

# Waikato U3A Newsletter September 2017

WAIKATO - WHAT A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE



## From the President

Last month's talk from Professor Lynda Johnston was stimulating and thought provoking as she led us through the complexities of gender in our society at both macro and micro levels. Her lively style, humour and down to earth examples enabled her to lead us through that complexity with compassion and empathy.

Thanks to all those members who completed the questionnaire at the meeting. Judith Hickman has already completed some analysis and has a number of ideas for potential new groups where there appears to be an interest.

A special welcome to new members, some of whom have already joined interest groups.

**Noeline Alcorn - President**

## Guest Speakers

**October:** - Margaret Wilson. Former Attorney general and Speaker of the house. *Topic. Current American Politics.*

**November.** Ray Harlow. The importance of Maintaining Small languages.

**Just a reminder to All Members. Our monthly meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month from 9.30 a.m. at the Church Hall of the Chartwell Cooperating Church located on the corner of Comries Road and Belmont Ave. opposite the Chartwell Mall. Free tea and coffee pre meeting. The next meeting will be on September 20th. See you there!**

## Guest Speaker for the September 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Ross Lawrenson



Ross Lawrenson trained as a general practitioner in the UK and has worked in rural general practice before working for the Waikato District Health Board. In 1995 he took up a senior lecturer role in public health in London at the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School (later Imperial College). He then moved to the University of Surrey where he was a Dean of Medicine and Head of the Postgraduate Medical School.

From 2005 to 2016 he was Professor of Primary Care and Assistant Dean of the Waikato Clinical Campus, University of Auckland before taking up his current role of Professor of Population Health at the University of Waikato and Clinical Director, Strategy and Funding for Waikato District Health Board. He has an interest in medical education and in particular what influences the career choices of

young doctors. His talk will outline some of the challenges facing the NZ health system and how medical education can impact on our health services.

## The Natural Environment of Hamilton



The group enjoyed a walk around a different part of Mangaiti Gully with Rex Bushell, leader of the Gully restoration group on a beautiful morning. The dedication of the volunteers is amazing and we are starting to look at the Hamilton landscape with new eyes. Next month's venue is at Hamilton Gardens (meet outside the information centre) at 9.50 on Wednesday 27 September. **Noeline Alcorn: 07 849 1912**



## Music Appreciation Group.

A big thankyou to Gordon for hosting this month's meeting, and welcome to our new members. Music this time came from: David Wilcox, L'argeggiata (improvisation on Henry Purcell), Lorde, Andrea Bocelli, Nina Simone, La Traviata (Verdi), John Denver/Placido Domingo, Kevin Eubanks, and Linda Ronstadt. The group is now at its maximum limit for comfortable seating. Let Judith Hickman (or me) know if you want to host or be part of a second group. Next month's meeting will be on 11<sup>th</sup> September, at 8 McInnes Place, starting as usual at 9.30am. Convenor: **Ian Falconer 07 855 7794**



## Play reading Group:

The play Reading Group meet each month. There seems to be a misconception that having acted or been in theatre is a prerequisite to being part of the group. This is not true, all are welcome to join. We read or listen to play readings and enjoy a social time. We democratically decide on agenda. Please contact **Marguerite Toy, phone 560 1698**

*A Ukulele Group has been started by Judith Hickman. For details please go to page 5.*

*Sounds like FUN.*



**Armchair Astronomy Group:** This group meets on the first Friday of the month at 9.30 am at **Brian Morris's** home, 26 Chequers Avenue, phone 855 7453. New members are welcome. Contact: **Brian Morris 07 855 7453**



### Book Discussion Group:

Well, none of us has been to China, but we certainly have a clearer idea of that immense country than we had prior to reading this month's book: Joe Bennett's 'Where Underpants come from.' Not everyone enjoyed the book per se, but we all gained the impression of vastness in the rural areas; of the ability to harness the energy of hundreds of millions of workers keen to have the opportunity to work in the cities – even if the tasks are mind-numbingly boring! The book aroused our interest in how Chinese people function; why the air is so polluted; and with the end of State control and the rise of private enterprise, how this has made many people very wealthy. Despite Joe Bennett's natural humour it was quite a sobering read. For a change, next month's book is one of Julian Barnes' – a novel titled 'Arthur and George'. ('A beautiful and engrossing work' it says on the front cover. Hmmm.) You'll just have to wait till next month – when we will have read it. No vacancies in our group at present but we do hold a waiting list. **Imelda Corby**, Convenor: 07 850 1728



### New Zealand Writers Group

The next meeting is at 27 Tupelo Place and the topic is Vincent O'Sullivan. The October writer is Emily Perkins. All welcome.

**Noeline Alcorn: 07 849 1912**



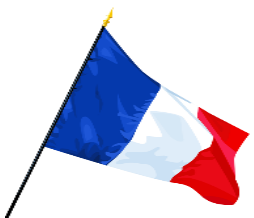
### Current Affairs Discussion Group:

About 12 came along for our Current Affairs group. Not certain if the 'developers' or the council are making the decisions re New Theatre or alterations (again) to Garden Place. ??..... Electric cars may not be cracked up to be as 'green' as we think?" Had a quick round to see who would get in on Election Day. National would win 12- O!!! Let's see how it works out!!!!

Next meeting 9.30 am to about 11.00am last Friday of August Board Room Celebrating Age Centre. New members welcome.

Feel free to come and join us, you won't get this type of entertainment anywhere else for just \$2!!! .... Same place, same time, last Friday of each month at 9.30 - 11.00am

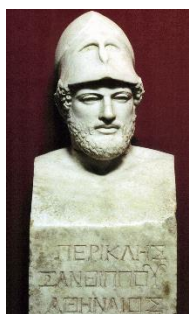
**Contact Greig Jenkins 8552086**



### French Language Group

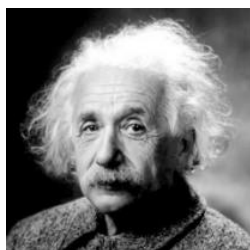
The Group is currently in recess until **Thursday September 28<sup>th</sup>** through to **November 30<sup>th</sup>**. As in past years, we will meet in the Board Room of the Celebrating Age Centre between 1pm and 3 pm. At this stage it seems that there will be no vacancies but if the situation changes the U3A secretary will be contacted to send out a message to members. The contact person for the group is **Janice Smith** (Tel. 856 6380).





## History Group

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month in the Board Room, at the Celebrating Age Centre 1.30 – 3.00pm. \$2 charge. Listeners, as well as contributors, are always welcome. In August's meeting Roger gave a fascinating account of new housing in London between the wars, illustrated by his own home and family life in the period and concluding with the impact of WW II on his life. Ron based his account on the role Chance played in shaping his life from childhood in the late 30's to standing (in 1957) on the deck of ship observing a hydrogen bomb test. At September's meeting Paul will discuss life in Reefton on the West Coast in the 1940's and fifties and Dave will look at growing up in Canterbury. **Convenor: Paul Etheredge** phone: 825 9888



**The Joy of Mathematics:** This vigorous group meets every Thursday from 9.30am for two sessions at 6 Hardley Street, Hamilton. Vacancies – new members welcome. **Convenor is John Turner** 839 3876



## Literary Group Book Circle:

Three books are discussed at each meeting. This group now meets in the homes of its members at 1.30 pm on the 3rd Monday of the month. Please note the next meeting will be on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The group reviews about three books each session. Currently there are no vacancies. Meetings last about two hours. Contact the **Convenor, Fay Wright, 853 7771.**



**Numismatic Group** provides a forum for those interested in the collection and/or study of coins, banknotes and similar material. The group meets at 7.30pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Visitors and new members are welcome. The September theme is 'Shortest reigns – under five years – any country.' Contact **Michael Anderson** phone 846 1904 or **Paul Etheredge** phone 825 9888 for the location of the next meeting.



**Memoir Writing Group** The original group is full but if anyone is interested in forming a second group, please contact Judith Macdonald, 24 Manning Street, Hamilton. Telephone 8393763

## Theatre and Shows Appreciation Group.



The group goes to live theatre and shows at irregular intervals depending on the performances that are showing around Hamilton. Our aim is to have fun and enjoy the live theatre and shows. We follow up, by meeting for coffee to critique the shows and discuss the performance and creativity of the actors, producers, writers and directors etc.

Last month of August we all enjoyed the top class performance of “Oklahoma!” at the Riverlea Theatre.

If you would like to be on the email list for future plays and shows please contact the Convenor:

**Gavin McIvor** Phone: 07 8491641 Mobile: 021 162 9722

## Writing for Pleasure



Chartwell on the first Thursday of the month at 2:00 pm. Leadership of the group rotates among willing members. The Leader sets the month's writing topic. Meetings also include an impromptu writing exercise, a short reading and afternoon tea.

This month the group buckled under the onslaught of winter illness, family commitments and sundry obligations. We abandoned our meeting. We consoled ourselves with the delusion that we were taking a mid-winter break.

Roll on September with its promise of spring. We are carrying over the August topic – “An original thought”.

There are a couple of vacancies. Please let us know if you are interested in taking part in a very positive and enjoyable group.

**Contact Keith Holborow on 853 9377 or 027 698 6514** for more details.

***New Interest group - New Interest group - New Interest group***



## Ukulele Group

Our objective is to play our ukuleles, sing, and just have fun. Ten members signed up for this new group which met for the first time on 22 August. We meet at 1.30 pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at Judith's home - 27 Tupelo Street, Pukete, Hamilton.

We have a range of ukulele playing experience among our members from new chums to a few more experienced players. By the end of the first session, three songs had been learned and we were off to a good start. We could accommodate two more members. **Judith Hickman** 07 849 0242

## Your New U3A 2017 Committee

<b>President:</b>	Noeline Alcorn	849 1912
<b>VP:</b>	Judith Macdonald	839 3763
<b>Secretary:</b>	Paul Etheredge	825 9888
<b>Newsletter</b>	Gordon Fitzroy-Kelly	854 3361
<b>Almoner:</b>	Rita Indyk	856 2359
<b>Membership and groups:</b>	Judith Hickman	849 0242
<b>I.P.P</b>	David Douglas	850 1624
<b>Ex officio:</b>	Arthur Treble	823 2628

## Membership Subscription: The club's financial year is 1 June to 31 May

The annual subscription is now due – **Single \$25.00** and **Couple \$40.00**. You may pay while attending the monthly meeting, or send the subscription to U3A Waikato Inc., C/o Arthur Treble. 6/4 Vogel Street, Cambridge 3434, or if you wish lodge the subscription in the club's bank account – U3A Waikato Incorporated, Westpac, Hillcrest branch, bank account number 031559 0030619 00 with your name as the reference.

**Arthur Treble Telephone: 823 2628**

## What's on in Hamilton?



<http://events.waikato.ac.nz/> The Waikato

University run a number of events listed on the website, too many to list here. They range from lunchtime recitals to lectures and discussion groups over many subjects of common interest.

<http://www.eventfinda.co.nz/whatson/events/hamilton/today>. We will try and list in advance some of the Events featured in the coming months but meanwhile why not explore the above web site to see if anything interests you or your friends.

<http://waikatomuseum.co.nz/exhibitions-and-events/current-exhibitions/> Check out the Museum website for information on the various exhibitions for August and September.