



U3A Tauranga Inc.

NEWSLETTER May 2011



PO Box 14453
TAURANGA 3143

www.u3atauranga.org.nz



Hello from Angela Dold, our 2011 Vice President

When asked if I'd put my name forward for Vice-President, I wasn't expecting it. On the committee, I was the 'Publicity person'. I ummed and aahed (as we all do when cornered) and after thinking "what have I got myself into?" I agreed.

I hesitated slightly because I'd retired from teaching in 2008 and came to Tauranga to live a life of quiet reflection. I had dreams of sitting on a porch in the sun contemplating my navel (figuratively speaking, of course).

But somehow this didn't eventuate because I joined U3A! I became a member of History, Art Enrichment, Mah Jong, Singing for Joy and convener of the Creative Writing group. I don't have time to sit at home, never mind sit on an imaginary porch.

The word *retire* in the dictionary has words like *withdraw*, *recede*, *remove* describing it, with the most used phrase being *give up*.

U3A is an organisation that encourages us to use our mind, body and soul. Retirement? Who needs it? Never give up, never surrender, never say die!

Angela E. Dold

U3A Tga Inc. Executive Committee for 2011

President	Ken Gillan	572-3467	kenandbronwen@vodafone.co.nz
Vice-President	Angela Dold	571-6767	anndold@xtra.co.nz
Past President	Martin Dumbill	570-0463	mp.dumbill@xtra.co.nz
Treasurer	Peter Benson	570-0570	peterigbenson@yahoo.com.au
Secretary	Sheila Forrest	544-4043	sjforrest@xtra.co.nz
Groups A to F	Thelma Cane	574-6222	thelmacane@xtra.co.nz
Groups G to Z	Monica Cox	579-3616	celavonire@yahoo.com
Membership Sec.	Winn Tipping	570-2370	tipping11@slingshot.co.nz
Membership data	Don McMillan	579-4916	don.mcm@actrix.gen.nz
Publications	Janet Ormsby	576-5008	janet.L3@xtra.co.nz
Publicity	Val Green	543-4969	valgreen46@gmail.com
Meetings/Speakers	Ruby Cusworth	544-4898	rubyros@kinect.co.nz
Skills Register	Don McMillan	579-4916	don.mcm@actrix.gen.nz
Archives	Can you offer to fill this position? Just a <u>little</u> bit of time and space.		



Diana Grace Bergersen

6 January 1940 - 25th April 2011

There have been, and still are, some amazing people in U3A and Diana Bergersen shines amongst the best. Regrettably Diana lost her determined and courageous battle against cancer on April 25th 2011.

She was a person of many enviable qualities. Diana always remained positive, regardless of the situation and held a keen interest in people, nature and things in general. These interests covered a wide field. Diana took an active part in: Small Farmers to Forest and Bird, Green Party to SPELD, for example. Diana was always there when there was a real need for her leadership and practical secretarial and problem solving skills. Such was the case when U3A Tauranga Inc. needed a new secretary. She accepted the challenge and gave it her all over the next three years until her health deteriorated. Her commitment and efforts were gratefully appreciated by all.

She was an enthusiastic member of U3A Practical Art for a many years and again, when there was need for someone to relieve the pressure on the Convener, Diana stepped in. She actually only completed handing over the last of her duties ten days before she died.

Diana was widely traveled and on her return trained to be a teacher at Waikato Teachers College/University. Later Diana spent many years developing a small farm with husband John at Pyes Pa, where they won the prestigious Small Farmers of the Year. It was there they raised their family of three children, who, with two grandchildren, are now based in Australia.

U3A Tauranga Inc. will be forever grateful for Diana's contribution and she will remain in our memory as one special lady.

Contributed by her friend: Jean Crabtree

The next newsletter is due in the second week of July. If you want an article or advert in the July newsletter please forward it by **1st July**;
To Editor: Janet Ormsby phone 576-5008. Or email janet.L3@xtra.co.nz



Walking Group. The first walk (Feb 2011) was enjoyed by thirteen members and one visitor. The Te Waihou Walkway is extremely beautiful. The blue green colours of the water and the water weed were amazing. Other walks completed are The Twin Kauri Walk, Windows and Crown Track in Karangahake Gorge and Tui Domain Track in Te Aroha. This group meets on 1st & 3rd Wed each month. Ph Thelma 574-6222.

(This pic was omitted from the March newsletter to make room for the Christchurch news)

U3A Tauranga Inc. logo's



This is the Universal logo for U3A Associations.

This is the U3A Tauranga Inc. logo. It was designed by U3A Tga member Heather Ward who depicted Mount Maunganui, the sea and local ethnicity shown by the Waka .



As Editor of U3A Tauranga Inc. publications I use both logo's, where possible, to promote our Tauranga identity.

News from Your Executive Committee

General Meetings:

Held the 3rd Friday of each month from 10am to 12 noon. There are usually two speakers and morning tea provided. Wesley Church Hall, 13th Ave. Occasionally there will be talks from some of our 76 groups in place of a speaker. \$3 entrance fee. We welcome visitors and potential members.

May 20: 1st speaker: Talks from some of our **Group Conveners**

2nd speaker: **Gloria Oliver** of Civil Defence on her time in Christchurch

June 17: 1st speaker: **Mat Crawford.** Zespri, on the Future of Industry Needs.

2nd speaker: **Dr Sam Shay.** 'How we create our chronic diseases'

The U3A Art Auction For the Christchurch Earthquake Relief fund

Thank you to all who supported this function on 18th March. 89 works were sold.



Many people wrote messages of sympathy for the U3A Tauranga Inc. Book of Condolences for the People of Christchurch. If you would like to add your thoughts, please do so on an A4 sheet and either hand to your convener or bring to the General Meetings. These will be bound into a book after the June meeting and forwarded to the City of Christchurch along with funds from the Art Auction and other voluntary donations.

If you would like to donate funds for Christchurch through U3A Tauranga Inc. please contact our treasurer, Peter Benson, phone 570-0570, who will process donations from members.

Creative Crafts - are knitting scarves for Christchurch. They would welcome double knitting wool, or you may donate something 'warm' for these needy people. Contact: Margaret Douglas, phone 579-4429.

Handbook Updates and Corrections: (For 2011 Handbook)

The phone number for Convener Jean Needham is **543-4099**.

Ann Sligo has moved. New address and phone number: phone **579-9902**.

Email: a.sligo@xtra.co.nz. Address: 45b/13th Ave, Tga 3110.

Opera Group, New Convener. Judy Elms. Phone 576-2277.

Art Practical, Convener Marilyn Coverdale. Phone 575-5236.

Computer Support A, Jean Needham. Phone 543-4099.

Digital Photography Course for Beginners. Contact Thelma Cane, phone 574-6222.

(Don't contact Monica Cox).

French 2. Convener Ann Sligo. Phone 579-9902.

French Conversation. Convener Marion Arts. Phone 577-0799.

History B. Convener Jack Ingram. Phone 577-0229.

Pen Whisperers. Convener Ann French. Phone 576-5624.

Tramping. Convener Jean Garmonsway. Phone 579-1918.

Conveners notes from their groups

Current Events D. STAY MOBILE SAFELY. Have you heard about the new CarFit programme? Tauranga Age Concern is pleased to be administering this new programme in association with Lynette Hines, Tauranga and WBOP road safety coordinator. This is a **free** service for older drivers that involves a 12 point check to make sure you can drive safely. It is not a test! It looks at correct positioning of your seat belt, mirrors, steering wheel etc. We all come in different sizes and often the vehicle is not set correctly for you. You will be amazed at what you can learn. They also offer a Mature Driver Refresher Course. For more information and to book, phone Age Concern 578-2631, or Convener Angela Scott, phone 576-9847.

French Group 1. We are a group of mainly the same faces who have not lost our enthusiasm to learn this language. We have managed to retain our Tutor and do not intend to make any changes in that area. So we keep working towards a common goal, helping each other along the way and aiming for a fluency we have yet to acquire. Jan Keesing, Convener.

Jazz and Blues Appreciation 2. Our Jazz and Blues group meets on the second and fourth Thursday evening of each month in the Mount/Papamoa area. We meet in the evening simply because 'evening' time is more conducive to listening to jazz and blues. Our programme normally consists of two one hour discs of mixed jazz and blues, or we may view DVDs. The group consists of 12 members and we have two further places available. If you want to learn more contact Convener Ken Rose, phone 572-4472 or email kenrose@kinect.co.nz.

Philosophy Group 1. Often the question of what is and what is not philosophy arises in our group's discussions. But sharing and examining our thoughts on various topics and life experiences is always an integral part of our sessions. In studying the lives and philosophies of various philosophers, we are learning how to think and use reasoning to justify our beliefs, arguments etc.

The quote, *The unexamined life is not worth living*, has been attributed to Socrates. In our last session it was an interesting exercise to learn how philosophy gave Socrates the conviction to be able to have rational confidence in his arguments, backed up with reasoning, when faced with disapproval. Facilitating a group of such diverse thinkers is stimulating, challenging and lots of fun! Convener Judi Spencer phone 576-6872.

History A. History A is one of the foundation groups in U3A which started about 1995. It began studying Ancient Greece and moved on through Rome to British history and after the middle-ages it progressed about one century every year. In 2006 we reached the 1950's, so in 2007 we went back to Ancient Greece again. Currently we are in the Britain of the 14th Century. Some of the clashes of that

time influenced the formation of our parliamentary democracy, but there were also some fascinating characters well worth hearing about. The life and times of ordinary people in the middle-ages has been of great interest. What did they eat, wear or do in their daily lives? We take turns sharing what we have found out and we inspire in each other a love of what was of interest in the past. Our normal attendance is usually about 20 so we meet in the Wesley Lounge, but there is always room for a few more. If interested phone Convener Warwick Kingston-Smith, phone 578-4488.

The Beginners French Group. Please let us welcome you into the Beginners French Group. The faint-hearted may say *Learn French? Not on your life! I did it for a couple of years at High School and that was enough. I felt like a dork making all these funny sounds.* Well, good news, in our group we don't 'do French' the way you did it at school. We meet as a variegated and, I think, interesting group of adults, some of us making a standing start at French, others having had a bit more exposure to the language. One of the most enjoyable things about the group is that none of us is ever allowed to feel foolish in our imperfect efforts at speaking or writing French. Being all in the same boat we share the humour unselfconsciously. Our charming and able tutor, Noeline Taylor, empathises and promotes that friendly feeling. Two members whose facility in the language has improved over the last few months are leaving for an extended holiday, mainly in France of course! That makes it possible for a few new members to join the group. We meet every Wed. evening from 7pm to 9pm. Why not contact Convenor Ann Sligo phone 579-9902. a.sligo@xtra.co.nz. Thank you Bill Climie for this report.

TRAVEL CLUB. Meet on 4th Thursdays at the Wesley Church, 13th Ave, from 9.45am to 11.45am. Speakers for May are – Pip Lewis on Antarctica, and Katherine Stewart on Cruising South Pacific. If you are interested, contact Lesley Hollis, phone 575-6527. We welcome new members.

500 CARDS. Do you enjoy a game of 500 or would you like to learn? This group meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in each month at members' homes from 1-4pm. Informal, a lot of fun and a prize to the winner of the day! Currently membership stands at nine. We welcome new members, whether new to the game or an old hand'. Contact Jill Nutsford – phone 578-0930, jillnutsford@gmail.com.

***Happiness can be built only on virtue,
and must of necessity have truth for its foundation.***

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Help Needed Please

Computers:

1. Do you find Computer techno babble hard to understand?
2. Do you have a computer and don't know what to do with it?
3. Do you have some basic computer skills and are willing to help the above?

Some of our U3A members have computers and either cannot understand the jargon to help them get started or can't afford to pay the high cost of tuition. We are looking for: A. Members who **need help**, and B. Members who are willing to **give help**. If you have, even a small amount, of computer knowledge and are willing to give one-on-one help of basic computer tuition, we want to hear from you, please. Contact Thelma phone 574-6222, for help, or to offer help. A small fee may be charged for travel.

Singing for Joy: Our temporary pianist is capable and willing to help, but for this group, she wants to sing. If you could play the odd note to keep our aging voices in tune, we would love to hear from you. We meet the first and third Tuesday afternoons, 1pm to 3pm at the Community Hall, Elizabeth St West. The large room and piano are excellent facilities, where U3A members are welcome to come, anytime, for a feel-good-singing blow-out.

If you can play piano, guitar or uke, as a basic accompaniment, please contact convener Janet Ormsby phone 576-5008. janet.L3@xtra.co.nz.

Group Coordinators Updates

Video Editing. Needs members. Contact Warwick Kingston-Smith, 578-4488.

Latin. Needs new members, need to have studied some Latin.
Contact Phyl Shearer 578-7947

History B. Needs new members. Contact Martin Dumbill, 570-0463

Book Lovers 2. Have 2 vacancies. Meets 2nd Wed. 1.30pm – 3.30pm.
Convener, Diana O'Brien, 578-8973.

Suggested New Group – Modern History: possibly from 19th Century onwards.
Suggested format could be discussion type group. Interested? Please phone Monica Cox 579-3616.



Pic from:
**CONVENERS
MEETING**

Groups G-Z
Monica Cox (L)

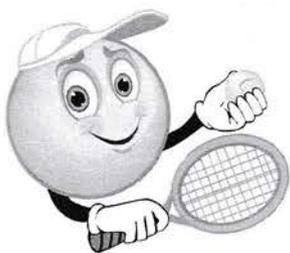
Groups A-F (C)
Thelma Cane

Secretary
Sheila Forrest (R)

41 group conveners
attended on your
behalf.

The U3A International U3A

Conference will be held in Singapore 8-9 August 2011
Information, Costs and Registration form can be found at
<http://u3asingaporeinternationalconference2011.org/>



U3A TAURANGA INC
End of Year Sportacular

9th Dec. 2011

Tauranga Citizens club, 13th Ave

11.30am to 2.30pm

Tickets \$20.00 pp

On Sale from September 2011
More news in July Newsletter
Mark your calendar now