

PAPAKURA U3A NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2024

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Sandy's Space

This month there was no Wendy to help set up the projector etc for the speaker. Wendy delegated Rod and I to take on this responsibility. Of course, as you must admit we did a fairly good job. Only a slight hiccup with the microphone.

Our speaker this month was Alan Knowles, Curator of Papakura Museum. Alan spoke about "The Disappearance of the Aotearoa." The Aotearoa was a Ryan B-1 Brougham aeroplane that left Sydney on the 11th January 1928 to fly across the Tasman, bound for the Trentham Racecourse, in Wellington. The pilots were Lieutenant John Moncrieff and Captain George Hood. These pilots had served in World War 1 so were very experienced. This flight was to be the 1st attempt to fly across the Tasman. Unfortunately, the plane and pilots did not arrive safely. Air, sea and land searches were carried out but they could not be found. To this day it has been a mystery as to why. Could it have been mechanical, fatigue, drifting off

course. Maybe one day there will have an answer. Thank you, Alan, for sharing this aviation history.

Due to a variety of reasons, we did not have a 10-minute speaker. Do not worry, they will be back 2025. Always great to see a relaxed atmosphere as we share time with each other at morning tea.

Be Yourself Always.

NOVEMBER Meeting

Tuesday 19th November at John's Hall, Ray Small Drive, Papakura.

10am: AGM - followed by the entertainment - Papakura Ukelele Club at approx 10:30am. We will have our special morning tea after that.

Greeters: Bev Dunn, Helen Higgott, Joy Bowyer

Tea Roster: Mary Haliday, Bev Risetto, Kathi Sharan - [please contact Joy Bowyer if any problems 027 500 75025](#)

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. Why not try something new this month?

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.

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.

My suggestion for the November film is "Lee", showing at the Hawkins Theatre: 1 & 13 November at 7:30pm 6 & 12 November at 12:30pm
11 November at 10am

"Oscar winner Kate Winslet stars in this fascinating portrait of photographer Elizabeth "Lee" Miller, a fashion model who became an acclaimed war correspondent for Vogue magazine during World War 11."

Rod Baldwin

Review: Having watched the film, Thelma, I remain pleased that I suggested it for our October movie, despite it being not as fast moving, and less humorous throughout, than I had hoped. Watching it, proved to be a pleasantly entertaining experience, with snatches of pathos, and then being suddenly punctuated by sidesplittingly funny, if often ridiculous, incidents.

Overall, a light, but very entertaining, way to spend a wet afternoon inside.

Rod Baldwin

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. Margaret Gane.

Previous meeting: The International News Group met at the Pizza Box on Thursday 17 October. There were 4 members in attendance. We had an interesting hour and a half discussing the following news articles:

- The recent finding of the partial remains of British climber Andrew 'Sandy' Irvine atop Mt Everest which has raised speculation as to whether Sandy Irvine and George Mallory were the first mountaineers to conquer Mt Everest in June 1924.
- Ukraine's 'Witches of Bucha' - the all-female unit shooting down Russian drones.
- Revived "panda diplomacy" between Washington and Beijing. A pair of pandas from China arrived at the Smithsonian's National Zoo in Washington after an 11-month absence of pandas residing at the zoo.
- Investigation of supermarket chains Coles and Woolworths by the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) after significant concerns raised by consumers and suppliers.
- Lufthansa to pay largest-ever US penalty for civil rights violations.
- Recent rain has turned the Sahara Desert green.

This was the final meeting of the International News Group for 2024.

Next meeting: Thursday 20 February 2025 (venue to be advised). We welcome any members who would like to join us.

Wendy Gibson

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: A trip with Out'n>About group is being arranged for 20th November, leaving 9.30 am from Hawkins Theatre car park and going to see a suburban garden in Sandringham.

Ellen is the owner of this garden which has every type of fruit and vegetable that can be grown in N Z and some. There are chickens and bee hives. Ellen is registered to sell her honey, if you want to buy some. She has been in the Consumer Magazine recently and N Z Gardener. Her Garden is 20 years in the making. A \$5 Koha is suggested for her and this is given to a Charity of her choice, and \$5 to the driver of the car you share. For more information and to put your name on the list you can ring Joy Bowyer on 0275007592. A sheet will be available at our November meeting as well.

Previous meeting Finally, on 22nd October, after much chopping and changing of arrangements and dates, four of us from the Out'n>About Group enjoyed a conducted tour of the Anglican Holy Trinity Cathedral and associated St Marys Parish Church in Parnell. Bishop Selwyn in 1841 bought the land on which the cathedral stands, specifically as the location of future cathedral, which was eventually built in stages in the 20th and 21st centuries. In 1982 St Marys Church was moved in one piece from across Parnell Road to join the cathedral to form what is today's "Cathedral Precinct".

Our Tour Guide explained the background to, and meaning of, the beautiful stained glass windows which adorn the cathedral and church, and the history of the cathedral's organ and many of its treasured artefacts.

Overall, a very interesting and worthwhile visit. It is a pity there were only four of us there to enjoy it, down from the nine who originally stated their intention to come.

Rod Baldwin

WALKING GROUP

Coordinator Varda Swery (varda.swery@gmail.com, 021-1827190)

Walks organised by members of the group. **PLEASE NOTE, we have changed the day for walks to the second Wednesday of the month (except for this November walk).**

Next Walk: The November Walk will take place on Tuesday 12th November. The walk will be to Le-Roys-Bush-loop.

Le Roys Bush follows a stream downhill to the restored wetlands of Little Shoal Bay, Northcote (which was once a tidal estuary filled with mangroves).

Walk time: 1 hour

Distance: about 5.0 kms

Parking: Little Shoal Bay Reserve

Highlights: Native bush, waterfall, wetlands, views across Auckland Harbour, native birds.
FREE Map: Download your FREE map of this walk and for more information:
<https://www.freewalks.nz/le-roys-bush-loop/>

Meet at Hawkins Theatre carpark at 9:30. Please bring a hat, water bottle and \$5 for the shared drive.

Please let me know (varda.swery@gmail.com or 021-1827190) if you are coming or have any questions. Thanks, Varda.

Previous walk was cancelled

WRITING YOUR MEMOIRS

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

Next meeting: The next meeting of the memoirs group is on the 18th November at Iris's home. Contact Gloria for further information, 09 2999550 or 027 356 1220.

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 A4 pages. Sometimes a photo or memento is shared, but for most the stories are being written with their families in mind, and it is hoped these memoirs will be treasured in years to come.

Previous meeting: Thank you, Helen, for opening your home to our group and thanks, also, to all who provided snacks for our morning tea. 6 people attended this month. It's fascinating to be privileged to hear about the life experiences of others. This time we heard about:

School days spent in an army barracks in Egypt. Going to the beach guarded by soldiers from the camp. Collecting empty bottles from behind the NAAFI and selling them in order to buy bottles of 7Up.

A country and western cruise in New Zealand waters. Not a lot of dancing due to bad weather but plenty of other enjoyable entertainment.

How the places we lived shaped us as we grew. In this case, the place was Thames and we heard about its history and the history of the family. With quotes from Eyore and Dr Seuss.

Holidays in New Zealand in the 1950s. Travelling around in a small cramped car and sleeping in tents or in the car. On one occasion sleeping in the cells of a former prison.

Accompanying the Ambassador to Vietnam to present his credentials to the Vietnamese government. Seeing evidence of the recent war. Dealing with Vietnamese bureaucracy. Averting a diplomatic incident.

Another story of flatting in London in the 1970s. Including shocking the neighbours by sunbathing on the roof in bikinis and an appearance in the County Court when the landlord wanted to evict his tenants.

Gloria... 09 2999550 or 027 356 1220. Phone me, if you would like more information about joining our group.

Just in case any of our u3a members are interested and possibly thinking of attending.

2025 Lifelong Learning Summer School at Girton College, University of Cambridge, UK

The dates for next summer's two-week programme will be 17 -30 August 2025, though as previously it will also be possible to attend for just one week (either 17-23 August, or 24-30 August 2025). All the information on the 2025 summer school can be found on our website at: <https://www.girton.cam.ac.uk/lifelong-learning>, where you'll also find our new lifelong learning summer school video!

COMMUNITY NOTICES

u3a Papakura - we are having a table at the "Positively Aging Expo" being held on 14 November in the foyer of the Papakura Library from 11am-2pm.

Age Concern Auckland

Home Safe Home

Sadly, every year people lose their lives in house fires, however there are simple actions you can take to prevent a fire in your home, ensure you have early warning of a fire and a plan of how to escape quickly. Join us to learn more about fire safety and how to be fire safe in your home, including information and advice about specialised smoke alarm alerting equipment that is available for those who are Deaf or hard of hearing, and other hearing support available through Your Way | Kia Roha.

Date: Tuesday 5th November **Time:** 10.30am - 12pm

Venue: Age Concern Auckland, 250 Puhinui Road, Papatoetoe

Registration is essential. Please email me on : alanam@ageconak.org.nz or call 09 820 0184 if you wish to register. Please include your name and phone number in the email.

Please note, I will be on leave from Wednesday 23rd October and returning on Wednesday 30th October so if you email during this time, I will not reply till I am back. If you call 09 820 0184, you will go through to our office, who will be able to register you for the seminar.

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

YOGA

Regular sessions are held at the Papakura Library.
Contact Papakura Library 09 377 0209

NOVEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Walking Group	13	14	15	16
17	18 Memoirs Group	19 Monthly meeting. AGM, entertainment plus special morning tea	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Book Group Drury library	29	30