

# HIBISCUS COAST U3A



**Next meeting 18 January at Salvation Army Hall, 32 Greenview Lane,  
Red Beach, Hibiscus Coast, 9.45 am.  
Tea Duty: Book Club (two members)**

## From our president



*Addressing the members at the 25th Anniversary Meeting held in the Salvation Army Hall, Red Beach on 16 November.*

Happy New Year to you all. Let's hope 2021 will be an improvement on 2020. We can celebrate here in Aotearoa New Zealand that we have fared much better than other countries in keeping Covid at bay. But it is sobering to be reminded that we could quickly be back to lockdowns and Zoom calls if one person fails to be careful or is unknowingly exposed to the virus. I do hope you are all keeping track of your whereabouts to help with speedy contact tracing if it is ever needed. It's great to hear that family and friends are helping each other with managing phones and staying up to date with new regulations to keep us safe.

Our Hibiscus Coast U3A's 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday meeting was most enjoyable. A big thank you to all those who helped to make it such a great success. The birthday cake tasted delicious and the speeches from our early members were excellent – a wonderful testament to how U3A helps to keep us well in body and mind.

Maureen Christensen had just celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday before she stepped up strong and tall to inspire and entertain us and Graham Lamont spoke with the wisdom of a similar age, providing us with very

interesting historical and personal reflections. Amazing that U3A was established in France way back in the 1970s and is now in over 50 countries! You can read Graham's full speech on our website:

<https://www.u3ahbc.co.nz/>

Our first General Meeting for the year is on Monday 18 January. We have an interesting speaker, John Charles of Pop-up Globe theatre fame, who may encourage you to introduce someone new to U3A. I am looking forward to meeting new members and catching up with old friends at our January meeting.

See you there!

Judy Keall

## Committee

President	Judy Keall	
Secretary	Judy Lilley	
Treasurer	John Tucker	
Membership Secretary	Kaye Bennetts	
Newsletter Editor	Maureen Jansen	
Speakers Secretary	Trish Litherland	
Webmaster Editor	Gerard Straka	

## January Speaker: John Charles

John is a local artist who had the honour of designing scale models for the Pop-Up Globe theatre that has appeared in Auckland and other cities around the world in recent years. The concept was conceived after a meeting on Manly Beach.

John went to art college in England in 1975-79. His first job was as an airbrush technical illustrator mainly in the publishing industry for a year before moving to advertising.



John has been in NZ since 2004 and now with his wife, who is a graphic designer, he runs a business called "Charles Design Partnership".

*"I have had the pleasure of being involved in most areas of the creative world. Illustration & photography, advertising & design, film & theatre, interiors & murals. I still have the same hunger for a creative challenge as I have always had, and I am still helping others to find new creative solutions."*

## Our 25th Anniversary Meeting on 16 November

Graham Lamont, who has been a member since 1996, gave a very interesting speech at our anniversary. Here is an extract in which he pays tribute to people who have started groups.

“Over the years, a wide range of study groups has been established. The diverse range has included Nonie Coates’ History, Judith Cliffe’s Book Lovers, Ray Marino’s Cinematique, Pat Hawkins’ World Today, Pat Varney’s Regional New Zealand, Gerald Warner’s French Conversation, Kath Robinson’s Music Appreciation, John Walker’s Humour, Phil Sheldon’s Geology, Barry Dale’s Discussion, Jenny Tresize’s Food for Thought, Ian and Nancy’s Short Film, Trish Litherland’s Art Appreciation, Kaye McLean’s Archaeology Groups and many others that I don’t have time to list. The study topics have been different, but the purpose has been the same - to encourage people to learn by participating.”



*Graham cuts the U3A birthday cake with Maureen Christensen*

Graham talked about this third age being a time for learning for learning’s sake and how he enjoyed the confidence he saw developing in members as their participation in their groups increased. He thanked the conveners and committee members who allowed this to happen. You can see from the photos taken by ex-president Christine Curtis that U3A members are good at conversing, listening, and discussing.



## News from the groups

### REGIONAL NZ/PACIFIC

Our first meeting this year will be held in the Pohutukawa Room in the Whangaparaoa Library on Thursday 28th January at 10am. NEW MEMBERS WELCOME !

This year we will be discussing and studying various Regions of New Zealand commencing with Southland. Naturally, we will cover all aspects of the Province including history, geography, prominent citizens, personal experiences of the Region – you may even have some photos to share! We will also welcome contributions on the Pacific Islands, which we will continue to explore throughout the year. Looking forward to seeing you all again – remember please – Name Badges!!!

Barbara Tucker, Convenor.

# SCHEDULE OF THE CURRENT GROUPS

as at January 2021



## **Ancient History**

As its name suggests, this group studies ancient civilizations and meets 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

Convener: Kay McLean

## **Art Appreciation**

This is a restart of the previous Art Appreciation group and will now be held in the Pohutukawa Room of Whangaparaoa Library at 2 pm on the second Tuesday of the month.

Convener, 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 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. Meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 1.30. Venue: Pohutakawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library

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. 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).

Convenors: Bob and Jenny Kelly

## **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: Convenor's home.

Convenors: Geoff or Sheila Taylor

## **Regional New Zealand/Pacific**

This year the group will be discussing and studying various regions of NZ and the Pacific Islands. 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 each month at 10am

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. 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

**SUBSCRIBE**

### 2021 Subscriptions

These are due and payable in January – for the financial year: January to December 2021.

**Single \$25, Couples \$40**

Three payment options are available – as shown below

1. To the Treasurer at the January General meeting on 18 January (cash or cheque only)
2. By mail to the Treasurer. John Tucker, HBC U3A, 15D Puriri Avenue, Orewa, 0931
3. Online to the HBC U3A account at .....ASB 12-3046-0275951-00

(Include your initials and full surname as the reference)

**Please Note: If you choose to receive your newsletter by mail, please add \$10 to your sub payment to cover postage and costs.**

**The treasurer is now at 15D Puriri Avenue, as shown above.**

**Cheques apart from Kiwibank are acceptable up to 31 May 2021 at least.**

### November's speaker

Dr Rand Hazou, the 16 November 2020 speaker, is happy for members to contact him.

Contact details+6492136342 [R.T.Hazou@massey.ac.nz](mailto:R.T.Hazou@massey.ac.nz)

## SCHEDULE OF GROUP MEETING TIMES

As at June 2020

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 1.30 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	Art Appreciation 2pm			
<u>3<sup>rd</sup> week am</u>	<b>*General* Meeting 9.40 am</b>	History 10 am			Book Review 10 am
pm		Cards and Games 1.30  Mahjong 2 pm	Archaeology 2pm		
<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 9.45 am  
at the Salvation Army Hall, Red Beach.**

**The next meeting is on 18 January 2021.**