

Learning for Life

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P.O. Box 1690, Nelson, 7040

www.u3anelson.org.nz

Our next Members' Meeting and AGM will be on Wednesday 22nd July from 10 am till 12 noon at the Nelson Golf Club, 38 Bolt Road, Nelson. The speaker is Don Pittham and his subject is "The trials and tribulations (and successes) of a photographer".

Originally from Rugby, in the English Midlands, Don and his wife moved to Whangarei in 1988. Don is a strong believer that variety is the spice of life. His experiences as a teacher, computer designer, dairy farmer, tamarillo grower, builder's labourer, picture framer and photographer would seem to indicate that he has enjoyed a very spicy life. Don's interest in photography combined with his "seeing eye" has resulted in successful exhibitions and even participation in the dreaded area of wedding photography. Moving to Nelson in 2003 with its nearby National Parks sparked a passion for capturing images of native flora. Don's photographs appear in the calendars, diaries and books published by Pottton and Burton who are kind enough to describe him as "One of New Zealand's leading Botanical photographers".

Topics covered in this Newsletter:

- Notice of AGM and agenda
- President's report
- Subscription reminder
- Wanted—finances reviewer
- Article about "Writers against Covid-19"
- Covid-19 research project
- Report from book discussion group

The Annual General Meeting of U3A Nelson will be held at 10.00am on July 22 at Nelson Golf Club.

Brief Agenda

Minutes of last AGM

Presidents report (which can be viewed in full on the U3A website).

Financial report for the Year Ended March 31 2020 (can be viewed on the website).

Election of Committee

Paul Lunberg is stepping down as president but remains on the committee as immediate past president.

Ten of the committee offer themselves for re-election. There are two vacancies. Nominations are welcome and must be received by the secretary by July 8.

Nominations in writing on the form available on the U3A Nelson website, must be received by the secretary by July 8. In the event there are no nominations, the committee will co-opt members to fill vacancies as set out in the constitution.

Committee remit – Subscriptions

The following remit from the committee regarding subscriptions, is to be put to the annual general meeting for acceptance.

Motion – As a result of Covid 19 lockdown, subscriptions be waived for the full year April 2020 to March 2021. Payments already received from members for the current year, for payments made between now and March 21, or for new members joining, will all cover membership to March 2022.

Any other items of business must be provided to the secretary by July 8th.

Morning tea will follow the AGM, then we will have our guest speaker.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT June 2020

In my last Report written in April I spoke of the approaching AGM on 6 May – well that was wishful thinking!! So much has developed since then - - but at last things are settling down again. Our groups are re-meeting and our new AGM date is July 22nd – it all feels good!

We do need new blood each year and I urge you to join in the organising of this great club by putting your name forward to join the Committee, you can find a Nomination form in our website <http://www.u3anelson.org.nz/>.

You will possibly have printed off a copy of the Agenda for the AGM, which was attached to the email which went out on the 25th June. So you will know we have an excellent speaker [thanks to Gordon], also at the AGM we will hopefully pass a remit to waive subs for the coming year for those who have paid for this year.

All convenors have been invited to a pre-Xmas gathering on Sat 7th November, but we are uncertain as to how we can celebrate the end of this strange year. Perhaps a picnic at Rabbit Island? Last year so few wanted to attend a Christmas dinner it was not worth the effort put into it – so we would love some input as to what would be fun.

This may be my last President's Report so let me say I have enjoyed the role. It is a busy one as we are developing and changing all the time. We get contacted by all manner of other groups and entities, all who must be answered. But what a team we have making the decisions and doing the work. Thankyou Committee, and thanks all who have made U3A so interesting during these last few years.

All the best - Paul

Subscriptions

Thank you to those who have already paid. The annual subscription is \$30 per person. **If paying by Internet banking (the preferred method), pay to U3A Nelson, account number 03 0703 0385648 00 and be sure to include your initial and family name. If paying by cheque, post to U3A Membership Co-ordinator, P O Box 1690, Nelson.**

If unsure if you have already paid, please contact Wendy Cornish at tonyandwendy@xtra.co.nz, or ring

Finances Reviewer

Our Treasurer tells us that we need a Reviewer for our finances next year. It is straight forward so we hope someone can offer to do this annual job.

The following email arrived on the 28th May from Louise Moss in the UK. It may be of interest to the writers among our membership.

As lockdown eases, Writers Against Covid-19 is changing. It now has a brand new website of its own – <http://www.writerscircle.net> where you can read the stories.

The purpose remains the same – to publish a short story every day, providing people with an entertaining read during the pandemic and beyond.

I started WAC-10 back in March, when the UK went into lockdown. I felt isolated and depressed and thought there must be others feeling the same way, so I began putting stories on my website for everyone to enjoy. I never imagined the website would become so successful, with readers and writers all around the planet.

Our new story today is a humorous one called Killer: Hawthorne stirs himself to do a bit of gardening, but things soon get out of hand.

This week's top story, Jam Session, comes from South Africa. An attempt at jam making goes hilariously wrong.

Best wishes.

Louise Moss

Covid-19 research project

Dr Lisa Williams, Research Fellow at the School of Nursing, University of Auckland has written to advise U3A members of a new research project funded by the Auckland Medical Research Foundation. Members 70 and over are invited to write a letter to share their experience of lockdown and other aspects of Covid-19. All letters (with the letter-writer's permission) will become part of a permanent archive at the Auckland Museum.

For more information if you are interested, go to their website: <https://haveoursay.org>

To write them a letter online go to: https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bl4012ayXtru4gl

U3A Book Discussion Group

It was with great excitement the U3A Book Group finally met together on 1 June. During lockdown the members had managed to successfully have two Zoom meetings with everyone learning new online skills in the process. However there is nothing like face-to-face contact to promote a really good discussion. Followed by tea and cake to allow everyone time to have a social chat. Members of the group pay an annual fee to the Book Discussion Scheme in Christchurch and meet monthly to discuss the designated book. At present we have 11 people attending so do not have room for any more book lovers but spaces do open up occasionally so it is worth putting your name on the waiting list.

Frances Taylor, Convenor



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Life IS NOT
ABOUT WAITING FOR
THE STORM TO PASS
BUT LEARNING TO
DANCE IN THE RAIN
.....

I have an impressive bank of knowledge—but I can't remember the password to my account!!

Despite the high cost of living...it remains popular!