

## *Newsletter May 2017*

### *Janice's Jottings.*

For fifteen years U3A members have been privileged to hear our young people giving their views at the annual speech contests. It is really great to listen to these high school students. Franki James is the mover and shaker of this competition. It does take a lot of her time and effort to organise. I ask as many as possible of you to come along and give them your support on Wednesday 7th June. You will help to find the People's Choice winner. It's great to see our young people speak with courage and confidence.

We would like as many as possible of you to come along. There will be a cuppa before the contest.

*Janice Cram. President U3A Taradale*

### **Napier Secondary Schools' Speech Competition 2017**

Now in its fifteenth year, the above competition will take place in *Taradale Town Hall* on **Wednesday, 7th June from 10.00am to 11.45am** approximately, with six local schools currently competing. It would be appreciated if the audience could be seated at latest by 9.45am in order to start proceedings promptly at 10.00am.

U3A members who come along regularly to meetings will have noticed a change in the seating arrangements in order to take advantage of the raised platform at one end of the hall, not only giving the audience a better view of speakers but also providing improved acoustics.

As an added incentive this year, prize money has been increased to \$300, \$200 and \$100 for those students who are placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively, with \$50 for each other participant and a \$150 book token awarded to the library of the winning school.

In addition, a book token worth \$50 is again kindly being offered by *Paper Plus* in Taradale for the *People's Choice Award*. Each member of the audience - with the exception of competing students, their teachers and supporters - will be given a voting slip on arrival to be completed and handed in at the end of the competition while final judging is taking place. The criteria for this particular vote (limited to one per person) should be based on how speakers have engaged with the audience and, hopefully, informed and/or entertained them.

Members of local *Toastmasters' Clubs* have again accepted to judge the competition, taking into consideration such factors as elocution, structure and relevance of the speech to the chosen topic.

Last year's participants were considered to be more eloquent than ever, showing a considerable level of skill, enthusiasm and public speaking ability and U3A members are encouraged to come along to listen to what promises to be another enthralling event which, as always, demonstrates the special affinity between youth and age.

*Franki James, Convenor*

**AUCKLAND U3A NETWORK WELCOMES YOU TO A DAY OF CELEBRATION**  
**St Chad's Church, Auditorium, 38 Johns Road, Meadowbank**  
**Friday September 29th 2017**  
**Cutting Edge Speaker. Presentations from U3A Study Groups**  
**Morning tea and lunch—all inclusive—\$20 each.**  
**Registration form & map of venue available from Angela Rodway 8446937**

### **Newsflash**

If you have ever wanted to learn Te Reo we are starting a course. If you are interested contact:

*Sally Woods, Convenor..*  
*phone..8449551*

### *A Small Quizz*

1. If a rooster laid an egg on the barn roof, which way would it roll?
2. What type of sandwiches were Paddington Bear's favourite?
3. What cheese shares its name with an English Gorge?
4. How many valves or keys does a trumpet have?
5. How many wings does a bee have?

## *Contentious Issues*

You will be pleased to know our group does not get this agitated!

Our discussions are well researched and we always respect other member's opinions, however diverse they might be from our own!

3 meetings so far this year and we have discussed the following topics. UNSC Resolution 2334 on Israeli settlements, Walkerton (Canada) inquiry concerning municipal water supplies, Space program and the cost thereof. These have all produced some lively debate! Our May topic is Easter Sunday Trading led by Margaret Gwynn – I can see some vigorous discussion on this very topical matter.

I am pleased to say that we have had a number of new members joining us recently but we could still accommodate a few more.

If this sounds like your "cup of tea" you would be very welcome to come to a meeting and try us out. We meet at Mission View Masonic Village Hall on the first Thursday of each month at 2 .p.m. for about 2 hours. Give me a call –

***Eric Lamb, Convenor.....phone 8442712***

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## *Antiques and Collectables*

The theme for our March meeting was *old family documents* and a great selection was shown, so many that we will continue with this next month. Our guest speaker was Chris Geddis who talked about the life and exploits of English soldier Field Marshall Sir Henry Evelyn Wood VC, after finding a framed picture in a Napier antique shop which aroused his curiosity..

The Member's display was a collection of 'how to' cards for children.

10 of us met in April at Catherine Downe's home to continue with March's topic.

The member's display was mineral eggs made from NZ stones.

We meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 2pm at the Taradale Club – we would love you to join us.

***Jeanie Jenkins, Convenor....phone 878 8542***

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## *Book Group*

The Book Group started the year with a couple of losses and gains, and so maintained full numbers. We have had a few absences at the February and March meetings for a variety of reasons, but the smaller numbers seem to have encouraged greater discussion.

We read books of our own choosing, fiction or non-fiction, owned or borrowed. Some books circulate among members of the group, and there are always helpful recommendations.

The April meeting fell on Good Friday and was cancelled, so I expect members will have plenty to report on at the May meeting.

***Vic Chick, Convenor.....phone 88433474***

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***U3A Havelock North have organised a Meteorology Group***, Taradale members are welcome. This Group will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, @2pm., 29 Greenwood Road, Havelock North.

The Met Group will cover, weather, climate and related subjects. As I and others have to date not been able to find a Meteorologist to convene the group, it is proposed that there be joint facilitators to run each session. Richard Jennings U3A Hastings and I will do this.

It is proposed to run the sessions with detailed reference to several excellent Meteorology videos on YouTube. These would be played on a TV screen and discussion on their content would take place. Group members would help choose appropriate YouTube videos. If your members would like to join the Met Group, please contact

Trish Loye, Secretary U3A Havelock North, tel 878 5920 email [pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz](mailto:pals.bkh@nowmail.co.nz)

Ross McLean, President U3A Havelock North. T: 8777 502 or 027 6052908 E: [ross@neptuneproducts.co.nz](mailto:ross@neptuneproducts.co.nz)



## Sketching for Beginners

This group now has the full compliment of six members. Those who have attended from the outset are progressing well and are moving onto more advanced work. This held at 32 Trent Street once a month.

**June Simister, ..phone..8459828**

## Easy Listening

This small group is full but because of member's health problems, meetings have been spasmodic so far this year. I hope that we shall resume regular meetings in the not too far distant future.

**Vic Chick, Convenor...phone 8433474**



## A - Z

When Margaret Hyde first floated the idea of the group A - Z she envisaged it lasting one year, which would take it once through the alphabet. Six years later we have begun our sixth run, with none of our members showing the faintest sign of "alphabet fatigue"! Everyone enjoys the variety of topics and the lively discussions that follow.

For example at our last get-together featuring the letter "B", we heard three very interesting talks about Buddhism, Ballet, and the Global Seed Bank which is situated on the island of Spitsbergen halfway between the coast of Norway and the Arctic Circle. If you would like more information about A - Z feel free to contact

**Joan Fitzmaurice, Convenor, Ph. 8355510 or Email joanfitz@xtra.co.nz**

## Pencil Sketching

We are just five persons and have had a nice meeting each month. This will be the last year of this group as we have been in operation seven years, so we are not taking anymore members. As we sketch there is always much discussion on many different subjects. **Sonia Mackenzie, Convenor...phone 8444834**

## History 1

Our enthusiastic group meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 1.45pm to 3.45pm. Topics this year included: Colonel Evelyn Wood V.C, Israel history until present, Louis Braille, William Nelson of Tomoana, Alexander Graham Bell, US Standard rail-road Gauge, Flying Fortress Crash Auckland June 1942, History of Otane and a variety of local history.

**Conveners: Norma Sinton Ph8448388, Chris Geddis Ph8353009**

## History Group 2

Our meetings provide interesting and varied subjects to our members. So far this year we have learnt about the history of Sri Lanka, a brief history of the historical development of human kind and the history of women's suffrage in NZ. The rest of the year is well covered and in May we are looking forward to a talk on the history of Kiribati.

July is our mid-year outing, a visit to the Hawkes Bay Knowledge Bank followed by afternoon tea.

We choose our own subject with it being either "a person, a time in history or a location that is of special interest to ourselves". This method of choosing has produced some really interesting talks followed by good discussion.

Our Quiz Master provides us with a light hearted quiz on history and general knowledge.

We meet monthly every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month

2pm – 4pm at the Community Hall, Masonic Retirement Village, Green-meadows.

We are able to welcome a few new members so if you would like to come along and see if you would like to join our group please contact me.

**Wynn Barnett, Convenor ...Phone 8442 329**



**Send in your suggested caption.**

**Winner of last competition was: Angela Rodway "All good things must come to an**



**Quizz answers: 1.Roosters don't lay eggs. 2.Marmalade. 3.Cheeddar. 4. Three. 5. Four**

## **OFFICERS , COMMITTEE and EDITORS 2017**

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Hank McConell 844 9257  
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Pauline Bothwell 844 0303  
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Neil Gunderson 835 6881

Newsletter contact Angela Rodway, 844 6937 or Sonia Mackenzie 844 4834, [sjmac13@xtra.co.nz](mailto:sjmac13@xtra.co.nz)

### **Taradale U3A Inc.**

**Next Meeting, Taradale Town Hall**

**Wednesday, 7th June 2017**

**SECONDARY SCHOOLS SPEECH COMPETITION**

**Coffee/tea from 9.15am**

**Please be seated by 9.45am**

**Speeches begin at 10 o'clock**