaurant twice and it seems there will always be another new place to visit.

Noel, Robin, Bonnie, Gerald, Joy, and Margaret enjoying their Indian meal.

Membership has not changed greatly over the time the group has been meeting and each month a different member is given the responsibility of choosing the venue, contacting the members and ensuring the tables are set out to accommodate the number of people attending.

Robert, Susan, Lyn, Marion, Lesley, Noel, Margaret and Sue are regular attendees.

For more information, check the U3A website under Group News, www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz

Monthly Bazaar – Historic Village.

U3A is now a Friend of the Village, so we will advise on upcoming activities.

The bazaar is normally scheduled to be held on the second Saturday of each month, the first being 11/1/14. Members are invited to attend any month to:

-come and have a look around the Village

- see what's available in the shops

- have a look at the classes and workshops that are being offered, such as:

* Gems & Minerals Club - rock identification & polishing
* Clay Art - clay art & mosaics
* Leadlight Expressions - leadlighting
* Painting - Young at Art
* Photography - Capture It
* Dance - Rythymz
* Compurail - card making
* Music - Symphonia participation & activity
* The Men's Shed - workshop activities & projects for older men
* Whatu - traditional weaving
* The Incubator - art activities
* Moana moko - traditional tattooing
* The Environment Centre - gardening & other sustainability activities
* SeniorNet - technology learning for older people

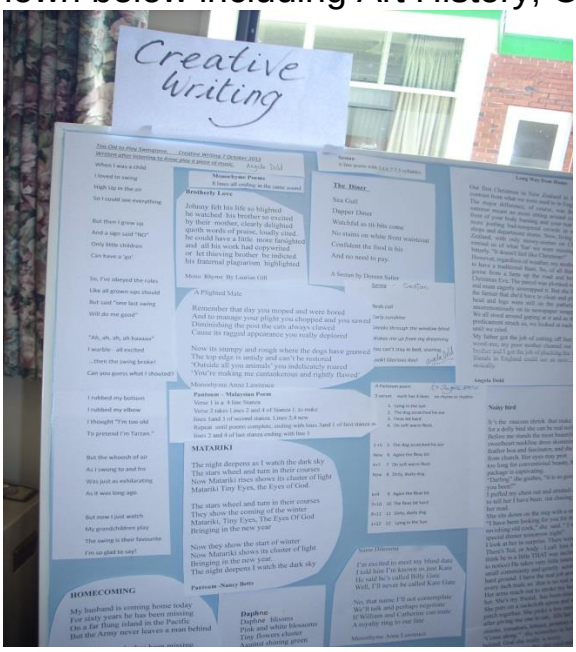
End of Year 2013 Meeting

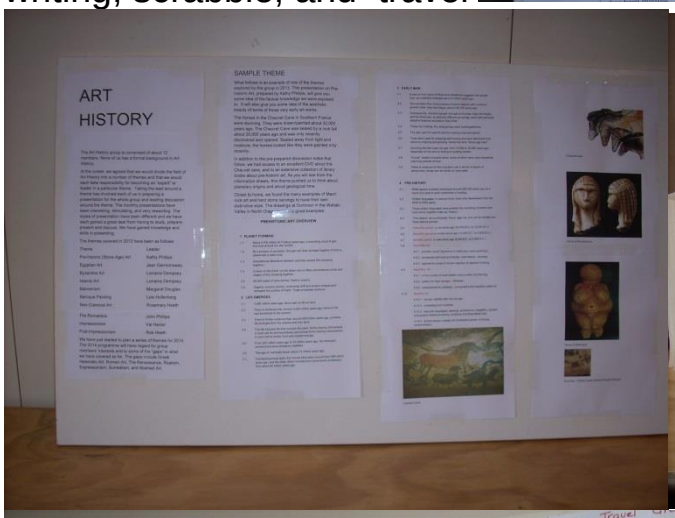
A number of U3A groups put together displays at the last general meeting for the year on the 15th November at the Wesley Church Hall.

It was a great opportunity for the general membership and visitors to meet each other and view the photos, art, and information about various groups that have met regularly throughout the year.

Thelma stands in front of the hiking display. She is convener of this popular group which meets fortnightly.

A selection of displays are shown below including Art History, Creative writing, scrabble, and travel





Lorrimer is convener of one of the popular Genealogy groups.

Computers

(1) The family visited and!!!
The computer is not the same. **Or** They gifted me a computer.

U3A members can get assistance without needing to join a group or take a course. If you require just a little help, either by phone or at the keyboard contact Kathy Fathers, phone: 576 4060, who organises the U3A Computer One to One Mentors service.
(This note submitted by Brian Wood, Ph 574 6323).

(2) A very good book has been put out by the U3A Trust UK*; Windows 8 for the Older and Wiser,* is available from Book Depository in the UK, postage paid, at a cost of $NZ24.00. It seems to be a very good buy, and if anyone does not know about Book Depository, all they have to do is Google the name and they will find books at cheaper prices than can be paid here.

Windows 8 for the Older and Wiser - Get Up and Running on Your Computer (Third Age Trust)
http://www.fishpond.co.nz/Books/Windows-8-for-Older-and-Wiser-Get-Up-and-Running-on-Your-Computer-Third-Age-Trust-Adrian-Arnold-Richard-Millett/9781119941552

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members should be pleased that the losses of 2011 & 2012 have been reversed in 2013 and the Subscription has been able to be maintained at $20. This has come about by embracing technology; eliminating postage to members with email addresses.
An attempt has now been made to reduce the amount of time put in by the very dedicated people who maintain our membership records by sending out Subscription Notices from our Xero accounting system to those same members with email addresses.
This is a work in progress. The invoice attachment is mine but the email is Xero's. I do not have control over that. I will take up the issues of the addressee and the word "outstanding" that have upset some members but remember that the program(me) will be written by someone in their 20's who uses "I" instead of "me" after prepositions and "to" instead of "from" after "different"!
If you have received more than one invoice just pay once. It is a mistake.
My email address is .au! It is not a scam! - Peter Benson. Treasurer.

Nature Study Group's three-night stay at Eastwood Hill.

Earlier this month twelve members of the Nature Study group enjoyed three days in what must be a little piece of heaven. Eastwood Hill Arboretum, the National Arboretum of New Zealand, encompasses 135 hectares of exotic and native trees, shrubs and climber plantings.
The weather forecast was terrible: Wednesday rain, Thursday rain, Friday showers clearing in the evening, and Saturday, the day we were leaving, fine! Guess what? They got it wrong, yes the weather was shocking on Wednesday 6th, the day we travelled; however the rest of our stay it was excellent. We enjoyed great walks and good company with fine food, prepared by two of our ladies Thelma and Doreen.
Eastwood Hill is magnificent, It should be on everyone's short term plan for a visit.
The U3A Nature Study Group meets twice a month during Spring, Summer and Autumn, and once a month during Winter. We meet on the second and fourth Wednesday, using another Wednesday as a reserve day in the winter in case of poor weather on the second. Our meetings always involve walks to local areas, and occasionally into the Waikato. There are always vacancies in the group. Contact Ken or Kathleen Rose 572 4472.

General Meetings

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

Speaker for Friday 21 February 2014:
Dr Mike Godfrey, whose subject is Environmental Health.

Speaker for Friday 21 March 2014:
Personal historian Christine Norton, from Forget-Me-Not Life Stories.

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 March 2014. All contributions must be in before 28 February 2014, 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*