



Taradale U3A Newsletter

March 2020

taradaleu3a.org.nz

President Peter's Ponderings:

Happy Autumn to you all! It is encouraging to see that our membership numbers stay consistent and that there continues to be interest in our activities from potential members. Hopefully those members who have not yet submitted their membership for the coming year will continue to be active in their groups. The articles below show that there is a great variety of interests and the new ukulele group (details below) will also attract much interest; perhaps they will soon be entertaining us at one of our coffee mornings! Also of interest will be the Aria competition which U3A Taradale is sponsoring for the first time this Easter, continuing our relationship with the young people of the area. I encourage as many members as possible to attend what will be an enjoyable occasion; again, details below.

Just a reminder that there will be no coffee morning this year on the first Wednesday of April. All the best and Happy U3Aing!



Mythology Group 2020



Our group has 9 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 wrote last year. 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 began in 2012 so we had a discussion whether we just wanted to concentrate on Greek Mythology, which we did at the beginning or whether we should branch out into other mythologies or topics of interest to members. It was decided that those who wanted to concentrate on Greek Mythology could do so and others could choose alternatives.

Since the middle of last year we have studied the lesser fates, furies and nymphs associated with humans, myths of India, Ancient Egypt and Africa as well as mythical creatures like fairies, pixies, dragons, and water creatures like mermaids, naiads and selkies and Chinese myths particularly their dragons. From an Iliad translation of Jim Barker's book we learnt how King Priam ransomed Hector's body from Achilles. Continuing this Greek theme we heard many stories of Odysseus. Japanese and Egyptian stories followed as well as some more myths from Stephen Fry's book 'Mythos' and all the variety of tales concerning creation.

At our first meeting this year we heard the story of Heracles (Hercules) son of Zeus and a mortal; how he became so strong and how he was given 12 labours to test his skills. We heard four of these so will continue with the others next time. Our next myths were modern and came from Wairoa. These were particularly interesting being so close to home. The main tale was 'Te Pura Warrior Taniwha of Te Wairoa' (The Wairoa River).

Any new members are most welcome. **Pam Medcalf Convenor 8358231** medcalf6@xtra.co.nz

UKULELE GROUP

A new Ukulele Group, led by Chris Gibson started up on Thursday, 5th March. The group meets from 2pm to 3.30pm in his home at 12 Jervois Road, Jervoistown, Taradale. So dust off the ukulele that has been hiding in your cupboard gathering dust for years and give Chris a ring.

Convenor: Chris Gibson Tel. 06 650 7994.



History 1

Our enthusiast group meets 2nd Wednesday 1.30pm to 3.45pm. Taradale Senior Citizen's Lounge Symons Street Taradale. Topics in August 2019 included: Alexander Alexander, 1st Settler of Ahuriri, "The Whole 9 Yards" 10 Possibilities of Measurements, Collection of Royal First Day Covers, and Royal Tour Memorabilia, Volkswagen Beetle car and connection with Hitler and Nazis. September 2019 Included: Moonshine Valley, Manawatu, Sub-Antarctic Islands, History of Railcars 1955-78 in NZ, Party games of yesteryear. October 2019 Included: Portland Island Lighthouse, Captain Cook's arrival in NZ, NZ Wars National Day, Goldmining Karangahake, Prisoner of war in Italy POW camp, Mary Colenso. Victorian Silver Brooches of girls names Circa 1880. New Members always welcome. We also have an Antiques & Collectables segment in our programme. Come and try us out.

Conveners: Norma Sinton Ph: 844 8388, Chris Geddis Ph: 835 3009

.....

Poetry on a Wednesday, the first that comes along

At 2 o'clock we gather, at present seven strong.

This year so far we have not met so we know not yet if more we'll get

But we would welcome one or two. So this is what you need to do

If you wish to join with us, there really isn't any fuss.

Every month we hunt for poems about a subject we have chosen

It really is quite fun you see, so join us if you feel inclined

Lovely poems I know you'll find.

But if prose is more to your taste, you have not any time to waste,

Join us on the 'Stories' day and write down all you have to say

And save it for the younger folk, I'm sure they won't think it a joke!

The stories are on Thursday morn the second in the month, that's all.

We will then share a morning tea before we read our tales of glee.

10.30 is the time to meet and greet at 32 Trent Street.

Stories are ten minutes long each month you may continue on.

Please come and join our happy throng.

Sonia Mackenzie Ph: 844 4834



U3A LUNCH GROUP 3



2019 continued to be a successful year for us. We visited many interesting and varied restaurants. We meet for lunch at noon on the first Friday of each month. There are 30 members in our group and about 20 -25 attend regularly. Since July of 2019 we have visited some very interesting venues including; The Duke of Gloucester, Puketapu Hotel, RSA Napier, The Filter Room, Serendipity, and Jarks.

This year we have already visited The Boardwalk, and have several other exciting venues in the pipeline. If you would like to join our merry group please contact me.

Convenor Pam Medcalf Ph: 835 8231

.....

FACE THE MUSIC!



In keeping with *Taradale U3A's* professed belief in fostering relationships between the younger and older members of our community, this year for the first time it is sponsoring the first prize of \$500 in the *Recital Class* of the *Hawke's Bay Easter Festival* organised by the *Napier Performing Arts Competitions Society*. The *Recital Class* will take place at **7.30pm on Good Friday, 10th April, 2020**, in the *Pan Pac Foyer* of the **Municipal Theatre** in Napier and

it is hoped that as many *Taradale U3A* members as possible will be in the



audience. Competitors in the *Recital Class* will each perform a 15-minute programme comprising three items, being a 20th Century Art Song, a French *Mélodie* or a German *Lieder* to be sung in the original language, as well as an item of their own choosing - preferably pertaining to youth and age in accord with *Taradale U3A* philosophy.

Following the prize-giving by **Taradale U3A President Peter Green**, a light supper will be served upstairs to judges, competitors and their supporters, to which *Taradale U3A* members in the audience are invited.

Finalists in the *Recital Class* very often go through to the preliminary and even the final rounds of the prestigious *Hawke's Bay Aria* competition. The preliminary rounds of the *Aria* the first prize of \$4000 for which is this year being sponsored by *Operatunity*, will take place in the *Century Theatre* at 7.30pm on Saturday, 11th April, while the finals will also take place there as part of a Gala Evening at 7.30pm on Sunday 12th April. Tickets for these events will be available in advance from *Ticketek* or from the box office one hour prior to each performance, as follows: *Recital Class* (\$10) *Aria Preliminaries* (\$15) and *Aria Gala Evening* (\$25).

THE NAPIER TO WAIROA RAILWAY LINE IS REOPENING



Our KiwiRail freight trains will be returning to the Napier to Wairoa railway line on Saturdays and Sundays, beginning Sunday 26 January 2020, after 7 years away. Initially, one of the main sources of freight on this line will be logs from local forests, bound for export through the Port of Napier. These logs will be loaded onto our trains at the new Wairoa yard. Using rail to move these logs takes pressure off the roads and reduces greenhouse gases. Regular log trains will be running, and special rail vehicles will also travel on the

railway track for maintenance activities. With the track back in regular use, it's important to take special care around the railway tracks and level crossings in your region. We want to help you keep yourself, your members and others in your community safe around the railway tracks.

Keeping safe around the railway tracks.

Whether you're driving or on foot, please remember to look both ways for trains. Trains can come at any time, from either direction. Always cross with care at an official crossing.



"Merci pour un bon repas, les amis et le plaisir. Bon appetit."



So began our Lower Intermediate French group's late end of 2019 superb 6 course French degustation provided by one of our members, Barbara McK. We had a great turnout and a superb day – in fact one guest pronounced it to be the best French meal she has had since she lived in France! *Merci Barbara*. We are now looking forward to further adventures – en français of course.

Convenor: Lyn Lusby Ph: 845 4985

Taradale U3A Photography Group

The Photography Group gathers on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:30 pm. We meet at the Community Hall, Mission View Masonic Lodge Retirement Village, 190 Avondale Road, Greenmeadows. It's a great venue with modern facilities, just the right size for our group of about 20 people. We are lucky to be able to base ourselves there. At the beginning of each year, the list of topics to photograph is discussed and finalised. Then, each person who has an interest in a topic, researches techniques for getting the best results from it. At our meetings we each share our favourite ten photos from the month's topic and listen to the presentation on the topic for the following month. Most importantly, we always have afternoon tea to finish, which gives us the opportunity for a chat.

This year's topics include: Anything Vintage; Bridges, Wharves and Jetties; Water Features; Sunrise and Sunset; Bird-life; Black and White Landscapes and Clouds. We also have plans for a group outing to photograph a 'Non-Deco Tourist Tour'. Any interested people are very welcome to come along and check it out.



Convenor: Vivienne Wallace 021 152 0252

U3A Taradale Committee 2020

President	Peter Green	845 1246		
Secretary	Sue Lambourn	845 1585	Treasurer	Jeanette Elgie 844 4537
Almoner	Jenny Pyatt	836 7270		
Committee	Ann Green	845 1246	Beverley Turnbull	834 4094
	Wynn Barnett	844 2329	Jenny Pyatt	836 7270
	Peter Turnbull	834 4094	Franki James	843 5926
	Vince Allcock	845 3643		

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

DATES TO REMEMBER: **Monday 6th April** **Taradale Senior Citizens Hall**
Community Affairs next guest speaker: **Cherryl McConnel** – “What is needed in Early Childhood Education”.

**Napier Performing Arts
Competitions Society**

Presents

**Operatunity
Hawke's Bay Aria**



Finals Gala Performance

Sunday 12th April 2020

7.30pm

MTG Hawke's Bay Century Theatre

\$25 per Adult

\$10 per Student

Tickets available from
www.ticketek.co.nz OR

Venue Box Office sales one hour prior to show



operatunity

**Napier Performing Arts
Competitions Society**

is holding its

HAWKE'S BAY EASTER FESTIVAL

with competition classes in

VOCAL *Including* ARIA
INSTRUMENTAL
BALLET, TAP and MODERN DANCE

at the Municipal Theatre

OVER EASTER WEEKEND

THURSDAY 9th TO MONDAY 13th APRIL 2020

Entry Fees per session begin as low as
\$5 per Adult and \$2 per child

Instrumental from Thursday Evening at Municipal Theatre

Dance from Friday morning at Municipal Theatre

Junior Vocal Friday morning at Trinity Methodist Church

Senior Vocal from Friday at Municipal Theatre

Taradale U3A Recital Class 7.30pm Friday 10th Pan Pac Foyer
(\$10 Entry)

Operatunity HB Aria: Preliminaries 7.30pm Saturday 11th April
MTG HB Century Theatre (\$15 Entry)

Operatunity HB Aria: Finals 7.30pm Sunday 12th April
MTG HB Century Theatre (\$25 Adults- \$10 Students)

Check our website www.napierpacs.org.nz for
exact times, locations and prices.

*Sit back, relax and enjoy a
multitude of performing arts as well as providing support
to our young performers.*



Tickets can be purchased from the Venues over Easter