



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

*Learning is forever*

## WARKWORTH

## Quarterly Newsletter—March 2015

From your President:

I recently met an old friend who I had not seen for 30 years and she told me that although she had lived in Auckland for 15 years, she had no friends here; had never been over the Harbour Bridge; and went for days without talking to another person. It made me realise how fragile some people are and I hope to be able to recognise such people and offer some help.

U3A is an excellent vehicle for people who need stimulation and company. We have a good variety of activities and Chris Hoogerwerf is working on increasing the number of Groups we have.

(See Page 3. . .Ed).

I think it would be a worthwhile project for all of us to look around our community to see if there are people who would benefit from being involved with U3A.

I also ask you all to think about ways by which we can improve our Club.

Best wishes,

Geoffrey Bowes MNZM

### 2015 Committee:

#### **President/Speaker Seeker**

Geoffrey Bowes 425.4639

#### **Treasurer/Membership**

Ernie Gidman 425/9869

#### **Secretary**

Vivienne Mickleson 902.9207

#### **Membership/Almoner**

Mary-Alice Ryburn 425/0536

#### **Study Group Convenor**

Chris Hoogerwerf 425.5022

#### **IT/Subeditor**

Alan Spicer 422.2685

#### **Hospitality**

Mary Miller 425.6301

#### **Publicity/Network Rep**

Glyn Williams 902.9333

#### **Ex officio— Newsletter Editor**

Heather Metcalfe 425.9848

### **The Auckland Museum is running Special interest Tours this year and are available for groups of 4 or more Seniors.**

- From the uttermost Ends of the Earth WW1
- Peace in our time WW2
- One Land, Two People—NZ conflicts in the 1800's
- A paradise Lost—The Flora & Fauna of NZ
- Layers of understanding: Auckland's volcanoes
- A Land of Birds—the unique bird species of NZ
- The edges of the Sea: NZ's 15000km of coastline
- The Pacific Story: Discovery & Migration
- Aotearoa: The challenge—Life in a New Land
- Museum Secrets: a mystery tour of the galleries

These can be booked for any weekday afternoon in winter (4 May to 25 September 2015) excluding school holidays. \$10 per person.

Bookings must be made two weeks ahead with numbers.

Ph. 09 306 7048

[www.aucklandmuseum.com/whats-on/tours/special-interest-tours](http://www.aucklandmuseum.com/whats-on/tours/special-interest-tours)



### **Welcome to our new Members .:**

**Malvene Rohloff**

**Judy Fisher**

**Pauline Hirst**

**Maureen Young**

**Liz Packer**

**Michael Penn**

**Gill Le Serve**

**Sally Murphy**

**Gillian Carlsson**

**Carole Young**

**SUBS ARE NOW (OVER)DUE.**

Single \$20.00  
 Couple (residing at same address) \$35.00

Post cheque to PO Box 520 Warkworth 0941  
 or phone Ernie Gidman (425.9869) for inter-  
 net banking account no. ☺

***Reminders for your diary . . . . .*****Scheduled General Meetings for 2015  
with Speakers and details to be advised**

**April 13th** : *Do you have a complaint about a Bank? The Banking Ombudsman Scheme can consider your complaint if your banking service provider is one of the Scheme's participants (all of the major banks are!). The Ombudsman, Deborah Battel, will talk about what her office does and how we can use it.*

**(Duty Group Local History)**

**June 8th**: *Representatives from C.A.B.*

**(Duty Group Music Appreciation)**

**August 10th**: *Mid winter lunch, Stables Restaurant*

**October 12th**: *To be advised*

**(Duty Group: Medicine)**

**December 14th**: *To be advised*

**(Duty Group: Play Reading.)**

**General Meeting held 9th February at Totara Park**

There were about 60 members present at this General Meeting. The President, Geoffrey Bowes, welcomed all, and identified new members. He explained that for the next few months, the mini speaker would be a Committee member and he would be the first. He told members about his time in the Army, then in Commerce within NZ and overseas.

The main speaker was Mick Fay who talked about being a Volunteer Fireman. He spoke about the training required, the type of callouts they experience, the back up system and provided many anecdotes about the Mahurangi East Fire Brigade.

Report by Geoffrey Bowes

**This month's Group Reports****Local History. Convenor - Anthea McKergow**

Our group started the year with a visit to the Moir brothers Old North Road coach staging site which was very interesting.

Our programme for the rest of the year includes:

- The history of local music groups
- A visit to the site of the scow building Industry in Whangateau
- History of commercial orchards in Matakana
- History of the Goldsworthy family
- A talk by a local archaeologist on pa sites
- History of George V statue in Matakana, American presence in the district and the Home Guard.

**Music Group. Report by Ernie Gidman**

The March session was devoted to a brief survey of the life, the personality and the music of Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

His childhood was unusual as his father was determined his son would be a child prodigy like Mozart, 14 years his senior. He was made to practice the violin and the clavichord from a very early age. Neighbours spoke of him practicing with the tears rolling down his cheeks, but still he developed an abiding devotion to music, and eventually composed over 600 wonderful works of music in many genres.

His first employment at the age of thirteen was playing the organ at 6.00am every morning at the Minorites church. In his day he was much admired as a violinist, a pianist and an organist, as well as for his brilliant compositions.

The session ended with a video of a live performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony (the Choral), conducted by Leonard Bernstein. This was played to a huge audience to celebrate the demolition of the wall between East and West Berlin in 1989.

I think the session was enjoyed by all.

Our website [[u3a.co.nz](http://u3a.co.nz)] is skilfully managed by member Alan Spicer and offers general information about our area and our Branch

**(National website [www.u3a.nz](http://www.u3a.nz))**

**Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or members of the committee.**



# EVER WONDERED WHAT U3A MEANS?



*Childhood and learning*



*Earning a living and having a family*



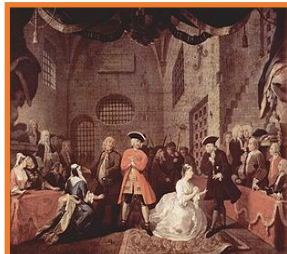
*We are a society of retired or near-retired people (in the Third Age) who want to make new friends, keep our minds active and have fun . . . .*

*The skills and knowledge from our members' "previous lives" are a precious resource for the group.*

*The ancient meaning of 'University' was a group of people gathered together to learn more about their chosen topics of interest*

## ***Proposed new groups:***

1. **Botanical studies:** Looking at trees, flowers & bushes from a different point of view.
2. **Opera:** Getting together to listen to opera music, study the composers and the stories on which their music is based.
3. **Guess who is coming to dinner?:** Small groups of members bringing a plate; having dinner; and enjoying a genial time.
4. **Travel Group:** Sharing travel ideas, hints, advice and information.



Contact Group convenor **Chris Hoogerwerf Ph 425.5022** if you are interested in 1, 2 or 3 above. If interested in Option 4, contact **Heather Metcalfe Ph 425.9848**.

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*In future, Group Schedules will be included in the newsletter every three months. My thanks to all the Convenors who willingly “went the extra mile” to extend their programmes in this way, and to Chris Hoogerwerf for co-ordinating it all! Also thanks to Alan Spicer for setting the template. It will save our Branch a considerable amount of money in posting out the 3rd month separately. Heather (Editor)*

Study Group	April	May	June
<b>Ancient History – 9:30 am</b> Jim McKinlay, Ph:422-9063	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b> Metallurgy 9 Bennett St Warkworth	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b> Slavery 23 Will James Ave, Algies Bay	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b> The Zulu People 69B Wilson Rd, Warkworth
<b>Art Appreciation – 10:00 am</b> Judy Wood, Ph:425-8712	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b> Indian Art Work Totara Park Warkworth	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b> Jewellery Anderson Rd, Warkworth	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> Sculpture Trail, Brick Bay Winery, Arabella Lane, Snells
<b>Book Talk – 10:00 am</b> Iris Mee, Ph:425-7934	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b> 209 Sharp Road Matakana	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b> 99 Anderson Road Warkworth	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> 45 Summerset Falls Warkworth
<b>Current Affairs – 2:00 pm</b> Val Strachan, Ph:425-9497	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b> 5/99 Hauiti Drive Warkworth	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b> 257 Mahurangi East Rd Snells Beach	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b> T.B.A.
<b>Food For Thought – 1:30 pm</b> Tessa Marshall Ph:425-5779 Jean Mason Ph:425-4164	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b> Potatoes T.B.A.	<b>27<sup>th</sup></b> Allergies T.B.A.	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b> Outside Visit T.B.A.
<b>Jazz Listening – 2:00 pm</b> Val Couling, Ph:425-5766	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b> Bring a CD 25 Gordon Craig Place Algies Bay	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b> T.B.A. T.B.A.	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b> T.B.A. T.B.A.
<b>Local History – 10:00 am</b> Anthea McKergow, Ph:422-6219 Lorna Laxon Ph: 422-3562	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b> History of local music groups 15a Coquette Street. WW	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b> T.B.A. T.B.A.	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b> Matakana's Involvement in the wars T.B.A.
<b>Music Appreciation – 1:30 pm</b> Malcolm Clague, Ph:425-9945	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> Jan Lisieki 44 Summerset Falls Warkworth	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b> Going for BaROQUE 14 Coquette Street Warkworth	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b> Shubert 87 Piper Lane Snells Beach
<b>Medicine Developments – 2 pm</b> Mary Miller, Ph:425-6301	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b> T.B.A. 8 Estuary Close, Warkworth	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b> Bring medical news item. 45 Ashmore Cresc. WW	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b> Osteoporosis 44 Mahurangi West Rd Warkworth
<b>Play Reading – 9:30 am</b> Margaret Krey, Ph:422-6407	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b> Contact convenor	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b> Contact Convenor	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b> Contact Convenor
<b>Poetry Reading – 1:30 pm</b> Lorna Laxon, Ph:422-3562	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b> Weather 12b Amanda Lane Snells Beach	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b> T.S. Eliot 388 Old Kaipara Rd Warkworth	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b> T.B.A. 15A Coquette Street Warkworth
<b>Shakespeare – 2:00 pm</b> Cynthia Purdom, Ph:425-4612	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b> Two Gentlemen of Verona (Cont'd) 19 Panui St, Snells Beach	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b> Henry V 38 Kawau View Rd, Snells Beach.	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b> Henry V (Cont'd) T.B.A.



APJ Abdul Kalam  
at the Poetry  
Society.



Thought this was  
every day! (Ed)