



HIBISCUS COAST U3A NEWSLETTER

November/December 2016

www.u3ahbc.co.nz

President	Christine Curtis	4284266
Vice President	Vacant Position	
Secretary	Dee Davies	4287525
Treasurer	John Tucker	4279127
Membership Sec	Elizabeth Ingram	4265074
Newsletter Editor	Rewa Selmecei	4279194
Webmaster Editor	Gerard Straka	-
Committee Member	Judy Lilley	424 3080

Next meeting: Monday, 21 November 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: Groups – Mahjong and Music

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 this will be the last Newsletter for 2016. I admit I always get caught out as the year progresses and suddenly I need to start thinking about Christmas. Each of our groups will be planning their seasonable get-together and at the General Meeting on 21 November, our morning tea will be a special one. I am not sure if everyone is aware that Shirley and Jim Smith, who live just behind St Andrew's Church, make sure we are supplied with biscuits, tea, coffee milk and sugar. They also, each November, give us a very special morning tea. I would like to record a big THANK YOU to them.

I am not sure if you all realise also that on the alternate month to the general meeting, all the conveners and management committee meet to report and discuss any matters needed to ensure the smooth running of the Hibiscus Coast U3A. Member Bev Gomez has laboriously made note of groups that other U3As have formed, and we will try to list as many as we can, for your interest. If any-one wishes to start a new group, we would be delighted to discuss it with you.

On the topic of meetings, I note that attendance at the General Meeting is usually less than half our members, and I wonder why? Are the non-attendees not interested in the speakers: find the location difficult, or are concerned about the lack of parking? (You do realise there is an internal staircase from the carpark?) I would really like to hear from anyone who does not attend but would like to.

For those who do not attend the meeting, I would like to mention we are planning to have a picnic again in February ... and is it too soon to wish you a HAPPY CHRISTMAS?

Chris Curtis
President

Report on September speaker:

Phil Sai-Louie

Our speaker for September was very interesting and informative on the topic of people's names and their origin, and I asked him to send me a few notes for those who missed his talk.

Surnames were acquired between the 11th & 15th centuries. The huge changes to the English language since then mean that many surnames now have totally different and often amusing meanings e.g

LEECH was the doctor (word meant `to heal`)- word has transferred from the doctor to the animal he used

SPITAL shortening of `hospital`- someone who lived at or near one - a hospital was a lodging house, giving hospitality

LANGBOTTOM `bottom` meant `valley`- `longbottom` meant living in a long valley

CRAPP was `crop`, picker of fruit or vegetables, reaper of corn

DEATH a man who played the part of Death in a religious play in his village

GLASSCOCK cottage where glass is made

TREBILCOCK a loved homestead

There will not be a Club Speaker at this meeting,
due to the extended morning tea

President, Committee Members and Group Convenors hard at work at their October meeting



A special morning tea provided by President Chris to acknowledge commitment to the various roles was much appreciated

This Month's Speaker

KATHLEEN HANSEN

Kathleen has been family historian for the 1814 Hansen Family for several decades.

- She has written six books about the family and/or the first European settlement in the Bay of Islands.
The seventh book is at the printers right now and relates the true story of Bert Hansen, the only Kiwi soldier to escape twice from German captivity in WW1.
- She was awarded the Queen's Service Medal in 2016 'for services to historical research'.
- Married to Stan Hansen, a fourth generation member of The First Family, for 61 years. They have 4 children, 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.
An apartment in Selwyn Village in Pt Chevalier has been their home for the last three years - when they have not been travelling overseas.

Kathleen will speak on:

RANGIHOUA: Mission Impossible? This was my sixth book which I self-published in 2014 in time for the bicentenary celebrations in the Bay of Islands. The book itself is a social history of the first two decades of life at the infant settlement established by Rev Samuel Marsden in 1814. *RANGIHOUA* details this history thanks to the help of a private diary written by one of the original three missionaries.

This talk will concentrate on the extraordinary hardships endured by the three missionary wives who helped to establish that first European settlement in the Bay of Islands 25 years before the Treaty of Waitangi.

My husband comes with me to the meetings and looks after the screening of a short film which helps to illustrate the talk in question. Stan, incidentally, is a direct descendant of Thomas Hansen Jnr who accompanied the missionary party to the Bay of Islands in 1814.



Kathleen Hansen

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

Art Appreciation

We have welcomed a new member to our group. During September we discussed various artworks that are on display in the corridors of the Peninsula Village; we chose three favourites and explained our choices. During October John Hoby and Maureen Jenson are presenting "How do we understand Installation Art?" which sounds very interesting. Our November meeting will be spent at Narrow Neck, enjoying the cliff walk sculpture trail.

We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 1.30pm in the Peninsula Village media room.
New members are very welcome.

Trish Litherland, Convenor (426 4400)

Cinematique

We enjoyed our last meeting at the Peninsula Village, watching a film called *Detachment* about relationships and involving a highly dysfunctional American high school which left us much to discuss.

This group will now run on an ad hoc basis depending on what is being shown at Hoyts, Whangaparaoa. An E mail will be sent to members informing them of any meeting at the cinema during each month.
If you wish to be added to the list, please contact:

Trish Litherland, Convenor (426 4400)

Discussion

Our group continues to have a great feeling of each enjoying the company and opinions of others. Our newer members are very good contributors of knowledge, opinion and friendship.

Some recent topics have drawn various opinions, and stimulated good discussion.

- Euthanasia, or 'End of life choice', as some prefer, offered good opinions to share.
- Medicinal Cannabis also prompted good debate.
- Artificial Intelligence was another interesting topic.
- American Elections was a topic I doubted would have much appeal, but the amount of knowledge, in our group was amazing, going back to 1785 and George Washington.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month – a lovely group to belong to.

Barry Dale, Convenor (426 0919)

Famous and Infamous Origins

This combined group has remained strong in numbers as well as topics. We always have a good attendance. We'll meet for an end of year lunch at the Conveners home and plan the year ahead.

Judy Lilley, Convenor (626 3080)

Film Discussion

This is a very enjoyable group. We always find lots to discuss and enjoy each other's feedback. We meet on the last Friday of each month at 10.00 am in the Kowhai Room of the Peninsula Retirement Village. A new member has recently joined us - new members are very welcome.

Trish Litherland, Convenor (426 4400)

History

History group is moving its venue from the Peninsula Club to the Pohutakawa Room at the Whangaparaoa Library.

Nonie Coates, Convenor (424 0730)

Humour

Our Humour Group is still meeting in homes on the second Wednesday of the month. We make our own humour and there is always much laughter, fun and comradeship.

Jacqui Driscoll, Convenor (427 0426)

Mahjong Group

The members of the Mahjong group have been challenged to Mahjong a hand that they have not tried before, thereby making us think outside the square! For our end of year get-together we are going to the Suwan Thai Restaurant, followed by an afternoon of Mahjong.

Sheila and Geoff Taylor, Convenor (427 4662)

Music Appreciation

We had a very enjoyable afternoon listening to Neil Burnham's Presentation of music from the Romantic period. Neil used the mixed media format for the first time and in the second half of the programme we were treated to a video of the first part of "The Berlin Concert" 2008. This was very much enjoyed by all those present.

Normally I wouldn't send the full programme, but because it went down so well I decided on this occasion to include it. Here is the programme that Neil presented:

- Andante (Second Movement) from Felix Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E Minor, performed by Nigel Kennedy with the English Chamber Orchestra, cond. Geoffrey Tate
- Two songs by Franz Schubert: "Death and the Maiden" and "Springtime Credo" – Mezzo Soprano Christa Ludwig and Irwin Gage (Piano)
- Two Etudes by Frederic Chopin (Etude in G Flat Major – "Black Key" and Etude in F Major – "Tristesse" played by Vladimir Ashkenazy (Piano)
- Three Songs by Ludwig van Beethoven – "Ich Liebe Dich" (I Love Thee), "Lisch aus, mein Licht" (Die Out My Light – "Resignation", "Der Kuss" (The Kiss) sung by Fritz Wunderlich (Tenor) with Hubert Giesen (Piano)
- Two Songs Robert Schuman: "Due Bist wie eine Blume" (You are Like a Flower), "Frulingsnacht" (Spring Night) performed by Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau (Baritone) and Christoph Eschenbach (Piano)
- Two Songs by Johannes Brahms – "Sapphische Ode" and "Vergeblisches Standchen" sung by Jessye Norman with Daniel Barenboim (Piano)
- Adagio con Fuoco/Allegro Vivo (3rd Movement) from Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky's Concerto for Piano & Orchestra in B Flat Minor: performed by Emil Gilels (Piano) and the New York Symphony Orchestra (Zubin Mehta)

The second part of the presentation was a video recording of the first part of the "The Berlin Concert" 2008. A live recording in the "Waldbuhne" outdoor auditorium, featuring the German Opera Orchestra of Berlin cond. Marco Armilato with Placido Domingo (Tenor), Anna Netrebko (Soprano) and Rolando Villazon (Tenor).

The items played were: "E la solita storia del Pastore (L'Arlesiana – Cilea) "O mio babbino caro" (Gianni Schicchi – Puccini), "A Parais! Parais! (Le Mage – Massenet) "Entracte" from Carmen (Bizet), "Gia nella notte densa" (Duet) (Otello – Verdi); "Au fond du temple saint" ("Les Pecheurs de perle – Bizet).

Jack Wolfe, Convenor (426 9871)

Out and About

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month and drive ourselves to local places of interest, carpooling where possible. In October, 20 of us visited the Hare Krishna Temple at Riverhead. We enjoyed a lovely drive down through the spring countryside to the complex. After a tour of the temple, we viewed a short film which was followed by a delicious vegetarian lunch in the dining hall. It is interesting to note the complex runs a State integrated primary school with New Zealand curriculum. In November the group is visiting the Auckland Coastguard base in Mechanics Bay.

The Out and About group would like to find a new Convenor for next year. If no one volunteers to take over, the group will operate on an ad hoc basis with individual members arranging outings. (See photo below)

Sheila Hussona, Convenor (981 0000)



Out and About Group at Hare Krishna Temple

Regional New Zealand

Our group consists of 18 members who are interested in learning and sharing information and experiences of the various provinces of New Zealand. Most people contribute information they have found, such as: about a famous person, historical facts, industry, power, geography, tourism, towns, or any personal experiences of the particular region we are discussing for that month. We have been taking two – three months for just one particular area - too many interesting facts to complete in just one month! We commenced discussing the Wellington Region last January, ending our year in October talking about what we have found in the Hawkes Bay and Taranaki Regions.

Our year finishes in November with a quiz on the areas we have written and spoken about, followed by a finger food lunch.

If you feel our activity in Regional New Zealand is of interest to you, we do have room for one, perhaps two more participants, particularly as not everyone can attend each meeting.

Our first meeting for 2017 will be on Thursday, 26th January in the Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library. (See photos on next page)

Barbara Tucker, Convenor: (427 9127)

Regional New Zealand Group Members



and ... Barbara Tucker, Convenor



Short Film

The group is presently working on a new film called “The Trap” which will be entered in next year’s short film competition.

Nancy Miller, Convenor (424 0388)

World Mythology

This was a new group this year but sadly it just didn't take off as hoped so the group has folded.

Judy Lilley, Convenor (626 3080)

Possible New Groups: Are you seeking new challenges, new interests or new activities? Thanks to Bev Gomez who researched extensively our U3A colleagues in other groups to see what they were offering, listed below is a variety of possibilities which could be introduced into our Hibiscus Coast Group if there is sufficient interest. Take a deep breath – and consider:

Art and architecture	Crime fiction	Egyptology
In the news	Soapbox	Science and Technology
German conversation	Italian	Maori
Spanish	Botany	Leathercraft
Funeral arranging	Church funerals	Creative funerals
Build your own coffin	Coffin design	Evolution
Euthanasia	Places of interest	Tarot
How did it happen?	Toastmasters	Contemporary NZ poetry
Ballroom dancing	Self-healing massage	Tai chi
Shortguided meditation	Naturopathy	Local birdlife
Theological issues	TED talks	Burials
Wine appreciation	Red Cross Life saving training	Mediaeval Europe Pilgrimage
Live theatre in the making	Interesting occupations	Religion – social phenomonem
Acting	Antarctica	Cancer
Cooking on a budget	Are my investments safe?	Glimpses of Latin America
Modern Europe influences	Shrinking NZ's carbon footprint	Islamic fundamentalism
The Internet	Terrorism	India
Sing for joy	Trips and Tours	Anthropology
Archaeology	China group	Current affairs
Creative audio-visual	Current affairs	Financial matters
History of Europe	Inventors and inventions	Literature
Local history	Medical science and history	Modern history
Walking	Play reading	Nature study
Global issues	Horticulture and gardening	Ukulele group
Instruments and performances	Opera appreciation (dvds and cds_	Buildings and cities
Jazz and blues	Digital photo enhancing	Electronic technology gadgets
Ethnic dining	Genealogy for beginners	Computing
Yoga	Scrabble – 500 – bridge	Cycle group
Digital photography	Learning power point	Geography
Antiques and collectibles	Weekend walkers	Hikers
Photography	Astronomy	Science today
Health improvement	Dining out	Luncheons
The Lone Rangers – trips together	Bodyworkers – keep fit class	Craft group
Crosswords	Table tennis	Chess
Badminton	Drawing and painting	Latin
Sewing bee	String orchestra	Bird watching
Indoor bowls	Maths is fun	Motor biking group
Naval and military history	Tennis	Fabric and stitch
Great composers	International folk dacing	Whist
Exploring Shakespeare	Meteorology	Knit and knatter
Spinning	Line dancing	Brass band
Origami	Creative card making	Non-fiction reading group
Painting for pleasure	Snooker	Stretch and relax
Write and publish	Thomas Hardy book club	Economics
English folk dancing	Poetry appreciation	Sailing
iPad for beginners	Portraiture	Calligraphy
Pause for lunch	Croquet	A better start to aging well
Climate change	Innovation and building	Materials
Vladimir Nabokov – 3 novels	Cosmology	Political ideologies
History of Ireln	Political ideologies	Atlantis
Greek Odyssey	Remarkable women	Medical developments
Medical history – diagnosis/treatmt	Ecological studies	Health and fitness
Earth science – volcanoes – trips	Psychology	The Romantic Age
Grey warblers	Historic rail travel	Classic British comedy
Book binding	Science of human body	Modern China through literature

So – if there is something here in which you may be interested, bring it to a General Meeting and we can gauge if there are other like-minded members who may like to join you in forming a new group.

SCHEDULE OF THE CURRENT GROUPS

as at November 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: Cheri 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)

Group Meeting Timetable

as at November 2016

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st week am		History 10am			The writers 10am World today 10am
Pm		Mahjong 2pm Cards, games & Puzzles, 1 pm			
2nd week 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
3rd week am	**General** meeting 9.40am	History 10am		Famous & infamous / Origins 10am	Book review 10am
pm		Mahjong 2pm Card, games & Puzzles 1 pm		Art appreciation. 1.45 pm	
4th week am	Cinematique (Venue varies)	Discussion 10am Ancient history 10am		Regional New Zealand 10am	Film discussion 10am (last Friday whether it be the 4 th or the 5 th 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