

**HIBISCUS
COAST**

U3A



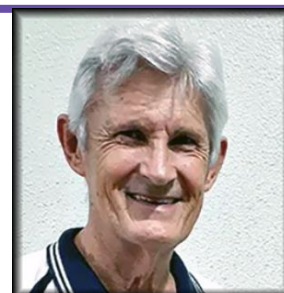
hibiscusu3a@gmail.com

*Next meeting: Monday 15 July 2024, 9.45am at the Salvation Army Hall, Greenview Lane, Red Beach.
Going towards Auckland from Orewa, Hibiscus Coast Highway, turn first left after the fire station.*

Message from the President

Hi Fellow U3A Members

I trust this finds you well and are coping with the cooler weather. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at our next general meeting on Monday 15th July. As usual Jill has organised both an excellent key note speaker and another speaker, David Thompson, a u3a president 2024 will bring an Auckland Network presentation



We have over 200 members at Hibiscus Coast, are in a sound financial position, and currently have 22 strong, well attended groups meeting regularly. It is great to see the friendships that have developed between group members while many have stretched themselves by doing research and making presentations. It is important we continue to use our brains in different ways and move out of our comfort zone especially as we age.

The Auckland U3A area is made up of 27 separate clubs extending from Warkworth to Pukekohe and currently has 3757 members. This is an increase on previous years as all clubs continue to grow and provide many interesting and varied special interest groups. Many of you will be attending the network event on Saturday 27th July with some high profile guest speakers. This event is modestly priced and almost sold out with only a few seats available so if you are still considering attending, please act quickly.

Some of your group convenors have been working hard, on your behalf, to secure suitable rooms for your group as the frequently used Pohutukawa Room at the Whangaparaoa Library is almost fully booked and battles for spots have been intense, especially since the Rodney Council offices closed permanently and the Orewa Library has closed for renovations meaning Council staff also are looking for meeting facilities. We continue to look for alternative venues and whilst we have found many, they unfortunately all come at a cost.

All the very best,
Yours in U3A,
Gavin

Subscriptions

Since we are half way through the year, subscriptions are now \$10 for an individual or \$20 for a couple. We need your subscription!

Please pay your subs into our U3A Kiwibank account: **38-9025-0566036-00**, and include your initials and full surname as the reference.

It is also possible to pay using phone banking - you will need your own and the U3A bank account number (above), or in person at a bank. Again you will need your own account number and U3A's.



This Month's Speaker

Dr Helen Sissons: Information Disorder

Dr Helen Sissons will speak about the increase in misinformation in our public sphere and the importance of media literacy.

She has studied ways in which public relations professionals can influence how stories are told in the media, which can impact the quality and impartiality of journalism.

This is a topic highly relevant in today's media, where our critical thinking is increasingly important.

Management Committee

President	Gavin Whyte
Vice President	Peter Gillmore
Secretary	Maureen Jansen
Treasurer	David Shaw
Membership Secretary	Wendy Hawkins
Speakers Coordinator	Jill Everest
Speaker Secretary	Jeannetta Dearsley
Newsletter Editor	Jenny Casale
Technician	Hugh Griffiths

30th Anniversary

A subcommittee, chaired by Peter Gillmore, has been formed to plan our 30th anniversary which will take place towards the end of 2025.

The committee proposes

- a celebratory luncheon, with guests invited from the wider U3A network, to be held in place of our usual November general meeting
- publishing a history of both our U3A and how U3A began in 1974

If any member has or knows where we can get any history of our U3A including photos or documents please email to petergillmore1949@gmail.com

Groups

Art Appreciation

This is a lively group appreciating art of all kinds and which occasionally embarks on trips to art galleries. We meet at 2pm in the Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library on the second Tuesday of the month.

Convenor: Trish Litherland pat.roy@xtra.co.nz

Book Club

We each read the same two selected books each month and then we have good discussions about them. Some of us like the book and other don't, making for a lively and interesting morning.

We meet on the second Thursday of the month at 10.00am We meet in our own homes, taking turns to host.

Convenor: Sheila Hussona, sandahussona@ix.net.nz

Book Review

There are no set books to read. Instead, members review a book they have read during the month. Members find this personal introduction to books very helpful when choosing their own next reading. If a member owns the book they are reviewing, it is often lent out around the group.

We meet at 9.45 on the third Friday of the month in the Peninsula Club.

Convenor: Cheril Clarke, cherilclarke@xtra.co.nz

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 are welcome.

Meetings are on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 1.30pm in the Pohutukawa Room

Convenor: Aileen Horspool, aileenhorspool@gmail.com

Cinématique

Meetings are ad hoc, depending on what is showing locally. We work with Hoyts Senior Mornings, usually a Tuesday at 10.00am for free coffee and morning tastes. If you are Hoyts member the charge is only \$9 and for non members \$10. We are supporting this kind gesture.

Any members who wish to come to these cinema mornings, please contact Trish.

Convenor: Trish Litherland, pat.roy@xtra.co.nz

Discussion

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month from 10.00. For the first hour we usually discuss a set topic, based on a current issue from New Zealand or world-wide. After a coffee break at 11.00, time is devoted to topics or issues that are brought up by individual members.

Convenors: Bob & Jenny Kelly, Inverkelly1824

Groups

EcoWarriors

This group meets on the third Wednesday in members' homes. Through research, field trips and sharing of information we aim to reach a greater knowledge and understanding of our environment. Weeds like arum lilies, agapanthus and ivy prevent the regeneration of native bush. For able-bodied members, there is still the opportunity to meet for weeding, usually at 1.00 pm. on Wednesdays. Please ring the convener for more information.

Convener: Jill Everest 021-0286 7068; jilleverest12@gmail.com

Film Discussion

We discuss any films we have viewed together, plus any others deemed suitable. We meet at 10.30, on the last Friday of the month. New members are welcome! Venue: Pohutukawa Room, Whangararoa Library, 10.30 am.

Convener: Trish Litherland pat.roy@xtra.co.nz

History

In the History Group we cover the early centuries to recent times. We learn about events and people, famous, infamous and obscure. Members present their research and findings in the form of written, oral and screen presentations, and in images. You are welcome to just come and listen. We make time to discuss topics and to exchange views and ideas.

We meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 10am to noon in the Pohutukawa Room.

Convener: Peter Gillmore petergillmore1949@gmail.com

Mahjong

The Mahjong Group is for beginners with two instructors present to assist with learning. Come and join us for fun and friendship!

Mahjong is held every fourth Monday of the month from 1.30 to 4.30pm in the Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library. From August onwards, we will be having an additional session on the 1st Monday of the month. All are welcome.

Convener: Connie Franklin, Conniefranklin@outlook.com

Music Appreciation

We spend our time listening to and leaning about many genres of music. The emphasis is on classical music. Members are encouraged to introduce their favourite pieces, musicians or instruments. All are welcome to join us for fun and friendship. We meet on fourth Wednesdays at 10am in the Whangaparaoa Library.

Convener: Peter Gillmore petergillmore1949@gmail.com

Groups

Play Reading

Our last meeting was very enjoyable, we welcomed three new members who each contributed to our morning! Last May we commenced reading “Outside Edge” by Richard Harris but needed to finish at the end of Act 1. Unfortunately, Sue, a new member could not carry on reading Act 2 in June because of having broken her foot, but as luck would have it one of our new members could read her part, so all was not lost!

I thought I could share this play with you all. Go to YouTube on your device, and search “OUTSIDE EDGE”, the original play should come up starring Paul Eddington and Prunella Scales.

Our Play for this month will be something entirely different, possibly a drama or possibly a classic!

Contact: Barbara barb-johntucker@xtra.co.nz

Poetry Discussion

This group involves reading and responding to poems by famous poets as well as some non-compulsory poetry writing from prompts. We look at traditional poets, contemporary poets and song lyrics, giving rise to energetic discussion.

We meet every fourth Monday 10.30 to 12.00 in the Pohutukawa Room changing to the first Monday in 2025.

Convenor: Maureen Jansen, mjansener@gmail.com

Proverbs and Idioms

We aim to learn about the origins of sayings, proverbs and idioms such as 'be on cloud nine', 'let sleeping dogs lie', or 'cat on a hot tin roof'. The charge is \$2 per head. If you stay on for Quizzer, that is at no extra cost.

If you want to be involved in such a group to research, discuss, debate, learn and have fun, meet us at the Theosophical Society Hall, 9 Forest Glen, cnr Annalise Place, Orewa, at 12.30 to 1.45

Gavin 021730444, email gavin.whyte@gmail.com

Quizzer

Quizzers are split into groups to tackle seven sets of questions. Each quiz session is \$2 per head to cover hall hire, photocopying and afternoon tea. Quizzer follows the Proverbs and Idioms group at 2 pm also at the Theosophical Hall. If you have attended Proverbs and Idioms that day, there is no extra charge for Quizzer.

Gavin 021730444, email gavin.whyte@gmail.com

Science

Our group shares and discusses science topics, some of which have been quantum physics (!), diet, advances in medical treatments, biological robots. We have a wide range of backgrounds, both scientific and non-scientific. We aim to widen our knowledge and understanding. All are welcome to join us at the Pohutukawa Room on the afternoon of the first Thursday of the month at 2pm.

Convenor: Jenny Casale jenicasale@gmail.com

Groups

The Short Film Group

We make short films based on ideas brought by group members. It is all done by role play, so there are no lines to learn. We have lots of fun, planning and shooting. We are lucky to have the skills and experience brought by our convenors. Times are arranged by email. Convenors are Ian and Nancy Miller, ian.miller.nz@gmail.com

The Art of Photography

The purpose of this group is to learn how to look at a photo and how to take meaningful photos. Everyone is welcome. No experience required. A mobile phone is all you need to take really good shots. We share our photos on the big screen and members give helpful tips or just enjoy looking at what you have taken.

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month in the Pohutukawa Room from 10am to noon. Convenors: Jeannetta Dearsley j.josephs@xtra.co.nz

The Short Story Group

Our Short Story Group which has been focussing on Russian short stories will have its final meeting in August. From 4th September we will continue as a monthly short story group looking at the works of famous short story writers, meeting on the first Wednesday of each month from 10 to 11.30, at a place to be announced.

Contact Maureen Jansen or Peter Gillmore if you would like to join. mjansener@gmail.com or petergillmore1949@gmail.com

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 to share what they learn with other members. We meet on the first Friday of the month from 9.45 to 12.00, in the Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library.

Conveners: Jill Everest, jilleverest12@gmail.com and Maureen Jansen, mjansener@gmail.com

Travel

The Travel Group meets to discuss aspects of travel. At most meetings, two members give 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.

We meet on the second Monday of the month at 2.00pm in the Pohutukawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library.

Convener Sally-Ann Smith sallyann@hotmail.co.nz

U3A Writers

This is an enthusiastic and supportive group with varied levels of ability. A 500-word homework task is set for each meeting and a five-minute quick write happens as well. The writing ability of members improves and we have a lot of fun and laughs. We meet the first Friday of the month in the Peninsula club, gathering first in the Palm Court Café (straight through from Reception) at 10am. At 10.30 we move up to the Hibiscus room.

Convener: Cheril Clarke, cherilclarke@xtra.co.nz

U3A Schedule

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st week	Mahjong 1.30 - 4.30	Cards and Games 1.30 - 4.00	Short Story 10 - 11.30	History 10.00 - 12.00 Science 2.00 - 4.00	Writers 9.45 - 12.00 World Today 9.45 - 12.00
2nd week	Travel 2.00 - 4.00	Discussion 10.00 - 12.00 Art Appreciation 2.00 - 4.00	Art of Photography 10.00 - 12.00 Idioms and Proverbs 12.15 - 1.45 Quizzer 2.00 - 4.00pm	Book Club 10.00 - 12.00	
3rd week	General Meeting 9.45 - 12.00 every 2nd month, Jan - Nov	Cards and Games 1.30 - 4.00	EcoWarriors 1.00 - 3.00	History 10.00 - 12.00	Book Review 9.45 - 12.00
4th week	Poetry Discussion 10.30 - 12.00 Mahjong 1.30 - 4.30 4th Monday	Discussion 10.00 - 12.00	Music Appreciation 10.00 - 12.00	Playreading 10.00 - 12.00	Film Discussion 10.30 - 12.00 LAST Friday whether the 4th or 5th Friday of the month.

Cinematique and the **Short Film Group** meet when there is a film or project on the go.

Weed of the Month: Pampas		
	Pampas	Toetoe
Leaves	up to 3 metres long	up to 1.5 metres long
Flowers	large plumes up to 30 cm long	more delicate plumes up to 15 cm long
Habit	dense clumps up to 3 metres tall	scattered clumps up to 2 meters tall

