

# U3A MANAWATŪ NEWS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF U3A MANAWATŪ

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

As at the time of printing:

Steve Barker, Kath Hart, Jenny Heir, Hertha James, Dianne McConnell, Duncan Mackenzie, Jenny Mackenzie, Bill Milham, Debbie Morris, Rose Motion, Beth O'Donnell, Maree O'Donoghue, Anne Palmer, Marion Soutar, Barry Stevenson, Veronica Stevenson, Liz Tompkins, John Tweedie, Cindy van der Krogt



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## Lots to look forward to...

### AUTUMN SEMINAR SERIES:

#### 'ENTERTAINMENT'

All current members should by now have received a copy of the flyer for our Autumn 2024 Seminar series either by email or post. A copy is also available on the Seminars page of our website [here](#).

This series, also open to the public, has again been organised by Stuart Birks on behalf of U3A Manawatu. After each seminar, the audio recording and PowerPoint presentations will be accessible via the Seminars page of our website: See <https://www.u3amanawatu.org.nz/seminars/>

**VENUE:** Crossroads Church

220 Church Street

**TIME:** Wednesdays 2.15–4.00 pm

**ADMISSION:** Free

Gold coin for tea/coffee and biscuits

**CAR PARKS:** Entrances from Church St and Cook St

### PROGRAMME:

**May 1<sup>st</sup>** Local government and community wellbeing. Should Council provide entertainment?

- *Rachel Bowen: PN City Councillor, Chair of Culture and Sport Committee.*

**May 8<sup>th</sup>** Live music to touch your soul: Where to get what in Palmy?

- *Christine Archer-Lockwood: musician - pianist, conductor, music therapist.*

**May 15<sup>th</sup>** Centrepoint Theatre - the backstage story.

- *Kate Elliott: General Manager, Artistic Director at Centrepoint Theatre.*

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>** The Regent Theatre - a place of entertainment

- *Dr Tania Kopytko: Regent Theatre Trust Board.*

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!**

### TREASURER WANTED:

Do you have accounting skills?

We are looking for a Treasurer to join our friendly and dynamic Committee from September 2024. If you are interested, please contact the Chair: Chris van der Krogt, for more information:

357 7825 or 021 1224701 [delftnz@gmail.com](mailto:delftnz@gmail.com)

### REVIEWER WANTED:

Do you have the necessary background for reviewing financial statements?

We need a Reviewer for our Annual Financial Statements. If you are interested, please contact the Chair: Chris van der Krogt, for more information:



## FROM THE CHAIR

**Chris van der Krogt**

The colourful leaves and cooler weather tell us it is Autumn and time for another newsletter.

This year's Autumn seminar series will begin on 1<sup>st</sup> May for

four successive Wednesdays at Crossroads Church (2:15–4.00 pm). The theme is Entertainment, and there will be speakers offering perspectives on local government, Centrepoint Theatre, and the Regent Theatre as well as a session on music in the Manawātū.

Since the beginning of the year, several new learning groups have been formed, including Friends of the Listener and All About Gardening. The re-formed science and technology group (now called Sci-Tech) is also up and running. New groups can be formed at any time (any offers?) and the current list is available on the U3A website.

There are still some outstanding 2024 subscriptions, so if you don't want to fall off the membership list, click on the [subscribe button](#) on the website or contact our Membership Secretary (details in box below).

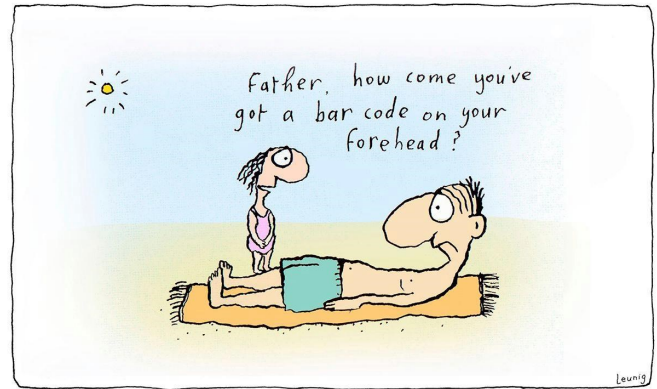
You may have seen on our [noticeboard page](#) that Pearson Research is looking for people aged 16 to 90 years to take part in a study on cognition, memory, and daily living skills. The tests take a few hours, but participants are offered gift cards for contributing (see the [link](#) if you are interested).

Keep warm and see you at the Entertainment seminars!

## SUBSCRIPTIONS 2024

As of mid-April just over 80% of our members have subscribed and paid for 2024.

If you wish to be a member this year, you need to have subscribed and paid by the end of June at the latest or your membership will lapse. From this point you will no longer receive notices from us. Please let us know if your intention was to resign your membership this year by contacting the Membership Secretary, Anne Spring, on 021 190 6322 [anne.spring35@gmail.com](mailto:anne.spring35@gmail.com)



**"Father, how come you've got a barcode on your forehead?"**

Image courtesy of Michael Leunig

## STUDY ON COGNITION, MEMORY AND DAILY LIVING SKILLS



### Participants Needed!

Pearson is looking for people aged 16 to 90 years to take part in a study on cognition, memory, and daily living skills!

You will complete problem solving and memory tasks, puzzles, and answer knowledge questions. You will also do practical tasks such as telling time and counting money. Participation takes place over three sessions.

- Session 1 takes 2 to 3.5 hours
- Session 2 takes 1 to 2 hours
- Session 3 takes 30 minutes

As a thank you, each participant will receive \$100 gift cards for completing sessions 1 and 2, and a \$50 gift card for completing session 3.

To find out more and register, visit:

[www.pearsonclinical.com.au/participant](http://www.pearsonclinical.com.au/participant)

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[www.pearsonclinical.com.au/participant](http://www.pearsonclinical.com.au/participant)

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)

## CHANGES TO CONTACT DETAILS

Please advise Anne Spring, the Membership Secretary, if you have any changes to your contact details to ensure you continue to receive these newsletters and any other information from us.

021 190 6322 [anne.spring35@gmail.com](mailto:anne.spring35@gmail.com)

# Around the groups...

## RECENTLY FORMED NEW GROUPS

### Friends of the Listener

Small group discussions based around articles from the New Zealand Listener.

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month at 2 pm.

If interested please contact the Group Coordinator: Iola Haggarty phone 021 261 0680, email [iolaandneill@inspire.net.nz](mailto:iolaandneill@inspire.net.nz)

### All about Gardening

Gardeners, gardening and gardens. Visits to members' and other gardens. Meetings feature Plant of the Month and our garden stories.

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 1 pm.

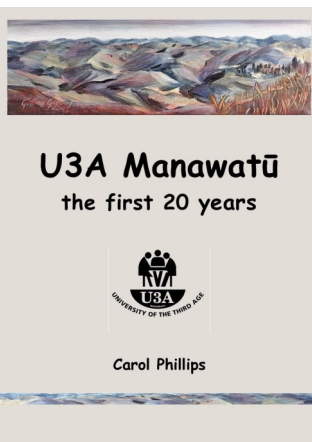
If interested please contact the Group Coordinator: Marion Soutar phone 021 236 2336, email [marionso@inspire.net.nz](mailto:marionso@inspire.net.nz)

## Learning Programme 2024

The latest version is always available on the website at: <https://www.u3amanawatu.org.nz/learning-groups/>

**NOTE: new groups can be set up at any time. See the guidelines here (click on link):**

<https://www.u3amanawatu.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Setting-up-a-U3A-Group-v2.pdf>



### U3A Manawatu - the first 20 years.

By Carol Phillips.

Available from the Heritage Desk, Level 2, City Library.

\$10 (cash only)

**We would love your contributions to our newsletter!**

Please contact the Editor (Rosemary at 326 9598 or [rksinich@gmail.com](mailto:rksinich@gmail.com))

## For the Love of Plants

### And the winner is.....

by Merle Smillie

Sixteen members of the group were given seed potatoes back in October to plant in their garden, to grow with as much TLC as they could. Rosalie Heckler was the organizer of the U3A's For the Love of Plants, Potato Competition.

Our February meeting was the day of reckoning with the big weigh in. The entries were varied and the categories were many, from the heaviest crop, the most potatoes and the most misshapen spud.

Barbara Noaro won the prize for the heaviest potato weighing in at 805 grams and first prize for the winning crop 10.5 kilos. 'WOW!!' we all said. The three 'most honest' growers (those who admitted to a rather small crop) were Alan, Susan and Irene. Rosalie with her good connections was able to secure some great fresh vegetables for the winners and runners up but then everyone went home with a prize.

So a big thankyou to Morgan Laurenson Ltd for their generous donations and thankyou to Rosalie, the judges, and participants for a fun competition. Not forgetting a big thankyou to Pat Williams for the unique spoon he carved for the winner of the competition.



This group is currently full.

You can contact the Group Coordinator Heather Martin, phone 357 3125 or [ellalinem@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:ellalinem@yahoo.co.nz) to be put on the waiting list or you could apply to join our second gardening group 'All About Gardening' (details in LH column)

**Left to Right:**

**Roger Parfitt,  
Barbara Noaro,  
David Symes**



## Around the groups (continued)...

### Sci-Tech

#### 'Two Rum Affairs and the Nature of Scientific Fraud'

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, Roger Reeves who was a member of a biogeochemical research group that visited the Scottish Island of Rum in 1992, talked about his work there.

He also told a gripping, edge-of-your-seat story about a famous botanist defrauding the world for many years, with false claims of discovering certain species of plants on Rum, and how some furtive science sleuths investigated it. The botanist wasn't exposed because of fear of damage to his reputation, that of his son (also a scientist), and of science generally. In 1998 a book was published about the fraud which had been exposed in 1948 but then kept secret for the next 50 years. Roger's presentation dealt briefly with his 1992 work (**not** fraudulent!) and he then went on to explain the nature of the early '90s fraud, the probable reasons for it, its exposure



Roger Reeves presenting at the Sci-Tech meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> March

and cover up and some of the driving forces behind scientific fraud generally. He used the Piltdown Man fraud case as another example.

*This group can still take new members. Contact the Group Coordinator, **Stu Schwartz**, phone 359 4423 or email [finearts@taylor-jensen.co.nz](mailto:finearts@taylor-jensen.co.nz).*

- Remember to make use of our **WEBSITE**, source of the latest information -

- and an easy way to subscribe: [u3amanawatu.org.nz](http://u3amanawatu.org.nz) -

## U3A Manawatu

*Life-long learning in retirement*



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#### Committee

**Chairperson:** Chris van der Krogt 357 7825 or 021 1224701 [delftnz@gmail.com](mailto:delftnz@gmail.com)

**Secretary/Newsletter:** Rosemary Krsinich 326 9598 [rkrsinich@gmail.com](mailto:rkrsinich@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Ron Paddock 357 5857 [smallfield48@gmail.com](mailto:smallfield48@gmail.com)

**Membership Secretary (including changes to address/email):** Anne Spring 021 190 6322 [anne.spring35@gmail.com](mailto:anne.spring35@gmail.com)

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