



**“Those who teach shall also learn
and those who learn shall also teach”**

2026 HANDBOOK

Printed December 2025.

**Please go to our website to view
an up-to-date digital version of this book.**

Digital Version Updated : 27 March 2026

Postal Address:

**U3A Tauranga Inc.,
PO Box 14453, Tauranga 3141, New Zealand**

www.u3atauranga.org.nz

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Executive 2026

President:

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Katikati Subcommittee Chairperson:

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a2c.groups@u3atauranga.org.nz

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d2h.groups@u3atauranga.org.nz

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i2p.groups@u3atauranga.org.nz

R-Z: Jan Bradley, 027 271 4272

r2z.groups@u3atauranga.org.nz

Katikati:

Jenny and Allan Mathews, 022 161 5313
katikati.groups@u3atauranga.org.nz

Co-opted Members:

Under Rule 10.9 & 10.10 of the U3A Tauranga Inc Constitution the Executive has the power to co-opt members to the Executive.

Non-Executive Roles:**Asset Register:**

Richard Thompson, 021 827 471
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Group Equipment:

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TBC

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Skills Administrator:

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U3A Tauranga Inc.

The idea for U3A began in France in 1972. Since that time the model has been copied in many countries around the world, including New Zealand. U3A Tauranga started in 1995 and has grown steadily to 70+ groups, and over 850+ members.

Our Organisation

U3A Tauranga Inc. is an independent, self-help, not-for-profit organisation run by the voluntary efforts of our members within the philosophy of the world-wide movement of people coming together to learn from one another. While most members are semi-retired or retired people, no joining age is stipulated.

We are an Incorporated Society, and have a Constitution on our website at:

<https://u3atauranga.org.nz/u3a-tauranga-incorporated-constitution/>

U3A Tauranga Charities Commission Number: CC25993.

Our Purpose

To enable older people, not in full-time employment, to continue learning, sharing their knowledge and research, as well as providing opportunities for social contact.

Our Core Values:

Community & Inclusivity

We are open to everyone, regardless of age, background, or beliefs. We are a community for people in their 'Third Age' — whether you are retired, semi-retired, or simply have time to spare. We foster a friendly, supportive environment where participation is voluntary and every member is valued.

Lifelong Learning

We believe in learning for the joy of it. We do not require or award qualifications. Our members are both learners and tutors, sharing their skills and experience across a wide range of traditional, contemporary, and creative topics.

Independence & Affordability

U3A Tauranga is an independent organization run by its members. We keep costs low by funding activities primarily through modest subscriptions and relying on the voluntary service of our skilled members.

Forward-Looking

We embrace common sense, new technology, and collaboration with local community groups to keep our organisation vibrant and relevant.

How to Join U3A Tauranga

Please go to our Online Application Form at:

<https://u3atauranga.org.nz/application-form/>

Or use the QR code shown here:



U3A Tauranga Meetings

Monthly Meetings - Feb-Nov

Open to all members and visitors, the meetings provide an opportunity to meet other members of U3A Tauranga and hear interesting current topics presented by invited speakers. Time: 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. A light morning tea is provided. There are no meetings in January or December. We have two venues:

Tauranga:

We meet on the 3rd Friday of each month at the Tauranga Yacht & Power Boat Club, 90 Keith Allen Drive, Sulphur Point. Entry fee: \$5.

KatiKati:

We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at The Hub, 21 Main Road, Katikati. Entry fee: \$3.

Election General Meeting

This meeting is held in **November** at which time members elect an Executive to run the organisation and set the subscription for the following year.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of U3A Tauranga Inc. is on Friday, **20 February, 2026**, at the Tauranga Yacht & Power Boat Club, 90 Keith Allen Drive, Sulphur Point, 10 am - 12 noon, at which the President and the Treasurer present their Annual Reports, and the formal handover of the Executive elected in November will take place.

Executive Meetings

These are generally held on the 2nd Friday of each month. Should you wish to have a matter placed on the agenda please notify the Secretary no later than one week before the meeting.

Conveners' Meetings 2026

Conveners' meetings will be held 10.00 am -12.00 noon, at the Wesley Methodist Church, 100 Thirteenth Avenue, hosted by the President, Vice President and Group Coordinators twice a year on the following dates:

- Friday, 1 May
- Friday, 30 October

A light morning tea will be served.

New Members' Meetings 2026

Information meetings for new members will be held 10.00 - 11.30 am, at the Wesley Methodist Church, 100 Thirteenth Avenue, on the following dates:

- Friday, 6 March
- Friday, 2 October

Hosted by the President, Vice President and Group Coordinators to meet and greet our new members and to advise them on how U3A Tauranga operates, how to join our interest groups, and to answer any questions they may have. A light morning tea will be served.

2026 Subscriptions

Existing members	\$35.00
New members	\$46.00 (including name badge)

Subscriptions are due on the **1st January 2026** to remain a financial member of U3A Tauranga and attend our groups, receive important email communications and our newsletters, etc. Unpaid subscriptions after 31 March will result in the member being archived - they are no longer permitted to attend any groups.

Payment Methods

1. Internet Banking:

U3A Tauranga would prefer that subscription payments are made by Internet Banking to:

U3A Tauranga Inc: 02 0466 0014834 00

Payment reference: When making payment please enter your first and last name in the Particulars box, and your Membership ID Number in the Reference box.

2. Bank ATM

Payment may also be made via a bank ATM quoting your first and last name and Membership ID Number.

3. Cash Payments

Subscription fees can now be paid at our monthly Friday meetings at the Tauranga Yacht & Power Boat Club, (if not paid with the initial application form for new members). Please place the cash in a sealed envelope. Write your name, address, phone number, and Membership ID Number on the front of the envelope, and hand it to the Meet and Greet Team on the front desk of the Monthly Meeting.

Change of Members Contact Details

If you change your contact details: address, telephone numbers or email address, please inform your Convener and the Membership / Group Data Administrator (membership@u3atauranga.org.nz).

Name Badges

New members purchase a name badge on joining. Existing members can order a new name badge (\$11) by contacting the Treasurer or Membership Administrator.

Please note: Magnetic badges should not be worn by members with pacemakers.

Contact Details

Official communications with U3A Tauranga should be sent to:

Email: secretary@u3atauranga.org.nz
Postal address: U3A Tauranga Inc
PO Box 14453
Tauranga 3141
New Zealand

Groups

Interest Groups usually meet between February and November. Details of the various groups including, the conveners, meeting venues, dates and times are provided in this Handbook and on our website.

How to Join a Group

If you wish to join a group, please contact the Convener who will either invite you to join, or put you on a waiting list if the group is full. Conveners will periodically send the lists to their Group Coordinators, who will then judge if a new group needs to be established.

Guidelines for Belonging to Groups

Being a member of U3A Tauranga will be fun, educational and life enriching.

- Please read the *Health and Safety Guidelines* on page 10 to ensure that you understand our commitment to our members' wellbeing and safety.
- If you are a financial member of U3A Tauranga you can attend meetings and join any group which has a vacancy.
- Financial members and non-members can attend a group meeting twice to see if they would like to join the group. You must contact the Convener to check that they can accommodate you and check where the group is meeting.
- Groups generally meet in private homes so common courtesy is obviously needed.
- Most groups have a small charge for refreshments and other costs.
- Groups will have extra costs if they meet in a hall, have a tutor, or are supplied with project materials.

Contact the Convener of your Group

- When you are unable to attend a group.
- If you intend to leave the group.

By being a member of U3A you are **committed** to the groups you belong to and the convener needs to know when you are able or unable to attend a meeting.

Non-attendance for three meetings, without an apology, may forfeit your place in a group.

Starting a New Group

If you have an idea for a new group, please contact the relevant Group Coordinator. The possibility of a new group will be advertised at the next Monthly Meeting. When 6 or more members express an interest, the Group Coordinator will call a meeting so that a convener can be appointed and all the details such as the day, time and venue of the group meeting can be agreed.

Groups in Recess

For more information on these groups, please contact the relevant Group Coordinator.

Group Coordinators

Groups A – C	Margaret Marsh	07 281 2408 a2c.groups@u3atauranga.org.nz
Groups D – H	Gloria Selkirk	021 595 025 d2h.groups@u3atauranga.org.nz
Groups I – P	Linda Clifford	027 552 2819 i2p.groups@u3atauranga.org.nz
Groups R – Z	Jan Bradley	027 271 4272 r2z.groups@u3atauranga.org.nz
Katikati	Jenny & Allan Mathews	022 161 5313 katikati.groups@u3atauranga.org.nz

The Group Coordinators are available to help you, please contact them:

- if you have any concerns or difficulties;
- if you have ideas for beginning a new group, or suggestions and/or comments about groups; and
- if there are any changes to the group, so that the handbook and website can be updated.

Equipment available for use by our Groups

Regular users of our equipment have priority. The following equipment is available to help with group presentations:

- **Laptops and data projectors:**
These may be available for group use for PowerPoint displays during a meeting. Images on a laptop are relayed either through a data projector onto a screen or directly to a Smart TV set. The laptop sources the images from a file on the hard drive or a memory stick.
- **Screen for display of data projector images:** A size suitable for meetings in homes.
- **A Speaker:** To transmit better quality sound than available with laptops
- **Portable amplifier with headset microphone:** To amplify softly spoken voices.
- **Lecterns:** table top and free-standing.

To book this equipment and for technical assistance, please contact:

Peter Simmons, 022 638 4188: equipment@u3atauranga.org.nz

Overview of U3A Tauranga Health and Safety Guidelines

Members should not attend meetings if they are unwell.

U3A Tauranga is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy environment for its members when attending meetings or undertaking any U3A activity. All members are responsible for the health and safety of themselves and others. All members are expected to share in our commitment to avoid exposure to communicable infections, and to prevent accidents which may cause personal injury or result in negligence claims for personal injury or property damage. Members are reminded that personal and medical details are to be kept private and confidential in accordance with New Zealand Law, and our Privacy Policy, which is available to view on our website.

Health & Safety Officer: Liz Stewart, 021 022 10609.

U3A Tauranga Resources

Website: www.u3atauranga.org.nz

The website gives details of U3A meetings, programmes, items of interest, all groups and courses with conveners' names and contact details. If any group information on the website needs updating, please contact the relevant Group Coordinator in the first instance. The Web Team is made up of U3A members who assist the Web Manager, Ian Howell, to keep the site up to date. If you would like to join the Web Team please contact Ian Howell.

Newsletters:

Newsletters are published bi-monthly and contain news about groups, speakers for Monthly Meetings and other matters of interest. The next deadline date will be in each newsletter. Please send contributions to the Newsletter Editor: newsletter@u3atauranga.org.nz

Printed Handbook:

Our printed Handbooks will only be posted to those registered as having no email address or computer access. Due to postal costs, other members can access the Handbook on our website which is regularly updated.

Digital Handbook:

Many members have opted for a digital PDF version of the Handbook instead of a hardcopy print version. The digital version can be downloaded from our website and kept on your computer or phone. It will be updated three times a year by our Handbook Editor. Please check the website for an up to date version at:

u3atauranga.org.nz/u3a-tauranga-handbook-2026/

Groups by Genre

(KK) indicates groups held in Katikati or Omokoroa.

Art & Design

Art Practical
Buildings and Cities

Books & Writing

Book Lovers 1, 3
Café Book Lovers 1, 3
Inky Tales-Memoir Writing – NEW
My Life Stories (KK) - NEW
Poetry Plus (KK)
Wordsters (KK)
Your Choice Book Lovers (KK)

Card & Board Games

Five Hundred Card Game

Computing

Computer Support for Windows

Current Events

Current Events A, D
Global Issues
International Affairs Zoom Group
World Affairs (KK)

Dining

Dining Group 1, 3, 5
Ethnic Dining
Lazy Lunches (KK)
Luncheon 2

Films

Festival and Foreign Films
Film Appreciation (KK)
Tauranga Luxe Cinema Film Group
Tivoli Luxe Cinema Film Group

History

Art History 1
Ancient History
Early NZ History (KK)
History A, B
History of New Zealand 1, 2
Shakespeare Group A
Shakespeare Zoom Group

Languages

French Conversation 1, 3,
French Conversation (KK)
Spanish for Beginners - NEW

Music

Acoustic Music
Ballet Appreciation
Classical Music Lovers A, B
Jazz, Blues & Beyond
Oceanside Music Group
Opera Appreciation
Singing for Joy
Ukulele Group

Nature

Garden Ramblers 1, 2
The Seas and Oceans

Photography

Camera Club
Photography

Physical Exercise

Cycle Group
Hikers 1, 2
Mini Hikes
Walking Group (KK)
Weekend Walkers
Yoga 1, 2

Sciences

Geology
Health Improvement
Philosophy 1
Philosophy & Philosophers
Philosophy (KK)
Science Today 1, 2

Tauranga Groups by A-Z Listing

<https://u3atauranga.org.nz/interest-groups/>

Acoustic Music Group

Welcome to our cheery Tauranga Acoustic Music group. If you enjoy singing and playing anything with strings attached why not come along and give us a go! Please contact the convener for further information.

Convener: Chris Ingram, 021 234 6197
Venue: St.Enochs Church, 16th Avenue
Meetings: Every Tuesday
Time: 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm
Cost: \$4.00

Ancient History

Group members give presentations on any topic of historical interest from the dawn of civilisation to the fall of Byzantium in 1453. To join the waiting list for this group, please contact the convener.

Convener: Chris Hector, 027 434 3493
Venue: Members' homes
Meetings: 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month
Time: 9.45 am – 12.00 noon

Art History 1

Spanning the entire history of humankind, from prehistoric times to the twenty-first century. For more information, please contact the interim convener, Robyn Jones.

Convener: Lorraine Dempsey, 07 570 2240
Interim Convener: Robyn Jones, 022 091 3951
Venue: Members' homes, mainly Tauranga
Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the month
Time: 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm

Art Practical

As a small, friendly group we have different skill levels and work to discover more about various art media and how to use them. We occasionally have tutors on specific types of media (water colour, pastels, acrylics etc.). When no tutor is available the session is self-directed, and we follow our own preferences.

Convener: Zinta Krumins, 022 673 9571
Venue: The Lyceum Club, 1st Avenue
Meetings: 2nd and 4th Friday of the month
Time: 9.30 am – 12.00 pm
Tutors: As invited

Ballet Appreciation

Our group will appeal to lovers of traditional and modern ballet. Ballet is one of the great story-telling traditions in dance and encompasses highly classical as well as modern, ethnic and folk traditions. It is diverse and cosmopolitan, expresses emotion, secrets and desires. Ballet is great in costume, fashion and visual arts as well as superb music and choreography. It is amazing!

Convener: Margaret Osbourn, 07 544 3865
Venue: Hairini
Meetings: 1st Wednesday of the month
Time: 1.00 pm

Book Lovers 1

This is a group of people who enjoy reading and sharing books, both fiction and non-fiction. We are passionate about reading and have great fun in our discussions.

Convener: Irene Clothier, 022 329 0586
Venue: Members' homes, mainly Tauranga / Bethlehem / Matua
Meetings: 1st Wednesday of the month
Time: 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm

Book Lovers 3

This is a group of people who enjoy reading and sharing books, both fiction and non-fiction. We are passionate about reading and have great fun in our discussions.

Convener: Vivienne Gaudin, 027 292 4994, 07 543 2113
Venue: Members' homes
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of the month
Time: 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Buildings and Cities

The group examines both local and overseas buildings and cities from the view point of their architectural styles, design achievements and their place in history – the scope is wide. Members are encouraged to contribute to the programme, and from time to time, guest speakers are invited to participate. Normally PowerPoint slide shows are used via the TV screen, and help is on hand if required, in managing the presentation. Guests and new members are welcome. Morning tea and venue cost : \$4.00 per visit.

Convener: Jean Harold, 021 040 0365
Venue: The Lounge, Wesley Methodist Church, 100 Thirteenth Avenue
Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month
Time: 10 am - 12 noon.

Café Book Lovers 1

We share our books with all members on a return basis and have a wide range of subjects.

Convener: Pat Goldstiver, 021 491 652
Venue: Pacific Coast Village, 210 Maranui Street, Papamoa
Meetings: 4th Monday of the month
Time: 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm

Café Book Lovers 3 – Any Book Book Club

Share your love of reading and get inspiration about what to read next. We do not have a set book, instead each person shares what they are currently reading or what they have read in the past month. It doesn't matter if you loved or loathed it, all we need is an opinion. We share our books monthly in a café setting over a cup of coffee.

Convener: Gloria Selkirk, 021 595 025
Venue: Patio Rose Cafe, 528 Cambridge Road
Meetings: 4th Monday of the month
Time: 12.30 pm - 3.00 pm

Camera Club

Learn more about your capture device whether it's a camera or mobile phone. Which settings to use to take GREAT photos. We watch supporting videos on topics of interest. We include photo enhancing and how to edit our images using free and other apps, generally anything and everything about the device and taking photos, editing and printing them. Purchase your morning tea at the Vines cafe (opens 9.30 am) and bring it up in the lift to the theatre on the first floor. New members very welcome.

Convener: Margaret Marsh, 07 281 2408
Venue: The Vines Village Theatre, 143 Moffat Road, Bethlehem
Meetings: 1st Monday of the month.
Time: 10.00 am -12 noon.

Classical Music Lovers A

Members host a mixture of CD, DVD or YouTube concerts in their home or in another member's home if they do not have suitable facilities. It is the host responsibility to provide the program, and to broaden our knowledge of music we also explore the background of the composers and music makers in each program. The host provides afternoon tea midway the program and there is no entry charge.

Convener: Ross Henderson, 022 017 6369
Venue: Tauranga / Mount
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month
Time: 1.15 pm - 4.00 pm

Classical Music Lovers B

Meetings are held in the theatre at Bethlehem Shores Village. We cover all aspects of classical music including operatic, symphonic, classical and modern dance, church music, composers and singers. Using the significant facilities at the Shores Theatre, members are invited to present items of specific interest to them. The feedback from existing members is excellent, they find the sessions enjoyable, entertaining and informative.

Conveners: Vaughan and Carol Chetwynd, 027 565 7724
Venue: The Theatre, Arvida Bethlehem Shores, 141 Bethlehem Road
Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month
Time: 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Computer Support for Windows

This friendly group meets to discuss any problems members may be having when using their Windows computers. No prior knowledge required, just an interest in learning what your computer can do.

Convener: Anne Withy, 021 165 0298
Venue: Tauranga
Meetings: 1st Monday of the month
Time: 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm

Current Events A

We discuss a wide range of matters of topical interest. Each member usually has a subject to present for discussion which brings forth varied opinions.

Convener: Judy Howard, 022 043 7481
Venue: Tauranga
Meetings: 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month
Time: 10.00 am - 12 noon

Current Events D

This is a very lively group, combining serious discussion with humour. Each member introduces their chosen topic, giving their views, followed by a spirited discussion. Meetings are interesting and informative and members are friendly and supportive.

Convener: Angela Scott, 027 614 2738, 07 576 9847
Venue: Members' homes as arranged
Meetings: 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month
Time: 9.45 am - 12 noon

Cycle Group

This is a fine weather mixed ability cycling group. The starting point for each ride will vary and members are emailed several days in advance with all the information. Occasionally we will venture out of town, for example to Rotorua or Waikato river trails. Rides normally begin at 9:30 am, are between 20 km and 30 km for about 2 hrs. So join in the rides and assist with ideas of places to cycle. E-bikers welcome. We stop for coffee at the end. Ring Bruce to join or check the venue.

Convener: Bruce Kitchingman, 021 116 0165, 07 543 1435
Venue: Tauranga district, as arranged
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month
Time: Start 9.30 am

Dining Group 1

This group enjoys dining as a group of U3A friends. Each month a member chooses the restaurant and makes the arrangements.

Convener: Joy and Gerald McDonnell, 07 570 0548
Venue: Restaurants as arranged
Meetings: 2nd Friday of the month
Time: 6.30 pm

Dining Group 3

This group is for members to enjoy sharing convivial company while dining out. Each month a member selects a restaurant and makes the arrangements.

Convener: Pam Hansen, 027 576 2601
Venue: Restaurants as arranged
Meetings: 4th Friday of the month
Time: Lunch 12.30 pm.

Dining Group 5

This group is for members to enjoy sharing convivial company while dining out. Each month a member selects a restaurant and makes the arrangements.

Convener: Phil Hansen, 027 705 0408
Venue: Restaurants as arranged
Meetings: 3rd Friday of the month
Time: 6.30 pm

Ethnic Dining

The purpose of our group is for members to enjoy sharing convivial company while eating an ethnic meal. Each month a different group member selects a restaurant and makes the arrangements.

Convener: Carol Outen, 027 542 3416
Venue: Restaurants as arranged
Meetings: 1st Tuesday of the month
Time: 6.30 pm

Festival and Foreign Films

A group for movie buffs and those who enjoy watching award winning films and foreign films with English subtitles. After watching the film in the comfort of the 45 seat theatre, we finish with refreshments and discussion in the village cafe. Please contact the convener if you wish to join us at the movies! All are welcome.

Convener: Margaret Marsh, 07 281 2408
Venue: Pacific Coast Village Theatre, 210 Maranui Street, Papamoa
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of the month
Time: 11.00 am

Five Hundred - Card Game

This is a fun group who enjoy playing a trick-taking card game. We are a mixed group from beginners to experienced. If you would like to join us, come along and give it a go.

Convener: Lesley Monteiro, 07 576 5458
Venue: Tauranga Citizens Club, 170 Thirteenth Avenue
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Fridays of the month
Time: 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm

French Conversation 1

This is a group for those who wish to revive the French they learnt in past years – and to have fun with it. We prepare a brief talk (in French); we then break up into pairs to pursue a given topic. We sometimes have dictation or some other point of grammar or we play a game. Potential members should contact the Convener to see if there are spaces available.

Convener: Ouida Rice, 07 579 1979
Venue: Members' homes – mainly Tauranga
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month
Time: 10.00 am - 11.45 am

French Conversation 3

This group is for those who have never learnt French or who want to brush up on the French they studied at school - it consists of members with a love for the French language. We are a fun group, we may visit a French café or go to a French movie. Our tutor is a capable language teacher. To join, please contact the Convener.

Convener: Linda Kennedy, 027 280 3670
Sub-convener: Carlene McCarthy, 021 140 8701
Venue: The Café, Althorpe Village, Pyes Pa
Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month
Time: 10.00 am – 12.00 noon

Garden Ramblers 1

This group will visit specialist growers, nurseries and interesting gardens around the area, meeting afterwards in a local café to discuss what was seen and learnt. We now meet at 12.30 for lunch at a different café every month and then do ramble finishing 3pm.

Convener: Eileen Ammann, 021 026 90802
Co-convener: Marlene McLaren, 021 255 2465
Venue: Tauranga District
Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month
Time: 12.30 pm - 3.00 pm

Garden Ramblers 2

A group to join and enjoy Garden Rambles. The group will visit specialist growers, nurseries and interesting gardens around the area, meeting afterwards in a local café to discuss what was seen and learnt. Every month a member will be invited to choose their favourite garden or nursery to visit.

Convener: Anne James, 07 544 1507
Venue: Tauranga District
Meetings: 4th Wednesday of the month
Time: 10.00 am

Geology

We study earth sciences about New Zealand and worldwide, to understand current and past geological events. The neighbouring Taupo volcanic zone, the Waikato, and Coromandel peninsula with our own Tauranga volcanic centre are local features which keep us engaged.

Convener: Terry Boyle, 027 210 1719
Co-convener: Jocelyn Hooper, 07 575 2236
Venue: Harvard Room, Classic Flyers, 9 Jean Batten Drive, Mt Maunganui
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month
Time: 1.00 pm - 2.30 pm

Global Issues

In this globalised world many issues need to be understood on a global basis. Here is a chance to flex your neurons and tackle those challenging topics that most others shy away from. A very informal group with members preparing the discussion material once a month or as decided by the members.

Convener: Alison Hulme, 021 817 082
Venue: Members' homes
Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month
Time: 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm

Health Improvement

This group is intended for people who are interested in discussing a wide variety of health issues. The emphasis is on members gaining enough knowledge to take responsibility for their own health with the aim of preventing illness and boosting their immune systems. Topics could include arthritis, eye and prostate problems and other subjects relating to our age group. The discussion is wide open for member input and ideas.

Conveners: David and Erica Walpole, 07 576 0578
Venue: Mainly Tauranga
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of the month
Time: 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm

Hikers 1

We provide fitness and fellowship for members who enjoy exploring our great outdoors. We use Regional Parks, forests, beaches, lakes and area of outstanding interest. A good level of fitness is required and hikes can be 4 hours plus in length. We usually have lunch during the hike and stop at a café on the way home. Group has a Personal Locator Beacon.

Convener: Carla van den Hout, 027 278 9672
Co-convener: Wendy Madill, 027 282 2660
Venue: Tauranga District
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month
Time: Whole day, departure varies from 7.45 am – 9.00 am

Hikers 2

We enjoy the company, safety and fun of hiking together in a group to explore our beautiful area. Hikes are usually within an hour of Tauranga in forest parks or along river trails and coastal tracks. Typically, 4-5 hours in length, the hikes require good fitness. We need boots, hiking poles are recommended and we must follow health and safety requirements. We take snacks and lunch and enjoy a cafe stop on the way home. Group has a Personal Locator Beacon.

Convener: Brian Jones, 021 267 1432
Venue: Tauranga District
Meetings: 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month
Time: Whole Day, Departure 8 am.

History A

British History from Ancient Britain to the 20th Century. Learn about fascinating characters, important developments and interesting stories which have all had their influence on the modern world. Contact the convener to discover the era currently being studied.

Convener: John Hill, 07 578 7458, 027 437 1088
Co-convener: Richard Thompson, 021 827 471
Venue: The Theatre, Arvida Bethlehem Shores, 141 Bethlehem Road
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month
Time: 9.45 am - 12 noon.

History B

2026 will see the conclusion of Europe in the 16th century. Then we move onto Europe in the 17th century. We have a group of around 40 enthusiasts. Our lecture theatre venue can comfortably hold 50-60 people so more are welcome to join. Members can contribute by preparing 40 minute presentations using PowerPoint on a particular topic that interests them, but you are also welcome to come to listen to the presentations. After each presentation there is a question and comments time. Two topics are presented each meeting, with an interval between presentations where we go to the excellent Shores cafe. Please contact the convener for more information.

Convener: Murray Armstrong, 021 254 4556
Venue: The Theatre, Arvida Bethlehem Shores, 141 Bethlehem Road
Meetings: 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month
Time: 9.45 am – 12 noon

History of New Zealand 1

We research and discuss different aspects of New Zealand history, both local and nationwide, often following up particular interests or suggestions from group members. This might include an occasional visit or input from an outside speaker.

Convener: Mary Elders, 027 413 9867, 07 571 3484
Co-convener: Bev Edlin, 027 618 4787
Venue: Members' homes – mainly Tauranga
Meetings: 1st Tuesday of the month
Time: 10.00 am – 12 noon

History of New Zealand 2

We research and discuss different aspects of New Zealand history, both local and nationwide, often following up particular interests or suggestions from group members. This might include an occasional visit or input from an outside speaker, and discussion on how our history impacts on current affairs.

Convener: Pam Holyoake, 021 040 7638
Co-convener: Judith Howard, 022 043 7481
Venue: Various members' homes
Meetings: 3rd Friday of the month
Time: 1.00 pm

Inky Tales – Memoir Writing – NEW FOR 2026

At our monthly meetings, we will begin with reading out our previous month's subject, followed by short discussions. We may have an "on the spot challenge", share our thoughts on future topics and be advised on next month's choice. This group is not necessarily all Memoirs, but can include poetry, dialogue and fiction. We aim to have Fun with sharing our lives, and what a great way to meet new friends!

Convener: Helen D'Ath, 027 414 9301
Venue: Members homes in Ohauti and the Lakes
Meetings: Last Monday of the month
Time: 9.30 am – 11.30 am

International Affairs Zoom Group

We explore significant international developments (political or otherwise) in a non-partisan and friendly environment. Our meetings are held online, via Zoom, allowing us to invite expert guest speakers from both New Zealand and overseas. Please contact Convener to join this group.

Convener: Ian Morrison, 07 575 6650
Co-convener: Janice Fowler-Wilde, 021 240 5519
Venue: Zoom Online
Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month
(with variations/additions to suit guest speakers)
Time: 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm. (with variations to suit guest speakers)

Jazz, Blues & Beyond

The aim of the group is to listen to, appreciate and learn about jazz and jazz artists past and present. Members will be invited to give short presentations 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. Numbers are limited.

Convener: Maureen (Mo) Tatler, 07 575 7637
Co-convener: Brian Williams, 07 572 2553
Venue: Papamoa
Meetings: 1st Friday of the month
Time: 1.00 pm – 3.30 pm

Mini Hikes

The group has decided that the walks will be 1-2 hrs long. Group meets at the carpooling site at 9.00 for a 9.30 am departure. Hiking up to 1 hour radius of Tauranga and often ending with a coffee or light lunch, depending on location of hike. Group has a Personal Locator Beacon.

Convener: Steve Hayles, 07 574 1190, 021 133 2911
Venue: Variety of locations – advised each hike
Meetings: 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month
Time: Advised each hike

Oceanside Music Group (OMG) – in Recess

This group invites amateur musicians with any musical instrument to join our Jam sessions to play music from the 1960's to today. Our genres are mostly upbeat Pop, Rock, Country and some reggae.

Convener: Linda Tocker, 021 041 3552
Venue: Mt Maunganui RSA
Meetings: 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month
Time: 10.30 am – 12.30 pm

Opera Appreciation

One member chooses the opera and each member researches the opera and the artists prior to the viewing. Members discuss the performance of the opera and the artists. To join this group, please contact the Convener.

Convener: Kathleen Fraser, 022 187 8588
Venue: Members' homes
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month
Time: 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Philosophy 1

Are you seeking the answers to Life's Big Questions? This group has a lot of fun debating the historical and current philosophies that inform our thinking on morals, ethics, politics, justice and many other diverse topics.

Convener: Charles Akers, 022 128 1597
Venue: Tauranga, Pyes Pa, Bethlehem, Te Puna, Omokoroa
Meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month
Time: 9.45 am - 12 noon

Philosophy & Philosophers

This group discusses a wide range of current philosophical topics, usually without being too intense so deep philosophical knowledge is not necessary.

Convener: Bev Edlin, 027 618 4787
Co-convener: Trish Hanlen, 07 579 2335
Venue: Members' homes or via Zoom when we have guest speakers
Meetings: 1st Friday of the month
Time: 10.00 am – 12 noon

Photography

We choose a set subject to photograph each month and email two photos on this subject to the convenor. We also send in two photos on an open subject. These are shown as a slideshow on a TV and discussed by members. We learn how to manipulate and enhance the photos using simple editing software. We discuss cameras and problems related to them.

Conveners: Pam Henderson, 022 017 6369.
Venue: Pyes Pa
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month
Time: 9.30 am for 10.00 am - 12 noon

Science Today 1

Areas of interest could include recent advances in medicine, physics, neuroscience, agriculture, zoology, ecology - anything that doesn't intrude on the Geology group. A knowledge of science is not needed.

Convener: Vivienne Mills, 07 574 3133
Venue: Members' Homes as arranged
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month
Time: 9.45 am - 12 noon.

Science Today 2

Areas of interest could include recent advances in medicine, physics, neuroscience, agriculture, zoology, ecology - anything that doesn't intrude on the Geology group. An existing knowledge of science subjects is not needed.

Convener: John Denne, 07 543 9483
Venue: Members' homes as arranged
Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the month
Time: 10.00 am – 12 noon

Shakespeare Group A

Our enthusiastic group explores Shakespeare's works. At most meetings we view part of the current play on DVD, followed by discussion about the characters, language, topic and themes. Prepared talks and general discussion on any Shakespeare related topics are welcomed. To have your name added to the waiting list, please contact the Convener.

Convener: Neil Murphy, 021 1177 001
Co-convenor: Paul Chapman, 021 106 5088
Venue: At the homes of members.
Meetings: 2nd & 4th Monday of the month
Time: 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm

Shakespeare Zoom Group – in Recess

Our enthusiastic group explores Shakespeare's works. We view part of the current play individually before the meeting. At the meeting we have discussions about the characters, language, topic and themes. Prepared talks and general discussion on any Shakespeare related topics are welcomed.

Convener: Ian Morrison, 021 236 3199, 07 575 6650
Venue: Zoom Online meetings
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Monday of the month
Time: 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Singing for Joy

Any U3A member can come to sing songs, new and old, learn something new and enjoy fellowship and fun. Not a choir, just a group blending in song.

Convener: Judith Keys, 07 579 1935
Venue: Community Hall, Elizabeth St West
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month
Time: 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm approx.
Venue Cost: \$5.00 per visit

Spanish for Beginners – NEW FOR 2026

This is a great opportunity to discover how enjoyable learning a new language can be. Spanish is one of the easiest and most rewarding languages for English speakers, and with our lively supportive professional tutor you'll be surprised at how quickly you start making real progress. Each session is relaxed, social, and designed to be fun — nothing like your school days! A maximum of ten people so please contact the convener if you wish to join the group.

Convener: Ian Howell, 022 590 1234. webmanager@u3atauranga.org.nz
Venue: Contact Convener for details
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Monday of the month
Time: 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm
Venue Cost: \$15.00 per session (covers venue , refreshments, and tutor) payable in cash, or via bank transfer, at each meeting.

Tauranga Luxe Film Group

We meet once a month to view movies selected by group members on a rotational basis. Following the movie, members meet at a local café to discuss the movie.

Convener: Margaret Down, 027 252 0936
Sub Convener: Christine Denne, 07 543 9483
Venue: Luxe Cinemas Tauranga, 21 Devonport Road
Meetings: 4th Wednesday of the month
Time: Mornings - subject to movie time

The Seas and Oceans

This is an endless subject, covering the make-up of the sea, animals and fish species, fishing, surfing, life-saving, all boats - e.g. tug boats, yachts, WWII ships, submarines, cruise liners, famous wrecks, tides, ghost ships etc – should be interesting and fun.

Convener: Patricia (Pat) Chainey, 07 562 3366, 021 124 8271
Venue: Copper Crest Village, Pyes Pa
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month
Time: 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm

Tivoli Luxe Film Group

We meet once a month to view movies selected by group members on a rotational basis. Following the movie, members meet at a local café to discuss the movie.

Convener: John Russell, 021 118 5588
Venue: Luxe Cinemas, Excelsa Centre, 4 Golden Sands Drive, Papamoa
Meetings: 1st Saturday of the month
Time: Afternoons

Ukulele Group

This group is for you if you would like a fun afternoon of playing and singing, have the basic ukulele skills, that is, know a few basic chords, even improve your playing, by joining a great, music loving, mixed group, of varying abilities, people.

Convener: June Pharo, 027 302 4543 , 07 542 3114
Co-convener: Denise Smith, 021 0906 5657
Venue: BOP Vintage Car Club, 29 Cliff Road
Meetings: Every Monday
Time: 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm
Cost: \$3.00

Weekend Walkers

This is a relaxed, social group for members who like to walk for 1-2 hours on easy terrain, followed by morning tea and a social chat. Car sharing is encouraged. Please contact the convener if you would like to try out this group.

Convener: Jan Bradley, 027 271 4272
Venue: Advised for each walk
Meetings: 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month
Time: Advised for each walk

Yoga Groups

Welcome to hatha yoga where our popular tutor guides us in poses involving stretching, breathing and relaxation, so we feel refreshed physically and mentally. We practice a variety of poses to improve our balance, flexibility, circulation, bone density, sleep and energy levels, and relieve stress. We participate at a level we are comfortable with, whether beginners or more experienced. As befits a U3A group, we are also introduced to some wider aspects of yoga to increase our awareness and mindfulness in today's restive world. We now have two Yoga groups:

Yoga 1

Co-convener: Peter Simmons, 022 638 4188
Sheena Spittles, 027 458 2768
Tutor: Jess MacMillan, teaching Hatha Yoga
Venue: Senior Citizens Club Hall, 14 Norris Street, the Avenues
Meetings: Weekly on Thursday mornings.
Time: 9.30 am – 10.30 am
Cost: \$8.00 for venue hire & tutor

Yoga 2

Co-conveners: Catherine Geeves, 021 415 660
Jan Morrison, 027 242 1869

Tutor: Jess MacMillan, teaching Hatha Yoga

Venue: Baden Powell Centre, 46 Harrisfield Drive, Hairini

Meetings: Weekly on Tuesday mornings.

Time: 9.30 am – 10.30 am

Cost: \$8.00 for venue hire & tutor

U3A Katikati Groups

Subcommittee 2026

Chairperson: Pam Mazoyer, 021 104 2925, katikati.chair@u3atauranga.org.nz

Speaker Organisers: Pam Mazoyer and Stewart Cairns, 021 0842 4481

Group Coordinators: Jenny & Allan Mathews, 022 161 5313, katikati.groups@u3atauranga.org.nz

Secretary: Lynne Shearman, 021 402 126

Publicity Officer: Irene Mead, 021 182 6749

Katikati Groups are open to all U3A Tauranga members and vice versa - the \$35 subscription covers all Tauranga and Katikati groups.

Early NZ History

We research and discuss different aspects of New Zealand history, both local and nationwide, often following up particular interests or suggestions from group members.

Convener: Chris Bedford, 021 173 3979

Venue: Arts Junction Board Room

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month

Time: 10.00 am – 12 noon

Film Appreciation

Group members take turns in selecting movies, after which we discuss the movie over refreshments.

Convener: Jenny Mathews, 027 727 4217

Venue: Arts Junction Board Room

Meetings: Varies - Please contact the Convener

Time: Varies - Please contact the Convener

French Conversation

Speaking, listening, reading, writing, translating, singing and exploring en Francais. Sharing our experiences and love of all things French and meeting like-minded Francophiles.

Convener: Christine Donehue, 027 480 9261

Venue: Members' homes

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Friday of the month

Time: 1.30 pm

Lazy Lunches

Lunches may be followed by a visit to an Art Gallery, etc.

Conveners: Lorraine and Ian Barnes, 07 548 2351

Lorraine and Robert Gibbins, 021 678 374

Venue: Cafes, restaurants and members' homes

Meetings: 4th Friday of the month

Time: 12 noon

My Life Stories – NEW for 2026

A gift to future generations. Gaye Hemsley is delighted to hold sessions on the first Thursday on each month in Katikati at 1.30 pm, February 5th being the first gathering for 2026. Sessions will commence with some creative writing games to relax the attendants. Please contact Gaye for more information.

Convener: Gaye Hemsley, 07 577 1753 or 027 274 8753
Venue: Members' homes Katikati
Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month
Time: 1.30 pm

Philosophy

This group discusses a wide range of current philosophical topics, usually without being too intense so deep philosophical knowledge is not necessary.

Convener: Allan Mathews, 022 161 5313
Venue: Members' homes
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of the month
Time: 9.45 am – 12 noon

Poetry Plus

Are you interested in poetry, reading, writing and learning more about poetry? Exploring words? Having some fun with words? Please contact me if you are interested in joining this group. Everyone is welcome to come along, have a go and have some fun.

Conveners: Christine Donehue, 027 480 9261
Gaye Hemsley, 027 274 8753
Venue: Members' homes
Meetings: 2nd Monday of the month
Time: 1.30 – 3.00 pm

Walking Group

Relaxed social walks for about 1 hour, including easier bush walks in the general Katikati area, car sharing encouraged. Walks end with a coffee stop.

Convener: Robbie Selwyn, 027 439 9607
Venue: Various
Meetings: 2nd Monday of the month
Time: 9.30 am

Wordsters

We cover different writing genres, taking a few sessions with each. Members share their writing and receive feedback.

Convener: Lynne Shearman, 021 402 126
Venue: Members' homes
Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the month
Time: 1.30-3.30 pm

World Affairs

We discuss significant international, political and other world developments.

Convener: Robbie Selwyn, 027 249 774
Venue: Community Centre, Beach Rd, Katikati
Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month
Time: 2.00 pm

Your Choice Book Lovers

Fiction, non-Fiction, no set book, just your choice! Get inspiration on what to read next, share your opinions.

Convener: Irene Mead, 021 182 6749
Venue: Arts Junction Board Room
Meetings: 4th Wednesday of the month
Time: 10.00 am

Groups by Meeting Day

Except Public Holidays. Check with Convener.

Monday Groups

GROUP	WEEK OF MONTH	TIME
Café Book Lovers 1	4th	1.00 - 3.00
Café Book Lovers 3	4th	1.00 - 3.00
Camera Club	1st	10.00 – 12 noon
Computer Support for Windows	1st	1.30 - 3.30
Inky Tales - Memoir Writing	Last Monday	9.30 – 11.30
Shakespeare Group A	2nd & 4th	1.00 – 3.00
Shakespeare Zoom Grp - Recess	1st & 3rd	2.00 - 4.00
Spanish for Beginners	1st & 3rd	2.00 - 4.00
Ukulele	Weekly	1.30 – 3.30

Katikati Groups:		
Poetry Plus	2nd	1.30 – 3.00
Walking Group	2nd	9.30

Tuesday Groups

GROUP	WEEK OF MONTH	TIME
Acoustic Music Group	Weekly	1.15 - 3.30
Ancient History 1	2nd & 4th	9.45 - 12 noon
Book Lovers 3	4th	2.00 – 4.00
Current Events A	2nd & 4th	10.00 - 12 noon
Ethnic Dining	1st	6.30
Festival & Foreign Films	4th	11.00
Health Improvement	4th	1.30 - 3.30
History of New Zealand 1	1st	10.00 - 12 noon
Oceanside Music Group	2nd & 4th	10.30 – 12.30
Opera Appreciation	2nd	1.00 - 4.00
Photography	3rd	9.30 - 12 noon
Science Today 1	2nd	9.45 - 12 noon
Singing for Joy	1st & 3rd	1.00 - 3.00
The Seas and Oceans	2nd	1.30 - 3.30
Yoga 2	Weekly	9.30 – 10.30

Katikati Groups:		
Early NZ History	3rd	10.00 – 12 noon
Philosophy	4th	9.45 - 12 noon

Wednesday Groups

GROUP	WEEK OF MONTH	TIME
Art History 1	3rd	1.30 - 3.30
Ballet Appreciation	1st	1.00
Book Lovers 1	1st	1.30 - 3.30
Classical Music Lovers A	1st & 3rd	1.15 - 4.00
Current Events D	2nd & 4th	9.45 - 12 noon
Garden Ramblers 1	2nd	12.30 - 3.00
Garden Ramblers 2	4th	10.00
Hikers 1	1st & 3rd	Whole day
History A	1st & 3rd	9.45 - 12 noon
History B	2nd & 4th	9.45 - 12 noon
Tauranga Luxe Cinema Film Group	4th	Mornings
Science Today 2	3rd	10.00 - 12 noon

Katikati Groups:		
Your Choice Book Lovers	4th	10.00
Wordsters	3rd	1.30 - 3.30

Thursday Groups

GROUP	WEEK OF MONTH	TIME
Buildings & Cities	2nd	9.45 - 12 noon
Classical Music Lovers B	2nd	2.00 - 4.00
Cycle Group	1st & 3rd	9.30
French Conversation 1	1st & 3rd	10.00 - 11.45
French Conversation 3	2nd & 4th	10.00-12 noon
Geology	1st & 3rd	1.00 - 2.30
Global Issues	2nd	1.30 – 3.30
Hikers 2	2nd & 4th	Whole day
International Affairs Zoom Group	1st & 3rd	2.30 - 4.30
Mini Hikes	2nd & 4th	To be advised
Philosophy 1	3rd	9.45 - 12 noon
Yoga 1	Weekly	9.30 - 10.30

Katikati Groups:		
My Life Stories	1 st	1.30
World Affairs	2nd	2.00

Friday Groups

GROUP	WEEK OF MONTH	TIME
Art Practical	2nd & 4th	9.30 - 12 noon
Dining Group 1	2nd	6.30
Dining Group 3	4th	12.30
Dining Group 5	3rd	6.30
Five Hundred Card Game	1st & 3rd	1.00 - 4.00
History of New Zealand 2	3rd	1.00
Jazz, Blues & Beyond	1st	1.00 - 3.30
Luncheon 2 – in Recess	4th	12 noon
Philosophy & Philosophers	1st	10.00 – 12 noon

Katikati Groups:		
French Conversation	2nd & 4th	1.30
Lazy Lunches	4th	12 noon

Saturday Groups

GROUP	WEEK OF MONTH	TIME
Tivoli Luxe Cinema Film Group	1st	Afternoons
Weekend Walkers	2nd & 4th	To be advised

U3A Tauranga Past Presidents

Roy Hayward	1995-1996
Jack Matthews	1996-1998
David Gordon	1999-2000
Noela Page	2001-2002
Ken Rose	2003-2004
Michael Kontze	2005
Warwick Kingston-Smith	2006-2007
Jean Davis	2008
Uli Hoppe	2009
Martin Dumbill	2010
Ken Gillan	2011-2012
Angela Dold	2013
Chris Hector	2014
Vivienne Mills	2015-2016
John Powell	2017-2018
Jean Garmonsway	2019-2020
Anne Withy	2021-2022
Raewyn Gallagher	2023
Gail Moore	2004-2005

U3A Tauranga Current Life Memberships

Betty Clethero	elected 2004
Peter Simmons	elected 2010
Warwick Kingston-Smith	elected 2010
Thelma Cane	elected 2012
David Gordon	elected 2015
Don McMillan	elected 2017
Vivienne Mills	elected 2018
Jean Garmonsway	elected 2018
Anne Withy	elected 2023
Elizabeth Reeves	elected 2024
Chris Hector	elected 2024

70+ Interest Groups:

something for everyone!



Art & Design

Books & Writing

Card & Board games



Computing

Current Events

Dining

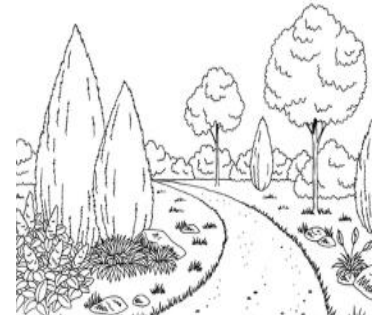
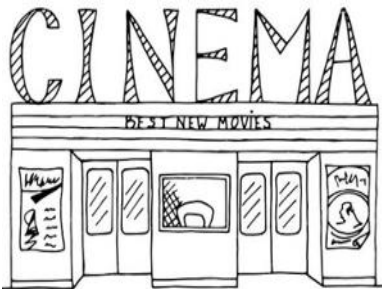


Garden Ramblers

Geology

Films

Health & Exercise



History

Languages

Music

Nature



Photography

Philosophy

Sciences

Other Special Interests

