



Pears in the making

Photo: Anne Devlin



HAMILTON

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October Newsletter 2022

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

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on October 19 at 10 am (meet and greet at 9.45 am) in the hall of the Chartwell Co-operating Church located on the corner of Comries Road and Belmont Avenue (near Chartwell Mall). There will be no morning tea after the meeting.

Meet and Greet History - General

Please stay in the church foyer and meet people as they come in the external door.

Future speaker

November 16: Kirstine Moffat who is on the staff of the English Department at Waikato University will speak about Jane Austen - Musician and Writer.

Next Speaker Sarah Summerfield, Deputy Principal, Fairfield College

"A unique school community committed to safe, quality education and personal achievement for every individual." Fairfield College mission statement.

Teaching was not my initial goal when I left school, but it found me, and I have been hooked ever since! I have a Bachelor of Teaching and a Bachelor of Science and have had the opportunity to work within both sectors.

In teaching I have taught in the UK, and have had the privilege of holding Deputy Principal positions at Fraser High School, and for the last few years, at Fairfield College.

I very blessed to work with amazing teachers and students and am very passionate about providing opportunities, opening doorways and enabling our learners to see the world really is their oyster. I look forward to sharing with you how we strive to achieve this at Fairfield College, with the challenges of the last few years, while still ensuring wellbeing is central to all we do.

Our Committee's Message

Tēna koutou – greetings to you all.

Last month's speaker, Sarah Thomson, provided an informative talk on the impact of climate change on Kirikiriroa Hamilton. We were most interested to hear about the breadth and complexity of the work managed by the City Council's Environment and Infrastructure Committees.

This month we farewell Alison Fagan from her role as president of our organisation. Alison led us through two turbulent years, as we coped with Covid and the impact on our activities and lives. She did this with unflagging enthusiasm and proficiency for which we are grateful.

Your committee is currently sharing the role of managing the affairs of U3A, while we hope for an offer from one of you to consider the role as president. Surely, with all the skills among our membership, we have someone willing to consider a future leadership role? Please give this serious consideration as we approach a new year in 2023. A job description is available if you need clarity about what this will involve.

We decided not to provide morning tea this month, as to get this underway again has yet to be organised. We need a special someone to take on the role of overseeing morning tea delivery in 2023, and making a roster of volunteers.

(Gentlemen please note, this is not just a job for the ladies – anyone who can handle a kettle and rinse a cup is eligible.) Please add your name to the list that will be available at the next meeting. The committee is planning a festive morning tea on November 16 to follow our final meeting for the year.

Judith Hickman

Membership

Thank you to all the members who recently paid their annual subscriptions. Our current financial membership is now 202/258.

This month we welcome Mollie McDermott to U3A.

Our first "Getting to Know You" meeting for new members is on Thursday 13 October. We hope to have a second one in mid-November.

Please encourage your friends to come along and see if U3A would be an organisation that interests them. Visitors are welcome to attend one or two meetings before deciding if they wish to join.

Online Learning Blog

Over September 2022, these posts were made to our online learning blog

<https://u3ahamilton.org.nz/online-learning/>:

- [Follow the Progress of the Waikato Regional Theatre](#)
- [September Speaker on Local Climate Change Policy](#)
- [Indian Authors Book Group](#)

Suggestions for new postings are always welcome.

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Groups

Book Discussion Group 1

Our group continues happily with a full quota of eight enthusiastic readers. We meet once a month at Hockin House to discuss books we have read, and topics arising from those books. Currently we have no vacancies, but I am happy to forward names to Graham, the groups coordinator for our waiting list.

Sheila Emslie

The Memoir Group

This group was started by Judy McDonald several years ago. It is still active with much enjoyed monthly gatherings. One of our group has just published her writing, while the other four of us are getting to the proof-reading and editing stage. There are no vacancies in this group.

Sheila Emslie

Natural Environment Group

We will meet 26.10.2022 at 10.00 when we will have a guided tour of the storm water system at Ruakura. Please meet in the small car park next to Waikato Innovation Park off Ruakura Lane.

Janet Ruf

Antiques and Collectables

Our themes for the September meeting were old instruments and brass. With some exhibits both topics were covered as we were treated to a wonderful display of old microscopes and stereoscopes. Scales for weighing letters in Edwardian times were of interest as was a safety lamp for use in mines. Memories of school days were rekindled by a slide rule. Other instruments included a sound and light meter, a specialised vacuum gauge and a micrometre. A large Chinese brass incense burner contrasted with miniature whiskey and wine sets complete with their appropriate glasses. A Chinese medical horse and a brass kettle completed the display.

Raeburne Bourke

Shakespeare Interest Group

Correction: In the previous newsletter it said Alison Fagan wrote the item about the Shakespeare Interest group activities. It was written by Alison Ringer. Apologies to both Alison and Alison.

Coffee Companions Group

New folk who like to try out a variety of local venues, with guaranteed good company and conversation are always welcome to join this group. Our next outing on Friday, November 11 will be at 10.30 am at The Kirk, beside St Andrews Church, on Te Aroha Street.

Judith Hickman

Singalong Group

If you like to sing good old-fashioned songs with some like - minded folk, come along on the first Wednesday of the month from 1.15 pm – 2.45 pm to Hukanui Reformed Church 159 Rototuna Road. Our next get-together will be on Wednesday November 2, and all are welcome.

Wayne Wright

Ukulele Beginners

If there is sufficient interest, a new beginners' group could start in 2023. Lessons would be at my home in Pukete on a mutually convenient day and time. I am happy to forward names to Graham, the groups coordinator for our waiting list. No previous experience required; just a ukulele and lots of enthusiasm

Uke3A

Pictured are some of the 16 members of the U3A Ukulele group, some of whom have been playing together since 2017. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 1.15 pm – 2.45 pm at Hukanui Reformed Church 159 Rototuna Road. There is no limit on this group's size, so if you are keen and can play a few chords you are welcome to come to play with us.

Judith Hickman

