



HAMILTON NEW ZEALAND

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June Newsletter 2021

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

Meetings

Next meeting

Our Annual General meeting will be on Wednesday, June 16 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 (opposite Chartwell Mall).

Once we have completed our AGM we will have our guest speaker's presentation. This will be followed by our usual morning tea/coffee and a chance to chat.

Next speaker

The Speaker at the
June U3A meeting:

Coryn Knapper



**Musical Theatre:
'Putting on a
Show'**

Coryn has been the Musical
Director for over 40 Shows at
Riverlea Theatre.

Coryn Knapper is well known in the Waikato for her long involvement with Musical Theatre.

She has been the Musical Director for over 40 productions with the Riverlea Theatre, sang for many years with the Hamilton Civic Choir and Opera Waikato, and acted as the Artistic Director for Playbox Theatre; among many other activities devoted to music and theatre.

Meet and greet History group

President's message

Tēnā koutou, greetings to you all.

Our May speaker Rob McGowan gave an interesting and thought provoking presentation. I particularly liked how he linked mauri with the connections that we make at U3a, and how these connections help us to find peace. Rob has offered to host a trip to identify and explain the medicinal plants used in rongoa to heal the whole person.

Janet Ruf has kindly agreed to be our new morning tea coordinator. From the July general meeting we will be trialling a new system for morning tea helpers. Janet will contact the convenor of an interest group and they will call for 3 volunteers from their group to help at the next meeting. At this rate each interest group would only be called on once every 3 years! Please support Janet in her role.

The next meeting is the AGM followed by a presentation by Coryn Knapper of the Riverlea theatre. The relevant documents for the AGM will be emailed out this week. These will only be sent to financial members who are currently approximately 75% of our total membership.

Due to the fact that last year's AGM was held via internet/ postal ballot there are no minutes as such. Instead Noeline Alcorn has written a report of the process involved and the results of the voting. This will be included in the documents sent out.

I would like to sincerely thank Paul Etheredge for all his work as secretary for the U3a committee. His knowledge and experience have been a major contribution to the committee and as the new President I was very appreciative of his support.

Janet Hanfling is stepping down as morning tea coordinator. We have been extremely lucky to have her in this role. She has cheerfully organised the roster and guided her helpers in the kitchen, even while on crutches recently.

I have just watched this 10 minute youtube video of a bird's eye view of the Waikato Expressway from Lake Road to Tamahere. It's fascinating!

<https://youtu.be/cNR2L06OBV4>

Stay safe,
Alison Fagan, President U3a Hamilton

Groups

Natural Environment of Hamilton group

This walk (May 26) was to Lake Rotokaeo, Minogue Park, Forest Lake. We started at the play ground where the path was concreted, then onto a boardwalk over a small portion of wet swamp and finally over grassed areas.

The translation of Rotokaeo is - Roto (lake) and kaeo (freshwater mussel). This park was initially a swamp which has been drained. A lake still exists plus some damp areas. An outlet keeps the water level to 1.8m. The catchment is about 11ha consisting of neighbouring streets. A kahikatea bush has been planted to the north and west, the other lake surrounds are planted in water-loving native foliage.

The walk proceeded up a low hill so we could look down onto bigger areas of reclaimed swamp where 2 large retirement villages have been built. The park also includes a model railway and a BMX track.

It was a beautiful sunny, warm day enjoyed by all.

Dining Together

This month it has been decided to have a lunch venue.

Where: Matte Blacks Cafe, St Andrews Golf Club, St Andrews Tce, St Andrews

When: Wednesday 16th June, 12.00 Midday, after the AGM.

Please contact Gayle on 0211359695 or gayle45@gmail.com_NO LATER than Monday 14th.

This is a lovely venue overlooking the Golf Course, with stairs and a lift.
Gayle

Antiques and Collectables

The Antiques and Collectables group met recently and discussed their experiences of visiting the potteries of Stoke on Trent and Derby. Members shared their knowledge on Doulton, Carlton, Basalt, Burleigh and Wilfred Gibson. Members also discussed buying at auction, both in New Zealand and internationally.

Potential new groups

Groups we're looking at establishing:

- Scottish Country Dancing
- Shakespeare
- Scrabble
- Te Reo

Graham Harrison gfharrison26@gmail.com 855 6217

U3A Online Learning Blog

In May, these posts were made to our blog <https://u3ahamilton.org.nz/online-learning/>:

- Blood Moon and Eclipse
- Gardening
- Rob McGowan, Speaker, 19 May, 2021
- Australian author Patrick White

Suggestions for new postings are always welcome. Beverley Bell

Outings

A trip around Hamilton on the Orbiter bus is being held on 21st June starting from the Chartwell stop, meeting at 9.25 am to catch the 9.42 bus. We will have coffee together afterwards!

Please contact Alison at alisonfagan@xtra.co.nz if you wish to join us.



Special Message

A member of the U3a garden group, the plantaholics, is struggling with a very sore hand. She found this website to help gardeners deal with disabilities (temporary or otherwise) <https://www.carryongardening.org.uk/>