

Newsletter September 2017

Janice's Jottings. I went back to school the other day, more than 50 years after I had been a school girl. Time goes quickly. It didn't seem that long. Time just races away. The purpose of my visit with Peter Green was to present the U3A Speech Contest Trophy to the winner, Lennox Winitana from Colenso High School at Assembly. Her speech was titled "Time not wasted" and was about how the younger generation can learn from the older generation. It was a great topic, well researched and presented. This year this speech got the people's choice award as well. Lennox is a senior student and hopes to go into the forces next year. We also gave a cheque for \$150.00 from U3A to Peter Fry, head of the English department for the Library and received back an email thanking us.

Next coffee morning it will be interesting to hear the experiences of Daniel Lee who has had occasion to use the Rescue Helicopter.

Janice Cram President U3A

We have a new Almoner; Ann Green has taken over this role from Angela Rodway. Please let Ann know if you are aware of a member who is unwell or in Hospital. A card with good wishes from us all will be sent by Ann. She also sends cards to members who have suffered a bereavement. It is important to advise Ann or our Secretary Sue Lambourn of the death of a member. Phone numbers for Ann and Sue are on the last page of your newsletter.

History 1 Our enthusiast group meets 2nd Wednesday 1.45pm to 3.45pm. Topics in July and August this year included: Jan Smuts of South Africa, Danish Boy finds Messerschmitt & Pilot buried on family farm from WW2 crash, Tucker Family and Clive Flood of 1897, Napier-Taupo Overland 1887, Bletchley Park and its enigmatic romances while code cracking, Esk Valley during 1931 earthquake and 1938 Flood, Pearl Harbour attack, Mystery of Hamish Armstrong plane crash and other local history. We recently welcomed another three new members.

Conveners: Norma Sinton phone 8448388, Chris Geddis phone 8353009

Mythology: Our group has 12 members and we meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month. We have covered a variety of topics this year including Hestia Goddess of the Hearth, House and family and Zeus Supreme God and Ruler of Olympus. We looked at Russian myths with Babar Yaga and Themis Goddess of Divine Law and Order. We covered the Peloponnesian War fought between Athens and its Empire and the Peloponnesian League led by Sparta and also the Quest of the Golden Fleece. We were intrigued with new information and myths on the hidden history of the human race, threads, between the different mythologies and perhaps the new ideas of the Egyptian influence on Greek mythology.

Conveners: Pam Medcalf, phone 8358231

How to find the U3A Taradale website:

U3a—Click Find U3A—North Island—Hawkes Bay—Taradale U3A (right hand box) - Taradale in square on map

A Small Quizz

- 1.name the official residence of the President of France
- 2.Name the Goddess of spring and flowers
3. Where was Lilliput situated?
- 4.Where did fondue originate?
5. What and where is Goonhilly Downs?

Life is like a camera...
Focus on what's important,
Capture the good times,
Develop from the negatives,
And if things don't work out,
Take another shot.

Scrabble Group: Why do we play Scrabble? Is it just a pleasant pastime with which to while away a couple of hours each week? Is it an enjoyable way of using one's brains in the making of words from seven tiles chosen at random and connecting them with other words on the board? Yes, it is all of these things, but there is more to it than that.

It is the challenge of forming words that will result in a higher score than your opponent at the end of the game. One is often asked to prove the veracity of a word and has the satisfaction of pointing it out in the Scrabble dictionary (which allows words not found in a regular dictionary).

A highlight is to form a word using all seven letters, which carries a bonus of fifty points.

So, not only is it a way of enjoying the company of like-minded people, it is using one's grey matter in the process of the game, thus warding off the dreaded "A" word. For word lovers, there is a never-ending fascination in Scrabble. If anyone would like to join our happy band of wordsmiths, please phone 845 1685 for more information. All new players welcome and assistance is always available.

Winton Gregory. Convenor: phone 8451685

Sketching for Beginners: A successful artist herself, June Simister has generously given a small group of us a crash course in sketching. She has taken us through exercises gradually, which probably span a longer period of time in an official school room class. We have had varying degrees of success but have all enjoyed working together. Sonia makes her home available for these sessions and even provides a delicious afternoon tea.

Sent in by a group member. Contact for Group : June Simister ph.8459828

Walking Group: From a membership of around twenty at the turn of the century, our walking group has dwindled to a very low number. For various reasons, mainly age-related, people have dropped out. There is some competition, possibly, with other walking groups. So we intend to wind up at the end of September and hope that maybe a younger and more energetic group will emerge.

Peggy Gregory. Convenor: phone 8451685

Peggy and Win Gregory have been fantastic leaders of the Walking Group for many years. Apart from turning up at 9.0am every Monday unless the weather was really terrible, Peggy has planned the walks and several times she and Win have hosted the Christmas "Picnic" in their lounge when sitting outside proved impossible. Thanks to our leaders the group has always been very sociable and enjoyable. **(A "lapsed" Walker)**

Poetry: This year our group has gone from strength to strength. We meet on the first Wednesday of every month, each person brings poetry on a specific subject with profile of the writer. This usually turns into an interesting discussion and the afternoon is never long enough. I enjoy the camaraderie of my guests.

Sonia Mackenzie Convenor phone 8444834.

Result of Last Competition



"An example of the Nanny State"

Please send in your caption for the picture on the right.

To
sjmac13@xtra.co.nz
Or 32 Trent Street.

Thank you Chris for providing the photo.



Travellers Tales: Come on an amazing journey to South America. Our next meeting on Monday 2nd October at 2 p.m. Mission View Village Hall, 190 Avondale Road. We will take you to Chile—Valparaiso—Uruguay—Falkland islands—Buenos Aires and Iguazu Falls. Spend an afternoon with like minded travellers and have afternoon tea all for \$2.00. Do come and enjoy.

Russell Driberg Convenor phone 8440303



Iguazu Falls

Antiques and Collectibles: July meeting - this was a bitterly cold day, and 22 hardy members came along. Our subject today was 'Something from Grandparents' and lots of nostalgic items were shown, including grandma's (or earlier) jewellery, an autograph book, family bible and French manufactured field glasses, recovered by a grandfather from a German soldier (where did he get them from, we wondered?) The members display was a collection of early office equipment – inkwells, pen holder, paper weight.

August meeting was 'something marine' and the display included maps and a piece of scrimshaw (carving on bone or ivory, most commonly on the bones or teeth of sperm whales and tusks of walrus.) We meet every 3rd Monday at 2pm at the Taradale Club – we'd love you to join us.

Jeanie Jenkins, Convenor: phone 878 8542

Opera, Music, Video Group

Regretfully the curtain is coming down on the many great performances of operas, symphonies, concertos, vocal performances and documentaries, that the members of our small group have watched, learned from and listened to for the last 8 years. Our host, Bill Greaves, has shared some of his vast musical knowledge with us and has expanded our horizons with videos from his comprehensive collection. Thank you, Bill, for the many uplifting musical experiences you have given your ever-appreciative audience, and we gratefully acknowledge the care and planning that you put into each programme. Of course, we also thank our hostess, Louise, for her hospitality and the many delicious afternoon teas she has provided over the years. Thank you, Bill and Louise, for the pleasure, the companionship and the glorious music we have enjoyed during our time together.

Joan Fitzmaurice, Convenor phone 8355510

Answers ; 1.Elysee Palace. 2. Flora. 3. Indian Ocean 4.Switzerland . 5. Satellite Station, Cornwall

OFFICERS , COMMITTEE and EDITORS 2017

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Newsletter contact Angela Rodway, 844 6937 or Sonia Mackenzie 844 4834, sjmac13@xtra.co.nz

Taradale U3A Inc.

Next Meeting Taradale Town Hall

Wednesday 4th October 2017

Speaker: Daniel Lee

Coffee/tea from 9.30 am

Meeting starts 10.am sharp