



July 2020

www.ugaboi.org.nz

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From the Chair

Well we're (hopefully) nearly out of the Covid woods now, so it'll be good to be able to hold the AGM in August. In fact we are also holding a U3A re-connecting get-together on Tuesday 30th June at the Packhouse Café to give people the chance to meet up and mingle after the isolation of the lockdown (see invitation below). We've had over 30 responses already, so please let us know and come along if you can.

It's great to see all our Groups starting up again in July as New Zealand gets back to near normal. There are a few new Groups starting now and in the next couple of months, so please have a look and get in touch if you're interested in any of them.

I've said it before, but here's another reminder that I will be standing down as Chair at the AGM, as will other members of the current committee. This should not be seen in any way as a negative thing. We've all served on the committee for 2 or more years and need to make way for fresh faces and new ideas. We've all enjoyed being involved with U3A and even our meetings have been (mostly) fun!

I'm sure there are members out there who would like to have the opportunity to be on the committee, and we will be sending out the required Nomination Forms in due course. If you are a new member, don't let that put you off. Susie and I had only recently joined U3A when we put our names forward, and it was a great way to get to know people and make new friends. If you, or anyone you know of, might be considering joining, you are welcome to contact a present member if you want to discuss the roles and responsibilities.

Because we are aware that there are a few of you that might still be a bit wary of large lengthy meetings, we are keeping this year's AGM to a minimum to go over the past year and elect the new committee. It will still be a great community get together, and an opportunity to thank the current committee for all their efforts over the last year, so we do encourage you all to come and support us.

Here's hoping to see you in July, but definitely in August...



Drew Barlow



This Newsletter and the Monthly Group Schedule will shortly be available on our website.

Group Convenor

It is good to see that all groups will be starting up again in July. Some started in June. It is also good to see Mary Johnson is well enough to re commence some of her groups, The Story of Language and Understanding the Mysteries of Human Behaviour.

We do also have quite a few new groups starting soon. There are two new history groups starting up in August which still have some space, and Geographical Tourism starting in September, also with space. There are also four other proposed groups, so obviously the brains have been working on new ideas while in shutdown. (See below for details). As always we are happy to continue to put forward new ideas, so keep them coming. Although I will be handing over the baton to a new Group Convenor after the August AGM, I hope that there will be no interruption to the running of things and I am happy to pass on any ideas members come up with in the next two months.

By popular request we are having an Afternoon Tea to re connect. We have several new members who we hope will come and see actual people. It is always a good opportunity to share ideas, meet facilitators and hear about the groups.

Reconnecting Afternoon Tea



We are holding a "reconnecting" Afternoon Tea get-together

From 1.30 to 3.30pm on Tuesday June 30th at The Pack House Café

All members welcome

Ollie, at the Pack House Café is providing a selection of cakes and scones, or quiches, with pots of tea and coffee, at reasonable cost.

Feel free to come for the whole time
or just drop in for a few minutes.

RSVP to give me an idea of numbers
group.convenor.u3a.boi@gmail.com

021731748

09 4079748

Susie Barlow

Schedule format

I hope everyone is finding the new schedule format easier and clearer to use. Just a reminder to facilitators and / or hosts that if there are any changes to the facilitator or the day you meet, could you please let me know (as Grainger Brown has stood down as Newsletter Editor) until the new Committee are elected sometime in August.

The groups below are all filling up and should be able to commence soon.

New Groups:

Two New Group are starting in August.

Space in both of these groups. The times and dates are being sorted as I write.

If you haven't already done so, and are interested, please contact **Tony Robertson direct on 09 4076804**

1. 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.

2. 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'.

One New Group starting in September, and one other starting soon.

Travel Group or "Geographical Tourism"

We have another new member keen to jump in and facilitate a group. Grant Thomas has an extensive background in tourism and the travel industry and is a Fellow of The Royal Geographical Club. The group will explore all aspects of travel from an educational and learning point of view as well as social tourism. This group is starting in September. Grant will be in touch if you have already put your name down. If you would like to join, and have not already put your name down, please contact **Grant Thomas direct on 0272647910** Get in quick! There may be space left.

Beginners Ukulele Group

This will be commencing soon on a weekly basis at a members home. The day and start date is yet to be set. There is already a core group requesting this, so it can remain a small group or take on more. The group is happy to welcome others to join.

Request for unwanted Ukuleles

If anyone has a Ukulele that they are no longer using, please let Christine Cronshaw know.

Possible new Group...

Astronomy

A member has expressed interest in this topic. If anyone else is also interested please let the Group Convenor know and we will see if such a group can be started.

Are you interested in any of the groups above?

Please let the facilitators of those groups, where stated, or me know as soon as possible: Susie Barlow, Group Convenor

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

Group Convenor: *Susie Barlow*

