



Titirangi

President: Heather Tanguay 0276995480 heathertanguay@slingshot.co.nz

Secretary: Val Wike 827 8693 wikeval@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2020

Hello U3A Members

Sadly, we have had to postpone our Branch Meeting on Tuesday, 25 August and all our Study Groups until we return to Level One.

As many have said, this is a tricky virus, we need to do all we can to look after ourselves, our families and each other.

Your U3A Committee will discuss our meetings' commencement at the end of the month and be in touch via our newsletter.

Those members who use Facebook please join the U3A Titirangi page as members post a variety of interesting topics such as concerts, art, history, travel and general information.

The new election date has been moved to 17 October 2020. With regards to the upcoming referendums. Can I refer you to the website - www.referendums.govt.nz. There is a good amount of information on this site.

Our membership is standing at 101 members and we currently have 23 different study groups.

Over the time of the current lockdown, please feel free to ring me on 8188809 or our U3A Almoner, Kathy on 8173168 if we can help you with anything.

Take care. We will all meet again soon.

Heather

STUDY GROUPS REPORT AUGUST 2020

MAH JONG

Convenor: Peter Nash

Ph: 817-3520

The Mah Jong group meets twice a month. Our last session was, as usual, a very friendly session. I even won a round or two, maybe because I was tutoring the beginner group.

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Monday of the month

Time: 1pm

Next meetings: to be confirmed

Venue: Green Bay



MUSIC APPRECIATION

Convenor: Pauline Jennings

Ph: 817-7281/027-2786146

At our August gathering we discussed keyboard music. We listened to music on early instruments, on developments of the piano and on to modern instruments that use a keyboard. Much animated discussion took place. At our next meeting, Dianne is going to talk about the music that got her through lockdown - perhaps more pertinent now than ever!

Meetings: 1st Tuesday of the month

Time: 10am

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: Titirangi



QUIZ

Convenor: Ann Whitehouse

Ph: 816-8812

Our two teams fought valiantly to come 5th and 6th out of 9 teams this month. We definitely know a lot more about geography, history and science than we do about sport and TV!

Meetings: 1st Tuesday of the month

Time: 6.45pm for 7pm start

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: Bricklane, New Lynn



CHESS

Convenor: Colin Whitehouse

Ph: 816-8812

The group played several rapid games in consultation style against the computer, (not set at its strongest level!). The group won all the games. Emphasis was placed on trying to anticipate the opponent's reply before making our own. We all had fun!

Meetings: 1st Wednesday of the month

Time: 10am

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: Green Bay



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP 1

Convenor: Rose Vivien

Ph: 816-8712

This month, group members reported back about a wide range of books we'd chosen to read; books we have had at home but hadn't found or made the time to read.

We changed the format of our reporting back a little and it worked out very well. Books chosen included both fiction and non-fiction; notes/videos about further reading have also been provided by members, which are very interesting. In September our themes are: 'Books rarely taken out of public libraries' – or 'Atonement'. Once again, a very enjoyable meeting.

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month

Time: 1.30pm

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: New Lynn or Green Bay



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP 2

Convenor: Shirley Kirby

Ph: 021-2058999

The group was hosted by Christa, and two new people were warmly welcomed. The session began with a time of getting to know one another and the reading interests of each. The topic for this month was 'Relationship – as Broad as it gets', which precipitated the usual diverse and entertaining variety of books. Old favourites and new discoveries revealed a depth and breadth to the interpretation of relationship. Themes explored included romantic, dysfunctional, familial, generational, death dealing relationships, deep relationships with the land, and neighbourhood interaction. Time passed quickly! Our next topic is a subject you have not read in the past.

Meetings: 1st Friday of the month

Time: 1.30pm

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: Te Atatu South



NZ AND LOCAL HISTORY

Convenor: Bruce Deverell

Ph: 214-6485/027-4770266

Our group session began with Anne Roche's presentation about Arthur Guyon Purchas who came to NZ in 1844 as a missionary. He was also a surgeon, geologist, botanist and father of 14 children. Anne brought along a family watercolour from the period to share with us. Thanks Anne. We then recapped on our previous meeting with a short extract about the Wairau Bar from Anne Salmond's recent Artefact programme. This clearly showed that some of these people were born in and had come from East Polynesia. We concluded with a short session on European explorers finishing with a homework task to prepare for next month's meeting on the missionaries.

Meetings: 2nd Monday of the month

Time: 10am

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: New Lynn

Local history at your
fingertips

GENEALOGY FOR BEGINNERS

Convenor: Peter Nash

Ph: 817-3520

No meeting was held this month.

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month

Time: 10am

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: Green Bay



ART APPRECIATION

Convenor: Larrie Millett

Ph: 816-8754

No meeting was held this month.

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month
(unless otherwise advised)

Time: 10.30am

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: to be confirmed



SCRABBLE

Convenor: Judy Cronin

Ph: 626-6390

Although this group is currently full, you are welcome to add your name to the Waiting List if you are keen on language and spelling skills or you want to enjoy learning a new game.

Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month

Time: 1pm

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: Blockhouse Bay



CREATIVE WRITING

Convenor: Pam Sellers

Ph: 817-2176

No meeting was held this month.

Meetings: 2nd Friday of the month

Time: 11am

Next Meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: Green Bay



FILM FANCIERS

Convenor: Pat Labrum

Ph: 827-2415

On July 31st we had an extra bonus, one of last year's Festival Film Winners – La Belle Epoque, which we saw at Flicks in Titirangi. This was certainly an excellent movie for our group to see after lockdown. It was thoroughly enjoyed by 10 members and a visitor, followed by a hearty lunch and vigorous discussion at the Titirangi RSA.

Meetings: 2nd Friday of the month (unless otherwise confirmed)

Time: to be confirmed

Next meeting to be confirmed

Venue to be confirmed



TRAVEL GROUP

Convenor: Heather Tanguay

Ph: 818-8809

The U3A Titirangi travel Group met again at the Glen Eden RSA. There were 15 members and 5 visitors present. The speaker was Gill Norris who gave an interesting talk about a trip to game reserves she and her husband made to Botswana. Lots of exciting stories were told. We look forward in the future to hearing about members' trips to Jerusalem and India

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month

Time: 10am

Next meetings to be confirmed

Venue: Glen Eden



BUS ADVENTURES

Convenor: Eileen Howard

Ph: 021-1789562

No report for this month.

Meetings: 3rd and 4th Wednesday (to be confirmed)

Time 9am

Next meeting to be confirmed

Venue Kelston Community Centre (meeting place)



ETHNIC CUISINE/DINING

Convenor: Eileen Howard

Ph: 021-1789562

No report for this month.

Meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month

Time: to be confirmed

Next meeting to be confirmed

Venue: to be confirmed



CURRENT AFFAIRS

Convenor: Val Wike

Ph: 827-8693

At our July meeting we explored the topic of Indian current affairs and in particular the growth of Hindu nationalism. We watched a short video which sparked valuable contributions from those of our members who had visited India in the past. We intend to continue with this topic and broaden our discussion to include political systems.

Meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month

Time: 10am

Next meetings: to be confirmed

Venue: New Lynn

Bus route: 170/171/172



WALKS AND TALKS

Convenor: Ann Whitehouse

Ph: 816-8812

Ten walkers enjoyed exploring Taipari Strand on the Te Atatu peninsula, starting at the 137 year old Waitemata Rowing Club followed by morning tea in Fuze cafe. Thank you for leading a most enjoyable walk, Shirley.

Meetings: 3rd Friday of the month

Time: 10am

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: to be confirmed



HISTORY

Convenor: Colin Whitehouse

Ph: 816-8812

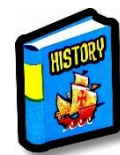
The group began its study of India by viewing a BBC documentary on "Ancient India, Its Earliest Civilisation" which covered the contrast between Indian culture and Western culture. It highlighted the invasions by Aryans, Moguls and the British and their effects on Indian development. It also examined the diverse religions in India.

Meetings: 4th Monday of the month

Time: 10.30am

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: Green Bay



OPERA APPRECIATION

Convenor: Kate Methven

Ph: 817-9804

A very full turnout of members for the second instalment of Offenbach's Tales of Hoffmann (Les Contes D'Hoffmann), which was left unfinished at his death. Paul Hui continued to lead us with further interesting details about Offenbach, a review of the prologue and Act 1 and then an outline of the two tales that we were about to see. A full expression of Offenbach's lyrical strength was experienced in this tale of thwarted love. A lovely lunch at Pinesong followed.

Meetings: 4th Friday of the month

Time: 10am

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: Matai Room, Pinesong



MYTHS, LEGENDS & FAIRY TALES

Convenor: Pam Sellers

Ph: 817-2176

No meeting was held this month.

Meetings: 4th Friday of the month

Time: 10.30am

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: Green Bay



JAPANESE ART

Convenor: Julian Cole

Ph: 021-0873223/817-8682

Julian started the meeting with an overview of the purpose of the group - which is to look at the influence of Japanese artists on modern Western artists and architects. His initial interest was kindled by his and Beverley's own house and the work of Bill Haresnape, architect and builder, who was in turn influenced by architects Richard Neutra and Frank Lloyd Wright.

The first part of the meeting included a tour of the house and garden, also showing objects of interest, copies of woodblock prints and paintings that have been collected over recent years. Discussion continued to establish common ground and expectations of members. Subjects ranged from the current exhibition at Auckland Art Gallery, - 'Enchanted Worlds' which most members had seen, the Netsuke exhibition at Te Uru Contemporary Gallery, Titirangi, - to the Asian Gallery in Maurice Rd. Penrose, where one can find Japanese antiques of all descriptions for sale.

The meeting concluded with an agreement that each member research a relevant artist of their choice and present their findings at our next meeting. We would be happy to welcome additional members to this group.

Meetings: 1st Wednesday of the month

Time: 1pm

Next meeting: to be confirmed

Venue: Titirangi



Japanese Art Inaugural meeting August 2020

STUDY GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S MESSAGE

After our first Lockdown, it was great to see that most groups had been able to fit back into their old routines; and that friends were getting back together to enjoy the varied activities and studies that are being undertaken. Now we are into another Lockdown, and groups will need to be postponed. Hence in the reports we have stated that the next meeting is yet to be confirmed. Sorry. But we must look to everyone's well-being and follow all the MOH regulations and recommendations.

Japanese Art has now started and even though it is still a small group, I suspect before too long we shall have to draw up a Waiting List. Thank you to Bev and Julian for initiating this study group which I'm sure will follow the interests of the group members.

Music Appreciation and *NZ History* are also well on their way with enthusiastic leaders and members. It is positive to see new groups being offered as we are aware that some members have been on Waiting Lists for a while. I do try to ensure that any new members get at least one group of their choosing. We will hopefully be able to offer *Water Walking* and *Pop-up Swimming* as the water gets warmer; and safe and sunny days return.

We were looking forward to hearing about our *Bus Adventures* trips to Thames this month. If you are not currently on the list which Eileen Howard has and you think you would like a trip to Thames, you could give Eileen a call on 021178 9562 to see if there is a vacancy when this trip eventually goes ahead. The planned August trips will be postponed.

Just a reminder! Please let your convenor know if you are going to be absent for a meeting, as this means they can invite a current Waiting List person to visit the group for that meeting. This would be really helpful. Our branch policy is that if you are absent for two meetings without an apology being received, we will make the position in the group available to someone else.

Please let me know if you have an interest in establishing a group for us.

Dianne Deverell
Study Group Co-ordinator
Ph 214 64 85
email: dianne.u3atgn@gmail.com