

Our next Members' Meeting will be the AGM on Wednesday 5th May from 10 am till 12 noon at Elim Church, 625 Main Road, Stoke, Nelson. The speaker is Richard Griffin of Mapua who in 2018 was awarded the CNZM for services to broadcasting. More details will be in the April newsletter.

Topics covered in this Newsletter:

- Note from the Membership Secretary
- Speaker report
- President's report
- Interesting facts from the last meeting

Thank you to all those members who have paid their \$30 subs for the coming U3A year ended 31 March 2022. There was an overwhelming response from the February meeting and everyone remembered to put their surname in the reference box - good work.

As mentioned by President David, please remember your name badges for General Meetings and take them home with you afterwards - we don't want them left at the desk on the way out. We had several requests for new badges, and these will be available at the next General meeting. If you need a new badge, please email me: tonyandwendy@xtra.co.nz and Anne and I will include you in the next run.

Wendy, Membership Secretary

Speaker report from the February meeting:

At our new venue, Elim Church in Stoke, we were treated to an illustrated talk from Ray Salisbury. His great-great grandfather, John Salisbury was one of the first Europeans to explore and settle in the Motueka Valley. He and his brother Thomas were the first non-Maori to discover the Tableland plateau.

Ray has written "Tableland: the history behind Mt. Arthur", illustrated with his beautiful photographs, to tell the story of over 150 years of farming, gold mining and forestry until its present structure as a conservation area for endangered species. Ray traced the book for us with maps and photographs to tell anecdotes about the interesting people living nearby and the places he has tramped to. The area contains half of New Zealand's native ferns and 18 of New Zealand's native birds and Ray is passionate that these be saved and enjoyed by the next generations.



Ray addresses the attentive audience

Nan Turner

President's Report

Greetings U3A Members

I'm feeling very happy and I know that the others on the U3A Committee are too! The reason why you may ask, is simple - we have an improved venue with the change to Elim Church in Stoke. Those of you who attended the February meeting there must agree that the sound system, visual use of large screens, the acoustics, all added to a better appreciation of our excellent speaker **Ray Salisbury**. We still need to "fine-tune" our morning tea arrangements and I was delighted to have members volunteer to assist at future meetings. If any of you would be able to help please let me or any other committee member know. Thank you too for the positive feedback we have received, both on the day and since.

Our next meeting will be our AGM on Wednesday May 5. Please mark this date in your diaries. I can promise you a short AGM and an excellent speaker. If any of you wish to nominate yourselves for the committee please give it some thought. Nomination forms and details of our speaker will be published closer to the date.

Warm regards

David Turner, President U3A

Some more interesting facts

At the last meeting only one hand went up when Ray asked who in the audience were Nelson born and bred, which I thought was very interesting. So we are all imports!!!! The attendance at 86 was good. Two members who mentioned they had not been at many General meetings, were able to come this morning, because they came by bus, and several members who live in Stoke walked. We had 5 new members sign forms, several paying cash for subs, and others on line, and 4 membership forms taken away to fill out. So the future of U3A Nelson is looking very robust.

Wendy Cornish



Members gather for the first meeting in our new venue at Elim Church.

Trevor Lewis, Editor

**This will be the first
year we're not going
to Hawaii because
of Covid-19.**

**Normally we don't
go because we can't
afford it.**

**THEY ASKED ME WHERE
I CAUGHT MY FISH**

