



Learning is forever WARKWORTH

Bi-monthly Bulletin — May 2022

<https://www.u3a.co.nz/warkworth/index.html>

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I trust everyone is enjoying the mild autumn days; it's been ideal for lengthy walks. We are blessed with the number of Regional Parks on our doorstep.

Those who attended the April General meeting could not help but be impressed with the presentation by David Edge, Regional Parks Ranger. David's strong passion for conservation was evident. Dr Jill McPherson gave some great insights into the development of the recently opened Hundertwasser Museum in Whangarei.

Miriam and I visited the Museum and were most impressed. I wish the Art Appreciation group a safe and rewarding visit.

Four new Interest Groups are about to be established, creating more learning opportunities for our members. Enjoy!

Nga mihi

Ken Cutforth, President

NEW MEMBERS

Warkworth U3A welcomes:

Robyn Weston,
Elaine Beadle
Josie Young.

INTEREST GROUPS

As we look forward to being able to hold meetings again post-Covid, now is the time to try something new. Current groups are: Ancient and Modern History, Architecture and design, Art Appreciation, Book Talk, Current Affairs, Developments in Medicine, Exploring Poetry, Geology, Jazz Listening, Local History, Music Appreciation, Ornithology, Science and Climate, Te Ao Maori, (see [U3A Warkworth-Groups](#) for details). Join a different interest group or start a new one by raising your ideas with any committee member. A few groups have run their course, while others are evolving. U3A is an organic community.

MID-WINTER MEETING AND LUNCHEON

10.30 a.m. Monday 13th June, Omaha Golf Club

Guest speaker – Barbara Dreaver



We are very pleased to have Barbara Dreaver, Television Journalist at TVNZ, as our speaker at our June 'mid-Winter' meeting. Barbara will be familiar to many as the Pacific Correspondent for TVNZ's News and Current Affairs. She has been a journalist for more than 30 years, co-owning a newspaper in the Cook Islands, working in print, radio and television. She is currently on the TVNZ/Radio NZ establishment board and designs and delivers training to Pacific broadcasters across the region.

This area of our 'local' South Pacific geography has played a fundamental role in the history of Aotearoa both pre and post European colonisation. Today the 'Islands' continue to draw our attention, be that from the opportunity they provide us to escape to the 'desert island ideal', through the challenges they face as nations in a warming planet, to the geo-political wrestling match which can often befall smaller emerging nations when major powers become involved.

Barbara's talk promises to be a stimulating and engrossing look at our global neighbourhood.

Lunch at the Omaha golf club will cost \$30 per person. Lunch for members and their guests must be booked with our treasurer (see p3) by 6th June. Payment should be made in advance to 02-0480-0133880-00 referenced with your name and "Omaha lunch"



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LIFELONG LEARNING - SHARING KNOWLEDGE - FRIENDSHIP - LEADING EDGE INFORMATION

Celebrating U3A in Action - 2022

Auckland 30 July 2022

AUCKLAND U3A NETWORK WELCOMES YOU TO A DAY OF CELEBRATION

Salvation Army Church, 18 Allright Place, Mt Wellington

Saturday 30 July 2022 - 9:30am (for 10:00am) to 2:30pm

Speakers: Sir Peter Gluckman, Scientist and Former Science Advisor to the NZ Prime Minister; Director of 'Centre for Informed Futures' and Dame Patsy Reddy (Former Governor General of NZ) will be interviewed by media personality Catherine Saunders.

Includes presentations by U3A Members and lunch - \$40

REPORTS FROM THE GROUPS

Ancient and Modern History

We have held two meetings. In the first Willo Stear gave an excellent presentation on the South African War and NZ's part in this event. In the second, a film on Bonapart and Wellesley was shown concerning their exploits before Waterloo. This battle will be shown at the next meeting. Members have asked Willo and Geoffrey to look at substance and form and to report back. They have also recommended that the Groups' name be changed to "Ancient and Modern History".

Geoffrey Bowes

Art Appreciation

The Art Appreciation Group has organised a trip to Whangarei to visit the Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Maori Art Gallery on Thursday 2nd June 2022.

Berris Spicer

Developments in medicine

The Medicine group held its first meeting of the year recently. Many people are immune-compromised or just wary, as older people have to be, that they were basically happy to stay home. A very small group of us met to hear about Antibiotic resistance, which is a very real threat for the future, which at the moment, seems to involve avoidance, via improved gut health, and vaccines and immunotherapy. How to persuade several billion people to take these measures might be a slight problem.

Our proposed trip to Whangarei is now planned for September, with a cup of coffee on the roof of the Hundertwasser Museum, but lunch elsewhere.

Hopefully, we shall now be able to get back to normal, Covid permitting.

Linda Moore



U3A Book Talk

In this issue we have two reports of meetings of the Book Talk Group from Jeanette.

Our meeting on April 5 in Peggy Gillman’s apartment at The Warkworth Oaks was up in numbers. Twelve attended, including one new member. That means that we have had three people join the group in 2022.

This time there were several biographical works, including the autobiography of Shaun Wallace, one of the “Chasers”. Some special New Zealand works were reviewed. One was “Te Kupenga 101”, published in 2021, to celebrate the 85th anniversary of the Turnbull Library. It contains photographs and stories taken from the Library’s collection. Another was a wonderful book on Rita Angus, depicting both her life and her art.

Fiction included something old; Rudyard Kipling’s “Captains Courageous”, and something new; a debut novel by Hannah Bent published last year. We had as well a novel about getting by on wartime rations, and a Zane Grey Western. Not every book presented was easy to read, but some were described as ‘fascinating’, or “delightful”, or “very interesting”. The highest accolade given was: “This is a beautiful book. I didn’t want to put it down, and I didn’t want it to finish”.

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Nine of our fourteen members attended our meeting on May 3, hosted by Shirley Shirley. We missed Pam Ellender who was in hospital but were delighted to see Ailsa back with us after many months. Ailsa had greatly enjoyed her audio book, “Captain James Cook”, by Australian Rob Mundle, an expert in maritime history. She shared new information about Cook’s second voyage, how his ship went south from South Africa as far as it could go before rendezvousing in New Zealand with its sister ship.

Some books reviewed were set in New Zealand and sounded very interesting: “Nine Lives” introduces notable New Zealanders, Abbas Nazary’s

autobiographical “After the Tampa” tells how a refugee family made good, and Catherine Clarke’s “The Only Living Lady Parachutist” (published in 1890) is fiction based on fact.

Various fiction works talked about were all good reads: John Mortimer’s “Murderers among other things”, Kate Quinn’s “The Rose Code”, and Ian Rankin’s “A Song for the Dark Times”. But two non-fiction works reviewed stand out, revealing men of courage prepared to stand up against evil. One is “Bonhoeffer” by Eric Metaxas – the Bonhoffer family being outspoken against Nazi Germany. The other, “Freezing Order” by Bill Browder, is a gripping thriller that tells how Browder became Vladimir Putin's number one enemy by exposing Putin's campaign to steal and launder hundreds of billions of dollars and kill anyone who stands in his way.

Jeanette Grimmer

Science and Climate

22 April: Site visit to Dills Farm (Steve and Clare Dill presenters and hosts) 35 attendees at Kaipara Flats Sports Club.

20 May: Climate Change: Renewable Solutions (Ralph Cooney and Willo Stear presenters, CH4 Global CEO video) at Totara Park Village.

13 June: South Pacific with Barbara Dreaver

July: Navigation (Mike Austin, Peter Kammler presenters, plus a video of traditional Polynesian navigation methods) at Totara Park Village

Ralph Cooney

MINI-SPEAKERS

U3A Members are invited to offer themselves as a mini-speaker for U3A general meetings. A mini-speaker usually talks for about 5 minutes to share some aspect of their life-experience. Offers can be discussed with any member of the committee, or emailed to the secretary.

COVID RULES UPDATE

The Covid vaccine pass and QR code scanning are now things of the past. – we hope.

However, mask wearing is recommended for U3A meetings, except when talking or eating, as a precaution and as a courtesy to our fellow mature members.

As always, basic health precautions apply; i.e. hand sanitising, social distancing and staying away if you are unwell, or a close contact of a Covid case,

Anyone who would like to attend a meeting but can't, should talk to the meeting convenor about the possibility of remote access, which the techies amongst us will try to arrange.

HELP WANTED

Your committee will welcome offers of assistance with administrative and technical duties for making Warkworth U3A run smoothly

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Reminder of subscriptions due for year ended 31 October 2022

Single \$20.00 Double \$35.00

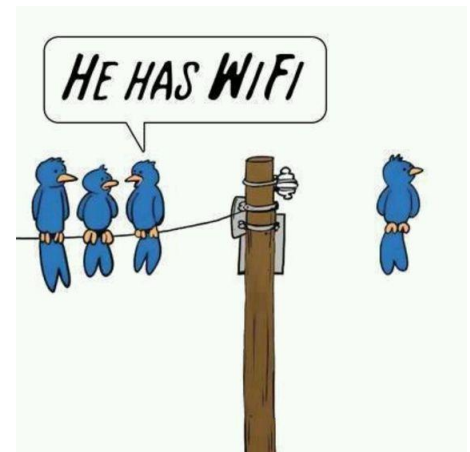
Bank details:-: 02-0480-0133880-00

If you cannot make an internet payment, please contact the treasurer.

If you do not wish to renew your subscription, please reply confirming this and we will amend our membership list accordingly.

If you have recently changed your contact details (email, street address or phone number), please email Alison at members.warkworth@u3a.co.nz so that our database can be updated.

Dianne Knight, Treasurer U3A Warkworth
treasurer.warkworth@u3a.co.nz 021 378 664



"It's funny how you old guys call it a 'wireless' still, when the modern word for it is. . . wait. . . that is the modern word for it!"

