

PAPAKURA U3A NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2024

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Sandy's Space

It was really nice to see so many members attending the meeting even though the weather was not the best. It always makes me feel good when I see members who may arrive a little early helping us to put out the chairs and return them at the end. Some of us are not as agile as we use to be so it is so nice when we get help.

Our speaker this month was Willie Iosia from Bluelight. Willie began his presentation sharing his family background, followed by a power point on the work carried out by Bluelight since it began 40 years ago. They work hand in hand with the police so are able to build a positive relationship with the youth and police. They have a variety of programs available to build their confidence, self-belief, self-worth, life and leadership skills. There are 79 branches nationwide, all are standalone, each catering for needs relevant to their areas. Their Mission is "Empowering young people nationwide to be better New Zealanders through quality experiences".

Our 10-minute speaker was Christine Brouwers who spoke about the time that was spent in Borneo with her husband. So interesting to hear the different aspects of her time there. She shared with us the experience of having an Amah to help her with the running of the household. Christine had bought along examples of handiwork that had been made by her Amah. Thank you for sharing, Christine.

As always, looking forward to our speaker in October.

OCTOBER Meeting

Tuesday 15th October St John's Hall, Ray Small Drive, Papakura.

Speaker: Alan Knowles - The Disappearance of the Aotearoa. This is the story of the first attempt to fly across the Tasman

Introducer: Helen Higgott

Thanker: Sally Curtis

Greeters: Bev Dunn, Helen Higgott, Joy Bowyer

Tea Roster: Micky Norton, Bev Risetto, Elizabeth Stevenson - [please contact Joy Bowyer if any problems 027 500 75025](#)

10-minute speaker: Barbara Hadfield

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 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.

Review: The recommended film, "Midas Man" proved to be a dramatic presentation of the brief life of Brian Epstein, who in the 60s sold the "Mersey Sound" to the world, very successfully promoting the careers of the Beatles and Cilla Black as international superstars. However behind the scenes of his great success as a promoter, Epstein's homosexual and drugtaking lifestyle haunted him, and eventually led to his death from a drug overdose at the young age of 32. Overall, a worthwhile watch. 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.

Next meeting: Our next meeting is Thursday 17 October at the Pizza Box, Papakura. We would love to have more members!

OUT 'N' ABOUT GROUP

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

Next meeting: I have arranged for an "Out'n>About" visit to the Anglican Holy Trinity Cathedral for **Tuesday 22 October**. This is a change from the erroneous date of 22 November published in the last newsletter. A koha of \$5/person is requested.

We will be travelling by private car, departing the Hawkins Theatre carpark at 9:30am for a 10:15 am tour. Please pay your car driver \$5.

If you wish to do on this trip and did not complete the Registration Form at the 17th September meeting **please email me at rgbcgb71@gmail.com**.

Rod Baldwin

Previous meeting A small group of Out'n>About members spent a morning at Eden Gardens a couple of days after the Tulip Festival. The tulips were planted in groups throughout the Gardens displaying a myriad of colours, petal shapes and sizes. We strolled the many paths, admiring the numerous shrubs and trees, especially the giant bird of paradise plant. We puffed up the path to the top of the crater where we could catch our breath in the clear unpolluted air whilst admiring the stunning views. Thanks to Joy for driving home via the Cornwall Park café. An enjoyable day out in a beautiful garden. Sally Curtis.

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.**

Next Walk: The October Walk will take place on Wednesday 9th of October. 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 Wednesday 11th September. Wednesday dawned a beautiful clear, sunny day but with quite a fresh breeze to remind us that winter hadn't completely slipped into the background. So, five eager walkers, complete with hats and jackets, met in Harbourside and made our way along the path to Karaka's newest subdivision, "Pararekau Island". It has a very impressive gated vehicle entrance, accessible only by a secure code, however, the pedestrian gate is open, and I understand will remain so always for foot traffic. The island itself is owned by the Ross family who, with dedication and care, are developing it into a beautiful housing subdivision.



On arrival at the Island the concrete path took us through a stand of original native bush and very large Wilding pines before emerging into the open space of the Island to begin our circumnavigation of the entire Island. We chose the South facing side, looking back towards Harbourside first, which was very sheltered and warm. The North facing side is open to the harbour but also the view and the sun. I'm sure when summer comes it will be a fabulous place to have a home. The massive amount of planting and landscaping that has so far been completed is extensive and very impressive. Street signage is all in place and already it appears that 2 houses are underway.

On arrival back at the information office we noted from the site map that a large number of sections have already been sold. While there, looking at the map and discussing relevant points, a member of the Ross family stopped to speak to us and was very happy to answer our many questions of interest. Possibly hoped we were prospective buyers. Sally suggested we might just make the asking price for a section if we 5 all we pooled our resources!

This is the kind of enjoyable walk that a brisk /fit person could complete in 20 minutes, but we like to stop, look and discuss before moving on so we probably took close to an hour of enjoyable strolling. We are eagerly waiting to see if a "café" for our inevitable morning coffee and discussion, is to be added to the development. Might be our next question to the Ross family on our return visit. Regardless, it will be interesting to repeat this walk just to view the progress.

Sue Hudson



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 21st October at Helen'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: Our group of 9 enjoyed another of our wonderful get togethers, this time hosted by Gloria. Lots of chat over a cuppa ,and this was followed by reminiscences from around the globe and of course reflections on New Zealand life also. We have such interesting stories to listen to, it is very difficult to make our report short!

We have a poet in our midst and it was very special to have her read to us some of the poems she had written during her life, touching on sad and difficult times and reflecting on pain, grief, hurt and the courage to get through.

Belonging to a Genealogy Group and explained how newsletters from around New Zealand can help in hunting for relatives. Photos published can surprise one and show her grandfather in a harmonica/banjo/ukulele band or show a long swing bridge (one yeh at a time) that was walked over as a child.

Countries visited this month were: England - sadly starting school post war; Andy Pandy, Bill and Ben the Flowerpot men on early TV.

To Cairo - First time flying - Mum prepared with hammer, screwdriver, etc., "in case anything needed fixing en route"

Thailand - stationed at the Embassy, driving from Bangkok to Chiang Mai for a holiday break with cigarettes ready to bribe their way out of trouble. Elephant rides, river boats.

To Nepal - flying into Pokhara with meal trolleys flying down the aisle on landing abruptly. Viewing Mt Everest from the flight deck of the scenic flight.

London - flatting dramas with creepy landlords and old, cold houses where you put coins in the meter for your hot water. Exploring the city with friends.

Hawaii - 2-week solo holiday doing all the tourist bus tours, visiting the Big Island, Pearl Harbour. Plus, a lot of people watching and shopping in the huge malls.

St Petersburg - More amazingly renovated palaces and churches in myriad colours and much gold. The Amber Room restored with post war money from Germany. Stolen cameras and hairy "taxi" rides to the airport.

New Zealand was covered with a description of mustering and shearing on a back country farm. Working as the "fleeco" in the shed with lots of home baking by Mum for morning and afternoon teas.

Orewa -Visiting "The Bach" over the summer holidays; getting the car ferry (no harbour bridge built yet) over the Waitemata Harbour and trips to Auckland to get a taste of city life.

Gloria... 09 2999550 or 027 356 1220. Phone me if you would like more information re 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

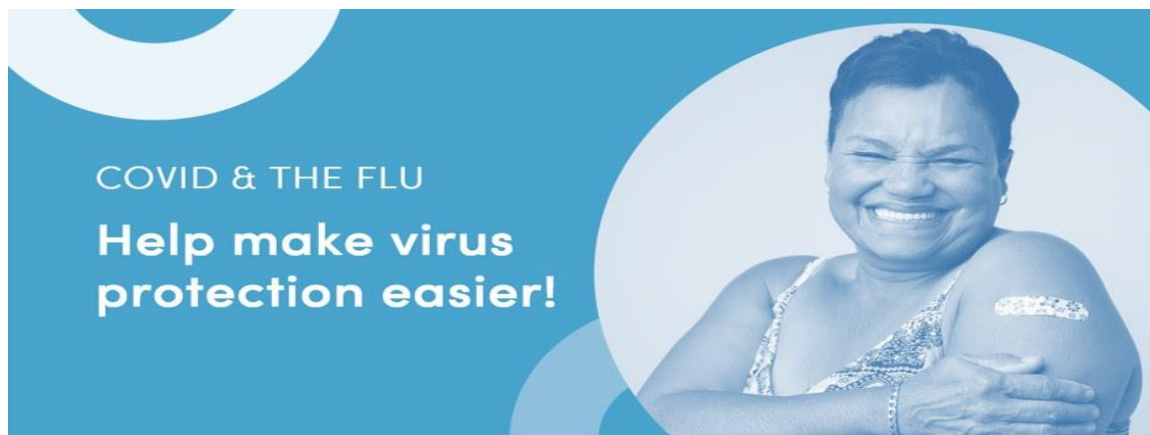
LOCAL FREE FITNESS OPPORTUNITIES

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



Are you or someone you know aged 65 or older?

Help us to develop a 2-in-1 COVID-19 and Flu vaccine to make virus protection simpler and easier for our loved ones and communities.

Who can take part

Aucklanders aged 65 or over are invited to join our study researching a COVID/Flu combination vaccine, given in a single dose. This study vaccine is not yet available from your GP or local pharmacy.

More information:

Eligible participants get study-related medical care and advice from our doctors and research team.

Volunteers will be reimbursed up to \$945 NZD stipend (before tax) for participating in this study.

We can arrange taxis if required. We offer free parking at our clinics, and flexible appointment times for our volunteers.

Vaccine research helps others. You can support your community to be ready against new strains of COVID or Flu by helping research a new combination vaccine. To register your interest, please EMAIL us. **Please use the electronic version on the attached flyer to start the email connection**

Alternatively you can call us on 0800 73 73 27.

OCTOBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Waking Group	10	11	12
13	14	15 Monthly meeting. Speaker - Alan Knowles : The Disappearance of the Aotearoa.	16	17 International News Group	18	19
20	21 Memoirs Group Committee meeting	22	23	24 Book Group Drury library	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		