

Newsletter for September 2017

Elections are over. Daylight saving is here. A few warm days with the sun shining. All goodness.

This month has seen a few changes as far as the Discussion Groups go.

Firstly the decision has been made to put the Creative Writing group into recession.

Disappointing I know, but there just wasn't the interest or someone qualified enough to facilitate it.

However on a better note, the new Book group has had its first meeting with three keen members. If you are interested in joining please give Ngaire a phone call or send her an email on ngairemichael@gmail.com and she will tell you when and where.

Please remember if you have a particular group you would like to see begun, just let Ngaire know. It doesn't mean you would be left to facilitate it - Ngaire just needs to know what U3A members are interested in.

Happy spring cleaning everyone and enjoy getting out in your gardens.

Ngaire Bates

Art History Group

Report on the visit to the Hocken Library.

Miranda Parkes: the merrier (she writes it without the capitals)

Miranda Parkes represents the 'bodily experience and the subjectivity of abstraction', using layered paint, canvass (and the frames), fabric, film, and puffy, bulging foams. The gallery walls are painted to enhance and extend her works. The first impression overall is indeed that of a merry artist at colourful, exuberant play. We were fortunate to have Gwyneth with us who gave an entirely new perspective on the exhibition, coming from a texture and fabric based approach. The point that one does not have to be able to draw to see and make meaningful art was convincingly brought across by her, and lead us to enjoy and appreciate the artworks much more. I was ready to walk through and walk out, but spending a lot of time looking through other eyes scuttled some prejudices that I am much better off without. The coffee after viewing some mind blowing art with great company made the day an experience I would not have wanted to miss.

Book Group

The Book Club was re – convened on Thursday 14 September, at 18 Atkinson Street, with three members present. Since then two other members have shown interest in the group and will join at the next meeting on Thursday 12th October at 1.30p.m. It was decided that reading would be around topics, to allow for different interests within the group. At the next meeting, the topic will be The History of Dunedin, as all of the foundation members are immigrants to the city.

Jean Roulston

Creative Writing Group

This group is now in recession until we get more members of U3A interested and someone to run it.

Current Affairs Group-Monday

The current affairs group went through one of several multi choice election quizzes as a catalyst to discussing the most important issues for each of us in the election. Unfortunately, we were a small group and somewhat too homogeneous so there was not a lot of robust debate.

The next meeting will be on October 16th and trade unions will be the theme.

Do trade unions have a place in today's market?

Should we have a minimum wage?

Our numbers are slightly reduced at present with a few people having left the group and a number away so we would welcome any new people who might be interested.

Joy Hayward

Current Affairs Group-Tuesday

The Tuesday Current Affairs group spent the first hour discussing issues raised by members returning from Germany and from the USA, which proved very interesting. After the morning coffee we returned to the NZ election. We had discussed that in some depth the previous month, but so much had changed that we appreciated the opportunity to update our knowledge and challenge our thinking.

Expanding Musical Horizons Group

Our September meeting was about how music is put together. How do composers go about their business of creating a large piece of music? How do they make so much out of a few basic ideas? We looked at various forms, from a very close look at motifs and phrases, to larger forms such as binary, ternary, rondos, canons and fugues. We still have a few more forms to discover while continuing to widen our musical horizons.

Gallery Group

We had a very successful visit on Wed. morning Sept. 13th to the Fe 29 gallery in Sandringham Street, St. Clair.

The house has been completely turned into a gallery but is still a home. We were given a comprehensive tour with a very interesting explanation of all the works of art. The garden was also a work of art with sculptures among the plantings. Lithographs from the late Dunedin artist, Di Ffrench, formed the main exhibition in the house, but many more famous artists had work on display.

We welcomed 2 new members to our group, Pip and Maryalyce. We were able to stroll down the road and get a cup of coffee on the esplanade after the visit.

Our next meeting is on October 11th at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery to see an exhibition of landscapes. We will meet in the gallery foyer at 10.00 am as Lynda Cullen, who has extensive knowledge of these paintings, is able to guide us through the display for an hour after which she has a commitment to another group. We can gather for coffee at the end of the talk.

Museum Group This group is in recession.

Poetry Group

This small group is now in its third year. The most recent meeting was held on Wednesday 13th September with 8 members present. The topic was 'Aspects of Environment' which generated a surprising range of poems for discussion. Poets represented were: Fleur Adcock, Allen Curnow, Ruth Dallas, Lauris Edmond, T S Eliot. A R D Fairburn, Seamus Heaney, Horace (Roman poet), Norman MacCaig, Brian Turner, Hone Tuwhare.

TED Talk Group

Due to illness and holidays this group didn't meet in September. Our next meeting will be at Brian Miller's home. 31 Marine Parade, Macandrew Bay. Please phone Brian if you would like to join the group - ph 4761 453

Group Schedule September 2017

**Please phone the hostess if you are unable to attend.
Please contact the facilitator if you wish to join a group**

<p><u>Art History</u></p> <p>Facilitator – Moya Smith Phone- 4761415 or 0274761415 Email – moya.smith@xtra.co.nz Next Meeting – Wednesday 11th October at 2pm (second Wednesday)</p>	<p>Venue: Group to meet at the Hocken Library to have a look at their Artwork.</p> <p>Topic –</p> <p>New members welcome.</p>
<p><u>Current Affairs - Monday Group</u></p> <p>Facilitator:- Joy Hayward Phone:-454 4996 or 021 150 8387 Email:- joyhayward@hotmail.co.nz Next meeting- Monday 16th October 1.30pm (third Monday)</p>	<p>Venue: - Home of Joy Hayward. 195 Portobello Road.</p> <p>Topic – Trade Unions</p> <p>Please note:- We meet in the Vauxhall carpark at 1.25pm and share a ride up the hill.</p>
<p><u>Current Affairs - Tuesday Group</u></p> <p>Facilitator;- Gretchen Kivell Phone;- 473 0031 Next Meeting:- Tuesday 17th October 10am (third Tuesday)</p>	<p>Venue;- Home of Gretchen Kivell 1 Windsor St Opoho</p> <p>Topic – New Zealand Elections</p> <p>New members welcome</p>
<p><u>Expanding Musical Horizons</u></p>	<p>Venue:- Home of Paul Wheeler</p>

<p>Facilitator:- Paul Wheeler Phone:- 476 0462 Email:- wheeler@ihug.co.nz Next meeting:- Monday 30th October 10am Please note change of date <i>(fourth Monday)</i></p>	<p>5 Roger Street MacAndrew Bay</p> <p>Group Full</p>
<p><u>Gallery</u></p> <p>Facilitator:- Tash Hurst Phone:- 467 9747 Email:- tash.hurst@xtra.co.nz Next meeting:- Wednesday 11th October at 10.00am Please note change of time (Second Wednesday)</p>	<p>Venue- We are visiting the Dunedin Public Art Gallery</p> <p>New members welcome</p>
<p><u>Book Group</u></p> <p>Facilitator:- Jean Roulston Phone number: 455 0941. Next meeting:- Thursday 12th October at 1.30pm (Second Thursday)</p>	<p>Venue- 18 Atkinson Street, St Kilda</p> <p>Topic:- A book on local history</p> <p>New Members welcome</p>
<p><u>Poetry</u></p> <p>Facilitator:-_ Judith Cowley</p> <p>Meetings and contact details change from month to month.</p>	<p>Venue:- Changes from month to month</p> <p>Group Full</p>
<p><u>TED Talks</u></p> <p>Facilitator:- Ravi Vohora Phone:- 464 0182 Email:- vohora@xtra.co.nz Next meeting:- Friday 6th October at 2.15pm (First Friday)</p>	<p>Venue: Home of Brian Miller 31 Marine Parade Macandrew Bay ph 4761 453</p> <p>Topic:- Host to decide the topics to be viewed.</p> <p>New members welcome</p>