U3A Meadowbank

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President: John Goodman Secretary Vivianne Child

www.u3ameadowbank.nz

NEWSLETTER – JUNE / PIPIRI 2025

Greetings from the President

By the time you are reading this, or not, it will be June. Soon, it will be winter, and shortly after that the year will be half gone. There are probably only a hundred and something shopping days until Christmas. Certainly, my year as President is halfway through. May has been, in general, a warm and pleasant month. I am somewhat disturbed by the daffodil flowers in my garden, either they are confused or I am. I assume that they responded to the rain after the prolonged dry spell, unsure whether it would ever rain again, which suggests that we are changing from four seasons to two, a dry season and a wet one. Perhaps two and a half.

At our May meeting, back to a more usual mid-month date, Peter Lester told us a lot about the latest America's Cup event in Barcelona last year. He spoke easily for his allotted time, and I am sure could have spoken for much longer. He explained the differences between the different boats and why some things worked and some didn't. I wondered at the time why Brittania seemed to have a keel but had no idea that it was to do with reducing the amount of turbulent air between the boat and the water. Who would had thought that the boats had electronically managed preset configurations? It was a fascinating talk to those who followed the America's Cup at all. Possibly not so much for those who didn't, but that's true of all subjects. Peter's enthusiasm and knowledge were infectious.

Mini speakers were Carol Cowan from Modern American Literature and Yvonne Kennedy from History. Both groups have vacancies, or a vacancy, and judging from the presentation they would be very worthwhile groups to join. Yvonne Kennedy has been convenor of History for about a hundred years, and is a very worthy recipient of the President's Cup for Outstanding Service. Thank you, Carol and Yvonne, and well done. After Carol and Yvonne, Margaret Davidson introduced her new Food(y) group. Another group to consider!

Please remember the Winter Series in July. Before Covid, U3A Meadowbank usually held a Winter Series, and we would like to reestablish this tradition. However, we need your support to make this event a success and one to build on for following years. We really do not want to have to cancel this event.

Full details and booking information are on the official notice in this newsletter. Also in July, the U3A Auckland Network annual event will be held on Saturday 26th. Members of our group who have attended in previous years heartily recommend this event. Depending on numbers attending from Meadowbank, we will probably arrange carpooling. For more information see the notice, also in this newsletter.

Our June meeting will be on Monday 16th June. I look forward to seeing you all then.

John Goodman

Who's Who for Monday 16 JUNE 2025 meeting: 9.45 a.m. for a 10 a.m. start at St Chad's Church, 38 St Johns Road, St Johns 1072.

Greeters: Memoir Writing
Mini Speakers: Jeanette de Heer, U3A Meadowbank, with a presentation on her overseas adventures 1961 - 1962

Guest Speaker: Esther Haver

Topic: Restorative Justice

Who's Who for Monday 21 JULY 2025 meeting: 9.45 a.m. for a 10 a.m. start at St Chad's Church, 38 St Johns Road, St Johns 1072.

Greeters: Shared Reading 1
Mini Speakers: NZ History, Ev McGowan; Literature, Jocelyn Goodman

Guest Speaker: Tessa Duder, Author

Topic: Who was Sarah Mathew and why is she important in Auckland's history?

New Member

We are pleased to announce that Trish Webb has joined U3A Meadowbank. Welcome, Trish!

Whakataukī / Words of Wisdom:

'Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or our self-confidence.' – Robert Frost

The great aim of education is not knowledge but action.' – Herbert Spencer

'The illiterate of the future will not be the person who cannot read. It will be the person who does not know how to learn.' – Alvin Toffler

Notices:

U3A Meadowbank Winter Series 2025

Book now, and bring a friend, or two.

When: Wednesdays the 9th, 16th and 23rd July 2025, 1 – 3 pm

Place: St Chads Church, 38 St Johns Road, Meadowbank

Presenter: Dr Gay Williams

Topic: Artificial Intelligence

Cost: $50.00 for three sessions

Including: Afternoon tea

Topics include :

-The history of AI

-AI applications

-AI use in everyday life

-How AI could be used by U3a groups

-AI terminology and stories demonstrating the use of AI

-Safety and security when using AI

-Possible future uses of AI

-Resources

Bookings:

Book by paying $50.00 for each attendee to the U3A Meadowbank bank account Kiwibank account number 38-9014-0359752-00.

Enter “winter series” and your name as reference for the transaction.

u3a Auckland Network welcomes you to a day of celebration

Salvation Army Church, 18 Allright Place, Mt Wellington
Saturday 26 July 2025 - 9:30am (for 10:00am) to 2:30pm

Speakers:

Morning: Professor Allan Blackman
"A Quick Trip Around the Periodic Table."

Afternoon: Professor Lynette Tippett ONZM PhD DipClinPsych
"Reducing Dementia Risk: never too early, never too late."

Also included are four presentations by u3a Members and lunch - $45.00

Professor Allan Blackman

Chemistry is critical to our everyday lives and yet the vast majority of the population spends no time thinking about it or its vital role in our world. Professor Allan Blackman wants to correct that oversight through good science communication and chemistry education. “Chemistry is the reason we live as we do, and it will be chemists who will make the discoveries that will ensure the continuance of life on Earth as we know it. The more that everyone on the planet knows about chemistry, the better our chances of survival will be.”

Professor Lynette Tippett

During almost 30 years in the School of Psychology at the University of Auckland, she has provided training in neuropsychology to thousands of undergraduates, supervised more than 80 postgraduate students and played a major leadership role in the promotion of women and Māori at the University.

To learn more about the Event or to register go to **u3a.nz/event**

Kan tabs for kidney kids

The lid, cap and food & beverage cartons collection point at Chad's continues to be well utilised so we have decided to add to the collection point with a collection for beer tabs, squashed aluminum wine bottle lids and any other aluminum beverage tops.

By putting your 'Kan Tabs' in these specially marked cans, you are helping to make a huge difference in the life of a child. The little things that might make a Kidney Kid's bad day just a little better can happen because you have taken the time to save a 'Kan Tab'. You can read more about the Kan Tab initiative here.

If you change your personal details, OR LEARN OF THE BEREAVEMENT OF A U3A MEMBER, please email the change to u3ameadmemb@gmail.com. Please include YOUR full name, physical address, phone number and email address.

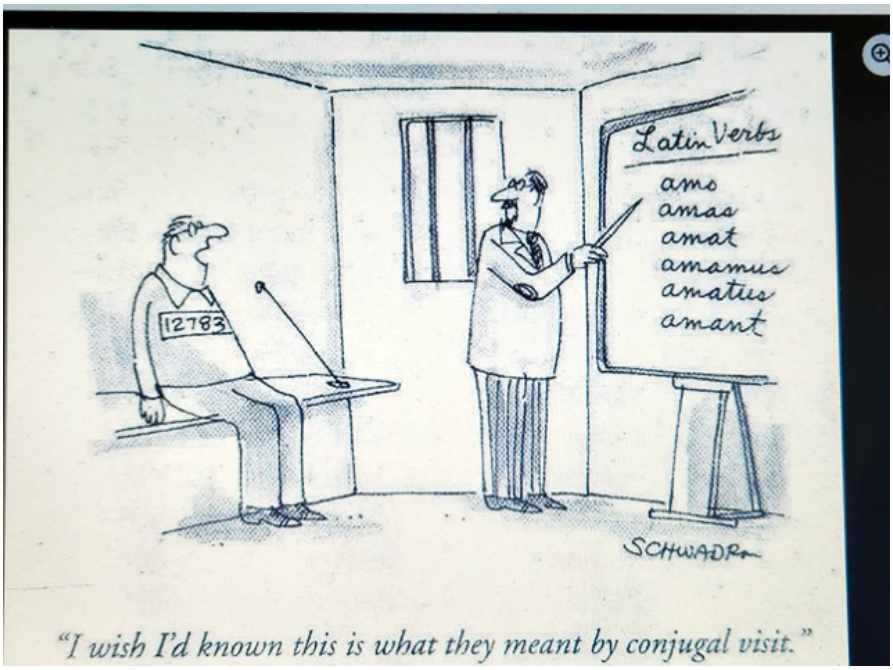
TO CONTACT COMMITTEE MEMBERS please use the correct gmail addresses below:

Secretary: u3ameadowbank@gmail.com	Membership Coordinator: u3ameadmemb@gmail.com
Treasurer: u3ameadtrea@gmail.com	Newsletter Coordinator: u3ameadnews@gmail.com
President: u3ameadpres@gmail.com	Groups Coordinator: u3ameadconv@gmail.com

Next Monthly Meeting: Monday 16 June at 10 am at St Chad's

Don't forget to send in your U3A news to include in the next newsletter. We rely on your contributions.
Deadline for the JULY 2025 newsletter items is THURSDAY 26 JUNE 2025. Expect receipt confirmation.

Something Amusing



"I wish I'd known this is what they meant by conjugal visit."