



From Your Outgoing President

What a wonderful summer!

There has been no-one huffing about, complaining of imminent expiry from the heat. I have not had to water the garden and the grass has remained green. I don't have to look for excuses for slothing about inside with a book instead of weeding. No anxiety about not fitting into last year's summer clothes. Wow! What more can I say!

Unfortunately I will be in Masterton on the date of our AGM. Don't forget to diary the meeting – it will be a good one, and result in the appointment of your new President and new Committee. They need your support and input. Remember any U3A is only as vibrant and exciting as its members. We currently have one nomination for President (Iris Mee). Iris has been a valued member of U3A for many years and has held different offices including a somewhat abbreviated year as President.

It is timely to express my thanks to our wonderful committee who have collectively been a joy to work with and have made my position so pleasurable. One of their roles was the organisation of the Christmas Lunch function which so many of you found so enjoyable.

Next year promises to be an eventful one for our burgeoning area, so make the most of your U3A.

With all good wishes,
Beulah Heaven

EDITOR'S DESK

Best wishes to all members for this New Year. This issue is an important one since it covers items such as our AGM in mid-February, the need for nominations for the 2005 year's Committee and payment of subscription fees which are now due. You will see this issue includes sections relating to nominations and subscriptions which require **your input and action** so please attend to these matters promptly (rather than getting around to them later!). Activity is also very evident with the Study Groups and their Convenors as you will learn from Linda Moore's contribution, plus the new schedule of meetings for February/March. So all in all, this issue has very much an information and update emphasis.

This issue will be my last one, having been Editor now for three years, and it is time for another person to take up the role. The new Committee will be addressing this. I am keen to continue serving on the Committee in 2005 and have indicated I would be happy to carry on with the Secretary role.

Ken Diprose

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Monday 14th February at 9.45 a.m. at the New Masonic Hall (entrance is on top floor of Council/New World car park building)

10.00 am Meeting Commences

DUTY GROUP

MUSIC APPRECIATION: CONVENOR Pip Perrins Phone 425 6889

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

The programme will be as follows:-

9.45 a.m.	Assemble
10.00 a.m.	AGM Commences
10.30 a.m. (approx)	Morning tea
10.45 a.m.	Introduction to Study Groups (Linda Moore) Followed by <u>brief</u> presentations from certain Convenors
11.15 a.m. (approx)	Mini-speaker BARBARA SOUTER on 'Developments in Matakana Village

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2005 COMMITTEE

Our Constitution states the Committee should comprise at least 6 members and not more than 10. Nominations shall be called for either the position of President or a Committee Member. At our recent Committee Meeting almost all existing members expressed interest in continuing to serve during 2005. However, we do seek nominations of new people to the Committee. Would you all please consider this issue and should you wish to nominate someone, a Nomination Form is included with this Newsletter. Its completion is quite straightforward and any necessary instructions are included with it. Please note the deadline of February 8th for receipt of completed forms by the Secretary.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ SUBSCRIPTIONS \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Payment of the annual subscription for 2005 is now due. The cost, unchanged from last year, is \$20 (single) or \$35 (double). This year we would again ask members to complete the subscription form (included in this newsletter) and mail this with their cheque to U3A, c/o Treasurer, P.O. Box 520, Warkworth. Cheques should be made payable to U3A WARKWORTH.

This procedure will also assist us with checking our present membership records of names addresses and contact telephone numbers. Your prompt co-operation in renewing your subscription would be appreciated.

You will note the form includes an item concerning non-renewal (which I hope nobody contemplates!). Seriously, if for whatever reason you do not wish to continue your subscription in 2005, it would help our Membership Committee people very much if you would still complete the form and mail it back to our P.O. Box number. This would reduce the work involved in checking with members whose subscription is not received over the next couple of months and ascertaining their intentions.

STUDY GROUPS

Linda Moore introduces this section, followed by news from two convenors on changes to their Study Groups for 2005.

GREETINGS – Hello everyone and a Happy New Year to all.

The Study Groups will be resuming shortly, some with new leaders, and all, we hope, with the enthusiasm shown in the past. See the meeting schedule at the end of this newsletter for details.

Could Group Leaders please note we will have a SHORT meeting after the AGM on February 14th at the Masonic Hall; this saves people having to come out again. I shall be looking for group membership lists also, so if your group has already met, you might bring that.

I trust everyone has a happy and fulfilling year in the Study Group(s) they have chosen.

Hoping to see you all, **Linda Moore, Groups Co-ordinator**

MUSIC APPRECIATION GROUP

On behalf of all MUSIC GROUP members may I say a very warm thank you to Valma Gidman, outgoing convenor, for all her hard work and efficient running of the group over the years – it really has been appreciated.

As your new convenor, I would like to make one change to the administration of the group: in future I will not be phoning to remind you of the next meeting and so if you cannot make it for any reason, please phone either myself or that month's host/hostess to let them know. Thank you.

The theme for 2005 will be “Types of Musical Composition” – for example, sonata, symphony, concerto, chamber music, requiem – but please feel free to choose your own topic if you prefer.

We will start the New Year with a light hearted quiz at my new home (note new address: 44 Fidelis Avenue, Snells Beach) so please bring pencil and pad along with you. We’ll work in pairs to make it less onerous or embarrassing.

Well, happy holidays everyone and I look forward to meeting up again in February.

Pip Perrins

FILM APPRECIATION GROUP

This is not so much a new Group as the gradual emergence from the Gallivanter’s Group of members’ preference for a monthly shared visit to the cinema. We are generally able to make our film selection in time for publication in the U3A Newsletter, but for obvious reasons there is sometimes a change in the time of performance (e.g. if the attendance has dropped off at the 11 a.m. session, at the Bridgeway then it will be exchanged for a 1 p.m. showing and we don’t get a lot of warning for this). It is expected that most, but not all, of our excursions this year will be to the Bridgeway Cinema at Northcote.

The Group meets on the second Thursday of the month (note the change) at 9.45 a.m. at the upper level of the New World car park, near where we have our U3A meetings. It is not necessary to be a member of the Group to participate, but because of car pooling it is advisable to notify the Convenor. The outing consists of Cinema plus Lunch – which comes first depends on the scheduling time of the film. Driving is voluntary and passengers make a contribution towards the petrol.

The movie for Thursday 10th February will be Phantom of the Opera. The time to be announced nearer the date as it is quite a long film and we may need to leave earlier than usual. Interested parties should phone me around Monday 7th February by which time I should be able to confirm details.

Beulah Heaven

DIARY NOTES

The next General Meeting of U3A will be on 18th April. The deadline for inclusion of items in the next Newsletter (due out in March) is 20th March.

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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