



U3A Tawa Incorporated

ON COURSE Newsletter

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HALF YEAR MEETING

When: Thursday 13 June 2019 from 12 Noon **Where:** Tawa Bowling Club, Davies St. Tawa.

Members are invited to bring along the usual tasty finger food for lunch (with a general preference for savoury over sweet). Prospective members and visitors are most welcome.

Programme: 12 Noon - Lunch. 12:45pm - Chairman Michael Holland and others will speak about current U3A issues. 1pm - Introduction of several new U3A courses for the second half of 2019 by those leading them. If members have any issues they would like to raise, this is a good opportunity to do so.

NOTE: The Elder Abuse session that was scheduled for 13 June has been cancelled.

The HAPPIEST UKELELEIST



The Ukulele group is going great guns. Leader Margaret Stenhouse is extremely happy with the way the group has prospered since its inception. Her infectious Scottish grin tells it all as she warns the strummers to watch that B Flat chord (one that has ruined many a concert career if poorly rendered).

The group is to perform and lead the singing in Tawa Union Church on Sunday 26 May at 9.30 am. Tawa Library has been ringing to the tune of *The Old Rugged Cross*, *What a Friend we have in Jesus* and *the Lord's Prayer* (sung a la Kumbaya) and many happy Tawa folk come in and watch. Don't just watch – grab a uke and join in!

GENERATING NEW MEMBERS

Membership numbers are falling slightly (for one reason or another). We want to work through the following likely member outlets using an informative U3A poster and pamphlet printed at low cost:

- Local doctors in Tawa, Johnsonville, Titahi Bay and Newlands.
- Work and Income offices
- Retirement Villages
- Tawa Community centre
- Tawa Library

We have revised the current U3A brochure and are designing a small poster that could be displayed in their waiting areas; doctors could also have them in their surgery drawers to hand out to patients who might benefit from a wider social circle in their lives.

The broad tongue-in-cheek message to GPs would be that U3A is the perfect "green prescription" to give to patients (instead of more drugs). The Work and Income people could respond well to the suggestion that retirees ought to find ways of filling in their new unwonted 'non-working' time. Retirement villages and homes ditto.

U3A POST BOX NOW CANCELLED

We no longer run a post box. If you want to contact us in writing please use the white box in the Tawa Library.

SHARED SEMINAR SERIES

Mana and Tawa U3As will be joining forces in the Second Semester to present a series of five lectures on the first Tuesdays of July, August, September, October, and November. Some venues will be in Plimmerton and some in Tawa. Details are still being finalised but the following topics will be offered:

Less Mess

A timely session on de-cluttering as many of us down-size.

Electric Vehicles

Expert, Sigurd Magnusson, gives advice on what to look for when buying an EV.

Pharmacies as your First Provider

All the services available to you at the Pharmacy, rather than having to see a Doctor or Nurse.

The Proposed Porirua Outdoor Recreation Park

An insight into what is being planned

Islands of Despair

Reverend Derek Lightbourne has undertaken several expeditions to the Southern Ocean. In this talk he'll cover mainly shipwrecks, castaways and would-be settlements.

For more information watch for updates on the website, or contact:

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VISIT TO PARLIAMENT

On a recent Thursday our little group of 12 assembled on Tawa Station (and Redwood and Takapu) to catch the train to Wellington equipped with our trusty Goldcards.

A short walk on a brilliantly sunny day took us to Parliament grounds where we were greeted by the armed policeman and a Security gentleman. We were ushered inside ready to go through security and then ushered outside again. We were to wait for the "Education" person who would address us before we entered. That gave us time for the regulation photograph.

Once inside it was just like going through security at the airport. Once that was over we were relieved of our bags and coats (and cameras!) and followed our very knowledgeable Tour Guide, Ewan.

There were several areas we were not given access to: the function room in the Beehive; the government offices; the debating chamber (though we were invited

to return at 2pm to sit in the public gallery for Question Time).



Ewan described the history behind our system of government filling in many of the gaps in knowledge that most of us have. Several of the group had done a tour before but the consensus was that this one was much better. So we walked through the atrium of the central building passing by the Grand Hall (originally it housed several billiard tables!) and the original Upper House where the Queen or her representative presides over the opening of parliament. Then through to the Provincial Chambers now used as the Parliamentary Library. This is a magnificent building and was arguably the highlight of the tour.



Disclaimer: This newsletter is created for the interest of U3A Tawa members only. The writer and the executive make every effort to ensure that the information it contains is correct but take no responsibility for any inadvertent errors that might appear.