



HAMILTON NEW ZEALAND

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Hamilton Gardens Photo by Anne Devlin

May Newsletter 2023

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

Meetings

Next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 17 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 Bellmont Avenue (near Chartwell Mall).

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

Meet and greet Memoir Writing

Morning tea helpers Gina Aitken, Helen Thomas

Next speaker Fiona George from the NZ Red Cross.

Fiona George is an ex-bank manager who has found her passion working in the not-for-profit sector. She is very proud to work for the largest humanitarian organisation in the world and being part of "Doing Good" in the world.

Fiona was living in Christchurch for 20 years including during the Canterbury earthquakes. It was seeing the amazing work the humanitarian organisations did during this time that inspired her to use her skills for good and she left banking to work in the charity sector.

The favourite part of her role with New Zealand Red Cross is getting out to speak with groups in the community to share stories of the variety of work undertaken by New Zealand Red Cross, both here in New Zealand and around the world.



Our Committee's Message

Tēna koutou – greetings to you all.

For the past twelve months since the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of 2022, the U3A committee has continued to operate without a president. The situation has not been ideal but committee members have worked very hard to keep U3A Hamilton operating successfully. This year we are confident that, among our membership of 269, will be those of you who will accept the challenge to be nominated to join the committee for 2023/24.

We would like to support more outings and visits for members next year. Is there anyone who has a particular interest or previous experience in event organisation? We also need someone who would be interested in taking on the role of newsletter editor.

The AGM will be held on Wednesday, 21 June 2023 prior to the regular meeting. The minutes of the 2022 AGM and nomination forms for the next committee are included in this newsletter. The agenda for the meeting, along with reports from the committee and treasurer, will be provided prior to the meeting. We remind you that we do not accept nominations for committee membership from the floor at the AGM, so please ensure paperwork is completed in good time. Any items that you wish to be discussed at the AGM also need to be notified in advance of the meeting.

Traditionally our committee has consisted of a president, duty president, a secretary, and treasurer plus seven other committee members-

1. Nominations for the committee need to be either handed to our secretary, Mary Arvidson at the meeting on May 17 or emailed to hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com or delivered to her by June 10th prior to the meeting.

2. A supply of nomination forms will be available at the meeting on May 17.

Judith Hickman

Online Learning Blog

During April 2023, these posts were made to our online learning blog

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

- **Refuge Settlement in Hamilton**
- **Indian Writer's Group**
- **Flu Tracking 2023**
- **Maori Cultural Artworks and Sites along the Waikato Expressway**

Suggestions for new postings are always welcome.

Beverley Bell hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com

Groups

Book Discussion Group

This group of enthusiastic readers meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 1.30pm at Hockin House on Selwyn Street. At each gathering we discuss any book or books that we have read recently – genres being many and varied which generates interesting and most enjoyable discussion.

The group is limited to eight members and currently we have no vacancies. If you would like to join this group, please give your name to Graham Harrison who keeps a waiting list.

Sheila Emslie

Shakespeare Interest Group

This group met in March to watch a film of Henry V. It was the Kenneth Branagh version and we all agreed it was great. There are two other film versions of the play, and at some stage, we hope to also watch them. We didn't meet in April, but plan to meet again on Thursday, 24 May to read a play aloud.

Alison Ringer

Men's Coffee Group

This group meets on the second Thursday of each month at Hayes Common. Please join us for informal discussions on almost everything. Contact Bob Wilcock at wilcock@xtra.co.nz if you would like to participate.

Hiking Group

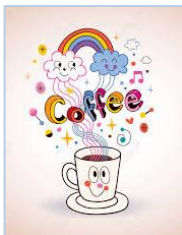
A small group of eight (7 U3A members plus an energetic six year old who did marvellously well to cover the distance) travelled to Te Aroha for our April outing. We walked the Tui Domain Track along the lower edge of Mt Te Aroha. This is a quite scenic walk, starting at the soda geyser behind the spa complex and working its way through bush, crossing several small streams on the way (most by bridge but one required stone-hopping). At one crossing people have built cairns with the stones from the stream. On our return we decided to wait for the soda geyser to perform and it duly did.

It was interesting to realise several times along the track that, although we thought that we were deep in the bush, just a few metres away was farm land (as evidenced by the need to navigate through fresh cow pats). Also evident was the obvious effects of the recent weather events as a portion of the track was quite badly affected by a slip that had come down a gully and deposited mud on the track.



The May walk, being co-ordinated by Jackie Larsen, will be at the Walter Scott Reserve on Pirongia on Thursday, 11 May. If anyone would like to join the walk, contact Jackie (021 170 8850). My thanks to Jackie Larsen for co-ordinating this and the June walk. Des Johnston

Coffee Group



Our next outing for the year will be to Impresso Cafe/Eatery Shop 19 Rototuna Shopping Centre at 10.30 am on Friday, 12 May. If you would like to join this group, call or text me on 027 664 6712. There is no limit on size for this group – all are welcome.

Judith Hickman

Current Affairs Group

Current Affairs Group - ENDED

Last month Gorham Milbank advertised in the newsletter for a new convenor. Offers were to go to Graham Harrison (Committee member responsible for Groups), or to Gorham.

No offers were forthcoming, so the Current Affairs Group has now ceased operating.

In the advertisement, Gorham said he would be happy to provide some support to a new convenor for a couple of sessions. If this confirmation of closure piques your interest, Gorham is still willing to discuss the group, and to provide some support.

Contacts for Gorham: Phone: 07 855 4757, or email: milbank@xtra.co.nz

Singalong Group



Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, 7 June from 1.15 – 2.45 pm at Hukanui Reformed Church, 159 Rototuna Road, Hamilton. Open entry – all are welcome. We sing songs from pre-War days, onwards. All the old favourites as well as some that are more modern. Please come along and join us.

Wayne Wright

Uke3A Group



We meet on Tuesdays, 9 and 23 May - 13 and 27 June.

1.15 – 2.45 pm at Hukanui Reformed Church, 159 Rototuna Road, Hamilton.

There's no limit on size for this group – if you can strum and sing a bit, come and play with us. All are welcome.

Judith Hickman

Antiques and Collectables Group

The focus for our April meeting was silver and we were treated to a fascinating display of exquisite pieces. Many of these had family connections with a story attached. Imagine an Englishman in the late 1920s purchasing and using a silver serviette ring with kookaburra attached, when he worked as a jackaroo in central Queensland. There was silver from around the world. A miniature silver trinket box from Portobello Road, a silver spoon with twisted handle from Zambia, an articulated silver fish from Vietnam, a German box for holding stamps, family cutlery from England etc. We were most interested in a collection of family Georg Jensen Danish silver, a collection of bachelor teapots and an outstanding pair of gold washed over sterling silver (1833) grape scissors. When visiting NZ recently, Marc Allum, from the Antiques Road Show, had expressed his delight in seeing these scissors. Together with other family items of considerable age, we were treated to a most interesting afternoon.

Raeburne Bourke

New Group Proposal: Men's Book Discussion

There is a proposal to form a men's book discussion group. Anyone interested in joining should contact Graham Harrison in the first instance, at gfharrison26@gmail.com

Membership

At each of our meetings so far this year we have welcomed several visitors, many of whom have now joined U3A. We are pleased to note this trend and encourage members to continue invite friends to come along to see if they would be interested in our organisation. During April we welcomed Dorothy Spiller, Seddon Polglase, Christine Polglase, Ben Venter, Adrienne Wine and Douaine Simmons.

Thank you to everyone who hastened to pay their annual subscription for 2023 after receiving a reminder a week or so ago. If you still have not got round to this, it would be very helpful if we could receive payment before 31 May which is the end of the financial year.

Our total membership at the end of April was 269. Please contact Judith Hickman either on hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com or text/call 027 664 6712 if your phone, email or address changes, or if you are leaving U3A, so that our membership database is current.

Judith Hickman

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of U3A Hamilton held at the Chartwell Co-operating Church Hall, Wednesday at 10 a.m. on 15 June 2022

The Vice President Judith Hickman welcomed members on behalf the President, Alison Fagan.

Moved Noelene Alcorn / Janet Ruf, that the **Apologies** of Brenda Taylor, Martin and Katherine Lawrence, David Foreman, Jillene Bydder, Jean Elborn, Susan Gresson, Beverley Bell, Dorianne and Trevor Hornby, Alison and Neil Fagan, Marilyn Hopkins, Vivienne Johnston, and Martin Williams be sustained. Carried.

Moved Anne Devlin / Sandra Eaton that the **Record of the 2021 AGM of U3A Hamilton** be approved. Carried.

Moved Judith Hickman / Lesley Lee that the **President's Annual Report for July 2021 to June 2022** be adopted. Carried.

Moved Christine Williams / Judith Hickman, that the **Financial Report for the year 01/06/2021 to 31/05/2022** be adopted. Carried.

Election of Officers

Judy McDonald / Janet Ruf moved that the following, having been properly nominated and seconded, were elected: Carried.

Position	Nominee	Nominator	Second
President			
Vice President			
Secretary	Mary Arvidson	P Koopman-Boyden	B Wilcock
Treasurer	Christine Williams	G Harrison	S Eaton
Committee	Gavin Muckle	A Devlin	P Koopman-Boyden
	Carol Carr	C Williams	G Harrison
	Anne Devlin	G Muckle	J Hickman
	Graham Harrison	C Williams	B Wilcock
	Judith Hickman	S Eaton	G Harrison
	Bob Wilcock	C Williams	G Harrison
	Sandra Eaton	G Harrison	C Williams

A special meeting will be held before the general meeting on 13 July 2022 for the election of a new president and vice president.

The AGM closed at 10.10am. Mary Arvidson Secretary

Hamilton U3A Nomination Form for Officers and Committee 2023.

Nominee: I..... accept nomination for the position

of..... of Hamilton U3A for the 2023/2024 year.

Signature..... Date

Nominated by

Signature Date

Seconded by

Signature..... Date

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