



Supporting  
Lifelong Learning

**Howick Inc.**

PO Box 39035

Howick 2145

**AUGUST 2020**



**COMMITTEE**

**2020-2021**

**GERALDINE ROSE**

*President/Auckland U3A Network Liaison*

**ALAN LA ROCHE**

*Vice President/Guest Speakers*

**DAVID DWERRYHOUSE**

*Immediate Past President/Membership*

**MARGARET NICHOLLS** *Director of Studies*

**JONI BURGESS** *Treasurer*

**JAN NAISH-WALLIS** *Secretary*

**MARY KENNEDY** *Newsletter Editor*

**ROSEMARY OVENS** *Almoner/Welcomer*

**WARREN YARDLEY** *Ten-minute Speakers*

**Next General Meeting:**

**Monday 10 August 2020: 9.30 at Howick Bowling Club**

**Speaker:** Fiona Leydon and Chrissie Miller – *The role of the Salvation Army*

**Ten-minute speaker:** Peter Robson – *Opal mining in Australia*

**Tea Group:** *History*

*Subscriptions are now due.* Thanks to those who have paid their subs. If you have not yet paid (\$20.00) please pay to the ASB account 12 3040 0556154 00 - state your name in the reference field. If you do not have internet banking, you can pay by cash at the front table before general meetings.

**General Meeting July**



The AGM took place with audience participation in the form of “Aye”, and the new 2020/2021 Committee is now formally elected.

David Dwerryhouse, the outgoing President, was given a rose bush, presented by the incoming President, Geraldine Rose.

Outgoing committee members Cora Young and Chua Huck Cheng were also given gifts for their hard work over many years.

After the AGM, we were treated to a smorgasbord of talks, demonstrating the talent and interesting life experiences of our members.

We began with a ten-minute talk by Christopher Nixon, who woke up our brain cells with his ten-minute talk posing the question, “Do you ever get a shove along in life?”

A child seeing a dead person joining in a hunting match, meaningful coincidences, premonitions and other events beyond our understanding can be either explored or ignored, as Christopher pointed out. He believes that a growing knowledge of quantum physics may begin to throw light on the issue – it seems that entangled particles can communicate over space, and even be in two places at once. To fully bend our minds he left us with the thought that solid objects are really just energy, and that time may be little more than an illusion.

After listening to a story about a young boy who dealt in his own way with a lunch-thieving bully – think spiders – we listened to our main speakers – whose stories were both fascinating.

## Beth



Beth Voogd's talk transported us into another world. She talked about the life of her husband, Gerhard, who grew up in occupied Holland during the war. Gerhard's father was in the Dutch Resistance movement, which provided information to the Allies and saved the lives of thousands of Jewish people. Surprisingly, during that time, Audrey Hepburn performed secretly in people's homes to raise funds for those sheltering Jewish families – with doors and windows shut and darkened so as not to arouse the suspicion of the Germans.

Gerhard grew up in an atmosphere of fear. Apparently, his father was taken away by the Germans at one point, but inexplicably, was released after a lashing. From time to time, the Germans would search the house, and Gerhard and his brothers would tremble in their beds. Indeed, behind a wardrobe, a secret door led to an area where Jewish people were hiding, so danger was always present. Gerhard made many errands for his father, and occasionally, if he stayed out after curfew, he would have to run home with his friends - dodging bullets.

In the Spring of 1944, Gerhard was sent by his father to cycle to another village – to deliver some documents to families who were sheltering Jews. On his way he saw coming towards him a cavalcade of German tanks and army trucks retreating from allied forces. He jumped into a ditch as an allied Spitfire strafed the road, aiming at the German soldiers. Gerhard never found out why his father had sent him on such a dangerous mission.

In a link back to Christopher's talk about meaningful coincidences, Beth finished with an amazing story. One day, after he came to New Zealand, Gerhard went to Franz Joseph and met an ex-airman who was shot down in Holland during the war. He had been rescued by Gerhard's father. The airman showed Gerhard a watch he had been given. It was Gerhard's father's watch!

## Chris



Chris Cameron's talk took us to a world much closer to home, but equally interesting. Chris has Maori heritage through his mother who grew up in rural New Zealand and went to a "Native School". The schools were set up in the 1860's initially to "educate and civilise" Maori and to encourage integration. In 1947, the schools became known as Maori schools, but instruction continued mainly in English. Often the schools had just one or two teachers, and some were only accessible by boat or horse.

Chris's mother lived in the bush at Karekare, where her father was a forestry worker. There were three schools in the neighbourhood – Piha, Karekare and Whatipu – and the one teacher worked for two days at each school. From time to time, Chris's mother waggled school, so she was sent to live in Auckland, where she had to wear dresses, was not allowed to carry a sheath knife and had to go to Sunday school!

She went to training college where she met and married Chris's father. Her first positions were in the Native School system, where she lived with local farming families and taught in year one classes. She became teacher, mother and nurse, and even started a school lunch scheme. After she married in 1934, she was posted to Motiti Island, near Tauranga where the Maori community were mostly Anglican or Ratana. During the week, she boarded with local farmers while her husband taught at Waihi School. She was well-looked after by the island people, and the children she taught were shy and obedient.

In 1939, when Chris was four, his parents were finally posted together at Kokupu School, and Chris remembers being "mothered" by the older students. When Chris's father went into the army (he was tragically killed in action in 1943) his mother was posted to Cornwall Park School, a wealthy Pakeha school. This was the end of an era for the family. In 1969 Native/ Maori schools were merged into the mainstream system – now only surviving in historical memory.

## August Speakers



Fiona Leyden has worked in Public Relations for The Salvation Army since 2011 and she was a bank manager for many years. She was living in Christchurch at the time of the earthquakes and saw the amazing work TSA was doing and this inspired her to use her skills to work for them and make a positive difference. Outside of work she is involved with Lions Clubs at a Club and District level and finds the two organisations fit well together in being able to serve her community in a meaningful way.

Chrissy Muller joined the Public Relations Team of the Salvation Army in June 2018. Previous to this she trained as a nurse. She and her husband had very successfully built a Network Marketing Business as a young couple and were fortunate to have been able to travel a lot internationally, speaking to large groups of people. She wanted to make a difference in her career and she found this in the Salvation Army - and she feels it is a privilege to be part of this team.

## Committee News

Not too much to report. We have had several changes of convenor – many thanks to those of you who have stepped up. The Book Discussion group needs new members if it is to survive – contact Joni Burgess if you are interested in joining.

You will all be receiving a new up-to-date membership list soon, and we will give details of new members and resignations every three months or so after that for those of you who wish to keep your lists up-to-date.

## Membership

We currently have 135 members. We have four new members: Robert and Colleen Rigby, Robin Barnes and Joy Kirschberg.

David Weston and Rosemary Woodhouse have resigned.

Jessica Pybus has passed away, and will be missed.

## Out and About

Blue Planet II Live in concert: Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra – “a fantastical journey from icy polar seas to pulsating coral reefs” – Aotea Centre – 9 to 10 April 2021. Book through: [aucklandlive.co.nz/show/blue-planet-ii](http://aucklandlive.co.nz/show/blue-planet-ii)

Thursdays@seven winter series at Howick All Saints Church: final concert 6 August – Robert Ashworth on viola and Sarah Watkins on piano.

If you are in Pakuranga and have half an hour to spare, you could visit Te Tuhi Art Gallery. Currently showing “The Zone” – about the Chernobyl disaster and other artefacts about things nuclear. The Te Tuhi café has opened again as a training café for people with a disability.



*The Nature Walks and Talks Group out and about on Stockade Hill.*

<b>Groups (yellow denotes full)</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Convenor</b>
Anthropology 1 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs 10 am	August 20	BM Theatre	Queens of the kingdom War on women	Jennie Leyland 534 4034 Betty Reid 534 9895
Anthropology 2 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon 10 am	August 24	55 Rodney Street	Whaling in the Pacific	Margaret Heatt 534 9131
Architecture 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri 10 am	August 7	12 Daria Place, Northpark	NZ architectural awards, 1001 buildings you must see	June Lamborn 5358069
Aviation and Aerospace 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed 10 am	August 5	BM Theatre	Potpourri	Clive Bolt 534 2946
Book Discussion 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs 2 pm	August 27	9A Merino Ave Howick	Potpourri	Joni Burgess 5374834
Civilisations 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon 1 pm	August 17	55 Rodney street	Persia – the beginning	Cora Young 534 8623
Earth and the Universe 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues 10 am	August 27	BM Theatre	The search for life in the solar system	Clive Bolt 534 2946
Famous & Infamous 1 1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs 10 am	August 6	70 Cantora Avenue, Northpark	Charles Mackintosh/	Gill Muggleston 534 9863
Famous & Infamous 2 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs 2 pm	August 20	11 Shelly Beach Parade	Princess Louise/Thomas Jefferson/Alex Hamilton	Allan Reid 534 9895
Forum 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri 2 pm		On hold		
French 4 <sup>th</sup> Fri 1 pm	August 28	74A Aberfeldy Avenue	French regions	David Dwerryhouse 534 4829
History 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 10 am	August 18	BM Theatre	Potpourri – 5 minute talks by members	Judy Lee 535 8547
History of New Zealand 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs 10 am	August 13	130 Point View Drive	Pot pourri	Alan La Roche 534 7366
Literature 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 10 am	August 19	32 Butley Drive	J B Priestly	Judy Wilson 576 6340
Movies 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon, 12.30 pm	August 10	2/21 Drake Street	Discussion of movies seen BYO lunch	Margaret Nicholls 536 6709
Nature Walks and Talks 2 <sup>nd</sup> Fri 9 am	August 14	Meet at top carpark Mellon's Bay beach	Walk the valley and return	Warren Yardley 5330057
Opera 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 9.30 am	August 11	BM Theatre	Cavalleria Rusticana Pagliacci	Jean Denholm 534 6844
Opera 2 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues 1.15pm	August 25	BM Theatre	TBA	Geraldine Rose 537 1917
Philosophy 1 <sup>st</sup> Mon 10 am	September 7	BM Theatre	How to live lives well	Christopher Nixon 535 5309
Poetry 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 1.30 pm	August 11	Hawthorndene café – Botany Road	Irish poems and cake	Beth Voogd 534 7468
Science. 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 10 am	August 26	BM Theatre	Potpourri	Jim Hine 534 4259
Sunday Discussion 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun noon	August 9	Dannemora Gardens Cafe	Potpourri	Joan Clarkson 537 6397
Te Reo Maori (New group) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 2pm	August 12	Apt 486 BM Village	Introduction	Chris Cameron 5338735
Travel 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed 10 am	August 5	159 Pah Road, Cockle Bay	Visit to Hobbiton movie set Okoiroire Hot Springs Hotel	David and Adrienne Teape 5336103
World of Art 1 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon 10 am	August 17	BM Theatre	Van Dyke/Pot potpourri – a favourite art book	Garry Law 271 6505
World of Art 2 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 1.30 pm	August 18	12 Daria Place Northpark	David Mealing on Colin Mccahon	Philippa Wilson 5342558
World of Music 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 1.30 pm	August 26	6 Stevenson Way.	Paganini/Rachmaninov	Ngairie Taylor 534 8538
World War II 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs 2 pm	August 13	12 Liston Crescent	Pot pourri	Allan Reid 534 9895
Writing 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 1.30 pm	August 11	32 Butley Drive, Farm Cove	A happy time	Marian Heywood 534 1159