



Supporting  
Lifelong Learning

Howick Inc.  
PO Box 39035 Howick 2145  
[www.howick.u3a.nz](http://www.howick.u3a.nz)  
Facebook: U3A Howick  
[howicknewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:howicknewsletter@gmail.com)  
April 2022



#### COMMITTEE 2021/2022

##### GERALDINE ROSE

*Acting President, Past-President/U3A network  
liaison/ten-minutes speakers.*

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**MARY KENNEDY** *Newsletter Editor*

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*Membership*

**ROSEMARY OVENS** *Almoner/Welcomer*

*(5343429)*

**Next General Meeting:**

**Monday 11 April**

**Howick Bowling Club**

**9.45 am (Note time change)**

**Speaker: Melinda Seal from Totara Hospice**

Due to rising costs, it may be necessary to increase our annual subscription to \$25.00. This will be reviewed after the AGM in May. Please do not pay your subs yet. We will let you know when it is time to pay.

**From the Acting President:**

Dear Howick U3a Members,

As you are aware, our next General Meeting is on **Monday 11th April, starting at 9.45 a.m. at the Howick Bowling Club.** While the peak of this outbreak is behind us in Auckland, prudence is the rule. At our Committee Meeting yesterday it was decided that masks must be worn at all times whilst in the function room. If this poses a problem for any member because of health issues, please feel free to contact me.

In keeping with existing policy this general meeting is only open to fully vaccinated people. Please have your vaccination pass available. Thank you for your understanding in this regard. Our Speaker Convenor, Dr. Colleen Rigby, has requested that out of respect to the Speaker, morning tea be served and consumed out on the Patio. As it is possible poor weather will prevail, this may need to be cancelled on the day.

As you see, we are making baby steps towards a return to normal life in the hopefully, very near future. Please take courage and come along to this meeting, and once again, enjoy the pleasure of reconnecting with your U3a friends. I welcome you all and look forward to seeing your friendly faces!

*Geraldine*



## March Speaker:

In his zoom lecture last month, Paul gave us an outline of the not-for-profit sector in New Zealand, how it is changing, and how it could be improved. The current issues worldwide, he believes, are hunger, homelessness, loneliness and lack of education. Sustainability and climate change are also important.

People's motivation for giving can be: to feel good about yourself (or perhaps to assuage the guilt of being privileged), to be part of a tribe, to solve a problem, or because you are asked. Both ethical investment and philanthropic giving help to shift wealth to those who need it. Typically, older people give more, as you would expect.

Paul questioned the usefulness of some of the "giving" that currently taking place. The "share if you care" phenomenon, where people shave their heads for cancer, or sleep under a bridge, for example, does not always translate into money, and the idea that "Charity begins at home" fails to acknowledge our place in a global system. Often, too, charities don't work as a group and don't effect systemic change. Also, ideas to improve sustainability, such as carbon credits, may be easy to quantify, but not a wholistic remedy.

Paul outlined a variety of new ways of giving that are becoming increasingly more popular. Blended finance, where social and business purposes combine (such as "eat-my-lunch" where people buy two lunches, one for themselves and one for a child in a low-decile school) venture philanthropy (support a cause) and "impact investing" are examples of philanthropic investment. New global frameworks offer goals and targets: for example: no poverty, zero hunger, gender-equality, clean energy, sustainable cities... Environmental, Social and Government groups increasingly look at policies in the light of those goals. New technology such as AI, start-ups centred around digital platforms, use of drones and installation of solar panels, can help developed and developing countries.

Finally, he talked about opportunities for the future. Currently, most non-profits are conservative, and not prepared to take risks. Often, they compete with each other for funding, and are too busy to stop and reflect on how effective they are. If they worked in systems, looking upstream for causes, connections and unintended consequences, and perhaps taking a blended approach between government and the private sector, true social change could occur. However, he ended with a cautionary quote from Courtney Martin.

"These problems... remain unsolved because they exist within complex interlocking systems that must be healed...over generations.

## April Speaker: Melinda Seal



Our speaker for April Melinda (Mel) Seal has been the Head of fundraising and Marketing for Totara Hospice for 10 years. Prior to that she was involved with a photography and videography company which led projects at international events like the Summer and Winter Olympics and the World Rugby Cup. She has also worked with

Dish magazine. In her role at Totara Hospice she has seen the charity grow into an integrated community charity supporting the South and South East Auckland region with specialist palliative care. She will be covering a short history of Totara Hospice, the work they do in the community and their Generation 3 Strategy for the future of hospice care in the community.

## From the Committee:

We are sad to tell you that Sheila Russell died on 11 March. Sheila joined Howick U3A in 2000. She was a very knowledgeable person, an articulate and entertaining speaker. She is remembered as a much-loved teacher at Cackle Bay school, where she taught for many years. Her husband, Jim, is a member of Howick U3A.

## Auckland U3A Network Report:

Great Progress has been made on this year's event 'Celebrating U3A in Action 2022'. This exciting event will be held on **Saturday 30th July, 9.30 am to 3 pm.**

The venue is Salvation Army Auckland Corps, 18 Allright Place, MT. WELLINGTON. Cost per member – \$40.00. Registration forms are currently being prepared and you will be informed through the Network when these are available.

We are extremely fortunate in acquiring two eminent speakers. The morning speaker is Sir Peter Gluckman, Scientist and Former Science Advisor to the NZ Prime Minister from 2009 – 2018; Director of 'Centre for Informed Futures'. The Title of his Address is 'The Challenges of Planning for the Future – What needs to Change?'

In the afternoon we have Dame Patsy Reddy (Former Governor General of NZ) being interviewed by Catherine Saunders, a member of Ponsonby U3A. Members throughout the Network are invited to submit questions for Dame Patsy by using the Network e-mail address: [u3a.network@outlook.com](mailto:u3a.network@outlook.com)

Put 'Question for Dame Patsy' in the subject line and include your name and U3A in the body of the e-mail along with your question.

At a later date, these questions will be collated and those chosen will be included in the interview alongside Catherine's selection.

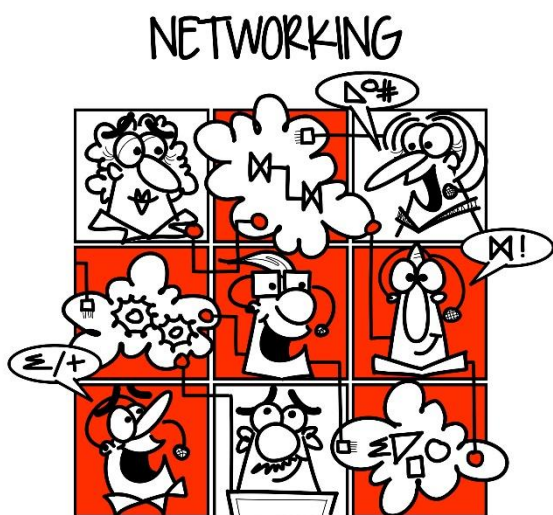
Mini Speakers will be part of our event programme again and the committee is calling for your suggestions as to who would be an interesting and informative speaker from your U3A. This year, we would like an emphasis on talks that are more research based rather than entertaining. Please contact me if you would like to make a mini-speaker suggestion.

Catering - Food will be served in individual boxes or paper bags in order to make our lunches a healthier option for everyone. Vegetarian and gluten-free food will be offered as optional choices.

I encourage you to circle this date in your calendar – this promises to be a stimulating and challenging Event, as we look to the future for inspiration and answers.

Geraldine Rose

Auckland U3A Network Representative



## From the Convenors



# Sheila Russell

5 September 1934 – 11 March 2022

## *An Appreciation*

Early in 2013, the newly established WW2 group, convened by Ron Clifton, welcomed Sheila & Jim Russell among the founding members. From the outset, it became clear Sheila's assurance and skills, acquired from three and a half decades nurturing her Cockle Bay Primary School students, were going to guide and encourage our fledging group into one of happy camaraderie that belies the serious nature of the field of study.

And very quickly came the topic contributions, and group hosting, along with the delicious home baking! Sheila's first topic that year (to be repeated to the main meeting 6 years later) held us all spellbound. Entitled "A Bit of a Lad" many may subsequently remember how her close cousin Albert, as a RAF pilot shot down over Tobruk, became a POW in the German prison camp Stalag Luft 3, from which the audacious mass prisoner escape was staged. Albert, one of the escapees, was eventually captured and fortunate to survive with his life. The escape saga was popularised in the Hollywood production *The Great Escape*. Both Sheila and Jim's personal experiences growing up in wartime Britain were crafted into fascinating stories that matched the spy thrillers, *Bomber Command*, and *Battle of Britain* documentaries carefully prepared. Sheila enjoyed sharing her knowledge with other members. Her passion for things historical had Sheila being a long standing member of the History group, and a strong interest in art, drawing her into *World of Art*, a group at the time convened by her dear friend and colleague, Dawn Peterson. A true stalwart, loyal and committed; above all we really will miss Sheila's indomitable spirit and playful sense of humour.

Allan Reid

Convenor, Military History

## Out and about:

If you are interested in classes at Uxbridge, now is the time to book. You can check for options online or at the centre.

Candlelight Music series takes place at St Matthews in the City on Saturday 23 April 8.30 to 9.50pm. You can book through Eventfinda

Whale Tales Science Seminar series free webinars take place on various dates in April. Check Eventfinda website for details

Heavenly beings: Icons of the Christian Orthodox World – Opening 15 April at Auckland Art Gallery

## Interested in learning a new language - try Desperanto

Here is an example lesson – Lesson 1: in the café. See if you can translate (lol)



Lo.  
Lo2u2  
Icurbc  
S  
Funem?  
Sifmnifx  
I8x. Funet?  
Sift.  
Ilfmnt.  
OK.

<b>Groups (yellow- full)</b>	<b>Date 2022</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Convenor</b>
Anthropology 1 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs 10 am	April 21	4A Paton's Road	Drain the Oceans. First American's ancient skeleton.	Betty Reid 534 9895
Anthropology 2 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon 10 am	No meeting			Margaret Heiatt 534 9131
Architecture 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri 10 am	April 1	2/21 Drake Street	Architecture of flight – Jean NZ Architecture awards - Bevin	June Lamborn 535 8069
Book Discussion 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs 1.30	April 28	9A Merino Avenue	Books	Joni Burgess 537 4834
Civilisations 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon 1 pm	April 18	55 Rodney Street	Trade and War – Warren Ancient Egypt	Cora Young 534 8623
Comparative Religions 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday 1.30pm	April 25	38A Uxbridge road	Development of Hinduism - Cora	Margaret Nicholls 536 6709
Current Affairs 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday 2pm		April meeting by zoom	Compulsory unemployment insurance	Jan Naish-Wallis 534 4438
Earth and the Universe 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues 10 am	No meeting			Clive Bolt 534 2946
Famous & Infamous 1 1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs 10 am	No meeting			Gill Muggleston 534 9863
Famous & Infamous 2 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs 1.30 pm	April 21	16 Tui Vale, Cockle Bay	Enemies of the people	Joni Burgess 537 4834
French 4 <sup>th</sup> Fri 1 pm	April 29	74A Aberfeldy Avenue Hland Pk	Louis XIV	David Dwerryhouse 534 4829
History 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 10 am	No meeting			Judy Lee 535 8547
History of New Zealand 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs 10 am	April 14	130 Point View Drive	Pot pourri	Alan La Roche 534 7366
Literature 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 10 am	April 20	32 Butley Drive, Pakuranga	Dan Davin by Richard Burns	Judy Wilson 576 6340
Military History 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday 2pm	April 14	2/21 Drake Street	Potpourri	Allan Reid 5349895
Movies 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon, 12.30 pm	April 11	2/21 Drake Street, Howick	Discussion of movies seen	Margaret Nicholls 536 6709
Nature Walks and Talks 2 <sup>nd</sup> Fri 9 am	April 8	Meet at Boat Club, Farm Cove	Walk to Wakaaranga Creek Reserve	June Poole 021583893
Opera 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 9.30 am (not full)	No meeting			Rosemary Ovens 5343429
Opera 2 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues 1.15pm	TBA			Geraldine Rose 537 1917
Philosophy 1 <sup>st</sup> Mon 10 am	April 4	38A Uxbridge Road	John Dewey	Cora Young 5348623
Science. 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 10 am	No meeting			Jim Hine 534 4259
Sunday Discussion 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun noon	No meeting			Joan Clarkson 537 6397
Travel 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed 10 am	No meeting			David and Adrienne Teape 5336103
World of Art 1 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon 10 am	No meeting			Garry Law 271 6505
World of Art 2 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 1.30 pm	No meeting			Philippa Wilson 5342558
World of Music 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 1.30 pm	No meeting			Ngairé Taylor 534 8538
Writing 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 1.30 pm	April 12	1/8 Aylmer Court, Bucklands Bch	The sound of waves	Marian Heywood 534 1159