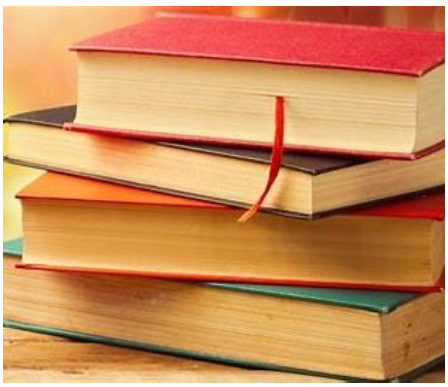
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS



We currently have three active book discussion groups for U3A members. These will usually meet on a weekday, with times and venues to suit the members. There are currenty no vacancies in the groups but if you are interested in belonging to a group you can give your name to the Groups Convenor, and perhaps a fourth group could be started!

Discussion Group 1 : The Page Turners

Convenor: Susan Gresson Meets 3rd Tuesday, 10am – 11.30am

Discussion Group 2:

Convenor: Sheila Elmslie Meets 4th Tuesday, 1.30pm to 2.45pm

Discussion Group 3:

Convenor: Beverley Bell. We meet each month on the second Wednesday from 10am to noon to discuss a book or books of a chosen author. We all read the same book for any one month and the lively discussions include similar and different views. At present there are no vacancies.

August 2025

This month we read and discussed “Book of Guilt”ny New Zealand author Catherine Chidgey, and her two previous and related books ‘The Wish Child’ and ‘Remote Sympathy’

Read, watch and discuss Shakespeare's plays, and the language and cultural context of the time. No experience needed!

First Friday of the month, in members' homes.

Contact Alison Ringer, 027 346 3691

What we do

- Read plays aloud (it brings them to life!).
- Watch DVD's of top performances, so far we have read or watched around 16 plays. (Mike I want to put a list of the plays we have studied)
- Discuss meaning, humour, history and language

Recent Highlights

- A group trip to Auckland to see a performance of King Lear
- A look at the First Folio at Auckland Library on the 400 year anniversary of its publication
- The outdoor dawn performance of Twelfth Night at Hamilton Arts Festival in 2025
- And two of our members saw As You Like It at THE Globe Theatre in London!

Shakespeare's World

We share our experiences and encounters with Shakespeare's works, through articles, podcasts, books, comedy shows. Some of us are also reading some of our favourite Shakespeare stories rewritten by popular modern authors (The Hogarth's project) – such as Jo Nesbo's version of Macbeth as a crime boss!

We explore how Shakespeare is still impacting life today – many phrases in everyday use originated with Shakespeare.