



Taradale U3A Newsletter

March 2019

taradaleu3a.org.nz

President Peter's Ponderings:



Peter Green
President

Welcome to another year in Taradale U3A! 2018 was a great year with the 25th anniversary of our founding - and 2019 began well with almost 100 attendees at the AGM at the end of January. I look forward to meeting many more at our regular coffee mornings at the Taradale Town Hall. Our membership is currently 387 and we have had several recent enquiries from prospective new members interested in existing and new courses. All the best to you all in 2019!

Your U3A Committee: From the left: Franki James, Jeanette Elgie, Beverley Turnbull, Peter Green (President), Peter Turnbull, Sue Lambourn, Wynn Barnett, Ann Green, Janice Cram, Jenny Pyatt

The Group Convenors and Committee members met on Monday 25 February to get to know each other, talk about how Convenors and Committee can support each other and U3A Taradale, and to share a delicious morning tea. It was great to see so many Convenors there.



Playreading Group



Our group had an interesting year, occasionally disrupted by ill health of some of our members. We began the year with seven members one of whom shifted away from the area, and two are temporarily absent. This year we have gained a new member – but we are shorthanded for some of the exciting plays that we would like to read. Sometimes we perform brilliant feats of playing two parts at once – which can be entertaining as we try not to have conversations with ourselves!! So one or two more readers would be most welcome to join us.

Last year we read two rather serious 3-act plays: "The Cocktail Party" by TS Elliot, and "The Master Builder" by Henrick Ibsen, each requiring two meetings; two 1-act comedies, and filled our programme with short readings of our own choice, sometimes on a single topic, sometimes quite diverse, all followed by tea and fellowship.

We meet on the third Friday of each month at 1:30pm at my place, 29 King Street, Taradale. Please ring me if you have any questions or need further information. **Convenor; Catherine Downes Ph: 844 0008**

LUNCH GROUP 3



We meet on the first Friday of each month, usually at noon. High priced restaurants are not on our programme, so by and large wineries are out. We enjoy sussing out new restaurants and have a few old faithfuls such as Puketapu Hotel, Napier RSA, Thai Lotus and Jarks. Others we intend to return to are Serendipity, Snapper Jacks, The Londoner, Off the Track and The Drift. In March we went to a new one for us, The Art Deco Valley Cafe at Eskdale. Our usual attendance is 20 - 25 U3A members.

Convenor: Peter Newby 845 9783

U3A SUBSCRIPTIONS: Are you a financial member?? Have you paid your subs for this year which were due 28th Feb? \$10pp or \$20 per couple. Contact our Treasurer Jeanette Elgie 844 4537

CONTENTIOUS ISSUES

I can assure you that we do not behave like this!

Our group currently has 14 active members. We meet monthly and discuss a “contentious” topic introduced by a member. In February we looked at the proposed new Aquatic Centre in Napier and coming up are the subjects of Marijuana in March and Education reforms in April. Later in the year we will be having a “brain storming” session to prepare a list of questions for local body election candidates. Topics range from “local stuff” to worldwide issues and the leader of each session is expected to research and present their topic before it is open to general discussion. Everybody is encouraged to participate!



We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 2 p.m. at the Mission View Retirement Village Hall in Avondale Rd. We like to keep the group reasonably small to help a good discussion format but could accept a few more members. If you would like to come to a meeting to “try it out”, please phone me.

Convenor: Eric Lamb 8442712

MYTHOLOGY GROUP



Our group has 11 members and we meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month so we have only met once this year. We have covered a variety of topics since I last wrote. The format of each meeting is that 2 members give presentations to the rest of the group and then we conclude with afternoon tea which the 2 speakers have provided. We have studied some Buddhist legends learning about the legendary “Monkey King”, the influence of fire on early people particularly the Maori, Aboriginal myths, the various stories of creation and Norse legends. We concluded our year with a pot

luck lunch at Catherine Downs' home where we have our monthly meetings. At our first meeting this year we heard about the Greek Goddess of the Moon Selene and her interesting life with her sleeping lover Endymion and a presentation called 'a Mystery Greek Medley' gave us a most intriguing insight into Greek Mythology from Stephen Fry's book called 'Mythos The Greek Myths Retold.' We welcome any new members. **Convenor Pam Medcalf. 835 8231. Email medcalf6@xtra.co.nz**

FRENCH BEGINNERS GROUP

Our group has got together again with one new member who took French at school. We have had a short break from using the Hawkes Bay Tennis and Squash club rooms in Higgins Street, Marewa whilst they are having a makeover and should be back there by the second Monday in March. We concentrate on learning to speak French and although 60% of English is derived from French we have to start with some basic skills in order to do this. Life is not all serious and we have a lot of fun. If you want to see if it is for you come to the above rooms at 10.30am on a Monday morning.



Convenor: Marion Sturm 844 8872

WORDS WORDS WORDS: A small group of members attended our first meeting for 2019 where we had



a fun afternoon of word games. Last week we had a good muster, including three new members. Activities include writing a few sentences on ourselves fifty years ago, a matching of words to definitions activity, writing an epitaph, new words discussion, clever headlines and some funnies. Our activities vary each time, and we

have fun. New members are always very welcome to come and join our fun group. We meet at the Senior Citizens Hall, Symonds Lane, on the 1st, 3rd (and 5th) Wednesdays of each month from 2:00pm – 4:00pm.

POETRY WRITING over a nice cup of coffee or tea. Sonia MacKenzie is keen to start up a group of like-minded people to write poetry of all kinds – fun poetry through to serious poetry – so grab your pen and note book (or iPad) and ring **Sonia 844 4834**



A NEW GROUP: Cardmaking . . . Birthdays, Mother's Day, Xmas Cards . . .

Who is interested in trying a new craft? We are setting up a **CARDMAKING** group and have been fortunate to have the expertise of **Marilyn Thorp** as a convenor. She has offered to convene the group on the first **Friday of the month from 9.30am – 12.00p.m.**

If you are interested please contact Marilyn directly on **Ph. 845. 2274** and she will give you further information.



LEISURE CYCLING:

Well, our new U3A Group - Leisure Cycling is underway and our two pedal and e-cycle groups have had their first outings.

To join this merry band of pedal-pushers contact **Vince Allcock** - **Ph: 8453643** or **0274 771 654** or errwood17@gmail.com

FROM THE ALMONER: If you know of anyone who is ill or bereaved please let me know and I can send a card on behalf of U3A so that we can keep in touch with our members. Many thanks.

Ann Green (Almoner) Ph: 06 8451246 or email to annietgreen@gmail.com



DID YOU KNOW???????

- House flies have a life span of two weeks (unless swatted prior.....)
- Shrimp's hearts are located in their head
- Emus and Kangaroos cannot walk backwards
- Human's eyes are always the same size from birth – but their noses and ears never stop growing
- Tigers have striped skin – not fur
- Everyone's tongue print is different – just like their fingerprints are different
- In your lifetime you will shed over 40 pounds of skin
- The human body has enough fat to produce 7 bars of soap (....some more.....some less.....)



This is a bus stop in Montreal

History 1

Our enthusiast group meets 2nd Wednesday 1.30pm to 3.45pm. Topics in February included: History of Napier Hospital, Mokopeka Power Station. March: AH (Alfred) Reed, Publisher, Author & Distance Walker, The SS Talune and Waikokopu HB Harbour, History of Kairakau. Antiques: History of The Humble Sandwich.

New Members always welcome. Now that Antiques and Collectables Group has closed, we have added a section in our programme to incorporate this, come and try us out.

Conveners: Norma Sinton Ph8448388, Chris Geddis Ph8353009

U3A SUBSCRIPTIONS: Are you a financial member?? Have you paid your subs for this year which were due 28th Feb? \$10pp or \$20 per couple. Contact our Treasurer Jeanette Elgie 844 4537

U3A Taradale Committee 2019

President Peter Green 845 1246
Secretary Sue Lambourn 845 1585
Past President Janice Cram 843 8329

Vice-President
Treasurer Jeanette Elgie 844 4537
Almoner Ann Green 845 1246

Committee Ann Green 845 1246
Wynn Barnett 844 2329
Peter Turnbull 834 4094

Beverley Turnbull 834 4094
Jenny Pyatt 836 7270
Franki James 843 5926

Newsletter Editors: Beverley & Peter Turnbull 834 4094 newsletters@taradaleu3a.org.nz

DATE TO REMEMBER: Wednesday 3rd April

Les Cunningham, the Hawke's Bay Field Officer attached to *Stroke Central Region*, will come to talk to U3A Taradale members in Taradale Town Hall on Wednesday, 3rd April on the subject of "Stroke Prevention".

Field Officers support all those affected by stroke from the very beginning of their stroke journey. They listen, provide resources and education and help to navigate the hospital system. Once the stroke survivor has been discharged from hospital the Field Officer will arrange a home visit and will set up a series of meetings that will provide all of the information and advice that you may need. The Field Officer will offer support and assistance in addressing challenges or concerns that are faced when living at home post stroke both for the person who has experienced a stroke and their partner/family/caregiver/whanau.

Please Note: The format of our two-monthly Coffee Meetings has changed, as follows:

10:00am U3A members seated for welcome and messages/update by President
10:15-10:45am Guest Speaker
10:45-11:00am Questions
11:00-11:30am Morning Tea and time for a chat