

# HIBISCUS COAST U3A



## HIBISCUS COAST U3A NEWSLETTER September/October 2018

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

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|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>President</b>                                | <b>Kay McLean</b>                                 |
| <b>Vice President</b>                           | <b>Vacant Position</b>                            |
| <b>Secretary</b>                                | <b>Dee Davies</b>                                 |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                                | <b>John Tucker</b>                                |
| <b>Membership Secretary</b>                     | <b>Kaye Bennetts</b>                              |
| <b>Newsletter Editor</b>                        | <b>Rewa Selmecei</b>                              |
| <b>Speakers Secretary<br/>(shared position)</b> | <b>Graham Lamont<br/>and<br/>Trish Litherland</b> |
| <b>Webmaster Editor</b>                         | <b>Gerard Straka</b>                              |
| <b>Committee Members</b>                        | <b>Judy Lilley<br/>and<br/>Chris Curtis</b>       |

**Morning Tea Duty: Writers and Travel Groups**

**Next meeting: Monday, 17 September 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)**

### **Speakers at the September meeting.**

**Fiona McKenzie** of Red Beach is the Pou Kaitiaki/Environmental Manager for the Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust – the Resource Management Unit for the Ngati Manuhiri Settlement Trust. She represents the Kaitiaki interests (cultural and environmental) of a small Mana Whenua iwi whose area of interest is largely Rodney.

#### **Judy Keal**

The title of Judy's presentation is 'Life after politics'

*Club speakers are always welcome, if you have a topic you feel would interest the members, please contact the President.*

*See page 3 for more details.*

## From the President

Greetings to you all.

I hope the winter has been reasonably kind to you all as far as illnesses are concerned. Ian and I have had our share of colds and we are looking forward to the spring. Already the daffodils are out.

About 18 of our members enjoyed a lunch at the RSA on the 7th. It was good to meet some more members and there was certainly plenty of chat. There seems to be a desire to repeat this maybe monthly. So, Ian and I will be at the RSA again for lunch on the 4th September at 12.30. If you would like to join us we will be delighted. Come right through to the restaurant.

On the 9th I held my session on Scottish Architecture. It was a very small group, but I didn't want to cancel it. I think those who were there enjoyed it because they have asked me to do a second session since we ran out of time. So that will be on Thursday 13th at 2.p.m. at 13 Panorama Court Red Beach. Since it will be a standalone session, anyone else who would like to join us is welcome. Just ring me first.

We covered the New town of Edinburgh, and some of the castles of Scotland. Next time I'll talk about some more castles (did you know there are over 1000 in Scotland?) the Granite City and a special village. I'm so glad it went well. I have really enjoyed reviving memories of my birth country, doing the research and - it keeps me out of mischief! Please remember that if you feel you can offer a session on any subject we will be very willing to help you get it up and running. I believe there is at least one in the planning stage.

I am still keen to visit some of the groups. On the 21st I am going to drop in on the Mah Jong group. Since I know nothing about that game, I'm looking forward to learning something new.

I believe that the film group have completed their project so that is exciting. I hope we will get a chance to see the result of their hard work and dedication before too long.

At the moment we are looking at printing a brochure about our branch, but the best form of advertising is word of mouth, so I urge you all to let your friends and families know about us. U3A is not just for people in their 70s, 80s and 90s. The following comment by a lady in her 90s appealed to me - "Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity to improve."

Kind Regards

Kay McLean (President)

Picture shows President Kay with past President Chris Curtis, both at the rear of photo, enjoying the RSA lunch with other members, including Editor Rewa, front right of picture.



**The first of what could be a regular unofficial member's lunch at the RSA.**

## July Speakers...

**With Graham Lamont** as our Club speaker followed by his daughter Robbie as the guest speaker we enjoyed two very diverse topics, both of which were presented in a very enjoyable and easy to follow manner.

**Graham** spoke of his visit, with other members of his family, to Malaysia for the wedding of his grandson. He described the pre-wedding celebrations which involved all the immediate family, followed by the actual ceremony accompanied by photographs showing a beautiful petite bride and her proud groom. Graham finished his presentation by singing a song he recalls his mother singing some decades ago which ended with... 'stay in your own back yard'. A fitting way to describe how we've changed over the years and how we now live in a multi-cultural society. Graham is a founder members of the HBC U3A.

**Robbie Lamont** called her presentation "*What's a white girl like you doing in a job like this*", A fitting title covering her story of the challenging cultural bias in mainstream education.

Robbie Lamont has worked in education for more than 40 years. For the last 15 years she has been a researcher and professional development provider in a range of programmes focused on addressing education inequality. Robbie shared what she has learned from working in bicultural partnership with Maori academics and researchers and from teachers and school leaders throughout New Zealand

## August Speakers



You'll see by the resemblance that Fiona is our president's daughter

**Fiona McKenzie** of Red Beach is the Pou Kaitiaki/Environmental Manager for the Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust – the Resource Management Unit for the Ngati Manuhiri Settlement Trust. She represents the Kaitiaki interests (cultural and environmental) of a small Mana Whenua iwi whose area of interest is largely Rodney. Her work is extremely varied and interesting. It includes consultation and engagement from a cultural perspective with Central and Local Government entities, developers, individuals and community groups.

Fiona has been in this role since 2012 after gaining her MSc Conservation Biology (Hons) at Massey University, Auckland. Prior to University she worked for 20 years in the insurance sector as a computer programmer and a systems analyst. She has 3 adult children.

### CLUB SPEAKER: JUDY KEALL

**Life after politics:** Judy was MP for Glenfield from 1984 to 1990. Then she was re-elected to Parliament in 1993 as MP for Horowhenua, which became the larger electorate of Otaki under MMP. She retired from politics in 2002, believing it was time to make way for younger people. So how has she fared since then? Judy will share some of her involvement in community activities and how she views political events looking on from outside.

## News from the groups.

### **Discussion group.**

We have 3 new members who are good contributors to our group.

We enjoy the discussion and learn something most times.

One of our original members, Wes D, Audney, has left the group because she cannot hear speakers. She has been a very loyal member for 16 years. At 94 she has not done too bad.

The friendship within our group is wonderful.

Barry Dale.

### **Famous, infamous & origins.**

8 of our group met for lunch at the RSA for their regular Tuesday \$10 lunch, whilst it may not have been cordon bleu it was a very social couple of hours and well worth attending and having more time with those in our group. At our August meeting we covered the letter T under the Origins umbrella, topics covered were wide and varied, one member who brought along a 'small' selection of his 120 ties that he has accumulated over the year, with each tie having its own story we could have spent the whole meeting enjoying the history behind his tie collection.

Judy Lilley

### **The Mahjong group.**

We are continuing to enjoy our Mahjong games and challenging ourselves to try new hands. We are a very friendly group, eight of us took up the invitation to join our president at the RSA for lunch which we all enjoyed. We could take two new people, if you are unable to play we will teach you how to. Why not give it a go?

**The Short Film Group** has just finished the filming of the Web Series, but we still have a lot to do, editing, work on the promotion etc. Our date line is October.

Nancy

### **Card, Games & Puzzles**

We are now meeting in members' homes, those which can accommodate players at 2 tables. The session provides pleasant company and a good brain workout as we learn new games and practice our tried and true ones. New members will be made very welcome. Convenor: Diana Pipke

### **Art appreciation,**

From Friday the 7th September one of our members John Hoby will be exhibiting his recent paintings at Emma Jean Gallery [7, Agency Lane, Silverdale](#), all members are welcome to visit the gallery and view John's work. We will be resuming our monthly meetings in October, date and location to be arranged.

**The Travel Group** continues to be well attended despite members travelling and the usual winter ailments. This month we were taken on the travels of a member to Tunisia. Very interesting with great pictures to remind us of how exotic foreign travel can be. Next month we have an all-in meeting where all members contribute."

Noel

### **REGIONAL NZ**

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 27th September, 10 am Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library. We will continue discussing the Auckland Region. We welcome new members.

Barbara Tucker

Convenor

## The History Group

Winter weather has not deterred members from attending our twice monthly meetings and contributing fascinating papers on the usual eclectic range of subjects. Part of the pleasure in listening to the presentations is to see how one presenter may spark the interest of another member, sending them off on a new channel of enquiry.

Since July 31<sup>st</sup> we have had to institute a small charge per member to cover the \$24 cost of hiring the room for 2 hours. We based the charge of \$3 member per attendance by averaging out the numbers attending each meeting over the year. By Christmas recess we may have a good idea if this charge stays unchanged or perhaps can be reduced.

It is apparent from looking at other options that most venues charge for room hire and we are reluctant to change our meeting place as the Pohutukawa Room has so many advantages for our members.

Once again, I am bound to comment on the enthusiasm and energy of those of our members who have been contributing to the group consistently for over 20 years. Their papers are notable for dedicated and insightful research and a never-ending passion for delving into the past. As Harry S. Truman remarked;

There is nothing new in the world except the history you do not know!

Caryl Haley Convenor.



### Notice Board

**How to write a book....** Past President Chris Curtis has been approached by the Whangaparaoa Library to do a workshop / talk on 'How to write a book'. No fixed date has been arranged yet.

**Publicity poster...**Chris has designed a publicity poster, contact the President if you'd like a copy of the poster emailed to you.

#### **Group interests.**

The Committee are aware of several members who do not attend any groups at all. Given that the U3A is about group participation and learning, we invite those non-attending members, to tell us what you would like to see available with the HBC U3A.

#### **Vacant positions**

The Committee is still not complete. The Vice President role is waiting to be filled. As is the Secretary's role, neither of these are arduous in any way. Contact the president if you have questions.

## Groups as at September 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 Tuesday for a prompt 1 pm start.

Contact 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.

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 meet 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 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*

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 no longer meeting.

### **Writing your Memoirs**

(This group will not be meeting during 2018)

**This is the best place to promote your existing group or start a new group,**



**if you'd like to make a change or add to your profile contact the editor.**

## Time table as at September 2018

| Week                                    | Monday                                               | Tuesday                                             | Wednesday | Thursday                                   | Friday                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> week</b><br><b>am</b> |                                                      | History 10 am<br><br>Card Games &<br>Puzzles 1pm    |           |                                            | The Writers<br>10 am<br><br>World Today 10<br>am                                                                   |
| <b>Pm</b>                               |                                                      | Mahjong<br>2 pm                                     |           |                                            | Church History<br>2 pm                                                                                             |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> week</b><br><b>am</b> | Short Film<br>Making<br>11 am<br>(time varies)       | Discussion<br>10 am                                 |           | Book Club<br>10 am                         |                                                                                                                    |
| <b>pm</b>                               | Travel<br>2 pm                                       |                                                     |           |                                            | Memoirs<br>2 – 4 pm<br><i>In recess for 2018</i>                                                                   |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> week</b> <b>am</b>    | <b>*General*</b><br><b>Meeting 9.40</b><br><b>am</b> | History 10 am                                       |           | Famous and<br>Infamous<br>Origins<br>10 am | Book Review<br>10 am                                                                                               |
|                                         |                                                      |                                                     |           |                                            |                                                                                                                    |
| <b>pm</b>                               |                                                      | Mahjong<br>2 pm                                     |           | Art<br>Appreciation.<br>1.45 pm            |                                                                                                                    |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> week</b><br><b>am</b> | Cinematique<br>(Venue varies)                        | Discussion<br>10 am<br><br>Ancient History<br>10 am |           | Regional New<br>Zealand<br>10 am           | Film Discussion<br>10 am<br>(last Friday<br>whether it be the<br>4 <sup>th</sup> or the 5 <sup>th</sup><br>Friday) |
| <b>pm</b>                               |                                                      |                                                     |           |                                            |                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Every Wednesday</b>                  |                                                      | Meditation<br><i>In recess for 2018</i>             |           |                                            |                                                                                                                    |

**\*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**