



U3A WARKWORTH *Learning is forever*

www.u3a.co.nz

Newsletter August - September 2005, #4

From the President

I am sorry that I shall not be attending the next General Meeting on the 8th August because once again Beulah has lined up some very good speakers. The complementary light lunch that follows the meeting sounds good to me too, and I hope that you all enjoy it and I look forward to hearing reports. Bad timing on my part!

I am definitely going to take advantage of U3A On-Line courses in September and have already made a short list of interesting subjects. For anyone with basic computer skills, there is a whole new world out there to enjoy.

If you use a computer take a look at our own website www.u3a.co.nz set up by Alan so competently and which will eventually carry our news and group reports. Last month I printed our Newsletter direct from the website and was totally delighted with the appearance of it.

Best wishes for a good meeting on the 8th.

Iris Mee
July 2005

Editor's Desk

As Iris mentioned above, U3A Warkworth has now launched its own web site. This will allow a much more flexible and timely way to keep in contact with each other. Have a look at www.u3a.co.nz in your computer's web browser and you will see the first version. Future editions could include last-minute changes to meetings, local chit-chat, links to other interesting sites, in fact almost anything! I would welcome any contribution such as digital photos, meeting details, articles and ideas on what you would like to include in the future. If there are any members who would like to join a 'web editorial team', especially those with reporting or digital imaging skills, please contact me, together we could set up a U3A site that could become a national U3A web hub. Already we have had an enquiry from a U3A Group in the South Island that may be interested in having a page in our 'hub'. Who said we are 'past it'!?

Many of you would probably be happy to receive your newsletter by email instead of by post. If you are, please send a short email with your email address to yes@u3a.co.nz

Big thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Group News section for this edition.

If there are any errors or changes in your mailing address, please let us know so that we can keep our records up-to-date.

Alan Spicer,
editor@u3a.co.nz

Jean-Paul Sartre is sitting in a French cafe, revising his draft of "Being and Nothingness." He says to the waitress, "I'd like a cup of coffee please, with no cream." The waitress replies, "I'm sorry, monsieur, but we're out of cream, how about with no milk?"

PLEASE NOTE: A complementary finger-food lunch follows the general meeting!

NEXT GENERAL MEETING and LUNCH

Monday 8th August, 9:45 a.m. at the New Masonic Hall
(The entrance is on top floor of Council/New World car park building)

10.00 am Meeting Commences

DUTY GROUPS– Stories from Life and Mediaeval History
CONVENORS: - Averil Lovegrove (422-6365) & Linda Moore (425-4959)

The programme will be as follows:-

9:15 a.m.	Duty Group arrive to set up
9:45 a.m.	Assemble
10:00 a.m.	General Business
	Mini Speaker – Jean Little on 'Alopecia'
11:00 a.m.	Main Speaker– Noella Sawyers on 'The Fencibles'
12:00 noon	Finger-food lunch

NB: *It would be appreciated if the Duty Group could also assist with the room preparation for the Meeting. The Hall will be open from 9.15 a.m.*

PLEASE NOTE: A complementary finger-food lunch follows the general meeting!

SPEAKERS

Jean Little.

Jean was instrumental in setting up the National Support Group for alopecia sufferers. She has just successfully concluded a long battle with the Department of Health that has resulted in the continuation of financial assistance for the affected people.

Jean spent 7 years lecturing hairdressing students at the Manukau Technical Institute before moving to Snells Beach.

I am sure that Jean will give us an interesting insight into this surprisingly common 'hidden affliction'.

Noella Sawyers.

Noella, who is currently President of the Epsom U3A Group, grew up hearing the stories told by her grandparents about The Fencibles of Auckland. These fascinating stories led her to the study of the Genealogy of them and her family, and to her eventually becoming secretary of the Royal New Zealand Fencible Society.

Who were the Fencibles? Where did they come from? And what was their important role in early Auckland history?

Noella will reveal all!

GROUP NEWS

N.Z. Art Appreciation

In June we went to Lopdell House in Titirangi to see the Matariki exhibition. Five Maori women artists provided food for thought with paintings and carvings, plus a smaller exhibition showed another aspect of Matariki.

Paua shells were attached to the ceiling and walls like pairs of eyes from the Pleiades constellation, also known as the Seven Sisters.

Later we had lunch together at a large table in a café in Titirangi and were able to discuss future outings etc.

In July we went to the studio of a local artist Jeanette Switzer, to see her silver jewellery and art. She described how she made her hand-made jewellery and her other artwork, inspired by nature.

She uses mixed media – using dyes for colours and different marks and textures. Also interesting was how she taught herself to use the computer, allowing her to print poetry and words on her paintings,

Also the computer helps her to find markets for her work and to keep abreast of developments in the art world.

We then travelled to the nearby Matakana Country Park to see the Solstice Photography Exhibition – mainly black and white photos of trees and landscapes which were quite stunning; also a series on the NZ mutton bird, plus other topics. Worth a visit as it stays open until August 6th.

Next month we will have an at-home meeting to discuss our favourite NZ artist so everyone can contribute.

(Contributed by Colleen Kangwai)

Mediaeval History

This year the group is concentrating on the Tudor Period, largely in the United Kingdom, with such topics as Henry VIII's wives, The Reformation, Mary Queen of Scots, Bloody Mary, and the Tudors in Ireland.

With such a confined period, there is of necessity some overlap, but this is not found to be a problem, however, the period will by no means be exhausted by the end of 2005. Meanwhile, members are enjoying the research and presentations.

(Contributed by Linda Moore)

Book Talk

Read a good book lately, or run out of authors you like and want more variety? Well, the Book Group is for you. There are 13 of us, meeting on the first Tuesday of the month, starting at 10 a.m. with coffee and cake. Thereafter, each person in turn briefly reviews a book so that people can note authors and titles that appeal to them. At just about every meeting we have an impromptu discussion about a subject arising from one of the books (sometimes serious, sometimes funny).

Don't be afraid of pressure to produce an outstanding book every month – that's not easy to do, so if you haven't read anything worthwhile that month, come and hear what others have read or let us know what you didn't enjoy.

What sort of books? - Mostly novels, but also non-fiction, autobiographies, thrillers, humour, travel, history, science etc. What better way to pass a wet winter's day than to curl up with a good book you heard about at Book Group?
(Contributed by Lorraine Edwards)

Polite Request

There have been occasions when hostesses or hosts have catered for a large group, only to find that a very small number attend a particular meeting. Please, please, please could members remember to phone the Convenor or host(ess) if unable to attend a regular group meeting.

Why not visit a new Group? – You may become a convert.

Diary notes

The next General Meeting of U3A will be on 10th October. The deadline for inclusion of items in the next Newsletter (due out in August) is 25th September.

Visit your Web Site: www.u3a.co.nz

If you would like your next newsletter sent by email please send a message to: yes@u3a.co.nz

U3A WARKWORTH STUDY GROUP MEETINGS
August-September 2005

STUDY GROUP	Convenor	Phone	Time	August	September
Ancient History	Jim McKinlay	422-9063	9:30 a.m.	5th "A Short History of Progress" Ch.2 15a Walton Ave, WW	2nd "A Short History of Progress" Ch.3 7 David William Place, WW
Book Talk	Lorraine Edwards	422-7071	10:00 a.m.	2nd 16a Waimanu Place, Point Wells	6th 2/5 Walton Ave, WW
Current Affairs	Elaine Ellison-Smith	425-9138	2:00 p.m.	18th 99 Sharp Rd, Matakana	15th 8 Harbour View Rd, Point Wells
Film Appreciation	Beulah Heaven	425-6545	Varies	22nd Phone Beulah, 425-6545 for info. (N.B. Date change to 4th Monday)	26th Phone Beulah, 425-6545 for info.
Grandparent Writing	Margaret Cross	425-8915	1:00 p.m.	18th Venue - will advise	15th Venue - will advise
Jazz Listening	Graham Ryburn	425-0536	2:00 p.m.	18th Orchestrated Jazz 4 Mellwood Dr, WW	15th Will advise subject and venue later
Mediaeval History	Chris Hoogerwerf	425-5022	9:30 a.m.	19th Tulip Mania 16a Waimanu Place, Point Wells	16th Mary Queen of Scots 988 Matakana Rd, Matakana
Music Appreciation	Pip Perrins	425-6889	1:30 p.m.	4th "Why Form?" 93 Hauiti Drive, WW	1st Nursery Rhymes and their origins 1 Hibiscus Place, Snells Beach
NZ Art Appreciation	Berris Spicer	422-2685	10:00 a.m.	3rd A favourite New Zealand Artist 8 Harbour View Rd, Point Wells	7th Whangarei galleries/artists visit Details will be advised
Opera Appreciation	Jim McKinlay	422-9063		Still cooking - contact Jim if interested	
Play Reading	Iris Mee & Lorna Laxton	425-7934 422-7840	9:30 a.m.	9th Chekhov, 2 1-act plays."The Bear"&"The Proposal" 19 Puriri Place, Brick Bay	13th Arthur Miller "The Crucible" 38 Kauwau View Rd, Snells Beach
Poetry Reading	Yolande Carter	425-5988	1:30 p.m.	17th NZ Poet Glen Colquhoun 19 Panui Place, Snells Beach	21st Dylan Thomas "Under Milkwood" 44 Fidelis Ave, Snells Beach
Stories from Life-An Incident in your Life	Averil Lovegrove	422-6365	1:30 p.m.	8th Venue - will advise	12th Venue - will advise