

Taradale U3A Newsletter

November 2021



PRESIDENT PETER'S PONDERINGS:

It's been a shame that Covid has once again got in our way! Many groups have been affected by either cancellation of regular meetings or having reduced numbers. However, we are able to have our Christmas meeting at the Taradale Town Hall next Wednesday 1 December. Unfortunately we will be limited to no more than 100 attendees and would ask that those members who feel nervous or who do not feel well during the current level 2 regulations consider whether they should come to the meeting. Our entertainment for the day will be John Cocking's "**Famous Five Radio Show**" and we all look forward to seeing that.



In addition to the above, **Sonia Mackenzie** has become the next life member of Taradale U3A and will be presented with her certificate at the meeting.

On a more mundane topic, as this year draws to a close, please give some thought to becoming a member of the U3A committee next year or nominating someone you know for the role; the more volunteers we have, the easier the role becomes.

Hoping to see you soon!

News about Groups:

Lunch Group 3

This group, usually numbering around 22, are loving their outings. In 2021 venues have included **Speights Ale House, Portside, Bollywood, the Boardwalk** and more. The final meeting, held recently at **E.I.T.**, was a **Christmas Bistro** with 26 members attending.

Mythology

Meetings are held at the home of Catherine Downes on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Each session two people present stories and mythology from different countries and cultures. Topics this year have included Scandinavian mythology, Cronus, Atlantis, Socrates and Minoan, Greek mythology.

Convenor for both groups above:

Pam Medcalf

ph: 835 8231

Poetry for 2021 has been pretty much a non-event, not from lack of interest but because of the Covid situation. We had lovely meetings with five or six attendees until Delta appeared but since then we have not had an afternoon. However, we will probably continue in 2022 if the situation allows. We would welcome any new poets, we talk of other poets work and lives but don't often read our own works.

Stories 2021

Meetings in the morning in my sunroom have resumed over the last three months after a break during lock down. Five of us are telling tales of our childhood and enjoying the camaraderie and coffee. Soon one of our members is publishing a book and we will be eager to see the finished production. We plan to have a Christmas lunch if all is well and will be continuing with our meetings next year.

Convenor for both groups above: Sonia Mackenzie ph:8444834

Bon Vivant:

Bon Vivant is a group of a dozen U3A members who enjoy the good things of life. We meet monthly - either in one of our homes or at a chosen location - to learn more about the origins of good food and beverages as well as to share and savour them while enjoying congenial company.

Most recently, we held a function inspired by Claude Monet, the French Impressionist, for which members had to bring along a dish suggested by one of his 2,500 paintings. Not only did members dress in appropriate garb but, having done some research, they introduced offerings including not only a most artistic vegetarian *entrée* based on a picture Monet had painted of a garden path leading to his house in Giverny but also a delicious dessert based on his painting *A Woman Reading* (1872). A Potato & Onion Pie and *Pêches à la Bourdaloue* (a peach and crème anglaise concoction topped with crushed macarons) - both recipes from *Monet's Cookery Notebooks* - were also enjoyed, as were *Pans Bagnats* (sandwiches containing *Salad Niçoise*) and a *Tarte Tatin* (a caramelised upside-down apple tart) all washed down with our own choice of beverage. Painting *en plein air* (in the open air) had been planned as an after-lunch activity but, perhaps being too replete, only one person even attempted to do so although all the necessary materials had been supplied!



Garden Path at Giverny



A Woman Reading



All three U3A French groups continue to flourish.

Under the tutelage of Marion Sturm (8448872) the *Beginners* group has now progressed to become *Good Beginners* or *Faux Debutants* as they say in French. It meets on Mondays at 1030 and after the Christmas break will start up again at the beginning of February when new members would be welcome.

The self-taught *Intermediate* group meets in individual homes on Mondays from 0930-1030, members taking it in turns to lead the group. The contact person is Lynn Lusby (0212506638) but no new members are currently being accepted.

The *Conversation* group meets in individual homes on Fridays from 1000-1100 and members take it in turn to provide a topic. The contact person is Franki James (843 59 26) and new members would be welcome starting up again at the beginning of February.

As a matter of interest, the *Hawke's Bay French Association* which morphed out of the original *Club FàHB (Francophiles & Francophones in Hawke's Bay)* which came about as a result of the U3A French groups, celebrates its tenth anniversary at the end of November. It, too, has gone from strength to strength, with monthly meetings including *Café Croissant* at different locations on the first Saturday morning of each month, a *French Film Evening* each second Tuesday at *Event Cinema* in Havelock North, several French classes run by native French speakers on Thursday evenings in *Hastings Girls High School*, as well as many other French-related activities.

Franki James

...and a little humour



...and a few more points to think about

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 50 years later

I don't have to go to school or work, I get an allowance every month, I have my own pad and I don't have a curfew.

I have a driver's license and my own car. The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant and I don't have acne.

Life is great! I changed my car horn to gunshot sounds and people get out of the way much faster now.

Gone are the days when girls used to cook like their mothers. Now they drink like their fathers.

I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes five years in a row. I decided to stop calling the bathroom the "loo" and renamed it the "Jim". I feel so much better saying I went to the "Jim" this morning.

Old age is coming at a really bad time.

When I was a child, I thought "nap time" was a punishment. Now it feels like a small vacation.

The biggest lie I tell myself is... " I don't have to write that down, I'll remember it".

I don't have grey hair... I have "wisdom highlights"! I'm just very wise.

If God wanted me to touch my toes, He would've put them on my knees.

Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. We haven't met yet.

Why do I have to press "1" for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?

Of course, I talk to myself -sometimes I need expert advice.

At my age "Getting Lucky" means walking into a room and remembering what I went in there for.

I have more friends I should send this to, but right now I can't remember their names.

Now, I'm wondering... did I send this to you, or did you send it to me?

Thank you once again, Chris Geddis, for these gems

From the Community...

Central Hawkes Bay memories

Taradale U3A member Nikki Keehan has recently written and published "**Samantha's Stories**",- (*editor's note, see Sonia's item above*) which will be launched at the Onga Onga Museum complex at 2pm Sunday 28th November. Details are attached at the end of this newsletter.

Well done, Niki!

A date for your diary!

Wednesday, 1 December

at 10 o'clock

Taradale U3A Christmas Celebration

in Taradale Town Hall.

We will be entertained by John Cocking in his

"Famous Five Radio Show"

This will be followed by morning tea.

The hall will be open at 9.30 for a 10.00 start

From the Committee....

2022 SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are now due for 2022 to cover the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 and an invoice for your subscription is attached to this newsletter.

The 2022 subscription will remain at \$15 per person for the year with

a discount of \$5 per person if your subscription is paid prior to 28 February 2022.

We are no longer able to bank cheques at Westpac Bank. The preferred method of payment of subscriptions is by internet banking into the Westpac bank account of U3A Taradale Inc, Taradale. If this is not possible, payment may be made at any branch of Westpac Bank.

The U3A bank account number is: 03 0631 0175173 00

Please state your initials and surname in the reference field.

Your subscription covers the following services:

- Membership of one or more of the groups offered by U3A Taradale or U3A Hastings and U3A Havelock North. Please check our website taradaleu3a.org.nz for a list of groups offered.
- Newsletters. We currently distribute four each year. An increasing number of members now receive their letter by email, helping to keep postage costs down. If you are having difficulty reading the newsletter on phones or tablets, please let your group convenor know and we will post it out to you.
- Town Hall meetings. We plan to hold four of these each year.
- Workshops when available.
- Other events/guest speakers as available.
- Administration costs.

- **U3A Taradale Committee 2021**

President	Peter Green	0274 795403
Past President	Janice Cram	
Secretary	Margaret Butterfield	835 3788
Treasurer	Christine Smith	834 1300
Almoner	Jenny Pyatt	836 7270
Committee	Vince Allcock	845 3643
	Erin Mahony	844 3833
	Steve Lusby	0210 769 387

Newsletters newsletters@taradaleu3a.org.nz

U3A TARADALE INC Committee Nomination Form

I nominate (please print):.....

For the position of (please circle): **President Vice President Treasurer
Secretary or Committee Member**

Proposer: (Name and signature): Date:.....

Seconder: (Name and signature):..... Date:.....

Candidate: (Signature): Date:

NOMINATIONS to be with the Secretary by **Friday 14th January 2022**



Introducing

“SAMANTHA’S STORIES”

by Niki Keehan

on Sunday the 28th of November 2021

at the Onga Onga Museum complex
at 2.00pm

Book sales
\$20.00

afternoon tea from 3.00pm @ \$5.00 per person

cash sales only

Niki Keehan
sarie.keehan@gmail.com

Dress 1950’s style

U3A Taradale Inc

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2022 ARE NOW DUE

2022 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Post Code Phone

Email.....

Please confirm for newsletter delivery

The group/s I wish to join for 2022 are:.....

.....

Annual subscription per member

For the financial year 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 \$15.00

Discount if paid before 28 February 2022 \$5.00

This does not cover any fees charged for your group activities. Please check with the convenor of your group.

We are no longer able to bank cheques at Westpac Bank. The preferred method of payment of subscriptions is by internet banking into the Westpac bank account of U3A Taradale Inc, Taradale. If this is not possible, payment may be made at any branch of Westpac Bank.

**The U3A bank account number is: 03 0631 0175173 00
Please state your initials and surname in the reference field.**

Please return this form as soon as possible to

**Erin Mahoney
5/15 Devonshire Place
Taradale 4112**

etmahony@gmail.com

844 3833

Membership lapses after 28 February 2022 and prompt payment would be appreciated.

Office use only

Receipt No:..... Date / /