



July 2015

www.u3abayofislands.wordpress.com

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President's report to AGM of U3A Bay of Islands – 15th June, 2015

It gives me great pleasure to present the 16th Annual Report of the U3A - Bay of Islands. We continue to grow, with new groups taking the place of groups that have run their course. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members without whom it would be impossible to exist and particularly those who regularly host our various meetings in their homes; their hospitality is greatly appreciated. It would be remiss of me not to mention our facilitators. The time and effort they put into their task is immeasurable, and their enthusiasm and skill is much enjoyed by their group members.



The Committee: My appreciation of the hard work carried out by members of your committee is immense. They certainly underscore the maxim, if you want a job done well, find a busy person. The tasks they fulfil are only one of many other roles they perform. If I were wearing a hat I would take it off to them.

Pam Jenkins continues her excellent job as our secretary with excellent minutes of our monthly meetings.

Christine Cronshaw works in the dark arts of our finances. A bit like at the front of the scrum, I know what they achieve, but I'm not sure I really know how they do it!

Margaret Rasmussen brings about the miracles of finding the slots that our members have available for new groups that are being created.

Liz Berry has headed up the organisation of our General Meetings, which have always been well attended.

At last year's AGM we heard from John Booth, telling us about sustainable fishing and the creation of marine reserves.

In August Tony Norman gave us an illustrated talk on the Three Voyages of Captain James Cook.

October gave us a two-pronged presentation on the Archaeology and Heritage here in Northland by Bill Edwards and Brooke Jamieson

February saw us experiencing the development of Chris Booths art over the last 40 years.

In April Elizabeth Forgie, the principal of Kerikeri High School, used her school as an example of the microcosm of global educational change.

The General Meetings also bring about the fabulous shared lunches, which I know so many of you look forward to. Thanks to the groups who take turns to run the kitchen and to the membership for the provision of the tasty finger food. All these efforts are greatly appreciated.

Sue Robertson has been responsible for publicity and this involves making contact with local media to raise our profile. She also distributes the posters to advertise our meetings. Last month, Sue also mounted a wonderful display in the Proctor Library window.

Moira Warnock has been working with Lesley in the co-editing of our Newsletter. It is always an interesting read and it takes a lot of time to be this good.

Maebeth Hart is our almoner and takes it upon herself to be contact person when we become aware of members' illnesses or injuries. In this electronic age I think we all still love a card – it seems much more personal. The cards are created by Christine.

Finally we come to **Lesley McNaughton**, who is our immediate past president and involves herself in the editing of the Newsletter and, with Margaret, created and became the webmaster for our informative website.

As with all things, we move on and after this AGM we lose both Lesley and Liz, and I take this opportunity to thank them both for their sterling work. If I find myself floundering – remember you are only a 'phone call away!

In conclusion, we have lost some groups that have run their course, other groups continue, and new groups have started, such as: Political Ideologies, 2 poetry groups, Cooking, a "Carry on Sketching" group, Geology and Cosmology group, a 20th Century NZ History group and Singing For Fun. Starting soon are Natural History and Art History group 2.

So thank you all, for it is your enthusiasm, energy and support that makes us the success that we are. As our Treasurer would say, "The best \$20s worth anywhere!"

Stuart Leitch

Report on the AGM

Our AGM speaker was Kerikeri resident, Ian McGill, a member of the Northland Conservation Board. This independent body is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the policies and objectives for managing the region's natural and historic resources as set out in the Northland Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) This is a formidable task even for a body whose members have a wide range of skills, experience and knowledge of conservation issues, nature conservation, natural earth and marine sciences, cultural heritage, recreation, tourism, the local community and Maori perspectives. The Board holds public meetings that provide a forum for those wishing to raise conservation issues. They advise on, and vet, applications for funding for conservation projects and have the freedom to make recommendations without reference to the Ministry or DOC.



The Board is involved in a wide range of projects including the fight against Kauri Dieback, Save the Kukupa (photo left) and the release of saddlebacks. It also works with numerous conservation groups including the Northland Kiwi Forum, the Fishing Council, Kauri National Park, the Marine National Park for Northland, the Puketi Forest Trust, Operation Island Song, and the Guardians of the Bay.

Ian's talk highlighted the huge debt owed by us all to these dedicated volunteers for the time, energy and expertise they commit to safeguarding the superlative natural resources of this unique region.

Moira Warnock

Annual Subscription

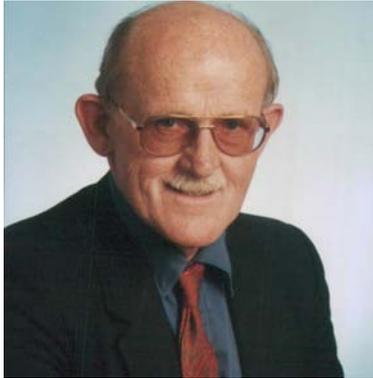
Our Treasurer, Christine Cronshaw, reports that there are approximately 60 members who have still not paid their subscription for 2015-2016. As you will appreciate, contacting each of these members would take an enormous amount of time. So – if you are among the tardy 60 – please post your \$20 or pay it into the U3A B.O.I. account (02 0352 0020910 000) either by direct credit or at BNZ, Kerikeri.

Please put your surname on the payment and notify Christine (annachristine@gmail.com). The subscription has been the same for 12 years and, as Stuart said at the AGM, represents amazing value.

Group Resources

There is a register of all resources owned by U3A Bay of Islands. Most of the resources are books and DVDs that have been bought for past or present or future groups. The DVDs include three series of short lectures purchased this year *How to Listen to and Understand Great Music*, which will be used by the Music Appreciation Group, *The Nature of Earth: An introduction to geology*, which will be used by the Geology and Cosmology Group, and *Understanding Greek and Roman Technology: From Catapult to the Pantheon*. We also have a register of resources that members have offered to lend if groups would like to use them. Most resources can be borrowed by facilitators for use in their meetings. If you would like a copy of the register please contact Pam Jenkins (pmjenkins@xtra.co.nz).

Committee News



We are delighted to welcome Martin Ough Dealy whose wealth of experience in his service career, his professional life and in voluntary work will be a valuable asset to the Committee.

Born in Mexico to British parents Martin received his early education in Pachuca before being sent to boarding school in Jamaica. He joined the British Army and, after Sandhurst, was commissioned in Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and served in Korea before qualifying as an engineer through Royal Military College of Science and London University (External). Martin served in Korea, Malaysia, Germany, Norway, Denmark and Northern Ireland before taking voluntary early retirement as a Major in 1971. In the same year Martin moved to New Zealand with his wife and two young daughters to take up a post as an Engineering and Management Consultant. His work has taken him to Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Thailand, Laos, Philippines, Mongolia and Armenia.

2015 - 2016 Committee			
President	Stuart Leitch	09 407 3458	sleitch21@gmail.com
Secretary	Pam Jenkins	09 407 7020	pmjenkins@xtra.co.nz
Treasurer	Christine Cronshaw	09 407 6871	annachristinec@gmail.com
Group Convenor & Webmaster	Margaret Rasmussen	09 402 8949	ras1@clear.net.nz
Meeting Coordinator	To be decided		
Publicity Officer	Sue Robertson	09 407 3452	robertson8148@yahoo.co.uk
Almoner	Maebeth Hart	09 407 5100	casatres@xtra.co.nz
Newsletter Editor	Moira Warnock	09 407 6389	warnock2@btinternet.com
Committee Member	Martin Ough Dealy	09 407 5925	mdealy@clear.net.nz

New members

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Ngaire Allwood, Bridget Clode and Janice Hudson to U3A and hope that they will thoroughly enjoy their new activities.

Group News

Singing For Fun got off to a melodious start and we look forward to hearing more from them.

Natural History We have interested members but need a facilitator and a venue. If you feel you could take on this role please contact Margaret Rasmussen who would be delighted to hear from you.

Carry on Sketching is still taking a break. Anyone interested in joining please get in touch.

Music Appreciation Please see the report on Page 4 for information on the new format.

Featured Groups

Singing For Fun

Eleven members attended, six sent apologies, and three more have expressed interest in joining, so Singing For Fun got off to a lively and harmonious start. Moira Pascoe, granddaughter of a U3A member, brought along a variety of music and song sheets to get us started and accompanied us on the piano. We warmed up with renditions of well-known songs including *After the Ball*, and *Two Little Girls in Blue*. At morning teatime, we discussed what we might enjoy singing. Moira entertained us with a song from *Fiddler on the Roof* and then we had a further singsong.

We look forward to further get-togethers on the first Tuesday morning of each month, and welcome others who would like to join us.

Christine Cronshaw

Computers and Cameras

Members take it in turns to host the meeting at 10.00am on the third Thursday. There are 9 members of the group and we invite like-minded individuals to come and join us for fun, relaxation and a small degree of learning.



Ian's photo for 'the passing of time' theme

Each month we have a topic eg. a sense of motion, what it means to be a Kiwi and close ups. Members bring a photo they have taken and we discuss this, allowing us all to learn more about each person in a gentle way. The photo shown here is one used for the passing of time. We then have half an hour discussion on any problems people are having in relation to their cameras, computers and printers and come to a degree of resolution. After this, I present a computer-based topic. Subjects have included buying a computer, setting it up and emails.

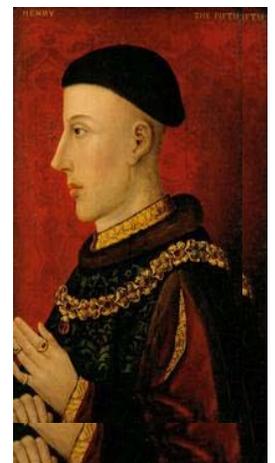
This is not a heavy group. It is a social group of people who enjoy each other's company and tackling these potentially tricky issues in a convivial environment. If you wish to come along please email me on robertson8148@yahoo.co.uk *Ian Robertson*

Shakespeare

Our current viewing is Henry V, Henry VI Part I and II, and we are looking forward to Part III. These vivid sequences have held our interest completely by the work of a first class producer and excellent acting, making the most of William Shakespeare's brilliant dialogue.

It is a pleasure to watch the variety of people, the energetic battle scenes and the dramas that follow as Shakespeare plays around with historical facts. His diverse audiences were offered a glimpse of life from the royal court of nobility, tavern life, brothels and beggars, as the extremists and bigots flourished and rebelled, thus gaining an insight into Mediaeval and Renaissance politics as the War of the Roses continued. These plays emphasise the quality of William Shakespeare's work, written 400 years ago, illustrating the common and unchanging traits in human nature

Margaret Lindsay



Henry V
(National Portrait Gallery, London)

Music Appreciation



The Music Appreciation group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 1.30 p.m. In the past our format has been to agree on a theme such as colours, animals, seasons, countries etc and the members bring a CD on that theme, to which we all listen. Our June meeting had a theme of “clarinet and oboe”, so we listened to various composers including Albinoni, Mozart, Vivaldi, Cimarosa, and some more obscure ones.

From August, we are having a different approach. We have obtained a DVD course, “**How to listen to and understand great music**” by Prof. Robert Greenberg (see photograph). This course introduces music from ancient times up to the present day and explains how music has changed over the centuries. It is a very interesting and entertaining course and while it introduces various concepts, is not too technical. We will provide additional notes if appropriate. Members will be asked to bring, if they wish, a CD of the musical period which will be covered in the next episode.

We have room for more members so if anyone wishes to learn more about great music, let us know.

Jack Beggs

Calendar for U3A Bay of Islands		updated June 2015		These are our <u>normal</u> meeting times	
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st wk		Singing for Fun	C20th NZ History		
am		10 am	10 am		
pm	Current Affairs Mon 2 pm	French Conversation 2 pm Committee meetings 2 pm	Opera Wed 1:30 pm	Music Appreciation 2 pm	Art House Films One 1:30 pm
2nd wk	Poetry for Pleasure Mon		Carry On Sketching	Western Civilisation	Atlantis
am	10 am		10 am	10 am	10 am
pm	Art History 2 pm	Book Discussion Two 1:30 pm		Political Ideologies 1:30 pm	
	Local History Opua 2 pm				
3rd wk	General meetings Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct	Local History Kerikeri 10 am – time may vary	Geology and Cosmology 10 am	Computers & Cameras 10 am	Philosophy 10 am
pm		Book Discussion One 1:30 pm	Greek Odyssey Wed 1:30 pm	Opera Thurs 1:30 pm	
4th wk	Cooking				Poetry for Pleasure Frid
am	10 am				10 am
pm	History of Ireland Mon 2pm	Shakespeare 1:30 pm	History of Ireland Wed 2 pm	Current Affairs Thurs 1:30 pm	Art House Films Two 1:30 pm

For further details and any changes, please see the Group Schedule which is sent to members just before the start of each month