

Groups arise in response to members' interests and wishes. Some last for months and some continue for years, with membership changing and renewing. Some gather in members' homes and so numbers are limited. Others meet in hired premises and are always open to new members.

Information and lists of all of the group activities are available at our Coffee Morning Meetings held every month.

Also at the coffee mornings there is a book table run on a 'Give & Take' basis where members can share the books they have enjoyed.

## **COST TO JOIN U3A GISBORNE**

The annual membership fee is kept low and members contribute to each activity they join. It is a constitutional requirement that all members pay their subscription within the **three months** from the October AGM.

**Only financial members may join a group.**

### **Option A**

Annual Membership Fee:     \$10  
Monthly Coffee Morning:     \$2

Or

### **Option B**

Single payment of \$25 i.e. combined annual subscription and monthly meeting admission available **only** at the October, November and December meetings or online, by 31 December.

Group Participation fees:     \$1, \$2, \$3 or \$4

A free newsletter is distributed at the monthly coffee morning.

Our monthly meeting is held every  
**first Thursday of each month,**  
**Cosmopolitan Club, Grey Street,**  
**with coffee from 9.30.**

More Information at  
**[u3agisborne@gmail.com](mailto:u3agisborne@gmail.com)**  
**[gisborneU3a.nz](http://gisborneU3a.nz)**



# **GISBORNE**

# **2022**

## **U3A**

**The University of the Third Age is an international organisation whose aims are the education and stimulation of senior members of the community.**

**U3A began in the University of Toulouse in 1973 with the aim of enhancing the quality of life of older citizens. Its success was such that the concept spread widely and reached NZ in 1989. Gisborne U3A was established in 1994 as an Incorporated Society, over the signatures of its founding members.**

**Our founding document defines our purpose as fostering the joy of learning; encouraging self-help and mutual aid learning groups to improve quality of life particularly of older people. It recognises the need for such endeavours to have an effective administration and to this end there is an elected and very busy Committee ensuring smooth running of all functions. The Committee is elected each October at the Annual General Meeting and all members are encouraged to participate in this also.**

**Each U3A is independent and autonomous so although we share the name and the philosophy we are not bound by external rules and are self-managing.**

**We have taken the word “university” from the early medieval university, where groups of students gathered together and shared experience and knowledge. The “third age” comes from the idea that life is divided into segments – childhood, adulthood and retirement. To be active in the third age is to postpone or minimise the fourth age – dependence.**

**U3A is based on an ideal of intellectual democracy, reducing the distinction between the teacher and the taught, encouraging the active exchange of knowledge and skill. In Gisborne U3A all our work and learnings are volunteer-led and member-led. And we share the tasks and responsibilities.**



**Gisborne U3A has grown markedly with the increase in retired citizens wishing to continue learning for life. Currently there are over 350 members, providing a powerhouse of knowledge, skill and experience gained overall those lifetimes.**

**Group work is central to Gisborne U3A. We have over 30 groups, meeting weekly to monthly. All endeavour to nurture minds and bodies, and all provide social engagement for members.**

**Groups include writing and poetry, travel and singing, walking and rummikub, craft, lunching and golf croquet, and many others. All groups are self-generating and managing.**

Continued overleaf ...