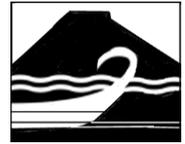




U3A Tauranga Inc.

# NEWSLETTER

## January 2015



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TAURANGA 3143

[www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](http://www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

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## ***The Annual General Meeting of U3A Tauranga Inc. is to be held as follows:***

***Date: Friday 20 February 2015***

***Time: 10.00 am***

***Venue: Wesley Methodist Church***

***100 13th Avenue***

***Tauranga***

***All members are cordially invited to  
attend. The AGM will be followed by  
morning tea and a speaker.***

***Lati Moodie, Secretary***

## ***REMINDER***

***The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
celebration for U3A Tauranga  
will be held on Friday  
27 March 2015,  
at the Tauranga Yacht & Power  
Boat Club, at 10am.  
Further information is in this  
newsletter, and on our website.***

## GROUP NEWS – January 2015

For more information, check the U3A website [www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](http://www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

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### New Group Suggestion

#### Ukulele group.

Do you play the ukulele? Would you like to join a new U3A group, which would get together to play and learn the ukulele. It doesn't matter if you are a beginner or more experienced - the more experienced ones could help the beginners perhaps. A tutor would be a great if we could find one.

If you are interested in this new idea please contact Jean Garmonsway, phone: 579 1918

#### Hikers 2

Hikers 2 ended the year with a walk up, over and around the Mount starting from Tay Street. The photo taken at the top of the Mount was to prove that we actually made it to the top. There was quite a bit of huffing and puffing on the way up but we survived.



The walk down from the top was much more relaxed with more chatting on the way down than on the way up!! However, we still had the walk round the base track to look forward to and also the trek back to Tay Street. For some reason the hike back to Tay Street seemed so much longer than when we started.

However, we got there in the end and fortified ourselves with goodies and the odd glass of wine at the Tay Street cafe to celebrate.



This group is a lovely, friendly group and we don't take ourselves too seriously. We have vacancies and if you would like to join us please contact: Kathleen Fraser, phone: 576-2175

## **Yoga 1 & 2**

The Yoga groups ended the year with a combined get together for lunch. Both classes have been very successful due to Maria, our great instructor.

**Yoga 1** will be changing venue in 2015 to a dance studio in the Historic Village. Both groups will begin again in the first week of February. Please check out the website for more details. There are still some places in each of the groups if you would like to join us.



## **Web Site Development Group**

The December meeting coincided with a world-wide event to encourage children to learn to computer code, "The Hour of Code".

So we joined the younger set - no dreary text books, now laptop computers, tablets and smart phones are the new teaching media. No text book chapter to read, instead a vibrant presenter in a colourful video will convey, in a light hearted manner, what the lesson sets out to achieve. The results of the code you write are instantly displayed - no handing books in for marking.

We broke into small work groups, as pupils do in this modern world, with three different groups, each choosing what interested them from the many tutorials available on the web. With each person listening to their own video and discussing the lessons, it was very different to the usual meeting.

The gray matter got a good work-out as we all tried to produce the correct code to allow each to move on to the next step. Morning tea proved an interruption to the lessons, not an escape.

Many will take what they learnt and continue having a look at other lessons. Some now have a better understanding of how the grandchildren are learning, and will be able to give encouragement when a modern device is being used in place of a text book.

*Our press release reads: "U3A Tauranga joins mission to introduce 100m students to computer science"*

*Computers are everywhere, but fewer schools teach computer science than 10 years ago. Girls and minorities are severely under-represented. The good news is that we're on our way to change this.*

*In one week last year, 15 million students tried computer science! Computer science was on homepages of Google, MSN, Yahoo! and Disney. President Obama, Shakira, and Ashton Kutcher all kicked off the Hour of Code with videos. Over 100 partners came together to support this movement.*

*Now the Hour of Code movement is aiming for 100 million students.”*

The Web group meets fortnightly and welcomes any input relating to the web site. [www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](http://www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz). Search for the web site on Bing or Google, u3atauranga.

Group information is only as good as the information we know about, so please take the time to look at the group listings you are a member of, and advise any errors. Typos, bad links and wrong grammar do happen, and your feedback allows errors to be corrected quickly. Suggested new groups are listed, and there is a Forum page for general articles any member may choose to submit. You may also have interesting items you'd like to submit to the Newsletter (via your Group Co-ordinator).

Content is always sought and Noticeboards are set up for groups to use. For example, Ethnic Dining could add an article after each meeting which would help others in their choice of where to dine with friends, or hiking groups could report where they have been, to give others ideas for a day out. Writing groups could share articles with the world.

Brian Wood, ph 07 5746323, email [oldmankiwi@hotmail.com](mailto:oldmankiwi@hotmail.com).

**Data Management Group**, a new group for the new year.

Do you have database or Excel experience? U3A Tauranga has formed a group of members who want to stay ahead with database and Excel integration and want more members.

This group will allow members with programming skills to assist U3A Tauranga to better co-ordinate all the information vital to the success of your organisation. Please contact Brian Wood [oldmankiwi@hotmail.com](mailto:oldmankiwi@hotmail.com) or Don McMillan [don.mcm@actrix.gen.nz](mailto:don.mcm@actrix.gen.nz)

### **A2 Z group.**

I closed this group at the end of last year (2014). Our numbers are too small to run the group successfully, especially during winter when members travel. The group has been going for about 12 years, and I share many happy memories with all the folk I have got to know over this time. I would like to thank both present and past members for their ideas and research. It has been a stimulating and fun group to run.

*Heather Ward (previous convenor).*

### **General items.**

#### **Sound and Projection Helpers at General Meetings.**

We are looking for people willing to learn how to set up and operate the sound and/or projection equipment at our monthly meetings at the Wesley Church Hall. Step-by-step instruction and supervised practice will be provided. The plan is to establish a small team of helpers to ensure there is good backup support. The meetings are held on the third Friday of the month. Please contact Peter Simmons, phone 576 0952.

#### **Are you a convener?**

Please check your group listing on the U3A web site.

<http://www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz/>

There is an alphabetical list of groups on the right of the Contacts page, make sure your group is there and the vacancy detail is correct. The web site can be updated as often as needed throughout the year, plus you can use the noticeboards for any informative announcements for past, present or future activities.

Forum is the area where members may submit articles for consideration, such as interesting places others may visit, recipes that work and general information of use to other members.

Having an up to date and interesting web site relies on you as a member to supply items.

Find details on the Contact page for Brian Wood, e-mail is [oldmankiwi@hotmail.com](mailto:oldmankiwi@hotmail.com)



**U3A Tauranga 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party,**  
**Friday 27 March 2015.**

The day's events will include:

Morning tea & Lunch

A light-hearted debate between teams from Boys & Girls Colleges.  
Details are still being arranged, but we are planning to have a fun and  
entertaining two-team debate.

The title is "Can you teach an old dog new tricks?"

Music

Our special guest speaker is Sir Ray Avery.

Please register, as space is limited.

\$40 (discounted price) for TECT or U3A members; \$50 for non members.

Please note the internet banking number to use for purchase of tickets:

U3A Tauranga (Heartland) 03 1783 0191505 001

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

Does anyone have any material, photos, or recollections about the last 10  
years of U3A that they would be able to provide? It would add interest for  
those attending to browse among the memories! If so, please contact the  
convenor, Angela Dold, ph.571 6767..

## **General Meetings**

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

### **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.

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### **Facts and Figures to Date**

Membership as at November 2014:	707	Groups:	79
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**The next newsletter is due in March 2015.** All contributions must be in before 28 February 2015, 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](mailto:gbcrowther@gmail.com)