



April 2019

u3abayofislands.com/

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From the Chair

For the first time in months, there's now just that little extra bite in the air, early morning and evening, with the recent Northerly. Welcomed by many who feel the heat, but what a summer we've been having! Feijoas are ripe, and our orange trees covered in green half-grown fruit to look forward to, especially this year now we seem to have largely solved the guava moth problem with a cheap solution (solution!) thanks to the Garden Group...

In March we had another successful coffee morning to welcome new members, and a special thank you to the facilitators who also brought snacks and attended to tell people about the groups and to answers questions.

Susie and I also did a small presentation at Kerikeri Retirement Village, and gained another new member. They are looking to use the facilities there for a group. It is important to be inclusive and enable our less able members to join in.

Just a reminder that we've had to make the decision to restrict the General Meeting to Members only, due to restrictions on numbers to keep within fire regulations. People wishing to join U3ABoI and visiting members from other areas may attend, but we would need to be informed in advance to make sure we have enough space. Please wear your membership badge to assist us at the door. The next meeting looks like a fun one!

See you there.



Drew Barlow

General Meeting

Monday 15th April at 10.30 am

St John's Ambulance Hall, 367 Kerikeri Road

Members: Please bring finger food for our shared lunch

Kitchen Group: Just Writing



Frank Leadley:

It Wasn't Funny at the Time but.....

Frank Leadley, QSM, MA, will speak on *It wasn't funny at the time but.....* and I am sure we can all relate to that. Frank is a well-known Northland identity, having been Principal of the Bay of Islands College for many years, as well as undertaking numerous educational projects in the region over the years, for which he has received many awards.

Jenni Wilson

Group Convenor

Another busy month arranging new groups. We had another successful and most enjoyable new members coffee morning this month. About 30 people attended and some more ideas for more groups came up...so watch this space!

FOR INTEREST IN ANY GROUPS, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH ME, SUSIE BARLOW, GROUP CONVENER, SO WE CAN FILL THEM FAIRLY!!

The following groups are now starting:

Pam Jenkin's New Zealand History group is starting on 1st April. There are two spaces. (See schedule for details)

Adventures in Technology will be starting in June. This is officially full, but let me know if you are interested. See last month's description.

The following groups are filling up well, but need a few more in order to set dates:

Adventures in English

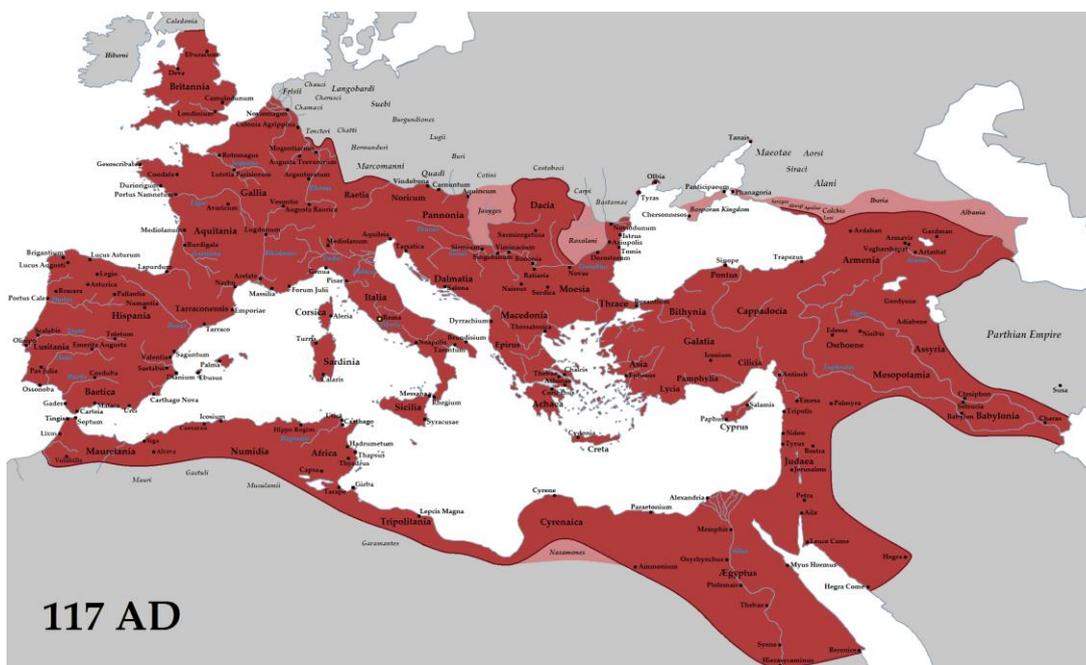
Pam has kindly offered to facilitate this group, using the excellent series by Melvyn Bragg and other experts who delve into 1500 years of the English language. It looks at how the language developed from its humble Germanic dialect beginnings.

Nobel Prize winning authorities such as Seamus Heaney, John Barton and Elizabethan scholar Katherine Duncan-Jones give an entertaining insight into its development. The series looks at the many influences on our language. This is a fascinating subject to delve into and can lead to a lively discussion. (We have six people already keen, just need a few more and a host to set a date).

The following are new groups offered by Chris Williams, a new member. (We do also have a Christopher Williams, this Chris is a female Chris!) Chris is an enthusiastic and passionate teacher. I think these groups will be excellent.

The Roman Empire - Civilization or Submission

There has never been a comparable civilization, in terms of extent and staying power. Ancient Rome remains with us, even to this day. It has shaped the modern world in a unique and fascinating way.



In this course, we will be looking at how Rome rose from its humble beginnings as an obscure hill-top village beside the Tiber, to a world super-power. We will be focusing on some of the Empire's most famous and intriguing characters, from brilliant generals to dissolute emperors and naughty empresses, and on some of the famous military campaigns which gave Rome her vast territories. Included will be Caesar's

Galic War, the Fall of Jerusalem, and the Romans in Britain. Which one man in 9 AD ultimately caused the 1st and 2nd World Wars? Why did Hitler adore Tacitus' "Germania", dubbed "the most dangerous book in the world"? We will also look at some of the stunning works of architecture which won the hearts and minds of her citizens and her conquered peoples. Propaganda at its best.

Dates and venue to be decided.

French for beginners

This course is designed for beginners, and for learners whose schoolboy/girl French is now a distant memory. The aim is to develop communication skills, and to gently ease our way to understanding some of the grammar essential in speaking the language. Everyone welcome, and the atmosphere is encouraging rather than challenging.

Dates and venue to be decided.



Clamecy in the Heart of France
with the Nivernais Canal and Yonne River

An Introduction to Japanese



Japan is going to be big this year, and next, with the Rugby World Cup and the Olympics. Here is your chance to become acquainted with the basics of Japanese culture, conversation, and reading the script. (Here's a secret, just between us – Japanese is incredibly easy both to speak and write, at the basic communication level. Don't pass that on - let people think that because you speak and read Japanese, you have to be in the Einstein league.) We will study basic vocabulary and sentence patterns, how to meet and greet Japanese people without offending anyone, talk about the weather and about yourself, and of course asking about the other person. How to read Chinese characters (easy-peasy), and how to read a Japanese McDonald's menu (even easier). Woven into the language, like no other language, is the fascinating Japanese culture. You'll love this language course!

Dates and venue to be decided.

Facilitators meeting

Just a reminder to all facilitators that you should all have had an invitation. If you have not and are a facilitator, please get in touch. It is an informal opportunity to catch up and for U3A to say thank you for all your hard work. group.convenor.u3a.boi@gmail.com for details.

Susie Barlow

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Katakana – a simple Japanese text

U3A Bay of Islands welcomes New Members:

Gillian and Bruce Carlsson, Donna Clarke, Karen Costello, Alison Dyer and Jeanette and Rob Webley. We hope you all enjoy your time with us.

French Conversation

The French conversation group meets monthly at the home of various members, with no preset agenda. We manage to speak for a couple of hours in French before the obligatory and enjoyable tea and bickies finds us continuing in French, then breaking into Franglais, then eventually back to English before we all say our 'au revoirs'.

The pace of conversation always seems rapid so an intermediate level of the French language is preferable. However, we are a kind bunch of Francophones who like to help each other along. If someone wishes to give the group a try there is space for two extra people. Details of the next meeting are in the group schedule.

Annee Bennison



Antiques and Collectables

Our Antiques and collectable group meet on 1st Friday of every month. So far this year we discussed oriental ceramics. We have a different subject each month suggested by the group, then we bring along a relevant item for 'show and tell'. We have seen many beautiful and interesting things in the past year. This coming month April, we are meeting at the home of one of the group, Jo Oxenham.

Jo is an avid bell collector in any material and has a huge collection. She has been on many travels abroad in pursuit of her quarry and is kindly allowing us to see them. We still have one or two spaces in this group, if you are interested please speak to Jan White or Susie Barlow.

Jan White



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