



PO Box 14453, Tauranga 3143  
[www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](http://www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

# Newsletter

**Sept - Oct 2020**



## General Meetings (Covid Restrictions Permitting)

### Tauranga – September

**Date:** Friday 18 September 2020

**Guest Speaker:** Tenby Powell  
Mayor of Tauranga

Tenby will speak about his vision for Tauranga.



### Tauranga – October

**Date:** Friday 16 October 2020

**Guest Speaker:** TBA (check website closer to the date)

**Time for Tauranga General Meetings: 10.00 am – 12.00 noon**  
**Venue: Tauranga Yacht & Power Boat Club, Sulphur Point, Tauranga**  
**Entry: \$5.00**

### Papamoa – October

**Date:** Tuesday 6 October 2020

**Time:** 11.00 am – 1.00 pm

**Venue:** Papamoa Sports & Recreation Centre, 80 Alice Way,  
Papamoa

**Entry:** \$5.00

**Guest Speaker: Professor Chris Battershill**  
Chair Coastal Science, School of Science  
Waikato University



Prof Battershill will be speaking about marine reserves.

## In this issue...

Quiz Corner.....	2
Notice of Election General Meeting.....	3
President's Message.....	4
Notice of 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.....	5
July & Aug General Meetings ....	5-8
Facts & Figures.....	8
Group Coordinators' Report.....	8-9
Group News.....	10-12
Well Fancy That.....	13,14
Quiz Answers .....	14
2021 Exec Nomination Form.....	15
2020 Committee Contacts.....	16
Next Newsletter .....	16

## Newsletter Team

*Jan Holden - Editor and Layout Design*

*Paul Chapman - Quiz and Feature Articles*

*Kit Divehall – Interviews and Proofreading*

*Judy Armstrong – “Beachside” Notes*

*Col Basire and Margaret Marsh – Photos this issue*

## Quiz Corner

**Test your general knowledge with these questions. Answers on page 14.**

1. On the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, to whom does God stretch out his hand? (see picture below)
2. In which year did New Zealand first win the America's Cup?
3. Who is credited with being the first European to visit New Zealand?
4. What is the Maori name for Mount Maunganui?
5. Which country has the most land borders with other countries?
6. What letter represents potassium on the Periodic Table?
7. Who wrote *A Streetcar Named Desire*?
8. In which TV sitcom does the character Alice Tinker appear?
9. Which two Latin words did the Queen use to describe the year 1992?
10. Within a year either way, how long did the Hundred Years' War last?



## NOTICE OF ELECTION GENERAL MEETING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE ELECTION GENERAL MEETING OF U3A TAURANGA INC TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2020 AT THE TAURANGA YACHT AND POWER BOAT CLUB, SULPHUR POINT, TAURANGA AT 10.00 AM**

In accordance with the 2019 Constitution, an Election General Meeting of U3A Tauranga Incorporated is to be held to elect the 2021 Executive and set the annual subscription for 2021.

The Executive elected at this meeting will take office at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting in February 2021.

**As described in paragraph 12.3 of the 2019 constitution, the following positions are open for nomination:**

**Officers:** President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**Committee Members:** Group Coordinator(s)  
Membership Administrator  
Speaker Organiser/General Meeting Organiser  
Publicity Officer

There is a copy of the nomination form on page 15. Please contact the Secretary if you wish to receive a posted nomination form, phone 572 0293, email [u3atauranga@gmail.com](mailto:u3atauranga@gmail.com).

The nomination form is also available on the U3A website: <http://www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz>.

**Completed nomination forms must be received by the Secretary or Acting Secretary by 6 November 2020** and may be:

- Given to the Secretary in person
- Scanned and emailed as an attachment to the Secretary at [u3atauranga@gmail.com](mailto:u3atauranga@gmail.com)
- Posted to: The Secretary  
U3A Tauranga Inc.  
PO Box 14453  
Tauranga 3143

Lati Moodie  
Secretary  
24 August 2020



# President's Message



**Dear Members**

**H**ealth and Safety is the priority following the return of Covid 19 in Auckland. It is a warning that we cannot be complacent. To date the virus has not appeared in Tauranga. I know that we all hope that it won't but there is no guarantee. We have to follow the Ministry of Health Guidelines for Alert Level 2 as we did previously.

For Group Meetings at your home play it safe — keep surfaces clean, wash your hands, and keep the numbers low so you can practise safe physical distancing. Also if it makes you feel more comfortable wear a mask.

If your group is not happy with a physical meeting, go back to the technology using Skype or Zoom or any other method to keep your group functioning.

Groups who meet in external venues need to ensure there are appropriate hand washing facilities, tissues and lined containers to dispose of used tissues. Again, practise safe physical distancing and wear masks as mentioned above, if it makes you feel more comfortable.

**We have managed this before and we can do so again.**

In spite of Covid 19 we are planning for future events! The Election General Meeting will take place on Friday, 20th November at the Tauranga Yacht Club at Sulphur Point. This will be combined with the postponed 25 years Anniversary event.

Initially we will hold the formal Election Meeting and then move on to celebrating 25 years of U3A Tauranga. The meeting will start at 9.45am for 10am to 12.45pm. Our guest speaker will be Mike Allsop who was originally booked for our event in May. The 25 years sub-committee have organised an exciting programme and there will be more details closer to the time. There is a limit of 150 people so it will be on a 'first come, first served' basis.

Take care of yourself, stay safe and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Kind regards

Jean Garmonsway  
**President**

1995

U3A Tauranga  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

2020

A re-scheduled celebration will be combined  
with the Election General Meeting (**Covid Restrictions Permitting**)

**Fri 20 November 2020**

**9.45 am to 12.45 pm**

**Tauranga Yacht & Powerboat Club  
Sulphur Point, Tauranga**

**Entry: \$10.00 per person**

**Entertainment, History of U3A Tauranga (narrative and photos), Special Morning Tea and quality Guest Speaker - Mike Allsop (adventurer, mountaineer, author and motivational keynote speaker)**



## July & August General Meetings

**O**n Friday 17 July, Jean Garmonsway presided over the first General Meeting in Tauranga since lockdown. The meeting was very well attended with 111 attendees.

The mini presentations were by **Glenne Findon** and **Jean Akers**. Glenne (left photo) read the second of her stories from the book 'Fear and Courage' in which she had two short stories published.



Jean (pictured far right) read from a compilation of stories written during lockdown by the U3A group 'Writers Inc'. She read about her experience of ANZAC Day during lockdown.





**Dr Lisa Williams** (left) and **Dr Tessa Morgan** (right), medical researchers from the University of Auckland were the main speakers. Their talk was chiefly about their current project that will collect the views and experiences of New Zealanders aged 70 and over regarding Covid-19 and lockdown.

They are inviting people 70 and over to write a letter to share their experience of lockdown and other aspects of Covid-19. All letters (with the letter-writer's permission) will become part of a permanent archive at the Auckland Museum. This will be an important historical record as well as a resource for informing future responses to pandemics by the government and media. To write to Lisa and Tessa you can also go online, go to:

[https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bl4012ayXtru4gl](https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bl4012ayXtru4gl)

People over 70 were identified as most vulnerable to the virus but were characterised by the media as passive and in need of protection. Very little was heard about how people in this age group felt about the pandemic and lockdown. It is vitally important these voices are heard to inform future pandemic responses. For more information see their website: <https://haveoursay.org>

**T**he first "Beachside" general meeting since lockdown was held at the Arataki Recreation Centre at Mount Maunganui on 4 August. The new music group, **OMG** (Oceanside Music Group) welcomed members as they arrived with some lively tunes.



The first short talk was by **Alister Blennerhasset** who spoke about his Ancient History Group which has space for more members. He said this is not a 'dusty' group discussing boring subjects, and to prove it, we were shown slides of Mosaics from a Roman Villa in Sicily, Villa Casale. The colourful mosaics were of various patterns and these featured a Villa of wealth with the 'Lady of the House', her 2 daughters - one with a sulky look - and 2 slaves. Their faces were individualised, and they were dressed in bright clothes. In the Long Hall a series of views of the

capture of wild animals, some quite bloody! Another picture showed 'bikini' girls who were actually athletes. The mosaics showed clearly what life was like from 300-400 AD.

**Brian Williams** is the convener of the Jazz Group. He gave an interesting short history of Jazz which originated in New Orleans in the late 19th Century. The music originated from the slaves of Africa

and Europe who were brought to America and was their form of relaxation. Jazz is now popular throughout the world. Time ran out for us to listen to more history unfortunately.

Our last speaker before morning tea was **David Higson** who runs the Philosophy Group on the Mount side of the bridge. The group is looking for more members. Modern subjects are debated and discussed, and one subject discussed lately was 'If every cell gets replaced every 7 years - will I still be me! If interested, David's phone is 027 234 6548.



The main speaker was **Gregg Mission** (pictured), Managing Director of Eqalis Research Ltd, who holds a Medlife Licence for growing Cannabis. He was accompanied by Brendon Ogilvy, the Business Manager. Unfortunately, Elizabeth Plant, the Chief Medical Officer was ill and unable to attend. Eqalis was set up in Katikati in January 2019 to research growing Cannabis for Medicinal purposes. Their aim is to create and provide an affordable and assessable treatment for happy and healthy New Zealanders enabling the body to have a natural balance. Greg explained the two different types of cannabis plants and outlined the many chemicals and compounds found in the plant. However, the two main cannabinoids which have therapeutic potential are THC (psychoactive) and CBD (non-psychoactive). Currently the company only makes products containing

CBD, but more products are in the pipeline. CBD products are used to treat symptoms such as inflammation, seizures and convulsions, psychosis and pain. It can also stimulate bone growth, is anti-bacterial and as an antioxidant has the potential for cancer treatment. Question time followed with a lot of interest being shown. Greg pointed out that the forthcoming referendum was about legalising **recreational use** of cannabis. Medicinal cannabis has been legal in New Zealand since March 2020.



**U**nfortunately, the Tauranga General Meeting scheduled for August had to be cancelled due to Level 2 Covid-19 mass gathering restrictions.



## Meet & Greet Teams

**July - Tauranga**



**Garden Ramblers 2**

**August -Mount Maunganui**



**Booklovers 2**



# Facts and Figures to Date

Financial members as at 12 August 2020	923
Life members	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>933</b>



# Group Coordinators' Report

## Details of New Groups:

- **French Conversation 2:** Convener: Linda Kennedy, phone 027 280 3670. Co-convener: Carlene McCarthy, phone 543 1693. Tutor: Michelle Haywood, phone 027 451 6929. Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday morning 10 am – 12 noon.

## Suggested New Groups:

- **Canasta**
- **Scrabble**
- **Science**
- **Mini Hikes 3:** Hoping to finalise arrangements for a meeting to start in the Spring.

## Groups Closed or In Recess:

- **Classical Greek & Latin** – David Gordon, Convener for both groups has advised these groups are temporarily in recess until December. A meeting will be held in regard to the future of the groups at that time.
- **Horticulture and Gardening** - Convener Mary Sanson passed away last month and the group has decided to close.

## Groups Actively Seeking New Members (from the Coordinators input):

Acoustic Music Performers Group	Creative Writing	Hikers 1
Apple Mac Support B	Current Events A	My Music – Anything Goes
Ancient History 2	Current Events C	Opera Appreciation
Art Practical	Current Events D	iPad & iPhone 2
Book Lovers 4	French Conversation 2	Tivoli Film Group
Computer Support B	Geography	Writing & Words
	Global Issues	Yoga 1, 2 and 3

## Other Group Information:

- **Ancient History 2:** Still meeting using Skype. 7 members; some new prospects.
- **International Affairs and Philosophy 3** groups will be meeting on Zoom in August and possibly recommencing face to face meetings in September. There will be opportunities for Zoom meetings with U3A members to listen to members of universities in New Zealand who will address the groups on chosen subjects. This is a great initiative and it may be that other U3A members could participate if they were interested.
- **Jazz & Blues:** This new group has sufficient members and is now closed. If there is continued interest a wait list will be made for a possible second group.
- **Nature Study** met on August 12 to appoint a new convener following the passing of Mary Sanson.
- **Oceanside Music Group (OMG)** has sufficient members now. A wait list can be started. If there were sufficient numbers on the wait list Alan Read would consider starting a second group.
- **Opera Appreciation** has resumed meeting in members' homes as the rental for the diminished numbers is not cost effective. If numbers can be built up then they will consider meeting at Wesley again.
- **Solo Adventurers** will be reverting to Lone Rangers 2 as from next year. Janie Gibbens has agreed to be co-convener, phone 021 151 4545.

## Changes of convener, venue, time, contact details.

- **Acoustic Music Performers Group:** new venue St. Enochs Church hall, 16th Ave. Every Tuesday 1.15 pm -3.30 pm.
- **Current Events A:** Contact member is Rita Carter, phone 576 8113. Looking for a convener.
- **Ethnic Dining 2:** Jude Parker has resigned as convener - they are looking for a replacement. Contact member is Isobel Robertson, phone 027 682 5047.
- **Garden Ramblers 1:** Looking for a new Convener and Co-convener.

## New Members' Meetings or Conveners' Meeting.

A successful New Members' meeting was held on the 21 July – invitations were sent out to 42 new members.

Next Convener's Meeting has been set down for Thursday, 29 October 10-12 noon, at Wesley Church.

## Number of Groups:

A-C Groups	30
D-H Groups	24
I-P Groups	25
R-Z Groups	21
Total.	100



## History B

# *Invitation*

## **From History B Group**

**A Presentation by Chalium Poppy**

**on Beethoven and the birth of Romanticism in Music**

**DATE:** Wednesday, 14 October from 1.00 - 3.00 pm

**VENUE:** St Peter's Church, Victoria Road,  
Mt. Maunganui

**ENTRY FEE:** \$5.00 pp at the door. All welcome.

By popular demand Chalium Poppy, Organist and Choirmaster for the Anglican Parish of Mt. Maunganui, will give another talk which will focus on how Beethoven was the bridge between the Classical music of Haydn and Mozart and the Romantic music of Schubert and Mendelssohn. He will touch on the social, political and environmental upheavals of the time.

Chalium will illustrate his talk by singing and playing on the organ and piano.

**Enquiries: Pauline: 07 579 5297 or Martin: 570 0463**

## Nature Study



*The following item was submitted by Mary Sanson just days before her passing. We have published it as a tribute to Mary, who was a long-standing convener of this group. RIP Mary, you will be sadly missed.*

For our first post Covid-19 nature study walk we met in Yatton Park for scones and BYO coffee and catch up before roaming the Park to admire the trees, some of which are enormous and over 100 years old. The photo shows members standing around a kauri tree.

Rain cancelled our second meeting, so we met at Mary's place where Roland gave us a very well received presentation about native trees mainly around Tauranga. This led to discussion about clear felling in the early days and

railways associated with that.

## Geology



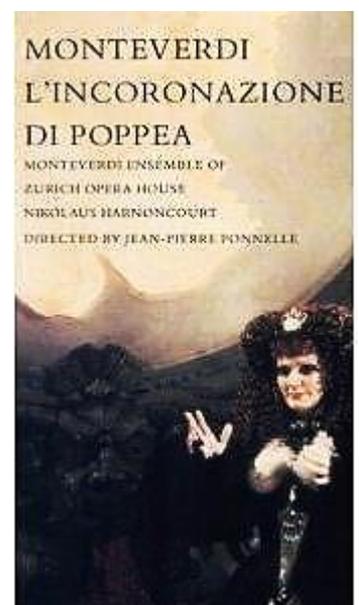
At the July meeting of the Geology group, Jocelyn Hooper, on behalf of the members, paid tribute to Robert Turnbull who has retired as Convener after 14 years in the role.

Over the years Robert has polished his skills and knowledge as a leader, such as selecting study content to suit the group, developing his own skills as a researcher and encouraging members to do the same (it is not enough to look it up on Google) and helping members to grow in knowledge and presentation of their projects. Robert was a great listener and always approachable. His inspirational style of leadership was enjoyed and appreciated by everyone. Convener: Jocelyn Hooper, phone 575 2236.

## Opera Appreciation

### Oldest operas still performed today

Can you name the oldest complete opera that is still performed sometimes today? What about the composer and the city of the first production? Opera historians identify some early 17th century efforts as the first ever operas but they have disappeared completely from the repertoire today. The oldest that is still performed and recorded today is Monteverdi's "L'Orfeo" first performed in 1607 in Mantua. Monteverdi lived to 75 and composed his last opera then, "The Coronation of Poppea" in 1643, first performed in Venice. He



would have made a good U3A member, keeping his brain alive and still composing at 75. Would you be able to compose and score a complete opera at the age of 75? The Opera Appreciation group recently had a DVD of Monteverdi's "Coronation of Poppea" conducted by Raymond Leppard at Glyndebourne Opera House. It was very well-received by the members, most of whom were experiencing their first baroque opera. The sumptuous orchestration and singing is not everyone's cup of tea, some being put off by the "ha ha ha ha ha ha" ornamentation which sounds like laughing singing. But you get used to it and come to really enjoy it as Rob Heath has done over the years, first experiencing it at a concert performance at a Royal Albert Hall Prom in 1968 also conducted by Raymond Leppard, Cavali's "L'Ormino". If you are interested in seeing if you like the musical idiom you could try YouTube, typing in "Monteverdi opera" and experimenting. You could get hooked, who knows? Convener: Rob Heath, phone 574 6468.

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a regular group morning meeting or a special  
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or phone 07 544 0288





# Well, Fancy That!

*In this series we look at some remarkable but not so well-known facts*

## How Nessie became a world-famous monster

By Paul Chapman



*The so-called 'surgeon's photograph' of 1934 really got interest going in the legend.*

**T**he existence of Scotland's Loch Ness Monster has been widely debated and argued about over the years. Not so well known, however, are the intriguing stories behind what made 'Nessie' so famous.

The legend started as long ago as 565AD with a cryptic account written by the monk St Columba, but modern fascination with the elusive monster was really fired up after an article appeared in *The Inverness Courier* newspaper on 2 May 1933.

Under the headline 'Strange Spectacle in Loch Ness,' a woman named Aldie Mackay described how she and her husband had seen an enormous creature diving into the water as they were driving past the loch.

'The creature disported itself, rolling and plunging for fully a minute, its body resembling that of a whale, and the water cascading and churning like a simmering cauldron,' she wrote. 'Soon, however, it disappeared in a boiling mass of foam.'

Emboldened by her article, more people came forward to say they too had seen just such a creature on other occasions, and letters to the editor on the subject poured in.

The legend really took off on 21 April 1934, when the *Daily Mail* in London published a stunning exclusive – what it claimed was the first ever photograph of the creature. That picture remains probably the best known ‘image’ allegedly depicting the monster.

The photograph was reportedly snapped by one Robert Kenneth Wilson, a London gynaecologist, but because he refused to have his name associated with the picture it became known simply as ‘the surgeon’s photograph’.

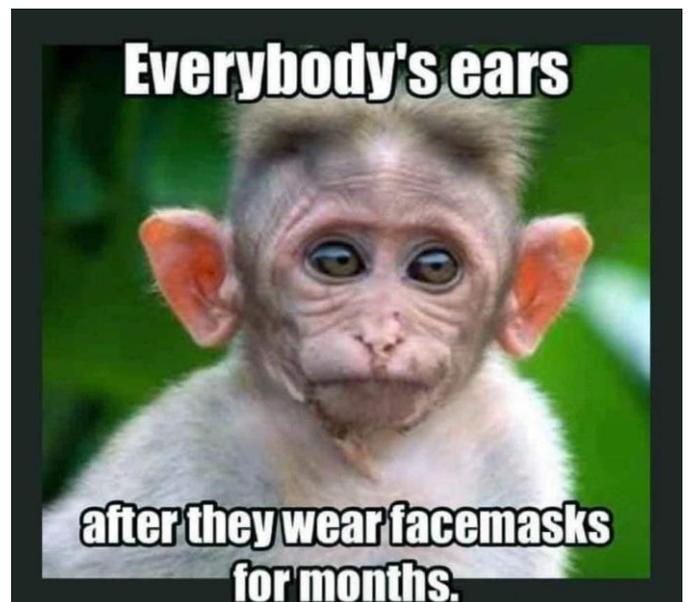
In fact, it was a colossal hoax, perpetrated by a disgruntled ex-employee of the *Daily Mail* named Marmaduke Wetherell, as an act of revenge for the way he felt he had been treated by his former bosses.

The ‘creature’ in the picture actually comprised a child’s toy submarine bought from the chain store FW Woolworth, with a neck and head fashioned from wood putty. The artful composition of the photograph effectively made any judgment of scale almost impossible.

Next to get in on the act was the celebrated circus owner Bertram Mills who, seizing on any opportunity for free publicity, in 1934 offered twenty-thousand pounds (worth almost NZ\$5 million today) to anyone who could prove the existence of the monster. Mills even had a model of the monster constructed, which was carted around on wheels everywhere his circus went.

Claims of sightings continue to this day. Film crews clutching the latest high-tech cameras, along with divers and scientists armed with ultrasound and all manner of other latest-spec pieces of equipment, have carried out searches galore and arrived at all sorts of explanations for the myth.

No one has yet been able to lay claim to Bertram Mills’ reward, although the legend has done wonders for the tourism industry in what would otherwise be a sleepy corner of Bonnie Scotland.



**Answers to Quiz p2:**

1. Adam; 2. 1995; 3. Abel Tasman; 4. Mauao; 5. China; 6. K; 7. Tennessee Williams; 8. The Vicar of Dibley; 9. Annus horribilis; 10. 116 years.

**U3A Tauranga Inc**  
**2021 EXECUTIVE NOMINATION FORM**

The Election General Meeting to elect the 2021 Executive and set the annual subscription for 2021 will be held on Friday 20 November 2020. Note that the incoming Executive will take office at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting in February 2021.

**In accordance with the 2019 Constitution, written nominations on this form must be received by the Secretary or Acting Secretary by 6 November 2020.**

**NOMINATION**

I hereby nominate .....

For the position of .....

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Print name: .....

*(Financial Member making this nomination)*

**SECONDER**

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Print name: .....

*(Financial Member seconding this nomination)*

**CONSENT:** I consent to this nomination:

Signed: ..... Date: .....

*(Financial Member being nominated)*

**As a registered Charity, our Executive members must qualify under Section 16 of the Charities Act 2005. To qualify, an officer must not be:**

- an individual who is an undischarged bankrupt
- an individual who is under the age of 16 years
- an individual who, or a body corporate that, has been convicted of a crime involving dishonesty (section 2(1) of the Crimes Act 1961) or tax evasion or other offence under section 143B of the Tax Administration Act 1994 and sentenced within the last seven years
- an individual who is prohibited from being a director or promoter of, or being concerned or taking part in the management of, an incorporated or unincorporated body under the Companies Act 1993, the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013, or the Takeovers Act 1993
- an individual who, or a body corporate that, has been disqualified from being an officer of a charitable entity by the Charities Registration Board under section 31(4) of the Charities Act 2005
- an individual who is subject to a property order under the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988, or whose property is managed by a trustee corporation under section 32 of that Act (this relates to people who are not fully able to manage their affairs)
- a body corporate that is being wound up, is in liquidation or receivership, or is subject to statutory management under the Corporations (Investigation and Management) Act 1989
- an individual who, or a body corporate that, does not comply with any qualifications for officers contained in the rules of your charity.

**I have read the above criteria and advise that I qualify to be an officer:**

Signed: ..... Date of Birth: .....

Full Address: .....

# 2020 Executive Committee

**President:**

Jean Garmonsway - 579 1918

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Vacant position

[tba](#)

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**Mini Speaker Organiser:**

Rob Heath - 574 6468

**Photographer:**

Cliff Freer- 578 9960

**Mount/Papamoa General Meetings Sub-Committee Convener:**

Anne Briggs – 975 1888

## Next Newsletter November 2020

Deadline for contributions is 24 October 2020

**Editor:** Jan Holden - phone 543 3747 [newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)