



FUTURE PLANNING: WE NEED YOUR INPUT!!

The problems associated with our growing numbers have created certain pressure points which need addressing, including:

- 1 Administration overload
- 2 Our current general meeting venue and its associated parking

Because these issues affect all U3A members we invite you to give us any ideas that you may have as to solutions that could address these concerns.

Our membership is made up of an enormous variety of people from many and varied backgrounds. So please take a little time to gather your ideas on how you see the future of U3A Tauranga and send them to Jean Garmonsway, Vice President – Phone: 579 1918, or email: pommyj123@xtra.co.nz. We may then survey members regarding specific questions arising from the feedback we receive.



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General Meetings

**General Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month
(except December and January)**

10.00 am – 12.00 noon

Wesley Methodist Church Hall

100 13th Avenue, Tauranga

Main items on the meeting agenda are a “mini” presentation and then morning tea followed by a guest speaker. **There is a \$4.00 charge to cover morning tea**

May Meeting



Date: Friday 19 May
Mini Speaker: David Gordon – *Why Study Ancient Languages* (this compliments his previous talk, *Why Study Foreign Languages*)
Guest Speaker: Marc Anderson

Marc Anderson is the Director of the Tauranga Arts and Garden Festival. He will mainly talk about next year’s festival but he will also include some of his other experiences. Marc was schooled in Whakatane and left New Zealand in 1988 for a two-year overseas experience that ended up spanning 28 years!



As a keen musician, Marc headed for London and before long started concert touring with Tom Jones. He worked on many international music tours, including Shirley Bassey, John Denver, Andrew Lloyd Weber and Michael Jackson until he toured the World with River Dance the Show, where he met his Irish wife. In 2003, Marc and family moved to Sydney, Australia and was employed by a corporate event company where he produced many events for the likes of Samsung and IBM. Marc’s event experience has enabled him to produce and direct several large-scale festivals and shows in Europe. In 2016, Marc and his family thought it was time to come back to New Zealand. With that in mind, Marc was successful in securing the Festival Director’s position for the Bay of Plenty Garden and Art Festival, where he has been since the beginning of 2017.”

June Meeting



Date: Friday 16 June
Guest Speaker: Luke Burgess, NZ Fire Services.
He will be speaking about fire safety in our homes

President's Report



I hope you all got through the terrible weather we have recently experienced and that we can now enjoy a few sunny periods before winter is

upon us.

Sheila informs me that we have had 86 new members join U3A Tauranga since January 2017. Welcome to you all. Every one of us will try to help you to enjoy your experience as a member of U3A.

The current financial membership stands at 803 plus 9 life members. Very shortly we will transfer the 80 plus non-financial members to the "resigned" category. Over the next few months we expect the membership to surpass the record set last year. So, thanks to the many volunteers who help in the administrative tasks of U3A. A significant reason for our success is due to the many members who establish groups that clearly resonate with our community, as well as those involved in ensuring the speakers and "mini" speakers for our general meeting are interesting and meet your needs.

Our success has some downsides or challenges. For example, we must evaluate our current meeting place at the church as many believe it is no longer big enough or that parking is inadequate.

Unfortunately, the solution is not obvious as location, availability of bus services, cost, permanency of bookings,

parking, etc are not falling into place. Nevertheless, there are members working on the matter. We are happy to receive your suggestions and will factor them into the decision process. At the April convenors' meeting an *ad hoc* 'show of hands' on several issues has given us some guidance and, if time permits, we could also seek your views at the next general meeting.

It is our intention to apply for a grant from Community Organisation Grant Scheme (COGS) to help us assist groups in their activities. COGS will apparently be receiving applications from mid-May. I recently attended the local distribution committee meeting and was impressed with the breadth of representation from different organisations in and around the Tauranga area.

I also attended a meeting at the Health board where an initiative aptly named PARIS was presented. PARIS stands for 'patients at risk of increased stay'. If implemented it will positively impact on us older people if we ever require hospital admission.

Our future planning subcommittee is making progress and will be making you aware of their proposals in a timely manner. Likewise, the members reviewing the constitution have prepared a first draft, which will go through an extensive review process over the next few months.

Regards
John Powell
President

Group Co-ordinators' Report

The first four months of the year has been busy for the Co-ordinators. We held a meeting with new members on 14 March and most of these could attend the groups they are interested in. Some have gone on to waiting lists. We also held a convenors meeting on 31 March which was also well attended. The topic of an alternative venue for general meetings came up and the President reported that several venues had been looked at and the convenors came up with other suggestions. The necessity of being on a bus route was a restricting factor.

Proposed New Groups:

Photo Enhancing 2 – Two more members are needed to make this group viable to be formed. Contact Anne Withy 579 0430 if you are interested in belonging to this group (information on the website).

Rummikub - is a new group about to be formed, but ideally another two members would make it enjoyable for the participants. Contact Christine Denne 543 9483 if you are interested.

Science Today 2 - A meeting is being held later this month to see if this group has enough interest to be formed, but it would be nice to have a few more people. If you are interested, contact Christine Denne 543 9483.

Group Updates:

Luncheon 1 - has a new convenor – Ina Oliver, Phone 544 5047.

Ukelele 2 - has not had sufficient members to continue, so has gone into recess.

There are plenty of groups with vacancies. Refer to the website or contact a co-ordinator.

Change of Details

If you change any of your details, e.g., address, e-mail address, phone number, please let your convenor and the membership secretary know.

Sickness or Death

The almoner, Angela Dold, requests that she be notified if any member or their spouse is ill so that she can send a card on behalf of U3A Tauranga. Likewise, if there has been a bereavement. Any bereavements should also be notified to the membership secretary.

Co-ordinators: Kathleen – 576 2175, Marianne – 021 804403, Anne – 579 0430 and Christine – 543 9483.

HELP !



*Do you usually attend our General Meetings?
Would you be prepared to help at our General Meetings?*

Could you organise members who have volunteered to help at the General Meetings?

We need someone who can contact other volunteers and organise the setting up of the hall. Some of the tasks need a certain level of fitness i.e. bringing chairs from storage; organising tables for morning tea; stacking and storing the tables and chairs at the end of the meeting.

We have a list of volunteers who have offered to help but we need someone who can contact the volunteers and make sure that we have enough people to organise the hall. If you would like more information about this or would be interested in taking on this admin role, please contact:

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

Member Profiles



Alan Freer

Alan is our Photographer and his wife Sheila handles Membership, both being on our Executive Committee.

In August this year, Alan will celebrate 50 years living in New Zealand. He arrived aboard the 'Oriana' having come from York in the U.K. in 1967. He was an agricultural engineer in U.K. and N.Z and then spent 26 years with the Tauranga Motor Vehicle Testing Station from when it was first built.

For almost all his life he has been passionately involved with photography, beginning with his fascination as a little boy when using his mother's "Box Brownie". He has moved on to a lifetime of using more sophisticated equipment as technology has evolved. All Alan's cameras are now digital and he continues to keep abreast of developments. Several of his photographs have also been published over the years.

In the early 1970's, he joined the Tauranga Photographic Society of which he is still an active member. Alan was also a semi-professional photographer for many years for weddings, engagements, portraits and the like. He often meets people whose weddings he has photographed over the years.

In recent times, the Tauranga City Council asked the Tauranga Camera Club to do a Photographic Day of Tauranga. Alan was a member of the small team from the club taking photographs from the air. These shots went to the Council Archivist.

Upon joining U3A Tauranga in 2000, he started the Digital Photographic Group. Since then Alan has been involved with numerous U3A Groups and in 2013 he was awarded the U3A Lifetime Membership Award.

Both Alan and Sheila have grandchildren and Alan has 3 great grandchildren!



Maryellyn Carr

Maryellyn joined U3A approximately two years ago and this year she was elected as our Secretary. She grew up in Howick and attended Howick District College and in her final year attended Pakuranga College.

Her husband's employment took them to live in Te Karaka (near Gisborne) and then to Napier. Maryellyn's career has been in secretarial work and medical typing. Her first medical transcription position was with the Napier Hospital in 1978.

After 20 years in Napier and being recently widowed, Maryellyn moved to Tauranga and she undertook training in medical terminology and also completed a Certificate of Adult Teaching. This enabled her to develop her own six-week course in medical terminology, which she taught to administration staff at the Tauranga Hospital. She also developed a home-based business doing medical transcription and at one time she worked for eight Tauranga physicians. Maryellyn still does medical transcribing on a part-time basis.

Her hobbies include card making and scrapbooking and she sells her cards at the hall in the Orange Grove Village where she lives. She also organises and plays indoor bowls at the village. As a keen musician, she plays the keyboard and ukulele. Having very sought-after computing skills, Maryellyn has previously produced the national newsletter for the New Zealand Machine Knitting Society and is currently the secretary of the Orange Grove Body Corp Committee.

Maryellyn has a grown-up family who live in various parts of New Zealand and Perth and has seven grandchildren and 5 great granddaughters.

Donations to House of Science

After listening to the guest speaker at our March meeting, those in attendance were very enthusiastic about donating to the House of Science. Either to contribute towards, or the purchase of a schools' resource box outright, each of which costs \$1,500. A collection box will be available at the back of the hall at the next two general meetings for those who wish to contribute.

Have you visited the U3A Tauranga web site?

u3atauranga.kiwi.nz

Where people find information about U3A Tauranga



What makes U3A Tauranga special to you?

Share with others by submitting an article of any length to: webmaster@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz



Help encourage others to enjoy the benefits of membership

Group News



Many of you will know David Gordon, a U3A Life Member and Past President. David is a keen Convenor of numerous groups and confesses he is still as interested in learning as he was in his teenage years. Teaching has been his main occupation and he also has a BA. in French and Japanese.

He also lived in Japan for many years where he met his wife Natsuyo (which means "Summer Generation" in Japanese characters). They have been living in Tauranga now for over 20 years.

Highlights for some of his Groups, Films, Ancient Greek Language and Continuing Education are shown below. He has also been teaching Latin for 20 years and is Convenor/Tutor for that Group.

Film Group

Classical Films: May 18 " Madame Butterfly" and June 15 " King Solomon's Mines"

Classical Greek

This lovely language gave rise to one in four words in English today and 90% of the sciences and technology vocabulary.

Please call David on phone 544 4179 if you are interested in any of the above.

Tauranga 60+ Continuing Education Group

This Group is of particular interest to David and other U3A members. Everyone is welcome to attend and you can bring family and friends of all ages. All lectures commence at 10.00am and there is a \$4.00 charge to cover expenses.

NB: From May onwards there is a new venue at the Otumoetai Baptist Church auditorium, 241 Otumoetai Road, Otumoetai (on the corner of Otumoetai Road and Claremont Terrace). The Church is opposite the Otumoetai School with

overflow parking available at the City Church also across Otumoetai Road and adjacent to the school.

Continuing Education Programme for the remainder of 2017:

May 16	Doug Ashby Retired teacher	Looking at the natural history of native geckos
June 20	Dr William de Lange Department of Natural Resources, University of Waikato	Evolution of the Tauranga Harbour
July 18	Judge Rosemary Riddell District Court Judge	You be the Judge
August 15	Assoc Prof Wayne Rumbles Dean, Faculty of Law University of Waikato	Internet safety – what the law can do
Sept 19	Dr Ian Duggan Dept of Biology University of Waikato	Animal invasion of New Zealand lakes
Oct 17	Dr Graham Saunders Dept of Chemistry University of Waikato	Water off a duck’s back
Nov 21	Dr Rebecca Sargisson Dept of Psychology University of Waikato	Using Giant African Snails to detect landmines and other things

At a members first meeting, you will be given a registration form to complete including your phone number and email so the group can keep in touch with you.

You can also visit their website www.taurangacontinuingeducation.weebly.com

Science Group

The science group had a very informative meeting in April. We met at Heather Ward’s home and after a lovely morning tea she led an interesting power point discussion about “The Sixth Extinction” from Elizabeth Kolbert’s book of that title.

Following this Bruce Furze gave a demonstration of the Paradox of the Map Compass



Paradox of the Map Compass – by Bruce Furze

Why does the 'north' end of the compass needle point to the 'magnetic north pole' when 'like' magnetic poles should repel one another?

Firstly, we need to confirm that the compass needle is a small simple bar magnet and the indicator end is in fact the 'magnetic north pole'. We did this by using a solenoid of 125 turns connected to a six-volt battery because we know the magnetic polarity of a solenoid from the 'right hand grip rule'. If we imagine that the fingers are pointing in the direction of the current (+ to -) then the thumb points in the direction of the magnetic field (north to south).

The compass needle behaved as expected with the indicator end being repelled by the 'north' end of the solenoid. This led us to the conclusion that, from a scientific point of view, Earth's magnetic poles have been labeled incorrectly. Fortunately, this is confirmed by an internet search so the paradox is due only to our labeling of the magnetic poles.

But there is something else to be considered when a simple compass is used well south of Earth's equator. The magnetic field strength from the south, that is the scientific north magnetic pole, becomes ever stronger as we travel further south. The compass needle simply aligns with Earth's magnetic lines of force at that point on Earth's surface. Earth's magnetic poles are located deep below Earth's surface and our experiment did detect that the non-indicator end of the compass needle was tilted well below horizontal in the southerly direction. If this tilting prevents the needle from moving freely then it will interfere with the accuracy of the compass. So, there is some truth to the story about northern hemisphere compasses not being suitable in NZ and vice versa.

The science group meets once a month. This group is full but a new group can be started.

Contact the coordinator Christine phone 543 9483

Hikers 1

Hikers 1 has vacancies. Enjoy the exercise as we walk and talk. Learn about nature, geology, current affairs and many other subjects while keeping fit, First and Third Wednesdays of the month.

For more details contact Kathy, Ph 574 9111 or Graham, Ph 571 1002.



Facts and Figures to Date

Financial members as at 19 Apr 2017	812
Life members	9
TOTAL	821
Number of Groups:	103

TRIBUTE TO ANZAC DAY



Cenotaph

By Angela Dold

Climbing up the hill
in the darkness
is hard
for stiff old bones.

Medals clinking
breath steaming
numbers dwindling
proudly march the old soldiers.

Memories returning
all of them seeing
comrades falling
in the terror that is war.

Names on granite reflecting
red poppies blooming
cold dawn glimmering
in the autumn sky.

Sun rising
hearts holding back tears
that keep falling
bugle sounding
Anzac Day is here...once
more.



At the April general meeting Angela Dold recited her Anzac poem printed above. Angela explained the inspiration for her poem as follows:



“In 1930, instead of going down the mines like his father and grandfather before him, my father joined the British Army. He was very intelligent, loved mathematics, and knew a coalmine was not the place for him, so, instead of running away to ‘sea’, he ran away to the army.

As a teenager, I was too busy swooning over Elvis singing Blue Suede Shoes, or Pat Boone crooning “Love letters in the Sand’ to listen to his tales of the twenty odd years he had spent as a soldier. Sadly, by the time I wanted to know about his past, he had died. Afterwards, I found a little box with a few photos, Christmas cards from his parents, and other bits and pieces from his army life.

I found out he had spent time in India, Egypt, the Sudan, Jamaica, and in World War II stayed in England doing something secret. I have no medals apart from one he won for lifesaving. When he was alive, I never thought to ask where they were?’ How foolish I was.

I always went to the Dawn Parade when I lived in Auckland. I would love to have had his medals dangling on my chest. Everyone walked or marched up to the Cenotaph on Redoubt Hill, Howick, in the dark and watched the sun come up while listening to Laurence Binyon’s nostalgic poem, and the solitary sound of the bugle. I wrote this poem in memory of every Dawn Parade taking place on 25 April”.



Meet and Greet Teams

March – Global Affairs & The Sea



April – Rialto Group



2017 Committee

President:

John Powell - 575 4540

Vice President:

Jean Garmonsway - 579 1918

Immediate Past President:

Vivienne Mills - 574 3133

Treasurer:

Elizabeth Reeves - 562 2767

treasurer@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz

Secretary and general enquiries:

Maryellyn Carr – 543 5288

u3atauranga@gmail.com

Handbook/Group Co-ordinators**Groups A to C:**

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Groups I to P:

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Groups R to Z:

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Archivist:

Margaret Douglas – 579 4429

Next Newsletter

July 2017

All contributions must be in before Friday 23 June 2017.

Committee, Convener and Group Reports should reach the editor before the deadline. If you have something to share with U3A members, we ask for short contributions (which may be edited). Inclusion will depend on available space in each newsletter.

Editor: Kit Divehall - Ph 576 8100 newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz