

## Learning for Life

Volume 13, Issue 2, March, 2020

P.O. Box 1690, Nelson, 7040

[www.u3anelson.org.nz](http://www.u3anelson.org.nz)

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### Topics covered in this Newsletter:

- Advance notice of AGM
  - Subscriptions due
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  - Positive Ageing Expo
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**Our next meeting is the AGM on May 6th.** The following committee members offer themselves for re-election:

David Turner

Bill Brett

Allison Robertson

Wendy Cornish

David Wright

Gordon Suddaby

Anne White

Stephen Shaw

Trevor Lewis

Paul Lunberg (Immediate past president)

Assuming the above are re-elected, we have two vacancies to fill on the committee. Nominations to be received by the Secretary by April 22.

(Nomination form available on the web site or from the Secretary). We can arrange nomination for anyone who would like to volunteer—contact the Secretary—[bbrettnz@gmail.com](mailto:bbrettnz@gmail.com) Ph 539 0037

*Bill Brett, Secretary*

### Subscriptions

These are due by 31st March. 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.**

Last year quite a number of members paid twice. If you aren't sure if you have already paid, please contact Wendy Cornish at [tonyandwendy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tonyandwendy@xtra.co.nz), or ring 544 2794 and she will tell you.

### Notice to all Convenors.

Thank you to those who have already contacted me, but if you know of changes in your group membership, people may have left your group etc, would you please advise me. Also, **please send me your group details such as meeting days, times, venue, minimum and maximum numbers**, as all of this was lost when the data base crashed.

Also if you are wanting more members for your group please let me know.

Many thanks

*David Turner, Study Group Coordinator U3A*

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT March 2020

Summer slips away but our Groups are really underway.

The AGM approaches [ 6<sup>th</sup> May] and there will be changes in the Committee. I urge you to consider joining it. It is fun to join together for discussion as to how we may make the experience of U3A better, and that is very rewarding. So please step up and offer to join this vibrant group of people – if you are not sure how to download the U3A Committee Nomination Form 2020 from the website then just contact one of the present committee and we will 'see to it'. Gordon Suddaby, our Events Coordinator, has arranged another terrific speaker for the AGM, namely Richard Griffin. Richard was the RNZ chairman for many years and had a unique insight to the workings of government – should be most interesting. So I look forward to seeing him and you at the Golf Club 10am for the AGM!

Do visit the new website [ <http://www.u3anelson.org.nz/> ] and tell us how we could make it better.

All the best - Paul

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### FROM THE MEETING ON 26th February

Our speaker was Bruce Vander Lee, the project director for Project Janszoon. Having grown up in Iowa USA, Bruce didn't see the ocean until he was 17 years old. He is now project director for Janszoon, a privately funded trust set up to restore and preserve Abel Tasman National Park's rich wild-life for all to enjoy. It is a team effort involving conservationists, iwi, locals, scientists, tourism operators and volunteers.



'Janszoon' was the second name of explorer Abel Janszoon Tasman. The project was launched in 2012 with generous support of New Zealand couple Neal & Annette Plowman, who have since established the \$100million philanthropic NEXT Foundation. Project Janszoon has committed millions over 30 years to make transformational change in Abel Tasman National Park. Project Janszoon is unique—this was the first time philanthropists had offered to partner with a government department to restore the ecology of a national park.

The trust aims to reverse the trend of ecological decline in the park. 'We are working with iwi, the Department of Conservation (DOC), and the community-led Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust, to put things right. Together we're getting rid of pests and weeds, bringing back native birds and bush, and inspiring a culture of care for Abel Tasman'.

Bruce outlined the work being undertaken on a broad front.

Attacking the problems—rats, stoats, possums, goats, weeds, wilding pines.

Restoring habitat, encouraging bird life and introducing others. All this work going on simultaneously to a well-prepared plan. Progress is closely monitored and measured.

The result is—considerable progress in just a few short years.

Following the overview, Bruce took us through two examples illustrating success.

The brown teal duck, now spread over a wide area near the coastal wetlands, and the Kaka which is spread widely over the park. Female Kaka, were introduced to mate with the few remaining wild males. Further releases were made, but Bruce pointed out that it is easier to protect what we have than to put back what has totally disappeared.

I like to donate to causes that get results and make a difference, this one will get a donation from me. For more information [www.janszoon.org](http://www.janszoon.org)

*Bill Brett*

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## **Positive Ageing Expo**

Friday 3 April 10 am – 3pm  
Headingley Centre, Lower Queen Street

This is always a very interesting and informative Expo - many local organisations represented, with information/brochures on all manner of activities, services etc. for positively ageing in the Third Age!! Thank you to the U3A volunteers who will be representing us and chatting to attendees about our organisation. We gained three new members from this Expo last year.

See you there.

*Wendy Cornish*

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Love this quote that I heard recently:

*“I love my seafood diet - I see food and I eat it!”*

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*Trevor Lewis, Editor*