

# Taradale U3A Newsletter

August 2021



## PRESIDENT PETER'S PONDERINGS:

It's great to see the days beginning to lengthen as we head towards spring. Our groups seem to be ticking along well as indicated by the convenor's reports below and with the improvement in weather hopefully we will see further growth in U3A activities.

Please remember that U3A has resources which can be utilized by groups, including a data projector, portable speaker system and a whiteboard, all of which are easily transportable to your group venues. I'm looking forward to our Taradale Town Hall meeting on Wednesday 1 September and hearing the Taradale Intermediate school singers with their rendition of songs from **Mary Poppins**. Come and enjoy it with me!



## News about Groups:

### HISTORY 1

Our enthusiastic group meets monthly, **on the 2nd Wednesday at the beginning of a month** 1.30pm to 3.45pm, Taradale Senior Citizen's Lounge, Symons Lane, Taradale. New members are always welcome. We also have an **Antiques & Collectables** segment in our programme. Come and try us out!

#### Topics this year included:

**April:** Eskdale Valley Flood 1938, Napier Racecourse to Anderson Park, Napier Woollen Mill, Rosewood Writing case and Wooden Shoe Lasts.

**May:** Native School System in NZ, Paisley Patterns and Fashions.

**June:** Wreck of the Tararua, Historic Taradale, Bletchley Park code-cracker women, Pottery.

**July:** Nola Luxford, Tangoio Maori Boatman, Napier Steam Bus, Sinton Family History, Today in History, Wairoa Flax Mills, Scottish Pebble Jewellery.

**Conveners:** **Norma Sinton** Ph 8448388, **Chris Geddis** Ph 8353009

### GEOGRAPHY

*Which countries will experience a significant population decline this century?*

*When will the interconnected world-wide ocean currents fail, totally disrupting established climates?*

*How does digital technology affect the ancient art of map making?*

*Why are there more countries now than there were 50 years ago?*

*What wildlife species may not survive the next few decades?*

**What do these questions have in common, and why do they matter?**

They all lie within the scope of geography, they are all vital to the state of our only planet over the next few years, and they have all been investigated and discussed by the Taradale U3A Geography group recently.

Sadly, we have not been able to solve the problems so far. It would be great to have your assistance if you feel like joining us. First Friday morning each month.

**Convenor** Tony Smith [antonyrsmith@gmail.com](mailto:antonyrsmith@gmail.com) 8341300 0210359314

## INTERMEDIATE FRENCH GROUP



***“Etre triste comme un repas sans fromage”.***  
***(“To be as sad as a meal without cheese”).***

The French consume on average 27kg of cheese per person per year, and 30% eat cheese every day.

Last week we learnt about the fromager and his/her cheeses, and also how to cut the different types.

Today we tasted some of the well-known French cheeses, made from cow, sheep or goats' milk – **Camembert** “le champion du monde”, **Fromager d’Affinois** (soft and creamy), **Comte** (hard and nutty from the Jura mountains), **Roquefort** (classic blue mould cheese – a favourite of kings) and **Soignon Ash Chevre** (a roll of goat’s cheese).  
**Bons gouts!**

*(Editor’s note: little wonder this group has no vacancies....)*

## U3A UKULELE GROUP aka *Ukeleiliahs*

The ukulele group membership numbers continue to grow under the guidance of Chris Gibson. We outgrew Chris’ garage and have moved to The Church of Christ Hall which allows us more space and the opportunity for a cup of tea and a chat. As well, we recently had a very enjoyable social afternoon at one of our member’s homes. Thank you, Lyndsey!

Chris has continued to challenge our playing skills especially with a recent focus on playing some Beatles songs; not just the easy ones! As well, he continues to provide websites for us to visit in order to develop slightly more complicated strumming patterns. Challenging but fun. As our membership grows we get more people with a variety of skills which adds to the strength of the group.

**We now meet on Wednesday afternoons from 2.00 p.m to 4 p.m. at the Napier Church of Christ Hall on the corner of Douglas McLean Ave and Higgins St.**

**Convenor: Chris Gibson: 06 650 7994 / 022 6206 295**

## LUNCH 3

Membership of this group has risen and there are regularly 20-22 members at their lunches on the first Friday of the month. Pam checks that there are not too many steps at the venue and the food is to the group's taste. Places they have been to include: The Boardwalk, The Jandal Bar, two Thai restaurants, The Thirsty Whale and Bollywood. A visit to The Station Bar and Bistro was planned for August.

**Convenor Pam Medcalf**

*...and a little humour*

### Irish Kindness

Shortly after take-off on an outbound Aer Lingus flight from Dublin to Boston, the lead flight attendant nervously made the following painful announcement in her lovely Irish brogue:

"Ladies and gentlemen, I'm so very sorry, but it appears that there has been a terrible mix-up by our catering service. I don't know how this happened, but we have 103 passengers on board, and unfortunately, we only received 40 meals for dinner. I truly apologize for this mistake and inconvenience, as well!"

When the muttering of the passengers died down, she continued,

"Anyone who is kind enough to give up their meal so that someone else can eat, will receive free and unlimited drinks for the duration of our 10 hour flight.

Her next announcement came about 2 hours later:

"If anyone is hungry, we still have 40 dinners available."

*...and a little more...(from a DHB near you?)*



"The results of your tests were negative. Get lost!"

**And if you enjoyed watching the Olympics, this Youtube link will take you to a very special sports commentary from England [Hilarious Squirrel Olympics - The Leaptathlon Obstacle Course - YouTube](#)**

## From the committee....

### YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS

Thank you to those members who have paid their U3A Taradale subscriptions for 2021. We still have 32 members who have not paid their subscription. If you have not paid a subscription for 2021, can you please pay \$15 into the bank account of U3A Taradale, account number 03-063-0175173-00, adding your name as reference. If you are uncertain if you have paid your 2021 subscription, please contact Christine Smith (<mailto:chrismsmith999@gmail.com> or phone 834 1300).

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](http://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.

The annual subscription covers the period from 1 January to 31 December each year. For new members joining after 1 October 2021, your subscription will cover the 2022 year.

In addition to the U3A Taradale subscription, there may be group fees to cover costs such as hall hire, speakers and materials for that group.

A date for your diary!  
Wednesday, 1 September  
at 10 o'clock

*Taradale U3A Spring Get-Together*  
in Taradale Town Hall.

We are privileged to have a group of lead singers from **Taradale Intermediate's** upcoming production of **Mary Poppins** to entertain us for the first part of this meeting.

This will be followed by morning tea, after which some of our convenors will be reporting on what is happening within their groups.

*Here's a little advance notice of the entertainment at our Christmas Town Hall meeting .....it's a skit featuring one John Cocking ..... more to follow in due course*

### NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN?

It's been suggested that members share their interests and hobbies in short workshops. The proposed format is a session of about one hour with registration and limited numbers. The committee can arrange a venue but will rely on volunteers to deliver the sessions and there may be a small charge to cover costs. Topics available will depend on volunteers to run a workshop. Suggested topics include:

- Bike maintenance
- Floral or cake decoration
- Using the internet
- Care for pets - by a vet?
- Others?

With this in mind, there will a session on "**Tracing Your Family Tree**" at the **Mission View Village Hall, 190 Avondale Rd, Taradale. on Wednesday 13 October 10.30 am.**

This will be limited to 20 people and will be about one hour with tea and coffee to follow. There will be no charge. For further information please contact **Christine** on **834 1300**

Please let us know if you have any suggestions for workshops, are interested in attending or would like to run a workshop.

### From the Community...

Haven't done an **Art Deco** walk recently? Having out of town visitors? This special from the Art Deco Centre is great value for money, so get your Deco gear on and strut your stuff around town!

HAWKE'S BAY LOCALS SPECIAL

GET TO  
KNOW  
THE CITY  
YOU LIVE IN

BOOK 1 GUIDED WALK & GET 1 FREE  
PLUS 10% OFF ALL PURCHASES

BOOK NOW: [www.artdeconapier.com](http://www.artdeconapier.com)  
#HawkesBaycation



### Science in Schools

Taradale U3A has been contacted by the local branch of **House of Science**, a charitable trust formed to promote science resources at primary and intermediate school level. They are looking for volunteers to deliver/pick up and replenish science resource kits to and from schools in the area. For your background information, the local Manager is **Jenny Dee**, the daughter of **Jimmy Dee**, former Taradale U3A member and president who passed away two years ago. For those interested in finding out more, the website is <https://houseofscience.nz> and Jenny can be contacted by email at [jenny.dee@houseofscience.nz](mailto:jenny.dee@houseofscience.nz). Jenny would be more than happy to hear from potential volunteers. A document from Jenny outlining a volunteer's tasks can be found on the **Links** page on our website.

### U3A Taradale Committee 2021

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

Newsletters [newsletters@taradaleu3a.org.nz](mailto:newsletters@taradaleu3a.org.nz)