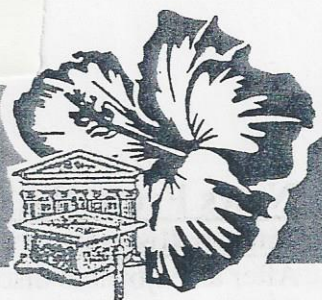


HIBISCUS COAST U3A



NEWSLETTER - March/April 2003

Committee

President - Gerald Warner 426-5744

Treasurer - Nonie Coates 424-0730

Vice Pres. - Graham Lamont 424-4599

Asst. Treasurer - Ray Marino 426-6615

Acting Secretary - Pam Ellender 426-7015

Newsletter Ed. - Pat Varney 424-2316

Membership - Elizabeth and Monty Harris 428-2414

The next meeting is the Annual General Meeting and it will be held at 10.00am on Monday 14th April at the Stanmore Bay Presbyterian Church Hall, 32 Waioara Road. The main speakers will be Helen Bartle and Gregory Heap from the Auckland Theatre Co.

A Word from your President.

I write this, my final message as your President, as not-really-so-far-away Iraq is being bombarded and set on fire. So what can I say without sounding trite? Very little, I am sure. One can just hope for minimal casualties and that sanity will eventually prevail.

The last two years have seen further growth in our U3A branch, as our brand of further education becomes more widely accepted among retirees. Study groups, with their fluctuating attendance, still have the problem of finding willing convenors for this not particularly onerous task - but it should surely be a shared task!

Ours is a relatively unstructured organisation, at least compared with some other branches. And I hope it will remain so, free from the limitations of formality.

Finally I want to thank Pat Varney, Nonie Coates, and the Harrises for all their hard work in facilitating the running of U3A Hibiscus Coast. I wish my successor well and trust that he will enjoy the same co-operation from everyone as I did.

Gerald Warner

Tea duty - Antiques and Collectables - please have a few members at the hall at least 20 minutes before meeting time.

News From the Groups

Ancient History

After an enjoyable discussion of life in early Rome, we plan to continue the theme with a DVD at our next meeting on Tuesday, March 25th at 10am at the home of Neil Duff, 1B Swann Beach Road, Manly. Phone 424-1244.

The following meeting on Tuesday, April 22nd will be at the home of Barbara Thatcher, 18 Monyash Avenue, Manly. Phone 424-8281. New members will be welcome.

Antiques and Collectables Group A and B

The first meeting of the year was basically to formulate ideas for the year's programme. Our second meeting, in March, featured a miscellany of objects, whose owners provided information about them. This proved to be an interesting afternoon indeed, and we are hoping this will set the pattern for the year ahead.

Because of an unforeseen situation, please note Antiques and Collectables Group A will be in Recess till June when A and B will combine until the end of the year. Contact Elizabeth Harris phone 428-2414.

Books

Discussion of our March choice of '*A Fine Balance*' by Rohinton Mistry has been held over until April due to the difficulty of obtaining copies. This meeting will be held on Thursday, April 10th at 10am at the home of Shirley Munro, 22 Peninsula Club. Phone 424-8090. Other books to be reviewed are '*My Dream of You*' and '*Are you Somebody*' by Nuala O'Faolain and '*The Life of Pi*' by Yann Martel (winner of the 2002 Booker Prize).

Books to be read for May are '*Unless*' by Carol Shields and '*Instances of the Number 3*' by Sally Vickers. The meeting will be on May 8th at the home of Judith Cliffe, 2 Ester Place, Red Beach. Phone 426-8804. New members are always welcome.

Comparative Religion

An interesting discussion on religion in general was held at the February meeting. The March 23rd meeting promises to be most enlightening and topical with two invited speakers expounding Islam to us. At our April (27th) meeting a Buddhist doctor will describe the tenets of his religion. Meetings are held on the fourth Sunday of the month at 14c Weiti Road, Orewa. -Contact Gerald Warner - phone 426-5744

Discussion Group

The convenor has changed from Anne Lennon to Barry Dale. Please contact Barry at 426-0919 especially if you have some contentious issues to air.

Famous and Infamous People

Many very interesting people have been discussed with hundreds more to be researched. We meet 3rd Thursday mornings. New members very welcome. Phone Jenny 424-7192

French Conversation

Group will meet every 2nd and 4th Friday afternoon of the month. Every level of ability welcome - don't be shy!. Contact Gerald Warner, phone 426-5744

History

We are being entertained by Jim with the 30 Years War in serial form. He assures us it won't take 30 years. We have also heard about gardening, food and tea drinking in the 17th Century. Other more serious topics about Luther and the first and only English pope have been discussed and Gerald promises the origins of Nursery Rhymes for the future. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 10.am in the Craft Room at the Peninsula Club, so come along if this interests you. Convenor - Nonie Coates phone 424-0730.

Jazz - Summer

A MUSICAL THEATRE SHOW "French Toast"

The combined U3A Jazz Groups are proud to announce that a wonderful show is coming to the Hibiscus Coast, especially for the U3A. On Sunday 13th April starting at 4.00pm. The musical theatre show, "French Toast" will be performed at "The Orange Tree" Restaurant in the Pacific Plaza, Whangaparaoa.

New Zealander, Linn Lorkin, well known for her delightful kiwi compositions about life in Grey Lynn, the beach, and pohutakawa trees, along with her partner, Hershel (accordionist supreme) and a third performer playing the double bass, make up the cast of the show.

"Absolutely delightful" according to the Coromandel paper and "It is, all in all, a fantastic night" said the Wanaka News.

"French Toast" consists of halves of approximately 40 minutes each, separated by a 20 minute break, all for just \$10.00!

"Orange Tree" food and drink - right from their new menu will be available before, at the break, and after the show. Refreshments at your expense, naturally.

All are welcome - bring your friends! Please book by calling John or Barbara Tucker on 427-9127 or Carol Ann Bradford on 424-2302. As seating is limited an early booking will avoid disappointment.

Jazz- Winter

Convenor Ron Ellender is busy compiling another series of winter jazz under the title "Swing that Music". The first meeting will be on Sunday 25th May at 73 Albatross road, Red Beach 2pm-4pm. NB. There will be no April meeting. New members welcome. Contact Ron on 426-7015.

Music Appreciation

Enthusiastic members began the year with some Links with Vienna at Kath Robinson's home. In April, Barbara Tucker and Audrey Walker present Pot Pourri at 117 Lakeside Drive, Orewa on Friday April 4th, 10am to 12 noon. Contact Pam or Ron Ellender on 426-7015.

Music For Listening

"Variety is the spice of Life" they say and this applies to the music (mainly classical) and the comments. 3rd Friday at 1.30pm. Contact Kath Robinson, phone 424-8596.

Music in Depth

This new music group hopes that by a better understanding of the music we shall find it even more enjoyable. This group meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Contact Kath Robinson, phone 424-8596.

Play Reading Group

Meetings for 2003 will be once a month on the 3rd Tuesday at 2.00pm in the Peninsula Club, 441 Whangaparaoa Road, in a room behind the bowling green. The April meeting will be on Tuesday 15th April. As well as the 3rd Tuesday of each month we will also meet on the 5th Tuesday for the months of April, July and September. Contact Cynthia Green 424-7941

Theatre Visiting Group

We have tickets for the following plays -

'The Shape of Things' by Neil LaBute, Monday 5th May -Bookings Shirley Munro,424-8090

'Middle Age Spread' by Roger Hall, Monday 19th May-Bookings, Beverley Liddell, 424-7559.

The bus is full for this play, but there is a possibility of another night if there are enough requests, so phone in and put your name on the waiting list. Tickets are \$37. each plus bus and payment should be made to U3A c/o Nonie Coates.

Future plays -

'The World's Wife' by Carol Ann Duffy - Monday 28th July.

Bookings - phone Shirley Munro, 424-8090

'The Songmaker's Chair' by Albert Wendt - Monday 6th October,

Bookings - phone Beverley Liddell, 424-7559

Please put your names down early so we can be sure of getting good seats.

The Peninsula Club is running a bus to the Aotea Centre to see The Royal N.Z. Ballet perform 'Romeo and Juliet' on Sunday 29th June at 2.30pm. Tickets, B Reserve \$54. And A Reserve \$61.50 plus bus. Please contact Nonie Coates phone 424-0730 as soon as possible so that tickets can be purchased.

World of Art

It has been suggested this group splits into two groups, one to study Art and Artists and the other to revert to the study of all aspects of Art such as Architecture, Photography, Costume etc. To express interest phone Cath Robinson 424-8596 or Jenny Trezise 424-7192.

STUDY TIMETABLE U3A

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Sunday
<u>Week 1</u> a.m.		History	Food for Thought	World Today	Music Appreciation	
p.m.	Antiques & Collectables A&B	(a) Writing for Grandchildren	Travel A			
<u>Week 2</u> a.m.		Discussion Geology	Humour	Books		
p.m.	Travel B				French Conversation	
<u>Week 3</u> a.m.	Cinematique	History		Famous & Infamous		
p.m.		Play Reading			Music Listening	
<u>Week 4</u> a.m.	(b)Writing for Grandchildren	Discussion Ancient History		World of Art		
p.m.		Music in Depth			French Conversation	Comparative Religions Jazz (Alt. Sundays)
<u>Week 5</u> a.m.		Play Reading				