

May 2025

Remuera, Auckland, New Zealand

Next Meeting:

Monday 12th May 2025 at 10am

Venue:

St Chads Church, 38 St Johns Road, Remuera

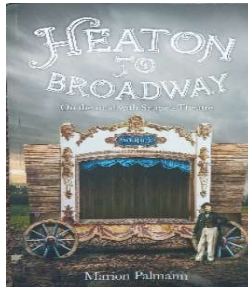
Principal Speaker:

Marama Royal, MNZM, JP and Chair Ngāti Whātua o Ōrākei Trust.

“Our History, Our Narrative, Our Story.”

Mini Talk:

“Portable Theatres of Victorian Britain,” by **Jackie Humphrey** from the Genealogy Study Group. She will tell us some of the amazing discoveries she recently made about the lives of her theatrical ancestors, much of it revealed in this book published by her previously unknown cousin.



Meeting Tasks:

Greeters

Travel and Walking groups

Morning tea

Arts, Artists, Architecture and Antiques



Marama Royal MNZM, JP has been a Director of Ngati Whatua Orakei Trust since 2010 and served as Chair since December 2017. The Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Trust is the governing entity, whose purpose is to receive, administer and protect the Trust's assets to ensure the cultural, social and commercial development of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei for the benefit of its members.

Mārama holds several directorships and chair roles across Tamaki and Aotearoa and has recently been appointed as Pro Chancellor at AUT. In addition, her current voluntary roles within the community include serving as a Justice of the Peace and as an Independent Marriage Celebrant.

Her fields of expertise include extensive experience in strategic planning, relationship management, leadership, governance, and organisational change. For Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, as the tangata whenua of Central Tāmaki, climate change and sustainability of our environment are top priorities. The protection and restoration of our whenua and moana are key to the future. Marama is passionate about achieving positive outcomes for whānau, especially our kaumatua and is a servant of her people.

Hapaitia te ara tika pumau ai te rangatiratanga mo nga uri whakatipu: Foster the pathway of knowledge to strength, independence and growth for future generations, especially the tamariki and mokopuna, our leaders of tomorrow

“If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change.” —Wayne Dyer.

President's Message



Greetings to all u3a members

Welcome back to those lucky enough to have enjoyed the Easter break. Perhaps you've had family members and grandchildren to stay during the holidays. Hopefully you've recovered from the onslaught of too much chocolate!

Since our last meeting, Auckland has enjoyed some very changeable weather. We enjoyed glorious warmth of an Indian summer, followed by tropical cyclone Tam which brought stormy conditions before Easter. Now it seems as though we are firmly into autumn, notorious for wind and rain. I hope that adverse conditions over the next few months won't put you off attending our meetings and study groups. I find it most heartening at the monthly meeting to see a good attendance with new members and visitors keen to hear what our speakers have to say. Our vice president Laurence has done a great job finding speakers of high calibre to present talks on a wide range of subjects. We're so looking forward to our May speaker, Marama Royal, of Ngāti Whātua o Ōrākei Trust, on the early history of Auckland.

As mentioned last month, a highlight not to be missed is the u3a Network event on 26th July. This is a chance to learn more about u3a and what other clubs do. The speakers this year are Professor Allan Blackman on a "Quick Trip around the Periodic Table" and in the afternoon Professor Lynette Tippet on "Reducing Dementia Risk: never too early, never too late". There're also four short presentations from various club members. I've attended these events on a couple of occasions and have found them very stimulating and heartily endorse and recommend them to you.

Please click here to register for the Network event

<https://www.u3a.nz/aucklandhome>

Please continue to encourage friends to join us at Remuera u3a. All clubs need new members to thrive and carry on into the future and to nourish we seniors who want to keep our "grey matter" alive, stimulated and ready to cope with life ahead.

Alison Ross

The u3a Network Committee invites applications for mini speakers for the Network event in July'25

Here is what you need to do: -

- prepare a 12-minute presentation using PowerPoint
- practise, practise and practise! Know your material thoroughly!
- ensure that you can use a microphone successfully
- present your talk to your u3a group
- if you are nominated by your group to be a mini speaker, the next step is to present your talk to the Network Committee via Zoom or Google Meet.

Should you wish to be considered or wish to nominate someone for this event, please contact Alison Ross, email ea.ross@xtra.co.nz

From the Director of Studies

In the survey of the involvement of our 138 members in our study groups, I found:

23 members have yet to benefit from belonging to a study group
42 contribute to one study group.
33 members belong to 2 study groups
22 are enjoying study with 3 groups
11 reap the rewards of attending 4 study groups
3 members fit 5 study group meetings into each month.
3 members support 6 groups.
1 member enjoys study so much he belongs to 7 groups.

Wallis Walker

Group Reports

Foodies

Our Foodies Group currently consists of thirteen members who meet on the third Thursday of the month. Our aim is to learn more about cooking, nutrition, utensils etc. In February we put together a monthly calendar for each member of the group to arrange a food-orientated meeting. We occasionally meet at a restaurant if the planned event cannot be arranged.

We often meet at a member's house. In the past we have met for morning tea to hear from a cookbook author. We have a "Test Kitchen" where we bring a luncheon dish that we have not cooked before and we meet annually for a Christmas dinner.

We have visited Sabato's, the Chelsea Sugar works and the catering division at AUT. Last year we spent a really interesting morning being educated by a Frenchman on the history of the Domain and the Winter Gardens, followed by lunch at the adjacent restaurant.

In March we met at Maison Vauron in Newmarket, to sample their fine wines and cheeses. It was described as very atmospheric; you could have been in a vineyard in France.



In April we attended a demonstration at Simon Gault's Kitchen at Mt Wellington and in May we will have our annual trip to Alison Ross' home at Waiheke, where we will meet with the local artisan

butcher. Other events we are looking at include a food movie or a DVD we can watch in a home, a Riverhead cruise, a demonstration on air fryers and possibly a Matariki luncheon, featuring traditional dishes. We will also hold our annual Test Kitchen in August.

We are a relaxed, friendly group, and would welcome your company.

Gill Macklin – Convenor Ph: 021 185 4887

New Zealand History Group

We meet at 2pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month in the theatre at the Meadowbank Retirement Village. Recent talks included:

- Sir James Clendon Henare Tangi.
- A History of the NZ Police.
- Moriori -Myth and Legend.
- The Life of Dame Kiri Te Kanawa.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, May 8th. New members are welcome.

Co-Convenors: Mark Wotton Ph: 09 528 3337 and Sue Johnstone Ph: 09 523 4980

Looking Back

Last month our main speaker was John Montgomery, emeritus professor at the Institute of Marine Science at the University of Auckland. He has recently published a photographic book on approaches to Auckland. “We see Auckland through separate lenses dependent on where we are: from sky to Sky Tower, from the oceans, from the east, from the west, from the Maunga.”



Looking at the night sky, he observed the track of Venus and other planetary neighbours. He showed a series of photographs showing the movement of sunrise from solstice to equinox.

New Zealand is a nation of islands in the middle of oceans. He depicted this with a chart looking out from Sky Tower at the next land masses in all directions.

The origins of the New Zealand islands began 200 million years ago as part of Gondwanaland. 25/27 million years ago the Pacific and Australasian plates collided forming the islands as we know them today with formation of mountain ranges and volcanoes. The landscape has been sculptured by water and life.

Our mini “speaker” was the Poetry Group who demonstrated Performance Poetry. Several members read poems some of which were their own work. Spoken word is the art of performance poetry. Hearing poetry might be quite different to reading the words. Some of the poems read were limericks, Tennyson’s “The Eagle”, “Death” by Roger Mc Gough and two members of the group read their own poems.

Notice Board

Meeting Tasks for June

Greeters	AAAA
Morning tea	SARUS
Mini Talk	Classic Movies
Newsletter Group reports	Philosophy and earth Science

Meeting Tasks for July

Greeters	Current Affairs
Morning tea	Classic Movies
Mini Talk	Philosophy
Newsletter Group reports	AAAA and Genealogy

Next Month's Speaker

9th June at 10am. Professor **Kerry Gibson**, "Youth Mental Health in New Zealand."

Future Speakers

14th July at 10am. **J.R. Rowland**, "Supporting Aotearoa New Zealand's transition to a low-carbon and sustainable future."

11th August at 10am. **Wendy Hampton**, "Don't Leave a Mess; Leave a Legacy."

8th September at 10am. **Michele Leggott**, New Zealand Poet Laureate 2007 – 2009. Emeritus Professor of English, University of Auckland. Leggott was awarded a Blind Achievers Award by the Foundation for the Blind in 1999.

Key Contacts

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Email Address

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Website

<https://remuerau3a.org.nz/>

Study Groups

<https://remuerau3a.org.nz/study-groups/>



u3a Remuera meets at St Chads Church, Meadowbank on 2nd Monday of the month at 10am. u3a provides a place for those in the 3rd stage of their life journey, to come together in their local community, a chance to socialise, a chance to participate in interest groups, to learn something new and keep the mind active.

"Success is stumbling from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm." —Winston Churchill
