

# HIBISCUS COAST U3A



## HIBISCUS COAST U3A NEWSLETTER

July/August 2016

[www.u3ahbc.co.nz](http://www.u3ahbc.co.nz)

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Next meeting: Monday, 18 July 2016

St Andrew's Presbyterian Church Hall, 32 Waiora Road, Stanmore Bay.  
Doors open 9.40 am for a 10 am start; meeting ends at approx 11.45 am

Tea duties: Famous and Infamous Origins and Film Discussion Groups  
Convenors, please contact each other to arrange kitchen duties.  
(Take note of the instructions for the new dish washer.)

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is hard to believe two months have passed since the last newsletter and that I have already been back a week from my trip to the UK. It was great to return to this lovely country and, as always, I am grateful to feel that I belong here.

Everywhere I went ... even the Island of Guernsey ... U3A was evident. I saw how universally our association is followed and enjoyed. Groups are as diverse as the areas where they are based.

I know we too have very interesting members and with this in mind I am going to write to everyone asking you to share your talents and experiences with the rest of us. We are always on the lookout for Club speakers and volunteers and I hope some of you will come forward. **I still need a Vice President!** The duties are not at all time consuming. It is expected that the natural progress to the role of President will occur next March.

From time to time the main U3A centre, or 'Network', sends out various notifications and I would like to share a couple with you:

1. Claire Cadwallander, an Honours student at Auckland University has written:  
*"For my dissertation I am conducting a study aimed at looking for changes in a type of memory processing called long-term potentiating that occur with healthy aging and in early Alzheimer's disease. I am looking to recruit at least five neurologically healthy people over the age of 65 to be a part of this study. I wondered if a few people involved in the University of the Third Age in the Auckland area might be interested."* (cjadwallader94gmail.com)
2. The second is as reported here: *"I'm looking for a way to get in contact with the 50+ community. I'm doing a personal project to increase the uptake of sustainable transport within NZ, ultimately aimed to improve the environment we live in (think traffic and pollution)."* (goo.gl/forms/a4611JVF3q)

If anyone is interested, please contact the people directly.

Finally, in the last newsletter, we enclosed booking details for the "U3A in Action" event in Auckland on 29 July. Apparently all the places are filled. I understand there is a waiting list for anyone wishing to go, but not yet booked. It would be worth contacting **Fay Weatherly (09473 0324)** to enquire about this.

For those who have booked, I am compiling a carpool list. If you can offer transport, please contact me on 09 428 4866. For those wanting transport, we will have to see how many places are offered – but I will do my best!

Chris Curtis  
President

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#### **To Members who use Peninsula Club Parking Spaces**

The above facility is kind enough to allow us to use many of their rooms and has asked that we observe the signs in the parking spaces as follows:

- *Apartment Parking* is for residents only, as is the *Disabled Parking*
- We are allowed to park in *Visitor* or any parking which is not labelled
- Visitor parking is on the right before the Reception Entrance and this allows a walk through the building to your meeting venue
- More Visitor parking may also be accessed by turning right after the Reception Area

Thank you for your cooperation.  
Trish Litherland

**This Month's Speaker:**

Loren O'Sullivan

Loren spent two years volunteering at a home for abandoned and orphaned children in Central America. She will talk about her wonderful volunteer experience, working with over 500 children at NPH (*Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos* – Our Little Brothers and Sisters). NPH is an organisation that has nine beautiful homes across Latin America, catering for over 3000 children who would otherwise be homeless. Loren is now the director of NPH, New Zealand.



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**This Month's Club Speaker:**

John Copperton

Long-standing member, John, will give a brief insight into his very interesting and diverse life.

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## News from the groups ...

**Contact details for all groups and meeting times  
are on the attached Groups' Schedule page**

### **Art Appreciation**

We have a new member who has been an Art teacher and we are looking forward to his participation. This month we visited Val Cuthbert's print studio where we experienced the different methods used. This was very much enjoyed by all. The previous month, Colleen Crampton led us through the German Impressionists, a topic which was very well researched and interesting. In July, Nancy Miller is presenting Latin American Art.

Trish Litherland, Convenor (426 4400)

### **Cinematique**

Today will be the second time this winter we have enjoyed a shared morning tea and movie at the Peninsula Club. Last month we watched *Philadelphia*, an awesome story about the first case of AIDS discrimination, starring Tom Hanks.

This month, *The Way* was chosen starring Martin Sheen whose character completes The St James Way walk as a pilgrimage. As we meet in such a large venue, we can accommodate more members.

Trish Litherland, Convenor (426 4400)

### **Film Discussion**

This is a lively, most enjoyable group which meets at the Peninsula Club but as there was nothing much happening in the movie world this month and the fourth Friday came before the Monday, our movie day, we postponed the June meeting. We will be losing a long-time member, Pam Pawinski, who moves to Christchurch at the end of July; she will be missed.

Trish Litherland, Convenor (426 4400)

### **Discussion**

Our group continues to be enjoyable. I think the attitude of members is the key. Recently we have been looking at the various backgrounds of members. They are varied but have much in common in that in many countries, times were hard after the war. However, harder times did not mean unhappy people.

As children were not expecting much, they were easily pleased. I think it made kids more inventive; for example, we all remember making houses out of boxes and playing there.

Some of our members are travelling, some are ill but we usually have 16 – 18 at our meetings.

Barry Dale, Convenor (426 0919)

### **Out and About**

The group is going strong, numbering about 40. In June the group enjoyed an outing to the Tip Top ice cream factory. We had a guided tour and learnt their ice cream is now completely free of additives, using natural ingredients. We heard about the history of the company and saw tubs being filled and cones being wrapped. We also enjoyed a complimentary ice cream.

Sheila Hussona, Convenor (981 0000)



### **Famous and Infamous**

This group combined with the Origins group at the beginning of the year. We alternate topics each month which is working well. Our June meeting was under the Origins umbrella when we covered origins of anything beginning with the letter L – Linen, Limbo, Latitude, London, Lisbon, Lead poisoning and Lottery were all covered. It was a very interesting meeting. In July we will study Famous and Infamous cities and their cultures. We continue to meet in our homes.

Judy Lilley, Convenor (424 3080)

### **World Mythology**

Our group meets at the Whangaparaoa Library on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday morning of the month. We are a relatively new group and are going well so far. This month we have looked at Aztec Mythology. Next month we will be studying the Celts. We do have room for more members!

Judith Lilley, Convenor (424 3080)

## Music Appreciation

This is the first time our group has had a ‘live’ performance and it was well received by all who attended. Our thanks to Jennifer Zhang, a student at St Cuthbert’s School, who was just two months from her eleventh birthday at the time and has been learning the harp for three years – an impressive and talented youngster.



Jack Wolfe, Convenor (426 9871)

## Regional New Zealand

For our May and June meetings we finalised the Wellington Region and learnt many interesting facts about the Wairarapa and Manawatu Regions. Some of the topics and personalities covered were: William Pickering, Bellamys, the Rimutuka Incline, Porirua Harbour, Kapiti cheeses, Murray Halberg, Maori place name meanings, Bennydale, Norsewood, Shannon, and Greytown. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, 28 July, in the Pohutukawa Room of the Whangaparaoa Library at 10 a.m.

Barbara Tucker, Convenor (427 9127)

## World Today

We have quite a large group and, if everyone attends, our venue just accommodates us at the moment.

Our discussions centre around what is happening, or has recently happened, in the “World Today” So far this year, topics have included Global use (and misuse) of fresh water worldwide, Tourism in Antarctica, the rise of ISIS, Poverty in New Zealand and the nature of the Universe.

At the moment we are discussing Capitalism and the wealth/income gap globally. Ian Millar organised for us to see a very interesting interview with Noam Chomsky, the American social critic and political activist. (This interview is available for viewing on YouTube). Most of our subjects bring forth lively discussion.

We meet on the first Friday of the month at the Whangaparaoa Library at 9.45 am, so that we have time for a small get-together, with a ‘cuppa’, before the meeting.

Ria Kamerbeek, Convenor (424 0486)

## **SCHEDULE OF THE CURRENT GROUPS**

**as at July 2016**

### **Ancient History**

As its name suggest, this group studies ancient civilizations.

Meeting on the fourth Tuesday at 10.00 am

Venue: The Peninsula Club (call convenor for directions).

Convenor: Ayad Hussona (981 0000)

### **Art Appreciation**

We meet to discuss various artists, genres and history in selected countries. It is not required that you are an artist, just have an appreciation of excellence and a love of learning and sharing.

Meeting on the third Thursday at 1.45 pm (for a 2 pm start) to 4 pm.

Venue: The Peninsula Club

Convenor: Trish Litherland (426 4400)

### **Books, East and West**

We each read the same two selected books every month and then we have good discussions about them. Some of us like the book and others don't – makes for a lively and interesting morning.

Meeting on the second Thursday at 10.00 am

Venue: In each other's homes.

Convenor: Lesley Newling (426 0961)

### **Book Review**

As the title suggests - a group discussion on books which has been read by the members.

Meeting on the third Friday at 10.00 am.

Venue: In each other's homes.

Convenor: Cheril Clarke (426 9567)

### **Cards, Games and Puzzles:** (formerly "Card Playing for Fun")

This is a cheerful, fun loving group.

Meeting on the first and third Tuesday at 12.45 pm for a prompt 1 pm start.

Venue: The Pohutukawa Room – Whangaparaoa Library

Convenor: Isobel Naish (428 2552)

### **Cinematique**

This group visits a cinema together. We try to choose a movie with a good story which will lead to interesting discussion.

Meeting in the morning of the fourth Monday.

Venue: The Kowhai Room – The Peninsula Club

Convenor: Trish Litherland (426 4400)

### **Film Discussion**

We discuss any films we have viewed together, plus any others deemed suitable.

Meeting on the last Friday of the month at 10.00 am.

Venue: The Kowhai Room – The Peninsula Club

Convenor: Trish Litherland (426 4400)

### **Discussion**

Topics discussed by this group are chosen on an ad hoc basis, based on whatever its members currently find of interest or concern.

Meeting on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 10.00 am.

Venue: Hibiscus Coast Retirement village (call convenor for directions).

Convenor: Barry Dale (426 0919)

### **Famous and Infamous Origins**

This combined group covers a wide range of topics, whether it is famous or infamous people, places, items, cars, sport – you name it, we can make a topical meeting from it.

Meeting on the third Thursday at 10.00 am.

Venue: In each other's homes.

Convenor: Judy Lilley (626 3080)

### **History**

This group is for anyone who has a keen interest in history. It covers all aspects and members read interesting papers on a wide variety of topics.

Meeting on the first and third Tuesday at 10.00 am.

Venue: The Peninsula Club (call Convenor for directions)

Convenor: Nonie Coates (424 0730)

### **Humour**

We share jokes, humorous poems and stories, as well as testing our brains on various set written tasks. If laughter is the best medicine then, surely, this is the healthiest group around.

Meeting on the second Wednesday at 10.00 am.

Venue: In each other's homes.

Convenor: Jacqui Driscoll (427 0426)

### **Mah-jong**

Our group is a friendly group who strive to achieve as many different hands of the seventy seven available to us. It can be a frustrating game but offers plenty of challenges in order to work out which of the many hands you could try at each stage of the game. It certainly keeps the brain alive!

Convenor: Geoff or Sheila Taylor (427 4662)

### **Music**

For members who have a love of music from classical, opera, jazz and easy listening. The first hour is spent listening, tea break follows and then lively discussion.

Meeting on the fourth Wednesday of each month

Venue: The Hibiscus Room – The Peninsula Club

Convenor: Jack Wolfe (426 9871)

### **Out and About**

This group organises 'outings' to places of interest, new and old, in and around Auckland.

Meeting on the second Tuesday.

Venue: Times and locations vary.

Convenor: Sheila Hussona (981 0000)

### **Regional New Zealand**

This group takes specific regions of New Zealand and studies each from an historical, economic and demographic perspective. Members with a special relationship to a region often provide insightful or humorous aspects about the area under study – a learning experience about our own country.

Meeting on the fourth Thursday at 10.00 am.

Convenor: Barbara Tucker (427 9127)

### **Short Film Making**

This group is comprised of members with an interest in the art and craft of making short films. The group has, of necessity, no set time or venue for its meetings. Meeting times and locations vary.

Convenors: Ian and Nancy Miller (424 0388)

### **The World Today:**

The group's aim is to help members gain an understanding of the background and implications of what is happening on the world stage. Members are asked to research particular aspects of a topic and to then share what they learn with other members.

Meeting on the first Friday at 9.45 am.

Contact: Neil Burgham

Venue: Whangaparaoa Library

Convenor: Ria Kamerbeek (424 0486)

### **The Writers (formerly Scribbles)**

A group for people who enjoy writing. We are now trialling a set but optional theme for the month and positively critiquing those who want to improve their writing.

Meeting on the first Friday at 10.00 am

Venue: In members' homes

Convenor: Cheril Clarke (426 9567)

### **Travel**

The travel group meets every month to discuss aspects of travel. At most meetings a member gives a talk, usually accompanied by a slide presentation, on a trip they have been on. The range of amazing places people have visited makes this a very interesting group and promotes lots of questions from other members.

Meeting on the second Monday at 2.00 pm

Venue: Whangaparaoa Library

Convenor: Noel Newling (421 0961)

### **Writing your Memoirs**

This group encourages members to write down the stories from their lives. The changes we have seen, the experiences we have had, told in our own voices. Writing our memoirs is also helpful in understanding our lives - looking back, reminiscing. We can share and reflect and provide a pathway for our descendants to understand us and their roots.

Meeting on the second Friday at 12.30 pm

Venue: Whangaparaoa Library

Convenor: Bev Gomez (424 0573)

### **World Mythology**

Looking at all aspects of world mythology, each member presents the results of their homework.

Meeting the fourth Monday at 10 am

Venue: The Pohutukawa Room – Whangaparaoa Library

Convenor: Judy Lilley (424 3080)

## Group Meeting Timetable as at July 2016

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>1<sup>st</sup> week</b> am		History 10am			The writers 10am World today 10am
Pm		Mahjong 2pm  Cards, games & Puzzles, 1 pm			
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> week</b> am	Short film making 11am (time varies)	Discussion 10am  Out & about (times vary)	Humour 10am	Books east/west 10am	
pm	Travel 2pm				Writing your memoirs 12.30pm
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> week</b> am	<b>**General** meeting 9.40am</b>	History 10am		Famous & infamous / Origins 10am	Book review 10am
pm		Mahjong 2pm  Card, games & Puzzles 1 pm		Art appreciation. 1.45 pm	
<b>4<sup>th</sup> week</b> am	Cinematique (Venue varies)  World Mythology 10am	Discussion 10am  Ancient history 10am		Regional New Zealand 10am	Film discussion 10am (last Friday whether it be the 4 <sup>th</sup> or the 5 <sup>th</sup> Friday)
pm			Recorded classical music 2 pm		

**General meetings are held bi-monthly, on the third Monday of  
January, March, May, July, September and November, at 9.40 am  
at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church Hall, 32 Waiora Road, Stanmore Bay  
Doors open 9.40 am for a 10 am start; meeting ends at approx 11.45 am**