

U3A MANUREWA NEWSLETTER
MONDAY 12th JUNE MEETING
at 1.30pm

TO BE HELD At ACACIA COVE RETIREMENT VILLAGE LOUNGE
 131 Wattle Farm Road Manurewa Auckland 2103



<i>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</i>			
<i>Comprising 7/8 members who take on a variety of responsibilities</i>			
President	Bob Falconer		
Secretary	Maureen Abbott		
Treasurer	Gaynor Falconer		
Vice President	Heather Hine		
Membership Sec & Speaker Co-ordinator	Pat James		
Almoner	Pat James		
Network Rep	Bob Falconer		
Newsletter Sec	Doreen Lightfoot		
Refreshments Sharleen Bishop, Christine Bertram and Corrie Patterson			

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – JUNE 2023

Congratulations to Stella Cattle on the award of a QSM for services to the community and seniors in the King’s Birthday Honours.

The talk each month is always different, last month Colleen Brown, this month Guy Slocum. Guy is an ex-RAF cold war fighter pilot and will be talking about the Falklands War.

I’m sure that we are all becoming sick of scams. Recently I had someone saying that there was a problem with my BNZ account. Very unlikely as we bank with the ANZ.

Winter has arrived, it is much colder and the heat pump is hard at work. I’m sure that you have had your flu and covid injections, and that you have supplies of Vicks, Strepsils and Vitamin C should you need them.

Bob
 President

TREASURER: (Gaynor) FEES AND HOW TO PAY

Please remember that fees can be paid by cash or internet banking to ASB #12-3028-0593307-00. If you wish to pay by cash, please ensure the notes are put into an envelope with your name on the outside.

Host Group:

<i>Roster for Host Groups</i>					
<i>Feb</i>	<i>Book Review</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>Movies Group</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Current Affairs</i>
<i>March</i>	<i>History & People</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Card and Board Games</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Music Apprec</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>Current Affairs</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>Book Review</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>Christmas dinner</i>
<i>June</i>	<i>Music Apprec</i>	<i>Sept</i>	<i>History & People</i>		

OUR JUNE SPEAKER WILL BE GUY SLOCUM

Guy was born in London in the shadow of the Wembley sports stadium. He developed an early passion for flying which he indulged by joining the Air Cadets and obtaining his glider pilot’s license one week after his sixteenth birthday. The award of a government flying scholarship allowed him to gain his private pilot’s license (PPL), at no cost, the month after he turned 17. From the PPL airfield he went straight into the Royal Air Force where he trained as a fast jet fighter pilot chasing Soviet aircraft around the Iceland/Faeroes gap.

After 12 years he retired from flying and joined an international investment institution in London. He will be talking to us about his experience during the Falklands conflict in the South Atlantic

OUR MAY SPEAKER WAS: Colleen Brown gave us an entertaining talk about her writing career which includes occasional pieces for the Listener. She also told us all about her recently published book, **Violet's Scarf**. We were treated to a preview of this book when Colleen was with us In August last year. Also, some of you may have seen her on Television just last week. Colleen's web side is colleenbrownbooks.com for more information

SHARE, SHOW, & TELL -

SHARE, SHOW, & TELL. Lots to talk about since we last met together!

Remember we only have 10 minutes to fit everyone in,

so, if there are 30 of us for example, that allows us about 20 seconds each to share our words of wisdom!!! Not such a daunting task really!! Saying " I have nothing to share " would allow you to use those precious 30 seconds anyway. A win win situation either way!!! Warwick

Jan and I won't be at the next meeting so my share show and tell must wait for the July meeting.

GROUP REPORTS:



BOOK REVIEW Meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month, 10am.

Convenor, Pat James

Next meeting will be on the 6th of June and 4th July.

BOOK REVIEW May 2023

4 Present with 6 apologies

Troubled Blood by Robert Galbraith: This is the fifth Strike novel about criminal cases solved by Cormoron Strike, an ex-military policeman and his female partner.

The detective agency is asked to investigate a 40 year old missing person case by the missing person's daughter. This is a complicated investigation and our reader felt that there was much unnecessary detail which delayed the story. He also noted that each novel increases in length and at 927 pages, some editing and simplifying would have helped.

Rated: 3

The Little Wartime Library by Kate Thompson: This book is based on true events and is set in London in 1944. Clara is no ordinary librarian; while the world remains at war, Clara creates the country's only underground library built over the tracks of the discussed Bethnal Green Tube Station. A whole community thrives with thousands of bunk beds, a nursery, a café and a theatre giving solace and an escape from the bombs.

Rated: 4

Broken is Beautiful by Jane Shearer: this story is set in Christchurch during the Covid years. The years of the earthquakes are still very real and many people are suffering mental health problems. One of these is Julia who has a troubled background which has led to an obsessive habit; she has become a hoarder. Julia befriends a homeless man and offers him shelter in her home. He manages to get her to agree to see a therapist. Covid arrives and the author uses this as a platform to discuss the pros and cons of how New Zealand deals with the virus and the story becomes more non-fiction. Our reader felt that the story dragged and wasn't sure what it was meant to portray.

Rated: 3

The Son-in Law by Charity Norman: How do you ever forgive the unforgiveable? This is the thought-provoking subject matter of this book which is a gripping, heart-breaking family drama. Joseph Scott has just left prison after serving a 3 year sentence for manslaughter. The victim was his wife, Zoe. Their 3 young children witnessed her traumatic death and have been living with their grandparents ever since. Joseph desperately wants to reunite with them. This is a powerfully told story of love, forgiveness and family which the reader really enjoyed.

Rated: 5

Next meeting will be on the 6th of June.



CARD AND BOARD GAMES: meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of the month at

1.30pm. Convenor: Val Marris

Next Meeting Date, 8th June and 6th July.

The Games Group met on Thursday 4th May. We had 3 different winners.

Next meeting is on 1st June.



CURRENT AFFAIRS: meetings are held on the 3rd Monday, at 2pm. At Jan and Warwick's place.
Convenors: Jan and Warwick May
Meeting Dates: next meeting 19th June and 17th July 2023.

17th April, report – Our April topics were:

- Trust in NZ News
- U3A and Money
- Values plus
- Construction failures and Family Values

Construction failures was very well constructed and kept us talking positively for quite some time.

We need more people. Please come, no matter whether you have a topic or not. We'd love to have you at our **next meetings Monday, 19th June** at 2 pm. Members, please note that the pursuit of pikelet perfection is all go on the Monday 19th June! Cheers Warwick



HISTORY PEOPLE AND PLACES: are held on the 3rd Tues 1.30pm at Jeanette Cortesi's home.
 Phone: Convenor Jeanette Cortesi and Tricia Jordan
 Next Meeting 16th May and 20th June.

April meeting: topics covered. Only 6 attended this meeting. Apologies received from David and Dorothy and Pat James.

Topics included:

- Brexit and Theresa May. Is Brexit working?
- Spinging House – for debtors in the UK. Debtors had to pay for everything.
- Leaning Tower of Pisa / Scold's bridle.
- Franz Josef Glacier. Naming glaciers.



MUSIC APPRECIATION: meetings, are held on the 4th Friday of the month, 2 to 4pm at Simon and Pat James' place. Convenor: Simon James
The next meeting will be on the 26th May and the 23rd June.

April meeting: Simon organised a CONCERT, which consisted of taking the number 7 track of every 7th CD, which was very enjoyable and entertaining. For the May meeting NO IDEA, but it will be and was just as entertaining. Firstly, a member would choose a disk by number and then the next person chose the track. A unique way to organise a programme, take your favourite number and run with it. Especially entertaining as Simon has a very wide and wonderful collection of CD's.



MOVIES GROUP: dates and time depend on which movie is selected and then make your own way to the Hawkins Centre Papakura and meet there. Contact Heather Hine

May Movies 2023

Red, White and Brass- Maka, a Tongan superfan, will do whatever it takes to get tickets to the Tonga v France Rugby world cup game, even if it meant promising to deliver a brass band for the pre-match entertainment. The only problem was, the band didn't exist and Maka only had a few weeks to make one. This movie was inspired by a true story, and was a great very funny story.

Allelujah- a warm, humorous at times and moving story about surviving old age. A geriatric ward in a small Yorkshire hospital was threatened with closure, and the hospital decided to fight back. It starred Jennifer Saunders (in a dramatic role for a change,) backed up by a stellar cast. A rather depressing look at old age with a couple of twists we didn't see coming. We had mixed feelings about this film.

Redemption of a Rogue- Two of us went to this movie. It is an Irish black comedy about a prodigal son, Jimmy, returning to his hometown to seek salvation for his sins. At home, his brother has been stuck looking after their sick father for seven years, and as soon as Jimmy arrives, his father dies. Then the rain starts to pour. There is a condition in the will that his father cannot be buried on a wet day, so Jimmy is stuck in his hometown until the rain stops. This is a very Irish movie, and we enjoyed it.

JUNE 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURS	FRIDAY	SAT	SUN
		D	1 ST BOARD & CARD GAMES 1.30PM	2 ND	3 RD	4 TH
5 TH	6 TH BOOK REVIEW 10AM	7 TH	8 TH	9 TH	10 TH	11 TH
12 TH U3A GENERAL MEETING	13 TH	14 TH	15 TH	16 TH	17 TH	18 ST
19 TH CURRENT AFFAIRS 2PM	20 RD HISTORY PEOPLE & PLACES 1.30PM	21 ST	22 ND	23 RD MUSIC APPREC	24 TH	25 ^H
26 TH	27 th	28 ST	29 th	30 th		
MOVIES Hawkins Centre Papakura and meet there. <u>Contact Heather Hine</u>						