



HAMILTON NEW ZEALAND

www.u3ahamilton.org.nz

Post PO Box 1103, Hamilton

Email hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com



Newsletter August 2023

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

Meetings

Next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 16 August 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 and near Chartwell Mall). Following the guest speaker's presentation, we have morning tea/coffee and a chance to chat.

Next speaker

Dave Owen, aka Space Dave, from the Te Awamutu Space Centre at Kihikihi. Dave will share his passion for space and astronomy with us.

Meet and greet

August	Hiking
September	Coffee Companions

Morning tea helpers

August	Christine Williams, Yvonne Amey
September	Margaret Gault, Joy Homewood

President's report

Tēnā koutou – greetings to you all.

We had a very animated July meeting with a large attendance. Our speaker was Viv Leonard, the proprietor for 30 years of Arkwrights Antiques in Paeroa. Viv shared her knowledge of old items of interest with us. Most of the stock came from people coming into the shop and offering it to her. Viv gave us insights into the rise and fall in value of a huge variety of objects that included chinaware, glassware, clothing, bags, books, toys, pictures, mirrors and more. What is junk to some folk is of value to others, so it may be worth getting some things valued before consigning them to the rubbish bin.

Our web site has been updated to show the Committee personnel and their various roles. Please feel free to contact us if you have a good idea for a speaker or an activity that you think would be of interest to U3A Hamilton.

Finally, a word of thanks for those who make our monthly meetings run smoothly, viz. Neil Curvengen, our Health and Safety officer, Gorham Milbank who arranges the tables and chairs at meetings and Gordon Fitzroy-Kelly who deputises for Gorham, Carol Carr and the audio-visual team (Brett and Wayne), Alison Ringer who oversees the morning teas, and our 'duty' interest groups who act as greeters at our meetings.

Bob Wilcock, President

Almoner

As this position is currently vacant, I have taken on this role, temporarily, while waiting for a replacement to be found. If you would be willing to take on this role, please contact any member of the committee. It may reassure you to know that the Almoner is not required to be a Committee member.

In the interim, if you know of any member needing some support from the Almoner, please contact me either by email – hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com – or text/phone 027 664 6712.

Judith Hickman

Online learning Blog

During July 2023, these posts were made to our online learning blog
<https://u3ahamilton.org.nz/online-learning/>:

- **New East-West bus service**
- **Matariki**
- **Annual Flu Survey**
- **New Road to Rotokauri**

Suggestions for new postings are always welcome. Beverley Bell
hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com

Groups

Interest group news

Plantaholics

Our group has continued to meet each month in each other's homes or go on visits to gardens or nurseries. We have visited Woodlands Estate, gardens and cafe, the Fairfield Community Project, and two women who have stalls at garden shows, where there were some interesting tips given by both growers. Also, a member's home where we discussed their library of gardening books, and decided that you can successfully grow practically any plant in Hamilton as long as the plant's needs are catered for i.e. shelter from frost, full or partial sun, and fertilising and mulching.

Marilyn Hopkins

Antiques and Collectables

Our July meeting was a visit to Arkanda Living and Antiques in Whitiakahu Road where we were warmly welcomed by Wayne Good to his 'veritable emporium of antiques, art and objects of interest'. We enjoyed looking around the items on display in the retail barn and then felt privileged to be invited to inspect Wayne's own treasures in his home. Here we were treated to an eclectic collection of artworks, silver and chinaware as well as furniture and carpets. Wayne described the origin and characteristics of many of his possessions which we found absorbing. He feels that the generation of people in their twenties and thirties may be showing more interest in antiques, especially from a sustainability viewpoint. This was

encouraging to many of us whose offspring at present do not show much inclination to inherit their parents' possessions! The philosophy of Arkanda is that it is better to reuse or repurpose than buy new. Our visit ended with an appetising afternoon tea accompanied by much chat. A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon on a public holiday.
Raeburne Bourke

Environment Group

On a beautiful winter's day the Natural Environments group drove to Horotiu and walked to the Perry Bridge. The walk was on the cycle/walkway on a paved surface and only about 2kms return from parking the cars in Matariki Terrace which is just north of the Ngaruawahia Golf course. There were information panels on both banks of the river by the bridge and some beautiful mosaics in the concrete by each board. There were great views of the Hakarimatas as we returned to the car park. (photo attached).

The cycle/walkway is part of the Te Awa River ride, 65kms from Ngaruawahia to Lake Karapiro.

We adjourned to the cafe at the BP service centre for coffee/tea and cake before getting back to Te Rapa by 12 noon. Thanks to Jackie Larsen for the suggestion!
Gloria Edwards

Hiking Group

Four U3A members had an enjoyable walk up and around the Hakarimata Kauri Loop walk just south of Huntly on Thursday 13th July. The weather threatened to dampen our walk but we made it to the Northern Lookout and return without incident. The views north over Huntly from the lookout are worth the climb and the kauri trees of varying ages in the grove are magnificent specimens.



Our next walk is scheduled for Thursday 10th August when we will walk around Lake Puketirini in Huntly.

A decision has been made to limit the walks we do as a Hiking Group to easier walks close to Hamilton for the near future as a number of our members are finding it difficult to negotiate some of the more challenging climbs we have done.

If you are interested in 1 hour to 1.5 hour walks over firm, dry paths please do not hesitate to contact me or Graham Harrison.

Des Johnston

Phone: 027 702 0247; Email: desnviv@xtra.co.nz

Ukulele Groups - Uke3A Jam and Beginner Group



The Uke3A Jam has a growing membership. We play many songs from yester-year which we really enjoy both playing and singing. Several people who started with Janet in the Beginners' group are now playing with us. Uke3A Jam meet on Tuesdays 22 August, 12 and 26 September from 1.15 pm– 2.45 pm at Hukanui Reformed Church, 159 Rototuna Road, Hamilton. Anyone who can play a few chords is welcome to come along.

Judith Hickman 027 664 6712 and Janet Pope 824 8079

Coffee Companions Group



Next outing for the Coffee Companions is 10.30 am on Friday August 11 at The Coffee Club at the Te Rapa Service Centre. On Friday 15 September, which is a week later than usual, we will meet at Weave Cafe in Ruakura. Joining us for coffee (or tea) is a nice way to get to know a few people when you're new to U3A.

Judith Hickman 027 664 6712

Singalong Group



We had a good sing-song last week, and tried out some new Medleys which proved to be very popular. However, as many of us have been smitten by the cold, wintry weather, we decided to take a break for September. We will resume on **Wednesday 4 October**. If you like singing old time songs, come along and join us at our next gathering at 1.15 pm at the Hukuanui Reformed Church, 159 Rototuna Road, Rototuna.

Wayne Wright 027 408 3653

Membership

Our total membership is currently 255 with 42 new folk having joined us so far this year.

During July, we welcomed Helen Rinaldi, Jennifer Shaw, Pete and Chris Sanders, Russell Williams, Dianne Pollard-Williams, Kevin Broughan, Margrit Newkomm, Judith Fraser, Jan Mitchell and Keith Parsons.

Please contact me either on hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com or text/call 027 664 6712 if your phone, email or address changes, or if you are not sure whether or not you have paid your annual subscription (currently 34 have not) , or if you are leaving U3A, so that I may keep our membership database current.

Judith Hickman



Meetings

9.45 am for 10.00 am Speaker

3rd Wednesday of the month

Chartwell Cooperating Church

Cnr Comries/Belmont Roads

Chartwell

Hamilton

Meeting Dates

2023/2

16 August

20 September

18 October

Committee

President Bob Wilcock 07 843 8074

Treasurer Christine Williams 027 673 9286

Secretary Mary Arvidson 07 855 1023

Committee:

Membership Judith Hickman 027 664 6712

Groups Graham Harrison 07 855 6217

Technology Carol Carr 027 348 6704

Speakers Sandra Eaton 021 297 2336

Catherine Gurnsey 07 855 8328

Ex-Officio

Newsletters Beverley Bell

Health/Safety Neil Curgenven