



U3A TAKAPUNA INC

Email: u3atakapuna@gmail.com Website: www.u3atakapuna.org.nz

March 2020 Newsletter

Meeting on Wednesday 4 March at 9.45am
Citizens' Centre, College Road, Northcote

Guest Speaker: Gaye Stratton

Topic: Macular Degeneration

Macular Degeneration (MD) is the leading cause of blindness in New Zealand and it is treatable. One in 7 people over 50 years of age have some evidence of MD and the incidence increases with age. Many people dismiss the early warning signs of MD, accepting vision loss as a normal part of the ageing process.



Macular degeneration (MD) affects the central vision and could impact on your ability to drive, read, watch television, participate in your hobbies and recognize faces. Loss of vision can impact on your lifestyle and independence. You could have a higher risk of falls and fracturing hips; developing depression; inability to access health services and earlier admission to nursing homes. However if MD is caught in time, steps can be taken to prevent the onset of MD and treatments are available.

Gaye Stratton, Macular Degeneration New Zealand's Community Liaison Educator, will dispel myths and misunderstandings about this chronic eye disease and will provide information on the latest treatments and the management of macular degeneration. Information packs will be available.



MACULAR
DEGENERATION
NEW ZEALAND

VISION FOR
2020

Mini Speaker: Neal Pollock

Experiences in Nepal

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our February meeting had two great speakers, first up, Sue Newman, who had interesting information on the Cave paintings of France.

Second up was Dr Miles Gregory who told us how the Pop-up Globe was conceived and presented a great talk on the trials and tribulations of running the Pop-up Globe. Great talk and very good speaker.

We still need 4 more Mini Speakers to complete this year. If you have an interesting topic that you would like to share with membership then please contact me by email president@u3atakapuna.org.nz

It is good to see around 80% of members now receive our Newsletter by email. A great way to help us reduce our environmental footprint. If you are still getting your newsletter by post and would like to change please send an email message to news@u3atakapuna.org.nz and ask to get newsletter via email.

Some time back, we had a mini talk about writing and there seemed to be interest in forming a writing group. If there is interest in such a group, we need someone willing to act as convener. If you think you could help get a writing group started talk to me and we can find out what level of interest there is in our membership.

Email me president@u3atakapuna.org.nz

Ron Wilson, President

Advance Notice – Convenors’ Meeting

Wednesday 4 March 2020

It is proposed to hold a short Convenors’ meeting in March 2020 following the Wednesday meeting. The purpose is to gain feedback from the Convenors and to provide support as required. There will be personal calls made to the Convenors in February prior to the meeting



Rowena Scaletti - Study Group Liaison - Takapuna U3A committee

Email: rsca@orcon.net.nz ph: 09 445 8842 (with answerphone)

Hosts: Modern English Literature Group

Four members at 9.15am please

Morning Tea: Geology Group

Two members at 9.15am and a further 4 at 10.25am please

Hosts and morning tea teams are also responsible for ensuring the hall is left in a clean and tidy state at the end of the meeting

Committee Members for 2019/2020

President	Ron Wilson	☎ 09 478 2490
Vice President	Stephen Warnes	☎ 027 646 3866
Treasurer	David Gibbs	☎ 09 482 3006
Secretary	Erica Brash	☎ 09 414 6321
Speakers Convenor	Christine Ball	☎ 09 410 7789
Catering Convenor	Janet Poole	☎ 09 940 1200
Reception	Sue Pearson	☎ 021 622 783
Membership	Jan Judson	☎ 021 396 152
Hall Liaison	Rowena Scaletti	☎ 09 445 8842
Study Group Liaison	Rowena Scaletti	☎ 09 445 8842
U3A Network	Ron Wilson	☎ 09 478 2490
Other Responsibilities		
Audio Visual	Barry, Chris and Boyd	
Hall Setup	Phil and Pauline	
Newsletter Distribution	John Hanna	☎ 09 489 4425
Newsletter Editors	Murray Pearson	☎ 021 644 442
	and Rosemary Larsen	☎ 09 410 4465

Study Group Calendar

We will continue to include a Study Group Calendar so members can see at a glance what group is meeting when. Hopefully this will give groups more exposure and maybe tempt members to fill up that spare half day by joining a new group.

Study Group Newsletter Information

Rosemary Larsen recently took on the job of gathering the Study Group information for the Newsletter. Please be mindful that this takes loads of work following up 37 groups. You can help by ensuring you send in the group meeting information well before the deadline. If your group meets early in the month then perhaps set up your programme 2 months in advance.

Note the email address below for Study group info.

Deadline Date for April 2020 Newsletter

Saturday 14 March 2020

Editors: Murray Pearson and Rosemary Larsen

Email: news@u3atakapuna.org.nz or phone Murray on 021 644442

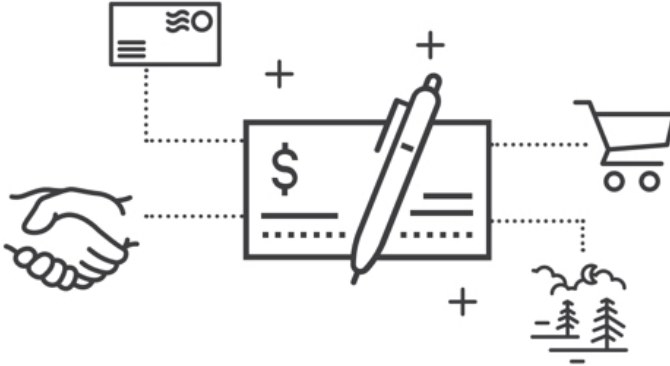
Study group information to: studygroups@u3atakapuna.org.nz

Please note this new email address for all study group content information



Calling 'time' on cheques

The use of cheques as a mode of payment in New Zealand has been decreasing over time, but a number of individuals and organisations continue to use them. Although cheques are quickly disappearing from common usage there is still a persistent “tail” of cheque use that needs addressing.



Kiwibank is going cheque-free from 28 February 2020. From 17 May 2019, you were no longer able to open new cheque facilities. And you could not order a new cheque book from 30 September 2019.

From 28 February 2020, you shouldn't write cheques as they may not be honoured by Kiwibank. From this date, they will no longer accept cheque deposits and will stop providing bank cheques.

The following is from rnz.co.nz in May 2019:

Cheques account for less than 1 percent of bank transactions, with most customers using some form of digital payment system to conduct their business.

However, other than Kiwibank, the other large banks were not preparing to follow suit.

The largest bank ANZ said there had been a year-on-year 20 percent decline in cheque use in 2017 and 2018, with less than 1% of customers using the service.

However, it said it was still committed to honouring cheques, although it expected it would look to phase out cheques in due course.

The other big banks, Westpac, BNZ and ASB, said they would continue to offer customers a cheque service, without any indication of when they might be phased out.

"But while cheque usage continues its long-term decline in popularity as a payment method, it is still the most convenient for some ASB customers and that is why we're continuing to offer cheques as a choice," ASB retail banking manager Craig Sims said.

Search for Family History Records in New Zealand

You might be able to trace your family's history in NZ through genealogy websites, old newspapers, or ships' passenger lists.

Here are some on-line Research tools that may assist you

You can use the National Library's resources to research your family's history.

natlib.govt.nz/researchers/guides/family-history

There are also websites to help you do your own family history research.

nzhistory.govt.nz/hands/links-genealogy/genealogy-links

Find out when your family came to NZ

You can use shipping lists to find out how and when people arrived in New Zealand.

Shipping lists might be able to tell you:

- someone's full name
- their occupation
- their marital status
- the name of the ship they arrived on
- where they landed in NZ
- where they came from.

There are only online shipping lists of people who came to NZ:

- with government assistance before 1888
- after 1910.

familysearch.org/search/collection/1609792

Between 1888 and 1910 some records exist, but they aren't complete.

my.christchurchcitylibraries.com/family-history/passenger-lists/

Births, deaths and marriages in NZ

You can search NZ birth, death, marriage, civil union and name change records.

govt.nz/browse/history-culture-and-heritage/search-historical-records/search-historical-birth-death-and-marriage-records/

Family records in Australia

Many NZ families originated in Europe, but they might have emigrated to Australia first.

Christchurch City Libraries has an extensive list of Australian family history resources.

christchurchcitylibraries.com/Resources/History/FamilyHistory/Australia/

Military records

You can search for the records and medals of New Zealanders who were in the armed forces.

If the person is still alive, you can't get their records without their written approval.

govt.nz/browse/history-culture-and-heritage/nz-history/military-history-records-and-medals/

The above information comes from

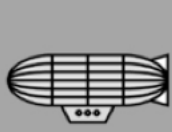
govt.nz/browse/history-culture-and-heritage/

In the emailed version of this Newsletter all the above references are easy links

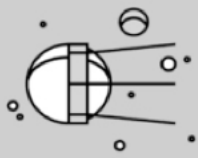
Study Groups Meeting Calendar

Day	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Mon am		Jung Historical Studies Musical studies	Finance and Investment USA Travel	Jung Musical studies
Mon pm		Musical Troubadours Poetry	Classic Movies Shakespeare	Film Appreciation Musical Troubadours
Tues am	Modern English Literature	History - The World of Byzantium	Modern English Literature Geology	
Tues pm		World War II	Classical Opera	Other Peoples Lives
Wed am		Modern History	Architecture and Design	
Wed pm	French Scientific Horizons		French	Maori Studies
Thurs am	Great Artists Making History	Latin Mind Body Medicine	Great Artists	Latin
Thurs pm		Cabbages and Kings		Globalisation
Fri am	Destination Walking Scrabble	Famous and Infamous Spanish Culture	Auckland Heritage	Astronomy
Fri pm	Mah Jong Social Issues	Chinese painting and Art Studies	Mah Jong	

Study and Special Interest Groups



IMAGINE



EXPLORE



LEARN



THINK



KNOW

Architecture & Design

Judy Hanna 489 4425

hannaj@xtra.co.nz

Meets: 3rd Wednesday - 18 March at 9.45am.

Venue: Sky Lounge, Mayfair Village, Oteha Valley Road, Northcross

Topic: Hobsonville- Then and Now - preview for a group visit

Astronomy *

Stuart Kendon 0274 949 371

stuart@kendon.co.nz

Meets: 4th Friday – 27 March at 9.45am.

Venue: ActivZone, 30 Downing Street, Glen field

Topic: Dark Matter; Dark Energy cont.

Auckland Heritage

Christine Ball 410 7789 cball@xtra.co.nz

Meets: 3rd Friday – 20 March at 10.00am

Venue: A day trip to Waiheke, catching the ferry from Devonport.

More details to come by email.

Cabbages and Kings

Anne Young 486 3317

annejim.y@xtra.co.nz

Liz Milne 021 269 5151

lizhmilne@gmail.com

Meets: 2nd Thursday – 12 March at 1:30 pm

Venue: Anne's place

Topic: 5 to 10 minutes on anything.

Chinese Civilisation: Why it lasts *

Wing On SO 021 040 4019

wingon.so@mac.com

Stephen Warnes 027 646 3866

stephen.warnes@gmail.com

Meets: **This group has ceased meeting.**

Chinese Painting and Art Studies *

Doreen Brown

473 0871

doreen22@orcon.net.nz

Meets: The first meeting for 2020 will be on the second Friday – **13 March.**

Venue: The Orchards, Glenfield at 1.30 pm.

Topic: "Washes"

Classic Movies * Ian Morris 480 0919 ian.morris@actrix.co.nz

Meets: 3rd Monday -16 March at 1.15pm for a 1.30pm start

Venue: 58 Balmain Road, Birkenhead

Movie: "Rebel Without a Cause" starring James Dean, Natalie Wood, Sal Mineo and Jim Backus

Followed by afternoon tea and discussion on all aspects of the movie plus a chocolate fish quiz.

All welcome.

Classical Opera Jenny Adams 489 5914 golfingjen@icloud.com

Meets: 3rd Tuesday - 17 March at 1.30pm

Venue: Chelsea Room, Knightsbridge Retirement village

Topic: Jan Judson will be telling us about early opera.

Destination Walking * Jenny Adams 489 5914 golfingjen@hotmail.com

Co-convenor: Becky Britton 0273 111 385

Meets: 1st Friday – 6 March at 10.00am

Sheila will be taking us for a walk around Le Roy's Bush and Hinemoa Street.

Venue: Members will be notified of venue nearer the time.

Famous and Infamous Brucilla Wright 480 0150 brucilla.wright@xtra.co.nz

Meets: 2nd Friday – 13 March at 10.00am

Venue: Sue Charlton's Home, Apt.7204, The Poynton, 142 Shakespeare Rd, Takapuna

Topic: Two subjects will be presented by individual presenters

Finance and Investment Chris Rimmer 4409240 crysie99@gmail.com

Meets: 3rd Monday - 16 March at 9.45am – 11.45am

Venue: Mayfair, Oteha Valley Road

Topic: Financial and investment topics

Film Appreciation * Beth Campbell 478 5773 bethcam@xtra.co.nz

Meets: 4th Monday – 23 March at 1.30pm

Venue: To be announced

Topic: Jenny Adams will lead a discussion on Opera in Movies

Foundations of Western Civilisation

Stephen Warnes

027 646 3866

stephen.warnes@gmail.com

This group has been superseded by "History - The World of Byzantium".

French * Ann Andreassend 410 3297 duellingoaks@xtra.co.nz

Meets: 1st and 3rd Wednesday – 4 and 18 March at 2.00pm.

Chacun voit midi à sa porte.

Geology Boyd Miller 488 7595 boydmnz@gmail.com

Meets: 3rd Tuesday 17 March at 9.45 am

Venue: 46 Sylvan Park Ave, Milford. Judy ph 489 4425

Topics: Current events, Wellington, Cook Strait geology

Globalisation * Chris Ball 410 7789 cball@xtra.co.nz

Meets: 4th Thursday - 26 March at 2.00pm

Venue: Apt 8008, The Poynton Retirement Village, Shakespeare Rd, Milford

Topic: Chris will email topic with his reminder

New members most welcome

Great Artists Cherry Worger 486 0615 geoff.worger@xtra.co.nz

Meets: 1st and 3rd Thursday, 5 and 19 March at 10.00am

Venue: 5th March: 14 Brett Ave, Takapuna

Topic: Gustave Courbet

Venue: 19th March: Community room, Northbridge, 45 Akoranga Drive, Northcote

Topic: Claude Monet

Historical Studies Liz Milne 021 269 5151 lizhmilne@gmail.com

Meets: 2nd Monday - 9 March at 9:45 am.

Venue: Hearts and Minds, near the Northcote Library.

Topic: South East Asia

History – The World of Byzantium (New) Graham Ritson 489 5366

graham@ritson.co.nz

Meets: 2nd and 4th Tuesday – 10 and 24 March at 9.45am

Venue: ActivZone, Glenfield.

Topics: 10 March - L.11 The search for religious unity

L.12 The birth of Christian Aesthetics & letters

24 March - L.13 The emperor Heraclius; L.14 The Christian Citadel

Jung Graham Ritson 489 5366 graham@ritson.co.nz

Meets: 2nd and 4th Monday – 9 and 23 March from 9.45am - noon

Venue: Meeting room, ActivZone, 30 Downing St. Glenfield.

About 30 people have registered interest in this new group.

Topic: 9 March: 3. Jung & Freud - Video

23 March: 4. The unconscious - video

Latin Geoff Sheehan 620 5169 theosheevg@gmail.com

Meets: 2nd and 4th Thursday – 12 and 26 March at 10.00am

Venue: Forrest Hill Presbyterian Church, 151 Forrest Hill Road.

As this is an incremental course and builds very much on what has gone before, the group numbers are now closed.

"et ipsa scientia potestas est" –

"And knowledge itself is power" (Francis Bacon)

Mah Jong * (Inter U3A Group) David Johnston 473 8942

u3atakapuna@slingshot.co.nz

Meets: 1st and 3rd Friday – 6 and 20 March at 1.30pm

Venue: Okura Hall, Okura River Road

Try a new game this year

Newcomers and Learners always welcome

Making History * (Inter U3A Group) Georgie Maurice 473 0404

u3atakapuna@slingshot.co.nz

Meets: 1st Thursday - 5 March at 10.00am

Venue: Knightsbridge Retirement Village

Theme: Search for NZ History

Topic: Maoris must have come from somewhere

Maori Studies * Martyn Geary 027 4443219 mbgeary@xtra.co.nz

Meets: 4th Wednesday - 25 March at 1.30 pm.

Venue: Top level, 31 Craig Rd, Milford.

Topic: General. ***Newcomers and Learners always welcome***

Mind Body Medicine Graham Ritson 489 5366 graham@ritson.co.nz

& Stephen Warnes 027 646 3866 stephen.warnes@gmail.com

Meets: 2nd Thursday – 12 March at 9.45am to 12 mid-day

Venue: ActivZone, 30 Downing Street, Glenfield

Topic: 15. Ease the burn-Modern day stress

16. The iceberg – Visible and hidden identity

Modern English Literature * Pearl Thomson 449 0450 ptho@xtra.co.nz

Carolyn Harvey 489 6334

Meets: 1st and 3rd Tuesday – 3 and 17 March at 9.45am

Venue: 3rd March, 22b Clifton Road, Takapuna

17th March, 3a Mandica Place, Sunnynook

Topic: Irish Writers ***We would welcome new members***

Modern History * Martin Lee 294 7820 robinsonlee@xtra.co.nz

Meets: 2nd Wednesday – 11 March at 9.45am

Venue: Rothesay Room, ECB Centre, 2 Glen Road, Browns Bay.

Topics: The Baltic Countries and Inventors/Inventions

Musical Studies * Jan Judson 021 396 152 janqpies@gmail.com

Meets: 2nd and 4th Monday, 9 and 23 March at 9.45am -12 noon.

Venue: Sky Lounge, Mayfair Village, 14 Oteha Valley Road

Topics: 9th March: Haydn and the Mass

23rd March: Beethoven – choral extravaganza

New Members very welcome

Musical Troubadours * Betty Dance 478 7621 b.dance@xtra.co.nz

Meets: 2nd and 4th Monday - 9 and 23 March at 2.00pm

Venue: 7 Ramsgate Terrace, Mairangi Bay. Betty will be in touch.

New Members very welcome

Other Peoples Lives Patricia Lissette 489 9465 pat.lissette@gmail.com

Meets: 4th Tuesday - 24 March at 2.00pm

Venue: Parklane Village, 59/106 Becroft Drive, Forrest Hill.

Phone: 410 9549 (Flo)

Topic: A study of Biographies and/or Autobiographies

Poetry Val Overington 486 5582 v.j.overington@gmail.com

Meets: 2nd Monday, 9 March at 1.30 pm

Venue: Apt C462 Northbridge, Akoranga Drive

Topic: Shared reading of the Knight's Tale from The Canterbury Tales

Scientific Horizons * Convenor: Bob Atkinson 021 127 4945

bobatkinson61@gmail.com

Meets: 1st Wednesday – 4 March 1:30pm-to-3:30pm

Venue: location yet to be determined

Topics: Alzheimer's disease – recent advances

Measuring protons

* = New members Welcome

Scrabble * Sue Pearson 021 622783 sue@suepearson.co.nz
Meets: 1st Friday – 6 March - 9.45am to 12 noon
Venue: 6 Dewsbury Tce, Castor Bay
Topic: Play Scrabble to increase word knowledge
Please call Sue on 021 622 783 if you intend to come.

New members very welcome

Shakespeare * Andrew Pack 418 1925 andpack@gmail.com
Meets: 3rd Monday – 16 March at 1.30pm
Venue: ActivZone, next to the Glenfield Pool and Leisure Centre, 30 Downing Street, Glenfield
Topic: A Shakespeare play

New members very welcome!

Social Issues * Stephen Warnes 027 646 3866 stephen.warnes@gmail.com
Meets: 1st Friday - 6 March at 1.30pm
Venue: St John's Church Hall, 327 Beach Road, Campbell's Bay
Topic: General discussion on Racism

Spanish Culture * Pam Robinson 489 4494 peterrobinsonnz@hotmail.com
Meets: 2nd Friday - 13 March at 10.00 am
Venue: 37 Arran Rd, Browns Bay
Topic: Plans for the coming year.

New members very welcome!

U3A Travel * Jocelyn Spinley 445 3329 spinleys@gmail.com
Meets: 3rd Monday – 16 March at 10.00am
Venue: 38 Jubilee Ave Devonport.

New members welcome

World War II * Ian Morris 480 0919 ian.morris@actrix.co.nz
From pre war causes to post war recovery
Meets: 2nd Tuesday - 10 March at 1.00pm
Venue: 58 Balmain Road, Birkenhead
Topics: Chronological: Warsaw Uprising.

Featured Military Leader: Gen Bor Komorowski

Featured Additional Subject: Nazi Propaganda / Joseph Goebbels

More members welcome