



PORIRUA U3A Inc

July 2024 Newsletter 3

LEARN LAUGH LIVE

Porirua U3A Queries: u3amana@gmail.com

Hello Porirua U3A Members

Message from your President

I hope you're keeping well and staying warm this winter. I've enjoyed visiting a couple of our Interest Groups and plan to go along to others. They're the lifeblood of our organisation and I'm grateful to all the coordinators for their hard work in arranging gatherings and programmes.

I'm keen to provide opportunities for members to meet, share interests, learn and have fresh experiences. That's what I'm trying to achieve with our events programme. If there's a place or event you think members would enjoy visiting let me know. I'm always open to new ideas.

I hope to see you at our next quarterly meeting on Thursday 15 August.

Kind regards

Bill Gebbie

Quarterly Meetings

Dates for our Quarterly Meetings are listed below. Do try and come along as not only do we have excellent speakers, but there is usually information about Interest Groups and events, as well as the chance to catch up with friends and meet new ones.

Thursday 15 August

Thursday 21 November (AGM)

Please diary these meeting dates if you haven't already done so. The venue is always the North Baptist Church at 69f Discovery Drive, Whitby, Porirua 5024.

Our speaker for the next quarterly meeting on 15 August is Stephen Opie, Chief Executive of Age Concern. We have much in common with Age Concern. Age Concern delivers a variety of services in our communities which may be of interest to you, such as exercise classes, refresher driving courses, and practical help with the challenges of technology. It also advocates for the interests of older people. This will be a great opportunity to find out more about Age Concern and to ask questions about what it can do for Porirua U3A and for you.

Our Website

We are looking into cost-effective options to create a new domain name of "Porirua U3A" and to change the header on our front page. We now have concrete proposals to consider and hopefully it won't be too long before you can go straight to our site.

Possible new Interest Groups: Opera and Philosophy

There is interest in setting up a group to listen to and talk about opera. There's also interest in forming a group to discuss philosophy, perhaps taking one strand or movement at a time and discussing its relevance for us today. Please let Bill Gebbie know if you'd like to join these groups.

To keep in mind

Kapiti Coast WEA

Kapiti Coast WEA offers seminars, courses and bus trips, with interesting speakers. Keep an eye out for what's coming up by checking on their site <https://www.wea.org.nz/centres-2/kapiti-coast-wea/>

Winter Music Series at Pataka

Pataka's winter music series begins on Sunday 21 July, with concerts in the Helen Smith Room every Sunday from 2-3 until 11 August. These concerts are a wonderful opportunity to hear some excellent performers. Here's a link that tells you all about the programme

https://pataka.org.nz/whats/events/friends_of_pataka_music_series_2024/

Swimming

Activity in water is perfect if you have achy joints or for some other reason find walking difficult. Did you know swimming is free every Sunday from 11am-1pm at Cannons Creek Pool? If this time doesn't work for you visit the Aquatic Centre at Te Rauparaha Arena, where senior entry costs just \$3.30. There are aquarobics classes, as well as lane swimming, a cafe for a cuppa afterwards, and the library, Pataka and Kaizen Cafe nearby.

An occasional cuppa with U3A friends?

Remember that Goldcard holders can get a cup of coffee at MacDonalds in Porirua (any size) for just \$3. It's a great place to meet friends. Would you be interested in occasional outings to Porirua cafes for a warm cuppa and a catch-up with U3A friends? Please let Bill know if you'd be interested, what day would suit you, and how often you'd like to meet.

Day Trips and Other Events

Let's Argue

On Friday 7 June a small group of us gathered at Tawa Community Centre to talk about arguments, logic and critical thinking. We discussed how to analyse arguments, picking apart a number of arguments to identify the assumptions, the reasons and conclusions. It was an enjoyable and vigorous discussion which we continued at the Borough over a drink.

Trip to the top of the Cablecar in Wellington



On Saturday 15 June a few of us spent an enjoyable morning looking round the Cablecar Museum in Wellington, chatting over a cuppa at the Cabletop Cafe, and visiting the Fragrifert Perfumery next door. We tried out several perfumes and bought gifts of vouchers or perfume sprays. It's a fascinating shop. From

time to time it runs workshops for 3-4 people, on demand. These cost \$195 and run from 9 to 4. Participants leave with their own hand-made perfume. If you want to arrange a workshop ring 04 934 8290 or 0276071852, or email francesco@fragrifert.co.nz.

Tour of Parliament and the Public Gallery



On Tuesday 25 June a group of 15 headed into Wellington for a tour of Parliament, following which we took our seats in the Public Gallery to watch exchanges in the House at Question Time. Big thanks to Marian Hobbs for organising this trip. Her intimate knowledge of the buildings and of how Parliament works was invaluable and added to the enjoyment of an interesting day, which, as you can see from the photo above, some of us capped off with a cuppa at the National Library cafe.

Upcoming Events

Learning new skills and following your interests with U3A Online

We will be meeting on Friday 19 July at 2 to hear what courses are on offer at U3A Online and how to sign up. The venue is currently Tawa Community Centre but depending on numbers this may change. If you're keen to come along please contact Bill to register your interest and for an update on where the group will be meeting.

Tour of Wai-Te-Ata Press

A tour of Wai-te-ata Press has been arranged for us at 11 on Thursday 25 July at Victoria University in Kelburn. Thank you to those who have registered for this trip. There are still spaces available so let Bill know if you'd like to join the group.

Tour of Mahara Gallery in Waikanae

A tour of the newly-refurbished Mahara Gallery in Waikanae has been organised for 11 on Thursday 1 August. There are still spaces available so let Bill know if you'd like to join the group.

Subscriptions

To continue to be a member of U3A and therefore eligible to attend any of our many Interest Groups the tardy folk who have forgotten to pay their 2023-24 sub, must do so immediately please. Coordinators do not want to have to refuse your attendance at meetings and events.

Our Kiwi Bank Account number is 38-9023-0226804-00.

If your **contact details have changed** since you last paid, or if you are a **new member**, would you please download our Membership Form from our website and email to our Treasurer, Gill Knox.

Executive Committee Contacts

Your 2022-23 Executive Committee comprises :

Position	Name	Phone Number	Email Address
President	Bill Gebbie	04 237 6514 027 677 0180	billnmary@xtra.co.nz
Secretary	Carolyn Rait	0211210218	carolyn.rait@gmail.com
Treasurer	Gill Knox	04 233 8863	keith.gillknox@xtra.co.nz
Interest Groups Manager	Michael Lynch	022 606 8066	m.lynch@xtra.co.nz
Venue /Catering Manager	Marcia Forsman	021406570	marcia@venture.co.nz
A-V / Website Manager	Colin Brown	028 413 2372	baykiwi@gmail.com
Speaker Programme	Jo Thomson	04 233 9389	Jo.thomson99@gmail.com
Bank Liaison	Pat Wilson	0274488254	patgar.wils@gmail.com

Name Labels	Colin Russell	0272473399	colinsue@xtra.co.nz
Committee	Julie Kropp	04 233 1066	sweet_lute@yahoo.com

If you have items you want considered, the Executive Committee meets again on Tuesday 23 July at 1.30 pm.

If you have a small amount of time available over the next few months the committee would be very appreciative of offers of help for various tasks. You do not need to join the Committee to help. Please contact any committee member. "Many hands make light work!"