



PO Box 57-042, Mana 5026

February 2020 Newsletter

www.u3amana.org.nz

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Founded 1991

Hello all

Welcome to Mana U3A for 2020. This newsletter gives details of our first meeting on Thursday 20 February, lists meeting dates for 2020, and talks about how to save water and keep emergency stocks as our dry summer continues.

At the end of this newsletter is a table showing interest groups for 2020 and how to get hold of coordinators. I hope you are taking full advantage of the interest groups we offer members. This table will be posted to our website. Ideas for new groups are always welcome.

And don't forget about the interest groups run by our U3A neighbours in Tawa. You're very welcome to join in their groups or attend their talks. They have an excellent website <https://www.u3atawa.org.nz/> where you can find out what they are offering. Remember that you do not pay another sub to join in their activities: we offer the same opportunity to their members,

All the best

Bill Gebbie

President

First Quarterly Meeting

Thursday 20 February

North Baptist Church, Discovery Drive, Whitby

Doors open 12:30 pm
for shared lunch
at 1 pm followed by speaker at 1.30

Please bring

- a small plate of finger food to share
- subscription payment

If you have hearing difficulties please sit at the front of the hall near the speaker

Our speaker, Doug Lichwark, will be talking about the developing relationship between NZ and China. Doug is an Agri-Business Consultant who has been based in South West China for the last 10 years. He has a degree in Horticultural Science from Massey University and is a fluent speaker of Chinese. Doug has his own Wholly Foreign Owned company in China and provides services to New Zealand Agri Businesses. Currently, he is working on the development of a large farm in Yunnan, providing on the ground technical advice, client relationship management and cultural “translation” for both the Chinese and Western partners.

Meeting Dates for 2020

Here are dates to put in your diary:

- Thursday 20 Feb
- Thursday 21 May
- Thursday 20 Aug
- Thursday 19 Nov

Keeping in touch with your U3A friends

Sharing is what U3A is all about. So we are happy to tell members of news or events you think would interest them.

Using less water and storing water for an emergency

Porirua City Council has imposed water restrictions: it's only early February and there's much of summer still to come. It looks as if we are likely to have dry weeks ahead. so I thought you might like to know where you can find some details about the restrictions, and useful tips for saving water. Go to <https://porirua.govt.nz/services/water/water-restrictions/> for useful advice.

I've just refreshed the emergency water I store in various containers round our house and in the shed and garage. Porirua City Council provides useful information about emergency water on its website at <https://porirua.govt.nz/services/civil-defence/get-prepared/water-storage/>. I've bought a few 10 litre plastic bottles from the Council, filled them with water and spread them round our property.

Our membership

At last count we have a total of 166 members. Visitors are always welcome. Thank you to all those who have paid their subs. Please bring \$10 along to our next meeting if you haven't already paid. It's great value for the social gatherings at meetings, talks and, above all, the interest groups run by our enthusiastic coordinators. If you know of someone who is about to stop work, or is just looking for new interests, do please tell them about us. I know some people struggle to make the transition from work to retirement, and joining a local U3a group can make that change easier.

Keeping on top of contact details is a job in itself, so please let myself or our Treasurer Mike Gould know if your details have changed, or if you or a fellow member have resigned, so we can keep our records up to date. Thank you.

Subscriptions

**Subscriptions are now due. Please pay before our first quarterly meeting on 20 February, or at that meeting at the latest.
\$10 per person.**

Payment options:

- Cash or cheque at the February meeting in a named envelope please
- Posted to Mana U3A (address above)
- By internet banking to 03 1533 0008763 00
- Enter **subs in the Code section and your surname and your initials in the reference section**
- New members, and those whose details have changed are required to complete a subscription form available on the website

This is a good opportunity to update your contact details, so please let us know when you pay your sub if your home address, email or phone number has changed.

MANA U3A INTEREST GROUPS 2020

Contact the group co-ordinator for further details and enrolment
Unless shown as full groups have room for new members. Interested in starting a group or suggestions for a new group? Please contact Julie Kropp on 233 1066.

Books

2nd Tuesday, 10 am

Co-ordinator: Lesley Harrison
Telephone: 234 1677
Email: lesleymargaret@hotmail.com

Each meeting is held at the home of a member who acts as host and leads the discussion. In addition to studying two or three selected titles in detail, we try to cover a wide range of topics and authors in different genres during the year. If interested please give me a call.

Book Discussion

Group 2

2nd Thursday, 1.30 pm

Co-ordinator: Carolyn Rait
Telephone: 234 7422
Email: carolyn.rait@gmail.com

We meet monthly between May and October when we discuss our chosen book according to the month's genre. This introduces members to a wide variety of titles and authors. Our topics for 2020 are: Historical Fiction, Biography/autobiography comparison; crime or mystery: film and book comparison; non-fiction. If this sounds like you please join us.

Bridge – weekly Mondays 9:30 am
at Plimmerton Croquet Club

Tutor and Co-ordinator: Ian Fowler
Telephone: 233 0045
Email: idnfowler@hotmail.com

The Bridge Group, which meets every Monday at 9.30am at the Plimmerton Croquet Club rooms, 2 Plimmerton Drive, Plimmerton Industrial Estate, has a regular attendance of 10 to 12 members. We are always looking to expand participation.

Bridge is a challenging card game which requires the use of judgement, planning and strategy, and keeps the mind active.

The Bridge Group is run on a casual basis with plenty of social interaction and there is no need to arrange a partner. You don't need to know the game as we will teach you .

Just turn up at the venue or contact the convenor, Ian Fowler on ph2330045 or email idnfowler@hotmail.com

Creative Writing

3rd Wednesday 10 am (*Full*)

Co-ordinator: Margaret Lambie
Telephone: 0210389503
email j.mlambie@actrix.co.nz

The teaching of 'how to write' is not an aim for this dedicated group but very positive mutual encouragement and support. Those not currently working on a project of their own enjoy the challenge of writing stories on a subject sentence or collection of words chosen at random from a dictionary each month - some of the results of these assignments have been of a high calibre.

Family History

10.30 am on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, at the Porirua library.

Leader and Co-ordinator: Mike Gould
Telephone: 233 0133
Email: mjgould@tauatapu.net.nz

We meet at the Porirua Library to discuss the projects we are planning or have under way, and share knowledge, experience and tips. The group needs more members if it is to continue.

Films at Lighthouse Pauatahanui

3rd Saturday of the month, time varies

Co-ordinator: Rae Collins
Telephone: 234 7476
Email: rae.collins@xtra.co.nz

The film group visits the Lighthouse, Pauatahanui, every third Saturday of the month.

Garden Group

4th Wednesday of the month, mornings

Co-ordinator: Kay Phillips
Telephone: 027 975 8569
Email: 46nanakay@gmail.com

We are a small (about 20), friendly group and have a usual attendance of about 12-15. Most are long-time gardeners with loads of knowledge which they happily share whilst others, like me, are new gardeners.

We visit gardens or meet on the fourth Wednesday each month, except December, and discuss all

things gardening with the owners. The visits/meetings usually begin at 10 or 10.30 and finish about mid-day. Some of us lunch at a local cafe to chat after the meeting/visit. This is not a formal part of the meeting but a social add-on for those who enjoy the company.

In June and July we meet at a Church Hall and have a guest speaker and sometimes other activities.

We have a small charge of, usually, \$2.00 per month, which we use to buy a small gift for the garden owners and to pay for the hall for the indoor meetings.

Please come and "try us out". We start on 26 February.

Mah Jong

Wednesdays, weekly,
1:30 pm

Co-ordinator: Barbara Watson
Telephone: 234 8287
Email: bckjwatson@gmail.com

Mah Jong is a small friendly group of both men and women. We play each Wednesday 1.30 – 3pm followed by afternoon tea at the croquet rooms Ulric Street Plimmerton. There is a small fee of \$2.50 per session to cover expenses. We welcome both experienced players and those wishing to learn the game. For more information please ring Irene 234-1036 or Barbara 234-8287

Handcraft (full)

Fridays, fortnightly,
1:30 pm

Co-ordinator: Pat Levy
Telephone: 238 2808
Email: i.levy@xtra.co.nz

Members practise many forms of needlecraft, embroidery, knitting, crochet etc. We have no formal tutoring but some members are able to provide expert guidance with a number of skills. If you would like to join our group contact Pat.

Play Reading (waiting list)

2nd Friday of the month, May-September, 10 am

Tutor: Pat Knight
Co-ordinator: Derely Jaye
Telephone: 233 6187 or 027 244 8310
Email: derelyjaye@yahoo.com

Pat has sourced a varied range of reading material for us in the past, covering comedy, short skits, Oscar Wilde etc. A small charge is made towards photocopying required. This ensures a copy of the current reading for each person's use. We begin with coffee or tea. This group is not at all serious and we have a lot of fun. Acting experience is not necessary. At present our group is full but

Derely can take names for the Waiting List.

Science Group

Mondays, fortnightly, 10 am

Titahi Bay combined church in Mana Ave,
Titahi Bay.

Co-ordinator: Peter Evans

Telephone: 233 9690

Email: lizpeter@actrix.co.nz

The Science Group meets every second Monday at the Combined Church, Mana Ave, Titahi Bay, commencing on February. We have DVDs, talks and discussion on a wide range of scientific subjects and news reports. New members are always welcome, especially anyone who is willing to contribute

Theatrical Shows

Monthly, dependent on suitable local shows

Co-ordinator: Derely Jaye

Telephone: 233 6187 or 027 244 8310

Email: derelyjaye@yahoo.com

This group was re-formed in 2016. We try to support local theatrical groups but have also been to Circa in Wellington. Attendance has shown local shows to be the most popular. We try to take in afternoon sessions. Some prefer to commute by train/bus, others car pool. The choice is yours. Plans to dine either before or after a show can be made independently. All U3a members welcome.

These Changing Times

Thursdays, fortnightly,
10 am

Leader and Co-ordinator: Mike Gould Telephone: 233 0133

Email: mjgould@tauatapu.net.nz

The focus of each fortnightly meeting, beginning Thursday 5 April at 7A Sunset Parade, Plimmerton, will be to discuss a topical issue, nominated before each meeting by a member of the group.

This group will begin meeting on Thursday, 2 March at 10.

Travellers' Tales

4th Thursday, 1:30 pm for 2 pm

Co-ordinators: Patsy & Ross Williamson

Telephone: 2341581

Email: patsywilliamson@xtra.co.nz

Often the tale is told by one of our members but we do have outside speakers too. We meet on the 4th Thursday of each month starting in February at **St. Mary's Anglican Church in Whitby. 1:30**

pm for a 2 pm start. The first meeting is on Thursday March 26.

In addition to the U3A sub, there is a Travellers' Tales sub of \$15 per person to cover hall hire, speaker gift and afternoon tea. We have fifty members but can still grow; the more the merrier, so please come and join us.

Poetry Appreciation

Monthly 3rd Tuesday 10:30 am

Co-ordinator: Helen Reilly
Telephone : 234 7430, 021 296 1171
Email: helen@reilly.co.nz
12 Optimist Way, Whitby

How it would work: Each month we would choose a different theme, such as: ballads, New Zealand poetry, medieval poetry, 15th 16th, 17th, 18th 19th or 20th century poetry, war poetry, narrative poetry, humorous verse, political poetry etc.

One group member would choose the next month's theme and lead the discussion. Everybody would bring a poem in keeping with the theme which the group would read and then collectively discuss. The emphasis would be on enjoyment rather than in-depth academic analysis.

Your 2020 Committee

President	Bill Gebbie	237 6514 027 677 0180
Vice President	Julie Kropp	233 1066
Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer, Membership	Mike Gould	233 0133
Hospitality	Marcia Forsman	237 0264
Equipment	Colin Brown	236 8789 028 413 2372
Bookings	Irene Swadling	233 9988
	Jo Thomson	233 9389