



*Titirangi*

*President: Heather Tanguay 0276995480 heathertanguay@slingshot.co.nz*  
*Secretary: Val Wike 827 8693 wikeval@gmail.com*

## NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2020

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope this finds you enjoying the warmer weather and newfound freedom of Level One. It has been an up and down sort of a year.

Thank you to all who came to our meeting in September at the RSA and sincere thanks to those members who stepped up at short notice and gave such interesting 10-minute talks. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon.

Take care everyone.

Heather

We have struck gold with two wonderful speakers for our October 27th meeting. Member Colin Mason has spent much of this year creating his new website [www.poeticnature.co.nz](http://www.poeticnature.co.nz). Colin says that in this age of environmental harm, he believes that using nature as a teacher, combined with creative expression, is a process we can use to enhance a new respect for ourselves and the world. His poems are an example of how this process works and Colin will recite some of his poetry.

Sandra Coney QSM is a name well-known to many of us. A highly regarded writer, historian, feminist, women's health campaigner and long-term local-body politician. Her knowledge of things 'west Auckland' is arguably without peer. She will speak to us about her 20-year search to track the kauri bushman from the Piha Mill and how a broken forest became a magnificent park.

We will hold our U3A Titirangi AGM, followed by a delicious afternoon tea and entertainment, on 24 November. Please note the cost of afternoon tea is \$15 and must be paid in advance (to confirm our catering arrangements.) You can pay the \$15 in cash at our October meeting or by internet banking - U3A Account number 12-3086-0157159-00 before 10 November. Please put your name and tag deposit "AGM tea".

Our Past President/ Membership Secretary, Maggie Way, our Study Group Coordinator, Dianne Deverell (both have been on the committee since the inception of U3A Titirangi) and our current Membership Secretary, Ngairie Kay, will all retire from the U3A Committee at the AGM. To keep running U3A Titirangi as it has done in the past, we need a full Committee. If you feel you would like to be involved, please contact Heather for a chat before the AGM.

Carole Craighead will be taking over from Dianne as the Study Group Coordinator in November.

Heads up ..... Although the annual subscription is set at the AGM we plan to keep our subs for 2021 at \$30 and payment will be taken at the AGM or at January 2021 meeting. Payment may also be made online, tagged 'Sub'.

The prospective U3A Waiheke branch will hold its inaugural meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> October. Members from other branches are welcome to attend.

Anyone interested in the recent (and ongoing) hearings to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care, can access information at [www.abuseincare.org.nz](http://www.abuseincare.org.nz). The inquiry is investigating the abuse of children, young people and vulnerable adults in the care of the State and/or faith-based institutions in New Zealand between 1950 and 1999.

Did you know that you can enter West Lynn Gardens without paying the entry fee when you attend our U3A monthly meetings. The gardens and butterfly house are beautiful and well worth a visit, and all created and maintained by volunteers.

We look forward to seeing you all again at West Lynn Garden for our meeting at 1.00 pm on Tuesday 27th October.

From your U3A Committee



## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP 1

**Convenor:** Rose Vivien

**Ph:** 816-8712

No recent meetings

**Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> 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

How delightful it was for the group to be able to meet again, sharing our lives and interests once more. The topic for the day was either a theme or genre which normally would not appeal, or a book incorporating the theme of water. Several reflected that concentration and focus over the last few months had led to reading more 'comfort', familiar themed books which were easy to pick up and put down. Thus, a wide range of material was discussed.

**Next Meeting:** 7<sup>th</sup> November at 1.30pm

**Topic:** A book recommended by a friend

**Venue:** please contact for location



## NZ AND LOCAL HISTORY

**Convenor:** Bruce Deverell

**Ph:** 214-6485/027-4770266

Our group is up and running again after the latest Lockdown. Appropriately our "revival" topic was the Missionaries. We discussed the various groups – such as the CMS, the Wesleyans and the Catholics – and the varying success of their missions. We were impressed by the stamina of the missionaries, especially with all the walking that they had to do around and across the North Island.

We then segued to some of the other groups of early Europeans who were settling here in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. These were also an interesting selection, so much so that Charles Darwin of the Beagle described Kororāreka as being full of the "refuse of society". One of the characters that caught our attention was New Zealand's first woman pirate, Charlotte Badger, who arrived in 1807. It is great how everyone in the group contributes to the discussions with ideas from their own readings, travels, family backgrounds and experiences.

**Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month

**Time:** 10am

**Next meeting:** 9<sup>th</sup> November

**Venue:** New Lynn

Local history at your  
fingertips

## GENEALOGY FOR BEGINNERS

**Convenor:** Peter Nash

**Ph:** 817-3520

No recent meetings

**Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month

**Time:** 10am

**Next meeting:** to be confirmed

**Venue:** Green Bay



## ART APPRECIATION

**Convenor:** Larrie Millett

**Ph:** 816-8754

For only the second time this year, we managed to actually have a meeting!

We met at the Pah Homestead and were introduced to the Wallace Awards exhibition by the very personable and informed Livia!

A huge selection of works, materials, and subject matter enabled us to enjoy our "cultural" morning! Followed as always, by coffee and discussion at the cafe on site.

**Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month (unless otherwise advised) at 10.30am

**Next meeting:** to be confirmed

**Venue:** to be confirmed

## SCRABBLE

**Convenor:** Judy Cronin

**Ph:** 626-6390

**Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month

**Time:** 1pm

**Next meeting:** to be confirmed

**Venue:** Blockhouse Bay



## CREATIVE WRITING

**Convenor:** Pam Sellers

**Ph:** 817-2176

No recent meetings

**Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month

**Time:** 11am

**Next Meeting:** to be confirmed

**Venue:** Green Bay



## FILM FANCIERS

**Convenor:** Pat Labrum

**Ph:** 827-2415

No recent meetings

**Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month (unless otherwise confirmed)

**Time/ Next meeting/ Venue** All to be confirmed



## JAPANESE ART

**Convenor:** Julian Cole

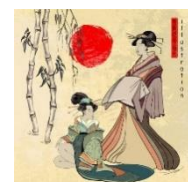
**Ph:** 021-0873223/817-8682

No recent meetings

**Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at 1pm

**Next meeting:** to be confirmed

**Venue:** Titirangi



## TRAVEL GROUP

**Convenor:** Heather Tanguay

**Ph:** 818-8809

Travel Group met at the Glen Eden RSA and enjoyed a wonderful talk from Jan George who told us about going to Jerusalem - as a recently married young woman - with her husband who set up the first TV station there. Jan talked about how she had ventured far and wide exploring the area in a talk filled with humour; we all had such a good laugh together.

**Meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month

**Time:** 10am

**Next meetings** Tuesday 20th September.

**Venue:** Home of Bev and Julian Cole, 4 Otitori Bay Rd, Titirangi



## BUS ADVENTURES

**Convenor:** Eileen Howard

**Ph:** 021-1789562

No recent meetings

**Meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month (to be confirmed)

**Time** 9am

**Next meeting** 28 October/4 November

**Venue** Kelston Community Centre (meeting place)



## ETHNIC CUISINE/DINING

**Convenor:** Eileen Howard

**Ph:** 021-1789562

No recent meetings

**Meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

We resumed our monthly meetings in September after Level 3 lockdown in August. Members made contributions on issues of interest to them. This led to an interesting discussion on 'freedom of the press' and the treatment of journalists. We also explored the issue of growing Government debt, unconventional monetary policies and what these will mean for future generations. We concluded with morning tea and general discussion.

**Meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

No recent meetings

**Meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month

**Time:** 10am

**Next meeting:** to be confirmed

**Venue:** to be confirmed



## HISTORY

**Convenor:** Colin Whitehouse **Ph:** 816-8812

At the September meeting the group began what will be an extensive study of India with a video giving a brief overview. The video covered from around 600 BCE up until the 20th century. The group will spend the next few months revisiting aspects in far greater detail. It is a vast subject!

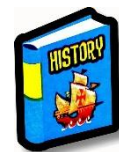
Next month we will look at the Vedic period which saw the rise of Hinduism.

**Meetings:** 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month

**Time:** 10.30am

**Next meeting:** to be confirmed

**Venue:** Green Bay



## OPERA APPRECIATION

**Convenor:** Kate Methven **Ph:** 817-9804

We welcomed three new group members and are pleased to have them join us. We were offered a Gala Concert programme (*Silvesterkonzert 2010*) with the enthusiastic Berlin Philharmonic conductor, Gustavo Dudamel, and brilliant mezzo soprano, Elina Garonca. The concert included music and arias from operas we have studied, including Saint-Saens' *Samson et Dalila* and Bizet's *Carmen*. On the final two meetings of the year (Oct/Nov) we will hopefully be watching *Rigoletto*!

**Meetings:** 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month

**Time:** 10am

**Next meeting:** Friday, 23rd October at 10 a.m.

**Venue:** Matai Room, Pinesong



## MYTHS, LEGENDS & FAIRY TALES

**Convenor:** Pam Sellers **Ph:** 817-2176

No recent meetings

**Meetings:** 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month

**Time:** 10.30am

**Next meeting:** to be confirmed

**Venue:** Green Bay



## STUDY GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings to you all.

Thank you to Carole for standing in for me at the September Branch Meeting. Carole is assisting me in this work and will be available at the Evaluation Meetings to meet all our wonderful convenors.

It is certainly great to be back into Level 1 as most of us are now prepared to return to meeting up with our Study and Activity Groups. Congratulations to those groups who were able to maintain contact and attempt follow-up activities via the internet. We hope that 2021 enables us to keep all our groups going.

At this point in the year, I should like all members to give some thought to the possibility of further topics and activities for our members to study. It has been great that our new groups for NZ History and Japanese Art have been able to start. Well done.

Vacancies currently in Chess and Japanese Art.

Convenors, remember we are having our Evaluation Meetings this year on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November and/or Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November and I appreciate your prompt responses so that I can allocate the date for your attendance. I will be shortly confirming your date.... awaiting one or two responses.

Enjoy your End of Year activities and socialising!

Dianne Deverell

Study Group Co-ordinator

Ph 214 64 85

email: [dianne.u3atgn@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.u3atgn@gmail.com)