

U3A MANUREWA NEWSLETTER
MONDAY 10th JULY MEETING
at 1.30pm

TO BE HELD At ACACIA COVE RETIREMENT VILLAGE LOUNGE
 131 Wattle Farm Road Manurewa Auckland 2103



COMMITTEE MEMBERS			
<i>Comprising 7/8 members who take on a variety of responsibilities</i>			
President	Bob Falconer		
Secretary	Maureen Abbott		
Treasurer	Gaynor Falconer		
Vice President	Heather Hine		
Membership Sec & Speaker Co-ordinator	Pat James		
Almoner	Pat James		
Network Rep	Bob Falconer		
Newsletter Sec	Doreen Lightfoot		
Refreshments Sharleen Bishop, Christine Bertram and Corrie Patterson			

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – JULY 2023

Saturday July 29th is the U3A Network event. I know that some of you have already booked, but I understand that more U3A members would be welcomed.

September is our AGM, so this is a reminder that there are always vacancies on the committee.

Nomination forms will be available at the August meeting, so maybe you would like to volunteer and become part of the organising team. Gaynor gave notice at last year’s AGM that she wished to finish her time as Treasurer at the 2023 AGM, so we will be looking for a volunteer for this position. Please talk to her if you would like to know more.

As always Pat has obtained an interesting speaker for the meeting.

Bob

President

TREASURER: (Gaynor) FEES AND HOW TO PAY

Please remember that fees can be paid by cash or internet banking to ASB #12-3028-0593307-00. If you wish to pay by cash, please ensure the notes are put into an envelope with your name on the outside.

Host Group:

<i>Roster for Host Groups</i>					
<i>Feb</i>	<i>Book Review</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>Movies Group</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Current Affairs</i>
<i>March</i>	<i>History & People</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Card and Board Games</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Music Apprec</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>Current Affairs</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>Book Review</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>Christmas dinner</i>
<i>June</i>	<i>Music Apprec</i>	<i>Sept</i>	<i>History & People</i>		

OUR JULY SPEAKER WILL BE PAUL MOON

Paul Moon ONZM, Doctor of Literature, Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Philosophy, Master of Arts, is Professor of History at Auckland University of Technology, and a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society at University College, London. His books on New Zealand history have been published by many major international publishers, including Penguin Random House, HarperCollins, Routledge, and Bloomsbury, and he has been a finalist in two international history awards. He has appeared in various international media, including the BBC, Sydney Morning Herald, the Guardian, and the New York Times, and has worked on several Waitangi Tribunal claims.

Nostalgia and Utopianism

How we think about the past and the future can change dramatically depending on how much nostalgia and utopianism influence us. This talk will explore some of those influences, and how they can literally change history.

OUR JUNE SPEAKER WAS GUY SLOCUM who was introduced by Pat

Guy was born in London in the shadow of the Wembley sports stadium. He developed an early passion for flying which he indulged by joining the Air Cadets and obtaining his glider pilot's license one week after his sixteenth birthday. He talked of his experiences during the Falklands conflict in the South Atlantic which was extremely interesting.

Gaynor thanked Guy and was sure that his presentation was enjoyed by everyone.

SHARE, SHOW, & TELL -

SHARE, SHOW, & TELL. Lots to talk about since we last met together!

Remember we only have 10 minutes to fit everyone in,

so, if there are 30 of us for example, that allows us about 20 seconds each to share our words of wisdom!!!

Not such a daunting task really!! Saying " I have nothing to share " would allow you to use those precious 30 seconds anyway. A win win situation either way!!! Warwick

BOOKS and BOOKS

We need lots more of your "new old books " for our U3A Library supply please. We have culled a lot that have never been read. (As all good libraries do!)

GROUP REPORTS:



BOOK REVIEW Meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month, 10am.

Convenor, Pat James

Next meeting will be on the 4th July and 1st August.

Next meeting will be on the 6TH of June.

5 present and 4 apologies

Any Human Heart: William Boyd. Logan Gonzago Mountstuart, writer, was born in 1906, and died of a heart attack on October 5, 1991, aged 85. William Boyd's novel *Any Human Heart* is his disjointed autobiography, Mountstuart's sorry tale is also the story of a British way of life in inexorable decline, as his journey takes in the Bloomsbury set, the General Strike, the Spanish Civil War, 1930s Americans in Paris, wartime espionage, New York avant garde art, even the Baader-Meinhof gang--all with a stellar supporting cast. **Rated: 4**

Spare: Prince Harry. The book starts with Diana's death, funeral and burial. As a 12 year old, Prince Harry had to walk behind her coffin in front of crowds and not cry. Our reader described this as a sad book where that lack of emotional and mental support has led to a family breakdown and considers that reading the book gives a better understanding of Harry's reason and actions. **Rated: 4**


Sooley: John Grisham. Samuel Sooleyman is a 17 year old living in South Sudan with his family. His great love is basketball and he is noticed by a coach who is taking a team of local youths to the USA to play in a basketball tournament. While Samuel is in the USA, guerrilla fighters enter his village in Sudan and his mother escapes to a refugee camp in Uganda. There is a lot of detail about every basketball game that takes place which our reader found tedious. The story of his family's plight and time in the refugee camp brought home just what so many refugees have been enduring for many years. **Rated: 3.5**

Last Days of Joy: Ann Tiernan. An intimate exploration of the reverberations of family trauma is the story of the Tobin family, originating from Ireland and now living in New Zealand, after a long-ago accident that, in its horror, isolated them from their community and made a fresh start essential. Our reader got this book because it was recommended in The Listener. She did not rate it as it wasn't particularly interesting. The same reader read **Strange Sally Diamond by Liz Nugent** also recommended by The Listener. Sally Diamond cannot understand why what she did was so strange. She was only doing what her father told her to do, to put him out with the rubbish when he died. This was not rated

The Dictionary of Lost Words: Pippa Williams. Esme is born into a world of words. Motherless and irrepressibly curious, she spends her childhood in the Scriptorium, a garden shed in Oxford where her father and others are collecting words for the very first Oxford English Dictionary. Set during the height of the women's suffrage movement and the Great War and inspired by actual events. Our reader loved this book which is well researched, well written and a great story. **Rated: 5**

	CARD AND BOARD GAMES: meetings are held on the 1 st Thursday of the month at 1.30pm. Convenor: Val Marris Next Meeting Date, 6TH July and 3rd August.
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The Games Group met on Thursday 1st^h June. We had 3 different winners.
Next meeting is on 6th July and 3rd August.

	CURRENT AFFAIRS: meetings are held on the 3 rd Monday, at 2pm. At Jan and Warwick's place. Convenors: Jan and Warwick May Meeting Dates: next meeting 17th July and 21st August 2023.
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Meeting held on 17th April and 19th June report to be presented at this meeting.


- Trust in NZ News
- U3A and Money
- Values plus
- Construction failures and Family Values

Construction failures was very well constructed and kept us talking positively for quite some time. We need more people. Please come, no matter whether you have a topic or not. We'd love to have you at our **next meeting Monday, 17th July** at 2 pm. Members, please note that the pursuit of pikelet perfection was held on the 19th June and is all go for Monday 17th July! Cheers Warwick


	HISTORY PEOPLE AND PLACES: are held on the 3 rd Tues 1.30pm at Jeanette Cortesi's home. Phone: Convenor Jeanette Cortesi and Tricia Jordan. Next Meeting 18 th July and 15th August.
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April meeting: topics covered. Six attended this meeting. Apologies received from David and Dorothy and Pat James. **Topics included:**

- Brexit and Theresa May. Is Brexit working?
- Spinging House – for debtors in the UK. Debtors had to pay for everything.
- Leaning Tower of Pisa / Scold's bridle.
- Franz Josef Glacier. Naming glaciers.

	MUSIC APPRECIATION: meetings, are held on the 4 th Friday of the month, 2 to 4pm at Simon and Pat James' place. Convenor: Simon James The next meeting will be on the 23rd June and 28th July.
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26th May meeting: We had a feast of music with selections from Claude Debussy, Frederic Chopin, Antonin Dvorak, Jean Sibelius and Felix Mendelssohn. Performers were the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Lang Lang on the piano, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and the L'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande.

	MOVIES GROUP: dates and time depend on which movie is selected and then make your own way to the Hawkins Centre Papakura and meet there. Contact Heather Hine
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May Movies 2023

Red, White and Brass- Maka, a Tongan superfan, will do whatever it takes to get tickets to the Tonga v France Rugby world cup game, even if it meant promising to deliver a brass band for the pre-match entertainment. The only problem was, the band didn't exist and Maka only had a few weeks to make one. This movie was inspired by a true story, and was a great very funny story.

Allelujah- a warm, humorous at times and moving story about surviving old age. A geriatric ward in a small Yorkshire hospital was threatened with closure, and the hospital decided to fight back. It starred Jennifer Saunders (in a dramatic role for a change,) backed up by a stellar cast. A rather depressing look at old age with a couple of twists we didn't see coming. We had mixed feelings about this film.

Redemption of a Rogue- Two of us went to this movie. It is an Irish black comedy about a prodigal son, Jimmy, returning to his hometown to seek salvation for his sins. At home, his brother has been stuck looking after their sick father for seven years, and as soon as Jimmy arrives, his father dies. Then the rain starts to pour. There is a

condition in the will that his father cannot be buried on a wet day, so Jimmy is stuck in his hometown until the rain stops. This is a very Irish movie, and we enjoyed it.

MARCO POLO	MARCO POLO – PAPAKURA U3A: Next meeting will be held on Wed 19 th July at 2pm in the downstairs meeting room at Acacia Cove Lodge. Contact is Pat James meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of the month at 1.30pm.
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10 present, 1 apology

On Wednesday, 21st July, Iris Durney from Papakura U3A took us on a trip to Suzhou, a city west of Shanghai in China.

Iris lived there for over a year teaching English to pre-school children and exploring her surroundings. Suzhou is known for its canals, bridges and classical gardens. The Humble Administrator’s Garden, dating to 1513 contains zigzag bridges over connected pools and islands. The Lingering Garden features ornate viewing pavilions and the Crown of Clouds Peak is a striking limestone rockery. Tiger Hill is home to the 7-story, leaning Cloud Rock Pagoda at its summit.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 19th July at 2pm in the downstairs meeting room at Acacia Cove Lodge. We will be travelling to Uzbekistan with Vanda. There is plenty of room so please come if you are free

JULY 2023						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURS	FRIDAY	SAT	SUN
		D	1 ST BOARD & CARD GAMES 1.30PM	2 ND	1ST	2 ND
3 RD	4 TH BOOK REVIEW 10AM	5TH	6 TH	7 TH	8 TH	9 TH
10 TH U3A GENERAL MEETING	11 TH	12 TH	13 TH	14 TH	15 TH	16 TH
17 TH	18 TH HISTORY PEOPLE & PLACES 1.30PM	19 TH	20 TH	21 ST MUSIC APPREC	22 ND	23 RD
24 TH 17 TH CURRENT AFFAIRS 2PM	25 TH	26 TH	27 TH	28 TH	29 TH	30 TH
31 ST						
MOVIES Hawkins Centre Papakura and meet there. <u>Contact Heather Hine</u>						