



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

# Newsletter

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022**

**HIP HIP HOORAY**  
***Happy New Year***



## ***Notice of...*** **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of U3A Tauranga Inc., is to be held on Friday 18 February 2022 at the Tauranga Yacht & Power Boat Venue, Sulphur Point, Tauranga at 10.00 am.

Notice is also given of the Executive's intention, at this Annual General Meeting, to move a Special Resolution to change the Constitution of U3A Tauranga Inc.

**More information on proposed changes to the Constitution on Pg.3**

### **Guest Speaker @ Annual General Meeting**

Leigh Kite  
Hemp New Zealand Ltd

Hemp NZ Ltd is a pioneer in the growing and use of Industrial Hemp in New Zealand.

They have facilities in Christchurch using hemp as a fibre and a yarn  
In 2019 the Company set up a food processing plant, head offices and retail premises at Tauriko.

Leigh is a local to Tauranga who has enjoyed a 30 year career in the natural health and beauty industry. Important to Leigh was the role plants play in health and wellbeing,

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### **NEWSLETTER TEAM**

**Lynette Viertel**  
*Editor & Layout Design*

**Paul Chapman**  
*Quiz & Feature Article*

**Judy Armstrong - GM Beachside**

**Col Basire - GM Tauranga Photos**

**Richard Thompson - Beachside  
Photos**

**Liz Chapman - Proofreading**

## *QUIZ CORNER*

**Test your general knowledge with these questions. Answers on page 15**

1. What is unusual about the flags of Switzerland and the Vatican City?
2. What does the "V" stand for in "DVD"  
a) Vital; b) Vortex; or c) Versatile?
3. What were the first names of the composer JS Bach?
4. What is the main aspect in which Sunni and Shia Islam have differing views  
a) Acceptance of the Old Testament; b) Muhammad's successor; or c) Acceptance of the Quran?
5. Who is the four-legged hero in the movie The Wrong Trousers?
6. Which popular small car was designed by Alec Issigonis?
7. How many US states begin with the letter "L"?
8. Is Prince William's second name: a) Albert; b) Arthur; or c) Andrew?
9. Which book features the character Wendy Darling?
10. What number is represented as M in Roman numerals?



## **Background to the Changes in the Proposed Amended Constitution.**

During the past year it became evident that amendments to our existing 2019 Constitution were required. Two Clauses in particular needed attention:

1. Clause 9 (“Meetings”) omitted any reference to the requirement for an Annual General Meeting.
2. Clause 14 (“Finance”) required amendment.

An amended Constitution has been formulated in which these two Clauses have been revised. In addition, other Clauses have been clarified, much of the language has been simplified, and other deletions, additions and amendments have been made. It is not possible to publish all the changes here, so we have put a link to our Website *click here* <http://www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz/> You will find both the existing Constitution and the Proposed Amended Constitution on the front page of our Website. Please familiarise yourselves with these documents before the Annual General Meeting.

A Subcommittee was formed to undertake the review of the Constitution, convened by myself as President together + former Secretary Lati Moodie and a former President, Chris Hector. The Subcommittee has held an intensive series of meetings to complete this task. The Proposed Amended Constitution being presented for adoption today has been approved by our Solicitor. It has also been approved by the Executive, who recommend that it be adopted at the Annual General Meeting on 18 February 2022.

At the Annual General Meeting the Proposed Amended Constitution must either be adopted as presented, or rejected. No modifications to it are allowable either before or during the meeting.

There will be an opportunity at the AGM to query the reasoning behind any of the changes and we will have a PowerPoint prepared to use when answering your questions.

Anne Withy,  
President U3A Tauranga.

# President's Message

Dear Members

Today is New Year's Day 2022. I do hope you have all had a very special festive season with family and friends.

I am in my favourite place in this beautiful country of ours ----- a place I lost my heart to as a child, Wanaka. I have spent the last 10 days with two of my children and their families. Tents are pitched, the caravan is in use, the house is filled, and the kitchen is a hive of activity as everyone, currently 13 of us, is "fed and watered." Each day is full of cycling, boating, swimming, walking and of course eating. I feel truly blessed.

That feeling of being blessed also reflects my appreciation of all that you and other members of U3A Tauranga do to support the smooth running of our Organisation. The past year was not without its challenges but together we did the best we could to keep ourselves safe and as many of our activities running as we could.

The coming year will also present challenges in the form of Covid, and changes as U3A Beachside BOP gets established. Tauranga and Beachside will work together to ensure the philosophy of U3A is strong in the Region. New Year is a time to set a course for the next 12 months and when reading a few days ago of Desmond Tutu's death, I came across this quote from one of his speeches and thought it appropriate for us to think about and realise the power of the small things we do in everyday life.

***"Do your little bit of good where you are. It is when all these small actions are put together that they can overwhelm the World."***

My sincere thanks for the contributions you have made to U3A in 2021. Without the input of members we would not be able to function. For you this year, I wish good health and much happiness. But also the strength to cope with the difficulties that may come your way.

Kind Regards,  
Anne Withy.  
President, U3A Tauranga.



# Beachside General Meeting



From left to right: Alastair Blennerhassett, John Powell and Graeme Wilson



Jamie Troughton was introduced by Maureen Medley. Jamie lives in Papamoa and has been a journalist and photographer for 25 years, covering mainly sport for newspapers and TV, recently editing magazines. He is, and has been, a lifeguard at Papamoa and the Mount Surf Clubs and involved in voluntary and professional rescue services. He is now Chairman of the Mount Surf Club.

Some of his media highlights include being editor of Zespri magazine for 9 years. Recently he took 1,400 photos of bees pollinating kiwi-fruit. It was a dullish day and it took two and a half hours - he sent 30 photos to Zespri and 3 were selected for the magazine! Other proud moments have been photographing national teams.

He was thrilled when BOP won the Ranfurly Shield in 2004 and his photos were selected

Fifteen years ago Jamie became involved in the surf life saving and photography took over from media. The idea of days on the beach and being paid, appealed to him and this led to joining the Mount Surf Club, training, and sitting tests to become a life saver.

There are 75 clubs in New Zealand, the season being from Labour weekend to Easter, with voluntary patrols at the weekends. The last five years the professional life savers work 5 days a week and this is paid by the Council. During the winter weekends the life savers update their skills. Their aim is to prevent loss of life and they work in with the Police and St Johns being first responders on the beach and the Mount.



at the  
Election  
General  
Meeting



# Coordinators' Report

Firstly, we are delighted to announce that Dianne Beveridge will be taking over from Carol Simpson from February 2022 as the coordinator of Groups D-H. Dianne's contact details will be in the 2022 U3A Handbook.

It is without question that the past few months have had, hopefully short-term, a negative effect on our wonderful interest groups. Many have not functioned due to concerns regarding the revelation that Covid has entered the Bay of Plenty. Many groups appear to have postponed sessions until 2022.

## DETAILS OF NEW GROUPS:

**Scrap booking:** held first of three meetings from November 15.

A second group proposed for February 2022.

**Short distance walkers:** proposed to start February 2022. Contact Pat Russell  
Ph: 07 5623467

**Camera Club:** Learn more about your capture device, be it a camera or mobile phone. Create photo books, artwork and learn settings, editing etc

Meetings: 3rd Monday of month. Time 10am – 12 noon

Convener: Margaret Marsh Ph: 281 2408.

## GROUPS NEEDING NEW CONVENERERS FOR 2022:

Conveners are required for the continuance of any group. This role can have a co-convener to help support the convener, or joint conveners, as some groups do have.

Rummikub 1	If willing to apply for this please contact R-Z coordinator
Rialto 1.	If willing to apply for this please contact R-Z coordinator.
Café Lovers 2.	If willing to apply for this please contact A-C coordinator
Philosophy 3	If willing to apply for this please contact I-P coordinator.

## SEEKING NEW MEMBERS:

refer to U3A handbook for convener or coordinator contact details.

Current Events D, seeking 1 new member.

Memoir Writing.

Music Appreciation.

Philosophy for Today,

Photo Enhancing

Garden Ramblers 4

Hikers 1

Yoga 2

Travel

## Acoustic Music:

are looking for a new group music leader as Reg Clothier, although generously happy to remain as the group convener, will be stepping down as the group music convener, hence a replacement for this position is being sought.

## **NEW CONVENERS FROM 2022:**

**Hikers 1:** Wendy Madill Ph: 0272822660. Barbara McCauley Ph: 027426484.

**Garden Ramblers 1:** Merlena Starkey Ph. 0272822660. Co-convener: Jenni Baxter  
021421668

**Mini Hikers 1:** Steve Subritzky Ph: 0211595613

**My Music- Anything Goes:** Judy Elms has decided to carry on therefore no new convener required.

### **Group Numbers:**

A-C 26

D-H 23

I-P 26

R-Z 22 Total = 97

*Report prepared by Gail Moore Coordinator Groups R – Z*

## **Group News**

### **DINING GROUP 3**



Dining Group 3 marked the occasion of its first outing since July because of Covid restrictions on Friday 22 October by celebrating the upcoming 90th birthday of Clive Berry.

The group has been running for approximately 10 years and began life as an Ethnic Dining Group. As time went on we covered all the various ethnic restaurants in Mount Maunganui and Tauranga and for the past couple of years has simply been a dining group.

The group meet on the 4th Friday of every month and each member has a turn in selecting and booking a restaurant. In the beginning there were 10 members but numbers have swelled to 16 at the

present time. Pre Covid attendances varied between 10 and 12 on average, but with travel out of the question for many, close on 100% now come to our meetings. This can be a little unwieldy and is not always possible for us to be seated at one table.

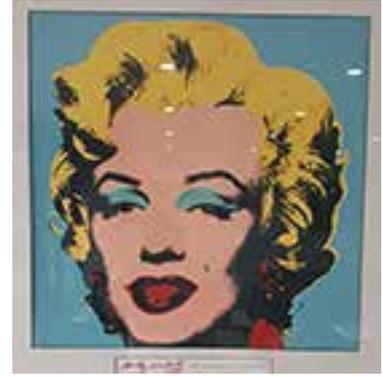
Most of the group have been members for some time and a relaxed and friendly atmosphere prevails.

## ART HISTORY 1

### AN AMAZING COINCIDENCE

*by Rob Heath*

I was a foundation member of Art History some years ago and it has been one of the best learning experiences of a lifetime. Over the years I have given Powerpoint Presentations on Gauguin, Cezanne, Picasso, Matisse, Toulouse L'Autrec, Frances Hodgkins, Socialist Realism, Jackson Pollock and Andy Warhol. While researching the last one I happened to notice when I peered over the fence of my neighbour in the Mount, a large print of an Andy Warhol painting. It turns out that my neighbour, an affable character named Paul and his charming Filipina fiancée Lucia, is one of New Zealand's authorities on the pop art of Andy Warhol. He invited me in to see his large collection of prints over two storeys, as well as his collection of just about every book ever written on the artist. Paul agreed to my bringing all the members of Art History over to view his holdings.



Andy Warhol was a very eccentric artist from working class Pittsburgh who moved to New York on completing studies at the Carnegie Institute with mixed results. His mother, from an obscure part of Slovakia, moved to New York with him and lived with him for most of the rest of her life. She spoke only broken English after decades in America, looked after him, didn't really understand his sexual orientation, an unreconstructed gay with a fondness for handsome young men. To the end of her life she was always asking his friends "Can't you find a nice girl for my Andy?"

He became associated with the new pop art which replaced Abstract Expressionism and is famous for his paintings of mundane everyday items like Campbell's soup cans. Paul had a large print of that along with Marilyn Monroe with yellow hair, Chairman Mao all blue, Che Guevara and many others. When we all went to his house he had all the books he owned spread over a large table and he answered questions about his fascination. He had visited the factories in New York where Warhol turned out his blotted line and silkscreen prints; as well as visiting the galleries devoted to his work.



**FRENCH CONVERSATION - end of year**

### **GARDEN RAMBLERS 4**



## CAFE BOOK LOVERS 2

Many thanks to those who met me at the Pacific Coast Village. today. A very big thank you also to our lovely R-Z Coordinator, Gail Moore, who ably assisted with her in-depth knowledge of the new Beachside U3A. We discussed the group going forward next year, and the new U3A Beachside BOP organisation coming into being very soon.

We appointed a new convener, Barbara Joyce and a co-convener, Ann Hughes. I was very pleased with the outcome. Unfortunately this information was too late to appear in the 2022 Handbook which had already gone to print, but it will appear in the newsletter and on the website.

### Café Book Lovers 2

A group who enjoy reading and sharing books both fiction and non-fiction.

Convener: Barbara Joyce, 021 244 3944

Co-convener: Ann Hughes, 022 1135

Venue: Pacific Coast Village Bloom Eatery, 210 Maranui Street, Papamoa

Meetings: 2nd Monday of the month

Time: 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm

Your next group meeting will be: Monday 14 February 2022

## OPERA APPRECIATION

As a follow-up to our covering Donizetti and the three Queens (see U3A Newsletter November/December 2021) the Opera Appreciation group listened to the logical sequel, Saint-Saens "Henry VIII", a little-known, rarely performed opera. Saint Saens wrote some 13 operas, the best-known being "Samson et Dalilah which is regularly performed. His second most accomplished opera according to critics is "Henry VIII" written in 1882. The great Spanish soprano Montserrat Caballe, known to many for singing with the unlikely partner Freddy Mercury, made a feature of singing the role of Catherine of Aragon from "Henry VIII" to great acclaim.

The synopsis is based on English history, Shakespeare and Calderon. Librettists and opera composers are famous for taking liberties with historical facts, unable to resist writing scenes for two people who never actually met in the interests of high drama with powerful music to match.

I. In Donizetti's "Maria Stuarda" there is a colourful scene where Elizabeth I confronts Mary Queen of Scots. In real life, in history, the two never met as far as we know. In "Henry VIII" at the touching death of Catherine of Aragon, Henry's divorced ex-queen, the scene is attended by Henry himself and Queen Anne Boleyn. Pure fiction. They did not attend. However, using that famous formula of willing suspension of disbelief, it makes for a very dramatic ending to an unforgettable opera, much appreciated by the U3A Opera Appreciation group



## GEOLOGY

The Geology group has continued to meet through the year, after finding a venue that would accommodate Covid separation. Also a plus this year and again Covid related, was access to a Power Point projector, enabling sharing of information without having to hand hard copy about. Presenting geology is a very visual and conceptual topic, so enables good discussion when focused on the same image on a large screen.



During the year, the group members presented on their favourite geological locations, which were quite diverse and often the spark for their interest in geology. In addition we kept track of geological items in the media, La Palma eruption and items about Mars as well as climate change effects, being an ongoing source of interest.

They opted for a BYO picnic to end the year, and the photo is of the group at Rotary Park in Maungatapu, and also coupled this with a low tide visit to coastal cliffs, which shows how variable and complicated the near surface geology in Tauranga is. We came away with more questions than answers.

## THE MAH JONG LADIES



## SCIENCE TODAY

Convener Kate arranged “a hands on” problem solving activity. Supplied only with 20 balloons and a roll of masking tape, the challenge for each small group was to build a self-supporting tower as high as possible. There was a bit of grumbling about inflating the balloons but folk were soon engrossed in the task and all 3 groups completed their towers within 30 minutes. Amazingly, 2 of the towers were very much the same height, just under 2 metres tall. One group achieved extra credit for the aesthetic effect created. And it was a lot of fun.

We followed on with a science quiz, and, with a bit of head scratching, all groups achieved about 80% correct scores!

Then it was time for a delicious shared lunch and conviviality before parting until next year.



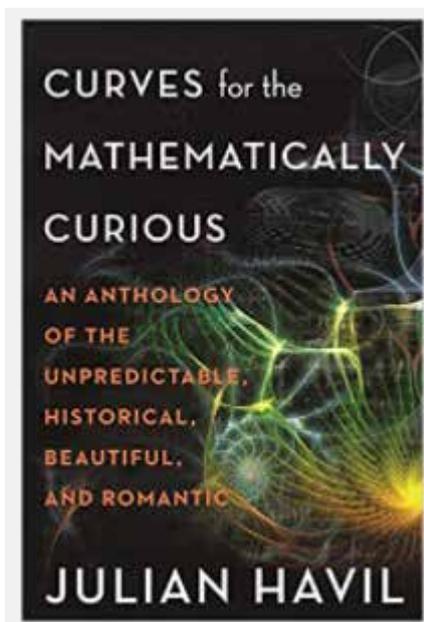
It's a Funny Old World

# When a book really can be judged by its cover

By Paul Chapman

Fancy a good read titled *Proceedings of the Second International Workshop on Nude Mice*? No? How about *The Book of Marmalade: Its Antecedents, Its History, and Its Role in the World Today*? Or perhaps *Unsolved Problems of Modern Theory of Lengthwise Rolling* is more your thing?

These are all genuine books, produced and marketed by international publishing firms, and they have all, in their time, been prize winners.



What prize, you ask?

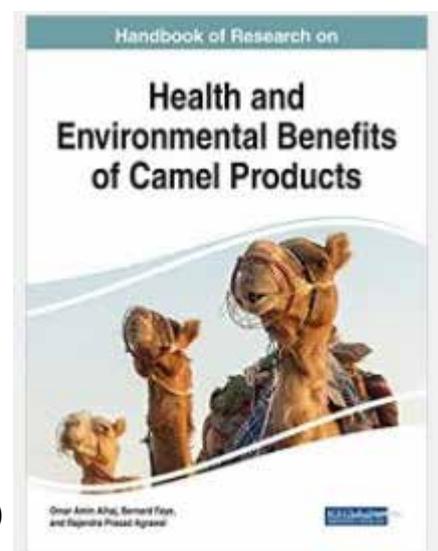
*The Bookseller*, a leading trade magazine, inaugurated its annual Diagram Prize for the *Most Implausible Book Title* back in 1978. So seriously is the prestigious award regarded that in two years, 1987 and 1991, no winner was announced because no book title was considered quirky enough to carry off the accolade.

Among other winners has been *Greek Rural Postmen and Their Cancellation Numbers*, which took the prize in 1996. It dealt with, well, the distinctive frank marks used by Greek rural

postmen to cancel postage stamps since 1911.

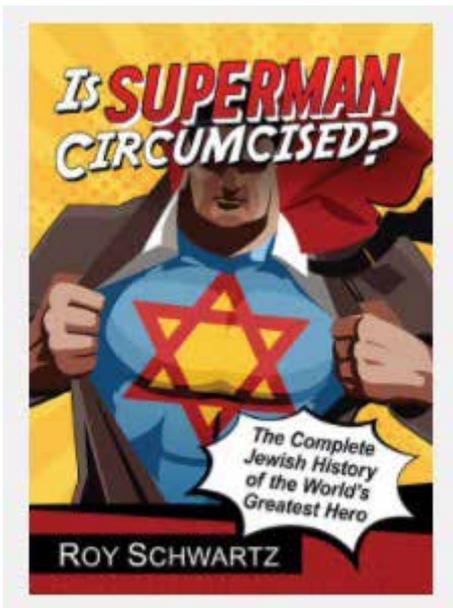
While most of the subjects are clearly arcane, 1992's winner, *How to Avoid Huge Ships*, could have a practical purpose. The author gives advice to pleasure boat sailors on the dangers of wandering into shipping lanes. On second thoughts, one might have thought much of what it contained might be fairly self-evident.

*Highlights in the History of Concrete* (1994) sounds like a solid read, while *Bombproof Your Horse* (2004) could be an explosive volume.



*People Who Don't Know They're Dead: How They Attach Themselves to Unsuspecting Bystanders and What to Do About It*, 2005's winner, could come in handy in the event of a zombie apocalypse.

*If You Want Closure in Your Relationship, Start With Your Legs*, which took the prize in 2007, was apparently a self-help book for women written by a man. You might want to keep well clear of the dentist who wrote *Managing a Dental Practice: The Genghis Khan Way* (2010). While *Goblin Proofing One's Chicken Coop* (2012) could be packed with useful information.



Finally, coming bang up to date, 2021's winner *Is Superman Circumcised?* must surely cast a whole new light on one of the world's favourite super-heroes.

Pictured: *Curves for the Mathematically Curious* and *Handbook of Research on Health and Environmental Benefits of Camel Products* were both short-listed runners-up that never quite made it to the top prize.



#### Quiz Answers

1.They are square; 2.c) Versatile; 3. Johann Sebastian; 4.b) Muhammad's successor;  
5. Gromit; 6.The Mini;7. One (Louisiana); 8.b)Arthur;9. Peter Pan; 10. A thousand.

# 2022 EXECUTIVE & COMMITTEE SUPPORT

**President:**

Anne Withy, 021 165 0298  
[president@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:president@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Vice President:**

Raewyn Gallagher, 027 439 7252  
[vp@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:vp@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Immediate Past President:**

Jean Garmonsway, 027 632 5988  
[ipp@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:ipp@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Secretary:**

Helen Roberts, 021 933 394  
[secretary@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:secretary@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Treasurer:**

Elizabeth Reeves, 562 2767  
[treasurer@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:treasurer@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Membership Administrator:**

Sheila Freer, 576 5243  
[membership@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:membership@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Publicity Officer:**

Max Lynds, 027 277 6615  
[publicity@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:publicity@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Speakers/Gen Meeting Organiser:**

Sheila Riddell-Harvey, 027 688 1091  
[speakers@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:speakers@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Group Coordinators:**

Groups A to C:  
Margaret Marsh, 281 2408  
[a2c.groups@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:a2c.groups@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

Groups D to H:  
Carol Simpson, 021 046 6890  
[d2h.groups@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:d2h.groups@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

Groups I to P:  
Anne Briggs, 975 1888  
[i2p.groups@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:i2p.groups@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

Groups R to Z:  
Gail Moore, 021 299 1009  
[r2z.groups@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:r2z.groups@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Co-opted Members:**

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Lynette Viertel, 027 250 4144  
[newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Webmaster:**

Jim Pryor, 219 7840  
[webmaster@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:webmaster@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Committee Support:**

Chris Hector, 027 434 3493

**Non-Committee Appointments:**

**Almoner:**  
Patricia (Pat) Chainey,  
562 3366 or 021 124 8271

**Beachside Sub-Committee:**

Anne Briggs, 975 1888

**Data Manager:**

Jim Pryor, 219 7840  
[data@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:data@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**Equipment Manager:**

Peter Simmons, 576 0952  
[equipment@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:equipment@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

**GM Speaker Support Team:**

Graeme Wilson, 574 2392  
Phil Sinclair, 576 3823

**Handbook Administrator:**

Margaret Marsh, 281 2408

**Health & Safety Officer:**

Raewyn Gallagher, 562 8375

**Meet & Greet Organisers:**

**Tauranga:** Jenny Pryor, 219 7840

**Beachside:** Maggie Bowcock, 562 8137

**Mini Speaker Organiser:**

Rob Heath, 574 6468

**Photographers:**

**Tauranga:** Glenne Findon and  
Colin Basire, 571 2925

**Beachside:** Graeme Wilson, 574 2392

**NEXT NEWSLETTER MARCH 2022** Deadline for contributions is 20 February 2022

*Editor: Lynette Viertel - phone 027 250 4144* [newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)