



HATEA U3A NEWSLETTER
APRIL/MAY 2024

Meetings: 2nd Thursday each month at 10am

St. John's Church, Kamo Road, Whangarei

President: Dick Berry 0274733401

Secretary: Sheila Little 4597166

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What an excellent meeting we had in March, with a good turn out for the AGM. All Officers and committee members were reelected. Now that is a sign that we are doing a worthwhile job. We have a very good, smooth running committee and I thank you for your support and trust. Hatea U3A is in very good hands.

Hayward Norman! What an excellent presentation on the early days of the Treaty. Well researched, and balanced. I trust that those of you who heard him are looking forward to the next meeting, and the Forum we are holding. Don't let a bit of serious research hold you back - it is part of what U3A is all about learning and appreciation of good speakers.

Dick Barry
President

Your Committee the coming year remains the same:

President: Dick Berry
Vice President/Speaker coordinator: Ian Fillery
Treasurer: Janice Davison
Secretary Sheila Little
Committee/Almoner: Marie Kaire
Committee/Fire Warden: Tony Smith

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Subscriptions are now due and can be paid to Janice at our meeting or directly into our bank account **KIWI BANK 38-9004-0295775-00**. If paying at our meeting it is helpful to Janice if you can put money into an envelope with your details to save time at our meetings. Subscriptions will remain at \$20 per year

CONTACT DETAILS: I have recently discovered that some of the phone numbers and email addresses I have are out of date so we are unable to make phone or email contact. It is helpful if you can inform us of any change to your address, phone number or email address so that we can continue to make sure you are informed of our activities and receive your newsletters. Many thanks 😊 Sheila

NAME BADGES: Once again can we ask that you please try to remember to wear your name badges to our meetings. It does make it so much easier to get to know one another as it's not always possible to remember everyone's name! New members' badges have a small jewel on them to indicate they're new members so please make sure you make them feel welcome at our meetings. Committee Members have a red dot.

APRIL MEETING:

FIFTEEN MINUTE SPEAKER: Ross Farrant - "An eventful start to cruising adventures"

MAIN SPEAKER: This will be a Forum style meeting when we will discuss The Treaty of Waitangi following our excellent speaker in March. We will split into groups and discuss various questions on this very topical subject.

MAY MEETING:

FIFTEEN MINUTE SPEAKER: Roelene Snowden will surprise us with some stories of her life. 😊

MAIN SPEAKER: Steve Jennings, Manager of Whangarei Airport will talk to us about keeping Whangarei Airport running. This includes all commercial and private flights in and out the care of the landing strip, grass berms, fire control and almost everything that comes within airspace.

Group	Meeting Day	Time	Contact Person	Phone No:
Art Appreciation	4th Thursday Monthly	1.30pm	Kathy Hay	0211836009
Antiques Collectible And History	3rd Thursday Monthly	1.30pm	Sheila Little	4597166 0211218743
Books	1st Tuesday Monthly	1.30pm	Catharine Fisher	4338478
Currents Events 1	1st Tuesday Monthly	1.30pm	Marie Kaire	4351150
Currents Events 2	Last Friday Monthly	9.45am	Dick Berry	0274733401
Famous/Infamous	1st Tuesday Monthly	10.am	Sheila Little	4597166 0211218743
History	Last Wednesday Monthly	10am	John Hoby	021 252 5347
Te Reo Maori 1	Monday Weekly	10.am	Marie Kaire	4351150
Te Reo Maori 2	Wednesday Weekly	10am	Marie Kaire	
NZ History	1st Thursday Monthly	1.00pm	Marie Kaire	4351150
Writing Stories	1st & 3rd Thursday Monthly	10.am	Janice Davison	4352722



GROUP REPORTS:

Art Appreciation:

Our Art Appreciation group aims to view art available in our area. We have an outing monthly on the **4th Thursday of the month**. Our outing in February was to the home and gallery of photographer, the late Warren Spiers. His widow Lorraine shared his collection of favourite photographs taken over many years but many of the art photos have been taken in recent years from visits to many places around New Zealand. Warren used to say "the art is in the eye of the photographer" and this was demonstrated in the way he caught a view or captured light at the beginning or the end of the day. We also saw some of Warren's news photos from his many years as a photographer at The Northern Advocate and other New Zealand newspapers. These included the Brynderwyn bus crash ,the Queen at Waitangi, the Christchurch Commonwealth games and the Beatles in Auckland. An instructive and enjoyable outing. We followed the visit with a cuppa at Smith and Local at the Parua Bay shopping centre.

Elaine Hawkins.
Report Writer

Antiques, Collectibles and History:

At our March meeting members bought an item of interest and talked about what peaked our interest in antiques. We saw some beautiful items, including a gold watch belonging to a members' grandmother which was about 180 years old, a most beautiful possibly French/Belgium lace shawl, some dressing table nick nacks! Bunnykins children's tableware, a small brass Asian figurine dug up in a garden and a portable writing desk and to top everything a couple of 2 million year old fossils from The Sahara Desert. This was followed by a very decadent afternoon tea!. Our April meeting will be a visit to the Mangawhai Museum. Anyone interested in joining us for this outing is very welcome; contact Sheila on 4597166

Sheila Little
Convenor

Books:

We have had 2 meetings so far this year, both of which have been well attended. At the first we discussed books that we read during the break and, in March our subject was: Food. We had a wonderful variety of books chosen about food and at afternoon tea, we had an equally wonderful variety of food to choose from. Next month our subject is Poetry.

Catherine Fisher
Convenor

Current Event 1:

This lively group meets at McDonalds party room, Bank Street at 1:30 - 3:30 pm usually the first Tuesday of each month BUT note that due to Easter in April it will be the second Tuesday 9 th April. The May meeting will revert back to the first Tuesday for the rest of 2024. Anyone interested in joining our group contact Marie on 4351150 or email marie.kaire@gmail.com

Marie Kaire
Convenor

Current Event 2:

All our dates are set for the year and the venue is set.

Dates: **last Friday of the month from February to November.**

Venue:- 44 George Point Road, Onerahi

Lively discussions on the topics of the day both international and local. Some quite heated discussions at times.

Dick Berry
Convenor

History:

The History group continues to be active and of great interest.

Recent topics have included the history of tuberculosis especially in the 19th century.

The workers strike at Flint Michigan.

The contribution by Thomas Crapper who in the 19th century invented the flush toilet.

Early NZ Union activity.

The exhibition of M. Tussaud

The life of James K Baxter.

John Hoby
Convenor

NZ History:

This group meets in the **Ba'hai Centre, Mill Road at 1:00 pm on the first Thursday of each month.** The group is currently sharing research about the Treaty of Waitangi. There is space for a few more in this group. Haere mai!

Contact Marie at marie.kaire@gmail.com

Marie Kaire
Convenor

Famous and Infamous:

We meet **1st Tuesday each month at 10am** sharing the hosting at each others' homes. Always some lively discussions on our subjects. At our last meeting our subjects were:

Thomas Edison

1955 Le Mans race disaster

National Party MP Andrew Bailey

Amelia Dyer - Victorian baby murderer

If anyone is interested in joining us, contact Sheila on 4597166

Sheila Little
Convenor

Te Reo Maori (Advanced)

This advanced group meets at 10am at the home of **Mary Gibson at 68C Cairnfield Road** every Monday. The morning ends with a shared lunch and chat.

Marie Kaire
Convenor

Te Reo Maori (Beginners plus)

This beginners group meets at the home of **Louise and Ian Fillery at 109 Rockingham Road, Glenbervie at 10am** every Wednesday morning. This group is at capacity.

Marie Kaire
Convenor

Writing Stories:

The "Writing Stories" group continues to meet at the **Bahai Centre on Mill Road** on the **first and third Thursday** of the month at 10.00 a.m. Stories have been written about family history, childhood memories, a trip to the Hokianga, wrestling with computers and our set topic for March, "Houses I have lived in." These stories proved to be very interesting. One person had lived in twenty six houses and one had lived in a partially completed home while the house was completed as they occupied it.

Janice Davison
Convenor

NEW GROUPS:

Now we are into a new year, let's give some thought to some more interest groups. These interest groups are where we get to know each other better and learn more about subjects that particularly interest us. If there is something that particularly interests you, then it only takes two people to start a group. Contact one of our committee members and they will help facilitate this for you. Below are some suggestions but there are many more options to explore:

Play Reading	Ornithology
Architecture and Design	Geology
Cooking	Local History
Exploring Poetry	Scrabble/Boggle/Bananagrams
Developments in medicine	Philosophy
Science and climate	Photography

THE WRITERS CLUB

Hopefully this is tongue in cheek otherwise we might need to educate this gentleman that women have moved out of the kitchen!!

Love You Bro

What is the world coming to when my grandson talks to his mates in lovey dove terms? His working, drinking mates, mechanics, plumbers, forestry workers, manual workers; "Love you bro" they say to each other as they part, giving each other a hug. What's the world coming to?! What on earth would my father think? In my day my father would neither hug me or express his love for me, let alone his work mates. Of course, that did not mean what he did not love me or respect his mates, it was all unspoken. What's the world coming to? Are men turning into poofers? Now I, if the Morality Police heard that I have dared to write this word, will be in trouble. That's one thing, men telling each other they love each other.

But listen to this! Recently I was at my daughter's place and I heard her husband calling her 'bro'. My initial thought was how disrespectful she's your wife, to be cherished and loved, not to be treated like a brother. What's the world coming to? Men acting like poofers and women being treated like men. Next thing men will be giving birth to babies! As it is, men are staying home, trying to be feminine and looking after their babies while their wives drive buses and fly aeroplanes. If male seahorses can give birth to offspring, why not humans? There is probably a scientist somewhere working on this. To even think about this, what is the world coming to? In my day a man was a man and a woman was a woman and they knew their roles and that's the way it should be. Women are feminine, to be treated with care and respect. To bring children up, to look after the home, get the meals ready for their husband after a hard day's work, to scrub the floors and dust the furniture. For their rewards they can meet together at the Women's Institute and do things like knitting jerseys for orphans overseas. Women need careful handling, they have to be looked after so that they can produce strong healthy babies.

I have a granddaughter who six to nine months after giving birth she was playing rugby league. I was horrified and in no uncertain terms I told her so. I said she should be at home with her knitting. To allow women to play rugby with their bodies being battered and bruised, is absolutely disgusting. As for boxing, that's beyond the pale. What's the world coming to? My mother had a vegetable garden which was excellent exercise for her, which she

did after just pottering around in the house, doing housework, reading children's stories and doing that sort of thing. She knew what her role was.

As for women holding positions of authority, that is not God's Way. Clearly God made men to be in charge, the head of the household with the ultimate authority. Prime Ministers, Chairmen or organisations, Doctors and I could go on and on. God ordained that only men have the authority, stamina and intellectual ability for these leadership roles. I once flew in a plane with a woman pilot. What's the world coming to? Yeh I was extremely nervous. I worried if she had the ability to find her way from Auckland to Kaikohe. You know what it is like driving in a car with a lady giving directions, it's normally a disaster. With a sigh of relief we did make it. Then at church last Sunday, we had a woman preacher and the servers for communion were both women. The Church is falling into this trap of the world. Women taking over. Even in the Catholic Church there are stropky women agitating to be priests. Only men can truly fulfil these roles as God ordained.

The other day I was at a funeral and do you know the undertaker was a woman. Now the role of an undertaker is a very solemn business; it necessitates the man to be in a black suit and being really dignified driving a black hearse. The funeral is a sad occasion but at this funeral the woman undertaker was wearing a flowery dress. How flippant is that? And yes, she was driving a white hearse. What's the world coming to? It's time men took control of the world again, but are they all weak kneed?

Micheal Deverall

Fortitude

The Chambers Dictionary definition of Fortitude claims to be ...courage in endurance, strength. The word and meaning is sandwiched between words like Fort, a small fortress, an outlying trading station, to fortify to strengthen. From L. Fortis =strong. To hold the fort, to take temporary charge.

Forte, The thing in which one excels, the upper half part of the sword or foil, the strong part. Forte, fortissimo, loud passage of music. Forth, forward, onward, out, into the open.

Fortiter et recto, bravely and uprightly. Wow I think any one of these encapsulates how to present an argument and to remain steadfast for the long haul. All I need is a trailer load of confidence in arguing the case for all educators to improve their understanding of the crucial current information available locally and internationally on the vulnerability of the unborn child.

Our NZ government has officially recognized that the first two thousand days are the most influential in producing healthy,happy, well-adjusted children. That is an awesome regulation but few young parents are aware of how important they are to their under two year olds. Even if they do, they can't afford to be there 24/7 for their most vulnerable children..

This government's management plan fails to prioritise and educate its future Parents, Nurses, Doctors, Plunket, Mid Wives, Child Care Operators and home based caregivers with the most timely and comprehensive training, financial support and facilities to enable young New Zealanders to want to live, to feel they have a future and are proud to be New Zealanders. I am being very straightforward, and requesting that our government has the fortitude and courage to put our little people first.

Effie Lints