



## *U3A Hibiscus Coast Newsletter for July/August 2019*

**Next Meeting:** Monday, 15 July  
Silverdale RSA  
11.30 am for Winter Warmer lunch at 12 pm.

### **From our president**

What an exciting month we have this August to see us through the colder parts of the year. Having said that I have just enjoyed brunch in the sun opposite Orewa Beach with South Island friends of 25 years who were very impressed with the Hibiscus Coast. Yes we have a lot to be thankful for.

We have 90 tickets either sold or committed to for the 15th August " Winter Warmer" lunch at the RSA. We can still take another ten people so if you want to invite anyone please ring John Tucker contact details on the last page.

The Convenors met during July and were very positive about their groups. Some can still take additional members so have a look at the schedule and select another learning option, all good to keep the brain active. Ring the Convenor and go along for a test drive, no commitment required until you are sure.

I attended a U3A Network meeting Friday the 5th in Meadowbank. These meetings are to keep in touch with the other 25 groups in the Auckland area, South Kaipara having recently formed with 30 members. We are the 6th largest with 163 members and still growing. We did have 260 two years ago but many members now live in retirement villages who do provide many activities.

The Auckland U3A Celebration in August 30th at Netball North Harbour still has 70 seats available. Many have expressed difficulty in the registration method. I now have forms available so ring me if you would like to join us, we are carpooling, all other information is on the forms.

Mike King 2019 New Zealander of the Year is the keynote speaker speaking on "The Inner Critic" focusing on children and how we can help. Mini speakers are 9 in total with topics from " NZ History you were never taught at



school," " Conduct Unbecoming," "Two German Inventors who changed the World" and "Summer School at Girton College, Cambridge". Lots of diversity, education and humour.

I am now in residence in my home after eleven months and enjoying it enormously especially seeing my old things again and matching new colours and furniture. One funny story: during a buying session online one Sunday night to take advantage of a sale, I ended up buying the same duvet cover twice and one being sent to a friend's house where I house sat in Palmerston North! The one returned happened to be at the discounted price of course and the one received cost \$50 more! The company were very understanding when I said I was a Gold Card holder and I did get a refund.

The moral of the story is, if you are buying online complete the task before lunch.

Trish Litherland

President

## Committee 2019

<b>President</b>	<b>Trish Litherland</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Judy Keall</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Judy Lilley</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>John Tucker</b>
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	<b>Kaye Bennetts</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>Maureen Jansen</b>
<b>Speakers Secretary (shared position)</b>	<b>Graham Lamont</b> <b>Pauline Wetton</b>
<b>Webmaster Editor</b>	<b>Gerard Straka</b>

### **Reminder of upcoming events**

#### **Winter Warmer**

15 July at 11.30 am: Winter Warmer lunch at RSA Silverdale

#### **Celebrating U3A 2019 (Auckland Network)**

30 August 9.30 am: Barfoot and Thompson Netball Centre Northcote Rd

#### **Next regular bi-monthly meeting**

16 September 9.40 am: Salvation Army Hall, Red Beach

## News from the groups



This month we are adding a special treat, photos of some of our groups in action. Top and bottom left are the **Writers** (convenor, Cheril Clarke on right in the lower photo), bottom middle **Cards and Games** (convenor Diana Pipke in the centre), bottom right **Regional New Zealand** with convenor Barbara Tucker in the centre and top right, **Film Discussion**. Trish Litherland, the convenor is in the middle of the back row,

Below are some updates about the groups:

**Book Review:** the group will soon include poetry discussion – just one short poem per week as a trial to see if Ian Miller’s idea of a short-term poetry reading group would work.

**World Today** is thriving with over 20 members. Most impressed by the recent presentations on Social Media, Islamophobia and the 2020 Cannabis Referendum.

**Ancient History.** This long running and very interesting oup needs more members!

### “Civilisations” by Simon Shama and Mary Beard

Interesting snippet. Heard on Saturday Morning’s Kim Hill interview with Simon Shama was a mention of a television series called Civilisations. Not yet shown here yet (2018 production) but available on DVD.

*Civilisations is a major nine-part series telling the story of art from the dawn of human history to the present day, for the first time on a global scale. It is now nearly half a century since Kenneth Clark’s series Civilisation thrilled audiences with its authoritative interpretation of the glories of Western art. Inspired by that ground-breaking programme, this new series of Civilisations introduces a new generation to the great masterworks of beauty, ingenuity and illumination created across the continents. It explores the visual culture of societies from around the globe, revealing alongside the magnificent objects made in the West the wealth of treasures created by other cultures, from the landscape scrolls of classical China and the sculpture of the Olmecs to African bronzes, Japanese prints and Mughal miniatures. Told by three presenters, each bringing their own skills and perspectives to the series – Simon Schama, Mary Beard and David Olusoga.*

# **SCHEDULE OF THE CURRENT GROUPS**

**as at July 2019**



## **Ancient History**

As its name suggests, this group studies ancient civilizations.

Meeting on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 10.00 am

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

**Convenor: Ayad Hussona**

## **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 of the month at 10.00 am

Venue: In our own homes, taking turns to host.

**Convenor: Sheila Hussona**

## **Book Review**

As the title suggests – the group discuss books which have been read by the members.

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

Venue: In our own homes, taking turns to host.

**Convenor: Cheril Clarke**

## **Cards and Games**

This is a cheerful, fun loving group where we exercise our brains at the same time. We are happy to teach you any games that are new to you. New members welcome

Meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 1.30.

Venue: Pohutakawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library

And on the third Thursday of the month at 1.30 pm

Venue: the convenor's home.

**Convenor: Diana Pipke**

## **Cinematique**

Ad hoc depending on what is showing locally. We now work in with Hoyts Senior Mornings usually on a Tuesday at 10am for free coffee and morning tastes. If you are a Hoyts member the charge is only \$8 00, if not it is \$8.50. We are supporting this kind venture. During April we enjoyed *Red Joan* and discussed this in full during film discussion

Any members who wish to be notified of the cinema mornings, contact Trish Litherland,

**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 Tuesday of the month at 10.00 am.

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

**Convenor: Barry Dale**

## **Famous, Infamous and Origins**

The group alternate between Famous and Infamous and Origins, both of which provide a varied choice of topics.

Meeting on the third Thursday of the month at 10.00 am.

Venue: In our own homes, taking turns to host.

**Convenor: Judy Lilley**

## **Art Appreciation**

This group is in recess.

## **Film Discussion**

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

Meeting 10.30. last Friday of the month. New members welcome.

Venue: Pohutukawa Room - Whangaparaoa Library

**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 of the month at 10.00 am.

Venue: Pohutukawa Room - Whangaparaoa

**Convenor: John Hoby**

## **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!

Meeting first and third Tuesday of the month at 2pm.

Venue: Convenors' Home

**Convenor: Geoff or Sheila Taylor**

## 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 of the month at 10.00 am.

Venue: Pohutukawa Room - Whangaparaoa Library

**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 of the month at 9.45 am.

Contact: Pauline Wetton

Venue: Whangaparaoa Library

**Convenor: Ria Kamerbeek**

## The Writers

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 of the month at 10.00 am

Venue: In our own homes, taking turns to host

**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 taken. 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 of the month at 2.00 pm Venue: Pohutukawa Room – Whangaparaoa Library.

**Convenor: Noel Newling**



## SCHEDULE OF GROUP MEETING TIMES

As at May 2019

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>1<sup>st</sup> week am</u>		History 10 am			The Writers 10 am  World Today: 9.45am
pm		Cards and Games 1 pm  Mahjong 2 pm			
<u>2<sup>nd</sup> week am</u>	Short Film Making (time and venue varies)	Discussion 10 am		Book Club 10 am	
pm	Travel 2 pm				
<u>3<sup>rd</sup> week am</u>	<b>*General* Meeting 9.40 am</b>	History 10 am		Famous and Infamous/ Origins 10 am  Cards and Games, 1.30	Book Review 10 am
pm		Mahjong 2 pm			
<u>4<sup>th</sup> week am</u>	Cinematique (Days, Times and Venues vary)	Discussion 10 am  Ancient History 10 am		Regional New Zealand 10 am	Film Discussion 10.30 am (last Friday whether it be the 4 <sup>th</sup> or the 5 <sup>th</sup> Friday)

**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. (Note: The July 2019 meeting will be at the RSA for the Winter Warmer.)**