



MANA U3A Inc

August 2021 Newsletter

New Members

We have had several new members. I hope to send you a full list early next year.

Your New Executive Committee

We were very fortunate at our recent AGM to have some wonderful people put their hands up to serve the organisation for the next year:

President	Kay Phillips	46nanakay@gmail.com	0279758569
Immediate Past President	Bill Gebbie	billnmary@xtra.co.nz	04 237 6514 027 677 0180
Secretary	Carolyn Rait	carolyn.rait@gmail.com	0211210218
Treasurer	Vacant Currently being filled by Pat Wilson	patgar.wils@gmail.com	0274488254
Membership Secretary	Michael Lynch	m.lynch@xtra.co.nz	04 235 6531
Venue and Hospitality	Marcia Forsman	marcia@venture.co.nz	021406570
Equipment	Colin Brown	baykiwi@gmail.com	04 236 8789 028 413 2372
Interest Groups Manager	Michael Lynch	m.lynch@xtra.co.nz	04 235 6531
Committee	Julie Kropp	sweet_lute@yahoo.com	04 233 1066

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Email: u3mana@gmail.com

Interest Groups

Many thanks to the Coordinators of Interest Groups who sent me a brief annual report to share with you. These are set out in full at the end of this Newsletter. Please could other coordinators please email me your report so we can extract the necessary information to keep our website current and ready for 2022?

Covid-19 and Vaccine Passes

Here is the decision about requiring Vaccine Passes at Mana U3A (Inc) events and meetings, including all Interest Groups

After robust discussion it was decided that 2021 Mana U3A becomes a COVID vaccination passport (or have proof of medical exemption) organization for the following reasons

- The age of our members who are in one of the demographic groups at risk of COVID and vulnerable to infections
- The medical evidence that shows vaccinated people are much less likely to pass on, catch or get seriously ill than unvaccinated people
- Our obligation as a responsible organization
- Most venues will insist on attendees be double vaccinated.

This means that when you next attend an interest group, quarterly meeting or other Mana U3A (Inc) activity or event you will need to show your Vaccine Pass or proof of exemption, to gain entry.

If you are unsure of how to get a pass, your local pharmacy can help do this as can the Covid-19 Helpline. *It took me about 2 minutes to get mine.*

Subscriptions

Again, many thanks to all who have already paid – almost half our membership paid by or shortly after, our AGM last month. It is a small sub of \$10.00 and easily forgotten, so why not go to your phone or internet banking right away and pay into KiwiBank Account: MANA U3A (INC) A/c No 38 9023 0226804 00 stating your name and “Sub”. Please do not pay into our former account with Westpac. If your Internet Banking still has the old account number, **PLEASE** do change it before making the payment.

If you are not vaccinated and wish to put your membership of U3A on hold until such time as Passes are no longer required, please apply for a refund by email to our Treasurer whose details are in the chart above.

Quarterly Meeting Dates 2022

We are staying with the third Thursday of the quarterly months for 2022. We hope to bring you guest speakers of the calibre of Dr Swee Tan who was exceptionally well received in November.

Dates to diarise now:

Thursday 17 February 2022

Thursday 19 May 2022

Thursday 18 August 2022

Thursday 17 November 2022(Quarterly Meeting and AGM)

The venue will remain:

North Porirua Baptist Church

69F Discovery Drive Whitby

Time: 12.15pm for a shared meal (catered for the AGM) followed by the meeting at 1.00 pm.

Other U3A Links That May Be Useful

<https://www.u3atawa.org.nz/>

<https://www.kapitiu3a.com/>

<https://u3awellingtoncity.org.nz/>

What other events and activities do you want U3A to provide?

Talk to any Executive Committee member if you are a bright ideas person... Your Executive Committee works at providing an interesting programme for our members. Let us help you find the activity you want. If your friends and acquaintances are interested in the things listed below then maybe Mana U3A is for them.

Interest and Hobby Groups

A Sense of Belonging

Fun and Companionship

Regular Meetings

Do you know someone who may enjoy being, and benefit from, being a Mana U3A member? Give them the Membership Form attached to the newsletter email. Or just bring them along on Thursday 17 February.

See you then.

Kindest regards

Kay

President
Mana U3A Inc

Interest Groups' Reports 2021

Thursday Book Discussion Group

The book discussion group 2 meets on the second Thursday of the month from April - November. Members read and talk about the book they have read according to the topic for the month. Topics for 2021 (and also 2022), Foreign author, Historical fiction, Book bag, Classics, Biography/autobiography, Fiction, Crime/mystery/detective. Due to COVID we were not able to have all our meetings in 2021 and because of this we presented two topics at some meetings. Carolyn Rait is coordinator.

Scrabble Group Report

The scrabble group meets once a month on a Friday morning at 10 at a member's home. After a cuppa (and an assortment of delicious food) and a catch up we make up two teams and play one (or sometimes two) games. However skilled the player luck inevitably plays a big part, and fortunes can change abruptly when a gap opens up to win a lot of points with a high value tile- or the doldrums set in and a tame, low points word is all that's possible. We all have our days of stunning success, and of inglorious efforts! Above all we have fun, and inevitably come away having spent a great morning together. Contact Bill Gebbie on 0276770180 if you're interested in joining our group.

Travellers Tales

Our members continue to be enthused and strongly interested in travel. We have towards 30 attending each monthly meeting. Most presenters are our own people but we have also had some outside speakers. Significantly our members have been unable to travel overseas so do not have fresh experiences to present to us. We considered going into recess in 2022 because of this. However we all want to keep going and will begin again in April with a list of potential presenters to see us through 2022. We continue to meet at St. Marys Whitby and have recently begun using their projection equipment which saves Colin Brown, (U3A equipment manager) having to transport and erect the U3A equipment. Our major expense is hall hire. We have had to cancel meetings during lock downs and have not served afternoon tea while on Covid Level 2. Patsy and Ross Williamson coordinate the Travellers' Tales.

Walking Group

Half a dozen members enjoyed a few walks around the Whitby area on a Thursday morning until Covid-19 made life difficult. We intend to restart the group over the summer and so if you are interested please contact Kay Phillips. Light exercise is great for us all.

Garden Group

The 28-strong Garden Group met monthly except for one month when Covid-19 meant we couldn't use our hall. For the months September to April we visited gardens, both

public and private and these were a delight. Seeing how others use their skill and imagination to create beautiful spaces is a sheer joy. We are very non-judgemental as we do appreciate that not everyone wants a group of strangers tramping around and possibly critiquing their gardens. About 20 members usually attend these meetings. In the colder months we meet in a church hall and enjoy a gardening-related speaker. We also have a benching competition, a swap table and often a small raffle. Meetings generally begin with a morning tea as a means of letting everyone catch up with each other's latest news. Most members come to the winter meetings. Our coordinator is Kay Phillips.

Science Group

Fortnightly Meetings at the Combined Church Mana Avenue, Titahi Bay
Video presentation/discussion on a wide range of scientific subjects
Meeting since 1991. New members welcome.

Other Interest Groups include:

Mah Jong

Book Discussion 1

Bridge

Creative Writing

Family History

Films at the Lighthouse

Handcraft

Play Reading

Theatrical Shows

These Changing Times