



**PORIRUA U3A Inc**

## **May 2024 Meeting and Notices**

**LEARN LAUGH LIVE**

**Porirua U3A Queries: [u3amana@gmail.com](mailto:u3amana@gmail.com)**

### **Hello to all Porirua U3A Members**

This month you may read the message from our president, Quarterly Meeting dates, Speaker and lunch regarding our May meeting, as well as items about Interest groups, Outings and Events, Committee matters, including a resignation, and the draft Health and Safety policy.

#### ***From our President***

Our interest groups are well under way for the year and I hope you're all taking advantage of the learning and social opportunities they provide. Thank you to all the coordinators for organising these groups. Suggestions for new groups are always welcome.

You will have noticed the odd message from me about events coming up in our region. I hope you find these useful. On occasion I've met members who've enjoyed an event that I've brought to your notice. I'm always on the look-out for events that might interest you, but the best resource, of course, is your own eyes and ears. If you come across something that you think might interest our members tell me, please, and I can let everyone know. Just ring or text me on 0276770180.

I'm keen to get to know you all better so I plan to come along to Interest Group gatherings when I can.

Finally, please do get along to our next quarterly meeting on Thursday 16 May if you can. I'd love to see you there.

Regards

Bill

## Quarterly Meetings

**Dates** for our Quarterly Meetings are listed below. Do try and come as not only do we have excellent speakers, but there is usually information about Interest Groups and events, as well as the chance to catch up with friends and meet new ones.

### Thursday 16 May

Thursday 15 August

Thursday 21 November (AGM)

Please diary these meeting dates if you haven't already done so. The venue is always the North Baptist Church at 69 Discovery Drive, Whitby, Porirua 5024

The speaker at the **May 16 meeting** will be **Fergus Wheeler** who lives in Kapiti and is the convenor of Death Without Debt. "Funerals have a long and fascinating history - you can tell a lot about a culture from the way they bury, burn, or otherwise deal with their dead," says Fergus. This sounds like a fascinating presentation.

The lunch at 12.15 will be catered so you do not need to bring a plate.

The draft Health and Safety Policy is at the end of this Newsletter. Bill will invite your suggestions and comments at the May meeting.

## February Speaker

Our speaker in February was Jessica Walker from Consumer NZ, who gave an insightful presentation.

## Financial

Our Kiwi Bank Account number is 38-9023-0226804-00.

If your **contact details have changed** since you last paid, or if you are a **new member**, would you please download our Membership Form from our website and email to our Treasurer, Gill Knox.

At the recent Executive Committee meeting Gill presented her usual report which shows we have a healthy bank balance. Our subcommittee is exploring ways to market Porirua U3A so these funds will be put to good use.

## Interest Groups

Messages from our Interest Group Manager, Michael Lynch.

A **quick reminder** to Coordinators: if there is anyone in your Interest Group who has not paid their 2023-4 sub, they are not entitled to attend meetings and events after as they are no longer financial members.

Please contact Michael as soon as possible if you are interested in the new Astronomy Group.

The Garden Group recently visited Twiglands, where James Cameron explained about different plants and their usefulness in our winter gardens. The photo below shows some members enjoying lunch at Café Thyme afterwards.



## Day Trips and Other Events

### A Mid-year Progressive Lunch – From Bill

I'm thinking a middle-of-the-year progressive lunch would be fun. In June perhaps. Progressive meals are homely, make it easy to meet others, and the work of preparing food is shared. I'd see three stops: one for starters, one for mains, and one for dessert and coffee.

Please think about whether you'd be able to host. Hosts would not be expected to prepare food for everyone – it's a shared lunch. Ideally the three homes would all be fairly close. Whitby might be the best bet but I'd certainly be happy to host one of the courses if required. I'm in Ranui, which is just 10 minutes from Whitby.

We'd need willing drivers, and again I'm happy to be one. I'll bring along a whiteboard to our next quarterly meeting where you can write what you'd like to contribute - starter, main or dessert. Once we have three hosts and know who's coming and bringing what food or drink I'll work out a rough timetable. Suggestions for quizzes or songs would be welcome.

**Let me know if you're interested.** And, of course, if you can host and/or can be a driver.

Bill.

Bill has several other ideas for outings and events – PLEASE let him know if you have suggestions or can help him with some of the organising.

### Recent Day Trip:

On Thursday 11 April 19 members went on a fascinating tour of the Institute of Environmental Research and Science in Kenepuru (ESR). Leaders of their scientific teams told us about the Institute's many roles and we visited laboratories where we were told about the work of ESR's huge team of scientists across New Zealand. We saw an array of complex equipment, even watching one forensic scientist as she painstakingly examined a bag obviously associated with a Police investigation. As we heard about ESR's work across the fields of public health, drug safety,



environmental monitoring and infectious diseases we came to realise the breadth and complexity of its responsibilities and activities. We were very grateful to ESR for arranging this tour, and we all went away with a better appreciation for the expertise and dedication of our scientific community, and an understanding of how ESR's work relates to so many areas of our everyday life.

## Executive Committee

If you have items you want considered regarding U3A, the Executive Committee meets again on Tuesday 23 July at 1.30 pm.

*If you have a small amount of time available over the next few months the committee would be very appreciative of offers of help for various tasks. You do not need to join the Committee to help. Please contact any committee member. "Many hands make light work!"*

At the recent Executive Committee meeting Kay Phillips resigned as Secretary and from the committee citing health reasons. Other members of the committee have agreed to take over the various tasks after the May meeting and until the AGM.

## Contacts

Your 2022-23 Executive Committee comprises :

Position	Name	Phone Number	Email Address
President	Bill Gebbie	04 237 6514 027 677 0180	<a href="mailto:billnmary@xtra.co.nz">billnmary@xtra.co.nz</a>
Secretary and Immediate Past President	Kay Phillips	0279758569	<a href="mailto:46nanakay@gmail.com">46nanakay@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Gill Knox	04 233 8863	<a href="mailto:Keith.gillknox@xtra.co.nz">Keith.gillknox@xtra.co.nz</a>
Interest Groups Manager	Michael Lynch	022 606 8066	<a href="mailto:m.lynch@xtra.co.nz">m.lynch@xtra.co.nz</a>
Venue /Catering Manager	Marcia Forsman	021406570	<a href="mailto:marcia@venture.co.nz">marcia@venture.co.nz</a>
A-V / Website Manager	Colin Brown	028 413 2372	<a href="mailto:baykiwi@gmail.com">baykiwi@gmail.com</a>
Speaker Programme	Jo Thomson	04 233 9389	<a href="mailto:eskdale148@xtra.co.nz">eskdale148@xtra.co.nz</a>
Bank Liaison	Pat Wilson	0274488254	<a href="mailto:patgar.wils@gmail.com">patgar.wils@gmail.com</a>
Name Labels	Colin Russell	0272473399	<a href="mailto:colinsue@xtra.co.nz">colinsue@xtra.co.nz</a>
Committee	Julie Kropp	04 233 1066	<a href="mailto:sweet_lute@yahoo.com">sweet_lute@yahoo.com</a>

Please join other U3A members on  
Thursday 16 May to hear a great  
speaker, matters of interest to all  
Porirua U3A members.

Kay Phillips  
Porirua U3A Inc

#### **DRAFT PORIRUA U3A HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY FOR CONSULTATION WITH MEMBERS**

Porirua U3A recognises its obligation to keep members safe when they are taking part in our activities. The following guidelines are designed to meet that objective.

Driving members to or from U3A activities: All drivers should hold a full current licence and their vehicle must hold a current WOF and registration. They should drive with care and consideration for their passengers.

Hosting meetings or other activities at your home Members hosting meetings or other U3A activities must ensure access to their home is safe and should mitigate hazards in their homes as far as possible. Members may decline to host visitors whose attendance may be unsafe for themselves, the host or others. Examples of such situations are where a visiting member may pass on an illness to others, or where that member has a physical limitation which poses a safety risk to themselves or others. Hosts must make sure visiting members know how to leave their home in an emergency.

U3A activities at a church, hall or other venue: the organiser must advise all members of the health and safety requirements pertaining to the venue. The organiser must advise all members of the health and safety requirements pertaining to the venue.