

SMALL GROUPS NEWSLETTER for May 2017

Another month has whizzed by and the cooler days are here again. A good excuse to take part in some study groups for U3A Dunedin!

The first Friday in June sees the start of another new group called 'TED Talks and Open Lectures Group'. The group still has room for a few more members. If you are keen on joining with others to listen to a talk or attend an open lecture and then discuss what you have heard please let Ravi or Ngaire know.

The list of groups is growing and attendance is steady which is encouraging. If you would like to see any other group begun please let Ngaire know so that she can canvas members for a facilitator. Help is given if required to any new facilitator and once the group is up and running it then becomes autonomous. So don't be shy, come and join us. There is room for both kinds of further education amongst us 'older' members of society within U3A Dunedin. Attendance at a study group can be put on hold for a few weeks if you wish to attend a lecture series.

Ngaire is still looking for a facilitator so she can begin a Philosophy group. Help will be given if required to get started so if you are interested please let Ngaire know on phone: 454 2170 or email: mikni@ihug.co.nz

TED Talk and Open Lecture Group

This newest group will begin on the first Friday afternoon in June. That is **2nd June 2017**. Please contact either Ravi on email: vohora@xtra.co.nz or Ngaire on phone: 454 2170 or email: mikni@ihug.co.nz There are still a few places available for more members.

Creative Writing Group.

Our work for this month was to write a short article about daylight saving and how it affected us. There were some great short stories with very interesting ideas which created a lot of further discussion. For the meeting on 1st June we are to write a short story based on a poem. I am looking forward to writing this story and I am expecting some great articles from the other members of the group. There is still space for one or two new members so if you are interested please contact Ngaire on phone: 454 2170 or email: mikni@ihug.co.nz

Art Group

The Gallery Group met on Wed at the DPGA to hear the talk by Inge Doesburg. We met afterwards to discuss the future of the group. Tash Hurst has agreed to be conveyor and relay to members what is happening. A possible programme has been sent out to all members based on suggestions from the group. The meetings are held on the second Wed in the month at 10.30 unless otherwise notified

The next meeting in June is being organised by Jan Wilson and is a visit to the pottery cooperative on Lower Stuart Street.

Poetry Appreciation Group

This month on May 10th we all drove out to a group member's home in Mosgiel to read and discuss poems written about insects: an unusual topic which drew forth a fascinating variety of poems.

Monday Current Affairs Group

This month the group looked at six questions put to us by our facilitator who is away overseas at the moment. The questions were all centered around ageing and the whole topic was extremely interesting and revealing.

Next month we will be exploring the topic: '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?'

The group will again meet at Ngaire's place in Tahuna Road on the 19th June. If you wish to join the group please contact Ngaire on phone; 454 2170 or email: mikni@ihug.co.nz



Art History Group



Three members of our group gave highly interesting presentations on the Pre-Raphaelite artists. These stimulating presentations generated much discussion and various points of view emerged around late 19th century British and French styles. We looked into the poetics of French symbolism, the Arts and Crafts movement and questions about gender divisions within the Pre-Raphaelite movement. Our next Art History discussion will consider the relationship between painting and poetry.

Music Appreciation Group



Today we started on a journey through 20th Century American Music. As an introduction, we looked at what gives the music its distinctive American character. We started exploring the development of classical music, ragtime, jazz and blues, and the development of the American musical and talked about the influence of each strand on the others. Next time, we'll be adding a fourth strand, by looking at what was going on in the field of experimental and avant-garde music.

Museum Group.

This group did not meet this month.

Tuesday Current Affairs Group

The group met to discuss national and international current event issues.