

# PAPAKURA U3A NEWSLETTER JUNE 2024

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## **Sandy's Space**

"Meetings"

We always want them to run smoothly but this month we had a little hiccup. Our computer was not compatible with that of our speaker's. Not to worry, we contacted a very kind colleague of one of our members to bring one in that was known to be compatible. As we did not know how long this could take, we decided to change the format of the meeting and have our 10-minute speaker first and then morning tea.

Our 10-minute speaker Linnhe Eagleton spoke about her mother's family, the Hamiltons, who had settled on the Awhitu Peninsula in the 1860s. Linnhe spoke about the Hamilton family community, who were always ready to help each other when needed. Maybe in the future Linnhe will talk of her father's family.

As soon as the computer arrived Helen introduced our speaker, Tim Young. He described Pitcairn Island as a big rock in the middle of the ocean. Tim had been living on Pitcairn Island from the age of 2 months till he was 15 years old, when the population at that time was approximately 60. He is a descendant of one of the original Bounty families. The experiences and photos he shared with us were enlightening and his presentation was truly entertaining. At the end of his presentation Joy thanked him on behalf of u3a.

Looking forward to our next meeting on 18th June at 10am.

"Be Yourself"

## **JUNE Meeting**

**Tuesday** 18th June, St John's Hall, Ray Small Drive, Papakura.

**Speaker:** **Jan Alldritt-Miller** - Jan will talk about her life, growing up in Auckland and her Art journey.\*\*

**Introducer:** Helen Higgott

**Thanker:** Joy Bowyer

**Greeters:** Bev Dunn, Helen Higgott, Joy Bowyer

**Tea Roster:** Judy Connell, Sue Hudson, Linda Wallace

**10-minute speaker:** Wendy Deeming

\*\* Jan will bring some paintings, giclees (digital prints intended as fine art and produced by inkjet printers) and canvases to show. She will also have some

packets of cards for sale. They are \$10 each but **CASH** is required as she does NOT have eftpos.

### 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.

#### **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. All are welcome to our meetings at the Drury Library

#### **Film Appreciation Group**

Coordinator Rod Baldwin Ph: 298 3842 or email:

[rodneymbaldwin@hotmail.com](mailto:rodneymbaldwin@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.

**My suggestion for the June movie** is Joika, based on the true story of Joy Womack, who as a 15 year old ballet dancer from Texas, moves to Moscow to train at the notoriously tough Bolshoi Ballet Academy, and pushes herself to her absolute limits in her pursuit of becoming a Prima Ballerina.

Rod Baldwin

**Review:** The movie, Golda: Set in the context of an interview of the aged Prime Minister of Israel, Golda Meir (Helen Mirren), by a Court of Enquiry into her role in the 1973 "Yom Kippur" War, this movie does not disappoint for portraying the tension borne by Golda in almost every scene. As despite suffering continual sickness as she was from intensive treatment for lymphoma, she led her country through a critical period when under surprise attack by superior Arab forces from Egypt and Syria. Not only did she have to take over the military as well as political leadership as her ex-War Hero Defence Minister, Moshe Dayan, had an apparent nervous breakdown which led to him adopting a defeatist attitude to the conflict. But she also had to confront Henry Kissinger, the US Secretary of State, representing Israel's major ally and weapons supplier, as he tried to insist on her agreeing to a Ceasefire with Egypt at a time when Israel was in a strong position to overwhelm them. She held her ground against both USA and Egypt despite threats of likely Russian interference and was able to negotiate a Ceasefire Treaty in which Egypt for the first-time recognised Israel as a legitimate country, and which remains in place today.

### 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. 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. We would love other members to come and join us. Margaret Gane.

**Next meeting:** Our next meeting will be on Thursday 20th June. Contact Margaret Gane 0221 588064 for further details. As we will be a smaller group for the next 6 months, the two remaining members decided to meet every month at the Pizza Box starting with Thursday 20 June at 10am. We welcome any new members to come along and join us.

**Previous meeting:** 3 members met at Margaret Grant's home earlier in May.

Topics discussed this time round included:-

- benefits of singing in choirs especially if one has struggled with mental health conditions
- the town in Japan that put up a physical barrier so that tourists could not take photos of Mt Fuji
- day visitors into Venice being asked to pay a levy

Margaret Gane

### 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:** June 20th 9.15am Out and About are going to First Scene, a costume warehouse with costumes dating back to early 1900 and for all shows and for hiring. It will be 20th June leaving Hawkins Car park at 9.15 for a 10.30 Tour. Tour is \$10 a head and we need a minimum 10 people. If we have not reached this number of members, people may be able to bring a friend \$5.00 koha for car driver.

**Contact Joy Bowyer 0275007592** to book your place

**Previous meeting:** Te Huia Train Trip on 8th May (Wednesday)

11 of us hopped aboard the train at Papakura, including one partner and one lady who used to belong to U3A. The train was pretty full and we were spread out through the 3-4 carriages. Lovely sunny day and very relaxing trip. Hot coffee and lots of chat and was great meeting other travellers too. Arrived 12.07.

10 of us went into "The Base" shopping centre and found many luncheon choices. Having a wander around, shopping, cuppa, and back to the RotoKauri train station for the 2.16 departure, homeward bound.

One of our group ventured to the opposite side of the Rail station and hopped onto the bus "Orbiter" (using her Bee Card). Two choices on the buses... one goes clockwise on tour and other anti clockwise on tour. Tour time is 1 hr 20 minutes and it tours around the outside edge of Hamilton. (Suggestion: take some lunch with you from home as timing a bit tight for you to pop into "The Base" to purchase something) Also you just

need to check if you're able to eat lunch on the Orbiter bus. Traveller says "Well worth it to see Hamilton"

We each put \$1 in the pot and brought a Lotto ticket, but regrettably no luck but fun dreaming of a win.

### **OUT'N'ABOUT PLANNING MEETING TUESDAY 25 JUNE 1.30 PIZZA BOX**

Please come with ideas for places to go or things to do for the rest of the year. If you are unable to attend but have ideas or suggestions, please let me know.

Looking forward to seeing you then. Helen Higgott Ph 298 1213 or email higgottth@gmail.com

### **WALKING GROUP**

Coordinator Christine Brouwers Christine.j.brouwers@gmail.com 021 100 9656.

Usually meets the first Thursday of the Month. Walks organised by members of the group.

**Next Walk:** On Thursday 6 June we're heading to the developing housing and the Karaka Pines Lifestyle Village in the Aurunga area, with upper reaches of the estuary. This is to the west of Drury and the motorway. The paths are easy and we will follow our noses. Afterwards coffee / lunch at the Red Shed.

Meet at HAWKINS THEATRE CARPARK Time 9.30am

This month Sally Curtis is Coordinator so please contact Sally via email: sally.gerrycurtis@xtra.co.nz or ph: 027 257 0135

**Last walk:** On an inclement morning five members of the group met at the new Park Green subdivision at the end of Park Estate Road. We donned raincoats to walk the flat, well built Loop Path at the edge of the Manukau Estuary.

The Loop Path is an easy level walk with a new Primary School, soon to be opened shops and facilities, parks and a variety of homes including very spacious houses with amazing views across the water.

About half way through the walk the showers turned to rain and the café was not yet serving coffee we returned to our vehicles.

The group plans to return to the Loop Path on a sunny day in spring. Thank you to Christine for organising. Sally Curtis.

### **Writing Your Memoirs.**

Coordinator Gloria Buddle. Contact: Gloria Buddle 092999550 or 0273561220 or [guyfawkes48nz@gmail.com](mailto:guyfawkes48nz@gmail.com).

**Next meeting** Our Memoirs Group would like to invite you to come along and join us at our next meeting at 10am on the 17th June 2024 at Sue Smurthwaite's home. Contact Gloria for further information. A reminder email will be sent out nearer the date.

**Previous meeting:** Memoirs Group on Monday 20th May was held at Margaret Grant's home in Drury. Thank you Margaret, and to the ladies who brought along a plate for our (as always) lovely morning tea. 99% attendance today and we welcomed Linthe Eagleton to our group.

**Two different topics** by our first speaker, both items brought memories back for many. One being a letter from a Milk Vendor with new milk prices and products (orange

juice, etc.), and the new use of "tokens" to be purchased from them or the local dairy. The second topic was visiting the Museum in Dunedin and the items there. But special mention of being able to type in an ancestor's name And getting all information in a few minutes, plus other facts of those adventurous travelers who crossed the sea and said goodbye to their families, sometimes never to be seen again.

**The continuing story** of Exercise and Weight Loss, dreams and adventures...with lots of laughs. But the same speaker also told of entering a competition for Whitakers Chocolate, 2024 "Win a Pantry of Chocolate"..... (we wait to hear the news and maybe share the bounty) YEAH RIGHT.

**Then, of being a grandmother** and the miles between her and her only grandson but, thanks to technology, being able to speak and see him online. Of only being able to visit each other every 5 or 6 years. Nanas usually live close by to babysit and cuddle them... never taking sides of course against their mum and dad...but a keeper of secrets, I bet.

**Next we were at the Ardmore Teachers Training College** in 1956. Of getting the ferry from Auckland to Castor Bay (before the Harbour Bridge was built). And then the dances attended - fun getting dressed up, stiff petticoats and heels... and then meeting THE dance partner who was to become her husband - the last dance lasted forever.

**A common problem - technology...** both landline and mobile phone, also computer modems. Seeking help and no internet for 3 days... requiring a new modem then phone did not go. The phone was fixed and now the printing was not going. You don't realize how much we use these items, especially when the person trying to help does not have English as their first language.

**Off to Auckland Library** and working there with the plan to save for their BIG O E to England. But with a mum and dad who insisted on a return ticket to be purchased before setting off, along with enough money to provide accommodation etc.while overseas. Finally got there a bit later than friends whose parents didn't request the return trip, etc., to be covered before leaving the nest.

**Another OE story**, but of two young girls who became Pen Friends through the girl's comics of the day, (Princess, etc.). Travelling to England to meet up after many years and sharing many stories. Great friends still and they have both travelled to each other's countries a few times. The last trip was with her sister, her husband and a son-in-law... and they enjoyed a bus tour around Scotland too.

**Off to Canada** and arriving at airport and the car being automatic, so a quick lesson and then off the speaker and her sister went. Many cousins were pleasantly surprised by the knock on the door and a visit from family from the other side of the world.

**Wow! Another Canadian traveler** of a golf club in winter - of skiing & cross-country skiing and ice skating on a private pond on private land. Then visiting the Olympic Games venue and seeing where all the medals would be won or lost. Hearing about a "Blitz Party", and getting up for work the next day which was a painfully long day for some.

**Of our traveler to India** and hearing about her visits to areas where she, her sister and parents lived and worked. Of Mother being a young bride, with no other English-speaking neighbours around. The roads (in 2023) were still packed dirt, narrow and with many potholes. Luckily the speaker was not driving on this trip. But interesting how

Google and Facebook were able to help her find the areas she was searching for so they (her own children) could walk down Memory Lane.

Wishing Margaret all the best as she is escaping the NZ Winter - so we all look forward to more of her adventures in Scotland.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

AGE CONCERN courses in June 2024 - Call Alana Marck

Please see below details about upcoming courses being held at the Red Hill Community Centre or Nathan Homestead in Manurewa.

A light morning tea will be provided for all courses. There are limited spaces available, so get in quick!

**Registration is essential** for all courses. Please register by calling 09 820 0184 or emailing [alanam@ageconak.org.nz](mailto:alanam@ageconak.org.nz)

**All about Funerals:** This seminar is designed to empower and educate about the practical and legal issues that need to be considered when a bereavement occurs. Learn from our expert guest speaker all about planning for a Funeral and all the options and choices that are available in Auckland.

Date: Monday 10th June

Time: 10.30am - 12pm

Venue: Red Hill Community Centre, 163 Dominion Road, Red Hill

**Technology for Seniors:** This workshop provides you the opportunity to get individual tuition on your devices (e.g. mobile phones, tablets and laptops) with a volunteer tutor. Learn at your pace and find out how to do the things you want to use your device for (e.g. emails, internet, apps, etc.). Please bring your device fully charged and instruction booklets if possible. This session is supported by ANZ. Date: Wednesday 5th June

Time: 1.15pm - 3.45pm

Venue: Nathan Homestead, 70 Hill Road, Manurewa

## LOCAL FREE FITNESS OPPORTUNITIES

### TAI CHI

Sessions are held at Papakura Central Park every Sat and Sun morning from 10 - 11.30.

These are organised by the Auckland Southern District Chinese Assoc Contact: [asdca@yahoo.com](mailto:asdca@yahoo.com)

### YOGA

Regular sessions are held at the Papakura Library. Next one Sat 15 June 10.45- 12.30

Contact Papakura Library 09 377 0209

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

TO REGISTER GO TO THE NETWORK WEBSITE - [u3aauckland.net](http://u3aauckland.net)



**u3a Auckland Network** welcomes you to a day of celebration

Salvation Army Church, 18 Allright Place, Mt Wellington  
Saturday 27 July 2024 - 9:30am (for 10:00am) to 2:30pm

### Speakers:

**Morning:** [Distinguished Professor Emeritus Paul Spoonley MA MSc PhD FRSNZ](#)

"The supersizing and superdiversity of Auckland:  
how Auckland will change over coming decades."

**Afternoon:** [Sir Ashley Bloomfield KNZM](#)

"Public trust in New Zealand: where we are at, and how do we  
strengthen public trust to build social capital and social cohesion?"

Also included are four presentations by u3a Members and lunch - \$45.00

JUNE 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Walking Group	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Memoirs Group	18 Monthly meeting	19	20 International News Group  Out'n' About Group	21	22
23	24 Committee meeting	25	26	27 Book Group	28	29
30						