

July 2026

Remuera, Auckland, New Zealand

Next Meeting:	Monday 13th July 2026 at 10am
Venue:	St Chads Church, 38 St Johns Road, Remuera
Principal Speaker:	Kate Russell, "Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking in South East Asia and the Pacific."
Mini Speaker:	Wallis Walker, Famous and Infamous Study Group. "It is not only people who are famous or Infamous. Manukau Harbour, nature's wonderland, history, disasters and attempts at restoration."
Next Month's Speaker:	Dr Maree Todd, "Ageing Well: Genes, environment, lifestyle and luck."
Meeting Tasks:	Greeters: Travel and Walking groups Morning Tea: AAAA

Kate will discuss the growing issues of modern slavery and human trafficking, and the response by Hagar to these issues. She will also discuss the growing problems with this within NZ



Kate Russell ONZM, FFIA has a thirty-year history in the NGO sector and has led several high-profile NZ Charities, spending time on the Boards of several others. A career Fundraiser and Community Development expert, Kate has spent time on several government advisory boards and as a business mentor through Business Mentors NZ.

Recognised in the 2016 New Year's Honours with an ONZM for services to governance and health, Kate is also a Fellow of the Fundraising Institute of Australasia

Modern slavery is an umbrella term, which encompasses several types of exploitation, including forced labour, human trafficking and forced marriage. The 2023 Global Slavery Index estimates that on any given day in 2021, there were 8,000 individuals living in modern slavery in New Zealand. This equates to a prevalence of 1.6 people in modern slavery for every thousand people in the country. This places New Zealand among the countries with the lowest prevalence both in the region (25 out of 27) and globally (148 out of 160). Despite comparatively low prevalence, several forms of modern slavery are reported in New Zealand, including forced labour, forced sexual exploitation of adults, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and forced marriage.

Reference: "Walk Free", which is an international human rights group focused on the eradication of modern slavery, in all its forms, in our lifetime.

"When we oppress others, we end up oppressing ourselves. All of our humanity is dependent upon recognising the humanity in others." Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

President's Message

Greetings to all u3a members

Hush. For me this is the most appealing word in the English language. It invokes an image of a parent soothing their overtired child with a lullaby. More than that, it is a beautiful sound. A sound that precisely represents its meaning. If you did not know English, you could probably guess what it means.



It adds enchantment to a scene. "I like the evening in India, the one magic moment when the sun balances on the rim of the world, and the **hush** descends." (James Cameron). **Hush! Hush!** Whisper who dares! Christopher Robin is saying his prayers." **Hush** seems a much better way to start our monthly meetings than "Oi! Be quiet you lot!"

To my surprise hush does not appear in people's lists of the ten most beautiful words in English, or even in lists of 100. You will find ethereal, luminous, euphoria, gossamer, idyllic, mellifluous, serenity and yes, lullaby. Serendipity heads most lists. I wonder why? All these words sound most pleasant, and they have inspiring meanings. While other words may sound pleasant but have decidedly unpleasant meanings—obsequious, miasma, putrescent. English is never straightforward!

Laurence Melton

u3a REMUERA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

u3a Remuera welcomes Faye Simcock as a new member this month. We hope you will explore one or more of the study groups and find your experience fulfilling as well as an opportunity to meet new friends.

FINAL CALL

u3a Auckland Network Event - Celebrating u3a in Action 2026

Salvation Army Church, 18 Allright Place, Mt Wellington, Saturday 25 July 2026 - 9:30am to 2:30pm

Morning: [Dame Wendy Pye](#) - "Teaching the World to Read."

Afternoon: [Shamubeel Eaquib](#) - "A Society Worth Having."

Also included are four presentations by u3a Members. Registration fee - \$50.00 includes lunch.

To register go to: <https://www.u3a.nz/event> **Only a few places remain.**

Group Reports

Philosophy Group

Our Philosophy Group currently consists of fifteen members and we meet at 2pm on the fourth Monday of each month at the Edmund Hillary Retirement Village. Members have prepared presentations on topics of current interest including racism, censorship, morality, the tyranny of merit, gender, and AI, with "good governance" the topic for August. There have been considerable email communications between members before and after meetings to raise particular matters of interest or contention---always good natured.

Dr Emily Parke, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Auckland University, has been invited to lead the July session on the topic of the philosophy of science, and in September, Professor John Bishop will lead a session on religious naturalism—the idea of religious belief that does not require the existence of a supernatural being and regards Nature as an object of religious concern. In December we will organize a lunch for members and their partners which may be preceded by a visit to a place of interest—in the past we have visited a Buddhist Temple and a Hindu Temple. New members are welcome.

Peter Rowe, Convenor, peter.rowe2000@gmail.com

Walking Group

Our group continues to grow. We are not a tramping group. Rather, we mostly ramble and enjoy one another's company, typically walking for an hour before continuing our chats over coffee or tea. Some of our walks are circuits (e.g., Orakei Basin, Cornwall Park) while others are there-and-back adventures which allow our faster walkers to go ahead before turning back. Recent walks have included the Cornwall Park circuit around One Tree Hill, walks in both directions from Point England Reserve, and a walk along the Rotary Park walkway starting at the Pakuranga Yacht Club and walking towards Halfmoon Bay before returning to the yacht club. Cornwall Park is a favourite, allowing us to notice seasonal changes and enjoy the fabulous cafe there.

If the opportunity for a ramble and stimulating conversation tempts you, join us – 2nd and 4th Fridays each month at 9.30 am.

Convenor: Merryn Rose merryndennis@gmail.com

At our previous meeting.....

Olaf Diegal, Professor of Additive Manufacturing at the University of Auckland, was our main speaker. Additive manufacturing (often called 3D printing) is a process of creating three-dimensional objects by



building them layer by layer from a digital model. Unlike traditional subtractive manufacturing that carves away from a solid block, it adds material only where needed, resulting in less waste and enables complex geometric products to be manufactured.

3D printing is coming of age and is now becoming a rapid “manufacturing” technology that will have a great deal of influence on how we live in the future. It will have a profound impact on almost all manufactured products, and on how we do business.

He explained the process begins with a 3D computer-aided design (CAD) model, it then proceeds to using specialised software which translates the model into hundreds or thousands of thin, horizontal layers and then manufactures each layer by laying down, melting, or curing material one layer on top of the next until the physical part is complete. It is an expensive manufacturing process which is best suited to objects which are geometrical and complex shapes. For example, he showed a picture of unconventional artistic tapware.

This type of manufacturing process is highly efficient as it reduces lead times as well as waste, leading to lighter articles ideal for high end products where weight is a critical factor, such as aircraft and high-performance motor vehicles. It can be individualised for the manufacture of implants such as prosthetics, etc.

Previously, gyroid shapes were impossible to manufacture because of their complex mathematical structure. Today, thanks to 3D printing, it's now possible to create this mathematical shape, which has been used in the design of acoustic panels, bone implants and works of art. Olaf provided further examples, such as the manufacture of guitars, developing nano technology, designing habitats for future settlements on Mars made from on-site materials.

Future manufacturing will not be limited by traditional shapes. Bioprinting, i.e. printing tissue and organs from one's own stem cells, may be possible. Designing new foods for specialised diets, including meat. The trend is towards reducing the price of machines to manufacture products as well sourcing suitable new materials and better design tools for mass customisation of products.

However, the social and ethical issues of using 3D printing for some of these ideas are still to be explored. 3D printing is known to reduce waste and create more efficient production, however, at present, its greatest value is in testing ideas.

Brent Leslie from New Zealand History informed us of the Scow men. Scows were a common sight and unique to Auckland in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Scows were flat bottomed boats principally designed for shipping timber to Auckland. From 1841 to 1865 Auckland was the fast-growing capital city of New Zealand and needed materials for building. As there were no piers at that time, boats which could be drawn out of the water and refloated when the tide came in were required.



Scows were robust workhorses built to carry heavy cargo in shallow coastal or river waters where deep-draft vessels couldn't go. Being flat-bottomed, the Scows were unstable and not very seaworthy. They transported cattle, sheep, building materials and served the growing city until the 1920's when road and rail took over. The Ted Ashby commissioned, and operated by the Auckland Maritime Museum is the only Scow still seen in the Hauraki Gulf.

Notice Board

Future Speakers

10 th August 2026	Dr Maree Todd, "Ageing Well: Genes, Environment, Lifestyle and Luck."
14 th September 2026	Rob Harley, "Life's most amazing people."
12 th October 2026	Susanne Burton Thompson, "A Life Full of Surprises."
9 th November 2026	Shamubeel Eaqub, "Rebuilding New Zealand: From Fraying to Fairness,"

Meeting Tasks - August

Greeters	Famous and Infamous and Poetry
Morning Tea	Science Around Us
Newsletter Reports	Monday History and Poetry
Mini Talk	Walking Group

Key Contacts

President	Laurence Melton	l.melton@auckland.ac.nz
Vice President	Karen Yates	karenay@xtra.co.nz
Director of Studies	Wallis Walker	wallis.walker@xtra.co.nz
Almoner	Alison Ross	ea.ross@xtra.co.nz
Membership Sec.	Lynn Bartram	lynnbartram3@gmail.com
Treasurer	Lakshman Abeynaike	Lakshman.a@xtra.co.nz

Email Address

u3aRemuera@gmail.com

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.