

PAPAKURA U3A NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024

PRESIDENT: Sandy Bensemann sandy_nz@xtra.co.nz or 0210543421

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Carol Hickman - carolhickman@gmail.com

Website: papakurau3a.wixsite.com/papakurau3a

ASB bank account 12-3031-0213766-01

Sandy's Space

A New Year a new President for Papakura U3A. My name is Sandy Bensemann. I have been a member since 2020 so can no longer say I am a newbie. I felt very honored and proud that the committee members had confidence in putting my name forward for the roll.

May we all be aware of our fellow members health and well-being:

MEMORIAL JUDITH HUNT

We are sorry to report that a dear member, Judith Hunt, passed away in December. Judith had been a long time member and condolences have been expressed to the family.

FEBRUARY 2024 Meeting

Tuesday 20th February at 10am, St John's Hall, Ray Small Drive, Papakura.

Speaker: Dr. Julian Paton, Centre for Heart Research, AK University

Introducer: Sandy Bensemann

Thanker: Sue Smurthwaite

Greeters: Bev Dunn, Helen Higgott, Joy Bowyer

Tea Roster: Dena Gilmore, Ans Bloem, Sue Rainsford

10-minute speaker: tba

JANUARY 2024 meeting

Papakura U3A January lunch at the Ardmore Cafe was attended by 19 members. The weather was warm and sunny, members were seated at a long table on the deck to enjoy a delicious lunch and a couple of hours of companionship and laughter.

U3A lapel pins for sale \$5.00 each. Available at each meeting - see our Treasurer, Lynette.



ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS - \$30

Members are gently reminded that annual subscriptions are now due and may be paid to our Treasurer, Lynette McInnes, at our monthly meeting or online to the club's bank account, whose number is at the top of the page. We are keeping it at \$30, which is a bargain when you consider the interesting speakers we manage to get for you. Not forgetting that the morning tea is included in the price. Thank you in advance.

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 4th 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

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

There will be no films screened at Hawkins Theatre between Christmas Day and Waitangi Day in February. If you crave a "movie fix" in January I suggest you seek out "One Life", screening at your local cinema. "One Life", starring Sir Anthony Hopkins and Helen Bonham Carter, is the true story of a British man, Nicholas Winton, who helped save hundreds of Central European Jewish children from death at the hands of the Nazis on the eve of World War II.

My suggestion for a film in December had been "Napoleon" .

"Napoleon" proved to be the spectacular to be expected from a Ridley Scott

production, with epic battle scenes representing Napoleon's Toulon, Austerlitz, Borodino, and Waterloo battles. However the main themes of the movie did not relate to Napoleon's militaristic endeavours, but rather to his personal life, with his relationships with his mother and his brother, but more importantly, his complex relationship with Josephine, initially as his mistress, and then his wife and Empress. Josephine was a widow who was older than Napoleon, with two children from her first marriage, and proved unable to produce the heir he so desperately wanted. This led to Napoleon divorcing her to marry an Austrian princess who did produce the heir he desired. However he remained in love with Josephine until her death from diphtheria at the early age of 50. Rod.

International News Group

Coordinator Dena Gilmore 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. Dena and I are continuing to meet at the Pizza Box, Papakura on the 3rd Thursday of each month. We would love other members to come and join us. 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.

Planning Meeting on Thursday 1st February at 1pm at the Pizza Box, Papakura. Please come with ideas for activities for the first half of the year. If unable to attend, but have some ideas, please email Helen Higgott higgotth@gmail.com or phone 09 298-1213. I am looking forward to an interesting year !!elen.

Walking Group

Coordinator Varda Swery 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 meeting: This month walk is Westhaven loop walk

Date: 8 February Distance: 7.8km

Time needed: 1 hour 45 minutes to complete the full loop

Walking past luxury boats, views out to the harbour bridge, walking along Auckland's waterfront, passing the Silo Marina, St Marys Bay, walking under the Harbour Bridge to Point Erin Park and back.

We will be taking the train to Britomart. From Papakura at 9:06 am, from Takanini at 9:10am. **Please bring a hat and a water bottle.**

Writing Your Memoirs.

Coordinator Gloria Buddle. Contact: Gloria Buddle 092999550 or 0273561220 or guyfawkes48nz@gmail.com.

Next meeting Monday 19th February

The 3 x R's.... Remember, Record and Right - sorry pun intended... Write

We are meeting at Helen Higgott's home on Monday 19th at 10am. We welcome your visit so please come and meet an amazing group who have even more amazing stories. You will be surprised at the memories you will be reminded about and these will prompt you to record for yourself and your family. Enjoy a cuppa and relax with us.

Contact me to find out more Gloria Buddle: 09 2999550, 027 356 1220 or guyfawkes48nz@gmail.com

AUCKLAND u3a NETWORK WEBSITE (Established this year)

Developed and Managed by our Network Committee FOR Network Groups
u3auckland.net

This is an invitation to go into the site and have a look at it!

Click on 'Papakura u3a' and view the details of our group as it stands at present.

While you are on the site, click on other u3a groups in the Network and see what their website looks like!

If you like certain features of a group's website, let our own committee know!

This sort of feedback could be very helpful for the updating and 'refreshing' of our own website.

Margaret (Secretary, Auckland u3a Network Committee)

NETWORK REPRESENTATIVE FROM PAPAURA u3a

As many of you know, Helen Higgott has been our group's representative at the Network meetings. Helen won't be in this role forever so she is looking for another member to come with her to the meetings this year.

Network meetings are held in March, July and October on the first Friday in these months, 10am at St Chads Church in Meadowbank. They are a great way to get to know the reps from other groups, share ideas and come away inspired about the whole u3a movement in Auckland.

Please indicate your interest to Helen (298 1213) or Margaret (022 158 8064) as soon as possible. We would love to hear from you.

Margaret Gane

AUCKLAND u3a NETWORK EVENT - Saturday 27 JULY '24

SPEAKER SUGGESTIONS please.

If you have a suitable speaker in mind, please let Margaret Gane know!
(margaretjgane@gmail.com)

We are collating a list of potential speakers soon and would love to receive any names asap!

Look forward to hearing back from you!

COMMUNITY NOTICES

WORLD CHOIR GAMES 2024

Volunteers are being sought for this world scale event which is being held in Auckland for the first time 10 - 20 July 2024. This event has been likened to the Olympics for choral music. Assistance is needed for a range of duties from meeting and greeting choirs to carrying flags at the opening and closing ceremonies or helping backstage at a number of venues.

For more information about the event contact www.wcg2024.co.nz To express interest to volunteer contact <https://forms.office.com/r/MfRvEH01rB> or contact Helen Higgott higgotth@gmail.com and I will forward the large file. The email has been sent by Matt Doherty 022 075 3474 or MatthewDoherty@wcg2024.co.nz

HOLDING GROUND - AUCKLAND BOTANIC GARDENS VISITORS CENTRE

From 18 November until March 3 there is an indoor exhibition of sculptural work. It is worth a visit.

| FEBRUARY 2024 | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------|---------|-----------|--------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | | 1 Out'n'About Planning meeting | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Walking group | 9 | 10 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|--------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|----|----|
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 International News Group | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 Memoirs Group | 20 Monthly meeting | 21 | 22 Book group | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 Committee meeting | 27 | 28 | 29 | | |