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## Learning for Life

Volume 17, Issue 3, June, 2024

**Our next Members' Meeting** will be on Wednesday 26th June from 10 am till 12 noon at Elim Church, 625 Main Road, Stoke, Nelson. The speaker is Rick Kiessig.

His talk will be about the under-appreciated aspects of viruses and their treatment, including how they are involved in a surprising number of human and animal health issues beyond acute infections, ranging from cancer and Alzheimer's to MS and fatigue.

Rick has a background in biology, organic chemistry, biochemistry, software, and rocket science. He owned and operated a multi-person consultancy in Silicon Valley for more than two decades, and is an experienced entrepreneur and project manager, having delivered dozens of projects on time and on budget to NASA, Lockheed-Martin, and other high-profile clients.

Rick moved with his family to Nelson in 2006, where he is Chief Scientific Officer of Kimer Med, a biotech start-up company which hopes to develop a broad-spectrum anti-viral drug.

**Reminder:-** Paul still awaits offers from members prepared to introduce or thank our guest speakers. He is sure that many of our members must be confident at speaking to a crowd, so come on, make his day and contact him at [events@u3anelson.org.nz](mailto:events@u3anelson.org.nz) Do it now while it's on your mind.

## Topics covered in this Newsletter:

- Report on the speaker at the May AGM
- President's report
- DIG group report, May
- Birds of the Nelson region, May
- "Singalong" group
- Antique, Vintage & Retro group
- Quiz Group Questions
- Funnies

## Speaker report from the May AGM :

**B**rad Cadwallader spoke to a large gathering of U3A members at our AGM meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup>. His dedication to the love and welfare of trees was evident throughout his talk.

His early career included being a groundsman, mowing endless lawns at his old college. Then he moved onto arboriculture, practicing in Auckland. He studied horticulture at Massey University, spent time in parks maintenance and management in Auckland, then moved to Canada to work in arboriculture there. When he returned to NZ, he established a tree contracting business in Nelson. He sold this business to Nelmac in 1996, where he remained to manage a team of arborists until 2004. Since then, he has enjoyed independent tree consultancy with a strong interest in the management of Heritage Trees.

His expertise in Tree Consultancy has taken him all over New Zealand. More and more he has been drawn to Heritage trees, researching them and their histories and documenting these notable trees in the New Zealand Tree Register. His retirement beckons but his obsession with trees will continue.



Brad is a past President of the NZ Arboricultural Assn, a former Board Director of the International Society of Arboriculture and he is a Fellow of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture.

We must be grateful to those before us who have planted trees for the following generations to enjoy. Trees give individuality to our cities, our town and our communities and are important in the fabric of our society. We are grateful that their welfare is in the hands of dedicated people such as Brad and his team, and we thank him for his informative talk.

*Sally Mason, (tree hugger!).*

## President's report

**G**reetings. At the time of writing this, the sun is shining, the sky is SO blue, and it's 17 degrees. Aren't we so blessed to be living in this place. And tomorrow, may bring us much needed rain.

Looking forward to our next General Meeting on Wednesday 26 June, 10am at Elim Theatrette, and meeting new members who have joined since our AGM on 1 May, when we had a great attendance of 138 members.

On 26th, there will be some special things happening during the first part of our meeting, including the gathering of six Past Presidents, to help cut a cake to mark 30 years of U3A in Nelson.

Hope you can join us to enjoy another morning of social interaction and hear another informative and interesting speaker.

Cheers  
Wendy

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## DIG group, May 2024

**A** photo of the DIG group enjoying their meeting. I think we have the best and most comfortable meeting place of all, thanks to Olive Estate. The theatre has a beautiful big screen behind the photographer (Me), to show off all photos etc.

Each month we have a different theme for photos and we see many great photos from our members, taken with all sorts of cameras and phones.

We also have 2 or 3 field trips a year, guest speakers when available, plus members who also come forward with excellent talks and knowledge.

A cuppa and biscuits half way through the meeting is always looked forward to as it is a chance to meet any new members and chat to each other.

*Helen Gowland*



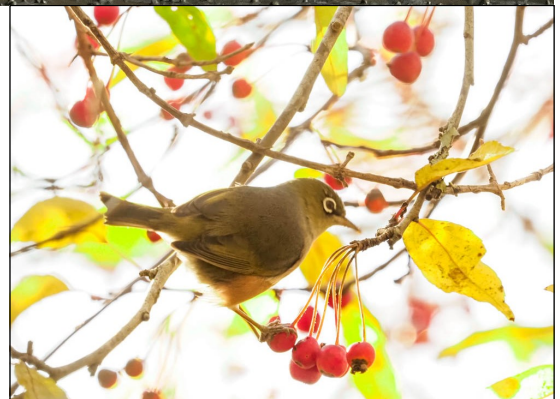


### **“Birds of the Nelson region” - May outing**

What a brilliant morning to visit Hoddy Estuary Park. Eight of us met in the car park and Sally Mason, with prior knowledge of tracks, led the way around the lake. Lots of waterfowl including several Australian Coot had cameras clicking, also there were wonderful reflections thanks to the autumn colours. We then moved down to the remaining collection of apple trees which date back to when this area was part of the Research Orchard. Here, if we stayed still we saw blackbirds and silvereyes fly in to feed on the crab-apples but they were difficult to photograph among the tangle of branches.

Finally we made our way to the Western side of the park where there were a couple of white faced herons feeding on the mudflat along with a juvenile pied stilt. A convenient picnic table made the ideal spot for our morning tea, a bonus being a black fantail flitting around close by, spending a lot of time on the grass.

*Trevor Lewis, Convenor*



*Views of the tranquil lake; group members gazing; a pair of Australian coot; a white-faced heron; and a silver-eye.*

*Photos by David Wayne, Sally Mason and Trevor Lewis*

### **“Singalong” group**

I'm not prepared to call what we do “a choir” but if we can get enough people, it will have the same effect. It already does, sometimes! Being part of a singing group has proven benefits to our brains. More members welcome. Read this article:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-04-28/how-singing-in-choirs-can-help-brains-recover-from-burnout/103710820>

*Kay Hunter, convenor*



## Antique, Vintage & Retro group go behind the scenes at Nelson Museum

Judy Pittman

When the Antique, Vintage & Retro group were given a private guided tour of the Nelson Museum's Research Facility the buckets were still in place to catch the drips from the ceiling after a night of rainfall.

The Museum's website tells it like it is – "Our Isel Park research and collection storage facility in Stoke is on its last legs. The asbestos-filled roof leaks and the building is earthquake and flood prone, putting thousands of locally, nationally and globally-significant treasures at risk, including an extraordinary UNESCO-inscribed photography collection...".

Eleven U3A members from the Antique, Vintage & Retro group were happy to pay \$10 each to be given a behind-the-scenes look at various small rooms that house the Museum's impressive collection of local heritage items, ranging from paintings and photographs, to maps and early settler's furniture.

The money will go into the fund for the new and much-needed Archives, Research & Collection (ARC) Facility to be built behind the Museum in Church Street, Nelson.

Half the funding for the new building has already been committed but a further \$7million is still being sought. A Givealittle page has been opened with a target of \$115,000. That represents a dollar for every person living in the Nelson Tasman region.

<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/arcproject>



### U3A Quiz Group Questions

*A sample of some of the questions from the U3A Quiz Group, convened by Judy Pittman*

#### Questions:

1. In which country did French fries originate?
2. How many letters are there in the longest place name in New Zealand; 45, 65 or 85?
3. At the top of Cecil Peak near Queenstown you will find what unlikely sport's feature?
4. What percentage of Nelson/Tasman's population is aged over 65?
5. Mirek Smisek, Harry & May Davis, Jack Laird and Christine Boswijk are, or were, well known local what?
6. Denim jeans are banned in which Communist country?
7. Which country has the most official languages?
8. According to the World Happiness report of 2024, which is the happiest country in the world?
9. Which of the American states has banned children under 14 from having social media accounts?
10. What is the singular word for spaghetti?

(Answers on next page)

### Answers:

1. Belgium
2. 85
3. Answer: a golf hole, accessed only by helicopter.
4. 22.5%
5. Potters
6. Since the early 1990s denim jeans have been banned in North Korea as they are seen as a symbol of American imperialism.
7. Zimbabwe has 16 official languages.
8. Finland. New Zealand was 11<sup>th</sup>.
9. Florida.
10. Spaghetti.

### Funnies:

I accidentally rubbed ketchup in my eyes. Now I have Heinzsight.

I've started investing in stocks: beef, vegetable, chicken. One day I hope to be a bouillianaire.

I tried to come up with a carpentry pun that woodwork. I thought I nailed it but nobody saw it.

The Black-Eyed Peas can sing us a song but the chick peas can only hummus one.

Once upon a time there was a King who was only 12 inches tall. He was a terrible King but he made a great ruler.

I was struggling to understand how lightning works and then it struck me.

I went to the paint store to get thinner. It didn't work.

So let me get this straight,

I go to the supermarket and buy:

a kilo of sliced ham in a plastic bag,

a two litre bottle of milk in a plastic container,

3 kg of potatoes in a plastic bag,

a store-made salad in a plastic tub,

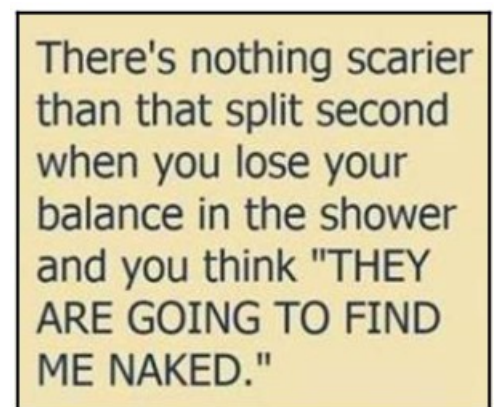
a bottle of Watties tomato sauce in a plastic bottle,

**BUT . . . they won't give me a plastic bag**

**in which to carry it home**

**because the plastic bag is bad for the environment?**

- Just thinking ???



### From the Editor

**T**hank you to those who submitted articles. Reports from study groups are always welcome, especially if your group has vacancies, as this is a good way to showcase what you do. Photographs make the newsletter more interesting and colourful too. **Deadline for articles for the next newsletter is Monday 12th August.**

*Trevor Lewis*