



HAMILTON NEW ZEALAND

www.u3ahamilton.org.nz

Post PO Box 1103, Hamilton

Email hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com



Newsletter February 2021

Life is for learning.....learn for life

Meetings

Next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 17 February at 10 am (meet and greet at 9.45 am) at the Church Hall of Chartwell Co-operating Church located on the corner of Comries Road and Belmont Avenue (almost opposite Chartwell Mall).

Following the guest speaker's presentation, we have morning tea/coffee and a chance to chat.

Next speaker Mark Houlahan

The touch of the real: the 6 million dollar Shakespeare & more....

I have often been drawn to research stories that physical texts tell : first editions of Shakespeare's plays or manuscripts where the voices of the past leap from the page. These traces of the real remain powerful, even in our digitised age.

In this talk I'll share examples of touching the real thing from my research journeys, reading \$6 million Shakespeares, Katherine Mansfield's Shakespeare notebooks, & most recently the promptbooks for Ngaio Marsh's productions of *Henry the Fifth*.

Meet and greet Music Appreciation and Knit, Stitch, Chat

President's message

Tena koutou, it's almost too late to say Happy New Year!

Let's hope that 2021 will be more settled than 2020.

It was lovely to see so many of you at the November meeting. It gave us a chance to end our year in a relaxed and sociable way. Many thanks go to Noeline and her helpers in the kitchen. We all enjoyed the excellent morning tea they provided.

The committee has met to discuss the year ahead and I am sure that our speakers programme will continue to be of high quality. Graham Harrison is continuing to try and establish new interest groups. A group that functioned successfully until the Covid lockdown was ethnic dining. It would be nice to resuscitate these social events, so Graham will be looking for a convenor for this group.

The first meeting will be on the 17th February, we will continue to provide sign in sheets but would encourage you to use the Covid app and scan the QR codes. It has been mentioned that some people have difficulty accessing / downloading the app so we will be providing the opportunity to learn how to do this. This will be held at the end of the meeting on the 17th so bring along your phone (iphone or android) and your password and pin number.

Chartwell Church has asked us to ensure that we have a person with a first aid qualification at all of our meetings. I envisage having group of 5-6 who could be rostered on for 1-2 meetings per year. Could you please contact me at alisonfagan@xtra.co.nz if you are qualified and would be prepared to be on this roster. The church is going to provide AED training to its users so we will establish another roster of people able to use this device.

We are keen to offer more outings and trips to our members. If you have any suggestions please pass them to a committee member.

Those of us with friends and family overseas cannot help but be reminded how lucky we are to live an almost normal life with opportunities to socialize and attend cultural and sporting events. In the Waikato we are fortunate to have the Hamilton Gardens Arts Festival taking place from 20-28th February. Please try and support this excellent programme. Check out the website for information <https://hgaf.co.nz/>

Alison Fagan: President Hamilton U3A

Groups

Online Learning Blog

There are five new items in the Online Learning Blog on the U3A Hamilton webpage: <https://u3ahamilton.org.nz/online-learning/>

- Irish Writers Group Dec 2020
- Transmission Gully Motorway Wellington
- The Development of Rototuna Village
- Wairere Drive Extension and the bridge to Peacocks
- Radio 4 Open Books UK

Interest group news

The original **Memoirs** group has now disbanded and we are trying to set up a new one. We have a small starter group and could do with a few more members. If you're interested, please get in touch.

I'm appealing to the members of the **Dining** group to offer someone to be the convenor. At this stage I have no contact to refer new members to. If you would be willing to do this, please let me know.

A gentle reminder to Convenors to return the Groups Survey. Thanks.

Graham Harrison gfharrison26@gmail.com 855 6217

Self-Publishing Group

This group was formed last year for members who wish to publish their own work. We had two meetings at the end of 2020. Participants outlined their proposed projects and brought along any publications they have been involved with in the past. For most of us self-publishing is a completely new experience. We will be inviting people with expertise to talk at our meetings - sharing their knowledge and giving us the confidence to achieve our goals.

The first meeting of 2021 will be in the Front Lounge at the Celebrating Age Centre on Monday, 22 February from 1.30 to 3pm. Cost \$3 per person. We extend a welcome to anyone who would like to join us.

Convenor: Janet Hanfling: 07 8553551 janet.hanfling@xtra.co.nz

Antiques and Collectables Group

This group has a new Convenor, Raeburne Bourke. Phone 856 2431. Unfortunately there are no vacancies. However you can put your name on a list in the event of a vacancy or, if numbers are sufficient, form a new group.

History Group

This group will resume its traverse of Scottish History on Wednesday, 10 February in the River Lounge of the Celebrating Age Centre 1.30 – 3.00pm. there are vacancies. If you are interested please contact Paul Etheredge or just turn up.

Natural environment group

The first walk of 2021 will be around Lake Kainui, one of the 8 peat lakes in the Horsham Downs area.

Date 24th February, meet at 9.50 am at the parking area of Kainui lake.

Please let Neil know if you are coming and to receive detailed instructions.

neilfagan@xtra.co.nz

New members are welcome to join the group which meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month and explores areas of interest around Hamilton.

New groups

Hiking / tramping group

There has been some interest expressed in forming a hiking/ tramping group. It is envisaged that members would do hikes of 2-3 hours duration on a monthly basis.

Please contact Graham Harrison gfharrison26@gmail.com if you would be interested in joining this group

Members

Membership

U3A subscription for 2021 are now due. The amount is \$30 per person. All members of interest groups need to be paid up U3A members.

The \$30 subscription for 2021 may be paid in these ways:

Our bank account number is Westpac 03-1559-0030619-00

- **Internet banking** with your name and initial as the reference into our bank account, number as above
- **Cheque** made out to "U3A Hamilton Inc" and posted to PO Box 1103, Hamilton
- **Cash** direct to treasurer at general meeting. Please do not give cash to any other committee members.

Our webpage u3aHamilton.org.nz has all the information about how to pay subscriptions.

If you have any queries, please email me at TreasurerHamiltonNZU3A@gmail.com

With thanks,

Christine Williams Treasurer

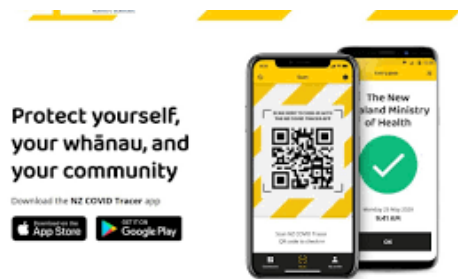
Outings

A bus trip to the Auckland Botanical gardens is being planned for mid / late April. The gardens do not provide guided tours but have given me 2 self-guided routes to follow around the gardens. We would do one before and one after lunch. Alternatively you could follow your own route. Lunch can be had at the café, or bring your own. Date and cost will be advised as soon as possible.

Please indicate your interest by filling in the form at the meeting or contacting me at alisonfagan@xtra.co.nz or 855 7009. Alison Fagan

Special Messages

Covid app training



If you would like help with setting up/ using the Covid tracking app, please stay after the meeting on 17th February.

Could members who are comfortable with helping others use the app please stay after the meeting and help them

Senior Net

An organisation that may be of interest to our members is Senior Net Hamilton. They have monthly meetings for new members and monthly workshops. They also run 2 hour courses varying from 1 to 4 weeks. The topics are wide and varied, but include almost anything you need help with to use technology.

Contact them at 07 859 1390, info@hamseniornet.org.nz or check out their website at www.hamseniornet.org.nz