

U3A JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER



The famous Pink and white Terraces were destroyed in the Mount Tarawera eruption of 10 June 1886...

...125 years and half a tonne of paint later...

...they came alive on the terraces of the Rotorua International Stadium..



Rotorua artist **Marc Spijkerbosch** was commissioned by the Rotorua District Council to give a fresh look to the venue before the city hosted Rugby World Cup games that September (2011).



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COMMUNITY FORUM

Date and Time: Wednesday, June 19th. Doors open at 9:30 am

Venue: Bridge Club Rms, Neil Hunt Park, Tarawera Rd, Lynmore

Welcome to our early-winter get-together.

Enjoy tea, coffee and munchies (no charge!)

Want to know more? Call 027 310 8348

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Guest Speaker: **Marc Spijkerbosch**
Rotorua Lakes Council's
Community Arts Advisor.



Illusion murals. 3D pavement art; Community & Civic projects. Canvas. Trompe l'oeil. Born in Rotorua in 1967, Marc has done it all. He first made his mark over thirty years ago by convincing the Council the Tarawera Road reservoir desperately needed a paint job. So he gave it one. Art in public places or on utilities wasn't 'a thing' back then. But Marc persisted.

In the years since those bland days, art and sculpture installations have mushroomed in this city, its suburbs and environs. For the past decade it's Marc who's overseen much of its creation and placement. The Government Gardens sculpture trail's is a case in point. It was on his recommendation the Council adopted a policy, common in the USA, that sees one per cent of a project's total cost levied, and earmarked to enhance infrastructure.



The water tower mural kick-started his career as a public spaces artist. After reading a *Herald* article, Len Brookes from Keep Rotorua Beautiful invited him to paint the power boxes around town. He painted 27 boxes with the district's 27 lakes on them.

An invitation from Eru Potaka-Dewes to paint a mural at an ashram near Bangalore, India saw him create a fibreglass waterfall then paint a 3D bush scene complete with cascading water (from a pump he installed himself). The whole experience had a profound spiritual impact on Marc which remains to this day.

*"It's not a good day unless something has been created."
Marc Spijkerbosch*

Thanks to Jill Nicholas for this information. You can read her **In Profile** article on Marc at <https://www.inprofile.co.nz/inprofile/marc-spijkerbosch>





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YOUR COMMITTEE

PETER WOOD: <i>PRESIDENT</i>	07 345 5099
MELVYN BOWEN: <i>VICE-PRESIDENT</i>	07 345 3221
LIZ LOVE: <i>SECRETARY</i>	07 332 5608
ANN SULLIVAN: <i>TREASURER</i>	07 348 1991
PAUL GELLATLY	027 4987 124
BRIAN GILLESPIE: <i>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</i>	027 310 8348
JIM HARTWIG	021 027 47976
JILL NICHOLAS	027 424 3091
JOHN TURNER	07 345 6955

Committee Notes:

- ♥ A note of concern about the health of **Peter** and **Joan Wood**. Joan remains in hospital while Peter comes right at home. Our thoughts are with this hard-working couple who have done so much for U3A Rotorua.
- ♥ Actually, **Peter** and **Ann Sullivan** are resigning from the U3A committee in August at the AGM. More about this in the next Newsletter.
- ♥ Secretary **Liz** spoke to the **Science Group** about deer farming which might be thought of as dear farming.

Each newsletter, we will profile a committee member.



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Wieland (Jim) Hartvig

U3A Committee member Wieland describes himself as a Ngati Berliner to start things with. He was indeed born in that troubled city during WWII and grew up in Berlin.

His working life began with a three-year apprenticeship in the Insurance industry. He was a claims adjuster for a while, didn't like it and freewheeled around the world for five or so years before coming back to Berlin to study IT. He left Berlin in 1972 and arrived -- after travelling through the Americas -- in NZ in 1973.

Establishing himself in Tokoroa,, Wieland worked for Forest Products, Kinleith. He was able to work with a similar computer mainframe and use the same computer language as he had in Berlin.

After a good twenty years in the South Waikato, Wieland came to Rotorua in '93 establishing himself on Seddon St where he still lives today. The School of Business and Computing (Waiariki) was his work home in the nineties. U3A identities such as Ann Sullivan and Judy Somerville were work companions. But it was not all Rotorua. There were 9 years spent in Hong Kong, 2001 to 2010. The Korean International School was his workplace and he was involved with teaching IT and English upskilling.

Returning from Hong Kong in 2010, he met his wife-to-be, Chintana, at the airport, as you do. Chintana was born in Bangkok but spent most of her life in Japan. She works as an on-call Thai/Japanese Interpreter at Rotorua Hospital.

Wieland has been active on the U3A Committee, also active with Grey Power, and pulls a few strings with SeniorNet.



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A centre of interest for him is his involvement with small sailing craft as he has sailed local lakes and Pacific destinations such as Tonga, etc. Chintana, however, doesn't share the same affinity with waves, and he now concentrates more on another favourite pursuit, Photography. He had his first camera at 12 years old and is up with the play. He knows his onions. He also convenes a U3A Current Affairs Group and is member of the Photography and Cities groups.

BG

For those of you with a literary or historical bent, **Jim** has also sent this link to *Papers Past*, a digitised collection of NZ and Pacific writings:
<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>

Papers Past is divided into five sections:

- 1 – **Newspapers:** Digitised NZ and Pacific newspapers from the 19th and 20th centuries.
- 2 - **Magazines and Journals:** Digitised NZ journal publications. Each magazine or journal has its own page containing information about the publication, including the date range that is available online.
- 3 - **Letters and Diaries:** Digitised full-text manuscripts. Currently this section only contains the papers of Sir Donald McLean.
- 4 - **Parliamentary Papers:** Digitised reports from volumes of the Appendix to the Journals of the House of Representatives (AJHRs) and the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives.
- 5 – **Books:** A range of New Zealand books that were digitised as part of two pilots in 2012 and 2015. It also contains nineteenth century te reo Māori material listed in the bibliography Books in Māori/Ngā Tānga Reo Māori.



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GROUP REPORT: WRITING GROUP (2)

This group has been under the direction of [Gordon White](#) since the passing of [Pauleen Wilkinson](#) last year. Gordon could be seen as your average post-war Kiwi male but his exploits have a definitive stamp to them, as he has taken on challenges and turned things on their heads.

Each speaker brings a different style and has a different emphasis sometimes loosely or tightly based on memories of one's family. [Peter](#) has taken us to the Phillippines and Rarotonga, and from Lancashire to Auckland. Volcanoes have dictated his career efforts since the sixties. A scientist/geologist with remarkable empathy with seemingly barren landscapes.

[Gordon](#) is a member of the Ulysses Motorcycle Club, has been overland to most places on our highways . [Jenny](#), gone to Tauranga, has recollections of Christchurch in the 40s, 50s and 60s and growing up in that precise city of the South. [Sally](#), with excellent diction, tells of 50s Auckland when the name Nathan rang strongly in the halls of corporate power. [Dane](#) came from Southern Rhodesia via South Africa to Rotorua with her dentist husband, Malcolm. The name Zimbabwe is an intrusion to her and others . [Ngaire](#) tells of her depth of background in roller skating up to New Zealand administration. Walking through wartime London with her mother and sister, a very young [Ann B.](#) by them to ring the doorbell at 10 Downing St. The responding butler regarded her quizzically. [Helen](#) more recently has told us of Girl Guiding and the challenges that posed. Not really a Carry On Camping scenario.

As the Hugh Jackman character said in 'Australia' about an eleven year old aborigine boy who has taken off.. 'He needs to have; he will have a story to tell. ...' And everybody who comes to **Writing** does have a story to tell. It could be genealogy-centred or it could be of escapades forged in the turbulent, frolicsome times of youth as I relate, or it could be just engaging with everyday needs and developments. There are different approaches but often it rests with, who you are, where you're from and something about you which is relatable.

BG



In Māori culture, **Matariki** is the Pleiades star cluster and a celebration of its first rising in late June or early July. It marks the beginning of the new year in the Māori lunar calendar - a time for people to gather, to honour the dead, celebrate the present, and plan for the future. **Rotorua has a number of events celebrating Matariki this year.**

1. [ARONUI Drone Light Show](#)

When: 27 & 28 June, 8pm
Where: Rotorua Lakefront
Cost: FREE entry

2. [Rotorua Lakefront Night Market](#)

When: 27 & 28 June, from 5pm
Where: Rotorua Lakefront
Cost: FREE entry

3. [Te Puia Hautapu Ceremony](#)

When: 28 June, 4.30am
Where: Te Puia
Cost: \$5 per adult (NZ residents); FREE for children up to 16 years old
 Click [here](#) to book

4. [Te Puia Family Fun Day](#)

When: 28 June, 9am to 3pm
Where: Te Puia
Cost: \$5 per adult (NZ residents); FREE for children up to 16 years old
 Click [here](#) to book

5. [RailCruising Matariki Daytime Discovery](#)

When: 28-30 June, 9am, 11.30am, and 2pm
Cost: \$95 per adult; \$45 per child (senior and family rates available)
Phone to book: 0800 72 45 74

6. [RailCruising See the Stars: Matariki After-Dark Tour](#)

When: 28-30 June; 6pm, 8pm, and 10pm
Cost: \$120 per adult; \$45 per child (check the website for senior and family rates)
Phone to book: 0800 72 45 74



[Click on the links for further information.](#)



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ROTORUA U3A INTEREST GROUPS: Highlighting indicates that the group currently has vacancies (June,2024.) For more information, visit our website:

www.u3arotorua.com

Topic	Time	Contact
Art History	2 nd Monday 10.00am	Anne Hunt 3487680 anneanddonhunt@gmail.com
Book Reviews (1)	3 rd Mondays, 2.00pm	Jill Nicholas 027 4243091 jill.nicholas@gmail.com
Book Reviews (2)	4 th Mondays, 2.00pm	Jeanette Ogg 348 8501 mandj.ogg@gmail.com
Cities	1 st Wednesdays 1.00pm	Cate Frey 220853913 catefrey1@gmail.com
Cooking for One	Check with Annette Bogun.	Annette Bogun 345 8198
Current Events (1)	1 st Thursdays, 10.00am	Nan Miller 3455817
Current Events (2)	1 st Wednesdays, 10.00am	Annie Wells 027 459 5157
Current Events (3)	2 nd Tuesdays, 10.00am	Jim Hartwig 985 4146
DVD Movies	3 rd Thursdays, 2.00pm	Ann Sullivan 348 1991 annsullivan822@gmail.com
Films	1 st Mondays, 12.30pm	Judy Somerville 357 2292
History	2 nd & 4 th Fridays, 10.00am	Bob Christensen 020 4069 0982
Philosophy	4 th Thursdays, 1.30pm	Peter Wood 345 5099 stpeterwood@gmail.com
Photography	2 nd Tuesdays, 2.00pm Outings on 4 th Tuesdays	Dell Gee 021 050 2440 or 345 6557
Poetry	2 nd Thursdays, 2.00pm	Margaret Lett 343 9223 margaretlett@gmail.com
Ratbags	Check with Peter Wood	Peter Wood 345 5099
Science and Engineering	2 nd & 4 th Mondays, 9.30am	Mel Bowen 345 3221 mel.bowen@xtra.co.nz
Singing – The “Grey Warblers”	Twice monthly – time and venue notified by e-mail	Hilary Calman Hilary.calman@gmail.com
Spanish Conversation	1 st & 3 rd Fridays, 1.00pm	Joan Wood 345 5099
Visits	1 st Fridays, 1.30pm	Judy Somerville 357 2292
Wednesday Art Group	Every Wednesday, 1.15-3.00 pm	Mel Bowen 345 3221 mel.bowen@xtra.co.nz
Writing for Families (1)	1 st Fridays, 9.30am	Anne Stewart 345 9369 bastewart@xtra.co.nz
Writing for Families (2)	3 rd Mondays 10 am	Gordon White 273458634 poppagordie@gmail.com