

Small Groups - Newsletter for June 2017

Well for me this month has been really busy as I have been attending two series of lectures through U3A as well as keeping up my other groups. I have finally found myself getting cold in Dunedin. I thought I would feel the cold a lot sooner so it has been a pleasant surprise to me that I haven't up until now.

I do hope some of you got to go to the AGM and the luncheon on the 26th of this month. I gave a short precis of what the small groups had been up to through the year. I also asked for help in finding a facilitator for a philosophy group. So hopefully my request will bear fruit. If any of you have a request for a new group that you would like to see begun don't forget to email or phone me so that I can start getting it set up.

The Book group and the Local History groups are still in recession waiting for few new members.

Keep warm.

Ngaire

Art History Group

The art history group looked into the links between poetry and painting. Remembering that a number of painters, such as Michelangelo, were very well known as poets as well as painters, the group examined famous poems describing the various poets' reactions to famous paintings. A member of the group read us poems written by her niece about New Zealand works. Our next art history group meeting in July (second Wednesday) will consider the exciting story of Artemisia Gentileschi, the famous 17th century Italian Baroque painter.

Book Group

This group is still in recession. Ngaire has had one person interested in joining this month. If anyone else wishes to please let Ngaire know on Ph: 454 2170 or email; mikni@ihug.co.nz

Creative Writing Group

At this month's meeting we presented our poetry stories. Some members of the group misinterpreted the assignment. One of the poems covered was one about Daffodils, another was W.B. Keats poem called 'After Long Silence' Another member covered a poem about the period following the Boer War in South Africa. Everyone did an extremely good job of their stories and we all appear to be benefiting from the continual need to produce something in writing on a monthly basis to present to the group. July sees us writing a short story about two coats hanging on pegs.

Expanding Musical Horizons Group

This group has been postponed until the **3rd July** to allow members to attend the AGM of U3A Dunedin. July's meeting will take place on the normal Monday morning at the end of July

Gallery Group

We went to a pottery this month situated on Lower Stuart Street which is run as a co-operative. We enjoyed being reminded of the history of the building and the surrounding area. How the co-op worked and what the input of the various makers was. Jan

Local History Group

This group is still in recession. The group requires members and a member who knows Dunedin well enough to lead the group. If anyone wishes to join please let Ngaire know on Ph: 454 2170 or email; mikni@ihug.co.nz

Monday Current Affairs Group

This group for June looked at the following subject 'Organisations such as Child Fund, World Vision, Save the Children and many others constantly plead for donations for those less fortunate in many countries of the world. Frequently they are said to be suffering from starvation, disease, lack of water etc. How much should we be responsible for those "without" in other countries? Where should our priorities lie?'

Although there were only three members present for this session we had a great discussion about this topic. Doug as usual had done a lot of research into statistics around the different organisations which he presented. Ngaire had looked into World Vision. Overall we decided that money donated to these organisations did not reach the people they were meant for but we did not come up with any ideas how this could be achieved. It was felt really that it was more beneficial to try and teach the populations about water, irrigation, how to grow and what to grow in their areas rather than just hand out money. The World Bank is very good at doing this. Doctors without Borders also directly help these people in their own villages. Next month's meeting will be at Joy's place again. We meet at the Vauxhall Carpark at 1.25pm and share a car from there.

The topic will be Water however it affects us, e.g. power, agriculture, industrial, exporting, pollution, and rights to name but a few.

Museum Group

There has been no meeting of this group this month.

Poetry Group

The group met at my home last Thursday 15th June. A small group of 4 as others were committed elsewhere. The topic was a poem about a person, a lover? dead person? hero? child? whatever. For me the highlight was Liz 's Sam Hunt poems with regard to his father. A negative for me, was my orange muffins, little unsweet rocks. No one complained, just nibbled bravely on. Apologies were received from those who could not come - all had very valid reasons and disliked missing the gathering. Carole B

TED Talk Group

The TED-Talk Group met for the first time on Friday 2 June 2017. At this first meeting the members attending sketched out a roadmap for the future.

The group is still looking for more members. Please contact Ravi Vohora 464 0182 for more information.

The next meeting will be on Friday 7 July 2017 at 2 .15 PM

Tuesday Current Affairs Group

The Tuesday Current Issues Group has space for one or two more people. We certainly have no lack of current issues! We all take a keen interest in New Zealand and world affairs, so come ready to enjoy an interesting discussion on a number of matters each meeting.