



HAMILTON NEW ZEALAND

[www.u3ahamilton.org.nz](http://www.u3ahamilton.org.nz)

Post PO Box 1103, Hamilton

Email [hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com](mailto:hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com)



## Newsletter September 2024

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

### Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 18 September** 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.

### Speaker

The speaker will be **Celine Kearney**

And her talk is titled **Southern Celts: A lived and told story.**

Celine will introduce her book of interviews, *Southern Celts: Stories from people of Irish and Scottish descent in Aotearoa*. Published in 2023, the book was developed as part of her PhD (Philosophy of Education), awarded through Victoria University, in Melbourne (2010 -2016). Sharing her own family story, Celine will introduce the 22 interview narrators and briefly touch on some of the underpinning theories which informed the creation of the book.

Celine Kearney is the granddaughter of three Irish-born grandparents, and one born to an immigrant Irish family in Aotearoa. She is a teacher of English as an Additional Language to adult learners of migrant and refugee backgrounds, and international students. A former journalist, Celine has published two books of interviews and currently, as an applied linguist, writes academic articles based on her research.

### Meet and Greet Roster

September	Reading Group 3
October	History Group
November	Music Appreciation

**Morning tea** Leslie Lee

## President's report

Tēnā koutou katoa – greetings to you all.

Our August speaker, Peter Gillies, gave us an entertaining historical, albeit virtual walk around Hamilton. I was not present, being in the Northern Territory of Australia at the time, but Peter's talk was from all accounts very well received. We have had a suggestion that we hold a quiz night next year and I will ask members at the next meeting if they support this idea.

Finally, a word of safety. Please observe the one-way traffic flow through the church car park and driveway. You may only enter (i.e. not exit) from Comries Road. You may only exit onto Belmont Avenue.

Bob Wilcock  
President

## Online Blog

During August 2024, these posts were made to our online learning blog <https://u3ahamilton.org.nz/online-learning/>. Click on the link to open up a posting:

- **Te Ara Pekapeka bridge** [September 2, 2024](#)
- **Obtaining a Pass for Free Entry into Hamilton Gardens** [August 21, 2024](#)
- **New Bridge to Open** [August 15, 2024](#)

Suggestions for new postings are always welcome. Beverley Bell  
[hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com](mailto:hamiltonnzu3a@gmail.com)

## Membership

### Membership

Our membership is currently 255. No new members joined U3A during August. There are posters available, if anyone would like to take one to display in a public place, eg library, church, lifestyle village; also plenty of brochures available for sharing with friends.

### Badges

There are many name badges awaiting collection. Please collect yours if you haven't yet done so. Convenors, will you please check and take badges for members of your groups?

I notice a few people trying to return them at the end of a meeting – please don't. I suggest you keep your badge in the car, and then you will find it easier to locate it and wear it on meeting days.

A few people have commented on our current badges that rely on safety pins to attach. This can be a hazard on fine fabric. I have purchased some clip-on ones of visiting card dimensions. If you'd like to swap your badge for one of these, come and see me and I will arrange a replacement for you.

Judith Hickman

## Interest Groups

### U3A Interest Groups 2024

We currently have a successful Wine Appreciation Group. There are more people interested in this topic so we are hoping to start a second group. If you are interested, please contact me by phone, email or at the Wednesday meetings.

There has also been some discussion on holding a quiz afternoon. We have such a diverse range of talent in the group. So, think about who you would have in your winning team. Let me know if this is of interest and we will organise the event.

It is heading towards the end of the year and time to take reflection. If you think that there would be an area of new interest, that we could look forward to organising for 2025, please let me know.

Margot Buick [margot.buick@snap.net.nz](mailto:margot.buick@snap.net.nz)

029 294 2216

## **Play Reading Group**

In August the Play Reading group enjoyed a wonderful and clever comedy, *A Bunch of Amateurs* by Ian Heslop and Nick Newman. Both authors have very impressive and long careers, writing comedy for the stage as well as the BBC. They wrote the script for the movie of the same name which starred Burt Lancaster and Imelda Staunton; it even incorporates bits of Shakespeare, so we couldn't be in better company in every sense. We read Act 1 and are really looking forward to Act 2 next month. Pat Stannard 027 2110391

## **Hiking Group**

Because the September Newsletter deadline comes before our next outing this report will only confirm that our September walk will begin and end at the Hamilton Gardens (an ideal chance to register for your MyGardens Pass if you haven't already done so). We will walk through the rose gardens, across the Cobham bridge then south towards Peacockes Road, completing a loop through the bush between the river and Bader suburb. If there is time and the new Te Ara Pekapeka bridge is open for foot traffic, we will walk around to cross the bridge on our way back to the gardens. If the new bridge is not open we will come back to Cobham bridge then return to the gardens.

Our October hike will probably be the Pukemokemoke Reserve again as there are options in the reserve that we have not yet explored as a group.

Des Johnston

Ph: 027 702 0247

Email: desnviv@xtra.co.nz

## **Walking group**

17 September

Tauhara Park walk.

Meet at Callum Brae golf course car park, Callum Brae drive, Rototuna at 10.30 am. We will walk through Tauhara park, and along the walkway by Kirikiriroa stream. We will pass under Wairere drive twice before returning to Callum Brae via a small section of the Mangaiti gully. There is a café at the car park. Led by Alison Fagan

1 October

Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park

Meet 10.30 am at the viewing tower at the carpark opposite the Hamilton Zoo, Brymer Road. We will take the southern track through different-aged native plantings to the jetties on the peat lake (Horseshoe Lake) and return via the northern track. The Everyday Eatery Café is at the zoo entrance. Please note – no dogs are allowed inside the Park. For more information and photos see <https://motowalknz.com/2019/12/28/waiwhakareke/> Led by Bev Clarkson.

15<sup>th</sup> October

This walk will be around Lake Kainui in Horsham Downs, it is approximately 3.2 km long. Turn right off Horsham Downs Road onto Lake road, the access to the lake reserve is about 1km along on the left. Meet at reserve at 10.30. Led by Rae Hooper.

## Coffee Companions Group



Our September gathering will be at **Cafe INC**, 12/11 Thomas Road, Rototuna, on Friday 14 September at 10.30 am.

On Friday 11 October we will visit **Cinnamon Cafe**, 201 Sandwich Road, St Andrews.

Our group is open to all members, so if you'd like to join a friendly group and chat over coffee (or tea) please contact me. You can be assured of a warm welcome and the chance to get to know a few people if you are new to U3A.

Judith Hickman 027 664 6712

## Ukulele Group - Uke3A

If you are interested in learning to play this friendly little instrument, want to upgrade your current skills, or just want to sing and play with friends, come along and join us. If you haven't played before, don't let that be an issue. Janet offers individual tuition and will have you playing with the group in an amazingly short time.



We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at Hukanui Reformed Church 159 Rototuna Road from 1.00 – 2.45 pm. Koha - \$2 at each session for the use of the hall.

### Singalong:

If you don't want to strum a ukulele, but just like to sing, you are welcome to come along to sing with our group at any time.

Our next sessions will be on Tuesday 24 September, then Tuesdays 8th and 22nd August.

Judith Hickman 027 664 6712  
Janet Pope 824 8079