



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Welcome to our new and continuing members. When I think back to the preparations the Committee and I were planning for the start of our 2022 Term 1 Lectures it struck me that our Covid language has changed. Words such as vaccine passes, QR Code checking and Red Light Setting are no longer commonplace. Some Covid requirements have gone and with the move to the Orange Traffic Light Setting we have greater freedom, albeit with masks remaining a requirement in many instances and strongly encouraged at our lectures.

Embassy Lectures: After delivering all Term 1 lectures via Zoom, with many having an attendance of around 200 plus connected devices (including Dunedin U3A members who contributed towards our Zoom licence), the Government changed to the Orange Traffic Light in time for the start of Term 2. The lobby renovations (planned for completion at the end of June) did not deter the enthusiasm and the palpable air of excitement of members at once more being in a face-to-face situation, socially connected with our common interest in learning. Our Programme Coordinators, Robin Halliday, Gill Sutherland, Philip Harrison and Doug Helps continue the high standard of identifying and timetabling varied topics with expert speakers. Gill and Philip, our newly appointed Programmers, have quickly got to grips with their role and enriched our presenter list with their contacts. We very much appreciate suggestions of speakers and topics from our wider membership – please let us know if you have a topic and speaker whom you think would engage our audience. Robin and Doug are retiring after five years' wonderful input to U3A.

Email Lecture Reminders: After many years of emailing weekly reminders Roger Chapman gave notice of his pending 'retirement'. The committee is thrilled that Faith Atkins, a new member, and Paul Armstrong who at the time was leading a Walking Group have accepted a job-sharing role. Many thanks Roger, for your work, your very helpful mentoring and to Faith and Paul for so capably taking over the job.

Events: Sue Dale has made a wonderful start in her new role as Events Coordinator. Many of you will have enjoyed the different and interesting events organised over our May holiday break. Keep watching out for Events on our website including our mid-winter **Matariki lunch** at the James Cook Hotel on Friday, 1 July.

Special Interest Groups: The number of Interest Groups has grown. Linda Beckett keeps in touch with the groups' leaders and reports on progress at our Committee meetings – thank you Linda. If you have an idea for an Interest Group that you would like to lead, please contact Linda.

Front of Desk Volunteers: Jeannie Buxton is our new Volunteer Coordinator and was ready with the roster for Term 1 but of course with Zoom our volunteers were not needed. This has now changed and we very much appreciate Jeannie and the volunteers who assist her.

Finance and Subscriptions: Gwen Levick's report describes the renewal process that is currently under way. Our Treasurer, John Rutherford, confirms that subscriptions are unchanged at \$40 for all the lectures and interest groups you wish to attend. This is a very busy time for Gwen and we are sad that after five years Gwen will be leaving at our AGM in September.

Final Thoughts: Our U3A is superbly supported by many volunteers. My thanks to Rae Julian for producing our informative Newsletters, to Tricia Walbridge for her role as Secretary and to Ian Goodwin, Anthony Fletcher and Bruce Levick for contributing to the running of the lectures.

Best wishes, **Barbara Crump**

Would you like to be more involved in U3A Wellington City? We are looking for volunteers for a number of positions, both on the Committee for 2023 and to assist in our regular activities:

REVIEWER FOR FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

Could you help by reviewing our financial accounts in August/early September each year? Our financial year runs from 1 July to 30 June the following year. While not a requirement of Charities Services as we have Tier 4 charity status, we would like to continue our annual review of the year's accounts. In this way U3A Wellington members can be assured our accounts are in order. Please note that we are seeking a "**Reviewer**", not an "Auditor". For further information, or if you know of anyone who might be interested, please contact, in the first instance: Barbara Crump, phone 04 977 7385, or email her at bjcrumpnz@gmail.com

LECTURE PROGRAMME COORDINATORS

Since two of our long-term programme coordinators will be retiring at the end of this year, we are looking to recruit two members to join our four-person team in order to:

- Work with lecture programme coordination team to create a varied and interesting 4-term, twice weekly lecture programme (55+ lectures per year):
 - Identify speakers, and/or evaluate suitability of speakers recommended by members.
 - Seek and establish rapport, agree dates with identified speakers and provide them with any necessary support until after delivery of their talk.
 - Identify members to introduce and thank speakers.
- Maintain record of past lectures for use by future team members.
- Provide reports, as required, to Committee.
- Provide outputs to the newsletter, website and e-mail coordinators in order to promote lectures and stimulate the interest of members.

Skills and experience – desirable but not essential

- Ability to use e-mail and MS Word.
- Good communication and organisational skills
- Confidence to approach experts in a variety of areas including those in which you have limited knowledge.
- Interest in content and a variety of speakers.
- One or more special interest areas e.g. art, music, literature, journalism, humanities, environment, politics, law, architecture, management, science.
- A desire to maintain the high standard of lectures and, where possible, encourage greater membership participation.

If interested please contact Barbara Crump (President) (bjcrumpnz@gmail.com), Philip Harrison (philipjamesharrison@me.com) and/or Gill Sutherland (sutherland.gill@gmail.com).

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Five years on and it's time for a new person to take on the role of Membership Secretary from September 2022. The position would suit a recently retired person seeking a new interest. What's involved?

- Manage membership applications and renewals through U3A's Customer Relationship Management database (CiviCRM).

- Liaise with our web developer on the distribution of personalised membership renewal links for members with email addresses in June each year. Mail renewal reminders to members without email addresses (about 20% in 2021).
- Update templates for automatically generated email messages as required.
- Check emails regularly to identify new members who will require membership cards.
- Order membership cards in batches and mail them out when received.
- Respond to membership queries received by email, telephone or from volunteers staffing the check-in desk at the Embassy.
- Attend committee meetings (4 per year) and provide updates for newsletters (3 per year).
- Supply a list of mailing addresses of members who do not have email addresses to the newsletter coordinator.

Skills and experience

- Sufficient interest in technology (or motivation to learn) to use the CiviCRM database. Experience in the use of databases would be helpful, but is not essential.
- Familiarity with commonly used software such as word-processing and spreadsheets is important.

Detailed instructions on processes used will be supplied. Expert help is available from Sam Devoy, our web developer, and the retiring membership secretary will be on hand to answer any niggly queries that go with a new job.

If you are interested in learning more about the role please contact the President, Barbara Crump – bjcrumpnz@gmail.com or 977 7385 or 022 301 6309.

INTRODUCERS AND THANKERS FOR LECTURE PROGRAMME

Is anyone willing to introduce or thank the speakers from time to time? If so, please contact Gill Sutherland Sutherland.gill@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We welcome the following members who have joined U3A since February: Neil Edwards, Helen Carter, Nikki Fraser, Peter Lodge, Derek Douche, Liz Fitzmaurice, Fran Parkin, Doug Gordon, Pru Dryburgh, Christine Vivian, David Kay, Roger Gyles, Christine Franzen, Vicky Jackson, Jan Pearson, Sue Driver, David Abernethy, Christine Whiteford, Anne Upton, Michael Uddstrom, Helen Rodenburg, David Mellor, Bruce Harvey, Jenny Olsen, Cheryl McDonald and Wayne Devine. Total membership to date is 1147.

We are approaching the end of the financial year, when membership will need to be renewed. Early in June, personalised renewal links will be sent to all members with email addresses and reminders will be mailed to those without email addresses. Further details will be supplied next month. The membership fee remains at \$40.00 for the year to 30 June 2023.

Gwen Levick

LECTURE PROGRAMME

**Lectures are usually held at the Embassy Theatre, 10 Kent Terrace
from 10.30 am until 11.45 am**

TERM 2 Tuesday 3 May to Friday 26 July

TERM 3 Tuesday 16 August to Friday 30 September

TERM 4 Tuesday 18 October to Friday 4 November

Sometimes the advertised lectures may change. If so, an update will be made under **Lecture Programmes** on the U3A Wellington City website. Owing to potential Covid 19 restrictions, the lecture may need to be presented by Zoom. Members will be notified if this change becomes necessary. **Note that lectures up till the 10 June are already on the U3A website.**

Tuesday 14 June

Alistair Cattanach

Seismic Strengthening of Heritage Buildings

Alistair is a Director of Dunning Thornton and has over 25 years' experience as a structural engineer in Wellington and London. He has a passion for architecture and heritage buildings which has resulted in a number of award-winning projects over the years. He will speak on seismic strengthening of heritage buildings and how it is technically and economically challenging. He will show examples of what he believes are successful interventions into well-known Wellington buildings and debate the merits of how new structure can be sympathetically designed to appear appropriate in a heritage context.

Friday 17 June

Professor Paul Spoonley

Demographic Disruption in Aotearoa – And Has COVID Changed Much?

Paul Spoonley was, until 2019, the Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, at Massey University. He is the author or editor of 28 books, with the most recent being “The “New” New Zealand: Facing Demographic Disruption” (2021) and he is a co-editor of “Histories of Hate: The Radical Right in Aotearoa/New Zealand” (2022). Over the past decade, New Zealand's demography has been changing with major implications for the future. The country's traditional population pyramid is being inverted. COVID has changed some of these trends and it is still not clear whether these impacts are short-term or long-term. This talk considers each of these elements of our national population story over the last decade or so and what we might expect in the future.

Tuesday 21 June

Daran Ponter

Three Waters update

Daran is Chair of the Greater Wellington Regional Council. He was an American Field student in Malaysia in the 1985 and has a BA(Hons) in Sociology and Geography from Massey University and a Master of Public Policy from Victoria University. Daran was a regional planner for the Bay of Plenty Regional Council before moving to work for the Greater Wellington Regional Council. He also spent nine years with Te Puni Kokiri, including responsibility for establishing the Māori Television Service and 16 years working in public policy consultancy. He was elected to the Regional Council in 2010.

Tuesday 28 June

To be confirmed

Friday 1 July

MATARIKI LUNCH (see **Events** below for details)

Tuesday 5 July

Maria English

Do good better – Measuring the impact of Aotearoa New Zealand charities

Maria works to combine data, technology and finance with the expertise of families and communities to understand social change. She is CEO of ImpactLab, a New Zealand - based social tech start-up that provides data tools to impact creators and investors to help them make better decisions that change lives. Maria has also worked at Boston Consulting Group in Australia. She has an MBA from Stanford University and a BA in Politics, Psychology and Sociology from the University of Cambridge. She will describe ImpactLab, including case studies of work with charities, such as the Champion Centre who do early intervention work with young children with significant disabilities.

Friday 8 July

Eric Frykberg

Media bias: More apparent than real

Eric Frykberg is a semi-retired journalist, who has worked in newspapers, radio and TV in New Zealand, Australia and the UK covering a wide range of topics including a period as foreign correspondent for RNZ. Eric will argue that complaints of bias are often a case of messenger blaming, or highly selective excerpts taken from a series of reports which in their entirety would

make up reasonably comprehensive coverage. If a story is obviously deficient, it usually stems from insufficient time, too tight a deadline, inexperience, or poor management by editors.

Tuesday 12 July

Professor Meredith Marra

Belonging in the real world

Meredith is Professor of Linguistics at Te Herenga Wake-Victoria University. Since 2015 she has been director of the Wellington Language in the Workplace Project (LWP), a long-standing sociolinguistic project investigating effective workplace communication in a range of contexts. Her research focuses on gender, ethnic and leadership identities focusing on empowering newcomers including skilled migrants and refugees and has recently written three books on the subject. Meredith will talk on the results of her research and the importance of transactional and relational talk including the contribution of people-orientated strategies such as humour and small talk which encourages us to work together to achieve our joint goals.

Friday 15 July 2022

Dr Kate Clark

Past large earthquakes and tsunamis on the Hikurangi Subduction Zone

Kate Clark is a senior scientist at GNS Science. She works as an earthquake geologist, with a particular interest in the geological records of earthquakes and tsunamis that have impacted the coastline of New Zealand over the past 100s to 1000s of years. The Hikurangi subduction zone, that underlies Wellington, has not produced any large earthquakes during the relatively short period of European written records, but the geological record offers a way to understand the size, frequency and impacts of past large earthquakes, and the tsunamis they produce. In this talk Kate will discuss how we find evidence of past earthquakes and tsunamis around the coastline of the lower North Island and upper South Island, and how information about past earthquakes helps inform us of future hazards.

Tuesday 19 July

Peter Glensor

Community service and social change roles: 50 years engagement in the community

Peter has been involved in the NGO sector for over 50 years including national leadership in health community development, Te Tiriti education and practice, international development, philanthropy, youth, the ecumenical movement and research.

He served on the Wellington Regional Council for nine years and was Chair of the Hutt Valley DHB for seven of his 13 years on the Board as well as chairing regional and national DHB bodies and ALAC – the Alcohol Advisory Council. Peter's last paid role was setting up and leading HuiE Community Aotearoa – linking the whole NGO community sector. He continues to be active in the sector with government roles in community development, housing, problem gambling and international development. His latest passion is working with Ngati Toa Rangatira on a Te Tiriti based Porirua Citizens Assembly addressing the Climate Crisis. He will reflect on his engagement in the community – what distinguishes it from the state and market sectors. He will look at the changes that have taken place and the challenges that the sector faces.

Friday 22 July

Tony Robinson

The challenge of Mental Health and the work of the Samaritans

Tony Robinson worked in Education for 33 years, as teacher, principal and consultant to the Ministry of Education. During the last 12 years of his career Tony was CEO of Hawke's Bay's Rescue Helicopter Trust and then worked at the Malaghan Institute of Medical Research and for Child Cancer as a fundraiser in their development sections. Tony is now retired and is the Board Chair of the Samaritans of Wellington. Tony will provide the history and work of the Samaritans, the challenge of mental health and the struggles and importance of key charities such as the Samaritans in difficult times.

Tuesday 26 July

Emily Beausoleil with Jo Randerson and Kathleen Winter

Nobody WINZ

Emily Beausoleil is a political theorist at Victoria University who was awarded a Royal Society award for research that seeks to enhance equality and voice in diverse communities. "Nobody

WINZ” is a film project that seeks to demonstrate the experiences of beneficiaries navigating the welfare system in Aotearoa New Zealand. Filmmaker Kathleen Winter and writer/dramatist Jo Randerson have worked with a cast of comedians to re-interpret and re-enact people’s stories. They are joining Emily (Politics Victoria) who is exploring how art can move people to understand and act to change systems that create inequalities in society. They will explain the project and process, screening a short film, then obtain audience responses through discussion. Audience members will also be given a short paper survey to gain further and private reactions. This feedback will guide further work on this project.

Tuesday 16 August

David Howman

Drugs use in sport

David Howman was Director General of the World Anti-Doping Agency (known as WADA) from 2003 to 2018 and was instrumental in the shaping of WADA into a highly respectable and united global organisation responsible for regulating and monitoring world sports and world governments. Before this David practised as a barrister specialising in sport law. He will talk on the subject of drugs in sport and related issues.

Friday 19 August

Abbas Nazari

My journey from Afghanistan to New Zealand

Abbas Nazari is a former Afghan refugee who fled the Taliban in 2001. Abbas was one of more than 400 asylum seekers who were rescued by the Norwegian container ship, the MV Tampa, in the Indian Ocean in 2001. After being denied asylum in Australia and held offshore for weeks by Australian special forces, Abbas and his family were eventually resettled in New Zealand. In 2019 he was awarded a Fulbright scholarship where he has just completed a Master's at Georgetown University in Washington DC. He has published a memoir, *After the Tampa: From Afghanistan to New Zealand*, which has received critical acclaim and become a bestseller. Abbas will speak about his journey, his experiences of thriving in a foreign country, and some lessons learned along the way. Copies of his book will be available for sale and signature (\$40). Cash / Eftpos available.

Tuesday 23 August

Michael Stewart

Working with choirs

Michael Stewart is a leading choir conductor and concert organist. As well as being the organist at director of music at the Wellington Cathedral of St Paul, he is director of the Tudor Consort, an early music ensemble, and deputy director of the NZ Youth Choir. He will discuss his career working with these groups.

Friday 26 August

Professor Heidi Thomson

The palliative poetics of Keats’ poetry and letters

Heidi is Professor Emeritus at Te Herenga Waka | Victoria University of Wellington. She was born and educated in Belgium, studied as a Fulbright Student in the US, and has recently retired from Te Herenga Waka after 31 years in the English Programme. She works primarily on topics in British Romanticism and has published widely on the life and works of Wordsworth, Coleridge, and Keats. This lecture follows Heidi’s 2018 discussion of Keats’ medical career explaining how his poetic vision is rooted in a palliative medical vision. She will focus primarily on the golden Autumn of 1819, when Keats spent time in Winchester and went for daily walks to the Hospital of St Cross.

Tuesday 30 August

Edith Diggle

An artist’s journey

Edith dreamed of being an artist, but her family, career and community commitments kept her very busy until 1994 when she joined the Titisi Painters in Auckland. In 2001 at the Titirangi Art Exhibition her acrylic titled “Sentinels” depicting nikau, was voted the most popular painting by public choice. She was also voted the most popular artist. She won the “Best of the West” art award with an evocative misty Piha scene, called “Ozone”. A life member of the Titirangi Painters and a member of the New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts, Edith now lives in Island Bay. She will talk

about her early interest in art and her progress through the years as she developed techniques to extend her art in many directions. This will be illustrated by photographs of her paintings and other creative projects.

Friday 2 September

Eldred Gilbert

Surviving to thriving – the Hummingly story

Coming from a long career in health - Eldred who is based in Wellington, is the 'backstop' of the Hummingly team. Hummingly is a New Zealand owned-and-operated business that combines collective experience in disaster management with cognitive science and the insights of 100 crisis leaders from around the world. Eldred will introduce us to the Hummingly story of innovation in disaster and major disruption e.g. Indonesian Tsunami, Christchurch Earthquake, working with Australian Red Cross and Covid. Through the Hummingly tools and resources, and other Hummingly strategies such as "Doing Well" and "Cards for Calamity" and that there is "Emergence in Emergency".

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

February to May Overview

Covid effects continue to be felt in the operation of SIGs, with meeting modifications including: temporary suspension of some operations; zooming instead of meeting in person and some groups temporarily downsizing as members become household contacts or have had to manage Covid themselves. The 3rd Convener meeting (first for 2022) was delayed 2 months until the 13th May. Nonetheless, for the most part group activities continue to the benefit and enjoyment of their members. Once again, I want to record grateful thanks to the Conveners of our 21 interest groups for their ongoing work in organising the group activities and for keeping it all together. Maintaining our social contacts are more important whenever it is possible and safe to do so at this time.

Great Beginnings!

The **Audiobook group** is underway and its details, including contact details, can be found on the website.

Te Reo Māori Pilot Group Eleven people have now completed the Te Reo pilot course and their feedback is that they achieved their aims. A second beginners' course is now fully subscribed and will run for 5 weeks from May 24th at Hearwell, 16 Kent Terrace. With the interest expressed, I will continue to offer the courses (future dates to be advised) at Hearwell on Tuesdays. The start time remains at 12.30 - to enable people to have lunch after the Embassy theatre lecture. Please email Libbyclark3@gmail.com for further information, or to join the next beginners' group.

Te Reo Māori Stage 2 Those in the pilot group were unanimous in their wish to continue their learning, and are happy to pay if a tutor can be found. If any member could step into this role, or knows someone who would be willing to take a group on the next learning steps, please contact Libby Clark as above.

Other Group Updates

'The **Music Appreciation Group** resumed on May 5, after a two month COVID break.

Everyone was pleased to return (masks on), with morning tea of blue and yellow iced biscuits provided by presenter Susan Stevens to complement her talk on Ukrainian music. We will be continuing each fortnight, with our last meeting for the semester on June 30. *David Barker*

Book Group 2. Colleen McClymont has become the Convener of this group after the recent death of Jenny Mainwaring following a short illness. We wish to pass on to Book Group 2 our condolences at this difficult time.

Walking Group 2 Paul Armstrong has stepped down after two years as Convener of Walking Group 2. We are grateful for your superb leadership of the group, Paul, and very pleased that we will still have your company as we navigate the byways of greater Wellington. Thanks also to Alistair Beckett who replaces Paul as Convener.



View from the Petone foreshore during the Walking Group 2 expedition on the 15th May 2022.

VISITS AND EVENTS

MATARIKI LUNCHEON

FRIDAY JULY 1st, 11.30 am
JAMES COOK HOTEL Chancellor Room 6.
Please meet in foyer 11 :15AM.

Drinks: 11:30 AM

Luncheon: 12PM.

Complimentary glass of wine, beer or juice and two course buffet luncheon.

\$50 per person: Please pay into U3A Wellington account:

03 -1540 - 0009019 - 001.

SPEAKER:

Police Senior Sergeant Philip Pithyou

Working in a diverse Aotearoa New Zealand Society

Philip was studying for a degree in philosophy and psychology while working with marginalised youth when he decided to join the police. He is Wellington Police District Ethnic Liaison Coordinator, which includes meeting new refugees among his duties. Community engagement is a key aspect of his role.

More events for end of term break 26 July-16 August to be notified

Sue Dale

Other News

Did you ever wonder about **U3A organisations overseas**? Refer to the following article in *The Guardian* about how joining U3A helped a woman in the UK to make a new start in life.

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2022/may/16/a-new-start-after-60-alone-for-the-first-time-in-my-life-i-learned-how-to-be-happy>

While we are all concerned about Covid, we often forget that other virus that seems to be constantly present, influenza. You might like to participate in a study that tracks **incidence of flu** at this time. It will take only 30 seconds of your time each week. Refer <https://www.flutracking.net/Join/NE/inv84>