

# U3A MANAWATŪ NEWS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF U3A MANAWATŪ

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

As at the time of printing we have the following new members:

Paul Barrett, Kay Booth, Robyn Davidson, Bronwyn Dungan, Sara Georgeson, Jan Hardie, Bob Hargreaves, Kathleen Morse, Barbara Noaro, Kathy Scott, Frances and Graeme Siddle, Beth Weir.



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## We are a great group of opsimaths!



**op·si·math**

/ˈɒpsəˌmɑːθ/

noun RARE

noun: **opsimath**; plural noun: **opsimaths**

Opsimath: a person who begins or continues to study or learn late in life (*Wikipedia definition*)

### Origin

GREEK

opse  
late

GREEK

opsimathēs

opsimath

late 19th century

GREEK

math-  
learn



Exploring new skills and fields of knowledge...



## 2023 SUBSCRIPTIONS

### We need your support!

If you are attending a group and have not already paid your subscription you can do this online at:

<https://www.u3amanawatu.org.nz/subscribe/>

or contact Anne Spring, our Membership Secretary, for a printed form. Phone 021 190 6322.

## U3A Manawātū - the first 20 years

by Carol Phillips

75 pages including 10 pages of colour photographs.

Can be bought for \$10 per copy from (i) Rosemary (ring 326 9598), (ii) the Heritage Desk, Level 2, City Library, or (iii) at one of our events.

Please contribute to our newsletter! Contact the Editor: Rosemary on 326 9598 or rkrsinich@gmail.com



## FROM THE CHAIR

Graham Slater

We are 5 months into 2023 already; what a start to the year it has been. With the widespread devastation

caused by Cyclone Gabrielle this country certainly had a wakeup call.

It is timely that the next U3A public seminar series due for May-June will cover the topic of natural hazards. Our wonderful "speaker wrangler" Stuart Birks has once again put together an excellent array of speakers to cover the topic.

We live in a region which, largely dodged a bullet during Gabrielle, but we are in an area where a meandering, and sometimes misbehaving, river "prowls around" threatening the neighbourhood.

Are you prepared to evacuate at short notice if you have to?

We have a subgroup on the committee at present working through our constitution in line with the Commerce Commission's call for such an undertaking being required by all such bodies. Our's is being ably coordinated by Claire Barrett. There will be some variations to our constitution which will need to go to our AGM later in the year.

COVID is not yet a thing of the past. According to the Ministry of Health update of 18 April 2023 we reported 14,242 new cases in that week. This is being labelled as a "fourth wave".

There is now another free booster shot you can get from some pharmacies, medical practices or the public walk-up space in Fitzherbert Ave.

The latest flu shot is available as well. Don't wait. Do it now. Getting unwell these days can pose more issues than in the past.

Our membership numbers are holding OK. We have 13 new members since January. I note to date only 79% of our members are financial. People who attend our Learning Groups are required to be paid-up members.

I note with some sadness that the Science, Technology and Environment group, led adeptly by Brian Tapper for many years, may be stumbling to continue with his withdrawal as Group Coordinator. To see this group continue will take some effort from interested parties.

If you elected to receive this newsletter by mail, it will be in black and white. A colour copy can be downloaded from our website at [www.u3amanawatu.org.nz](http://www.u3amanawatu.org.nz)

## AUTUMN SEMINAR SERIES

### Responding to Natural Hazards

Crossroads Church

220 Church Street

Wednesdays 2.15—4 pm

**Earthquakes, floods, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, pandemics, all these pose risks and can have catastrophic consequences. What can we do to anticipate such events, how can we respond when they occur? Our speakers give four perspectives on these challenges.**

**May 24th:** The perspective of staff from the PNCC Risk and Resilience Team.

**May 31st:** The "thin blue line": Building resilient coastal communities in turbulent seas.

**June 7th:** Living with rivers in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

**June 14th:** What can we learn from the Titanic? Disasters and the social patterning of adverse outcome.

*Admission free. Gold coin for teal/coffee and biscuits.*

**Full details will be available in the flyer on the website: <https://www.u3amanawatu.org.nz/seminars/>**

## GRIEF

Well I've shifted

It was head over heart

But soon there would be maintenance and there were stairs

And I was lonely.

So when the land agent rang

I said yes

After having said no for three years.

I have a nice villa with a conservatory

And the family have made it look like home.

They visit regularly one at a time

But it isn't my home.

I miss the magnolias and the rata and the cabbage tree  
And the stream and the place where the cat's ashes are buried.

I miss the views and the soggy lawn

But mostly I miss the house.

I can't have all the family to stay any more

Exiling them to a B&B isn't the same.

Yes I am still lonely

Even though I have visitors.

I have a cold lump in my stomach

And I don't think it will ever go away.

Anon

# AROUND THE GROUPS ...

## Plans for a Pottery Group

Calling for expressions of interest

**Averil Nasario (Group Coordinator)**

- Our venue would be Square Edge Pottery.
- Initially two sessions at \$30 per head would be held, led by a tutor.
- Minimum number of 8 people.
- After these two initial sessions, costs would be \$7.50 each per session.
- I would assume responsibility for care of the venue, and security, etc.,
- Members will need to supply their own clay and pay for firing and glazing. NB: Any firing and glazing would be tutor led.
- We can discuss when and how often we'd want to meet. We'd have tea making facilities.
- We can also request further tutorials.
- This is a great opportunity for our members to experience using clay for a very reasonable price.
- Better still if a U3A member has a kiln/venue that could be utilized.

I look forward to hearing from you!

*Averil*

Email: [averil.e.nasario@gmail.com](mailto:averil.e.nasario@gmail.com)

Phone: 027 757 2959



## DEATH NOTICES

We are acknowledging deaths of our members on the Notices page of our website.

Please let us know of any of our members who have died recently so we can acknowledge them there. Contact Rosemary Krsnich email [rkrsnich@gmail.com](mailto:rkrsnich@gmail.com) or 326 9598

## 10-pin Bowling Group

**Jan Black (Group Coordinator)**

U3A Manawatū has a once-a-month 10-pin bowling group. We would be interested in attracting some more members.

If you would like to be part of this, contact the coordinator Janet Black on [janblack@xtra.co.nz](mailto:janblack@xtra.co.nz).

We meet at 10.00 am on the third Wednesday of each month at Bowlerama in Cuba St.

We pay \$8.00 per game (i.e. 10-20 chances to bowl) which is a significant reduction from normal rates.

Come along, have some fun and gain some skills with which to challenge your grandchildren.



**Janet and Graham participating in a recent match**

Do you have an idea for a new group? Have a look at the guidelines for setting up a new group on the website at <https://www.u3amanawatu.org.nz/learning-groups/>

## AROUND THE GROUPS (continued)

### WFPB Lunch Group

#### Rosemary Krsinich (Group Coordinator)

We meet at a different member's house each month. The six members take turns to bring a pot-luck whole-food, plant-based entrée, main or dessert. Copies of the recipes are circulated after the meeting.



Janneke with her impressive pancake stack

There is no typical menu, but recent dishes have included: chickpea salad with avocado dill sauce, caponata, chickpea bruschetta, asparagus and vegan cheese bundles, sushi, blackbean and vegetable pancake stack, red lentil dahl with cucumber raita, tofu and pumpkin pasta, quinoa and vegetable stuffed capsicums, zucchini tomato bake, berries and coconut vanilla cream, and lemon courgette cake.

The group is currently full, but it is a popular group and there is room in the U3A for other such pot-luck lunch groups to be set up with different themes or cuisines perhaps.



Image courtesy of Michael Leunig

Remember to make use of our WEBSITE - source of the latest information and an easy way to subscribe:

<https://www.u3amanawatu.org.nz>

### U3A Manawatu

*Life-long learning in retirement*



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