



December 2016

www.u3abayofislands.wordpress.com

U3A Bay of Islands, PO Box 833, Kerikeri 0245

u3a.bay.of.islands@gmail.com

From the Chair

Hello everybody,

I hope that you, your friends and your families are all safe after the earthquake. We were unaware until friends in the UK sent us a Skype message about it. Our thoughts go out to the people in Kaikoura and surrounding area who were the most affected.

Ian and I had a lovely holiday in the Coromandel with my brother and sister-in-law from the UK. The weather brightened up for the Driving Creek Railway, Hot Water Beach and Whitianga. Then over to Tauranga to see the Classic Flyers Museum (next to the airport), Mount Manganui, Mills Reef Winery and Tauranga Art Gallery. There is so much to see in each region of New Zealand. It was also great to see the family after their last visit three years ago. Now they are visiting our son in Sydney before they return to England.

We hope you are all getting ready for Christmas and the holiday, perhaps catching up with family and friends or travelling. Many of our U3A groups are having a last get together before reconvening next year. As usual, there will be no Newsletter in January, and our next General Meeting will be in February. Wishing you all a safe and happy time for the Holidays!

Cheers,

Sue Robertson



New Members

U3A Bay of Islands is delighted to welcome new members Ernst and Vivien Knaus. We would also like to apologise to Claude and Sue Schwander for giving them the wrong surname in the last Newsletter. Be sure to look out for them in groups and at the next General Meeting and say "Hello".

Dates for your 2017 Calendar

Please mark these dates in your calendar for the Bay of Islands General Meetings in 2017. You will notice that **some dates do not correspond with the usual third Monday**, as these were subject to the availability of the St. John Ambulance Hall.

Monday, **February 27**, 10:30 am

Monday, **April 4**, 10:30 am

Monday, **June 26 AGM**, 10:00 am

Monday, **August 21**, 10:30 am

Monday, **October 16**, 10:30 am

Group News

Our **Cooking** group will go into temporary recess after its December meeting but we will look to begin a similar group during the winter months next year. I am sure that members of the current group have enjoyed some delicious dishes and learned many useful techniques and recipes from Stuart Leitch. Thank you, Stuart.

Our **Local History** group, based in Opuia, will have its last meeting in December. We would like to thank Don Jansen very much for leading this group. Don's trip planning was always meticulous and his own knowledge of local history proved of great benefit to the group.

New Groups

The members of the Opuia History group have enjoyed each other's company so much that they have decided to stay together and meet as a **Current Affairs** group in the New Year. We are very grateful that Stuart Leitch has agreed to facilitate this group which will continue to meet at the home of Don and Pat Jansen on the second Monday of the month at 2 pm. There is room in this group for some new members.

East to West will be a new group, led by Pam Jenkins and starting next March, based on an exciting seven part series charting the birth of a flourishing civilisation in the Near and Middle East and its dynamic influence on the West. The series follows the spread of civilisation across the globe from the first cities of Mesopotamia. For crucial phases in world history the key place was the Middle East – an extraordinary region that was a political, economic and cultural centre and a bridge between the continents of Asia, Africa and Europe. The series is produced by Lion Television (UK) in association with Bahcesehir University, Turkey.

Topics covered are:

- **Between Two Rivers – The birth of civilisation in Anatolia and the Middle East**
- **The Triumph of Monotheism – the story by which a single deity emerged from a pantheon of thousands**
- **A Force from the Desert – the origins of the Arabs and Islam, the spread of the Islamic empire**
- **The Muslim Renaissance – a golden age of invention and scholarship in the Islamic World at a time when Europe lingered in the dark ages**
- **The Asian Crucible – the extraordinary powers and civilisations which have emerged from central Asia**
- **The Rise of the Ottomans – the Ottoman Empire and unprecedented developments in science and the arts**
- **The Ottomans and the West - the growing European fascination with 'the Orient' throughout the 19th century, both as a place of culture and also as a trading partner and market for mass produced western goods then the decline of the Ottoman Empire**

This group will meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 10.00 am.

There are still one or two places available in **Understanding Greek and Roman Technology** which will start in the New Year.

To apply for a new group, please contact **Margaret Rasmussen**- ras1@clear.net.nz or 09 402 8949

Featured Groups

Thank you to Ann Leitch for sending these lovely photos of Local History Kerikeri's November outing at Kemp house: "Roses and the Missionaries".



Mais oui, here is a bit of fun from the French Conversation Group's end-of-year celebration.



Catherine Gossage

Just to keep your brain on the go over the holidays, here is a little Holiday Word Search.



J G Q L L X D Q E Z A Z Z I S Y W S I S
B M W H Z F S N Y S P T L T T N X G G Z
R H G J N D G O A F A I N U Z V I N I C
P O N P D A R F I B T M R A S G J I N B
K A G X P N M S O O U W T B S X I K G A
T O J M A A H V N S T N E S E R P C E R
E A A M N N T U R K E Y P C I X V O R B
G H E G C Y R R E B W A R T S R I T B E
C N E H C R A N B E R R Y F C W H S R Q
T R I D V P Y M F Y N F S A M A Y C E U
D P V D A A Y S S M Y M P M O N R K A E
S C P I D P U D V T U Y Y I E O K O D J
U N M I L U Z N W R U K Q L M K X R L L
P Z L R Q R P E C T R F B Y O E A E G S
X O M M Z T X I P S Y L F M D T P T Y V
H O H N U V D R A A L T U I S C N U D Y
H S C D Z F A F M E V K T Q N S Y Q M T
F B C Q P X R M K F R B U T J G B Q R C
H C A E B N M S P H O O E O D Z U L R A
N T N P D F H Y C Q J U N Q V M T I Z L

BARBEQUE
BEACH
CAROLS
CHAMPAGNE
CHRISTMAS
CRANBERRY
FAMILY
FEAST
FISHNCHIPS
FRIENDS
GINGERBREAD

HOLIDAY
MANGER
ORNAMENT
PRESENTS
PUDDING
SANTA
STAR
STOCKINGS
STRAWBERRY
STUFFING
TURKEY