



Learning is forever

WARKWORTH

Bi-monthly Bulletin — March 2021

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's nice to see the Interest groups back up and running this year, albeit with a slight hiccup due to the recent covid lockdown. What a wonderful summer we've enjoyed with the preserving jars almost full, long walks (Miriam and I have knocked Mt Tamahunga off our 'bucket list'), and regular swims with the bays still warm enough to take the plunge. For sports lovers the Americas Cup and Australian tennis have had us glued to our tvs, while the Blackcaps series against the Aussies should be exciting. With the arrival of the covid vaccine and improved contact tracing, we should enjoy a much less disruptive year.

Stay safe and be kind.

Ken Cutforth

GENERAL MEETING APRIL 12TH 10am

will be held in both halls at Totara Park.

The main speaker is

Jenny Collins on

Tidal Crossings – stories of schools, teachers and pupils in the Matakana and Warkworth areas 1877 – 1962.

Jenny is an historian and genealogist. She is the New Zealand editor of the online Dictionary of Educational History for Australia and New Zealand (DEHANZ) and has published widely on the lives of teachers in New Zealand and internationally.

In her talk Jenny explores some of the challenges facing teachers living in the remote rural locations of the Matakana and Warkworth area during the early years of the New Zealand educational system. At a time when settlers were demanding primary schools for their expanding communities, local School Committees appointed teachers whose own education might be quite limited. New teachers experienced isolation, dilapidated housing and obligations well beyond the schooling of their pupils. On the Matakana River, for example, a teacher's responsibilities might include rowing their charges to and from school. While a teacher's pay depended on the attendance and success of their pupils, pupil turnout depended on the vagaries of the weather and the demands of the agricultural season. Visits from the inspector could be an occasion of dread for both pupils and teachers who waited in trepidation to be examined in the prescribed subjects and to be told who would pass or fail. It could be a challenging experience for the inspector too. He frequently traversed the remote river valleys on horseback and had to negotiate flooded rivers and high tides. An inspector's arrival at the school was never predictable - marked by lateness, high drama, and occasionally if he arrived drenched and out of sorts - by pupils desperately trying to suppress their laughter.

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to our new members

Alan and Carol Catley
Denise Thatcher
Mike and Anne Smith
Christine and Edward Reason
Lesley and Bob Demler

ALMONER Prue Dray would like you all to keep her informed about any member who is ill or in need of cheering up. She depends upon the network to keep her informed!

Please contact her
phone 0210382138
email pruedray@gmail.com.

2020 GENERAL MEETING PLANNER

June 14th Mid Winter Lunch, venue to be announced.

The **Music Appreciation Group** held their first meeting of the year at Mary Miller's home. Mary presented a very interesting talk about The West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, which was founded in 1999 by Daniel Barenboim, the Argentine/Israeli conductor and Edward Said, the Palestinian/American academic. In 2016 this orchestra was designated as a United Nations Global Advocate for Cultural Understanding. www.west-eastern-divan.org

Alison Coates

DUTY GROUP ROSTER 2021

April 12th
Antiques and Collectibles
All About Plants

The duty groups for the general meetings at the Totara Park venue should be there by 9.30am.

On 3 March the **Art Appreciation** group will go to Auckland Art Gallery Toi O Tamaki to see The Maori Exhibition Toi Tu Toi Ora.

The March mid-month Wednesday art film at Matakana Cinemas will be 'Botticelli, Florence and the Medici'.

The 7 April meeting will be visits to two newly-located local artists, Pauline Gough and a special Mystery Artist.

Elle Glazer

TRANSPORT

Do you have a problem getting to our general meetings? If you need a lift, or would like to car pool, please contact the secretary 027 293 9414.

SUBS

A gentle reminder (if you have forgotten) that subs are due, \$20 single, \$35 per couple. If you pay online (which is preferable) please do include your name. If partners have different surnames, please include both.



Warkworth U3A 8 Wilson Road

Warkworth New Zealand

Bank Account 02-0480-0133880-00