

From the Chair

Welcome to another Newsletter full of information about current, new and soon to start groups. Science, History and two Languages. Something for everyone, hopefully. I'm joining the Scottish Country Dancing after a 40 year gap!

Our annual subs are now due, and for those who have already paid, or can pay before the 12th, you will be able to collect your new membership badges at the General Meeting. Payment detail at the end of this Newsletter.

This month's speaker will be Andrew Blanshard who has been working in archaeology and heritage management since 1996. He will be talking about "The Legend of Mangahawea Bay". This has been a site of archaeological interest for nearly 40 years, but it is only in the last two years that the story has started to be revealed. This puts us in the front seat of recent discoveries, and should be absolutely fascinating. The opportunity to be able to sit back for an hour and absorb the results of several years' study; fantastic. **Note venue.**

Drew Barlow



General Meeting

Monday 12th August at 10.30 am

Kerikeri Sports Complex off Waipapa Road between the Heritage Bypass and Landing Road. Please note new venue.

Members: Please bring finger food for our shared lunch

Kitchen Group: Biology



A Talk by
Andrew Blanshard
Senior Heritage Adviser,
Department of Conservation
on the
Legend of Mangahawea Bay

Group Convenor

It is great to see that we continue to have new members joining BOI U3A. It was nice to get to know some of them at a most enjoyable new member's coffee morning. There were some apologies due to the winter bugs and school holidays, but in all 15 of us enjoyed Moira's hospitality and lots of people's lovely culinary offerings. Thank you Moira, for opening your home again.

We will be having another combined general and new member's morning or afternoon tea before too long as it is a good way for new and old members alike to meet new people and get more information about the groups.

I have been doing some research into other U3A groups around New Zealand as with our growing membership we feel there is a responsibility to offer a good variety of groups that people want. If you have any ideas, do get in touch. I will be putting forward some of these in the next Newsletter, once the committee have had a chance to discuss them.

A member has also suggested some other language exploration subjects, so watch this space for some more groups on offer for September. If this interests you, please contact me.

New Group

Scottish Country Dancing

Remember the u3a Ceilidh?? Are you one of those asking when the next one will be held?

U3A have been given a wonderful opportunity to join an existing group which meets regularly in Kerikeri.

Where: Oakridge Retirement Village

When: Every Sunday, 3 to 5pm. (with a tea break)



How frivolous I hear you say... It is, however, definitely about learning something new, challenging the memory and exercising the body, all in one go. As you will know brain and body fitness complement each other. Understanding the stories behind the dances, linked to Scottish history, is pretty interesting, let alone trying to get your less than nimble feet going in the right direction in time and sequence with everyone else!

Learn under the excellent and extremely patient tuition of Neville. He is a very experience teacher, clear and tolerant and makes it FUN! (There is a great deal of laughter involved.)

This group would welcome more members although in recent weeks the numbers have started to swell. The great thing about this group is that it is adapted for the less able and a little more mature. If you can walk then you can probably do it. People take turns, so you can get a rest. You do NOT need a partner.

SCD is governed worldwide by the Royal Scottish Dancing Society (RSCDS) based in Edinburgh. When you join an SDC group you become part of a family and are welcome to attend clubs anywhere in the world.

In Northland we have groups in Whangarei, Kamo, Waipu and Kerikeri. They work together for special classes and gatherings, where dancers can improve their own skills and make new friends.

I have recently started and can see how addictive it can become. The venue, atmosphere and teaching are all very conducive to a great learning opportunity.

As a member of U3A there are a great many opportunities to eat cake, this is a great way to work some of those delicious morsels off the waistline!

There is a world of difference between Highland Dancing (solo dancing) and Scottish Country Dancing (social dancing in groups).

Starting in August

I am very pleased to announce that two new groups are starting in August. See schedule for details. Please contact Mary Johnson, facilitator, if you would like to join the groups.

Exploring the Mysteries of Human Behaviour (A few spaces available)

The History and Achievements of the Islamic Golden Age.(This group is now full.)

(Details in previous newsletters, available on line)

French for Beginners. (There are a few spaces.)

Chris would like to have an initial meeting in August to plan how the group might run and see what level of French members have. If you have **not** already put your name down and are interested, please contact myself, Susie, initially as we are contacting those already on the list about a potential date.

The group will start in earnest in October.

Starting in October

The following new groups will be starting in October. The facilitator will be Christine Williams. She has kindly offered to run these groups, but we do need a host, although sharing could work well.

The Roman Empire - Civilization or Submission. A couple of spaces still available

I have the list of those who had expressed an interest. If you are new, do get in touch with me, Susie Barlow.

French for Beginners (see above)

Groups still waiting for sufficient members

Japanese for beginners

Christine Williams will be facilitating. We need a host. Contact Christine and copy to myself if you are interested.

Classical Mythology

From Athena to Zeus, the characters and stories of classical mythology have been both unforgettable and profoundly influential. They have inspired and shaped everything from great art and literature, to our notions of sexuality and gender roles, to the themes of popular films and TV shows.

This group will watch and discuss a series of half-hour illustrated lectures by Prof Elizabeth Vandiver of Whitmore College, Walla Walla, Washington State, and possibly other resources.

The Nature of Earth

This group will introduce you to physical geology, the study of Earth's minerals, rocks, soils, and the processes that operate on them through time. We will use a series of half-hour lectures by Professor John J Renton, an award winning educator at West Virginia University. He is easy to follow and funny, with a gift for picking simple analogies that make complicated concepts clear and memorable.



We have a host and facilitator for these last two groups.

Are you interested in any of the groups above?

Please let me know as soon as possible:

Email group.convenor.u3a.boi@gmail.com Phone 09 407 9748 or 021 731 748

Group Convenor *Susie Barlow*

Board Games Update

This group is currently down to a core group of about 5 people and we really need some more members to make it viable. We meet the third Friday of the month at Cherry House Park from 2-4 pm.

We are currently playing Backgammon but we are very open to playing other board or card games.

Can anyone who is interested in joining the group please contact me at marcia.fullam@gmail.com.

Facilitator *Marcia Fullam*

The General Science, Engineering And Technology has been very active

Our group was reformed with a capacity for 12 members in December last year. We changed our modus operandi from one where each monthly meeting was hosted by the facilitator who also presented the material of relevant interest for discussion. Our current approach is to delegate the responsibilities for presentation and hosting so that each member takes these on in turn. The result is less stress for the facilitator and a different topic and venue each month.

The topics we have considered so far have been:

- Hydrogen as a Fuel
- Previous Life Experience
- Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning.
- 'The Realities Of Trying To Live A Sensible Green Lifestyle'
- Going solar in NZ - is it viable?
- Crapper to Gates, Sanitation technology progress.

The topics to come are planned to be:

- Cosmic Scales to Make You Feel Small
- Costa Rica - Carbon Free By 2021
- Political Implications of Artificial Intelligence
- Inverter Fridges

We currently have twelve members with another two on the waiting list. Our intention is to review what we will do next year in December.



Costa Rica

Facilitator *Martin Ough Dealy*

U3A BoI Inc. Membership Subscription 1 July 2019- 30 June 2020

At the AGM it was agreed that the subscription would remain at \$20 per annum.

Many thanks to the members who have paid.

For all other members: the subscription can be paid online or at a bank to:

Account Name: U3A BOI

Account Number: 02 0352 0020910 000

Please put your surname as reference.

Alternatively you can post a cheque made payable to U3A BOI to
The Treasurer, U3A Bay of Islands Inc., PO Box 833, Kerikeri 0245.

Please do not post cash.

Once you have paid your subscription you will be issued with a new name badge.

Moira Warnock - Treasurer U3A BOI Inc

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