



PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The annual U3A report has never recorded global events such as that experienced this past year. The Covid-19 virus radically altered our lives including disruption to our lectures and Special Interest Group activities. With the move to Level 1 we have enjoyed our freedom with a return to The Embassy and resumption of the interest groups.

Lecture Programme

Each year it seems hard to believe that the lectures and presenters could be as thought-provoking and captivating as the previous year but again, we have had outstanding lectures both electronically and face-to-face. We had planned a total of 57 lectures and despite Covid-19, by 6 November 51 lectures will have been delivered. Programme Coordinators Robin Halliday, Rae Julian and Doug Helps coped magnificently in procuring replacement lecturers willing to present via Zoom and reorganising lectures for the Embassy. Now that our 2020 programme is finalised they are thinking of 2021. They appreciate the 300 or so suggestions you provided from the survey and plan to fit many of these into next year's programme. Additional suggestions of topics and presenters continue to be welcomed.

Dougal Congalton has noted increased attendance numbers this year, averaging 230 before we went into lockdown, and since returning to the Embassy 224 (low 121, high 290). This is 15% up on the 2019 average. The numbers of devices connecting to our Zoom sessions averaged 252 with a record high of over 400 on the first talk, but trending down during lockdown. Dougal's chart showing comparative lecture attendance figures for 2019 & 2020 appears on Page 8.

We are indebted and thank Roger Chapman for researching the emailing of Zoom lecture invitation links to our very large membership and continuing with the weekly emailed lecture reminders.

The Embassy

The Embassy provides us with not only a wonderful screen and sound experience for our lectures but a supportive Manager, Caleb Button, and technician Darryl Burnard. We will shortly negotiate a contract for 2021.

The support provided by Darryl Burnard in setting up the sound and projection facilities is very much appreciated. We are fortunate to have a sound/media expert in Ian Goodwin who ensures slide and sound for presenters are always professionally taken care of and in his absence Alan Wright and Anthony Fletcher have done a great job. The roving microphone 'runners' that variously include Ian Goodwin, Alan Wright, Bruce Levick, Doug Helps and Anthony Fletcher ensure questions are heard by everyone - thank you.

Volunteers and Front Desk

Dougal Congalton ably coordinates the "front of house" volunteers, and assists when required. He will be checking availability for 2021 of this year's volunteers and is always interested in hearing from new helpers. This is an important role as they are the first point of contact at The Embassy lectures and set up the scanning equipment. For members who are not presently volunteers but who are willing to make themselves available in 2021 there is a Volunteer form available from Dougal. dc.congalton@xtra.co.nz This can be given or sent to Dougal, one of the committee members or left with the people on the desk when scanning in.

Finances

The financial statement for the year ending 30 June 2020 is available on our U3A website. Tony Thomson, our wonderful Treasurer, provides the Committee with regular financial reports and is delighted to report a surplus for the year ending 30 June 2020 of \$8,873.90. The surplus is one of the few beneficial consequences of the Covid-19 lockdown and resulted primarily from the suspension of lectures at the Embassy Theatre. Our Income and Expenditure figures for Functions were also affected by the lockdown. (Functions and events, including the mid-winter lunch, which was cancelled this year, are all self-funding except for the Volunteers' November social function, which is funded by U3A). Debbie Mickell, the independent reviewer, is undertaking her review of our annual accounts and will be completing her report prior to the Annual General Meeting. A return will be provided, as required, to Charities Services once the Financial Statements have been presented at the AGM.

Tony has been a superb Treasurer and guardian of our finances and so it is with deep regret that he is retiring this year as his five years' service is completed.

Membership

June and July are very busy months for Gwen Levick who deals with subscription renewals - around 1,000 - as well as updates to the database. At the last AGM we indicated that the fees for this current year would increase to \$40 to address the financial deficit. This is no longer necessary as the savings we made during the 'lock down' period by not having the Embassy rental has remedied our finances - to the delight of our Treasurer. This financial year's annual membership fee therefore remains at \$35. Many thanks, Gwen, for your calm and super-efficient handling of a very big job.

Visits and Events

We are kept informed of upcoming Holiday Events organised by enthusiastic and capable Aidan Kay. Our mid-winter lunch at the James Cook Hotel was a casualty of the virus but Aidan managed to arrange a July holiday programme that many members enjoyed. The popularity of the Victoria University Art Walk meant it was 'sold out' and additional art walks have been arranged for the October holidays.

Newsletter

Heather Nelson, our Newsletter Editor has done a marvellous job with the three informative newsletters circulated each year to our members. Over the five years of Heather's service the number of posted copies has dramatically reduced; an indication of the digital world. Regretfully she is retiring from her U3A committee role. We very much appreciate the timely and thoughtful communication and contribution to the committee overall. We wish you well and thank you Heather.

Special Interest Groups

Much appreciation and thanks go to the leaders of our 18 interest groups (two new ones) who organise interesting activities. New group members are welcome and should contact the leader of the group. If a group is full you can always start another one. Alan Wright, the committee member who has been the Special Interest Groups Coordinator this past year is resigning. Thank you Alan for your year's service.

Victoria University U3A Award

Gillian Marie received this year's award and will present her PhD work at a lecture in Term 4. Our award, worth \$2,000, has not attracted many applicants since it was established in 2013 and after a review the Committee decided we would no longer fund the award.

Website

The new website is appreciated by many members, especially the calendar showing both lectures for each month and holiday events. We now receive regular Google Analytics reports showing numbers accessing the various pages by members and New Members categories,

Page Views and the length of time spent on the website. We very much appreciate the work of Alison Dixie, with backup from George Sutton, in keeping the site updated and current with news and lecture slide presentations.

Archiving

U3A hard copy records have grown over many years creating storage problems. The committee agreed that a central, official repository would be a suitable place for the pre 2013 records. After enquiring from The National Library and Archives New Zealand, Wellington City Archives has welcomed our records and an agreement signed that allows access by interested researchers.

Committee

We are fortunate in having so many capable, thoughtful and active committee members who contribute so much of their time and expertise. Tricia Walbridge, our innovative and efficient Secretary joined the committee after the last AGM and has been a great asset. There are three nominations for the roles of Treasurer, Newsletter Coordinator and Special Interest Groups' Coordinator. The remaining committee members have agreed to re-election for the coming year.

Barbara Crump

President

Date

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Report for August 2020 Newsletter

We are pleased to welcome the following new members who have joined us since the May newsletter was published: Helen Withy, Ngaire Drake, Ruth Miller, Stuart Godwin, Murray Carpenter, Sheryl Vibert, Kay Williams, Allyson Auld, Allison Melling, Jean Grant, Gill Sutherland, Pdraig O'Connor, Pam and Ross Fletcher, Vivienne Cannell, Geoffrey and Sheila Cameron, Paul Stephens, Jenifer Simms, Jenny Kennedy, Rosalind McIntosh, Rick Christie, Alan Frazer, Vivienne Borrie, Caron Dallas, Alison Minnery, Marlene Thomson, Lesley Elvins, Jane Hall, Susan Locke, Karen Roper, Geoffrey Palmer, Liz Nightingale, Sandra Wilton, Brenda Godwin, Marian Petrie, Colin Hamlin, Helen Heffernan, Dorothy Warring, Nicola Lowe, Susan Upton, Anne Knowles, Kelvin Thompson, Euan Macpherson, Lea Robertson, Trevor FitzJohn, Stephen Gale, Jennifer Miller, David Lloyd, Vivien van Rij, Lorraine Nicholls, John Upton, Allan Benge, Carol Kelly, Margaret Culy, Godfrey Nesus, Muriel Christianson, John Harding, John Pratt, Alison Valentine, Denis McQueen, Adele Chapman, Eileen Wharton, Jennifer Martin, Murray Coppen, Linda Cohen, Brenda Cutress and Philip O'Brien.

Interest in Wellington City U3A remains high with about 200 new members joining during the past financial year. The website is well used, drawing 256 page views for the membership page during July.

Approximately 75% of renewals were done through the personalised links, a slight increase on the previous year, thank you! Please note that members who are in the 'Grace' period need to renew their membership before the end of August, as they will be required to pay a \$5 visitor fee for attending any lectures after that date. If you are unsure of whether you have renewed your membership or not, please contact me at membership@u3awellingtoncity.org.nz

Gwen Levick
Membership Secretary

U3A LECTURE PROGRAMME

Lectures are usually held at the Embassy Theatre, 10 Kent Terrace
from 10.30 am until 12 noon

TERM 3 Tuesday 21 July to Friday 25 September
TERM 4 Tuesday 13 October to Friday 6 November

Wellington will be in Level 2 mode until Saturday 15th August, and possibly longer. A Zoom lecture has been arranged for Friday 14th August. If Level 2 continues beyond 15th August, there will be further Zoom lectures. You will be notified by email as to whether future lectures will take the Zoom format, or if we can meet at the Embassy.

Friday 14 August (Please note - Zoom Lecture)

John Miller Professor (Emeritus)

Sea sponges, natural products and cancer

Professor Miller is currently based at the School of Biological Sciences and Centre for Biodiversity at Victoria University of Wellington. He will talk about the successes and failures in treating cancer with drugs extracted from marine animals, bacteria, or plants. These natural products have been and still are being researched in laboratories around the world to try to produce a new chemotherapeutic drug that selectively kills cancer cells and has fewer off-target or unwanted side effects.

Tuesday 18 August

Detective Inspector Blair Macdonald

Detective Inspector Macdonald is no longer able to speak, due to Covid-19 focused work. We will advise who the new speaker will be as soon as possible.

Friday 21 August

Bernadette Courtney

Journalism matters: our challenging road ahead

Bernadette has a journalism career spanning 35 years in the United Kingdom and New Zealand. She is the Editor-in-Chief Newsrooms of Stuff and was previously the editor of the Dominion Post. Bernadette will discuss the company's proud, rich newspaper heritage and its rapid switch to digital newsrooms, the challenges New Zealand's media face from global giants and why journalism matters. With media companies collapsing around the world Bernadette will share how Stuff has become one of the most successful and trusted online brands and why after more than 35 years she still cares about the craft of journalism.

Tuesday 25 August

Peter Biggs

New Zealand Symphony Orchestra

Peter Biggs is Chief Executive of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. A strong advocate of the arts and a significant cultural philanthropist, he was Chair of the Arts council of NZ (Creative NZ) from 1999 -2006 and is a member of numerous private and public sector Boards. He chaired the Government's Orchestral Sector Review and was made CNZM in the Queen's Birthday Honours of 2013. He lives just outside Featherston where he "grows beauty", having planted 40,000 trees over 20 years. An entertaining and at times, provocative romp and ramble through a range of topics – the essential importance of the arts; what makes for a meaningful life; the NZSO's adventure through a turbulent 2020; and lessons from trees.

Friday 28 August
Through the haze:

Ross Bell

All that you need to know for the Cannabis Control Referendum

Ross has been the Executive Director of the NZ Drug Foundation since 2004. He has also served on the boards of the International Drug Policy Consortium, Global Alcohol Policy Alliance, and the NZ Needle Exchange Services Trust. Ross will discuss what will we be voting for exactly, and what impact it might have on our families and communities. Drawing on international and local experiences of legal regulation, Ross will talk about the possible social, health and economic impacts that legalisation might have on New Zealand and describe the contents of the Cannabis Legalisation and Control Bill.

Tuesday 1 September

Prof Wendy Nelson

New Zealand Macroalgae – what does the future hold?

Wendy Nelson has a joint position as Programme leader of the Marine biological resources at NIWA and as a Professor in the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Auckland. Her research is focused on marine macroalgae – particularly understanding their diversity ecology and distribution in New Zealand. We have a very rich macroalgal flora in New Zealand – yet detailed information on the majority of species is still very scant. She will talk about the characteristics of our marine flora, the roles seaweeds play in coastal ecosystems and impacts of human activities on coastal health. Macroalgae are used in diverse products and are being touted as holding potential to address a number of major global challenges. Are there opportunities New Zealand should be exploring?

Friday 4 September
Living with HIV today

Heather Sangster and Abby Leota

Heather and Abby are from the Positive Speakers Bureau which is New Zealand's preferred supplier of HIV education. They will share their lived experiences with HIV and to provide an update on the state of HIV in Aotearoa, today. The Positive Speakers' Bureau believes people living with HIV must be at the heart of the HIV response, creating dialogue between individuals and communities, to effectively raise awareness and reduce HIV stigma and discrimination.

Tuesday 8 September 2020

Jessica Young

End of Life Choices - Research and the Referendum

Jessica's Phd research explored the views of 14 terminally ill New Zealanders who would consider choosing assisted dying if it were available to them. This has led to her involvement in a campaign (Yes for Compassion) that shares dying people's reasons for wanting choice. In November of 2019 New Zealand's Parliament enacted the *End of Life Choice Act 2019* to authorise the administration of a lethal dose of medication to competent adults suffering from a terminal illness likely to end his or her life within 6 months, should request it. However, before the legislation can enter into force, it must be approved by a majority of voters at a referendum held at the next general election. Jessica will present New Zealand and international research on assisted dying with reference to the criteria and safeguard in this Act.

Friday 11th September AGM - Please note earlier meeting start time of 10 am. After the AGM Dr Michael Johnston will give the lecture.

The AGM Agenda, Minutes from the previous AGM, and The Financial Statement are on Pages 10 to 15.

Free speech as a democratic value:

Dr Michael Johnston

Why a free society depends on the free expression of offensive ideas

Michael is an Associate Dean of Education at Victoria University of Wellington. He will discuss the importance of free speech as a foundational value of democratic society. He will argue that free speech is not merely a 'right', but rather an essential process of public discourse, without which democratic institutions cannot properly function or long endure. He will further argue that attempts to protect vulnerable groups by legislating against 'hate speech' are likely to be counter-productive and exacerbate prejudice, conflict and social division.

Tuesday 15 September**Stephanie Parkyn****Josephine's Garden - The Empress Napoleon and her botanical garden**

Stephanie is the author of "Josephine's Garden." She had a former career as an environmental scientist, but now writes historical fiction. Her short stories have been shortlisted for the RSNZ Manhire Prize for Creative Science Writing and her debut novel "Into the World" was longlisted for the Tasmanian Premier's Literature Prize 2019. In this talk Stephanie will explore Josephine's largely unknown obsession with growing rare and unusual plants gathered from expeditions around the world. "Josephine's Garden" is the story of Josephine's desire to grow these plants in France for the first time, her magnificent garden, her botanical rivalries, and her tumultuous marriage to Napoleon.

Friday 18 September**Jane Wrightson****The role of financial capability in achieving a good retirement**

Jane has been Retirement Commissioner since February 2020 and was previously Chief Executive of Public Media Funding, NZ on Air. She will discuss why financial capability among New Zealanders of all ages is crucial in securing a good standard of living in retirement, CFFC research that shows how COVID-19 has exposed a lack of financial resilience, and measures her office is taking to help address this. Jane will also touch on the Review of Retirement Income Policies which her office completed last year. It contains 19 recommendations which Jane is progressing with government and community organisations. She will go through some of the key recommendations that might affect U3A members and ask for your feedback. Jane is keen to hear what we think constitutes a 'good retirement' in the 21st century.

Tuesday 22 September**Iona Pannett****Protecting Nature's Future**

Iona is a Green City Councillor with over 25 years' experience in governance as well as a background in NGO management, communications and historical research. Iona was born, raised and educated in Pukehau Lambton, the area she now represents. She studied History and Philosophy at Victoria University. Iona has been a sustainability leader in the city for many years focussing on capital city infrastructure including waste water, waste and buildings. Her focus in conjunction with her colleagues has been transforming Wellington into one of the most sustainable cities in Australasia. As Climate Change bites and the biodiversity crisis deepens, cities around the world have a big role in protecting nature for its own sake and to safeguard the birthright of our children and our grandchildren.

Friday 25 September**Jock Phillips****What should we do about offensive memorials and statues?****A New Zealand historian's perspective**

Jock is a free-lance professional historian. His illustrious career includes editing Te Ara, the Online Encyclopaedia of NZ, a period as NZ Chief Historian, 16 years teaching at Victoria University and publisher of 16 books. The 'Black Lives Matter' movement internationally has sparked renewed discussion about who is commemorated by memorials and statues in western societies, and whether people, usually white males, who have been shown to be racist or in other ways unacceptable to modern judgment, should continue to have their memory perpetuated and honoured in public places. This talk looks at the situation in New Zealand. Do we have memorials to people no longer considered acceptable heroes, and how should we treat their memorials – destroy them or find ways of contextualising their lives? And are other people, Māori, Asian, women, and representatives of other minority groups sufficiently represented in our memorials? Drawing on 30 years of looking at New Zealand memorials and statues, this illustrated talk will explore some intriguing examples and try to suggest ways forward. At a time when the government and society is demanding more New Zealand history in schools, how can our memorials safely and intelligently further this aim?

END OF TERM 3

TERM 4 LECTURES

Tuesday 13 October

Elizabeth Kay

Discovering the story of 25 Battalion in the Second World War

Elizabeth Kay is a writer and researcher. Elizabeth holds a BA Hons in Art history, BA in Languages and Literature, and Post Graduate Diploma in Art and Architecture from Victoria University of Wellington, where she taught history of Architecture for over a decade. Elizabeth began researching the story of her father, Sir Edward Norman and the men of 25th Battalion after attending some of the battalion's final gatherings with her mother Margaret. Elizabeth Kay's recently published book, *Eddie Norman and 25 Battalion*, covers the journey of 2 NZ Division as it fought its way across North Africa and through Italy. Elizabeth's illustrated talk will have a particular focus on the Italian campaign, when her father commanded 25 battalion during some of the most difficult fighting in the war.

Friday 16 October

Wren Green

The 1080 controversy: Risks, reality and rages

Wren worked as a research ecologist for the Forest Research Institute on a major study of possum ecology to improve management by control agencies. In 2007 he was the Technical Advisor to the Environmental Risk Authority during its reassessment of 1080 and its continued use in NZ. Why does such strong, sometimes violent, opposition to the use of 1080 continue today, particularly in rural communities, when its use is supported by scientists, councils, farmers and conservationists? Dr Wren Green, who previously researched possum ecology, will explore these paradoxes, highlighting the role of science and the variety of reasons why opponents decry the science as irrelevant. He will speculate on the implications for the Predator Free 2050 initiative.

Tuesday 20 October

Judge Emma Parsons

New ground-breaking initiatives in our court system

Judge Emma Parsons sits in the Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Court, (AODTC), Te Whare Whakapiki Wairua (the house which uplifts the spirits), in Waitakere. In 2019 the AODTC was confirmed by Government as a permanent court in the NZ Court System. Emma will talk on the following:- NZ Imprisonment Rates, Drug Treatment Courts Internationally, What the Judges learn while in the AODTC, The Court Practice, NZ's approach to the AODTC, The graduates and cost savings in custody time and imprisonment.

Friday 23 October

Dr Pamela Hyde

A Colonial Naturalist: Production of the definitive work on NZ Molluscs

Pamela will talk about her great-grandfather, Henry Suter, who brought his family to New Zealand in 1889 after his business failed in Switzerland. He became a renowned naturalist discovering molluscs, spiders, lizards and botany as well as a prolific trader of items desired by overseas collectors.

Tuesday 27 October

Gillian Marie

The Missionary's Wayward Daughter

Gillian is our U3A sponsored student and is currently studying full time as a PhD candidate at Victoria in the History Department. Gillian will talk on how Sarah Henry Bland journeyed through the Pacific from 1797-1843. Sarah was the first child born in the London Missionary Society mission at Matavai Bay, Tahiti. Sarah's is a little known life and this study of her provides complexity and depth to the narrative of cultural exchange and European invasion in the early period of European settlement in the Pacific.

Friday 30 October

Murray Edridge

The Wellington City Mission: Challenges in the age of Covid-19

The Wellington City Mission has been working for the people of Wellington since 1904. As Wellington society has changed, so has the work of The Mission. The Mission's evolution over this time has been greatly influenced by the changing needs of the less fortunate citizens of the Wellington area. At this time of pandemic, the needs for the foodbank, drop-in centre and support for families and individuals is greater than ever. Murray Edridge is the City Missioner, having previously been a public servant as well as an NGO worker.

Tuesday 3 November

John Allen

Wellington's Covid Recovery

John is the CEO of WellingtonNZ – the Economic Development Agency for the Wellington Region. He has previously held roles as CEO of NZ Post, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the New Zealand Racing Board. A graduate in law from VUW he was a partner in the commercial law firm Rudd Watts & Stone. John is Chair of the Be Accessible Charitable Trust and the New Zealand Police Audit and Risk Committee and is a member of a number of Boards including the VUW Council and the New Zealand Stroke Foundation. He has previously served on the Board of Te Papa Tongarewa, the New Zealand Book Council and the New Zealand Arts festival. John will talk about how he sees WellingtonNZ, and the wider Wellington, community are recovering. He will explain the work WellingtonNZ, and the wider Wellington, community are undertaking to help the region recover and move on in this uncertain new environment.

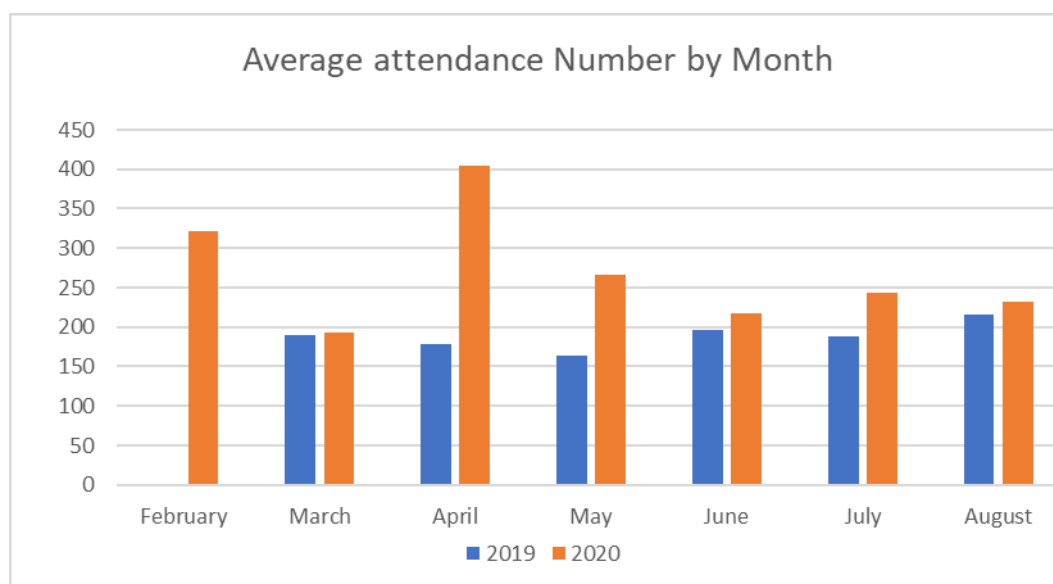
Friday 6 November (Final Lecture for 2020)

Emeritus Professor Roberto Rabel

Decision 2020: America at a crossroads

Roberto Rabel is a Professorial Fellow at the Centre of Strategic Studies and Emeritus Professor at Victoria University of Wellington. His main teaching field was American and international history. Professor Rabel will offer an overview of the 2020 US elections, focusing on the 3 November results of the presidential race and congressional elections. He will also offer broader reflections on what is at stake for the United States—and the world—in the outcome of the 2020 elections.

Attendance at Lectures Graph



Notes:

1. No lectures held in 2019 in February
2. Only 1 lecture in April 2020 (first Zoom presentation)
3. May and June numbers for 2020 are Zoom connection numbers, actual number of viewers will be slightly higher as some members shared screens
4. Only first 3 lectures to date are included in August 2020 average

U3A EVENTS

VISITS & EVENTS FOR OCTOBER HOLIDAYS

Matiu/Somes Island

Tuesday 29 September 10 am

(3½ hours)

We will catch the 10 am East-West Ferry at Queens Wharf for the half hour trip to Matiu/Somes Island where we will spend the next two and a half hours exploring, before returning on the ferry to Queens Wharf arriving back at 1.30 pm. Familiar with both the Island's Maori and European heritage, Gerald Rawson will guide us through what remains of its varying uses as defence post, animal and settler quarantine station, internment camp and farm.

(No cost)

Victoria University Art Walk

Friday 2 October 10.30 am & 1 pm

(2 x One hour)

Art Historian Vivienne Morrell MA (Vic) continues her Art Walks through the buildings and corridors of the University with two tour groups of twelve participants each. Groups will depart at the above times from Vic Books on Kelburn Pde (between gates 3 and 4) and conclude at the Students' Milk & Honey Cafe. The University's Adam Art Gallery is also available nearby for a private visit. Bookings to nominate preferred time.

(Cost \$5)

Eastbourne Heritage Walk

Tuesday 6 October 10 am

(2½ hours plus transport)

Departing from Queens Wharf at 10 am, and catching the East-West Ferry, we will arrive at Days Bay at 10.45, and guided by Ali Carew of the Eastbourne Heritage Society. will do a relaxed two and a half hour walk along the coast to the Wahine mast. We will stop at significant points for shipwreck sites etc, and finally have a picnic lunch (Bring your own lunch). From there we will catch the Wellington bus before 3 pm, arriving Courtenay Place round 4 pm.

(Cost \$5)

Beacon Hill Signal Station

Friday 9 October 10.30 am & Noon

(2 x One hour)

To witness something of the supervision and coordination of all harbour activity, we undertake our cancelled April visit to the harbour entrance command post at Beacon Hill. The Harbour Master has allowed two groups of 12 an hour's visit outside of the shift change for the 24/7 staff. Participants will drive to Paratu Way, Strathmore Park (via Beacon Hill Rd and Signallers Way) and meet there. Bookings to nominate preferred time.

(No cost)

Bookings for all events at events@u3awellingtoncity.org.nz

(or in absence of internet, on 021 028 22082)



Beacon Hill Signal Station



U3A WELLINGTON CITY INC

AGENDA

FOR THE 27th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF U3A WELLINGTON CITY INC
TO BE HELD AT **10.00 am** 11 SEPTEMBER 2020
AT THE EMBASSY THEATRE, KENT TERRACE, WELLINGTON

1. WELCOME
2. APOLOGIES
3. MINUTES of 26th Annual General Meeting held 13 September 2019
4. PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT
5. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
6. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE
7. GENERAL BUSINESS

At 10.30 am the AGM will conclude followed by the lecture, *Free Speech as a Democratic Value* by Dr Michael Johnston.

Please email apologies to Tricia Walbridge at tricia.walbridge@gmail.com



U3A WELLINGTON CITY INC

MINUTES OF THE 26th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF U3A WELLINGTON CITY INC HELD AT 10.00 am 13 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT THE EMBASSY THEATRE, KENT TERRACE, WELLINGTON

Present

The President, Barbara Crump, welcomed 151 members, who had scanned their attendance, and visitors.

Apologies

Received from Anthony Fletcher, Colin Sarten, Jill and Malcolm Wheeler, Creena and Michael Gibbons, Maureen Newbold, Mary Munro, Carol Stigley, Maria Falck, and Tom and Kay Farrar. Moved Barbara Crump, seconded Doug Helps that the apologies be accepted.

Carried

Minutes of 25th Annual General Meeting held 14 September 2018

Moved Tony Thomson, seconded Don Crump, that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 14 September 2018 and posted on the website be received and approved as a true record.

Carried

President's Annual Report

The President, Barbara Crump, noted her report was on the U3A website and noted that 46 new members had joined for the new financial year and 730 members had renewed their membership.

Finance

Tony Thomson, Treasurer, had provided the Committee with excellent, regular financial reports and maintained the finances in a healthy state. (See Statement of Accounts for further information on Finance.)

Fees

The annual membership fee of \$35 and \$5 visitor fee for lectures to remain unchanged for the coming financial year.

Lecture Programme

Many members had been complimentary on the choice of presenters and topics over the last year. The Committee plans to add two extra lectures at the beginning and end of next year on a trial basis. Some lectures had already been arranged for 2020 but further suggestions are welcome. Please contact Rae, Doug, Robin, or any other Committee member with ideas.

Visits and Events

Thanks are extended to Aidan Kay for keeping U3A informed of upcoming holiday events. He organised another very successful mid-winter lunch at the James Cook where Tom Frewin was the guest speaker. U3A volunteers were celebrated at an end of year social function.

Newsletter

Thanks to Heather Nelson, U3A Newsletter Editor, for her excellent work in producing three informative newsletters over the course of the year.

Victoria University U3A Award

Paul Durham won the \$2,000 U3A Award for 2019 which will support his study for a Doctor of Philosophy in Music. He will give a presentation on his work later in the year.

Website

The U3A website is undergoing a major upgrade which will facilitate efficiency and time-saving, particularly for the work of Membership Secretary, Gwen Levick, who has a major workload with subscription renewals and ensuring the database is accurate and up to date. The upgrade will also facilitate the work of Aidan Kay, Events Coordinator.

Roger Sparks relinquished the Web Administrator's role earlier this year after 14 years of service. Roger has had many roles in the organisation and was thanked for his excellent work. Two new Web Administrators, Alison Dixie and George Sutton, were appointed.

Survey

All members will be contacted shortly with a brief survey inviting their feedback on U3A activities.

Statement of Accounts

The U3A accounts for the year ending 30 June 2019 had been posted on the website. Tony Thomson, Treasurer, reported that there was a small surplus after two years of small losses.

The main income came from subscriptions, which varies considerably due to the subscription "renewal season" straddling the end of the financial year. This year's subscriptions were high and the number of visitors also increased.

Total expenditure increased, chiefly because this year a full year's rental for the Embassy was paid, whereas part of the previous financial year had included the lower Paramount rental. There was \$76,130 held in U3A bank accounts and cash at balance date. \$46,833 of this was categorised as long term reserves. The accounts have been reviewed and signed off by U3A's reviewer, Debbie Mickell, a qualified accountant.

Tony moved that the Statement of Accounts be accepted.
Seconded Aidan Kay

Carried

Subscriptions

At the last Committee meeting a motion was passed unanimously to increase subscriptions from \$35 pa to \$40 pa from July next year, 2020. All other conditions currently remain the same. The issue of an increase was considered at two Committee meetings and it was agreed that an increase in income was needed to match the current and projected expenditure.

Election of Committee

Ian and Margaret Garret, and Glynn Woodbury, retired from the Committee, and were thanked for their excellent work as Special Interest Groups Coordinators, and as Volunteer Coordinator, respectively.

The remaining members – Barbara, Tony, Gwen, Heather, Robin, Doug, Aidan and Keri agreed to remain on the Committee. There were two nominations to replace the retiring members – Dougal Congalton as Volunteer Coordinator and Alan Wright as Special Interest Groups Coordinator.

Barbara moved that the two nominations be accepted.
Seconded Doug Helps

Carried

The 2019/20 Committee is:

President	Barbara Crump
Secretary	Keri Logan
Treasurer	Tony Thomson
Membership Secretary	Gwen Levick
Newsletter Editor	Heather Nelson
Programme Coordinators	Robin Halliday, Rae Julian, & Doug Helps (also Vice President)
Volunteer Coordinator	Dougal Congalton
Special Interest Groups	Alan Wright
Events Coordinator	Aidan Kay

Barbara thanked the Committee members for the time, enthusiasm and hard work they put into their roles.

General Business

Alison Cattnach thanked the Committee members on behalf of U3A members.

Heather Nelson moved that the President's Annual Report should be accepted.
Seconded Ian Garrett.

Carried

Barbara thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 10.30.

That this be a true and correct record of the meeting of the AGM 2019.

Confirmed

President

Date

**U3A WELLINGTON CITY INCORPORATED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2020**

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE	Notes	YE 30 June 20	YE 30 June 19
<u>Income</u>			
Subscriptions	1	40,000.00	41,130.00
Lectures (Visitors)	2	1,077.00	1,874.00
Functions	3	30.00	4,455.00
Bank Interest		1,647.73	1,634.38
Total Income		42,754.73	49,093.38
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Rent - Embassy	4	14,500.00	26,500.00
Book Vouchers		4,185.50	4,845.00
Functions	3	1,383.74	5,554.52
SIGs - Rent and Other Expenses	5	3,013.50	3,839.23
Donations	6	300.00	1,000.00
Newsletter Expenses		241.74	689.10
Postage & Stationery		304.78	446.78
IT Equipment & Services	7	6,910.35	3,210.18
Other Equipment		20.64	-
Sundry	8	3,020.58	2,838.39
Total Expenditure		33,880.83	48,923.20
Surplus / (Deficit)		8,873.90	170.18
FINANCIAL POSITION		as at 30 June 20	as at 30 June 19
<u>Bank Accounts and Cash Balances</u>			
Westpac 01 Account	9	33,022.21	27,968.86
Westpac 02 Account		1,749.29	533.44
Westpac Term Deposits		48,048.73	46,833.40
Paypal Account		2,079.40	745.03
Petty Cash		105.00	50.00
Total Bank Accounts and Cash		85,004.63	76,130.73
CASH FLOWS		YE 30 June 20	YE 30 June 19
Opening Cashbook Balance		76,130.73	75,960.55
Surplus / (Deficit)		8,873.90	170.18
Closing Cashbook Balance		85,004.63	76,130.73
Add Incomplete Payments		-	-
Closing Bank Accounts & Cash		85,004.63	76,130.73

Notes: see over

Notes:

1. Total Subscriptions in the June-August 2020 'renewal season' were ... (comment to come re pattern and level of renewals)
 2. There was an adverse impact from the suspension of lectures at the Embassy as a result of the Covid-19 lockdown.
 3. All functions, other than the Volunteers' Xmas Cocktails, are organised on a 'break-even' basis. There were no functions for which there were charges in the reporting period. (In particular, there was no mid-Winter lunch as a result of the Covid-19 lockdown.)
 4. Lectures at the Embassy were suspended (and presented via Zoom) for the duration of the Covid-19 lockdown.
 5. There was some reduction in the use of hired / rented premises over the period of the Covid-19 lockdown.
 6. The 2020 figure was for three instances where a lecture presenter requested a donation to a relevant charity be made in place of the gift of a book token. The 2019 figure was for the U3A Scholarship Award. Subsequently, the Committee reviewed the operation of this scholarship and decided to discontinue it for the present on the recommendation of a Committee subgroup charged with looking into alternative options for this funding.
 7. Includes \$4,249.25 for website upgrade project and \$499.76 for Zoom subscriptions.
 8. Includes Paypal Charges \$1,360.66, Public Liability Insurance \$711.90 and PO Box rental \$195.00.
 9. \$20,000 was transferred to the interest earning 02 a/c after balance date.
-

INTEREST GROUPS FOR MEMBERS

**All Interest Group Members must be current financial members of
Wellington City U3A**

Two new U3A interest groups are commencing:

Cryptic Crosswords

We are looking for interested learners and for a tutor to host a Cryptic Crossword Interest Group. If this takes your fancy please contact Lynda Young at rby@actrix.co.nz

Smart Phone Photography

Would you be interested in taking better pictures with your Smart Phone?

Roger Urlwin has led SeniorNet in Wanaka for 10 years and as a photographic enthusiast is seeking interest in a Smart Phone Photography special interest group in Wellington U3A. Fun and learning across all brands.

Please indicate your interest to Roger: roger.urlwin@gmail.com

Antiques Roadshow Type Group

This group meets on THE THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH at 10 am mainly at Gaynor Stewart's home on The Terrace Central Wellington. We share an interest in old things, often family heirlooms and do this on a semi rotation basis. We often visit places such as Te Papa's back of house collections and other places of interest. **You are very welcome to join our group**, even if you wish to come along on a "one off" basis to check us out you would be made very welcome.

Contact: Doug Helps, Group Convenor, 232-4881 or dougyvonne1@gmail.com

Art History Group

Meets on alternate Thursdays from 10.30 am to 12 noon at St Andrews Church, The Terrace, in the Common Room. This group is currently full.

Contact: Peter Stupples 021 059 4164 or pams@actrix.co.nz

Book Group 1

Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month, on The Terrace at 10.30 am.

Contact: Elizabeth Moles 387-9293 or emb.moles@gmail.com. This group is currently full.

Book Group 2 Northern and Western Suburbs

Meets on the first Thursday of each month at 10 am – 12 noon at members' homes. The members are mainly from the Northern and Western suburbs. This group is currently full.

Contact: Sheila Williams 479-2226 or sheilawilliamsnz@gmail.com

Book Group 3 Eastern Suburbs

Meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 2.00 pm in Oriental Bay. This group is currently full. Please contact Pamela if you wish to go on the waiting list or start another group in the Eastern suburbs.

Contact: Pamela Jefferies 801-6620 or pamelaaj@xtra.co.nz

Book Group 4 Northern Suburbs

Meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 10 am – 12 noon at members' homes. Members are mainly from the Northern Suburbs. Format: The host for the next meeting chooses a genre for that meeting. Each member reads any book they like in that genre, and reviews their book at the meeting for the other members. **There are vacancies in the group** so if you're interested in joining the group, please get in touch with Sue.

Contact: Sue Fish. Mobile: 027 327 3633 Email: suef365@gmail.com

Current Issues

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 10.00 am in the Burma Lounge, Malvina Major Village, 134 Burma Road, Johnsonville.

Contact: Michael Hodgen 478 6303 or michael.hodgen@xtra.co.nz

Film Group

Meets on the third Saturday of the month (daytime) at the Penthouse cinema, with the film followed by a discussion at the café. **New members welcome.**

Contact Colleen McClymont 027 5277202 or Bob McClymont, 027 5277203 or mcclymont1@xtra.co.nz

Film Group - Mid-Week

Catches a film on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, usually at Lighthouse Cuba, but will go further afield to Penthouse or Roxy to catch a better film. Times vary but aim at early afternoon after the Tuesday lecture and with opportunity for discussion after each film. Members are notified before each, and are free to attend as many or few films as they wish.

Contacts: for the first Tuesday, Suzanne Blumhardt on 3847046 or hatblum@xtra.co.nz and for the third Tuesday, Aidan Kay on aidankaynz@gmail.com or 021 0282 2082.

German Conversation

This friendly group will meet at 10.30 am on the second and fourth Mondays of the month in members' homes. **New members welcome.**

Contact: Diana Barnes 479-2947 or dgbarnes@xtra.co.nz

Music Appreciation Group

We meet on alternate Thursdays from 10 am until 12 noon at St Ninians Church, Karori. **All welcome** and morning tea/coffee/biscuits provided. Each meeting a member presents music on a topic chosen by them. The music is mostly classical, but does not have to be. Doing a presentation is entirely voluntary, and it is not necessary to know lots about music, just to enjoy it. Meeting dates for the remainder of 2020: Aug & 27, Sep 10 & 24, Oct 8 & 22, Nov 5 & 19, Dec 3, **but please contact David first to make sure group is meeting.**

Contact: David Barker, 021 376 660 or u3a.wlg.musicapp@gmail.com

Philosophy Group

Meets in the Common Room, St Andrew's Church, The Terrace (outside ramp), twice a month on first and third Mondays at 2.30 pm. We are currently full.

Contact: Dougal Congalton 476-8498 or dc.congalton@xtra.co.nz

Performing Music Group

We meet on the first Thursday of the month, at 2 pm, in various members' homes. Meetings usually last one and a half hours. Members perform short items to each other. You don't have to be a virtuoso - just interested in giving yourself a reason to practise something ready to perform to others to enjoy. There is a wide range of abilities and everyone is very supportive of the other performers. **Room for more if you'd like to join us.**

Contact: Jancis Potter 232 3915 or 027 635 4733 mobile or jancispotter@gmail.com

Shakespeare Studies

Meets on alternate Wednesdays at St Andrew's Centre, 30 The Terrace from 10.30 am until 12 noon. Numbers are limited to 12, and there is a short waiting list, but please contact Roger if you are interested in joining this group.

Contact: Roger Chapman 021 037 5622 or chaplaw42@gmail.com

Walking Group One meets at the Wharewaka (beside the lagoon on the waterfront) at 9.45 am every Monday morning. **All U3A members welcome**, no need to call - we'd welcome you for a social walk and talk and, of course, coffee at the end. We explore historic, nature and cultural places around the city.

Contact: David Cropp 027 657 0666 or cropp.david@gmail.com

Walking Group Two Longer walks (Monday mornings 9.30 am to 12 noon approx.), around and about Wellington during the year. Walks usually end at a café for an optional coffee. On the second Monday of each month a longer walk of up to four hours is scheduled. As our members are all reasonably fit a good degree of fitness is expected. Transport is usually based around Gold Card times with carpooling when necessary. This group is currently full.

Contact: Paul Armstrong 476 6965 or paul.armstrong9@gmail.com

SeniorNet – Essential Technology and Computer Skills for Seniors and Older Adults

SeniorNet is a community training network that supports and motivates people to enjoy and use technology in their everyday lives. WellingtonSeniornet.co.nz



This is the last Newsletter members will receive by post if the Subscription for 1st July 2020 - 30 June 2021 is not paid by the end of August.

The annual subscription is \$35.00 per member.

Existing members who are on the email reminder list have been emailed a personalised link to the U3A Wellington City database to enable them to renew their membership and pay online. Subscriptions may be paid by one of the following methods:

1. Online

We would greatly appreciate your using this method as it enables changes and payments to be recorded directly in the database. Please note that couples cannot renew both memberships in one transaction. You need to renew each one separately using your **individual personalised renewal link**. Check that your name is in the greeting line of the email to ensure that you are using the correct link.

- Click on the link which will take you to your current record on the database
- Update your information
- Pay your subscription by credit card

The payment screen will make reference to a PayPal account. Select the credit card option. If you experience any difficulty with this method, please call Gwen Levick at 382 8296.

2. Internet banking

Make an internet banking payment to the Westpac Account 03-1540-0009019-01, including your name and phone number as reference.

3. Cheque

Mail a cheque for \$35.00 to U3A Wellington City, PO Box 24529, Manners Street, Wellington 6142. Include your full name and phone number.

Your current membership card will be updated on receipt of payment and should continue to be used for scanning when attending lectures.

U3A WELLINGTON CITY INC - COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2019/2020

Barbara Crump President	bjcrumpnz@gmail.com	977 7385 022 301 6309
Tony Thomson Treasurer	tonyteenz@gmail.com	021 656 825 476 6291
Tricia Walbridge Secretary	tricia.walbridge@gmail.com	027 563 5109
Doug Helps Vice President Programme Coordinator Tues/Fri	dougyvonne1@gmail.com	232 4881 027 406 1233
Robin Halliday Programme Coordinator Tuesday	rhalliday001@gmail.com	938 5162
Alan Wright Interest Groups	alandavidwright@gmail.com	021 170 8540
Rae Julian Programme Coordinator Friday	raejulian41@gmail.com	934 3447 021 708 288
Heather Nelson Newsletter	heatherenelson21@gmail.com	939 9166 021 205 4276
Dougal Congalton Volunteer Coordinator	dc.congalton@xtra.co.nz	476 8498 027 283 0252
Aidan Kay Visits/events	aidankaynz@gmail.com	021 028 22082
Gwen Levick Membership Secretary	bruce.gwen@xtra.co.nz	382 8296 027 482 8296
Alison Dixie Website Administrator	alisondixie@gmail.com	479 2639 027 764 9767