

# Taradale U3A Newsletter

Nov 2019

[taradaleu3a.org.nz](http://taradaleu3a.org.nz)



## President Peter's Ponderings:

As we approach the end of the year it is a good time to look back over the past 12 months. We continue to attract new members but sadly we have also lost some long-standing U3A stalwarts who have passed away, and whose contribution over the years has been significant. They will be sadly missed!

On a more mundane note, we now own an up-to-date overhead projector suitable for use with a range of computers and that is available for use by any of our groups. Just give me call if you need to use it. Once again, I look forward to catching up with you at our next coffee morning at the beginning of December. **President Peter**



**OBITUARY – Jimmy DEE - Past U3A President** We record with sadness and regret the passing of Jimmy on 4<sup>th</sup> 2019 October after a period of illness. Jimmy was a former President of Taradale U3A, and a long serving Committee Member, where he was noted for his quiet yet thoughtful contributions. Jimmy was very keen on U3A, having helped set up the Hawkes Bay U3A, and gave them a lot of early support. Jimmy was a keen member of the Rummikub and Traveller's Tales Groups, and made some very memorable contributions in the Words Words Words group. Jimmy will be missed by many. Rest in peace Jimmy



## U3A Mahjong Group Taradale



The past few weeks have seen a few changes for this group. Firstly our long time Convener, **Tui Powell**, resigned after over 6 years at the helm. Her commitment and dedication during her tenure has been much appreciated by all our members and we thank her sincerely. As we all know, belonging to a Club can be worthwhile and satisfying, however although there are those who are willing and prepared to help, not everyone is able to commit to the organisational side of things. We have been fortunate to have **Bev Doohan** volunteer as Temporary Convener.

The group had also been experiencing some uncertainties regarding a place to meet, as management of the current venue couldn't confirm a designated space for us after 27 September. After some groundwork and negotiations, we are excited to be able to relocate to the **Omarunui Bowling Club, 24 Lee Road, Taradale**. The Bowling Club are very keen to have us use their facilities and have been very welcoming indeed.

We have had a few new members join the Mahjong Group in the past 3 or 4 months and now have a membership of 40 plus, which is fantastic. Mahjong is a challenging and sometimes frustrating game, but once you master the basics, you can learn more by playing regularly. We are a friendly caring group and meet 9.00am – 12.00 noon on a Tuesday at the **Omarunui Bowling Club**. We break for a bit of social time during the morning and have a cuppa, a biscuit and a chat.

We welcome anyone interested in joining our group. If you have never played before and think you would like to meet the challenge and learn to play mahjong, please do not hesitate to contact us. We would love to hear from you. **Contacts : Joy Lawrence : 844 2350 Lynn Milne : 844 6014**





**PLAYREADING GROUP:** We are a small but lively group who meet at 1:30pm on the third Thursday of each month at the Convenors home. Earlier this year we lost a member due to illness, and gained a new member, so fluctuating numbers can make it interesting when it comes to casting our plays. A member often can read more than one part – which can lead to having a conversation with your other self – makes for interesting reading. Finding good plays to read can at times be challenging. Earlier this year we read “An Inspector Calls” by JB Priestley, and then saw the film version. Which was better?? Good question. Since then we have been in comedy country, a mix of 1 and 3 act plays including “Arms and the Man” by GB Shaw, and “Blithe Spirit” by Noel Coward. In November, our last meeting for 2019, we will read short passages of our own choice, grave or amusing - which will be an interesting afternoon. Next year . . . time for another Shakespeare?? Small casts?? More comedy?? New members are always welcome. **Convenor: Catherine Downes Ph: 844 0008**

### WORDS WORDS WORDS

*(sung to the tune. . . “These are a few of my favourite things. . . . )*

*Words words and more words and zeugmas and haiku  
“Sh” words and “f” words and new words that stump you  
Crosswords and cryptics, acrostics and jokes These are some of things that interest us folks.*

*Banjo and Shakespeare and authors we favour  
White Boards and “con” words and new words with flavour  
Reading and writing and sipping our tea  
These are the things meaning so much to me. (thanks to Ray Hambly)*

If you find anything to do with words interesting then come along to our **“Words Words Words”** group. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> (and sometimes on the 5<sup>th</sup>) Wednesday of each month at 2:00pm in the Senior Citizens Hall, Symons Lane, Taradale. **Convenor: Janice Hambly Ph: 844 8857**



We need new volunteers for Committee and Convenor roles. Many of the people who established the U3A here in Hawke’s Bay 25 years ago are sadly no longer with us, while those that are have become increasingly frail both mentally and physically. We were the traditionalists, the post-depression generation born in the 1930s or in the early ‘40s. Today, we need to hand over the U3A baton to the next generation, to the Baby Boomers. But indications are that some Baby Boomers are not keen to take on any volunteer role. How often do we hear it said “Look, I’ve

paid my membership fee, I’ve worked hard all my life, so I don’t expect to continue working now I’ve retired.” And, yet, these are the people who will have to provide the next generation of administrators. Many new people have joined the U3A, appreciating the chance to meet people in the community that may be new to them, to socialise and to learn new skills. But do they want to take on U3A responsibilities? Not always. So what can we do to try to recruit new volunteers? The following are just some of the advantages that can be got from volunteering:

- Volunteering makes you happier because you feel really good about yourself;
- It can be fun to work in a team, free of work pressure;
- You gain increased status and public approval as a person valued by the community, and □  
You can demonstrate your skills and knowledge gained over a lifetime of experience.

We have our **U3A Taradale AGM** coming up at the beginning of February so, between now and then, we would appreciate some offers of help – it may only be to assist with morning teas, to help one of the Convenors with a group - or even to start up a new group. But please do consider the possibility. For example, we are looking for someone to tutor a Ukulele group and interest has been expressed in Conversational German, Spanish and Italian. Currently, there are no groups held during weekends, so perhaps you could start up a coffee club, a rambling group or something related to religion.....



## U3A Taradale Committee 2019

<b>President</b>	Peter Green	845 1246	<b>Vice-President</b>	
<b>Secretary</b>	Sue Lambourn	845 1585	<b>Treasurer</b>	Jeanette Elgie 844 4537
<b>Past President</b>	Janice Cram	843 8329	<b>Almoner</b>	Jenny Pyatt 836 7270
<b>Committee</b>	Ann Green	845 1246	Beverley Turnbull	834 4094
	Wynn Barnett	844 2329	Jenny Pyatt	836 7270
	Peter Turnbull	834 4094	Franki James	843 5926

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**WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER – Christmas Coffee Morning**  
**Taradale Town Hall**  
9:45am to 11:30am

Our Christmas entertainment this year will be by **YOUNG STARS AT HEART**, a local senior's concert party who will put on an hour-long variety and comedy show for us entitled "A Tribute to Stars and Screen" starting at 10:00am.

Please be seated by 9:45am.

This will be followed by our Christmas Morning Tea, a chance to mix and mingle with each other and some of the 'young' stars.

# HOW TO AVOID BEING SCAMMED



It seems as if we are being bombarded with phone calls and emails from unknown callers or scammers some supposedly from "Spark" in particular, so I have included this article for your information.

- If you receive a phone call or unknown email out of the blue, even from a trusted organisation, stop to think about if it's legitimate.
- Check with the organisation if the contact is legitimate. Do this using the organisation's official website or phone number – don't use the contact details provided by the caller and do not reply to any email where you do not know the sender.
- Always protect your personal information, especially banking or payment details.
- Never give out your account or password details. No legitimate organisation will ever ask you for these.
- If you're not sure whether something is legitimate, contact Netsafe for free advice seven days a week on 0508 NETSAFE or visit [www.netsafe.org.nz](http://www.netsafe.org.nz)
- Internet safety group Netsafe said iTunes gift cards were a popular and untraceable currency among fraudsters.

The scam typically involved fraudsters claiming to be from a government agency or department, contacting victims out of the blue to say they had been selected to receive some kind of offer or grant.

The victims are convinced to make a payment by buying iTunes cards from their nearby shops. Once they have bought the cards, victims are asked over the phone to share the 16-digit codes on the back of the cards.

This allows the scammers to spend the value of the gift card on Apple products. Other popular scams include the offer of unclaimed pension payments.

Scammers will ask the target for their details for some reason – for example, in order to process the grant. Scammers may ask for bank account details, name, date of birth, address, mother's maiden name, former addresses and credit card details.

The scammer may use these details to call the target's bank and steal money from their accounts.

**Remember if you are taken by surprise by one of these phone calls - HANG UP IMMEDIATELY and ignore - or check directly with the official organisation.**