



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

WARKWORTH

Learning is forever

Quarterly Newsletter—JUNE 2016

From your President:

The committee joins me in wishing you all the best and hope you are getting organised for the cold weather which I am sure is about to come. However, we have had a wonderful autumn with great temperatures but not enough rain for the gardeners. Something that has surprised me since coming here five years ago is that the rain is mainly at night - which is wonderful as it enables us to get out and do things during the day.

*Please remember our **Mid Winter Lunch on 13 June at the Stables Restaurant in Matakana**. To book for this event please ring Keith Hopner (425.9955) as soon as possible as numbers are limited. The cost is \$18 for members if paid by 3 June and \$28 thereafter. Non Members pay \$28. The U3A Jazz Band will be doing their thing and the speaker is the well known political analyst Barry Gustafson—"My thoughts on the political scene." I look forward to seeing you there.*

There have been some new Groups formed and that is what we want, but members need to tell the Committee about activities that could be the basis for a new Group. I had a lady approach me at a Café recently who thought a group to discuss Hearing Aids could be useful and I agree. If she reads this, please contact me again. KRAFT!

Just a reminder that Members can attend other U3A Branch meetings. I have, and found it most interesting, especially the Current Affairs Group at Tauranga. If you are visiting another area, use the internet to find out what is going on and how to contact people in that U3A.

I regret to say that Heather Metcalfe is leaving Warkworth and will cease to be the Editor of our Newsletter. Heather has done a magnificent job for us for which I thank her on behalf of all members. We will miss that charm, smile and willingness to assist. May all go well for you Heather and thanks.

As always, I am available to discuss anything about our club at any time. Just ring me on 425.4639.

*Best wishes
Geoffrey Bowes MNZM*

Thank you for your kind words, Geoffrey. I have thoroughly enjoyed producing the newsletter and will be investigating the Current Affairs group in Tauranga—where we are heading! Regards, Heather Metcalfe.

WE ARE 20 YEARS YOUNG THIS YEAR

At our Annual General Meeting in December, we will be celebrating Warkworth U3A's 20th anniversary. Our archives have produced a copy of the 1997 Chairman's report—written by the late Graham M Ryburn—which advised a steady growth in membership to 48 financial members and a growing number of Groups being introduced.

It also spoke of the 10th Anniversary of the National body which shows the obvious popularity for this type of activity to continue throughout NZ during the last 30 years.

It is thanks to the volunteers throughout these years, who give their time freely to administer the day to day running of our Branch; to give encouragement for new groups; and to engage good speakers to challenge the minds of our membership.

Reminders for your diary

Scheduled General Meetings for 2016

To be held at Totara Park Hall at 10am unless advised otherwise.

13th June: Mid Year Lunch
The Stables, Matakana
Speaker Dr Barry Gustafson

(Duty Group Poetry)

8th August: Tai Chi Demonstration
Northern Region Taoist Tai Chi Society
Mini Speaker All About Plants

(Duty Group All about Plants)

10th October: Mary Miller
"Complementary and Alternative Medicine"
Mini Speaker To be Advised

(Duty Group Ancient History)

December 12: AGM
(Duty Group Art Appreciation)



Coming to a place near you in August.

Northern Region Taoist Tai Chi members will demonstrate this art at our August General meeting.

2016

U3A WARKWORTH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President	Geoffrey Bowes	425 4639
Speaker Seeker		
Vice President	Mary Miller	425 6301
Membership		
Treasurer	Ernie Gidman	425 9869
Membership		
Secretary	Vivienne Mickleson	902 9207
Group Convenor	Mary-Alice Ryburn	425 0536
Almoner	Chris Hoogerwerf	425 5022
Publicity	Glyn Williams	902 9333
Hospitality	Clare Hamel	425 6729
	Keith Hopner	425 9955
Ex officio		
Newsletter Editor	Heather Metcalfe	425 9848
IT/Subeditor	Alan Spicer	425 2685

NOTICE

Auckland U3A Network is arranging an event—U3A in Action—to be held on Friday July 29th at St Chads Church, 38 St Johns Road, Meadowbank. The registration fee is \$20 and applications should be made online by 17th June. There is a limit of 200 attendees. (These are popular events and you will need to get in quick—Ed)

The main speaker is Dr Paul Buchanan and there will be mini-speakers from U3A members. Posters from groups around the area will be displayed.

Information about the event and Dr Buchanan is available on the Auckland network website www.u3a.net.nz.

All interested U3A members are invited to attend.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

GENERAL MEETING—held at Totara Park Hall on Monday 12th April at 10am.

After a delicious morning tea—again provided by Claire Hamel—Geoffrey welcomed current members then introduced new members and visitors.

***New Group:** Ruth Thomas spoke briefly to the gathering to highlight the new writing group she is forming— “A story to tell”. She is well qualified to convene such a group having edited community newspapers for many years and lectured on Communication at AUT. (See more information on page 4)*

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Mini Speaker. Lorna Laxon, Convenor of Local History group introduced **Brenda Yoxhall**, a volunteer at Warkworth & Districts Museum.

Brenda spoke enthusiastically about the role the museum plays in the community and the importance of preserving the unique history of Warkworth. She said that Victoria Joule, the Curator is already making her mark on this new role and is encouraging Brenda to connect with schools in the area, enthusing them on local history. Some groups are more involved than others and she mentioned the Warkworth Kindergarten which is leading the way in taking the children see the historical sites and telling them the stories.

Brenda convinced us that there are exciting but challenging times ahead of the Museum—situated in Parry Kauri Park on Wilson Road.

Linda Moore thanked Brenda profusely for her presentation .

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SPEAKER. Geoffrey introduced Bill Townson. Chairman of The Northern Action Group Inc.

Bill started with background information which led to the formation of the Group:

In 2008 the Labour Government set up a Royal Commission regarding the possible amalgamation of 4 of the major councils in Auckland. Then the National government picked up the report which was sent to the Select Committee. 169 submissions were received from the Rodney area, 84% being against the district being part of the amalgamation.

A meeting called by and chaired by Rodney MP Lockwood Smith, controversially decided that the majority were in favour of amalgamation despite no indication of that fact at the meeting.

In 2009, it was decided that the Northern part of Rodney (Puhoi north to Te Hana/Te Arai) be amalgamated with Kaipara.

Continued.

Rodney Hide overturned that Select Commission decision and information provided by our speaker pointed towards a very undemocratic decision and that Parliament had been misled.

Early in 2010, a 6,300 signature petition was presented to Parliament but was eventually declined.

NAG reconvened when the embargo was lifted in 2013 and the so-called “Super” city was 3 years old.

The area of NAG’S concern has an estimated population of 22,500 (1.6% of Auckland city) and raised \$42 million in rates and water rates.—much of which was spent out of the area causing considerable difficulties for local businesses.

NAG adopted a plan for a North Rodney Unitary Council. Professional financial analyst—specialising in local body performance—Larry Mitchell investigated the financial plan and reported that in his opinion it would be viable. Debts attributable to North Rodney are questionable and need to be investigated further. Later in 2013, a poll was conducted

“Do you support a separate Unitary council in North Rodney?” 94% of respondents agreed.

A handout was distributed to members which states (*in part*) :

Despite many setbacks and frustrations, NAG achieved a major milestone last year by winning a High Court appeal against a decision by the previous Local Government Commission that NAG’s proposal to separate from Auckland was “not in the public interest”. The High Court decided that the LGC was unlawful.

As a result there is now a new Commission who state that the case will be assessed and due process will prevail. If the model presented stands up to close scrutiny and shows that a better administration can be created in the pursuit of good local government, it will be allowed to proceed. The Local Government Minister recently assured NAG that the reorganisation process must be community driven and is above interference by local and central government alike. NAG is therefore confident that they will achieve what the North Rodney community so clearly desires.

They ask for your support (financial or otherwise) and to receive direct updates on progress, you can register by emailing your contact details to -

northernactiongroup@gmail.com.

Website— www.nag.org

Phone Bill on 09 425 6121

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A Warkworth Mid Winter Lunch

Monday 13th June 2016 at 11am.

At The Stables Restaurant, 1151 Leigh Rd,
Matakana.

For just \$18 for members and \$28 for non-members until 6th June. Thereafter \$25 Members and \$30 non-members.

Programme:

- 1100 Assemble, mix and mingle— bar open on cash basis.
U3A Jazz Band—some good old fashioned Jazz
- 1130 Speaker
Dr Barry Gustafson “My thoughts on the political scene.”
Barry is an outstanding speaker who has spoken at other USA meetings.
- 1200 More from the Band and orders confirmed.
- 1230 Lunch choose from:
Sirloin Steak and veges
Fresh Snapper fillet and bean puree
Fresh Free Range Chicken Breast with greens
Vegetarian
Cash bar operates throughout.

Please pay to Account No. 02 0480 0133880 000

IMPORTANT: enter in reference areas “Lunch”, your menu choice (S, F, C, or V) and your name(s) If you don’t, we will not know who has paid!!

Or contact Ernie Gidman on 425 9869 or Keith Hopner on 425 9955.

Book early as seats are limited.

GROUP NEWS



Group Report The “God” Question

This new group is alive and thriving—according to Ray Bradley, the convenor.

Eleven members have registered interest and attended the introductory meeting—all of whom are either already, or intending members of Warkworth U3A.

Future meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month.

**You can contact Ray on
raybradley@me.com**

NEW GROUP

“A Story to Tell”. Everybody has a story to tell—whether it is fiction or non-fiction; the story of your life, or of something you have dreamed of.

Ruth Thomas has convened a group to spin tales, get serious, or otherwise get your writer’s fix!

Ring Ruth on 422 6700—or 021 211 535—she’ll be glad to hear from you.

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Many thanks to Mary-Alice Ryburn for collating and supplying the Study Group information. Also a huge thank you to the Convenors for making themselves available so that we can enjoy our learning.

Study Group	June	July	August
Ancient History – 9:30 am 1st Friday Pam Bosch 425-6384	Sth America: The Incas 329 Sharp Rod Matakana	South America Cont'd 120 Perry Road Warkworth	More South America 23 Willjames Ave Algies Bay
Art Appreciation – 10:00 am 1st Wednesday Judy Fisher 425-4510 Gill le Serve 9450-372	Pah Homestead 72 Hillsborough Rd Auckland	Sally Lush: Curator Harbourview Sculpture Trail Totara Park Hall	Art DVDs Lorraine Edwards 85 Pt Wells Road Pt Wells
Book Talk – 10:00 am 1st Tuesday Dagma Kammler 425-9181	Ina Shaw 17 View Road Warkworth	Cornelia Theilman 45 Ashmore Crescent Warkworth	Angela Kissling 18 Melwood Drive Warkworth.
Current Affairs – 2:00 pm 3rd Thursday Gail Morrison 422-3717	Beverley Ruddick Summerset Falls Meet at Reception	Sybil & John Patrick 5/99 Hauiti Drive., WW (No cars up the drive)	Hilary Waymouth 33 Cotterell Street, Leigh
Jazz Listening – 2:00 pm 3rd Monday Val Couling, Ph:425-5766	Ron Presents DVDs 25 Gordon Craig Place Algies Bay	Live Jazz from our group's musicians. 25 Gordon Craig Place	Peter's collection Part 2 8 Piper Lane Snells Beach
Local History – 10:00 am 4th Tuesday Lorna Laxon Ph 422-3562	Libraries of the Mahurangi. 15A Coquette Street, Warkworth	Visit to Leigh Library Meet there at 10.00am	Visit Kaipara Flats Library Meet there 10am.
Music Appreciation – 1:30 pm 1st Thursday Malcolm Clague, Ph:425-9945	Women Composers 21 Tamatea Ave Snells Beach	T.B.A. 32 Rivendell Place Warkworth	T.B.A. 15a Coquette Street Warkworth
Developments in Medicine– 2 pm 4th Thursday Mary Miller, Ph:425-6301	3D Printing of Human Organs 73 Alnwick Street, WW	Timeline of Medical Advances. 38 Kawau View Rd, SB	Some Lung Problems 441 Mahurangi West Road
Play Reading – 9:30 am 2nd Tuesday Pam Ellender 422-2493	Twelfth Night 38 Kawau View Road Snells Beach	Twelfth Night T.B.A.	Hedda Gabler (Yolande & Rita) 27 Alnwick St, WW
Poetry Reading – 1:30 pm 3rd Wednesday Daphne Cocker 425-0570	Julie Daymond-King, Poet 609 Woodcocks Road	Brian Turner, Poet 19 Panui Tce Snells Beach	Sheila Towsey 698 Wilson Road Warkworth
Shakespeare – 2:00 pm 3rd Tuesday Valma Gidman, Ph:425-9869	Henry VI 19 Panui Tce Snells Beach	Henry VI 25 Bertram Street Warkworth	T.B.A.
Opera – 10.00am 3rd Thursday Chris Fieldsend Ph:425-4685 Liz Mitchell Ph: 425-9448	Matinee Opera Outing NZ Opera's The Magic Flute Sunday 26 June	Bring a favourite CD or DVD 45/31 Mansel Drive, WW	Ancient Legends in Opera. 8 Piper Lane Snells Beach
All About Plants – 10.00am 4th Thursday Clare Hamel Ph:425-6729	Medieval Plant Dyes T.B.A.	T.B.A.	T.B.A.
The God Question 10am 2nd Thursday Ray Bradley 021 162 8805	Chapters 3 and 4 233 Omaha Drive Omaha Beach	Chapter 5 27 Alnwick St Warkworth	God's Gravediggers T.B.A.
A Story to Tell - 1.30pm 2nd Wednesday Ruth Thomas 422 6700	Clare Hamel 9 Willjames Ave Algies Bay	Gail Morrison 10 Wilson Road Warkworth	T.B.A.