



PO Box 57-042, Mana 5026
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February 2019 Newsletter
Founded 1991

www.u3amana.org.nz

President's Welcome

Welcome to 2019. Your new committee has been planning this year's activities and we have an inspiring speaker for our first quarterly meeting on Thursday 28 February. Elizabeth Sneyd will be talking about Virtuoso Strings which she set up to provide free music education and performance opportunities to socio-economically deprived individuals and communities.

The details of our interest groups have been updated and are set out in this newsletter. We welcome any ideas for new interest groups.

And finally, please remember that subscriptions are due. If you can, please pay them before our meeting on 28 February. You can also pay them at that meeting. Thank you. Bill

First Quarterly Meeting

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Thursday 28 February

North Baptist Church, Discovery Drive, Whitby

Doors open 12:00 pm
for shared lunch
at 12:15 pm

Please bring

- a small plate of finger food
- subscription payment

12.45 pm Special General Meeting
1.30 Speaker

Please wear your name badge
If you have hearing difficulties please sit at the front of the hall near the speaker

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Motion to be put to the Special General Meeting to be held at 12.45 on 28 February 2019

“That clause 18 (a) of the Mana U3A Rules be amended to read as follows:

“At any general meeting a quorum shall be 15% of the financial members at that date”

Why do we need to change this clause?

A quorum is the minimum number of members who must be present at a meeting in order to conduct business in the name of the group (in this case Mana U3A). This business includes making key decisions such as appointing officers (who make up the committee to run Mana U3A on behalf of members) and approving subscriptions.

According to our current Rules 25% of financial members must attend an AGM to make a quorum. This requirement can only be changed by holding a Special General Meeting. Changing the Rules requires the agreement of at least two-thirds of those financial members present at that Special General Meeting.

The number of members who attended our 2018 AGM barely made up a quorum under our current Rules. Therefore, the Committee recommends to members that the quorum be reduced from 25% of financial members to 15%. This should ensure that the business of the Mana U3A can be lawfully conducted in the future.

Subscriptions are now due. Please pay before our first quarterly meeting on 28 February, or at that meeting at the latest.

\$10 per person. Add \$5 if you wish to receive all newsletters in printed form.

Payment options:

- Cash or cheque at the February meeting in a named envelope please
- Posted to Mana U3A (address above)
- By internet banking to 03 1533 0008763 00
- Enter **subs in the Code section and your surname and your initials in the reference section**
- New members, and those whose details have changed are required to complete a subscription form available on the website

This is a good opportunity to update your contact details, so please let us know when you pay your sub if your home address, email or phone number has changed.

Your new committee

President	Bill Gebbie	237 6514 027 677 0180
Vice President	Julie Kropp	233 1066
Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer, Membership	Mike Gould	234 8779
Hospitality	Marcia Forsman	237 0264
Equipment	Colin Brown	236 8789 028 413 2372
Immediate Past President	Irene Swadling	233 9988

U3A ONLINE

U3A Online offers a wide variety of course subjects with no exams or assignments. All courses can be studied independently and some with a leader to guide students. There are over 60 courses to choose from. Subject areas include history, world affairs, religion, nature, literature and science. Only basic computer skills are required. An individual yearly membership of \$30 gives access to any of these courses during the year.

TAWA U3A

Tawa U3A, our neighbour, is offering a wide range of courses covering a variety of subjects, in which Mana U3A members are welcome to enrol. Members of Mana U3A and Tawa U3A may attend courses, talks and interest groups in either U3A without paying an additional subscription. Have a look at their excellent website to see what might interest you : <https://www.u3atawa.org.nz/Home>

MANA U3A INTEREST GROUPS 2019

Contact the group co-ordinator for further details and enrolment

Unless shown as full groups have room for new members. Interested in starting a group or suggestions for a new group? Please contact Julie Kropp on 233 1066.

Books *(Full)*

2nd Tuesday, 10 am

Co-ordinator: Lesley Harrison

Telephone: 234 1677

Email: lesleymargaret@hotmail.com

Each meeting is held at the home of a member who acts as host and leads the discussion. In addition to studying two or three selected titles in detail, we try to cover a wide range of topics and authors in different genres during the year.

Book Discussion

Group 2

2nd Thursday, 1.30 pm

Co-ordinator: Carolyn Rait

Telephone: 234 7422

Email: carolyn.rait@gmail.com

We meet monthly between May – October where we discuss our chosen book according to the month's genre. This introduces members to a wide variety of titles and authors.

Our topics for 2019 are: Historical Fiction, Biography/autobiography comparison; crime or mystery: film and book comparison; non-fiction. If this sounds like you please join us.

Bridge – weekly Mondays 9:30 am at Plimmerton Croquet Club

Tutor and Co-ordinator: Ian Fowler

Telephone: 233 0045

Email: idnfowler@hotmail.com

The Bridge Group, which meets every Monday at 9.30am at the Plimmerton Croquet Club rooms, 2 Plimmerton Drive, Plimmerton Industrial Estate, has a regular attendance of 10 to 12 members. We are always looking to expand participation.

Bridge is a challenging card game which requires the use of judgement, planning and strategy, and keeps the mind active.

The Bridge Group is run on a casual basis with plenty of social interaction and there is no need to arrange a partner. You don't need to know the game as we will teach you.

Just turn up at the venue or contact the convenor, Ian Fowler on ph2330045 or email idnfowler@hotmail.com

Creative Writing

3rd Wednesday 10 am (*Full*)

Co-ordinator: Judi Doornbus

Telephone: 233 9693

The teaching of 'how to write' is not an aim for this dedicated group but very positive mutual encouragement and support. Those not currently working on a project of their own enjoy the challenge of writing stories on a subject sentence or collection of words chosen at random from a dictionary each month - some of the results of these assignments have been of a high calibre.

Films at Lighthouse Pauatahanui

3rd Saturday of the month, time varies

Co-ordinator: Rae Collins

Telephone: 234 7476

Email: rae.collins@xtra.co.nz

The film group visits the Lighthouse, Pauatahanui, every third Saturday of the month.

Garden Group

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4th Wednesday of the month, mornings

Co-ordinator: Kay Phillips

Telephone: 027 975 8569

Email: 46nanakay@gmail.com

We are a small (about 20), friendly group and have a usual attendance of about 12-15. Most are long-time gardeners with loads of knowledge which they happily share whilst others, like me, are new gardeners.

We visit gardens or meet on the fourth Wednesday each month, except December, and discuss all things gardening with the owners. The visits/meetings usually begin at 10 or 10.30 and finish about mid-day. Some of us lunch at a local cafe to chat after the meeting/visit. This is not a formal part of the meeting but a social add-on for those who enjoy the company.

In June and July we meet at a Church Hall and have a guest speaker and sometimes other activities.

We have a small charge of, usually, \$2.00 per month, which we use to buy a small gift for the garden owners and to pay for the hall for the indoor meetings.

Please come and "try us out"

Mah Jong

Wednesdays, weekly,

1:00 pm

Co-ordinator: Barbara Watson

Telephone: 234 8287

Email: bckjwatson@gmail.com

Mah Jong is a small friendly group of both men and women. We play each Wednesday 1 – 3.-0pm followed by afternoon tea at the croquet rooms Ulric Street Plimmerton. There is a small fee of \$2.50 per session to cover expenses. We welcome both experienced players and those wishing to learn the game. For more information please ring Irene 234-1036 or Barbara 234-8287

Handcraft

Fridays, fortnightly,

1:30 pm

Co-ordinator: Pat Levy

Telephone: 238 2808

Email: i.levy@xtra.co.nz

Members practise many forms of needlecraft, embroidery, knitting, crochet etc. We have no formal tutoring but some members are able to provide expert guidance with a number of skills. If you would like to join our group contact Pat.

Play Reading (Full)

1st Friday, May-September, 10 am

Tutor: Pat Knight

Co-ordinator: Derely Jaye

Telephone: 233 6187 or 027 244 8310

Email: derelyjaye@yahoo.com

Pat has sourced a varied range of reading material for us in the past, covering comedy, short skits, Oscar Wilde etc. A small charge is made towards photocopying required. This ensures a copy of the current reading for

each person's use. We begin with coffee or tea. This group is not at all serious and we have a lot of fun. Acting experience is not necessary. At present our group is full but Derely can take names for the Waiting List.

Science Group

Mondays, fortnightly, 10 am

Titahi Bay combined church in Mana Ave,
Titahi Bay.

Co-ordinator: Peter Evans

Telephone: 233 9690

Email: lizpeter@actrix.co.nz

The Science Group meets every second Monday at the Combined Church, Mana Ave, Titahi Bay, commencing on February. We have DVDs, talks and discussion on a wide range of scientific subjects and news reports. New members are always welcome, especially anyone who is willing to contribute

Theatrical Shows

Monthly, dependent on suitable show

Co-ordinator: Derely Jaye

Telephone: 233 6187 or 027 244 8310

Email: derelyjaye@yahoo.com

This group was re-formed in 2016. We try to support local theatrical groups but have also been to Circa in Wellington. Attendance has shown local shows to be the most popular. We try to take in afternoon sessions. Some prefer to commute by train/bus, others car pool. The choice is yours. Plans to dine either before or after a show can be made independently. All U3a members welcome.

These Changing Times

Thursdays, fortnightly,
10 am

Leader and Co-ordinator: Mike Gould Telephone: 233 0133

Email: mjgould@tauatapu.net.nz

The focus of each fortnightly meeting, beginning Thursday 5 April at 7A Sunset Parade, Plimmerton, will be to discuss a topical issue, nominated before each meeting by a member of the group.

Travellers' Tales

4th Thursday, 1:30 pm for 2 pm

Co-ordinators: Patsy & Ross Williamson

Telephone: 233 1118

Email: patsywilliamson@xtra.co.nz

Often the tale is told by one of our members but we do have outside speakers too. We meet on the 4th Thursday of each month starting in February at **St. Mary's Anglican Church in Whitby. 1:30 pm for a 2 pm start.** The first meeting is on Thursday February 22nd.

In addition to the U3A sub, there is a Travellers' Tales sub of \$10 per person to cover hall hire, speaker gift and afternoon tea. We have fifty members but can still grow; the more the merrier, so please come and join us.

Opera Lovers' Group

Co-ordinator: Irene Swadling
Telephone: 233 9988
Email: kiwi.nana.irene@gmail.com
Meet monthly to view DVDs and discuss Opera.
Starts February 11th at 10am.

Poetry Appreciation

Monthly 3rd Tuesday 10:30 am

Co-ordinator: Helen Reilly
Telephone : 234 7430, 021 296 1171
Email: helen@reilly.co.nz
12 Optimist Way, Whitby

How it would work: Each month we would choose a different theme, such as: ballads, New Zealand poetry, medieval poetry, 15th 16th, 17th, 18th 19th or 20th century poetry, war poetry, narrative poetry, humorous verse, political poetry etc.

One group member would choose the next month's theme and lead the discussion. Everybody would bring a poem in keeping with the theme which the group would read and then collectively discuss. The emphasis would be on enjoyment rather than in-depth academic analysis.