



MANA U3A Inc

February 2022 Newsletter

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## Quarterly Meeting

**Date:** Thursday 17 February 2022

**Time:** 12.30 pm for conversation and Passport checking. Business begins at 1.00 pm. **There will be no shared lunch at this meeting.**

**Venue:** North Porirua Baptist Church, 69F Discovery Drive Whitby

**Speaker:** Lewis Ferris, Meteorological Service. *“Can we put our washing our tomorrow?”*

**Apologies:** to our President by Wednesday 16 February please.

Vaccine Passes will be checked at the door. Any possible cancellation will be emailed to all members by Wednesday 16 February.

## New Members

We have had some new members since the AGM and I'll introduce these folk at the Quarterly Meeting. I know you'll all make them feel welcome.

## Covid-19 and Vaccine Passes

After robust discussion late last year by the Executive Committee and suggestions from members it was decided that for 2022 Mana U3A becomes a COVID vaccination passport (or have proof of medical exemption) organisation 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
- Many of our meetings include food and drink.

**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.

**Masks may be worn, but from 4 February, if a group has exclusive use of a venue, masks are not mandatory. This would apply to most Interest Groups and our quarterly meetings. The 100 person maximum remains in effect.**

## Subscriptions

Remember that 17 February 2022 is the final date by which to pay your subscription to remain a member of Mana U3A (Inc). 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.

**NB: An unnamed member paid a sub in cash at the Bank on 9 December 2021.** We have no record of who this may be as no name was given on the deposit slip. Please can this person contact Pat, our Treasurer, urgently, so we may update our records?

## Interest Groups

A few of our Interest Groups have decided not to hold their February meeting and will reconsider for March. If unsure, please check in with your Coordinator.

### 1. Report from Poetry Appreciation

I inadvertently omitted the Poetry Appreciation Report from our final 2021 Newsletter so here it is now. My apologies, Helen.

The Poetry Appreciation Group has been going for three years. In 2021, the six members have met 9 times, in fact every month from February to November except August, due to the Covid-19 lockdown.

#### **The topics have included:**

Shakespeare sonnets and songs from the plays  
Poems that focus on the weather or the seasons  
New Zealand male poets whose surname begins A-M  
Humorous Poetry  
American Poetry  
America's most popular contemporary poet, Billy Collins  
Poems that focus on flower imagery  
Poems that feature animals  
Light-hearted Poetry

We took a break in December 2021 and resume meetings in February 2022.

**Helen Reilly (Convenor)**

## 2. Interest Groups on Website

The list of Interest Groups on our website will be updated in the next few days.

## 3. This Overview has come in from the Writing Group:

The writing group meets on the third Wednesday of each month. We write for enjoyment and sharing our stories with others. A focus for our writing is decided at each meeting and these can include 'Anniversary', 'A Trump story', 'Maps', or an 'An ABC mystery'. Sometimes we explore the intricacies of writing poetry. At other times we write about our own experiences or explore writing fiction. We share our stories at the meeting. At times members of the group share past stories. We enjoy our time together over a cup of tea or coffee and something to eat. We take turns to meet in each other's house. In January we usually meet for a chat at a café. The group has decided not to meet in February.

**Co-ordinator: Christine Healy (04 236 8573)**

## 4. A special note from Mah Jong

Irene, the tutor, would like to have all the beginners start together so as to save teaching in dribs and drabs all year. To that end, **free lessons** will begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in March, the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in June and the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in September.

## 5. The Weekly Walking Group

... will resume on Thursday 17 February at 9.30 am If you wish to re-join or start with this group please phone Kay on 0279758569.

## 6. Book Discussion

Lesley's Book Group has decided not to meet during February.

## General News and Activities

1. A special note to friends of our **Life Member, Isabel Roxburgh**: After a series of difficulties, Isabel has moved to Summerset Village. Please contact the Village on 04 235-0011 if you want further news of Isabel. Please do not visit without calling Summerset first.
2. **Would you like a guided tour of Kapiti Museum?**

Bill Gebbie is seeking interest in a guided tour of Kapiti Museum. There is not a lot of space in the museum, which would limit the group to around 10. If enough people are interested Bill will arrange possible visiting times with the museum.

Kapiti Museum is a short walk from Waikanae Railway Station. The museum is home to a variety of objects, photographs, archives and displays, including items from local history and a unique collection of historic communications equipment. Bill visited it over Wellington Anniversary weekend and was fascinated by the variety of items displayed in the museum and the stories about its collection.

The trip would involve a train ride up to Waikanae, a short walk to the museum, a guided

tour, and a possible refreshment stop at a nearby cafe before returning home on the train. Entry to the museum and the tour would probably be by koha – possibly around \$5 per person.

Let Bill know on 0276770180 or [billnmary@xtra.co.nz](mailto:billnmary@xtra.co.nz) if you would be interested in this trip.

3. If there is enough interest, a **Photo Management Seminar** may be offered to members who want to be able to manage their digital photos. Please add your name to the list that will be available at the Quarterly meeting.
4. The **Friends of the Wellington Botanic** Gardens hold regular **Guided Walks** within the Botanic Gardens. For 2022 they have some fascinating walks planned. These are free for Friends and have a small charge for others. For the list of walks look on their website at : <https://friendsofthewellingtonbotanic.wordpress.com/events/>
5. The weekly **Age Concern** newsletter describes many activities and programmes which may be of interest to our members. For example:

**Staying Safe** is a free classroom-based refresher workshop for senior road users. Age Concern delivers this programme in partnership with Waka Kotahi (NZTA). The workshop aims to maintain and improve safe driving practices and increase the knowledge of other transport options available to help senior road users remain safely mobile.

**Steady as You Go Falls Prevention Exercise Classes** are designed to improve strength and balance and help prevent a fall. The classes improve balance and leg strength, flexibility, general fitness and wellbeing, and are a great way to meet new people. Classes consist of a combination of sitting, standing and walking exercises, and take around an hour.

**Appy Seniors** is a new age-friendly free community project to help seniors (ages 65+) engage in the digital world using apps on their smartphones.

The Age Concern **website** has further information: [www.acwellington.org.nz](http://www.acwellington.org.nz)

6. **Shamilla Gurr, Porirua City Library**, who spoke to us last year, has asked if there is anything else our members would like from the Library. Please contact me if you have any suggestions.

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

## Your 2022 Executive Committee

We were very fortunate at our 2021 AGM to have some wonderful people put their hands up to serve the organisation for the next year:

President	Kay Phillips	<a href="mailto:46nanakay@gmail.com">46nanakay@gmail.com</a>	0279758569
Immediate Past President	Bill Gebbie	<a href="mailto:billnmary@xtra.co.nz">billnmary@xtra.co.nz</a>	04 237 6514 027 677 0180
Secretary	Carolyn Rait	<a href="mailto:carolyn.rait@gmail.com">carolyn.rait@gmail.com</a>	0211210218
Treasurer	Pat Wilson	<a href="mailto:patgar.wils@gmail.com">patgar.wils@gmail.com</a>	0274488254
Membership and Interest Groups Secretary	Michael Lynch	<a href="mailto:m.lynch@xtra.co.nz">m.lynch@xtra.co.nz</a>	04 235 6531
Venue and Hospitality	Marcia Forsman	<a href="mailto:marcia@venture.co.nz">marcia@venture.co.nz</a>	021406570
Audio Visual & Website	Colin Brown	<a href="mailto:baykiwi@gmail.com">baykiwi@gmail.com</a>	04 236 8789 028 413 2372
Interest Groups Manager	Michael Lynch	<a href="mailto:m.lynch@xtra.co.nz">m.lynch@xtra.co.nz</a>	04 235 6531
Committee	Julie Kropp	<a href="mailto:sweet_lute@yahoo.com">sweet_lute@yahoo.com</a>	04 233 1066

**Postal Address: 24 Margaret Shields Avenue, Aotea, Porirua 5024**

**Email:** [46nanakay@gmail.com](mailto:46nanakay@gmail.com)

## U3A Links That May Be Useful

[https:// www.u3amana.org.nz](https://www.u3amana.org.nz)

<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**

**Lifelong Learning**

**Regular Meetings**

***Do you know someone who may enjoy being, and benefit from being, a Mana U3A member? Please 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 Phillips*

President  
Mana U3A (Inc)