

# Kapiti Coast U3A -Newsletter



March 2021

## From your President

The 28<sup>th</sup> AGM has been and gone. There is a report on the AGM elsewhere in the Newsletter. It was well attended with 62 people though the number is dwindling over the years. Interesting to note that U3A attracted 150 to 200 members to its AGM between 2006 and 2010. I don't think U3A is significantly smaller than it was 10 years ago. Currently it may be due to the difficult (Covid) times we are in.

AGMs are the cornerstone on which an organisation is built. The AGM is a good time for the committee to report back to its members about what has happened during the year and hopefully inspire people to volunteer on the committee and help with the direction of Kapiti U3A.



We have around 25 people who organise and lead Interest Groups – without which there would be no U3A so a big “thank you” is extended to these people. The challenge is there for those of you who have joined us recently to share some of your newer ideas with us and thereby make U3A even better.

The present committee is a very pleasant group to work with. We all chip in, do our bit and get along well with each other. Meetings are smooth and we are even thinking about meeting in a Café instead of a house.

If you have joined us in the last couple of years and could contribute to helping keep U3A an energetic and alive organisation please make yourself known to a committee member.

## From Your Committee

Your committee met on Friday 26 February and as required by the Rules elected the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer for the next 12 months. The list of who is who for 2021 is elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Despite being a group of 5, we are focused on encouraging more interest groups to our repertoire and to promote the feeling of belonging amongst our members.

## Xmas Party

The Xmas Party serves the dual function of enabling us to say Thank You to our Group Leaders and providing a social occasion.

Even though we have about 25 Group Leaders/Convenors to whom we said “thank you”, it was not well attended as it has been in the past. Consequently, we are investigating other ways of saying “thank you” to these leaders. This is just one of the areas in which we would love to have a fresh approach.

The committee will look at different options during the course of the year. Your feedback is welcome.

## Facebook

The committee has decided to trial a Facebook Group to improve our communications with our members. This will not replace the Newsletter but we recognise that the Newsletter is not frequent and from time to time, U3A becomes aware of general information which might be of wider interest to our membership. If the news was significant then we would email / post the information but we do not want to be using bulk emails too often and posting is expensive. Facebook MIGHT fill a gap.

The group will be PRIVATE – that means that only members of the group can see the posts to the group and only members can post news items to the group.

To be a member of this group you need to go to the Group page and click on Join Group button. We will then check that you are a current member of U3A before approving your membership

You can find the group by being logged into your own Facebook account and then click on the GROUPS icon towards the right hand side at the top. Then search for Kapiti U3A.

Once you have found the Group you can click on the JOIN button and this will generate a request to Kapiti U3A.



*"Grandma and Grandpa are giving you their computer. They say they've barely used it in the last 20 years, so it's like brand new. Happy Birthday!"*

## Sub Renewals

The new process we introduced for this year's renewals has produced a higher renewal rate than previous years. At the time of writing there are less than 50 members to renew and the number of renewals received is 10% ahead of the same time last year. An unforeseen consequence has been a number of members paying their subs twice!

If you have not yet paid then it's not too late! All the details about how to renew are on our website. But please do not pay us if you do not receive a notice by email or post this week!

We will review and refine the process for 2022.

## General Information

### Email to Couples

All newsletters and notices are sent out by email. For those members where we have a unique email address for both partners then both are sent a copy of the email. If you are a "couple" and you each have your own email address but U3A Newsletters are only going to one of you then let our Administrator know ([admin@kapitiu3a.com](mailto:admin@kapitiu3a.com)), so that the other email can be added to our database.

### Kaleidoscope

Not too late to enrol for Term 1. Go to <https://www.kapitiu3a.com/kaleidoscope/enrolment/>

The full list of speakers for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester is on our website at <https://www.kapitiu3a.com/kaleidoscope/speakerlist/>

See below for Kaleidoscope programme.

### AGM Report

The AGM was held on Monday 22 August. 62 members turned up and the meeting went through the business fairly quickly. The Annual Report and Accounts are available on line at <https://www.kapitiu3a.com/archives/annual-reports/> . If you cannot access this page and want to read a copy of these two documents at leisure

please contact our Administrator who will arrange to post you a hard copy. In his Annual Report the President, thanked the work of our committee, the 25 Interest Group Leaders/Convenors and the Kaleidoscope team who continue to ensure Kapiti U3A remains vibrant.

There were no new names for our committee so the same people were re-elected to the committee for a further year. Maureen Robb and Lyndell Fitzgibbon have decided after several years work for U3A to step down. We are always optimistic that someone will put their hand up to offer to join us. There was very little general discussion which suggests that the membership at large is happy with the way U3A is being managed.

The Rule Changes were approved by the AGM. The main effect of these changes is to allow new members who join in the second half of the year will only pay a half sub for the remainder of that year.

### Your 2021 U3A Committee

| Committee                                 | Preferred Contact by   |
|---|--|
| Phil Glasson                              | <a href="mailto:president@kapitiu3a.com">president@kapitiu3a.com</a> |
| Maureen Knox<br><i>Membership matters</i> | <a href="mailto:admin@kapitiu3a.com">admin@kapitiu3a.com</a>         |
| Jackie Johnson                            | 027 4589531  |
| Alison Maysmor                            | 04 297 1058  |
| Belinda Nixon                             | <a href="mailto:treasurer@kapitiu3a.com">treasurer@kapitiu3a.com</a> |
| Julie Pratt                               | 04 293 4634  |



Ms Christine Beach  
 Susan Enoka  
 Mr Bill and Mrs Maureen Evason  
 Paul Goodhead  
 Maureen Kerr  
 Mrs Mary Manderson  
 Mrs Pauline Reid

## New Interest Groups

### Garden Group -Thyme after Thyme

As our two current garden groups are full, we are going to start up a third group. Numbers interested so far are still quite low, however we will set a meetup time in March with the support of some existing garden group members for those interested and utilise visits to garden members' gardens as an initial programme. Please contact: Alison Maysmor for further details.

Phone: 021 034 6472

Email: [alisonmtraveller@gmail.com](mailto:alisonmtraveller@gmail.com)

### Café Coffee Group

This social group will explore all the Kapiti Coast Cafes. It will run weekly on Wednesday mornings at 10am commencing 17<sup>th</sup> March. If you are interested please contact:

Leader: Jackie Johnson

Phone: 027 458 9531

Email: [johnsonjackie602@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonjackie602@gmail.com)

Leader: Alison Maysmor

Phone: 021 034 6472

Email: [alisonmtraveller@gmail.com](mailto:alisonmtraveller@gmail.com)

## Interest Group Updates

### Beach Book Group

This new group is going well with 10 members participating. If you are interested in joining please contact:

Leader Jackie Johnson

Phone: 027 458 9531

Email: [johnsonjackie602@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonjackie602@gmail.com)



Book Club meeting in Waikanae

### **Family Stories and Histories**

This group needs more members to be viable so if you are interested please contact:

Leader: Noeline Wagener

Phone: 04 2125886

Email: [noelinewagener@outlook.com](mailto:noelinewagener@outlook.com)

### **National Trust Gardens of Britain**

There are spaces in this Interest Group. Please contact:

Leader: Anne Wall

Phone: 04 293 5000

Email: [annebelvedere@gmail.com](mailto:annebelvedere@gmail.com)

### **Philosophical Discussion Group**

There are spaces available in this interesting group.

Currently they are looking at the topic of Human Rights. Please contact:

Leader: Pat Belgrave

Phone: 022 302 1006 or 04 212 5606

Email: [pandpbelgrave@outlook.co.nz](mailto:pandpbelgrave@outlook.co.nz)

### **U3A Travel Group**

**Learning the reality of armchair travel!**



Next meeting is 1.30pm Wednesday 31st March, looking at how China has changed over the years.

Three presenters covering visits in 1985, 1993, 2009 and 2017. **Visitors welcome.** Contact leader

Alison Maysmor Ph: 021 034 6472

Email: [alisonmtraveller@gmail.com](mailto:alisonmtraveller@gmail.com)

### **NZ Constitutional Affairs**

This is a new group and the leader, Peter Hodgson, reports that while it has enough members to run there is room for a few more.

Contact: Peter Hodgson Ph: 293 1191 or

[hodgsonsp@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hodgsonsp@xtra.co.nz)

### **Chess Group**

Due to insufficient numbers expressing interest this group will not run at present. It will be promoted again in the middle of the year.

### **How to Start an Interest Group**

You have an idea, a topic, a theme you would like to see U3A run an Interest Group in? Then what do you do? The concept of U3A is one of putting people together who have similar thoughts and then that group of people can form an Interest Group. So, what should you do?

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Think of a name and put together a brief description of what you think the group might do.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Be prepared to have your name identified as a first contact person
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Get in touch with U3A and we will promote your idea via our website and Newsletter

Then if you get a sufficient response from other members you can set up an initial meeting. At this first meeting you can find out how the interested people want the group to run. It's at this first meeting that the Group should decide who will be the Leader and whether to have a Convenor

U3A can help with publicising the idea to the wider membership and if required someone on the committee could help you with hosting the first meeting to get things underway.

### **Support for Interest Groups**

The committee is prepared to support Interest Groups financially if such support is warranted. As a general rule on going costs should be met by participants but the committee may be able to use U3A funds for one off costs. If any Interest Group leader has a specific request please put your request in writing with a brief background and send it to any committee member.

## Kaleidoscope Programme

### **MONDAY, 1 MARCH** *(Cancelled due to Covid)*

9.45am Dr MIKE JOY, Freshwater Ecologist

*'Is Government doing enough to improve water quality in NZ lakes and rivers?'*

10.50am LYNETTE SHUM, Photographer & Oral Historian

*'The SS Ventnor: Shipwreck, Bones & Relationships – and whose story is it?'*

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### **MONDAY, 8 MARCH**

9.45am JENNY SETCHELL, Author & Photographer

*'Cathedrals, Cameras, Computers and Calluses: On the road with an international Concert Organist'*

NB. Books and CD's of Organ Music will be on sale.

10.50am COLIN JAMES, Political Correspondent

*'Beyond Jacinda'*

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### **MONDAY, 15 MARCH**

9.45am GRAEME MCLEOD

*'Commonwealth Orders, Decorations and Medals'*

10.50am BOB MAYSMOR

*'A Passion for Travel – the Highs and Lows of travel to 168 Countries & 22 Territories'*

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### **MONDAY, 22 MARCH**

9.45am BRUCE TAYLOR, Rail Transport Enthusiast & Writer

*'A History of the Wellington to Manawatu Railway, with particular reference to its 'Impact on Kapiti'*

10.50am MARY O'KEEFFE, Archaeologist

*'Archaeology – The Mackays to Peka Peka Expressway'*

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### **MONDAY, 29 MARCH**

9.45am Prof. GEOFFREY HORNE, Orthopaedic Surgeon

*'Operations and Support for Joint Support'*

10.50am ADELE O'BRIEN

*'My time at Foreign Affairs'*

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**MONDAY, 5 APRIL** .....NO MEETING (Easter) .....

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### **MONDAY, 12 APRIL**

9.45am MALCOLM MCKINNON, Historian

*'Putin's Russia'*

10.50am KEVIN CLARK, Author & Jazz Musician

*'Baghdad or Bust: Diary of a matchless ride through Europe and the Middle East in 1964'*

NB. Book on sale for \$30

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