



MARCH – APRIL 2023



**ON THE LOOKOUT:** This picture, titled *I See No Ships*, was entered by Margaret recently for the **Photography** group's Open section. It neatly captures the spirit of summer in Tauranga. You can keep up with the group's work at [www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](http://www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)



**Who's speaking  
at our next GMs?**

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**Meet the President**

*Around  
the world,  
one hotel  
at a time*



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**Would you  
like to  
learn Sign  
Language?**



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*Let the  
music  
move you*

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## QUIZ CORNER

1. Which is the largest country in the world that shares a border with no other?
2. What is the name of the Lunar Year that started in January 2023?
3. How many seconds in four and a half minutes?
4. Which composer wrote the music to *Madama Butterfly*?
5. Which is the smallest planet in the Solar System: a) Mercury; b) Venus; or c) Mars?
6. Popocatepetl is a volcano in: a) Honduras; b) Mexico; or c) Peru?
7. Who wrote *Little Women*?
8. What is the chemical symbol for Tin: a) Ti; b) Tn; or c) Sn?
9. Which archaeologist discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun in 1922?
10. Who is pictured here?



■ [Answers on Page 23](#)

## SMILE AWHILE

REMEMBER WHEN YOU COULD REFER TO YOUR KNEES AS RIGHT AND LEFT?



INSTEAD OF GOOD AND BAD.  
AH GOOD TIMES, EH!





# Do come along to the GMs

**D**EAR Members,  
As your new President I look forward to continuing the excellent platform that Anne Withy established for U3A Tauranga. The strength of U3A Tauranga lies in the number of groups that are available to choose from to undertake activities. The emergence of Zoom meetings has enabled some groups to expand meetings instead of holding them in homes, thus enabling Conveners to also utilise outside speakers on specialist topics.

The Speakers Organiser has arranged a wide range of speakers for the General Meetings, so I look forward to meeting you there. Do come along. General Meetings are usually held on the third Friday of the month, but this year a few will be on the fourth Friday as the Yacht Club is not available to us on the normal dates. **The first of these is March, when the meeting will be on the 24th. Please make a note in your diaries.**

In addition to the Tauranga General Meetings you are always welcome to attend those at Katikati, which take place in The Hub on the second Wednesday of each month.

Kind regards,

*Raewyn Gallagher*

President U3A Tauranga

The digital Handbook is available now for reading online or to download on to your computer at [www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](http://www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz) It will be updated with new information three times a year.

## WHO'S SPEAKING AT OUR MARCH GENERAL MEETINGS?



**TAURANGA:** The main speaker at the General Meeting at the Yacht Club, Sulphur Point, on **Friday, 24 March** (9.45am for 10am), will be Fiona George of the Red Cross. Fiona (*pictured left*) is a former bank manager who has found her passion in the not-for-profit sector. She is proud to be part of the largest humanitarian organisation in the world. She will tell us about the work the Red Cross does in New Zealand and overseas, wherever help is needed.

**KATIKATI:** The main speaker at the General Meeting on **Wednesday, 8 March** (10am), at the Community Hub next to the Library, will be Paula Gaelic, Curator and Manager of the Western Bay Museum. Paula (*pictured right*) will be sharing stories about the museum and its collection of historical treasures.



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## Life membership for Anne

OUTGOING President Anne Withy was appointed a Life Member of U3A Tauranga in appreciation of her service. Incoming President Raewyn Gallagher thanked Anne for her professionalism and “the wonderful job she has done over the last two years”.



## EXECUTIVE OF 2022



**EXECUTIVE OF 2023** The full list of members of the new Executive appears on the back page of this Newsletter. (Not all members were present for the photographs.)



AGM pictures by Colin Basire and Glenne Findon

# Alf lets us in on showbiz secrets

SECRETS of stage and screen were spilled by **Alf Weston**, the hugely entertaining speaker at February's Annual General Meeting.

With the aid of detailed models of theatre sets and a slick presentation of slides by his wife Cherie, Alf took his captivated audience on a journey through his career in plays, musicals, ballet, opera and TV productions.

As a costume designer, Alf explained: "You are absolutely responsible for everybody who puts a foot on the stage or in front of the camera." That included the entire look – hat, clothes, jewellery and accessories.

"Even the angle at which a hat is worn reflects a little bit of your personality," Alf said. His professional career took off in 1974, when he started working with TVNZ on a "mockumentary" about the life of pioneering Kiwi aviator Richard Pearse. That led to *Hunter's Gold* in 1976, a TV series set in the Otago goldfields of the 1860s. Other career highlights included designing costumes and sets for a series of musicals – including *Les Misérables* and costumes for Cole Porter's *Anything Goes*. In 1996, Alf became costume supervisor for the Royal New Zealand Ballet and in 2006 he began designing lavish garments for the stars of Opera Australia, based in Sydney's famous Opera House.



*Alf illustrates a point about theatre set design using a scale model.*

## Waist not, want not

THE fascinating world of corsetry was covered as Alf described how the style of the restrictive under-garments for women had changed over the decades. Men didn't escape either, the latest "waist shaper" being available online for \$42.47. "That's cheaper than going to the gym, boys," joked Alf. He also explained that the theatrical good luck wish "break a leg" came about in the early days of English theatre when unhappy audiences would disrupt a show by throwing rotten fruit. To "break" or "bend" a leg meant the actor had lasted long enough on stage to take a final bow.



*From left: 1534 iron and leather; French 1620s; 1860s; 1880s; waist shaper (online \$42.47).*

# Katikati gives numbers a boost



*Anne delivers her Annual Report.*

DELIVERING her Annual Report for 2022, outgoing President **Anne Withy** said the final year-end membership figure of 949 was a drop of 32 on the previous year. Factors that had a bearing on the lower figure were the establishment of Beachside as an autonomous U3A, deaths, resignations, failure to renew, and Covid. However, one significant positive influence on the figures was the establishment of U3A activities in **Katikati**. Of 167 new members who joined U3A Tauranga last year, 100 were from the wider Katikati area. Anne praised the Katikati subcommittee for doing an excellent job, while retaining their Western Bay identity. “I congratulate these people who recognised the need and took the initiative to act,” she said. On the subject of **finance**, Anne said the impact of the drop in membership on income had been anticipated. “Hence our budgets were tight from the beginning of the year and regularly reviewed.”

Anne told the meeting that **Coordinators** had been having a busy year. “They supported groups in whatever ways were required, forming new groups, closing others as well as assisting with the sometimes difficult task of finding new Conveners.” She added: “We cannot mention groups without acknowledging the crucial role filled by **Conveners and Co-conveners**. I extend my personal thanks to you all and the thanks of the U3A Executive. Without you, groups would not function, and without groups would we have a U3A?”

Turning to **General Meetings**, Anne said: “Our Speaker organising team arranged an excellent selection of informative and entertaining speakers, and we also had some outstanding short presentations from our own members. Unfortunately, numbers attending the General Meetings were lower than usual, with Covid being largely responsible. The Executive last week changed our stance on the wearing of masks at General Meetings. This is no longer compulsory, but we continue to encourage you to be considerate of those whose health status is compromised.”

On **other achievements and activities**, the policies and guidelines reviewed and updated during the year were: The Privacy Policy, Information Systems Policy, Health and Safety Policy, and Travel Reimbursement Guidelines. Figures showed a very pleasing increase in the use of the website. A **Zoom** licence was purchased early in the year and made available to groups. Spelling out the advantages of the platform, Anne said groups could use Zoom to ensure any health compromised members are able to participate from the safety of their home; if Covid is rampant all members could meet safely using Zoom; outside experts can present online for the benefit of our members; and group numbers are not restricted by venue size. **Increasing digitisation** meant the Application for Membership Form and the Skills Questionnaire for new members could now be filled out online. “And most important of all, the digital version of the 2023 Handbook can be downloaded on to your computer and can be updated at intervals during the year.” Anne added: “I extend my personal thanks to each and every one of the people who give of their talents so generously and without fanfare. Thank you.” She concluded: “Finally, thank you for the privilege of leading you for the last two years.”

[See also General News, Page 19](#)

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## INTRODUCING OUR NEW PRESIDENT

Raewyn Gallagher has taken over the reins as President of U3A Tauranga after Anne Withy's two-year term ended at the February AGM. Here she tells us something about herself, her varied career in the hospitality business, and her interests.

# Around the world, hotel by hotel

**I** WAS born, raised and schooled in Tauranga. Following my years at Tauranga Girls' College, I attended the University of Otago and Auckland University. I gained a Home Science Diploma concentrating on Food Service and Nutrition and a Commerce Degree in Management. I also undertook foreign language courses in Spain and France.

On completion of my studies, I went overseas to Asia and then Europe. At 50 years of age, I returned to university to study for a post-graduate degree in Project Management. I needed to upgrade my skills to ensure I was

competitive in the market, as I was a business owner with a company fitting out new hotels or refurbishing existing hotels. It was a very energising experience!

In Europe I worked in London, Paris, Athens and Madrid, where I was also able to improve my language skills. I worked for the Medical Research Council on nutrition-based projects. I also worked for a merchant banker in Spain and a shipping magnate in Greece, organising their business meetings with English-speaking clients.

During these years I changed careers and entered the hotel industry. I worked firstly in management then later specialised in trouble shooting, refurbishment of existing properties or the fit-out of new properties. My work took me to Spain, France, the UK, the US, Australia and New Zealand. I worked for some of the leading hotel companies at that time: Sheraton, Trusthouse Forte, Melia, IHG and IRM.

I continued this work until the Global Financial Crisis in 2008, then diversified into staging homes for sale or decluttering existing homes of people who were moving into smaller homes or retirement villages. Seven years ago, I retired. I was interested in the group choice available in U3A Tauranga, so I joined in 2016. I had previously been a member elsewhere. I am a member of International Affairs, a Memoir writing group and for several years I was in a Spanish Language group when it was being offered. [Return to Page 2 index](#)



# A tale of The Dig and The Rim

I HAVE just been watching again that wonderful Netflix film *The Dig*. Have you seen it? It tells the story of how Elizabeth Pretty (played by Carey Mulligan), a landowner in the English county of Suffolk, hired the amateur archaeologist Basil Brown (Ralph Fiennes) to excavate several large burial mounds on her property. The dig began in 1939, as the



*The Sutton Hoo helmet (top) and a Morris Minor light assembly.*

monstrous shadow of world war loomed over Britain. The excavation led to the discovery of the Sutton Hoo Hoard, one of the most astonishing treasure troves ever unearthed in Britain. Many years ago, I saw the collection in the British Museum. Complete with its magnificent reconstructed war helmet, the display could only be described as breathtaking.

Which brings me to my own brief archaeological experience. I told you last time about my mate John in England. Being the polymath he was, John once somehow got involved in a dig and dragged me along. They were keen to have all the volunteers they could get. There are two types of job on a dig site. One is shovelling heaps of topsoil (known as “spoil”) in order to get at the interesting stuff. The other is when you are entrusted to scratch away with a trowel. We followed a rota. What you quickly learn is that where an object is found can be as significant as the thing itself. Protocol when something is uncovered is to stop scratching and call out “Find!” The dig director then strides over to inspect the object before it goes into the “finds box” to be washed and carefully labelled.

On one occasion, while tasked with removing spoil, I came across a little chrome-plated rim, the sort of thing that would have surrounded the indicator light on a Morris Minor. John, meanwhile, was trowelling elsewhere on the site. Deciding to play a merry little joke on my pal, when morning teatime came and everyone traipsed off to the site hut for a cuppa, I secreted said artefact under a veneer of soil where he had been working. After the break, I was amused to hear a commotion break out, with the dig director loudly insisting: “You’re working in a 16th-Century layer of soil! You can’t possibly have found a 20th-Century motor car part there!” My mate must have seen me chuckling because he rumbled what had happened and planted the chrome rim back for me to find when I was trowelling the next day. For years after that, whenever we visited each other’s house, the challenge was for whoever possessed “The Rim” at that time to plant it somewhere on the other’s property where it would not be discovered until after the planter had departed. The game was great fun ... though I doubt *The Rim* will ever make a gripping sequel to *The Dig*.

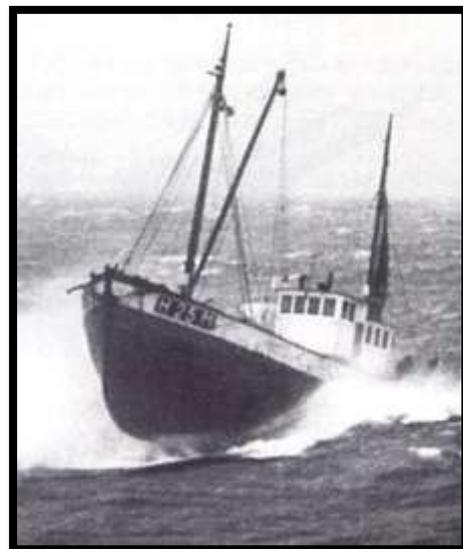
*Paul Chapman*

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# ‘Bus’ that helped beat the Nazis

By JEAN GARMONSWAY

ON MY recent holiday to the Shetland Islands, off the north coast of Scotland, I learnt of the “Shetland Bus”. This particular bus was not the kind we would normally think of as a mode of transport to get from place to place along our roads. The “Shetland Bus” was the name given to a clandestine special operations group that made a permanent link between Shetland, Scotland, and German-occupied Norway. From mid-1941 until the end of the war it operated several vessels, mostly Norwegian fishing boats. The Germans launched their invasion of Norway on 9 April 1940 and controlled most of the country by the beginning of May. The occupation of Norway prompted a number of Norwegians to escape and make landfall in the Orkney and Shetland Islands.



*Rough seas were the norm.*

Only a few weeks after the occupation began, the first boats of an “armada” of fishing vessels and other craft began to arrive in Shetland. Many of them made several journeys across the North Sea carrying refugees. The boats were of many types and shapes, but most of those later used as the “Shetland Bus” were from 50-70ft (15-21m), with two masts and equipped with a 30-70 hp single-cylinder semi-diesel engine, which made a characteristic “tonk-tonk” sound. They had a maximum speed of 9 knots (17 kmh). These engines were unusual and spare parts were not available in Britain, but that was easily solved. Norway’s largest engine factory, Wichmann Diesel, at the time under German control, was located at Bømlo, near Bergen. The agents in the area received messages about which parts were needed, workers in the factory – many of them active members of the Resistance Movement – smuggled them out, and the parts were sent to Shetland with the next “Bus”. There was a real fear that Germany would invade the Shetlands and use the islands as a “springboard” into mainland UK. In order to rally the conquered peoples of occupied Europe in a guerrilla war against Nazi Germany, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill authorised the formation of the Special Operations Executive under the Minister of Economic Warfare, Hugh Dalton. One of the SOE’s many clandestine organisations was the Norwegian Naval Independent Unit, to be based in the Shetlands. It became better known by its nickname: the “Shetland Bus”. Its twofold purpose was the transport of Norwegian agents to and from Norway, and the rescue of individuals facing arrest by the Nazis. Its most famous operator, Lt Cmdr Leif Andreas Larsen, nicknamed “Shetlands Larsen,” would become the most highly decorated Allied naval officer in the war.

[\*Continued on Page 10\*](#)

## 'Bus' that helped beat the Nazis

*Continued from Page 9*

Fishing boats were used at first but, after some losses, it was decided that faster vessels were necessary. On 26 October 1943, the US Navy officially transferred the submarine chasers *Hitra*, *Vigra* and *Hessa* to the "Shetland Bus" operation. These craft were capable of a top speed



*The memorial at Scalloway was built using stones from places where each of the 44 crewmen who died on "Bus" missions came from.*



of 22 knots (41 kmh), with a normal cruising speed of 17 knots (31 kmh). When the submarine chasers arrived, the group became an official part of the Royal Norwegian Navy. They carried out more than 100 tours to Norway, with no loss of men or ships. Using the modified fishing trawlers and later the submarine chasers, and manned by all-volunteer crews of Norwegian fishermen and sailors, the "Shetland Bus" was a joint effort of the SOE, the British Admiralty's Naval Intelligence, and the Military Intelligence Service of Norway's government in exile. The men put in charge of organising the group were a British Army officer, Major Leslie Mitchell, and his assistant Lieutenant David Howarth, RNVR. Upon their arrival in Shetland they commandeered Flemington House (later named "Kergord") in Weisdale for their headquarters and found a perfect location in Lunna Ness, north of Lerwick, from which the boats could operate. Lunna Ness had a sheltered harbour and a small population who were not too curious about what was going on. Lunna House was used as accommodation for the boat crews. Although these crossings were, by their nature, carried out in a manner to avoid enemy contact, the crews managed to equip the boats with several concealed weapons. David Howarth and a Norwegian seaman named Per Blystad invented many of these constructions. The most ingenious was a concrete-lined oil drum bolted to the deck. When the removable lid was lifted, a pair of ready-loaded Lewis guns were telescoped into firing position, with the aid of a counterweight below decks. A steel shield came up to protect the gunner. The first "Shetland Bus" mission, the round-trip transport of an agent to Bergen, was launched on 30 August, 1941. Its successful completion was followed by a rescue of Norwegian pilots and the delivery of two SOE agents. From August 1941 until the end of the war in May 1945, the "Shetland Bus" conducted more than 150 missions, transporting to Norway 192 agents and 383 tons of weapons and supplies, and rescuing 373 Norwegians. A total of 44 men lost their lives during the "Shetland Bus", some of whom are buried in Shetland at Lunna Kirk in Lunna Ness. The bond created has lasted, with lifelong friendships being established. I recommend: [The Shetland Bus \(archive.org\)](https://archive.org); [The Shetland Bus Documentary - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...); [The Shetland Bus - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...); [The Shetland Bus Story - Scalloway Museum](https://www.shetlandbus.org)

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# Sign on to learn a new culture

OVER the past couple of years, you have probably noticed the use of Sign Language on television more than ever before. New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) is the language of the deaf community in Aotearoa and is also one of our three official languages, along with Te Reo Māori and English. NZSL is not just about using signs. It is about understanding the culture of the deaf community, which is as real and rich as the language itself. If there is enough interest, we can set about finding a suitable tutor and starting a U3A Tauranga group. So please register your interest with Jan Patterson [021 817 378](tel:021817378) or Coordinator Jan Holden [021 109 9848](tel:0211099848).



Please / Koa      Thank you / Ngā mihī

New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) is essential for members of New Zealand's deaf community and those linked with the community, including hearing people who have deaf relatives or interpreters who work with deaf people. NZSL, which is used by several thousand deaf people has a distinct vocabulary and grammar of its own. The NZSL online dictionary offers short videos to help people learning the language. Go to <https://www.nzsl.nz> and type in the word or expression you wish to see demonstrated. You can also learn by topic and there is a Word of the Day feature to stretch your vocabulary.



## ‘Like juggling and doing gym’

YOU can't miss Alan Wendt. He's the big bloke who appeared at former Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern's side through those regular press conferences at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. Alan is the first interpreter to be regularly employed by a New Zealand leader. In an interview with Britain's *Guardian*, he told how demanding he found interpreting while the press pack were firing questions. "It's a bit like juggling while doing gymnastics, cognitively," he said. He also explained the importance of facial expressions while using Sign Language. Go to: ['Like juggling and doing gym': life as Ardern's sign language interpreter | New Zealand | The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/new-zealand/2020/07/27/alan-wendt-sign-language-interpretation-jacinda-ardern)



U3A Tauranga members are a musical lot and we are fortunate to have a wide range of related groups to suit just about every taste and genre. Over the next five pages we look at what's on offer for listeners and performers who have a song in their heart.



## Keeping in tune with the times

WE IN **Classical Music Lovers A** are fortunate to have a very stable group of 13 members, 10 of whom meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Three members attend once a month due to other U3A commitments.

Members take turns in hosting with their music programme and providing afternoon tea. As well as enjoying each other's company, it is a great way of hearing both popular classics and learning about composers and music we don't know. The host prepares notes and discussion points on the composers and musicians, so it is a good learning forum which expands our range of musical knowledge and interests.

It is interesting how the media used has changed over the years. Two of our members each have an extensive library of vinyl records, dating way back, which they sometimes play. But we have moved from largely CDs to a predominance of the likes of YouTube, watched via television. It is amazing what there is on YouTube.

The picture above was taken at our 2022 Christmas soiree, where we shared a lunch and then snippets of favourite music from everyone. Rosemary Heath has a set of lovely note bells and she coached and led us through our own music making. It was great fun.

The U3A website has detail on the programmes.

**Ross Henderson, Convener** 022 017 6369



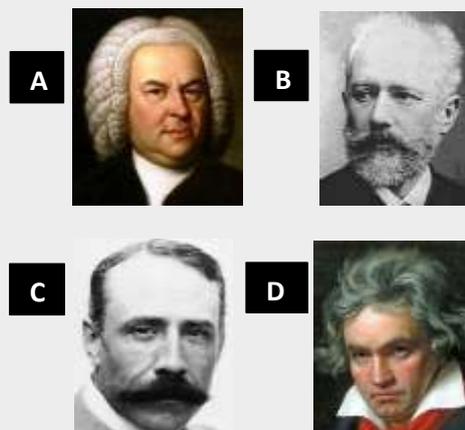
## WHO'S TOP OF THE CLASSICAL POPS?

ROSS Henderson has compiled this list of the composers whose works **Classical Music Lovers A** have listened to most over the past six years. In total, the group have featured 187 composers in more than 526 programme items and the clear winner is ... Ludwig! The group's top 15 composers, with the number of times they have featured, are:

<b>BEETHOVEN</b> Ludwig van (1770 - 1827)	33
<b>MOZART</b> Wolfgang Amadeus (1756 - 1791)	24
<b>BACH</b> Johann Sebastian (1685 - 1750)	23
<b>SCHUBERT</b> Franz (1797 - 1828)	15
<b>TCHAIKOVSKY</b> Pyotr Ilyich (1840 - 1893)	15
<b>ELGAR</b> Sir Edward William (1857 - 1934)	13
<b>SCHUMANN</b> Robert (1810 - 1856)	13
<b>SAINT-SAENS</b> Camille (1835 - 1921)	12
<b>SIBELIUS</b> Jean (1865 - 1957)	12
<b>VIVALDI</b> Antonio (1678 - 1741)	12
<b>BRAHMS</b> Johannes (1833 - 1897)	11
<b>DVORAK</b> Antonin Leopold (1841 - 1904)	10
<b>PROKOFIEV</b> Sergei (1835 - 1921)	10
<b>HANDEL</b> George Frederic (1685 - 1759)	8
<b>MENDELSSOHN</b> Felix (1809 - 1847)	8

### QUICK QUIZ: NAME THE COMPOSER

[Answers on Page 16](#)



## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD



Chalium Poppy (above) and Opus Orchestra

## Choral concert to celebrate the Easter story

POPULAR baritone Chalium Poppy and members of the Tauranga Civic Choir – a number of whom are also members of U3A Tauranga – will be joining the Opus Orchestra to present a concert in Baycourt's Addison Theatre on Saturday, 18 March. The concert, which starts at 7.30pm, will have an Easter theme, including Vaughan Williams' deeply moving *Mystical Songs* and Waikato composer David Griffith's *Parable of the Vineyard*, with Chalium as soloist. For tickets: [Opus Orchestra Let Your Spirit Fly tickets](#) | [Tours and Events](#) | [Ticketek New Zealand](#)



## Mozart and big-screen magic

**CLASSICAL Music Lovers B** started in April 2022 with eight members and has grown rapidly to a membership of 22. We meet every second and fourth Thursday (February to November) and are very fortunate to be able to use the Theatre at Bethlehem Shores Retirement Village. This is a full-size cinema with 50 very comfortable seats, a large screen and a high quality sound system. So we don't just listen to music – we watch it, and become fully immersed in the magnificent recordings and productions.

Each session usually has a theme, sometimes quite topical. For example, we listened to a selection of the Queen's 70th Jubilee Music and, on another occasion, we were taken through the development of Mozart's music, including clips from the award-winning film *Amadeus*. We have been introduced to some very young talented musicians, both as performers and composers, and have watched some lovely music by famous, and somewhat elderly, conductors and performers.

We have also extended our knowledge and understanding of the techniques of different soloists and instruments. In November, we heard a very interesting 30-minute video of the story of how Handel came to write his *Messiah*, with musical extracts performed by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Like all good concerts, we always start with a rousing overture!

We have had some amusing discussions on various styles of conducting, and a few clips of very unusual performances of well-known musical items.

Our focus is always on the enjoyment and appreciation of quality classical music, and we are keen to ensure that there is variety in each of our meetings.

New members are always welcome. Just come along and see if it suits you.

**Vaughan Chetwynd, Convener** 0275 657 724



## Music Appreciation



Members take turns to arrange a programme for meetings, using mainly CDs or DVDs. All that is needed is a love of classical music. The group meet at members' homes on the third Monday of the month, 1.30-3.30pm. Programmes can be held in the home of someone who has suitable equipment if need be. Convener is Betty Bishop [\(07\) 544 6195](tel:075446195).

## My Music – Anything Goes

This group enjoy any style of music, with members taking turns to prepare a programme of their choice and explain why they enjoy the music selected. The group meet at members' homes in Tauranga and Papamoa on the third Thursday of the month, 1.30-4pm. Convener TBA, meanwhile contact Judy Elms, [\(07\) 276 2277](tel:072762277).

## Ballet Appreciation



This group will appeal to lovers of both traditional and modern ballet, which members view on DVD. They meet at Hairini on the first Wednesday of the month, starting at 1pm. Convener is Margaret Osbourn [\(07\) 544 3865](tel:075443865).

## Opera Appreciation

One person chooses the opera and each member researches the work and the artists prior to viewing. Members discuss the performance. The group meet at members' homes on the second Tuesday, 1-4pm. Convener is Rob Heath [\(07\) 574 6468](tel:075746468) but contact Co-convener Kathleen Fraser regarding membership on [022 187 8588](tel:0221878588).



## Jazz and Blues Appreciation



The aim of the group is to listen to, appreciate and learn about jazz and jazz artists past and present. Members are invited to give a short presentation from time to time on a particular genre or artist of their choosing. The Convener has an excellent AV set-up for presenting sessions at her Papamoa home. The group meet in Papamoa on the fourth Friday of the month, 1-3.30pm. Convener is Maureen (Mo) Tatler [\(07\) 575 7637](tel:075757637), Co-convener is Brian Williams [\(07\) 572 2553](tel:075722553).

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## Acoustic Music Performers Group

This group is for those reasonably accomplished in ukulele, banjo, guitar or mandolin. The main emphasis is on having fun at the jams. They meet at St Enoch's Church, 16th Avenue, every Tuesday, 1.15-3.30pm. Convener is Reg Clothier [022 011 4776](tel:0220114776), Co-conveners are Chris Ingram [07\) 578 3606](tel:075783606) and Mick Christeller [027 641 3150](tel:0276413150). There is a weekly charge of \$3 to cover costs.

## Oceanside Music Group



OMG made quite a splash last year when they staged a Sixties revival (*pictured*). They meet at Mount Maunganui RSA on the second and fourth Tuesdays, 10am-12 noon. Convener is Alan Read [027 477 3284](tel:0274773284), Co-conveners Linda Tocker [021 041 3552](tel:0210413552).

## Ukulele Group

One of U3A Tauranga's most popular groups, they provide members who have some experience in playing the ukulele with the opportunity to meet for a weekly jam session. Venue is the BOP Vintage Car Club, 29 Cliff Road, every Monday from 1.30-3.30pm. Convener is June Pharo [07\) 542 3114](tel:075423114). [Return to Page 2 index](#)



## Singing for Joy

Leading the sing-along (*pictured*) at U3A Tauranga's Election Meeting in November, Convener Judith Keys [07\) 579 1935](tel:075791935) invited all our members to join in the group's fun sessions. They meet in the Community Hall, Elizabeth Street West, on the first and third Tuesdays, 1-3pm. There is a charge of \$3 to cover costs.



**QUICK QUIZ ANSWERS:** A. J S Bach; B. Tchaikovsky; C. Elgar; D. Beethoven

# Scrabble? Why, it's the very last word in fun

THE **Scrabble** group meet on the first and third Mondays of the month from 1.30-3.30pm.

The venue is the very welcoming and comfortable Raft Café, 65 Chapel Street, with plenty of off-street parking. Jolly good coffee, tea or cold drinks are available to purchase, along with delicious treats for eating.

We are a very friendly group who enjoy a laugh and some good conversation, together with plenty of deep-thinking Scrabble moves. Scrabble dictionaries and two and three word lists are provided to help keep the brain churning and the game moving. We are non-competitive. However, everyone enjoys a win from time to time! We currently have vacancies and would welcome new members.

Our group convener is the friendly Lynne Hewson.

Lynne can be contacted by calling her on [021 968 022](tel:021968022).

Oh, and chocolates are always available for those who like to indulge ... **Gail Moore**

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# Discount travel is just the ticket

POST Covid many of us have the travel bug again and the **Travel** group has started in Omokoroa to cater for those with wanderlust. Meeting once a month, members and invited speakers talk to the group on a variety of travel-related topics and share their own experiences – the good, the bad and the ugly! There are tips and tricks about travel, airports, the best travel agents, how to get the best deals and what to look out for when booking airfares.

The February meeting focused on Shanghai, China, a very sophisticated, wealthy and well-planned city. An eclectic mix of the very old and very new, Shanghai has car parks that are underneath green spaces – and the trains are underground too. All the brand name shops are there, such as Nike, Louis Vitton, Lego and M&M, and they even have a Disneyland. But it's "not for the faint hearted" says Convenor Chris Subritzky. With a population of around 28 million – the third most populous city in the world – there are just people everywhere!

Only five attended this inaugural meeting of the group, but it was the day after the cyclone and some roads were still unsafe, so there's plenty of opportunity for others to join. In addition to the monthly meetings, group members will have the opportunity to travel to



*Shanghai is a megalopolis with 28 million people.*



*Traditional temples contrast with modernity.*

one pre-planned overseas destination and one New Zealand destination every year, as part of the group, at discounted prices. The 2023 overseas trip will be to Canada in September, taking in Vancouver, Winnipeg and the Haliburton Highlands, including Toronto, Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec City. If are interested in the group, contact Chris on [021 255 6415](tel:0212556415) or email

[christine.subritzky@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:christine.subritzky@yahoo.co.nz)

## GENERAL NEWS

### AGM MEET & GREET: Health Improvement



**EXPO TIME:** U3A Tauranga are taking a stall at the Seniors & Travel Expo over the weekend of 18-19 March. The event runs at Baypark from 10am-3pm each day and entry is free. The aim is to publicise the benefits of membership for retirees.

**SIGNING OFF:** Jean Garmonsway has retired from the Executive after serving for 10 years. Her offices included President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President and Group Coordinator. Thanks, Jean!

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## CONVENERS YOUR NEWSLETTER NEEDS



# YOU!

Our members often tell us how much they enjoy reading this bi-monthly Newsletter, which is great to know. But the content can only ever be as good as you make it.

**Conveners**, please send in your articles and pictures ... or just drop us a line and tell us a little about what your group has been up to. You can contact Paul Chapman, the Editor, by emailing [newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

*We look forward to hearing from you!*

### WE ARE LOOKING FOR A TREASURER

#### Do you like working with figures?

We are looking for a **Treasurer** to work with the U3A Executive

#### Skills required:

Administrative experience in financial systems.  
A basic knowledge of Excel.  
Knowledge of Xero an advantage but not a necessity.  
Communication skills.  
Team Player.

#### We will provide:

Training, including a comprehensive manual prepared by the outgoing Treasurer.  
Strong support while learning our systems.  
Ongoing support when required.

#### Responsibilities:

Routinely processing subscriptions received.  
Accounts payable.  
Report monthly to Executive.  
Other small ad hoc tasks from time to time.

If you would like to learn more about the role, please contact:  
Raewyn Gallagher, Elizabeth Reeves, Anne Withy, or any member of the Executive.

You would be working with an amazing group of people.

**We would love you to join us!**

**New Coordinators:** Jan Holden is the new Coordinator for I2P groups and Margaret Down for R2Z groups.

**Proposed new groups**

New Zealand Sign Language, see article on [Page 11](#).

**Groups closed:** Rummikub 1, Mini Hikes 3 (no Convener).

**Groups with vacancies:**

Buildings & Cities would like 3-4 new members. Rod McDiarmid 021 973 935, Joan Gooch 021 022 32817	French Group 2 Intermediate. Lise Claiborne 021 743 093, Kathleen Fraser 022 187 8588
Café Book Lovers B. Pat Goldstiver 07 575 3589	Oceanside Music Group has limited vacancies. Linda Tocker 021 041 3552
Classical Music Lovers B. Vaughan Chetwynd 0275 657 724	Photo Enhancing Group has two vacancies. Richard Thompson 021 827 471
Current Events A. Two vacancies. Rita Carter 07 576 8113	Travel
Current Events D. Angela Scott 07 576 9847	Rummikub 2
Te Reo Maori 1	Scrabble
Video Group	History A
Dining Group 1 and Dining Group 5	Garden Ramblers 2, Anne James

**New Conveners needed**

**My Music:** Judy Elms 07 576 2277 is stepping down. She is actively looking for someone to take over her role and would like to see the group grow.

**Lone Rangers 1:** Sheena Spittles is stepping down. Please call her to talk through the role of a Convener if you may be interested. 07 544 7039.

**Rialto 1:** Experience not necessary as the previous Convener is available to train anyone. If a Convener cannot be found sadly this active group will be closed. Co-convening is often a good solution. Ring the Coordinator for R2Z re this position. *Co-conveners for groups are always welcomed and this arrangement often works very well.*

**Group changes**

**French Group 2 Intermediate,** Chantal Taylor-Bizet is stepping down as Convener and Lise Claiborne 021 743 093 and Kathleen Fraser 022 187 8588 will be Co-conveners.

**Group News**

**Oceanside Music Group** recently had a ballot and decisively supported the decision that the group stay within the auspices of Tauranga U3A. Over summer OMG will have some of their rehearsals outdoors (weather permitting).

**Memoir Writing** will not start until April/May as the Convener is away. Those who have enrolled are aware of Glenne’s absence and will be contacted re the start date.

**Te Reo 2** delayed start due to difficulty finding a suitable tutor. All people on the waiting list will be informed when this group will start.

5 February 2023

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# One person making a difference

By **STEPHANIE NORRIE**

AT THE February General Meeting of U3A Katikati we were treated to an inspiring address by **Denise Arnold**, who founded the Cambodia Charitable Trust – an independent, volunteer driven organisation which aims to help children in Cambodia face brighter futures through education.

Denise is a partner in the Tauranga firm of Lyon, O’Neale and Arnold, working in property, trusts, estate planning and business law. She was driven to establish the trust after an awakening realisation to the levels of deprivation and vulnerability to exploitation for children in rural Cambodia. She believes passionately in the power of education to transform their lives and the work of the trust has seen a remarkable improvement in the statistics for children completing primary level education and



*Denise Arnold chats with students in a Cambodian classroom.*

going on to further study. Research tells us that educating girls, in particular, can improve outcomes for the whole community, thereby helping to break the poverty cycle.

A video at the start of Denise’s presentation helped set the scene by giving a picture of the schooling conditions in rural Cambodia, with a glimpse into the background of political and social upheaval experienced by the people in relatively recent times. She spoke about the serious health issues because of a lack of basic sanitation and access to clean water – and the trust’s success in helping to ameliorate these situations.

More recently the trust is turning its attention to lifting the quality of teaching and has earned the respect and confidence of Cambodian politicians in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, who are keen to see the work of the trust extended. Starting with two schools in 2008, the trust now supports 24 schools with more than 10,000 students, 16 teacher training colleges with 1400 trainee teachers, numerous community development programmes and more than 400 sponsored children, mainly girls.

Denise’s vision is a long-term one with a focus on early intervention to change lives in the whole community for the better, rather than being “the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff”. Her presentation reminded us that, when the problems of the world seem overwhelming, an individual can make a difference. For further information about the trust go to [DENISE ARNOLD – Cambodia Charitable Trust \(cctnz.org.nz\)](http://cctnz.org.nz)

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To enquire about U3A in Katikati, contact Pam Mazoyer at [pamkapiti@gmail.com](mailto:pamkapiti@gmail.com)

## WONDERS OF THE WEB



### FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD

A WONDERFUL resource for would-be chefs seeking expert guidance is available free of charge, courtesy of the good old Beeb. The BBC Good Food website offers dropdown lists under headings such as Recipes, How To, Health, Inspiration and Reviews (including kitchen items such as air fryers), as well as a wide array of food-related ideas and suggestions.

Go to:

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com>

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## RECIPE CORNER



### YUMMY CORN FRITTERS

#### You will need:

1 x 420g can whole kernel sweetcorn, drained but reserve the liquid;  
1 cup plain flour/or gluten free flour if preferred; 1 tsp baking powder/or gluten free; 2 lightly beaten eggs; salt and pepper; 1-2 tsp sweet chilli sauce (to taste); ½ cup reserved corn liquid or milk; oil for frying

#### Method:

Gently combine all ingredients to form a thick batter. Cook heaped tablespoonfuls in a hot, greased pan until browned on first side with bubbles forming. Flip over to complete cooking. Keep warm whilst cooking the rest of the fritters. Serve with a side salad or with grilled bacon and maple syrup. Makes about 12.

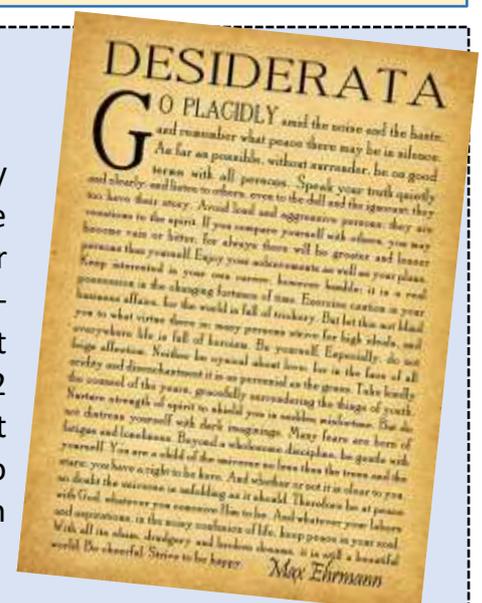
Do you have a simple, easy recipe to share with our members? Please email it to:



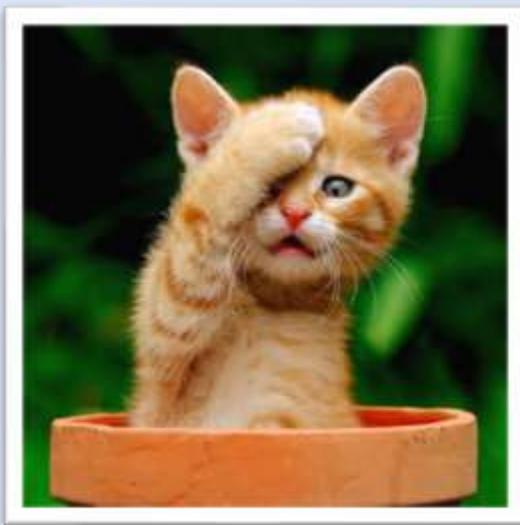
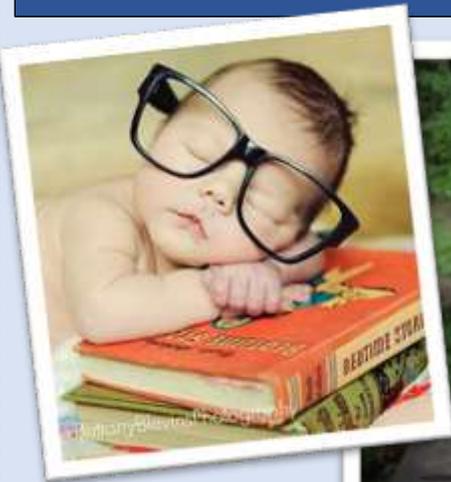
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## WHAT WAS ...? THE DESIDERATA

IF YOU had your heyday in the 1960s-70s you will probably remember the *Desiderata*. Beginning “Go placidly amid the noise and haste...” it caught on during those decades as a popular poster in the bedrooms and living rooms of teens and twenty-somethings, with its philosophical advice on taking the stress out of life. Urban legend had it that the prose poem dated from 1642 and was found in “Old St Paul’s Church in Baltimore”. In fact, it was the work of Max Ehrmann of Terre Haute, Indiana, who wrote it in the 1920s. He sent it to friends as a Christmas card in 1933 and it became more widely distributed in World War II.



## WHAT A SHOT! A gallery of pictures to make you smile



### QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Australia; 2. Year of the Rabbit; 3. 270; 4. Giacomo Puccini; 5. a) Mercury; 6. b) Mexico; 7. Louisa May Alcott; 8. Sn (from the Latin *Stanium*); 9. Howard Carter; 10. Kate Sheppard [Return to Page 2 index](#)

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**SHORT TALK ORGANISER:** TBA

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**Just a thought:** You know how some packages say: "Open Here". What do you do if it says: "Open Elsewhere"?

## **THE NEXT ISSUE**

**May-June 2023**

Deadline for contributions is 24 April 2023

We welcome your articles and pictures, please email to [newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

Our website is updated regularly – remember to check [www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](http://www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)