



March 2020

ugabayofislands.com/

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From the Chair

More new groups and a tea/coffee morning to look forward to this month. Those of you who were at the General Meeting on the 17th February will have enjoyed a fascinating talk and presentation of photography by Clair Gordon. (See David Welch's Report in this Newsletter). I only have to apologise for the poor system we have for projecting images onto the back wall, largely due to the fact that we have no way of darkening the hall at the Sports Complex. Numbers prevent us from returning to the St John's Hall as they have a restricted capacity for fire regulations, and our numbers have grown beyond that. We are continuing to look for a more suitable alternative venue.

I have enjoyed my time as Chair, but come June I will have to step down as we have a 2 year rule for that position. We are lucky to have an excellent Committee, but I know that a number of the current Committee members will also be stepping down, so we will be looking for new members to step forward. Without a new committee we will not be able to function. I would be most grateful if anybody able to join, or thinking of joining the Committee would contact myself, or any present Committee member, to discuss the role and what is involved. Likewise if you can recommend someone for any of the roles involved, please come forward. All members stepping down will be doing a comprehensive hand-over and support to any new committee member. What's that expression? U3A needs you !

Drew Barlow



General Meeting Talk By Claire Gordon

Claire's talk at the General Meeting was both entertaining and informative. After a brief biographic introduction she gave a talk, while perched on a stool, which gave an insight into the wide range of photographic activities which she engages in. Her photographic activities ranged from photos of pop groups to the New Zealand Ballet and, just for a change, photos of wild horses.

As well as her talk, there were displayed a selection of her photographs which displayed the wide range of her activities. Her talent as a professional photographer was shown in the photos which were displayed. I am sure all who looked at them could not fail to appreciate the qualities of the photos and the manner in which they were displayed.

David Welch

Group Convenor

At the last General Meeting the chair thanked the facilitators and hosts for all their hard work, and I would like to take this opportunity to add to that. U3A can only function with our wonderful facilitators and hosts doing their job as well as they do. I will be sending them an update in due course. We are offering a wide range of subjects and some facilitators are leading the subject with original material which is always great. That said, there is a wealth of excellent resources, books, DVDs etc. held by U3A, which facilitators can use. So if there is a subject that interests, it may well be that we have the resources available to share with a group. The resources will be available at the next morning tea and can also be accessed on request. I can also send out the list on request and offer information and support should you wish to facilitate a group.

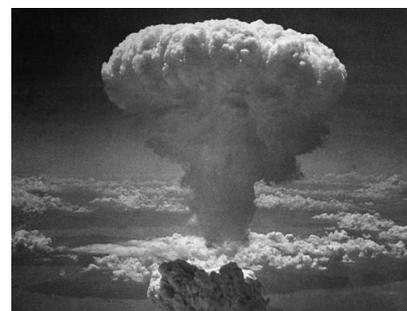
As mentioned above, we are holding another morning tea, by popular demand. (See notice below.) This is a good opportunity to hear about new groups and meet other members in an informal setting. Many good ideas have sprung from these gatherings.

Groups starting March 2020

We are very grateful to Tony Robertson, a new member, who has launched into U3A with the offer of four very interesting new History subjects. These are gaining interest. You will see above that two are now starting in March. We need just a few more people before starting the other two groups below.

'Shadow of the Bomb' 1945-1975 (See schedule) (two spaces left)

With the cessation of hostilities in 1945 the world could look forward to moving into the 'sunlit uplands', as Churchill so poetically put it. However, Churchill was also aware that the allied effort to defeat National Socialism was the glue that held an uneasy alliance together. When the War was over, the new 'superpowers', the USSR and the USA, turned to face off against each other in what would soon be called The Cold War. Starting in 1945 with the breakdown of relations between the former allied powers, we can look at some of the key events of this tumultuous time. The Berlin Blockade, the Marshall Plan, the Korean War, the Berlin Wall, Vietnam, the Bay of Pigs, arms races, détente, and the regular freeze and thaw of the Cold War period. We will also take a look at the role of New Zealand in these events, especially in Vietnam and the issue of SEATO and the protection of the Pacific region.



'The Victorian World' (See schedule) (three spaces left)

Queen Victoria ascended to the throne of a nation busy harnessing the power of steam and bursting with ideas and a desire to export these ideas overseas. The British Empire was set to become one on which the sun never truly set, and the men and women of the island nation would help shape vast holding across the globe. The impact of this Imperial expansion, both bad and good, will be addressed. From railways and child labour to dominions overseas like New Zealand, we can take a look through the rise and eventual demise of the largest Empire known to man.



New Group Ideas, suggested by Tony Robertson

The Good Americans 1775-1783

When the colonists and the Crown finally came to blows in eighteenth-century North America, the war that followed quickly became a Civil War between those Americans who sought to break away from the mother country and, as they saw it, the oppressive monarchy, and those colonists that remained loyal to the Crown and their British heritage. We will be looking at both sides of the conflict, political and military issues but with attention paid to those loyalists who have tended to be overlooked by the 'victors' writing of history.



The Devils Decade 1930's

In October 1929 the world economy tumbled into an abyss the like of which had previously been unknown. This was but the start of ten tumultuous years which saw an abdication, the rise of extremism in Europe, the Great Depression, Civil War in Spain, the destruction of Abyssinia, and many other events that would help to shape the world we live in. The 1930's well deserve the label 'The Devils Decade'.



Are you interested in any of the groups above?

Please let me know as soon as possible:

Email group.convenor.u3a.boi@gmail.com Phone 09 407 9748 or 021 731 748

Group Convenor *Susie Barlow*

Camera Group – New Activities

The Camera Group has decided to change the type of activities and the format of the Group. No longer will the emphasis be on technical photographic matters but will concentrate on visits to interesting locations in the Far North. Members have agreed that at least one photo taken on each trip will be sent to all members for comment and helpful criticism. There will also be a topic for each month and members will be asked to send to all Group members a photo on the selected topic for comment.

It is hoped that this new format will encourage members to join the Camera Group. Our first of the new format will be a trip to Kawakawa, which has a surprising range of photo opportunities. This will be on the morning of Thursday, 19th March. Members may join us on this trip without any commitment to remain in the Group.

Any who would like to, please advise me by email to davidwelchnz@gmail.com

David Welch

David's Group will not be able to take a picture like this although it's a really great town for photography. A bygone age unless anyone has \$80,000 for a new boiler.



Calendar

2020

Monday 16 March

We are holding another Pop Up Morning Tea
10-12 Monday 16th March at The Pack House café

All members welcome

Ollie, at the Pack House Café is doing us a special offer:

Regular hot drink and a choice of

Chocolate brownie, a slice or a cheese scone for \$7.50!



Monday 20 April

General Meeting, Kerikeri Sports Complex, 10.00 a.m.

Short Presentation: TBA

Speaker: TBA

Please note the new start time and format for the General Meetings, trialled at the February meeting. There will be coffee and tea with biscuits (all provided) but no shared lunch, so please do not bring food.

Monday 15 June:

AGM and General Meeting, Kerikeri

2019-2020 Committee			
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