



August 2018

www.u3abayofislands.wordpress.com

U3A Bay of Islands, PO Box 833, Kerikeri 0245

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From the Chair

I don't know about you, but I'm looking forward to getting beyond these cold nights and frosty mornings. I certainly don't feel guilty about spending the extra winter top-up on keeping warm!

With a new committee taking over the reins there is always going to be a transition period while we settle in. You saw our mug shots last month, but now our roles within the committee have been assigned, so please check the list below. I'm very pleased to say that I think the new committee are doing a fantastic job already, with new ideas and new groups being formed, so please have a read through the rest of this Newsletter and see if there's something to interest you. A new members' coffee morning, a new Art Group, or a revised Camera Group? Any new ideas? Please get in touch.



We're looking at ways to freshen up the General Meetings with a brief intro before the main speaker. I'm pleased to say that Lindsay Alexander will be returning to give his talk on "The Bay of Islands from Premier Port to Backwater". He has spent the last 10 years researching 19th century shipping in the Bay of Islands, so I feel it's a great privilege to be able to sit back and absorb some of that knowledge. It's what U3A is all about! I look forward to seeing you all there.

Drew Barlow

General Meeting
Open to the General Public
Monday 20th August 10.30 am
St. Johns Ambulance Hall
367 Kerikeri Road
A talk by Lindsay Alexander



Lyndsay Alexander, well known local author, expert on whaling and the history of shipping in this region will give an illustrated talk on:

The Bay of Islands: from premier port to backwater

Please bring finger food for our shared lunch

Kitchen Duty: Shakespeare Group

New Committee

At the first meeting of the new committee rolls were allocated for the members of the committee. These can be found at the bottom of the last page in this Newsletter.

Group Convenor

Firstly, for those who do not know me, I am Susie Barlow, your new Group Convenor. I am a newbie to U3A myself, but I think U3A is a great organisation and we have a great selection of interesting groups. I am keen to see what I can do to help match people to groups and hopefully get some new groups started. There is a big task ahead of me as we have quite a few new members, which is great.

It is important not to be put off by “full” beside a group in the schedule, as if there are enough on a waiting list we can look at starting a new group. So just contact me and let me know what you are interested in.

The main task is to find out what new (and old) members want and then see if we can get some new facilitators to run new groups.

New Members' Afternoon Tea

We are planning a new members' afternoon tea for 29th August. I will be contacting new members, going back a way, as we have not had one for a while. Anyone is, however, welcome, as we need old and new to meet. It would be great to have some facilitators too. Please contact me for more details, if I have not contacted you first.

New Group proposed!

We are excited to see a new group get under way. Brenda Welch and Mel Mason will be running a new art group; please see below.

Art Group - Sketching, drawing and painting.



This is a group for all abilities and experience. It doesn't matter if you think you have no artistic talent; you will be surprised at what you can do! All you need is enthusiasm and be willing to learn or share what you already know. It is not going to be a formal class, but a meeting of likeminded people. I am happy to help people get started on painting which can be oils, acrylic or watercolour. I am sure we can all help each other. You will of course have to provide your own materials.

For those who say they can't draw a straight line, Mel will be happy to give some pointers on how to get started.

When the weather is a little more reliable we would like to go out of the formal room and sketch what is around us in our beautiful area and then turn what we have observed and sketched into amazing works of art. It can be abstract or realism - it will be up to you.

We need a total of 10 people who wish to join this group so that we can start. The group will be meeting at Cherry Park House each week for 10 to 15 weeks. There will be a charge for Cherry Park House which will have to be paid up front, but this will be no more than \$15 each.

Please get in touch with me so that I know what your art interests are, and I look forward to some interesting art being produced. We believe interest will be high, so don't delay if you think this is something you want to do.

We hope to get started as soon as possible, **provisional** start date, Wednesday 8th August. Precise dates and times will be confirmed between the group members and Brenda.

Brenda Welch - Facilitator. Phone 09 407 4328.

Potential new Group



There has also been quite a bit of interest in resurrecting the photography group. David Welch, who facilitated the previous group, is happy to look at running this again and looking at a revamped, broader format, so if you are interested please contact me.

Susie Barlow. group.convenor.u3a.boi@gmail.com

Garden Group

I am a passionate gardener with very limited knowledge! I love experimenting and seeing what happens. Usually it turns out OK, sometimes not so good. When I joined U3A in February this year I was looking for a likeminded group of people, so I could learn more. I love talking about gardens, plants, how to deal with weeds, how to propagate, set up a good veggie garden and so on...the list is endless.

I have been facilitating the Garden Group since April and I have to say it has been an absolute pleasure. It is a friendly group of people who are all keen gardeners with all sorts of gardens and lots of knowledge to share. We have many varying skills and experiences.



We share the hosting, so we can see each other's efforts, discuss our challenges and get useful feedback. No one HAS to host. It is amazing what interesting things come up, from new bugs to the perfect Guava moth trap recipe!!

We have already learnt a great deal and as we put together a schedule I can see more and more interesting topics emerging. There are a few excursions planned too.

At the moment the group is full, but if you are interested in joining please contact me, as things can change and we need to know what the interest is.

Susie Barlow.

U3A Origins and later in New Zealand

U3A was launched in Toulouse, France in 1973, its aim to present a programme of university-based continuing education as well as stimulation for those in the third stage of life. By 1981 it had spread to England where it evolved as a community-based system of independent self-run groups. The concept has been adopted internationally, arriving in New Zealand in 1989. The first local group was launched through the University of Canterbury Department of Continuing Education.



The University of Toulouse

Professor Pierre Vellas and colleagues of Toulouse University recognised the pool of experience, knowledge and intelligence of retired people. They launched U3A in 1973. Eight years later there were 60 of them in France. In the “French Model”, each U3A maintains strong links with a university and is based on attending lectures. His son, also named Pierre Vellas, is at present a U3A leader in France.



In the spring of 1981, Peter Laslett [left] and Nick Coni [right] discussed this development and wondered whether a similar venture would work in Cambridge, UK. To find out, a public meeting was held in the Guildhall in July, resulting in the advent of U3A in the UK. The “English Model” that they evolved, stresses that “those who teach shall also learn and those who learn shall also teach”.



Since then U3A has spread World Wide.

It came to New Zealand in 1989 at Remuera in Auckland. There are now 83 U3As throughout the country, mostly espousing the “English Model”. It is believed that this model promotes increased personal learning, confidence and enjoyment by reading, research, discussions and field trips.

Adapted from:www.u3a.nz

New Members

This month Wilma Sutherland has joined U3A. Inadvertently Joy and Mel Mason and Chris Muir-Butler were not included as new members in past Newsletters so we warmly welcome these four people. Please watch out for them and other new members and help make them all feel welcome. To help you identify them, we’ve started sticking stars on the nametags of new members.

Subscriptions 2018-2019

Membership subscriptions for the 2018 to 2019 year were due in May. The subs are \$20 per person. Good news! The subs year has been extended to June 2019. Thank you to those who have already paid.

We prefer payments by online banking: Payee: **U3A BOI**, Account: **02 0352 0020910 000**.

Please include your surname, first name (or names) and the word “subs” as a reference.

Alternatively, you can post a cheque payable to **U3A BOI**. Write your name or names clearly on the reverse of the cheque and your name and address on the back of the envelope. Post the cheque to:

The Treasurer, U3A Bay of Islands, P.O. Box 833, Kerikeri 0245

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