



Incorporated

learn, laugh, live

Newsletter - August 2026

The August Committee Meeting

At the Committee Meeting on the 25th of August, it was reported that there are now 212 members including 4 new members that were approved at the Meeting.

Barbara Woods will be stepping down from the role of Course Co-ordinator at the end of this year, so the Committee is seeking a replacement. However she will do the necessary preparation for next year before then, and it would be particularly helpful for a new person to have a period of “parallel working” with Barbara. Please contact Barbara Woods at email pandbwoods1@outlook.com for further information

Regarding the Website, the new site has been tested by Ray Walker and has a different structure from the old one. The changeover is planned for August 31st and is expected to take two days. No problems are expected during the “down” period. The new structure uses members’ email addresses as a unique key, and this may be a problem when two members (e.g. husband and wife) have the same email address. This issue is yet to be addressed.

Tawa Rotary are leading a project to improve the Welcome signs by the roadside at each end of Tawa. This will need the co-operation of other community-based bodies with signage. The Committee agreed that new signs for Tawa U3A will use the updated logo as on all our recent publicity. Tim Davin will get quotes from a sign maker.

Regarding the use of photos on the Website there is now a relevant photo for each course. It was agreed that we would avoid using photos in which members can be readily identified. Photos should preferably be used only for a limited time.

Regarding contacting members who don’t have e-mails, it was agreed that these would be distributed by hand by members of the Committee.

Free Home Fire Safety Visits

As was recently advised to members, Fire and Emergency New Zealand provide **free** Home Fire Safety Visits?



A trained fire fighter or Risk Reduction Advisor can visit your home, help identify fire risks, and check that your smoke alarms are working correctly. You may be eligible for a free smoke alarm if you have none. They will develop a simple escape plan tailored to your household. If you would like a free Home Safety

visit email

FENZWellington@fireandemergency.nz

What's Coming Up

Its Election Year

This group has had some great speakers, and the next one is Philippa Howard-Chapman on the **16th of September** at 1:30 pm on the issues around housing. Philippa is a Distinguished Professor from the University of Otago and has been doing healthy housing research over more than 40 years. There will be a focus on the affordability of renting or buying a healthy house

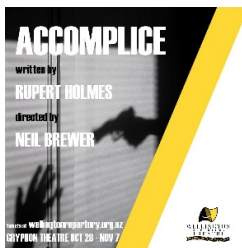
On the **21st of October** at 1:30 pm the speaker will be Adrian Macey, a former Ambassador in Tokelau, Bangkok and France talking to us about Foreign Affairs, the Pacific Islands and issues relating to climate change in the Pacific, and international negotiations. The Co-ordinator is Marian Hobbs email marian.hobbs@gmail.com

Environmental Discussion Group

At the next meeting of this Group on the **16th of September** at 10 am the subject will be Reforestation. At this session you will find out what this means and why it so important. The Co-ordinator is Ray Walker email ray.walker@hotmail.co.nz

Theatre Visits

The Theatre Visits Group are doing well and there are 14 people booked for the “Social Climbers” play by Roger Hall play at The Gryphon Theatre on the **27th of September**. So, this is well subscribed.



Their next show is the “Accomplice” at the Wellington Repertory Theatre on at 3pm Sunday the **1st of November**. This is a fiendishly clever thriller full of twists, deception, and dark humour.

When a mysterious crime unfolds, no one is quite who they seem. If you want to join the Theatre Visits Group, contact Clare Smith email smith_c@actrix.co.nz

Spring Sprites – the Botanic Gardens

We have received an invitation from the Shakespeare Globe Centre NZ to go for a stroll through the Wellington Botanic Gardens surrounded by the wonders of Shakespeare on Sunday **20th of September** from 10am – 3pm.

Some of Shakespeare’s most sprightly characters will be brought back to life. Enjoy seeing the wandering Puck’s, fluttering fairies and odd Bottom and listen to their familiar quips and quotes from Shakespeare’s works. For half an hour from 11.30am and 2.30pm, the characters combine at the Joy Fountain by the Glenmore Street entrance to present ‘exploded’ versions of their quotes into vignettes of his favourite plays.

This is not being organised as such by the Theatre Group, but by all means organise yourself with other U3A members and friends

The Ukulele Group

The Ukulele Group Meets every fortnight on Friday at Tawa Community Centre at 1.00 pm to 2.30 pm. This group is going well – and is an opportunity to do something different. All levels are welcome. including singer's guitars etc. They play old favourites and have music available to print out. Don't be shy – they give guidance on chord practice. A Koha is paid for use of the room.

The next meeting is on the **4th of September** and they meet every fortnight. The Co-ordinators are Anne Haddon and Malcolm Haddon and their email is amhaddon@gmail.com

The Establishment of the Modern State of Israel

Israel was created by the United Nations in the late 1940s. Its very existence has been contested by some other countries. These three sessions are coming up soon on 3 consecutive Thursdays –the **10th, the 17th and the 24th of September** at 2 pm. The Co-ordinator is Dave Smith email dogsnake33@gmail.com

Travel adventures

Each month a member shares a 'slide show' of their holiday. Coming on the **11th of September** is a talk by Kevin Clark on his trip to Namibia and on the **9th of October** there will be a talk by Mandy Edmunds on her trip to China.

The Co-ordinators are Carole Naylor - email carole46naylor@gmail.com and Geoff Marshall- email gmarsh360@gmail.com

Piano Recital

In September Jancis and Chris will present another recital of piano music. This will consist of solos, duets and works for two pianos. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the Recital. The date is Tuesday **15th of September** at 10:00 am and will be held at the Member's home. The Co-ordinator is Jancis Potter – email jancispotter@gmail.com

Health Issues

The speaker at the meeting on **the 6th of October** at 10:30 am will be Tim Stewart from the Johnsonville Podiatry Clinic. This should be of interest to us all. The Co-ordinators are Gillian George email gillian.george3a@gmail.com and Sally Horan email horanps@xtra.co.nz

Porirua U3A

Bill Gebbie – the President of Porirua U3A has become aware of an interest among the Porirua members in forming a Poetry Group. He invites Tawa members to contact him if they wish to join a group, to read and talk about poetry together.

Don't forget to have a look at what other things Porirua U3A are up to. Their website is www.porirua3a.org.nz or feel free to contact Bill Gebbie at porirua3a@gmail.com

Finally, don't forget to regularly check the improved U3A Website for the latest news and updates at www.u3atawa.org.nz

Tim Davin

Publicity - Tawa U3A Committee