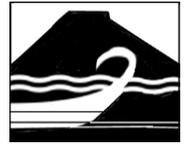




U3A Tauranga Inc.

NEWSLETTER

March 2014



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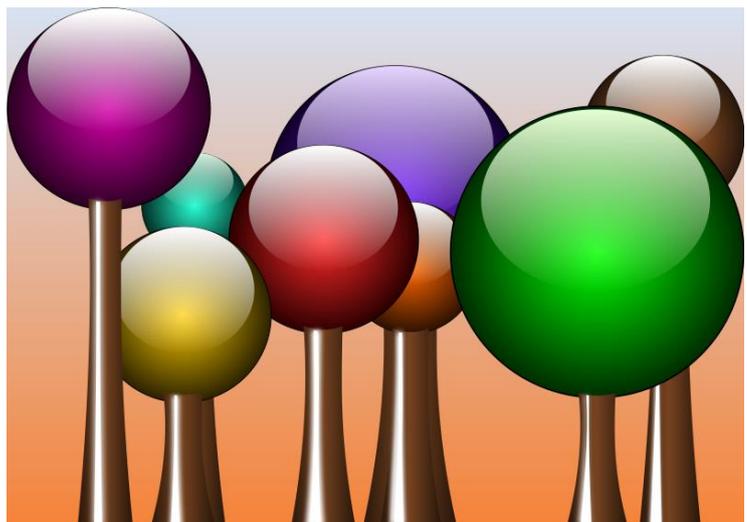
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Autumn might
bring colder
breezes – but also
the lovely colours
in nature.
Enjoy!



(See you on Friday 21 March!)

GROUP NEWS – March 2014

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

Group Coordinators

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

Groups with Vacancies:

Current Events F

Hikers 2

History of NZ-1000 Years Group 2

Luncheon Group 2

Opera 2

Philosophy 1 (2 vacancies available)

Psychology

Words

A2Z Group seeking New Members

Do you want a stimulating experience? Why not join a lively, friendly group. Come along to the A2Z Meeting where members present a story chosen from various subjects. It may be a travel experience, a book you have read, a talk about a famous person, in fact anything that inspires you and will undoubtedly interest the group, who discuss the topic after it has been presented. We welcome new members to further develop our group.

We meet in members' homes every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 1.30pm. Please ring me if you are interested. Heather Ward 5724037

Last week one of the topics was the story of Cadbury's chocolate. Here is a picture of John Cadbury's original shop.



Group Closed:

Metaphysics has closed. Many thanks to Ynys Douglas for her hard work for this group.

New Groups:

History of NZ – 1000 years (second group). The initial meeting for this new group will take place on Tuesday, 4th March. If you are interested in joining this group please contact Jean Garmonsway.

My Music-Anything Goes 2: This group will have their first meeting on Thursday, 13th March; the Convener is Jan Watson. The group will meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

Spanish: This group had their first meeting on Friday, 7th February; the Convener is Bonnie Leonard. The group meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday at 1.30pm – 3.30pm at the home of the tutor.

Applied Metaphysics

There is no single, widely accepted definition of metaphysics.

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. For our purposes, metaphysics means, “relating to the transcendent or to a reality beyond what is perceptible to the senses,” (Merriam Webster Dictionary).

The existence (or not) and nature of a “reality beyond what is perceptible to the senses,” is a matter of conjecture depending on individual experience. It is not amenable to proof by intellectual reasoning.

According to some, experience (and belief) of a transcendental reality may be innate or can be acquired naturally or by contemplation, prayer or other methods.

In Applied Metaphysics we discuss anything to do with the mind (whatever that is)! This includes a wide range 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 look at what we can learn about the mind and thoughts and how to use all this in a practical, everyday way. Whilst metaphysics is not a religion, acceptance of the possibility of some sort of creative force, greater power or deity will be helpful in getting the most out of our discussions.

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

Wait Lists:

Names are being taken for the following:
Bucket Group
Memoirs

Change of Convener

Luncheon Group 1: Rosalie McCready has taken over from Jean McGuinness as Convener for this group. Many thanks to Jean for convening this group from the beginning, and for doing a great job.

Amended address for Convenor:

Video Editing Group: Convenor Warwick Kingston-Smith.
Apt 51 The Avenues
10 10th Avenue, Tauranga.

Conveners Meetings:

Tuesday, 29th April at 10.00 a.m. at Wesley Church Hall
Wednesday, 29th October at 10.00 a.m. at Wesley Church Hall

New Members Meetings:

Friday, 28th March at 2.00 p.m.
Tuesday, 29th July at 2.00 p.m.
Thursday, 30th October at 2.0 p.m.
Meetings are held at the homes of the Group Coordinators.

Group Visits:

My Music – Anything Goes

What does the *X Factor UK*; a country singer from Whanganui; Mozart; and George Formby have in common?

The answer is that they were all part of the first **My Music – Anything Goes** meeting for this year.

The programme was put together by Ken Rose, and as you can see from the above question, the content of the programme was extremely diverse! This group enjoys any style of music. Members take turns to prepare a programme of their choice, and also explain why they enjoy the music selected.

As well as Ken's choice of CDs, we were shown a DVD of Allen Toussaint, who originated from New Orleans. He wrote many rhythm-and-blues songs, one of the most famous being 'Southern Nights'. We had a great afternoon with lots of music, chat and good company.

There will be a second **My Music – Anything Goes** group 2 starting in March. Any members interested in joining this new group please contact Jean Garmonsway, 5791918 or at pommyj123@xtra.co.nz

(Oh!! and the country singer from Wanganui is Keith Urban, who is married to Nicole Kidman)

History of New Zealand – last 1,000 years

Jean paid a group visit to George Stewart's History group. This group has been in existence for 10 years and is still going strong. The group studies a wide range of both local and NZ history.

Margaret Watson's overview, outlining approximately 150 years of the NZ Police, was one of two talks delivered to this year's first meeting of the group. *NZ History: The Last 1000 Years* ranged from the 1840s until the mid 1980s.

The 45-minute talk touched on the many changes to NZ policing during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It was an action-packed gallop through vastly different topics, such as the early challenges of policing two different cultures, some notable Police Commissioners, and ending with the AOS and undercover policing. Innovations such as fingerprinting, the introduction of women police officers and police vehicles, as well as police dogs, and the formation of the Police Association, were also covered. The talk, which could have been subtitled "*The Curse of the Commissioner's Baton*" was based on a combination of Internet and library research as well as several hand-outs provided by the Police Association, along with family anecdotes and memorabilia.

Following morning tea, Jocelyn Hicks gave the second talk for the morning. Her topic was about historic places along Tamaki Drive in Auckland, and was really an overview for group members to use when they visit Auckland and to give some ideas for people to expand on some research topics in the area. Some of the examples included:

- the old Maori village on Okahu bay which was forcibly removed in the 1950's
- Kelly Tarlton's Underwater World, which developed from the old Auckland sewage pumping station

- Savage Memorial on Bastion Point
- The old Melanesian Mission at Mission Bay
- St Heliers - original European Settlers like Major Bunbury
- Achilles Point lookout, commemorating HMS Achilles and the battle of the River Plate
- Karaka Bay - Glendowie - the site of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in Auckland in 1840.

Both of these talks were informative, generated a lot of discussion and were very entertaining. I would like to thank the group and especially George and Dorothy Stewart for allowing me to visit the group and also including my overseas visitors to this group.

General Meetings

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

Speaker for Friday 21 March 2014:

Personal historian Christine Norton, from Forget-Me-Not Life Stories.

Friday 18 April 2014:

Please note there will be no meeting this month, as it is Easter Friday.

Facts and Figures to Date

Membership as at October 2013: 666

Groups: 82

The next newsletter is due in May 2014. All contributions must be in before 30 April 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