



Learning is forever

WARKWORTH

Quarterly Newsletter — March 2019

FROM THE PRESIDENT

WATER

Water is absolutely essential to life. Our bodies need it to maintain normal blood flow, organ function and temperature control. Because we use water constantly, it is easily taken for granted. 'Thousands have lived without love, not one without water', said W.H. Auden.

Drinking water can be contaminated by industrial chemicals or bacteria, or it can become very scarce when there is no rain and storage dams are inadequate.

Water for washing ourselves and our clothes helps to keep us healthy. Food crops and animal farming require water by irrigation, but there needs to be regulation of volumes taken. In New Zealand much of our electricity is generated by water, which is a safe and renewable source.

In addition to these practical uses, water in lakes, rivers and the sea is very beautiful with sparkling ripples in the sunshine or clear reflections in calm water. Swimming is a great source of pleasure for many, the silky feel of water on the skin and the buoyancy of sea water aid relaxation and allow exercise without weight-

bearing.

We are also very much aware of the power of water when torrential rain causes flooding and landslides, or a devastating tsunami follows an earthquake. Hail and ice can also cause major damage.

As children I think most of us took water for granted. Now we know how essential it is to appreciate and look after our water. There are actions we can take, such as collecting debris washed up on the beach, responsible farmers planting and fencing to maintain clean water ways and everyone conserving water by taking shorter showers. As the climate changes, the extremes of temperature and rainfall will increase. As the population of the world increases, the demands on water increase. Let us each do all we can to help maintain our planet's water.

This quote from Ban Ki-Moon impressed me:

'Saving our planet, lifting people out of poverty, advancing economic growth ... these are one and the same fight. We must connect the dots between climate change, water scarcity, energy shortages, global health, food security and women's empowerment. Solutions to one problem must be solutions for all.'

Best wishes

Mary Miller

Warkworth U3A Meeting Dates — 2019

March	11 th	Committee Meeting
April	8 th	General Meeting
May	12 th	Committee Meeting
June	10 th	General Meeting and Mid-Winter Luncheon
July	8 th	General Meeting
August	12 th	General Meeting
September	9 th	Committee Meeting
October	14 th	General Meeting
November	11 th	Committee Meeting
December	9 th	General Meeting and AGM

Note: General meetings are open to all current members of Warkworth U3A and are held in the Warkworth-Wellsford Hospice Korowai room. 10am to 12 noon.

April General Meeting

Dr Gavin Ellis will speak about the media coverage of the Christchurch mosque shootings.

Dr Ellis was previously the editor of the NZ Herald and will be well known to many for his media commentaries on RadioNZ.

Warkworth U3A
PO Box 520
Warkworth
New Zealand



Group Meetings Calendar



Groups and Convenors	March 2019	April 2019	May 2019
All About Plants 10am 4th Thursday Tonara Cuthell Jackie Hormann	Plant for Beauty Host: Tonara Cuthell, 16 Coquette St, Warkworth	Coffee and Tea: Growing and processing Host: Glenda Came, 81 Thompson Rd, Warkworth	Growing and pruning small fruit trees. Host: Shirley Shirley. 46 Ashmore Cres., Warkworth
Ancient History 9.30am 1st Friday Pam Bosch	Bits and Pieces Venue: 12 Piper Lane, Snells Beach.	Furs and the Fur Trade Venue: Warkworth Museum	Rising Continents Venue: 24 Rawhiti Rd, Snells Beach
Antiques and Collectables 10am 4th Friday Hilary Lewis	1. Clocks, 2. Silvermarks Host: Michael Penn 12 Wilson Road, Warkworth	1. TBA 2 Ships in Bottles Host: Jennifer Farley, 34 Whitmore Rd, Warkworth	1. Lace 2. TBA Host: Jenni McGlashan, 329 Sharp Road, Snells Beach
Art Appreciation 1st Wednesday - check for times. Jan Imlach Jacky Whincop	Fabric Art Karen Williamson Venue: Totara Park	Portrait Painting Dagmar Kemmler Venue: Totara Park	Crown Lynn Museum Re Uru Venue: Totara Park
Book Talk 10am 1st Tuesday Shirley Shirley	Host: Peggy Gillman, The Oaks on Neville, apt. Hoteo 101	Host: Judith Larsen, The Oaks on Neville, apt. Mahurangi 401	Host: Angela Kissling, 18 Melwood Drive, Warkworth
Current Affairs 2pm 3rd Thursday Geoffrey Bowes	Hosts: John and Sibyl Patrick, 5/99 Hauiti Drive, Warkworth	Host: Peggy Gilman, The Oaks on Neville, apt. Hoteo 101	Host: Judith Larsen, The Oaks on Neville, apt. Mahurangi 401
Developments in Medicine 2pm 4th Thursday Linda Moore	Gout and other forms of Arthritis" Host: Mary Miller, 40 Willjames Ave, Algies Bay.	Topic TBA Host: Helen Whiteley, 423 Mahurangi East Rd, Snells Beach.	Neuroplasticity Host: Diane Parton, 441 Mahurangi West Rd.
Jazz Listening 2pm 3rd Monday Val Couling	Mike presents a YouTube selection: Venue: 22 Kawau View Rd, Snells Beach	Documentary - The Divas of Jazz Venue: 25 Gordon Craig Place, Algies Bay	Recordings made by Bob and Mike Venue: 5 Matakana Rd, Warkworth

Groups and Convenors	March 2019	April 2019	May 2019
Local History 10am 4th Tuesday Lorna Laxon	Couldrey House	No Meeting	"Historic Leigh" A talk by Caroline Cooper Venue: Warkworth Museum at 10.15am
Music Appreciation 10am 2nd Thursday Alison Coates	Alison Coates will share the musical highlights of her recent trip to Vienna, Salzburg Prague and Budapest. Host: Alison Coates, 21 Tamatea Drive, Snells Beach	The 2019 Nelson Chamber Music Festival Host: Lorna Laxon, 15a Coquette St, Warkworth	Topic TBA Host: Colleen Kangwai, 1 Hibiscus Ave, Snells Beach
Play Reading 10am 2nd Tuesday Pam Ellender	The Father Strindberg Venue: 5 Matakana Rd, Warkworth.	Private Lives (Pt 1) Noel Coward Venue: 27 Alnwick St Warkworth.	Private Lives (Pt 2) Noel Coward Venue TBA
Poetry Reading 1.30pm 3rd Wednesday Lynda Spivey	A video presentation Venue: 1 Hibiscus Avenue	Poems that make you laugh. Venue: 32 Blue Gum Drive, Warkworth	Poet is to be confirmed. Venue: 69b Wilson Road Warkworth

December 2018 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Warkworth-Wellsford Hospice Korowai room. It was very well attended, with 74 members present.

Mary Miller chaired the AGM which saw the 2018 committee who did stand for re-election being confirmed for 2019 with Mary Miller as president.

The changes came from resignations.

Diane Parton was elected as the new Secretary.

Nigel Swaffield was elected as the new Treasurer.

Hilary Lewis was elected as the new Groups Convenor.

Bill Robertson was elected to the committee to organise the venues and the sound and projection equipment.

The previous office holders - Vivienne Mickleson, Ernie Gidman, Pam Ellender and Keith Hopner

respectively, and Geoffrey Bowes whose one-year ex-officio position as Immediate Past-President had expired, were thanked by the President for their efforts and support of the committee.

The Play Reading group then performed a play that they had written for the occasion (see report below).

This was followed by a morning tea that was provided by the Hospice Volunteers. Even though we had several more members present than we had predicted, there were plenty of refreshments for all.



Background music during the morning tea was provided by "The Duo", Jan and Kevin Johnston

Performance : "A Bit of a Do"



The cast onstage at the end of their performance.

Our presentation "A Bid of a Do" was truly a team effort on the part of the Play Reading Group. It began earlier in the year with a brainstorming session at a meeting. The original idea came from a member's suggestion that we should use the Spec Savers ad as a base for a comedy skit. More ideas were submitted and I took these away and wrote the short skit – this was edited and added to and became the final production. Our two male members became the prospective "bride and groom" – the bride being particularly unattractive hence "Should Have Gone

to Spec Savers!" Unfortunately our original "bride" was unable to take part but bravely and with a little persuasion from his wife, Peter Couling stepped in. (Thanks for being such a good sport, Peter) Val was able to obtain his wedding outfit and, all must agree, he made a stunning bride (if somewhat in need of dental treatment !). It was all a good deal of fun but also some hard work - especially for Mags our heavily pregnant lady who arrived in the wrong church. The progress of that pregnancy was followed closely throughout rehearsals !

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The ring?

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Everyone dressed spectacularly for their part and the “wedding party” was a joy to behold. Thanks to the Play Reading team — you were so great and really made the whole thing such a success. Our greatest reward, however, was the obvious enjoyment of our audience – we received so much lovely feedback it really made all the hard work worthwhile.

Pam Ellender – Convenor Play Reading Group

February 2019 General Meeting



Heather Baigent.

The speaker was Heather Baigent, former teacher, NZ diplomat, business woman and member of Exporters Association and a judge in the NZ Exporters of the Year Awards. Heather is currently the Auckland U3A Network President also.

Her mini-talk was about the origins of U3A as we now know it.

It started as “University of Free Time” in Toulouse, France in 1973. In the UK in 1981, groups sprang up on similar lines each

dedicated to collaborative learning. The UK website is www.u3a.org.uk. The movement then started in Australia in 1984 (www.u3aonline.org.au)

The first U3A in NZ was formed in Remuera in 1989 and the Auckland network was founded in 1992. The NZ website is www.u3a.nz for the location of branches, newsletters and contacts.

(NB: the U3A Warkworth site is an independent site — www.u3a.co.nz)

International conferences are organised by International Association of Universities of the Third Age (based in Toulouse) www.aiu3a.com and by World U3A www.worldu3a.org, which also has newsletters.

The Auckland network has meetings in March and July and an AGM in November. Its major functions include promotion of the organisation as well as coordination and networking of its branches.

In addition, there will be a special meeting on August 30th at the North Shore Event Centre with speaker Michael King. Branches can nominate mini-speakers for this. The network website is www.u3a.net.nz.

Main Presentation: INSPIRATIONAL EXPORTERS

Heather reminded us of how we used to be the “farm” for Britain, of UK’s entry to EEC, of Rogernomics and

the WTO formation. She stressed the vital importance of exports to this country, for it is only exports that provide us with the money to import goods and services. Although meat is still the top commodity exported, services exports such as tourism, education and banking, are also major earners.

Then she talked about and illustrated a large range of exporters whose innovation and forethought held us all in enthrall. It is impossible to do justice to all these firms in this report. However, you can access those of interest to you via their websites.

The major Exporters Awards in 2018 were:

The Award for the firm less than 5 years old and with a profit of less than \$5million went to Auckland Biosciences who make products from blood serum for veterinary vaccines. In the category of medium business with profit of \$5-\$14 million was ROSS Roofing who export steel roof-tiles coated with stone, and the major award with a profit of \$40 million plus went to Gallagher Group in Waikato – a global leader in animal management (fences that will keep out anything from mice to elephants depending on need) as well as site security. The Gallagher Group employs over 1000 staff.

The overall theme was the use of technology and that you should tell your grandchildren that this is the way of the future!!

We need to increase our skills in technology. We are a small country so we need to think laterally about ways to help our export earnings —

- Buy NZ made
- Support free trade
- Support NZ exporters

Other winners which you may like to look up follow below. I have noted just one point about each. More information can be gained from their websites.

- Haka Educational Tours
- More4Apps —they facilitate easy uploads to Oracle,
- Gentrack— revenue, operations and customer engagement software platforms that more than 140 airports worldwide use
- Endace- manages security of

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data systems

- Helix Flight manufacturing
- Loadscan— automated readings
- Spring Sheep Milk— powdered sheep's milk,
- Zeffer Cider at Matakana
- Invenco— order your takeaways at the petrol pump
- Milk NZ Dairy Ltd
- NZ Bloodstock (Karaka) horses
- Company X— bespoke software solutions
- Valocity — algorithms used by banks in lending decisions
- Eroad — ELDs on a tether
- Organic Initiative — cotton sanitary products
- Serko — booking system for business travel
- Powershield — detects problems in battery systems,
- ABE Bagels

- Compac — post harvest technology.
- Fisher and Paykel Healthcare
- Pollen Group — sound proof systems for open offices,
- Straker Translations Ltd, Howick — makes steel components for buildings from architects plans
- ABODO — Pinus radiata external cladding
- Southern Spars — lightweight carbon masts and spars
- Mindful — data insights for financial planning
- EverEdge Global — advisory on intellectual property
- Oceanmax — coatings to prevent marine fouling
- Mix — natural and organic cosmetics
- Hunter Filling Systems
- Progressive Hydraulics

Gay Roberts

Auckland Network Meeting (1st March)

Diane and I attended this meeting and gave Glyn's apology. Heather Baigent covered a lot of ground and the meeting was most interesting.

Celebrating U3A is to be held on Friday August 30th 2019 in the Netball stadium on the North Shore. The main speaker is to be Michael King (NZer of the Year). Nine mini-speakers are needed. The venue will probably hold 350 and there is plenty of parking. Registration costs \$20 and will begin online at the end of March.

Lapel badges will be larger and more pin versions when next ordered. Spare magnets are available.

The generic promotional brochure is being reprinted, at 20 cents a copy (as opposed to \$1 which we paid for our local one). U3As can put an insert with their own study groups and meeting dates listed. Orders had to be in by Wednesday 6th so we have ordered 250.

U3A on line runs courses from Australia but is no longer supported by Griffith University. One \$30 membership enables anyone from the group to access a course. There are also major online courses available.

In Australia there is no restriction on the use of the word University.

Membership and recruitment - suggestions that

we use libraries (as we do), the local newspaper "what's on", posters, neighbourly, stuff, coffee news, GP surgeries, WINZ office, golf club, social media, facebook, word of mouth, invite our offspring! We are encouraged to add younger members and different ethnic groups.

Banners – one refurbished banner and one new one have been purchased with the insurance money from the lost banner, plus \$107.

Inter-U3A study groups can be formed with members from adjacent groups attending. Membership of only one of the U3As is required.

Archiving — Costs of archiving on the cloud are going up.

U3A members should write contact details on the back of their name badge in case they are needed in an emergency. Liability insurance – do we need it? Groups going on bus tours may need cover. Committee members could practise defibrillator use.

Privacy - U3A newsletters on the Network website should have email addresses and phone numbers deleted.

Constitution – Good examples of U3A constitutions are St Heliers, Ponsonby, Epsom and Mt Albert.

Mary Miller



New Members

A warm welcome to our new members who have joined since June 1.

Elle Glazer

Carol Todd

Margaret Levesque-Simpson

Anne Ronaldson

Susan Howard

Gay Greig

Jim and Marilyn Flewitt

Dawn Rigby.

(Membership now stands at 166)

NAME BADGES: Change of policy

Members are being asked to look after their own U3A name labels from now on and bring them to wear at our General Meetings.

These are the badges/labels that members have until now collected as they arrived at each U3A General Meeting and then handed in again at the end of the meeting.

There will be the standard "sticky label and felt pen" facility for anyone who forgets to bring their label!

GENERAL MEETING DUTY GROUP ROSTER 2019

April 8- Music Appreciation

June 10 - Mid-Winter Luncheon

August 12 - Antiques and Collectibles

October 14 - Art Appreciation

The duty group for the general meetings at the Hospice venue should be there at 9.45am

The chairs for the meeting and the tables for morning tea will already be in place courtesy of the Hospice volunteer staff, who will also set out the cups and plates, etc.

Morning tea and coffee at Tui House

The morning tea and coffee will be served on a table in the passage-way outside the kitchen, as this enables easy access to boiling water. Hospice is happy for us to use the area as we wish. The time of serving the refreshments remains flexible, either at 10 am or after the mini-talk.

After the meeting, the duty team sees that the tables are cleared and tidy. The dishes will be put through the dishwasher by the Hospice team.

U3A Lapel Badges

Auckland U3A Network is commissioning the manufacture of lapel badges for U3A members.



Badges feature the international U3A logo and the words "NEW ZEALAND", as shown.

The concept is similar to Rotary and Probus badges – a wonderful conversation-starter when travelling in New Zealand or overseas, and an easy identifier when on U3A excursions.

The badges will be metal and with either a magnetic fastener or with a pin. Price is \$5 per badge.

Ordering: Please email our treasurer: Nigel Swaffield (nswaf43ju@gmail.com)

Payment: either Direct Credit to the U3A account

02-0480-0133880-00

(remember to enter the names of the purchasers in the reference) or send a cheque to:

The Treasurer, U3A Warkworth, 8 Wilson Rd, Warkworth.

U3A WARKWORTH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President	Mary Miller
Treasurer	Nigel Swaffield
Secretary	Diane Parton
Membership	Alison Coates
Groups Convenor	Hilary Lewis
Almoner	Chris Hoogerwerf
Publicity	Glyn Williams
Hospitality	Jean Mason Mary-Alice Ryburn
Equipment and Venue Management	Bill Robertson
Editor	Ian Lewis

EX OFFICIO

IT/Web/Grapevine Alan Spicer

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Committee.



Around the Groups

All About Plants



In February, 11 members of the group enjoyed a visit to the Couldrey House gardens in Wenderholm

Tonara Cuthell

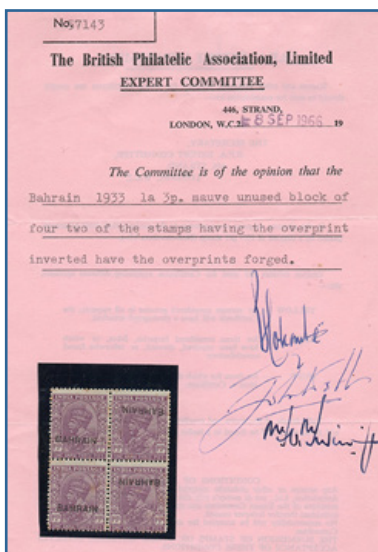


Antiques and Collectables



The February meeting for this group centred on a discussion of two topics: stamp forgeries and barometers — both or which were presented by Nigel Swaffield.

Members were shown a number of examples of forged stamps, and the distinction was clearly outlined between forgeries and replicas (see attached photo of a Bahrain forgeries and the Philatelic Association's assessment as a forgery).

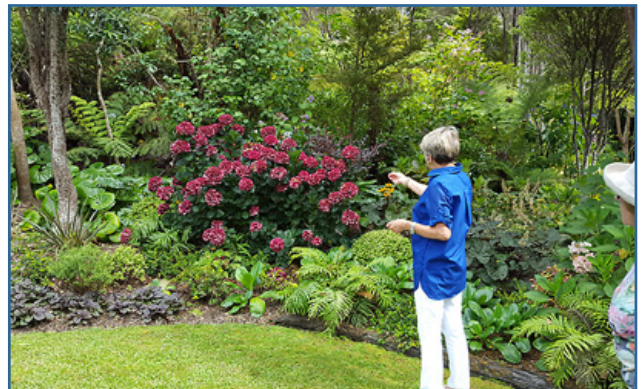


A wheel barometer belonging to Nigel's great-great-grandfather was then displayed (left).

This had been made in 1790 by Tacchi of Bedford, England. When it was restored in the 1990's, it was given a valuation of £2,500 but, interestingly, its value today has dropped considerably and its worth is now estimated merely in the hundreds of pounds. ♦

Hilary Lewis

Art Appreciation



Omaio was the first outing for our U3a Art Appreciation group in 2019. Liz Morrow's garden is an outstanding example of using her artistic and creative skills to work her 7 hectare property.





Her passion for plants and an eye for proportion and balance made it a beautiful place to visit. ♦

Jan Imlach

Local History

Looking back over the last few meetings, members have been very much immersed in times past.

Firstly with Eileen and Ron Trotter sharing their memories of running a farm in Matakana which has been family owned for over 150 years - times were tough back in them days!

And then we were reminded that hopping on the train or clambering up into the road coach to travel to and from Warkworth, Kaipara Flats and surrounding areas took patience, with lots of discomfort and frequent delays of varying kinds along the way ♦

Lorna Laxon

Music Appreciation Group

The scheduled date for our February meeting was the 14th, St Valentine's Day. Our program was Music for St Valentine's Day.

St Valentine of Rome was imprisoned and eventually condemned to death in 269 CE for refusing to deny his Christian faith. According to one legend he restored the sight of the blind daughter of his judge who then became a Christian and freed all the Christians under his authority. Before his execution Valentine wrote her a letter signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell.

St Valentine's Day was first associated with romantic love in the time of Chaucer in the 14th century. "For this was on St Valentine's Day, when every bird cometh there to choose his mate." The day evolved to become an occasion for sending cards and flowers to express love.

We watched a selection of classical music associated with love by a variety of composers. We also studied the love lives of these composers, some of which were quite complicated!

A striking feature was that composers were not considered to be very high on the social scale. For instance, Beethoven, whom we revere as one of the great composers of all time, was unable to marry any of the three women he loved because he was a commoner. Beethoven's father was a musician and his mother was the daughter of the head chef at an Archbishop's court. His first love was a widowed countess with four children. If she had married him she would have lost custody of her aristocratic children! His second love was also a countess, to whom he dedicated the Moonlight Sonata. His third love, to whom he dedicated Fur Elise, was also a failed relationship because he was a commoner.

Our program included Lieberstraum 3, Love's Dream, by Liszt, Violin Romance no 2 in F major by Beethoven, Nocturne no 2 in D major by Borodin, Salut d'Amour by Elgar, a solo from Marriage of Figaro by Mozart, Variation 18 from Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini by Rachmaninoff, O Mio Babbino Caro by Puccini and Piano Concerto no 2 Adagio movement by Rachmaninoff (the theme from the movie Brief Encounter).

If you would like to join our Music Appreciation group you will be welcome!♦

Mary Miller

**Jazz Connection
and
Mahurangi Ramblers**

Warkworth Town Hall

Sunday 5th May, 2-4:30 PM

Tickets \$10 at the door.

A great afternoon of swinging music

The Girton College Lifelong Learning Summer School

18 – 31 August 2019

at Girton College, Cambridge

www.girton.cam.ac.uk/summer-programmes/lifelong

Academic courses

Each week participants take two courses, each comprising seven and a half hours of teaching in small classes. Various courses are normally offered in History, Literature, Art History and Architecture. Course material is accessible to all, and only an interest in the subject is required. There are no exams; participants study for the joy of learning.

Social programme

A varied social programme is offered to help lifelong learners experience Cambridge to the full. Options may include visits to one of the many University of Cambridge museums and libraries, punting on the River Cam, architectural tours, pub tours or a visit to the magnificent Ely Cathedral. A day trip to London is also included in the two-week programme.

College life

Accommodation is available in Girton's well-appointed bedrooms and meals may be taken in the College dining hall. Participants will experience a traditional English Afternoon Tea and attend a weekly Formal Dinner held in the College's historic dining hall. A series of tours and evening talks will help participants to appreciate

For more information visit www.girton.cam.ac.uk/summer-programmes/lifelong and contact Dr Nick Godfrey, the Director of Summer Programmes, at lifelonglearning@girton.cam.ac.uk with any questions, or to simply register your interest in this or future programmes.

**Girton College,
Huntingdon Road,
Cambridge, CB3 0JG,
United Kingdom**

Tui House Parking

Your committee members understand that some members are not easily able to walk a distance from the car to Tui House. We encourage car-pooling as much as possible. If you are finding difficulty arranging a lift please ask a committee member or your group convener to help you find someone who could pick you up. If you are fit and your legs are OK then take the opportunity for some exercise and park further away!

The following information has been received from Michelle Gimblett at Couldrey House:

Couldrey House

House: Many people are unaware of our historic house museum located close to the carpark and surrounded by beautiful gardens and mature trees in the heart of Wenderholm, just 25 minutes south of Warkworth.

Owned by charitable trust 'The Friends of Couldrey House', we are open on weekends throughout the year, however we also welcome groups of all sizes (up to 35 people) to visit during the week. We have had many groups including Probus, retirement villages and various interest groups visit us over the years.

We would like to extend a welcome to your members to visit us as a group over the coming months. We can arrange a morning or afternoon tea in addition to a half hour seated talk and/or guided tour of the house. And of course all visitors are encouraged to explore both the house and surrounding gardens at their leisure.

Our costs are minimal and we usually ask for a donation in addition to a per person charge. For a 30-35 minute talk by your Host before going through the house we charge \$6 per person. Alternatively to enjoy simple refreshments of tea, coffee & biscuits before the talk and tour we charge \$10 per person. Guests are then free to wander in the garden and some groups have extended their trip by going on to enjoy the surrounds of Wenderholm. The Regional Park has a large number of very modern, beautifully maintained toilets, along with shaded picnic areas, a lovely beach and varying lengths of easy-moderate grade walking tracks.

Feedback has always been immensely positive, such as these recent comments... "Thoroughly enjoyed seeing the house again and hearing the volunteer's talk, as well as the audio commentaries which weren't there on my last visit."

"Wonderfully presented interior, easy access to rooms (not all roped off) and a real sense of living in the house."

Please don't hesitate to contact me to discuss your requirements or ideas around a tour to suit your members. You can email me on info@couldreyhouse.org.nz or call me on 09 440 9366. I look forward to hearing from you!

Michelle Gimblett

Historic House Museum Manager

Phone: 09 440 9366 / 021 811183

Address: 37 Schischka Road - Wenderholm Regional Park - Waiwera - Auckland 0873 - New Zealand

www.couldreyhouse.org.nz



U3A Warkworth Committee 2019



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Mary Miller



Secretary
Diane Parton



Treasurer
Nigel Swaffield



Groups Convener
Hilary Lewis



Membership
Alison Coates



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Hospitality
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