



Mana U3A (INC)

www.u3amana.org.nz

P O Box 57 042

Newsletter Number 72

January 2013

First Quarterly Meeting 2013

When: Thursday 28th February 2013

Where: St Mary's Church

Cnr Discovery Drive - Whitby Shopping Centre
(Drive to the Whitby shopping Centre. As you go up the drive to it, turn left away from the shops. St Mary's Hall is on the left nearest to the road).

Time: Doors Open 12.30 pm for finger food lunch 12.45 pm
Please contribute \$2.00 Koha

Lunch: Please bring a plate of finger food to share with others over a cup of tea or coffee before the meeting.

Meeting Format:

Lunch: 12.45 pm to 1.30pm

Guest Speaker: The Mayor of Porirua: Nick Leggett 1.30 – 2.00

Subject: A Vision for Porirua

Presentations: Course Coordinators 2.00 – 2.30 pm

A Message from Your President

Welcome to the 22nd year of Mana U3A's activities.

Our first Quarterly meeting details are here. To open our year we are having a finger food luncheon, but there won't be tables to eat at! Take note of the day and start time as they differ from last year. The Mayor of Porirua, Nick Leggett will talk to us and take questions.

You'll find information about our interest groups and seminars in this newsletter and can also hear about them at the Quarterly meeting.

Why not try something new this year?

As you consider your participation, contact the coordinator of any group that interests you. If a group is already full you can join their waiting list.

If you belong to a group and have decided to move on from it, please let that coordinator know too.

We really appreciate the work our coordinators do. Your committee also works well. They are ready to listen to any ideas you have. You'll see their names and contact details below.

Our treasurer will be waiting to receive subs from those who have yet to pay. The details are in this newsletter - internet banking is a good option.

At any time you can find information on our web page www.u3amana.org.nz so have a look there from time to time.

We look forward to seeing you on February 28.

Patsy Williamson
President

Mana U3A Committee Members 2013

President:	Patsy Williamson	233-1118
Vice President:	Brian Mosen	233-0709
Immediate Past President	Lisa Webber	234 7458
General Secretary	Sherwood Young	237-7335
Membership Secretary	Ross Williamson	233-1118
Treasurer	Adriaan Van der Walt	234 7610
Website & Newsletter	Geoff Cassels & Carolyn Rait	233-9155 234 7422
	Lisa Webber	234 7458
Hostesses:	Glenda Kropp & Jennifer Finlay	238-2118 233-0795

Notices

New Course:

Collectables

The format for this Group will be decided at the first meeting of interested members on Friday 1st March 2013. The idea is that each month there will be a theme i.e. postcards, plates, linen, glass, inherited items etc. etc. This list will be compiled out of member's interests. For details, see "Information on Courses" in our 2013 Curriculum below or contact:

Coordinator: Patsy Williamson at patsywilliamson@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 233 1118

Short Seminars

Climate Change

Dr David (Dave) Lowe, Adjunct Professor Antarctic Research Centre, Victoria University of Wellington and Director of LOWENZ Ltd, a small company focussed on climate change and renewable energy and science education will provide a half day seminar on climate change. The seminar will be run **on Monday 4 March 2013** commencing at 9.45 a.m. at St Andrews Church Parish Hall, Steyne Avenue, Plimmerton. Morning tea will be provided. There will be a nominal charge of \$2 per person. There are 50 places available so members need to register their interest on a list provided at the February quarterly meeting or contact:

Coordinator: Brian Mosen at brianmosen@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 233 0709

CPR - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

A two hour course covering cardiac arrest and CPR - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation will be provided by Jodie Alexander from the Wellington Free Ambulance. Jodie will discuss recognising a sudden cardiac arrest, teach "hands only" CPR and demonstrate how to use a defibrillator. The course will be run on Monday, 13 May at 9.45 am, in St Andrews Church Parish Hall, Steyne Avenue, Plimmerton. Morning tea will be provided. There will be a nominal charge of \$2 per person. There are 50 places available so members need to register their interest on a list provided at the February quarterly meeting or contact:

Coordinator: Brian Mosen at brianmosen@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 233 0709

The History of Porirua

During the winter months we are considering a three session course on the "History of Porirua". This would be divided to cover the period of "Porirua before the Pakeha" (Rhys Richards); European Settlement (Linda Fordyce) and a bus field trip in conjunction with Pataka. Please register your interest by contacting:

Coordinator: Brian Mosen at brianmosen@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 233 0709

Membership Subscriptions for 2013:

Please note that that your membership subscriptions for 2013 are now due for payment. Subscriptions remain at \$10 per member or \$15 per couple.

Payment can be made:

- In cash, directly to the Treasurer at the door of our February Meeting
- Or mailed to the Treasurer c/- Mana U3A (Inc) P O Box 57 042
- Or direct credited to the Mana U3A bank account. Details are on the attached Membership Renewal Form which can also be printed from our website. www.U3Amana.org.nz

Course Coordinators:

The course coordinators make our courses possible and we want you to see what they are doing for you. From time to time we need new coordinators. You can see its not too demanding as it all happens low key really. The Course Coordinator's role is to:

- Manage tutor's needs
- Arrange the time and place of meetings
- Report back about its activities
- Receive application for membership of course
- Keep a waiting list if necessary
- Liaise with group members
- Monitor attendance
- Ensure group members are financial members of a U3A (this can be any U3A such as Tawa, Wellington or Kapiti etc)
- May levy participants for an approved purpose
- Organise refreshments if needed.

Detailed Information on Courses in Our 2013 Curriculum

If you are interested in participating in any of the courses described below, please contact the coordinator whose name and telephone number is listed at the end of each course paragraph.

Book Group

The Book Group has covered a diverse range of topics during 2012 including YA cult books, Russia, Charles Dickens and the Waihi Dispute! We have a membership of 12, with no-one remaining on the waiting list. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 10 am in our own homes with different members leading the discussion. Our first meeting will be on 12th February at 8 Astronomer Place Whitby to share holiday reading and plan for 2013.

Coordinator: Lesley Harrison at lesleymargaret@hotmail.co.nz or ☎ 234-1677

Bridge

The Bridge Group meets from 9.30am - 12.00 noon every Monday at the Plimmerton Croquet Club. Previous experience is not a prerequisite to joining this group, nor is it necessary to have a partner. People can come to learn, or to be challenged, by players of varying degrees of skill. There is a small charge levied by the croquet club for the use of their facilities.

Coordinator: Ian Fowler at idnfowler@hotmail.com or ☎ 233-0045

Circa Theatre

The group periodically attend on the first Sunday of productions at 4 p.m. when the special price of \$25 is available. 'Peninsula', 'Floral Notes', Roger Hall's 'Shortcut to Happiness', 'West End Girls' (saucy!) & the comedy 'Clybourne Park' were enjoyed in 2012.

An interesting programme is on offer for 2013 and a small group has already enjoyed 'King of the Gym' on Anniversary Sunday.

Coordinator: Denise Watts at dtwatts@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 233-1920

Collectables

The format for this Group will be decided at the first meeting of interested members on 1st March 2013. The idea is that each month there will be a theme i.e. postcards, plates, linen, glass, inherited items etc. etc. This list will be compiled out of member's interests. A member will offer to research the topic for the month's meeting and gather any books or videos available from the library. Members will bring along any collectable that they have of that theme and be ready to show and tell the story. Occasionally we may have a speaker or an outing i.e. to an antique shop or auction or museum. We will not be valuing items. The course will meet in members homes on the first Friday each month at 1:30 p.m. Starting 1 March.

Coordinator: Patsy Williamson at patsywilliamson@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 233 1118

Creative Writing Group

Another group with more than thirteen years of activity to be proud of. The teaching of 'how to write' is not an aim for this dedicated group. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month in members' homes, for the very positive mutual encouragement and support we can give to each other. Several members of the group are published authors, with work as varied in content as in any group of this nature. Those not currently working on a project of their own enjoy the challenge of writing stories on a subject sentence or collection of words chosen at random from a dictionary each month - some of the results of these assignments have been of a high calibre. During 2012, one of our members (Pat Levy) was placed first in the Open Class of the Wellington Heritage Promotion Council Inaugural Short Story Competition sponsored by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust. She wrote a short story about the early development of Whitby with special reference to the lower lake and the walkway.

Coordinator - Judi Doornbos at judid@paradise.net.nz or ☎ 233 9693

Films

The Film Group again enjoyed a great variety of films during 2012. It can sometimes be difficult to choose a film which pleases everyone but over the year we have been successful in our choice. Our venue is again the Penthouse cinema in Brooklyn where we are now very well known and made welcome. After the film we discuss it in their very nice cafe where we can reserve a table and it is always a very enjoyable afternoon which is shown by the regular attendance of our members. The Penthouse cinema is a special place for our meetings. Our visits are on the third Saturday of the month and we go late mornings or early afternoons. We operate a car pool and passengers contribute to petrol costs. We will resume our film visits on Saturday 16th February, 2013.

Coordinator: Eileen Turner at dlt-et@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 232- 8616

Garden Group

The Garden Group has an enthusiastic and eclectic membership of around 40 members, and meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 10.00am. We visit a wide range of regional private and public gardens throughout the year, along with the sharing of ideas, organising speakers and swapping plants. Shared transport.

Coordinators: Judy McKoy at judymckoy@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 2339365
Pauline Morse at morse.pauline@gmail.com

Have Your Say

This group meets during winter months, for discussions and 'having our say' on various subjects of national and international significance. Meetings are held fortnightly for two hours and usually commence in April at the home of a Group member. Discussion subjects and meeting planning are agreed at the first meeting of the group each year. There is usually much lively discussion/debate as Members contribute from their wide diversity of life and career experiences in New Zealand and abroad. Interested new members should contact - Jennifer Cassels in the first instance. 'Have Your Say' will hold its first meeting for 2012 at 3/42 Mana Esplanade on 26th April 2013 at 10 am.

Coordinator - Jennifer Cassels at jennifer.cassels@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 233 9155

History of Western Music

Following on from last year's highly successful "History of Western Music" course. Carolyn Rait will provide four lectures on "**The Life, Times and Music of Individual Composers**", e.g. Purcell, Bach, Schubert etc. The courses will be held on Mondays 17 June, 1, 15, 29 July from 1.30 pm to 3 pm at the Plimmerton Croquet Clubrooms, Plimmerton Drive, off Ulric Street (Palmer's Garden Centre). The cost will be \$3 per person per session to cover room hire and afternoon tea.

Please register your interest by contacting:

Coordinator: Brian Mosen at brianmosen@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 233 0709

Needlecraft

The group meets fortnightly. The first meeting for 2012 will be held on Friday 3 Feb at 1.30 pm at 26 Milford Street, Aotea. Members work on individual projects which range from Fine Embroidery to knitting on large needles. We are a cooperative learning group and use our collective knowledge plus instruction manuals to learn new techniques. If you are interested in joining this group please contact:

Coordinator: Pat Levy at i.levy@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 238-2808

Outside the Square

For "One Off" educational experiences outside your comfort zone, this is the group for you! Each member has the opportunity to organize an activity for group participation and email notice is posted. We do this on a monthly basis, no set day and no set time. Gold Card travel is encouraged. RSVP is imperative. A sample of learning-curve activities experienced includes fabric painting, visiting craft workshops, special film viewing, specific gallery visits. A ceiling of \$15.00 cost applies, ruling out, inter alia, (phew!) Sky Diving and Bungy Jumping.

Coordinator: Lisa Webber at lisa.webber@hotmail.com or ☎ 234-7458

Play Reading

Our tutor, Pat Knight, has very kindly agreed to run this as a Winter Course in 2013. Starting in May, we shall meet monthly on a Friday morning. date and time to be notified. The course will probably run May – September
Numbers are limited so please make initial enquiries to

Coordinator: Dorothy Mitchell at r.d.mitchell@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 233-1346

Science Group

What was the geology group - and now covering sciences more generally, but still with a good deal of geology, will continue to meet every second Monday morning, 10.00 am at the Titahi Bay Bowling Club. The same format of alternate speakers and DVDs will continue with the occasional field trip. The first meeting on 11th February will consist of a DVD on the recent eruption of Mt Ruapehu and one about Joan Wifen, the first person to discover dinosaur bones in New Zealand. On 25 February, Bill McLea is leading a field trip to look at the paleobotany of Upper Hutt. A programme for the first half of 2013 will be circulated early in the New Year. Anyone who is interested should contact –

Coordinator: Peter Evans at lizpeter@actrix.co.nz or ☎ 233 9690

Traveller's Tales

We've had another interesting and informative year, with presentations on South of France, Greece, Italy, United Arab Emirates, Nepal, Arctic, Scandinavia, China, The Kermadecs and White Island, many interesting places around USA and Titanic 100 years ago. Already for 2013 we've booked presentations on; Budapest to Amsterdam, South Africa (from a South African View) From Florida USA to Calgary, Canada, Egypt and Jordan, Uganda and Tanzania. So please, if you enjoy travelling or enjoy listening to and watching presentations relating to travel and overseas experiences then Traveller's Tales is for you. We meet at St Mary's Anglican Church, Whitby (opposite Whitby Mall Complex and over the road from the Whitby Library). The first meeting for this year is Thursday 21st February at 9.45am for 10.15am start – till 11.45am. Meetings will be held on the third Thursday in February, March and April and the fourth Thursday from May to November inclusive. Subscription for the year is \$10 per member for room hire and expenses plus a gold coin "Koha" per meeting to cover morning tea and expenses of invited speakers. For an enjoyable morning to hear about interesting places, you are welcome to join Traveller's Tales.

Coordinators: David & Velma Knight dvknight@xtra.co.nz ☎ Kapiti 04 299 1539

Visits to Places of Interest

This group meets during the winter months, May to October, generally on the first Tuesday of each month. We have been to the Kapiti Coast, Upper Hutt and the city to museums, art galleries, heritage sites and talks. We are open to suggestions for interesting outings. We usually meet for lunch afterwards:

Coordinators: Rae Collins at crenrae@clear.net.nz or ☎ 234 7476

New Interest Groups

We welcome any ideas from members for suitable new interest groups.

Please contact - Patsy Williamson at patsywilliamson@xtra.co.nz or ☎ 233 1118.

President's Annual Report (Presented at Mana U3A) 21 November 2012

It is my pleasure to present the 21st annual report of the Mana U3A.

This is the first AGM to be held at the St. Mary's Church in Whitby, as at the beginning of 2012 this became our new venue. A recent questionnaire confirmed satisfaction with this arrangement.

This has been another successful year where our members have enjoyed the stimulation and social interaction gained from our activities. Our thanks go to the coordinators and tutors who keep the interest groups progressing. We held a thank you for their contribution, at a recent afternoon tea and theatre outing.

Our 185 members have had the opportunity to participate in fifteen interest groups this year. Two of these being new - the history of music course and a play reading group. Both of these have been very successful. We also offered a second writers' group and a second book group to augment full courses but the need was not great.

We have some new groups in the pipe line for 2013 and if you have experience or knowledge, perhaps from your career years or a favorite hobby, that you could share with others, please consider offering to tutor or convene a group for that interest.

This year we have held two seminars, one preparing us for the television change over from analogue to digital and the second helping us to make better use of cell phones.

Our guest speakers at the quarterly meetings in the last twelve months have presented a variety of subjects.

The AGM 2011 speaker was Megan Williams who prepared us for the International Festival of the Arts.

In February, Lynne Jackett - Former Research Librarian at the National Library shared her knowledge with us.

In May we were entertained, as well as informed, by Victor Young speaking about his career as a Customs Officer.

In August David Pimblott - CEO of North South GIS Group Ltd, told us what goes on in the building across the way from here.

All information about the U3A and its events is available on our excellent web site and newsletters are sent to everyone at regular intervals.

Thank you to all the committee members for their work this year. It has been a pleasure to be in a team of energetic, reliable, willing people. All have accepted nomination for the coming year and we also have some new nominees offering their skills to our committee.

Thank you everyone for your positive support, in this my first year as President.

Patsy Williamson