

HIBISCUS COAST U3A



HIBISCUS COAST U3A NEWSLETTER

November/December 2018

www.u3ahbc.co.nz

President	Kay McLean	027 3287363
Vice President	Vacant Position	
Secretary	Vacant Position	
Treasurer	John Tucker	427 9127
Membership Secretary	Kaye Bennetts	424 5855
Newsletter Editor	Rewa Selmecei	427 9194
Speakers Secretary (shared position)	Graham Lamont and Trish Litherland	424 4599 426 4400
Webmaster Editor	Gerard Straka	-
Committee Members	Judy Lilley and Chris Curtis	424 3080 428 4866

Next meeting: Monday, 19 November 2018

Salvation Army Hall, 32 Greenview Lane, Red Beach

(Doors open at 9.40 am for a 10 am start; meeting ends at approx 11.45 am)

Morning Tea Duty: *Ancient History and Art Appreciation Groups*

President's Report

Greetings to you all

The year is speeding on and we approach the last members' meeting on 19 November. We will have a special morning tea and, if you feel so inclined, we would appreciate a tin or packet of food which we can donate to the Salvation Army for them to distribute to those less fortunate than us.

This time, morning tea will be served after our speaker, Graeme Lamont, so that we can browse a display which he will have.

I want to thank those of you who have invited me to visit your groups. It has been good to meet more of our members and to see everyone enjoying themselves. The groups are all very interesting. It's going to be difficult for me to decide which to join next year after I step down.

On that subject, things are becoming serious. So far we have no vice president and both our secretary and newsletter editor are stepping down too. That is four positions (including mine) to be filled. Please think carefully about whether you can make a contribution to keep our branch of U3A open.

Ian and I are still going to the RSA for lunch on the second Tuesday of the month. We enjoyed the last one very much and I'm pleased to say that each of the three choices on the menu was declared very good. We are usually there between 12 noon and 12.30. I am on the list for a hip replacement

sometime in the next three months so that is the only thing that might stop me from attending the next lunch.

I would like to wish you all everything you would wish for yourselves for the Festive Season, especially good health and happiness.

And a special mention for Pauline Wetton and the Small Film Group:



Congratulations to Pauline Wetton on her academic achievement, receiving a Postgraduate Diploma in Arts, majoring in politics, at the University of Auckland’s Spring Graduation – almost six decades after completing her Bachelor’s degree. Pauline was the oldest graduate at the ceremonies, where she gained her fifth qualification. Pauline recommends a university course to anyone of ‘mature’ years if they wish to stave off Alzheimers and learn to appreciate how hard today’s students work.

Congratulations to Ian and Nancy Miller (Short Film Group) and Cynthia Green, Christine Doorman, Carolyn Williams, Michael Honney and Richard Saysell - who made up the cast of “The Dusketeers”. This short film series has certainly put us on the map. It has taken a lot of hard work and dedication but the end result is worth it.

The six films are available on - [youtube.com/channel/ UCPRU15cgAtwWOovBzOkLWhQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPRU15cgAtwWOovBzOkLWhQ)



Action!



Inaction?

And now something silly to finish with: *I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.*

Best Regards – President Kay

Guest Speaker
GRAHAM LAMONT
Presents
Forgotten Voices of World War I
11 November 2018 –
100th Anniversary of the end of
WORLD WAR I



At our final General Meeting for 2018, on Monday 19 November, Past President Graham Lamont will present a programme called “Forgotten Voices of World War I”.

Graham will use Imperial War Museum photographs and excerpts from interviews with men who survived to describe what life in the Western Front trenches was like for the ordinary soldier. He'll provide brief details of the casualties suffered by both sides before he shows pictures of some of the beautiful memorials built in northern France, Belgium and other places to honour those who died. He'll go on to talk about some of the many other imaginative ways in which descendants and others have chosen to remember and show gratitude.

All members are warmly invited to attend and share in this commemoration event.

Any member who has a photograph of a loved one who served overseas during the Great War - irrespective of whether the person died or survived - is welcome to add their photograph, with an identifying caption, to those that will be displayed as an In Memoriam Gallery on the special table in the Hall on 19 November.

(If you need further information about the display please contact Graham - 424-4599 - directly.)

2019 SUBSCRIPTIONS

These are due and payable in January – for the financial year: January to December 2019

Singles \$25 : Couples \$40

Three payment options are available – as shown below:

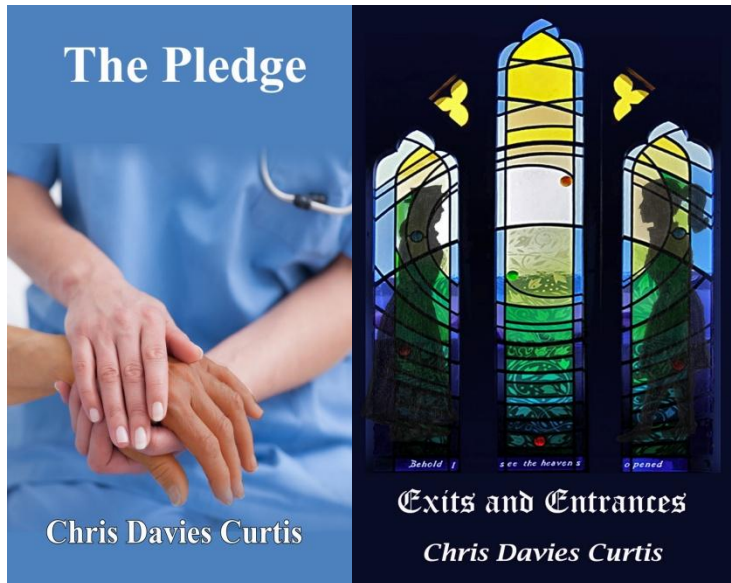
1. **Personally** to the Treasurer at the January General Meeting (Cash or cheque)
2. **By mail** to the Treasurer. John Tucker, HBC U3A, PO Box 314, Orewa 0946.
3. **Online** to the U3A Hibiscus Coast account at ASB 12-3046-0275951-00

Thank you.

John Tucker (Treasurer)

Coming Event and you're invited!

Past President Chris, author, has been invited to give a talk on *So You Want to Write a Book*, and to combine the talk with a promotion of her books, including the latest, *The Pledge*, a Nursing Romance



"Have you always wanted to write a book, but do not know how to start? Or is there a half-written one tucked away somewhere, just waiting to finish? Chris Curtis started to write only in 2010 and thanks to help from others, she is now writing her 13th book.

Come along and let her share a few tips on how to get that book out there."

This event will be held in the Whangaparaoa Library on Sunday, 18 November at 2 pm..

All members are invited.

UPDATES FROM THE GROUPS

Art Appreciation, Film Discussion and Cinematique

Due to house sitting and staying with friends in various locations throughout New Zealand, Art Appreciation Cinematique and Film Discussion have been very spasmodic of late. I intend to rectify this during late October.

Convenor: Trish Litherland

Book Club

Interested in books? Love to read an eclectic selection of literature?

Then come and join the U3A Book Club.

Members read the same two books in the month and meet for an discussion, often lively, on the story, characters, writing style and their individual level of enjoyment.

We meet monthly, on the second Thursday at 10.00 am, in each other's homes.

Convenor: Dee Davies

Famous, Infamous and Origins

We continue to enjoy a very diverse range of topics. We still meet in our homes so prefer to keep our numbers down but we could take a couple more members

History Group

It's hard to believe that we are approaching the end of another year but the presence of Christmas decorations in the shops (before Hallowe'en!!) lets us know that 2019 is not too far away!

Our group continues to thrive; since the last newsletter went out we have gained three new members who have expressed their enjoyment of our format. More members are making use of the multi-media equipment and once again we salute the patience of the library staff who give unstintingly of their time and expertise.

The great joy of attending our twice monthly meetings is in learning. My understanding of the past has been enhanced at every single meeting I have attended, and my knowledge has been richly added to by members' research. Each year the papers that have been presented are gathered together in a book after being collated by Val Small who organises the printing and spiral binding. The books constitute a record of over 20 years of History Group activity and are an invaluable source of inspiration to members new and old.

I will be standing down at the end of 2018 and resigning from U3A to allow more time for my own projects. We are fortunate to have a new convenor in place for next year, John Hoby, whose details will be available when I officially hand over the responsibilities. John, who is an artist and educator, is a member of several U3A groups, demonstrating his wide-ranging interests.

Convenor: Caryl Haley

Regional New Zealand

Our special Christmas meeting for this year will be held on Thursday 22 November at the Convenor's home and will be more of a social gathering rather than a learning one! As yet it is undecided where our group meetings will be held next year. Hopefully, when the 2019 newsletter comes out we will know where our meeting venue will be and we can let you know.

This year the Regions we have covered are:- Coromandel, Hamilton, Waitomo, Kawhia, Otorohanga, Whitianga, Lake Karepiro, Pukekawa, Rangiriri, Waiuku, Te Aroha, Whitford, Tuakau, Pollock, Glenbrook, Hunua Ranges, Morrinsville, Clevedon, Gordonton, Mangere, South Auckland, East Auckland, and now Auckland in general, which will take us through to our January meeting in 2019! We all talk on various aspects of these areas, which of course are so diverse and, as we all know, so very interesting.

If any members feel they would like to join our monthly meetings, please give me a ring. Happy Christmas everyone!

Convenor: Barbara Tucker

Short Film Group

The SFG has successfully finished filming the web series, and our publicity has been very good, with the series being featured on TV3 and in the local newspapers and *Stuff* on line. We hope everybody in U3A enjoys viewing it. To our cast and crew, thanks for your hard work.

Convenor: Nancy Miller

The World Today

At each of our meetings, after general discussion on current events, a member presents a topic of interest to him or her. Recent topics have included: Incarceration in NZ – Numbers and Cost, Time, Being a New Zealander, Populism – the political move to the Right, Homelessness in NZ and Transgender (LGBT) – is it a matter of choice? Each presentation is then followed by Q&A and discussion which makes for an interesting and informative two hours.

Convenor: Ria Kamerbeek

ITEMS FROM NON-U3A ORGANISATIONS WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST

Invitation for Members to Participate in two University of Auckland Studies:

My name is Evatte Tiana Sciberras-Lim and I am working towards a PhD in Psychology at the University of Auckland under the supervision of Associate Professor Anthony Lambert. We would like to once again invite the lovely people from U3A to participate in our study examining the age-related changes to attentional processing. The overarching aim of our study is to investigate how attentional processing changes during the course of healthy aging. Some of your members have participated in our preliminary study and we are extremely grateful for your help.

We are looking for healthy participants who are above 60 years old, with normal vision or vision corrected to normal with spectacles. If you have, any questions and/or concerns please feel free to contact me at esci911@aucklanduni.ac.nz. We would greatly appreciate if you could distribute this information to members within your organization. Any interested participants can contact me at esci911@aucklanduni.ac.nz to schedule a suitable time for them to come in. Please feel free to sign up for the behavioural study, EEG study or both.

From: Evatte Tiana Sciberras-Lim <esci911@aucklanduni.ac.nz>

Offering Worldwide Escorted Tours for Discerning Kiwis aged over 50 years

I would like to introduce Playaway Tours to your members of U3A. We have been offering very well received fully escorted tours for the over 50's market for the past 30 years.

Our Tours are designed for active retirees like yourselves. We have some very interesting itineraries that we would like to invite your members to see the world with us. All our tours offer excellent hotels and great camaraderie. All groups depart from Auckland where you will meet your New Zealand tour manager.

If you would like to know more about Playaway Tours please get in touch either by phone 0800 12 86 87 or via email office@playawaytours.co.nz. For more information visit our website www.playawaytours.co.nz or look us up on facebook.

From: Donna Holmes, Managing Director

AND JUST TO FINISH WITH A SMILE...

Poster found in a Church in France... (translated):

"When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear "the call of God". However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him. If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving."



SCHEDULE OF THE CURRENT GROUPS

as at November 2018

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 – the group discuss 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 Wednesday at 12.45 pm for a prompt 1 pm start.

Venue: The Pohutukawa Room – Whangaparaoa Library

Convenor: Diana Pipke

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: 13 Panorama Court, Red Beach.

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 Haley

Mahjong

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 (This group will not be meeting during 2018)

Music

This group is in recession until a suitable location can be found.

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 *Pauline Wetton* (427 6246)

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

Writing your Memoirs (This group will not be meeting during 2018)

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**Group Meeting Timetable
as at November 2018**

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st week am		History 10 am			The Writers 10 am World Today 10 am
Pm		Mahjong 2 pm	Cards, Games & Puzzles, 1 pm		Church History 2 pm
2nd week am	Short Film Making 11 am (time varies)	Discussion 10 am		Book Club 10 am	
pm	Travel 2 pm				Memoirs* 2 – 4 pm
3rd week am	*General* Meeting 9.40 am	History 10 am		Famous and Infamous Origins 10 am	Book Review 10 am
pm		Mahjong 2 pm		Art Appreciation. 1.45 pm	
4th week am	Cinematique (Venue varies)	Discussion 10 am Ancient History 10 am		Regional New Zealand 10 am	Film Discussion 10 am (last Friday whether it be the 4 th or the 5 th Friday)
pm			Recorded Classical Music 2 pm		
Every Wednesday		Meditation This group will not meet during 2018		*Up until 20 June 2018 *This group will not meet during 2018	

**General meetings are held bi-monthly, on the third Monday of
January, March, May, July, September and November, at 9.40 am
at the Salvation Army Hall, Silverdale**