



**HIBISCUS COAST U3A NEWSLETTER**  
**September/October 2017**

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

<b>President</b>	<b>Christine Curtis</b>	<b>4284866</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Kay McLean</b>	<b>0273287363</b>
<b>Secretary (interim)</b>	<b>Dee Davies</b>	<b>428 7525</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>John Tucker</b>	<b>4279127</b>
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	<b>Elizabeth Ingram</b>	<b>4265074</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>Rewa Selmecei</b>	<b>4279194</b>
<b>Speakers' Secretary</b>	<b>Maureen Jansen</b>	<b>4261154</b>
<b>Webmaster Editor</b>	<b>Gerard Straka</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Judy Lilley</b>	<b>424 3080</b>

**Next meeting:** Monday, 18 September 2017

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

**Tea Duties:** Groups: *Book Review and Cards, Games and Puzzles*  
Convenors, please contact each other to arrange kitchen duties

**From the President:**

I see in the last newsletter that I was pleased we were 'out of the Doldrums' and so it continues. As I have not been a member of HCU3A for very long, I have not been involved with the groups' ups and downs. I obviously need not have been concerned. We have a long and active history and I am sure it will continue so for many years to come.

However, there are always changes and one less welcome is the recent notification that the Central Library is starting to charge \$12 per hour for the use of the Pohutukawa Room at the Whangaparaoa Library. This involves several of our groups and at a recent convenors' meeting, it was suggested I approach the Central Library to see if this could be waived for us. I have done this and had a phone call from the Chief Librarian at the Whangaparaoa Library; she is 'investigating' this, so let us hope there will be a positive outcome.

Our new groups: Ukulele, Church History and Meditation have started well, with good attendance. They are an example of how diverse are our interests.

Another group which is much to be admired is our 'Short Film Group', run by Ian and Nancy Miller. They are planning to take on the Herculean task of making four short films to enter into a 'Web Series' which will be distributed to a wide audience. These films will project a positive image of retired folk, particularly in the U3A and Whangaparaoa Peninsula. We wish them every success.

Finally and by no means least, we have decided to have a PRE-CHRISTMAS LUNCH at the HIBISCUS COAST RSA (situated between Viponds Road and Whangaparaoa Rd and with access from both roads). (See more details further in this Newsletter.) We are hoping to have our November meeting there instead of at the Presbyterian Church, but details are yet to be finalised. WE WILL SEND A FURTHER NOTIFICATION WHEN ALL IS ORGANISED. Mr and Mrs Smith who normally give us a wonderful, special morning tea in November are, instead, coming to the lunch as our guests.

Chris Curtis  
President

## Guest Speaker – Dr Siouxsie Wiles

### Guest Speaker



**Dr Siouxsie Wiles** describes herself as a microbiologist and bioluminescence enthusiast. Head of the Bioluminescent Superbugs Lab at the University of Auckland, Siouxsie combines her twin passions to understand infectious diseases. In a nutshell, she and her team make nasty bacteria glow in the dark. Siouxsie is also interested in demystifying science for the general public and raising awareness of the growing threat of antibiotic-resistant superbugs. She is a blogger and podcaster, as well as being a regular science commentator for Radio NZ's *Nine to Noon* programme. Siouxsie has also teamed up with Australian graphic artist, Luke Harris, to make short animations describing nature's amazing glowing creatures and the many uses of bioluminescence in science.

### Club Speaker – Barry Dale

**Flock House** was an agricultural and farm training school in the Manawatu. From 1924 to 1937 sons of British seamen that had been killed or wounded during World War I were brought over, trained at Flock House, and placed on farms in New Zealand, to start a new life. From 1937 to 1987 New Zealand nationals were trained at the school.

*Barry will continue his presentation on his experiences at this establishment.*

### *In Memoriam*

#### **Peggy Ransom**

*“Many years ago when Hibiscus Coast U3A was new, I started the Humour group. Peggy was one of the earliest members and a tremendous, constant contributor of written wit and illustration. She had had several books of humour with cartoons published and had an amazingly lively mind. She helped us very much with the production of the Humour Group books too. I don't think she ever attended general meetings, being very busy with the croquet club. I regret to say that I left the group quite a while back mainly due to health limitations and fitting everything in and now, sadly, it has folded for the time being. I last saw Peggy when we celebrated her 90th birthday - only to be told half-way through that she was actually 92!”*

*Pat Varney*

(Peggy passed away 13 August 2017)



## **Keeping Abreast (breast cancer awareness) Exhibition at Estuary Arts Gallery, Orewa**

**An opportunity to contribute toward *breast cancer awareness* - for women and men –  
but be quick and make contact with Ian Miller before 13 September!**

*Purpose and Filming Format:*

### **Body Image video installation**

that challenges body stereotypes and affirms body diversity and our comfort in living in our own bodies

In which the participant models talk about and show their most and least favourite bits of their own bodies.

### **Image**

Each model's sequence will run for 30 – 40 seconds. Each of the body area / part images will be uncovered and isolated by lighting and set against a black background. The model will not be identified.

### **Diversity**

It would be helpful if we could recruit a range of participants with a variety of ages, body types, both sexes and different body areas of focus. As the exhibition is to highlight breast cancer, if someone is prepared to address that topic, that would be excellent but not critical to the art work. The target is to have 10 to 12 models.

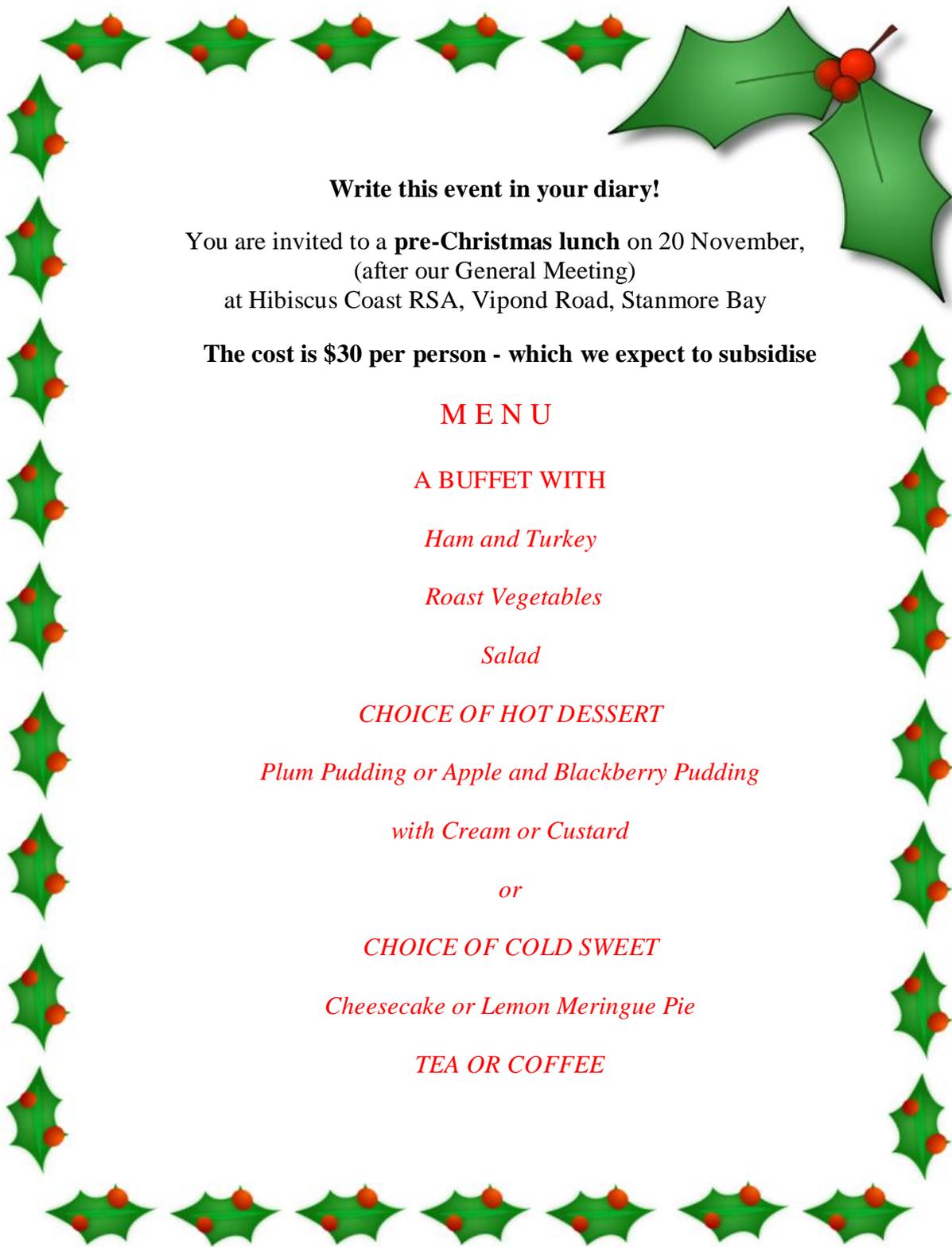
### **Filming**

Filming will be done at the Estuary Arts Centre over two evenings 6.30pm to 9.30 pm, beginning on **13 September**. Models would arrive at 30 minutes intervals and can bring a companion. Written guarantees will restrict sound and images absolutely to this art work.

### **Interested?**

Contact Ian Miller at [ian.miller.nz@gmail.com](mailto:ian.miller.nz@gmail.com) or on Ph: 424 0388  
(**before 13 September**) and he will give you more details to help you decide whether or not to participate.





**Write this event in your diary!**

You are invited to a **pre-Christmas lunch** on 20 November,  
(after our General Meeting)  
at Hibiscus Coast RSA, Vipond Road, Stanmore Bay

**The cost is \$30 per person - which we expect to subsidise**

**M E N U**

**A BUFFET WITH**

*Ham and Turkey*

*Roast Vegetables*

*Salad*

**CHOICE OF HOT DESSERT**

*Plum Pudding or Apple and Blackberry Pudding*

*with Cream or Custard*

*or*

**CHOICE OF COLD SWEET**

*Cheesecake or Lemon Meringue Pie*

**TEA OR COFFEE**

Details are being finalised and further information will be sent to members.  
You will be notified of final costs, payment options and where to get tickets

I am looking forward to seeing you all there.  
Chris Curtis, President

Congratulations to Nancy Miller, Art Appreciation Group member and winner of the Estuary Arts Annual Exhibition.



“Inspiration for my work was the filming that I did for the introduction of the little Spotted Kiwi to Shakespear Park and I thought, ‘what are the things that I like the most in New Zealand?’ I have tried to represent these in my multimedia piece, *Work of Art*.” Artist - Nancy Miller

## News from the Groups

### Art Appreciation

This very popular and enjoyable group, consisting of artists and art appreciators, meets on the third Thursday afternoon of each month at the Peninsula Retirement Village. We have room for more participants. At our last meeting, each member brought along a piece of art that they had produced, or that was special to them. These included - a silk batik dress, photos of a recent art travel trip to Venice, three paintings done by the artists which we found interesting, along with listening to the description and mediums they had used, plus other work deemed worthy of explanation.

One of our members Nancy Miller, was a winner at the Estuary Art annual exhibition. Well done, Nancy! She explained her work to us which depicted a "Work of Art!"

Convenor: Trish Litherland

### Church History

Our September meeting went well. Everyone made a contribution and there were very interesting discussions on a variety of subjects such as the origins of the Bible. We briefly examined the flood, the history of Canaan and Jericho as background to our understanding of what the first Christians were familiar with.

We have decided that we will not meet in October because some of our number are busy during the school holidays. So the next meeting will be on Friday, 3 November. The subject is "The development and acceptance of new writings in the early church".

Convenor: Ian Mclean

### Cinematique

On the third Wednesday afternoon in August, we started our in-house films in the Hibiscus Room at the Peninsula Retirement Village. These are always successful. We watched a film with Sally Field called "*Two Weeks*", a family situation where four siblings return home to help a terminally ill Mother. It has lots of humour and the acting is superb.

Next month we will meet on Wednesday, 20th September at 1.30pm in the Hibiscus Room. New members are most welcome. If you would like to be added to the email list for films showing, please contact me at – [pat.roy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pat.roy@xtra.co.nz).

Convenor: Trish Litherland

### Film Discussion

We have new members joining us most weeks as we experience and share lots of information, added with humour on what we have seen on Netflix etc, and at the cinema. This month we discussed some of the Film Festival movies, *Hampstead*, *Spotlight*, *Two Weeks*, *The Break In*, *Dunkirk* to list a few.

As we had half an hour to spare, one of our members suggested that we all give feedback on the first film we remember seeing. If there was a prize to be won, Lorna Robinson would be the winner with her rendition of "Violetta", a movie about a little boy and a donkey. We had tears of mirth running down our cheeks. It was a lovely way to lead into the weekend. There is room for one or two more members.

Convenor: Trish Litherland

### Discussion

The group's topics have been based around "New Zealand in 20 years' time". Technology advances are happening too fast for us to guess at. There are many advances in transport alone, of course. A very interesting area for us to wonder about.

Our membership is fairly static; some move on and new people join. We are very happy to be together.

Convenor: Barry Dale

### **Famous and Infamous Origins**

At the June meeting, the group enjoyed a mid-winter lunch being a combined effort by all. We continue to meet in each other's homes and alternate between Famous and Infamous Origins.

Convenor: Judith Lilley

### **Meditation**

This group meets on Wednesday morning (11 am) each week in a member's home in Gulf Harbour. Weekly practice helps us develop our skills. If you are interested in joining in this activity, email: [bgomez@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bgomez@xtra.co.nz)

Convenor: Bev Gomez

### **Regional New Zealand**

Continuing our studies of regions from an historical, economic and demographic perspective, the Waikato and Coromandel will be the areas for discussion at our next meeting.

Convenor: Barbara Tucker

### **Short Film**

Our members are working enthusiastically towards completing a web series.

Convenors: Ian and Nancy Miller

### **Ukulele**

This new group is underway and proving to be enjoyable and productive. Meetings will be held on the first and second Wednesday of each month.

On the first Wednesday we will meet in the Pohutukawa Room of the Whangaparaoa Library – from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm.

On the second Wednesday we will meet at Cherry's home at 6A Roberts Road, Matakataia – from 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm.

Our September meetings will be: 6 September at the Library at 1.00 pm, and  
13 September at Matakataia at 1.00 pm.

Convenor: Lorna Robinson

### **Writing your Memoirs**

This group has vacancies for more members. They meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at 2 pm at the Whangaparaoa Library. For more details, email: [bgomez@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bgomez@xtra.co.nz)

Convenor: Bev Gomez

<b>And – just to make you smile! (1)</b>	Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.
Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.	Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad
They begin the evening news with Good Evening and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.	To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
I used to be indecisive, now I'm not so sure.	If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
In filling out an application, where it says "in case of emergency, notify...", I put DOCTOR	War does not determine who is right, only who is left.

## **SCHEDULE OF THE CURRENT GROUPS as at September 2017**

### **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

### **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

### **Book Club**

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: Dee Davies

### **Book Review**

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

Meeting on the third Friday at 10.00 am.

Venue: In each other's homes.

Convenor: Cheril Clarke

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

This is a cheerful, fun loving group.

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

Venue: The Pohutukawa Room – Whangaparaoa Library

Convenor: Isobel Naish

### **Church History**

Discussion topics include: interaction between Christianity and other faiths, the influence of other religions and the spread of Christianity into the Gentile world. This may sound rather intellectual and deep but, in fact, is a fascinating subject for anyone, whether belonging to a faith or not.

Meeting on the first Friday at 2 pm

Venue: The Manuka Room – Whangaparaoa Library

Convenor: Ian Mclean

### **Cinematique**

This group visits a cinema together. We try to choose a movie with a good story which will lead to interesting discussion. The group runs on an ad hoc basis, ie: when there is a movie showing at Hoyts Whangaparaoa that we deem worth viewing, an email will be sent to members who have listed their names.

Convenor: Trish Litherland

## **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

## **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

## **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

## **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 Pohutukawa Room - Whangaparaoa Library

Convenor: Caryl Hayley

## **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

## **Meditation**

A group for beginners to learn meditation and for those who already practise. Meditation has many benefits and can be very powerful when done with others. We discuss various techniques, finding the one which suits us best.

Meeting every Wednesday at 11 am.

Venue: In Gulf Harbour.

Convenor: Bev Gomez

## **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

## **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

### **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

### **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 then to 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

### **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

### **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

### **Ukulele**

This group is for beginners – no prior experience required. Once five simple chords have been mastered, approximately 100 well-known songs can be played. We also welcome members who would just like to come along to listen and sing along.

Meeting on the first and second Wednesday at 1 pm

Venue: First Wednesday at Whangaparaoa Library: Second Wednesday at 6A Roberts Road, Matakatia

Convenor: Lorna Robinson

### **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 2 - 4 pm

Venue: Whangaparaoa Library

Convenor: Bev Gomez

### **And just to make you smile! (2) – courtesy Bev Gomez.**

After being married for 50 years, I took a careful look at my wife one day and said, "Fifty years ago we had a cheap house, a junk car, slept on a sofa bed and watched a 10-inch black and white TV, but I got to sleep with a hot 23-year-old girl every night.

Now, I have a \$500,000 home, a \$45,000 car, a nice big bed and a large screen TV, but I'm sleeping with a 73-year-old woman. It seems to me that you're not holding up your side of things."

My wife is a very reasonable woman. She told me to go out and find a hot 23-year-old girl and she would make sure that I would once again be living in a cheap house, driving a junk car, sleeping on a sofa bed and watching a 10-inch black and white TV.

**Group Meeting Timetable**  
**as at September 2017**

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>1<sup>st</sup> week</b> am		History 10 am			The Writers 10 am World today 10 am
	Pm	Mahjong 2 pm  Cards, Games & Puzzles, 1 pm	Ukulele 1-3 pm*		Church History 2 pm
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> week</b> am	Short Film Making 11 am (time varies)	Discussion 10 am		Book Club 10 am	
	pm	Travel 2 pm	Ukulele 1-2 pm*		Writing Your Memoirs 2 pm
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> week</b> am	<b>**General** Meeting 9.40 am</b>	History 10 am		Famous and Infamous / Origins 10 am	Book Review 10 am
	pm	Mahjong 2pm		Art Appreciation. 1.45 pm	
<b>4<sup>th</sup> week</b> am	Cinematique (Venue varies)	Discussion 10am  Ancient History 10 am		Regional New Zealand 10 am	Film Discussion 10 am (last Friday whether it be the 4 <sup>th</sup> or the 5 <sup>th</sup> Friday)
	pm		Recorded Classical Music 2 pm		
<b>Every Wednesday</b>		Meditation		11 am	

**\*Subject to change. Confirm times with Convenor: Lorna Robinson at (029 7730011)**