

# PAPAKURA U3A NEWSLETTER JULY 2023

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## BILL'S BURBLE



From the positive and often informal feedback the committee receives from the current membership, and being encouraged by the fact that a majority of our members are usually regular in their attendance at our monthly meetings, I am guessing we might already be meeting at least some of the aims of our group. Nevertheless, it is equally true there are still some areas where an. I am wondering if it might be time to revisit two of our more perennial issues.

1. At our monthly meetings the men are still vastly outnumbered by the women. Can I suggest as many as possible of us should be sharing the task of inviting more men to our monthly meetings.
2. When I am out in the community talking to folk in the u3a age group and sharing information about our Papakura branch, I usually discover they know very little about our group. Could it be that we need our wider membership more involved in sharing the publicity?

My own theory is that both issues might be better faced if more of us were prepared to speak up.

Now I guess I should sign off with a typical uplifting thought...so here is this month's offering. *Be the reason someone smiles today...er ...um... Or the reason they drink... Whatever works!*

## **JULY 2023 Meeting**

**Tuesday, 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023 at 10am, St John's Hall, Ray Small Drive, Papakura.**

**Speaker:** Terry Carson - The English Longbow

**Introducer:** Wendy Deeming

**Thanker:** Shirley Peddie

**Greeters:** Bev Dunn, Sandra Bensemman, Helen Higgott

**Tea Roster:** Ruth Bourne, Rosemary Callachan, Marian Campbell

**10 Minute speaker:** To be confirmed

A reminder that **subs are now due** - our subs pay for the hall rental and morning teas.

We have kept them at **\$30** for this year and they can be paid to Lynette McInnes or paid online at ASB bank account 12-3031-0213766-01. Please check with Lynette who can tell you if you have paid or not - Ph: 2977195 or [lynettemcinnnes@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:lynettemcinnnes@yahoo.co.nz)

## **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

All members are welcome at any interest group. Just contact the Co-ordinator of the group and they will add you to the group's contact list, or roll up at their next advertised group event.

**Music Appreciation Group.** This group will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month from April to September at 2pm at Helen Higgott's house. **Registration: Please email Helen at [higgoth@gmail.com](mailto:higgoth@gmail.com) or Iris at [irisdurney@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:irisdurney@yahoo.co.uk)** or just roll up.

**Next meeting:** Friday 21<sup>th</sup> July Venue: Helen Higgott's house, 34 Clevedon Rd, Papakura. 2pm for a 2 hour session. Afternoon tea is served half way through.

**Last meeting:** Our June Meeting was introducing us to the instruments of the symphony orchestra. The examples of music covered string instruments, winds, brass as well as guitar and mandolins. We finished with a rousing interpretation of In the Mood played by the Glenn Millar Orchestra. We are enjoying the mix of familiar pieces but also hearing excerpts from not so well known composers like Quantz who wrote many pieces for the flute.

### **Book Group**

Co-ordinator Ruth Bourne Ph: 09 294 9396 Book Group usually meets at 10am on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at Drury Library. Please contact Ruth if you need further information.

**Next meeting:** All welcome to our next session meeting on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July. My mobile number 027 2771507 if needed. Cheers, Ruth Bourne

### **Film Appreciation Group**

Coordinator Rod Baldwin Ph: 298 3842 or email: [rodneybaldwin@hotmail.com](mailto:rodneybaldwin@hotmail.com)

Monthly date and time arranged depending on film, usually Hawkins Theatre or Rialto, Newmarket. Email Rod to get put on his emailing list.

**July suggestion:** The selection of movies at Hawkins Theatre for July unfortunately seems very sparse. From this sparse selection I suggest the Political Conspiracy movie, "Cairo Conspiracy", showing at Hawkins Theatre: Monday 3 July at 7:30pm Wednesday 5 July at 12:30pm Friday 21 July at 10am "Adam, a fisherman's son, is offered the ultimate privilege to study at the Al-Azhar University in Cairo. When the Grand Imam suddenly dies, Adam becomes a pawn in a ruthless power struggle between Egypt's religious and political elites". (In Arabic with English subtitles).

**Unless** of course if you did not see "Bank of Dave" in June, in which case I suggest you view it this month on: Tuesday 4 July at 10am Wednesday 19 July at 7:30pm Thursday 20 July at 12:30pm. Rod Baldwin

**June suggestion:** I have sometimes made bad mistakes with some of the movies I have suggested for the Group, and have sometimes had to apologise. But not for "Bank of Dave". It may have made only a "truish" representation of true events as it admitted in the film opening, but it was a truly inspiring movie with an exhilarating finale which left the audience joyously smiling. I am so glad I suggested it, and saw it for myself. Rod.

### **International News Group**

Coordinator Dena Gilmore [belongingvp@inspire.net.nz](mailto:belongingvp@inspire.net.nz) If you would like to be part of a group that shares and discusses information on international stage, please get in touch with Margaret Gane 022 1588064. Phone Margaret on 022 158 8064 for more information. We would love to have more members so, if overseas events and 'goings on' are of interest to you, come along and join us. Margaret Gane

**Next meeting:** Change of day/time for our future International News Group meetings from next month. **Thursday, 20 July 10am at the Pizza Box.**

Come along and join in if you are interested in what is going on in other parts of the world! Contact Margaret 022 1588064.

**Last meeting:** At present, we are down to 2 members and as our third member, Margaret Grant, is now overseas for a number of months, Dena and I decided to meet at Ronnies Cafe for our monthly catch-up of international news.

We began with discussing an article written by Andrew Butler KC from 24 May issue of the Papakura Courier which explored the myths surrounding NZ becoming a republic e.g. becoming a republic 'doesn't mean we would leave the Commonwealth, doesn't mean that the Treaty of Waitangi dies or suggests that we MUST have a president with powers like that of the US President!' For those like myself who are unsure about what NZ should do, this article presented a 'down to earth' assessment of what it would mean for our country and that we need to be preparing for change now!

Other news items discussed included the discovery of a Roman mausoleum in Southwark, London; and the reporter in NZ who has spent the last 5 years changing reports from Reuters to reflect his own bias particularly towards Russia. We wondered how he could get away with this for so long!

### **Out'n>About Group**

Coordinator Helen Higgott Ph: 298-1213 email: higgotth@gmail.com. Monthly date and time arranged depending on event. Phone Helen to get put on the emailing list.

**Next meeting:** The next Out & About trip is a visit to the outdoor exhibition of the Ans Westra Photographic Documentary 'Resistance' at Queens Wharf on Thursday 20 July.

The 25 large black and white photos are related to the protests of the 1970-80's; some of the subjects are still relevant today. Travel by train to Britomart and a short walk across Quay St to Queens Wharf. Sally 0272570135

### **Out 'n>About Trip for September**

Auckland Museum exhibition - 'Egypt - In the Time of the Pharaohs'

Wednesday 6 September, 11am (ticket is timed)

Cost - Concession (with ID) - \$21 Carpooling will be available as usual.

All expressions of interest by **18 July meeting** please. More details will come after that to those wanting to come. Organiser - Margaret Gane 022 1588064

### **MURU- An art exhibition**

Muru is a statement of restitution and reciprocity. It describes the Maori cultural practice of restoring justice and balance when actions have brought about harm or disrepute. Four artists have contributed to the mural on the wall in the Papakura Library foyer. In addition these local artists have an exhibition in the Papakura Art Gallery at 10 Averill Street. Open Wed- Fri 10 - 4 and Sat 10-2. **Closes 29 July.**

**Last meeting:** Out 'n' About June visit to the Takaani library.

Ten of us visited this modern library. Jamie-Lee and Eden explained that before it was built there was considerable community consultation. As a result it is a community hub in addition to its function as a library. Emphasis has been placed on making all feel welcome so on arrival the first thing one sees is a kitchen where food can be prepared, cooked and eaten without asking permission from the staff. The side rooms all have moveable walls so the space can be changed to meet the needs of those using them. When we visited a group was having a workshop on learning computer skills in one of the side rooms. Te reo classes are held regularly and the everyday use of te reo is encouraged. Children are made to feel welcome with a slide, table tennis table and football table. There is also a parents' room with facilities to heat bottles and changing tables.

There are many amazing features. Returned books are placed upright on shelves which have the ability to read bar codes! This seems preferable to pushing them through a slot as one does in Papakura. The books themselves are placed on the shelves by author's name with little categorisation. The book shelves are lower than usual so there are good sight lines throughout. They are on casters so they too are moveable. Although the floor space is limited,

high ceilings and the extensive use of glass makes the whole area seem filled with light and very welcoming.

Thank you Margaret Gane for organising this visit. If you haven't visited yet, I recommend that you call in and see this modern library and community hub next time you are in Takaanini.

### **Walking Group**

Coordinator Varda Swery [varda.swery@gmail.com](mailto:varda.swery@gmail.com) 09-299 9765 and 021-1827190. Usually meets the first Thursday of the month. Walks organised by members of the group.

**Next walk:** Due to the unpredictable weather and having to cancel previous walks due to rainy days, **there will be no walks until September (included).**

### **Writing Your Memoirs.**

Memoirs Group - Contact: Gloria Buddle, 09 2999550 or 027 356 1220 or [guyfawkes48nz@gmail.com](mailto:guyfawkes48nz@gmail.com). You are all invited to come along to join us at our next meeting. Below are samples of some interesting stories our members have recorded for family and also just for the pleasure of bringing times in your life back into your life and memory.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting of the memoirs group is on the 17<sup>th</sup> July at 10am at Wendy Deeming's home, Contact Wendy for further information, phone 09 298 6370

Please feel free to join our group; we each have our own way of recording our memories. At our morning tea meetings we read out our stories - usually 1-2 x A4 pages. Sometimes a photo or memento is shared too.

**Last meeting:** Thank you Helen for opening your home to the five of us who, as always, enjoyed each other's company. Thanks also to those who provided snacks for our morning tea. Those who were unable to attend, we look forward to seeing you at our next meeting. A special thank you to Jean for being a hostess to our group for many lovely meetings and morning teas. We look forward to having you come along to any meetings you are able to attend.

**Job vacancy** and a decision to make between two different countries. Chose the Pacific Islands. The accommodation was sparse with no air conditioning and the heater was kerosene type. The supply boats came into harbour every 6 weeks. In an old building, they found a mail bag from WW1. The USA found descendants of soldiers to pass the mail onto.

**Another story**, again from the Pacific, of a boat trip from NZ to England (home to visit family). On the way to Rarotonga they saw the sun rising early one morning; then of the ship's alarm ringing with lifejackets to be put on as the ship had hit a reef. Repairs in port were necessary so there was a delay in travel.

**Next, of the buzz** of standing on a hilltop at the Acropolis, where the cliff divers performed in the Elvis movie. Then finally safely to Southampton, England.

**A NZ holiday** to Dunedin & Taiaroa Heads with family (a very important tour guide was a 9year-old family member who loved his job). Then visiting Hanmer Springs and Molesworth Station; also attending an Art Display of weaving which was rolled up plastic bags.

**Re-reading her Father's book** and then writing her own story in 2022/23. Comparing the two at the same area and revisiting the actual Indian Tea plantation where her Father had worked and written about. A special time.

**Memories of "things"** I remember since 1953 onwards. Especially primary school and the changes in chalk, crayons, pastels, pencils, nib pens, fountain pens and biros. To working at Croxley in the Printed Pen division and the helpers from IHC who assembled the different colours and components.

We wish Margaret Grant all the best for her holiday and look forward to her return with more memories and photos. We have had offers of hosts for our meetings in October - Margaret Grant in October and Iris in November. Just August and September to arrange. If you can offer your home please let me know. Thank you, Gloria

## **SHORT TERM (TIME LIMITED) GROUPS FOR U3A**

Socialise - make friends - Learn something new.

- *Groups are the lifeline of U3A. We would like to ask members to consider facilitating or organising short term groups that people can join.*
- *Have you got a special interest in learning something or in passing on your knowledge on a particular subject?*
- *Do you know of an online course that you would like to do and invite others to join you eg. coursera courses, U3A on line course?*
- *Do you know of a local expert in a subject who might be asked to run a short series on their subject? eg: music, archaeology, history subjects, Waitangi Treaty etc.*
- **PLEASE** consider contributing to the life of our Club by organising and facilitating a group (you don't need to be the expert, just find someone else who is or find the information from an online course!!). These groups could possibly be 4 or 6 sessions either weekly or monthly or even longer if you like and the interest is there.
- A venue could be the Drury Library (free) or your home, or any other venue that is suitable, as groups would probably be not too large.

*Do consider this and contact Helen Higgott ([higgotth@gmail.com](mailto:higgotth@gmail.com)) or Iris Durney ([irisdurney@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:irisdurney@yahoo.co.uk)) with your ideas and plans and enthusiasm.*

## **ROLL UP, ROLL UP to the u3a event of the year!**

One of our Papakura club members, Iris Durney, has been invited to be one of the 4 mini speakers. Please come and support her! As having attended the last two Network events myself, I think you will be pleased at the variety of content presented on the day. I am attaching a copy of the brochure covering the day's events.

### **u3a Network Event - Saturday 29 July, 9.30am for 10am - 2-30pm**

*Venue - Salvation Army Auckland Corps, 18 Allright Place, Mt Wellington*

*Speakers - Mr Chris Finlayson (am) and Dr Paul Buchanan (pm)*

*4 mini speakers will also present a topic of their choice during the day - **Iris !***

*Catered lunch. Options are standard, vegetarian and gluten-free.*

*Registrations are open now online. Go to [www.u3auckland.net](http://www.u3auckland.net)*

*Shared transport available for those who want to attend.*

*Further information, see Helen (027 643 78300 OR Margaret (022 158 8064)*

*Registrations for the EVENT are now open for Partners/Friends Also included here is a link to the Registration Page. <https://www.u3auckland.net>*

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**The Papakura and District Historical Society** are holding one hour TALKS in the Papakura Museum during this year.

**Saturday 8 July, 1pm.** Dr Iain Wakefield will speak about 'General Sir Duncan Cameron's story 1808 - 88'

**Wednesday 6 September, 6.30pm** - Terry Carson will speak about 'Law and Disorder in early South Auckland'

**Saturday 4 November, 1pm** - Alan Knowles, Curator of Papakura Museum will speak about 'Papakura's Stronghold, the Story of Rings Redoubt'

NO cost but you are asked to register your attendance by phoning the Museum (09) 298 2003 for seating purposes.

EDEN GARDENS 28 Omana Ave, Mt Eden. Open 10am - 4pm.

**ANNUAL TULIP FESTIVAL 26 & 27 August.**

JULY 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Memoirs Group meeting	18 Club meeting Speaker - Terry Carson "The English Longbow"	19	20 International News Group	21 Music Appreciation Group	22
23	24 Committee meeting	25	26	27 Book Group meeting	28	29 u3a Network event
30	31					