



U3A Hibiscus Coast Newsletter for November/December 2019

Next Meeting

Monday, 18 November, **9.40 am**,
at the Salvation Army Hall, 32 Greenview Lane,
Red Beach, Hibiscus Coast.
Tea duty: Short Film Group and History Group

From our president



What a brilliant speaker Sir Richard Faull was at our September meeting, in addition to being a very approachable and humble person, so passionate about the NZ Brain Institute that he founded.

I was delighted to see so many members and guests attending. We have gained 16 new members, a record for so late in the year

As mentioned below, another accomplishment was the final Convenors' meeting for 2019 held in October with a well-deserved afternoon tea to thank the life blood of our organisation. Every group was represented, and a positive atmosphere was felt by all.

Our final General Meeting for 2019 will be on November 18th when we will be enjoying a Christmas morning tea at 9.45. Please note the later start to enable setting up. We will allow 45 minutes then start the meeting at 10.30.

I have spoken to Dr John Reynolds to be a speaker for this meeting. He comes very highly recommended by Browns Bay U3A. His bio is enclosed so please join us for this inspiring and enjoyable time together.

Before we meet again in 2020, there will be a very special event to celebrate and NO we are not having Santa attending! So, come along and share together.

I will finish by thanking the Management team without whom I could not function, the Convenors without whom there would be no U3A Hibiscus Coast and our technical team who are always so professional, the helpers at the

General Meeting without whom there would be no morning tea and YOU the members for your encouragement and participation. It is always appreciated.

I wish you and your families all the joy of the season and a peaceful, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Trish Litherland
President

Committee 2019

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

This month's speaker: Dr John Reynolds



John has a broad range of national and international experience as a lecturer, writer, filmmaker, broadcaster and public speaker. He has a BA (History) University of Auckland, an MA (Educational Technology) San Jose State University, California, and a PhD (Film, TV and Media Studies) University of Auckland.

He's published a variety of books; his three most recent are available on Amazon, including the interesting sounding, "How to Write a Novel".

John is a member of the Browns Bay U3A and is known for his entertaining talks.

News from the groups



A well-earned afternoon tea for the conveners

At the Conveners' meeting on 21 October, a well-attended event (27) with a fancy afternoon tea, we evaluated the groups. What is going well? What are some of the challenges?

Conveners and members were universally enthusiastic about their groups. Keywords were companionship, humour, learning, intellectual stimulation, participation and creativity. Challenges were "natural attrition", finding the right venue ... and "we want the Out and About group back".

Conveners of Mah Jong and Cards and Games mentioned setting rules. Geoff of Mah Jong said his "bible" was "The Hoyles Book of Cards and Games".

Two of the biggest groups are Discussion and World Today which both have over 20 members. The History Group is very busy with many members giving well researched presentations.



Regional New Zealand

Our members are looking forward to our Christmas end of year “party”. This year, the date being 28th November, we will start one hour later at 11 am and finish some time in the afternoon. Next year we plan to change – perhaps Australia or Oceania. Watch this space. All our team members join with me in wishing you a happy time this Christmas. Our next meeting will be held as usual in the library On 23rd January 2020! You are most welcome to join us for our first meeting of the year.

Barbara Tucker

Convener

Archaeology group

The new Archaeology group is increasing in size, but we still have room for a few more as we are now meeting in the Pohutukawa room at the Whangaparaoa library. We covered several sites in the world in the last session, from Israel to Peru to England to Cambodia. Already we have discovered that archaeology raises more questions than answers, but it is all extremely interesting and thought-provoking. Next session will be on Wednesday 20th Nov at 2.30p.m.

Kay McLean

Convener

A photo showing the full attendance at September’s meeting. Here we have Trish introducing Sir Richard Faull.



SCHEDULE OF THE CURRENT GROUPS

as at November 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

Archaeology

This new group is exploring archaeological sites from around the world and is well worth attending for its thought-provoking content.

Venue: Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library

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

What's the Rush?

(A Xmas ditty by Kaye Bennetts of the Writers Group)

November at the local mall, the music's very loud.

Do they really think that Christmas music will attract a crowd?

Shop windows trimmed with tinsel, fake trees in every one.

Then, as soon as New Year's over ... it's hello to Hot Cross Buns!



SCHEDULE OF GROUP MEETING TIMES

As at May 2019

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>1st week am</u>		History 10 am			The Writers 10 am World Today: 9.45am
pm		Cards and Games 1 pm Mahjong 2 pm			
<u>2nd week am</u>	Short Film Making (time and venue varies)	Discussion 10 am		Book Club 10 am	
pm	Travel 2 pm				
<u>3rd week am</u>	*General* Meeting 9.40 am	History 10 am		Famous and Infamous/ Origins 10 am Cards and Games, 1.30	Book Review 10 am
pm		Mahjong 2 pm	Archaeology 2pm		
<u>4th 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 th or the 5 th 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, Red Beach.**