

PAPAKURA U3A NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2024

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Sandy's Space

This Month's speaker was Mel Seal, Fundraising Manager at Totara Hospice. We had a very informative talk about the various services available. Totara Hospice was founded 41 years ago by a small group of people, led by Father Francis Fennell and his wife Beatrice. Their dream was to have a care facility available for those in the community, not only for the patient but also support for their families. This has definitely been achieved. Thank you Mel for taking the time to share.

Our ten minute speaker was Lynn Smith who spoke about Fire Extinguishers. The response from the members showed that this was indeed a subject we were all interested in. Lynn shared the different types available for use in our homes. Thank you Lynn.

Be Yourself

SEPTEMBER Meeting

Tuesday 17th September St John's Hall, Ray Small Drive, Papakura. Speaker: Willie Iosia - Bluelight

Introducer: Wendy Deeming

Thanker: Bill Peddie

Greeters: Bev Dunn, Helen Higgott, Joy Bowyer

Tea Roster: Barbara Hadfield, Ann James, Sally Curtis

10-minute speaker: Christine Brouwers

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

All members are welcome at any interest group. Just contact the Co-ordinator of the group and they will add you to the group's contact list, or roll up at their next advertised group event.

Book Group

Co-ordinator Ruth Bourne Ph: 09 294 9396 Book Group usually meets at 10am on 4th Thursday of each month at Drury Library. Please contact Ruth if you need further information. All are welcome to our meetings at the Drury Library

Film Appreciation Group

Coordinator Rod Baldwin Ph: 298 3842 or email:

rodneymbaldwin@hotmail.com

Monthly date and time arranged depending on film, usually Hawkins Theatre or Rialto, Newmarket. Email Rod to get put on his emailing list.

My suggestion for the September film "Midas Man", screening at the

Hawkins Theatre on: 4 & 19 September at 10am 11 September at 12:30pm

20 September at 7pm

"When Brian Epstein watched the Beatles perform in November 1961 he saw something no one else could see - a glimmer of gold. Midas Man is the emotional, heartfelt, and often funny story of how Brian Epstein polished four scruffy lads who were going nowhere, and in a matter of months turned them into a global phenomenon."

New Takaanini Cinema. A new cinema, named "Silky Otter", one of a new chain of similarly named cinemas throughout the country, opened at Takaanini Village on 20th July. According to the cinema management their facility offers a "luxurious experience" at the movies. However for that "experience" you pay \$26-50/ticket for adults or \$19-50 for Gold Cardholders. When compared to the \$10/ticket for seniors at the Hawkins Theatre you would be paying a lot for the privilege of the "luxury". I know which facility I shall be continuing to suggest for films and which I will be frequenting unless there is a particularly outstanding movie at the "Silky Otter".

International Film Festival. The 2024 NZ International Film Festival is to be held between 31 July and 4 September in selected cinemas in Auckland and nine other locations throughout the country. Information on the Festival, and ticketing, is available online at: nziff.co.nz. Tickets can also be purchased in person at the Civic Theatre Box Office. Rod Baldwin

International News Group

Coordinator Dena Gilmore belongingvp@inspire.net.nz If you would like to be part of a group that shares and discusses information on international stage, please get in touch with Margaret Gane. Phone Margaret on 022 158 8064 for more information. We would love to have more members so, if overseas events and 'goings on' are of interest to you, come along and join us. Margaret Gane.

Next meeting: Our next meeting is Thursday 19 September at the home of Sally Curtis. Mobile phone - 027 257 0135. We would love to have more members!

Previous meeting:

The International News Group met at the Pizza Box on Thursday 15 August at 10am with 2 more members to add to the group! Sally Curtis and Wendy Gibson joined us for the first time and added in their respective news items.

Topics covered included:-

1. Conservationists in the UK are celebrating the birth of baby beavers in London after being declared extinct four centuries ago. These beavers have been relocated from wild populations in Scotland and have settled into their new environments very successfully by building dams, lodges and new waterways and having successful births. It is proof that humans and wild creatures can live side by side successfully.
2. The altar stone at Stonehenge comes from Scotland and not Wales, a discovery made possible by analysing the stone with advanced technology. All of us in the group had seen the Stonehenge exhibition at the Auckland Museum recently so this news item was of great interest. How did it get there? is still our question.
3. A probe being used on Mars has discovered frozen water under the surface. What does this mean for life in the future?
4. An orangutan mother who was pregnant for the third time, was encouraged to watch human mothers breastfeeding their babies in an effort to encourage her to feed her own baby after birth. Whilst there was a great deal of interest shown by Mujur (mother), she was still unable to successfully rear her newborn and the zoo staff were left with no other choice but to bottle feed the youngster for a short period of time before he was moved to a specialist institution.

Margaret Gane 022 158 8064

OUT'N'ABOUT GROUP

Coordinator Helen Higgott Ph: 298-1213 email: higgotth@gmail.com. Monthly date and time arranged depending on event. Phone Helen to get put on the emailing list. **Next meeting:** On Tuesday 3rd September to Eden Gardens. 9.30am meet at Hawkins Theatre carpark to carpool - \$5 for driver. Entrance cost - \$8 with Gold Card. A beautiful garden hidden away on the side of Mt Eden with toon, camelia, magnolia, flowering cherry, clivia and tulips. Lots of birds too.

The trip is two days after "Tulip Weekend", so there should be a magnificent array of tulips. A good cafe is at the gardens, also plants for sale. Sally Curtis.

Phone Sally 0272570135 if you are interested.

Previous meeting On Wednesday 7th August, 6 of us Out'n'Abouters visited the Manurewa RSA in their new home. We were joined by a crowd of lovely ex-Army ladies. We were given a welcome and then a presentation by their President Cliff McMahon and Vice President Gabrielle Ariki. We learned the history of the RSA, where it used to be in Manurewa and why it is now located in a house. Any RSA member can make use of their services, which are to show service men and women what assistance they are entitled to. It also provides a meeting place where they can relax. We were shown around the house and into the garden on the property - very nicely laid out. It was an interesting morning, and we thank Gloria for organizing it all.



October trip

I have arranged a visit to the Anglican Holy Trinity Cathedral in Parnell at 10:15 am on Tuesday 15th November. Koha of \$5/person is requested. It is planned to travel by shared cars at \$5/driver.

I shall be seeking attendance confirmation at the September monthly meeting. **Rod Baldwin**

WALKING GROUP

Coordinator Christine Brouwers Christine.j.brouwers@gmail.com 021 100 9656. Walks organised by members of the group. **PLEASE NOTE, we have changed the day for walks to the second Wednesday of the month.**

Next Walk: Wednesday 11th September. As we are walking the new housing development on Pararekau Island off Harbourside area, meet at the corner of Capriana Drive and Milano Boulevard at 9.30am. Capriana Drive is a wide street and has plenty of roadside parking. An area of raupo will be on your left. We shall then walk across the newly formed walkway bridge to the island, up a rise through the trees of the connecting island across to the sections. Two dwellings are now being built. It is exposed so can be windy. Afterwards we shall seek out a nearby cafe as usual!

Please notify Christine (021 100 9656) or Sally (027 257 0135) if you are coming or have any questions.

Previous walk What a glorious morning (again!) for us to walk the Conifer Grove path. It totally lived up to the write up on the Auckland Council website, with possibly the extensive board walk with a nice spot for conversation at the circular platform being one of the highlights. It being low tide this walk, there was not the remotest possibility in having a repeat of what we were astonished to see on our reconnaissance walk the previous weekend - a shag, fighting with a smallish eel, struggling to get it in just the right position to swallow it whole. Astonished, we watched the shag's neck bulge as the eel slid down, when we simultaneously recited "and it wriggle and jiggled and tickled inside him". Afterwards the shag washed his mouth out with a swig of water - or was the water to wash the eel down? All captured on video.

We spotted a mini fairy tale-like village tucked in at the base of a youngish totara tree - tiny lamps, ladders wending upwards, mini signposts to Unicorn Village and Gnome land. Having a gentleman join us, a cousin of one of us, made for even more interesting conversations.



The path was very interesting, with discussions on the geology of exposed banks eroded by the tides, with the only slightly more undulating section affording framed views by the overhanging trees.

WRITING YOUR MEMOIRS

Coordinator Gloria Buddle. Contact: Gloria Buddle 092999550 or 0273561220 or guyfawkes48nz@gmail.com.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the memoirs group is on the 16th September at 10am, at Mary Haliday's home. Contact Gloria for further information, 09 2999550 or 027 356 1220. Please feel free to join our group: we each have our own way of recording our memories. At our morning tea meetings we read out our stories, usually 1- 2 A4 pages. Sometimes a photo or memento is shared, but for most the stories are being written with their families in mind, and it is hoped these memoirs will be treasured in years to come.

Previous meeting: Memoirs Group, Monday- August 19th

Thank you, Helen for opening your home to our group, and thanks also for all who provided snacks for our morning tea.

Writing of appreciating others who helped at a meeting, sharing the load and responsibility, which made the time these ladies spent together more enjoyable for the organizer. Sharing is caring, what we do best. All it took was a new format running the meeting to turn the tide. **Another on a holiday to St Petersburg**, and the amazing palaces and fountains visited. Armed with a small guidebook and lots of enthusiasm, two sisters found many paintings and statues and only visited a small number of rooms that were white and gold coloured. Luckily, they have a book to remind them and wander through again.

To England: of working, but on the weekends visiting many areas of London. A Special teacher at school enthralled her with stories and love of history. Visiting old homes out in the country, having to get there by train and bus, then a walk down a tree lined country lane.

A new member of our group introduced herself by stories of her first 5 years in England.

Of

steam trains, family day trips as they were lucky to have a car, Beatrice Potter books, and then her dad going off to War to Egypt and not seeing him for years. Of visits to the hospital and a few stitches to help her mend.

Out of the Mouths of Babes: lovely one-liners that are sure to come out at the wrong times. Treasured memories of times when children's innocence and logic are worth remembering, especially for retelling at 21st or family gatherings. Did you know people go to heaven in a cart drawn by the Easter Bunny?

To Thailand and a few rules, like no movies shown from Hollywood except for a yearly Red Cross fundraiser and then the one movie was sold out. Of the ship Otago coming into port but the stores for the Diplomatic staff were not permitted to be unloaded, due to the Otago NOT being a Cargo Ship, technically! Of drug smuggling and the death sentence, drugs being placed inside a child's teddy bear.

To Spain and of visiting a restaurant where the ONLY food served is all grown locally and of the meal lasting 4 hours; no hurry to leave. Of many flavours of ice cream and having to taste so many - brave for sure. On a 6-week holiday which was hot in Spain, England and Ireland...June/July; with friends joining them at different times too.

Gloria... 09 2999550 or 027 356 1220. Phone me, if you would like more information re joining our group.



u3a Auckland Network Event 27 July 2024.

Several Papakura u3a members attended - here are some enjoying their lunches, after listening to the morning speakers.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

LOCAL FREE FITNESS OPPORTUNITIES

TAI CHI

Sessions are held at Papakura Central Park every Sat and Sun morning from 10 - 11.30.
These are organised by the Auckland Southern District Chinese Assoc
Contact: asdca@yahoo.com

YOGA

Regular sessions are held at the Papakura Library.
Contact Papakura Library 09 377 0209

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have 1-2 hours a week to teach English for settlement to an adult refugee or migrant?

Learn how to do this with
English Language Partners Auckland South.

FREE training for 6 Fridays from 9.30am until 2.00pm

Starts 13 September 2024 until 18 October 2024

Venue: Eastview Baptist Church,
559 Chapel Road, Botany.

Make a real difference to a new New Zealander's life

PHONE: 278 9099

EMAIL: aucklandsouth@englishlanguage.org.nz

www.englishlanguage.org.nz



SEPTEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Walking Group - Parareka u Island off Harboursi de area	12	13	14
15	16 Memoirs Group	17 Monthl y meetin g. Speake r - Willie Iosia Blue Light	18	19 International N ews Group	20	21
22	23 Committee mee ting	24	25	26 Book Group Drury library	27	28
29	30					