



Supporting
Lifelong Learning

Howick Inc.

PO Box 39035
Howick 2145

MAY 2018



COMMITTEE 2018-2019

MARGARET NICHOLLS

President/Director of Studies

DAVID DWERRYHOUSE

Vice President/Membership

WARREN YARDLEY

Immediate Past President/Guest Speakers

CORA YOUNG *Secretary*

JONI BURGESS *Treasurer*

CHUA HUCK CHENG *Newsletter*

ROSEMARY OVENS *Almoner*

BEVERLY JOHNSON *Assistant Secretary*

BEVERLY JIN *Ten-Minute Speakers*

NEXT MEETING: May 14, 9.30 am
Nixon Hall, Sale St, Howick

GUEST SPEAKER: Kate Thompson on Auckland
International Airport

TEN MINUTES: Marian Heywood

TEA BREAK: Philosophy group

MADAM PRESIDENT

MARGARET Nicholls was installed as the new President of Howick U3A at last month's annual meeting. David Dwerryhouse is the Vice President. Three new members – Beverly Johnson, Beverly Jin and Rosemary Ovens – were elected to the committee for the 2018-19 term. Marian Heywood and Jennie Leyland stepped down from the committee after long service. Tribute was paid to these stalwarts by Ms Nicholls and outgoing president Warren Yardley.

In her first presidential remarks, Ms Nicholls thanked Mr Yardley for his stewardship in the past year and for his “quiet but assertive” manner in managing affairs smoothly. She said she appreciated his guidance in the role she was undertaking. The committee was also thanked for its work, and appreciation expressed to newly elected committee members for their willingness to help keep the Howick U3A flourishing. The new committee is listed on the masthead on this page.

PARTING REMARKS

WARREN Yardley, in his farewell report to the assembly, acknowledged Howick U3A members as a group of people who cohered in a community spirit of learning. He cited individually the committee members for their contributions. A good musician, he said, can play a difficult piece and make it look easy. “So it has been with the committee... whose efforts have been greater than meet the eye,” he noted.

Also recognised were the study group conveners for “providing direction and cohesion in a professional but friendly way”; Phil Williams and his successor Allan Reid, for making the meeting hall ship-shape each month well before the first members arrived; and Jim Hine and his team for setting up the all-important audio-visual system.

Remembered were three members who left us in the past year: Doris Holford, Tony Priestley and Andrew Mortimer. Fine people who will be missed, Mr Yardley said of them.



UP, UP AND AWAY?

As Auckland Airport's community relations manager, this month's guest speaker Kate Thompson (picture) has to manage matters as diverse as public dissatisfaction over traffic snarls leading to the airport, and feel-good community projects. How the management of the nation's main international gateway is coping with the sharp increase in regional tourism and business traffic will no doubt come under scrutiny by the audience. Questions?

MERCIFUL ESCAPE: Last month's guest speaker John Roy-Wojciechowski gave an understated yet chilling account of how he and a number of fellow-Poles escaped the Europe of the Nazi era and, via Iran, wound up in New Zealand which offered them temporary refuge and eventually a home.

ANNIVERSARY PUBLICATION CANNED

HOWICK U3A's 25th anniversary souvenir publication (which had been pre-notified to group conveners) will not be proceeded with. The committee felt an undertaking of this scale would be too close to the 20th anniversary publication. A 30th year commemorative issue in 2023 will be contemplated, subject to a future committee's decision.

STUDY GROUPS OPEN AND SHUT

CONVENERS are asked to evaluate their groups' size and determine whether they should be designated as full or open to more members. Do inform the editor of the newsletter (chua46@gmail.com.) The travel group, helmed for many years by Gordon Hudson who has resigned as convener, is considering a system of rotating conveners. David Dwerryhouse (5344829) will be the contact person.

SUBSCRIPTION DUE

SUBSCRIPTION of \$20 for the new financial year can be paid to Treasurer Joni Burgess at the front desk on meeting day. Online payments to ASB Bank 12 3040 0556154 00 with the name as reference. Cheque payments to Howick U3A Inc, mail Howick U3A Box 39035, Howick, Auckland 2014, or hand to Ms Burgess.

WANTED: LANGUAGE VOLUNTEERS

A COMMUNITY organisation that helps non-English speaking refugees and immigrants adjust to life in New Zealand is looking for volunteers to teach English to the newcomers. The organisation, English Language Partners NZ, is a registered charity. (Details www.englishlanguage.org.nz.) Volunteers will be given training before they are assigned. Tutoring in basic English will take about an hour a week. The South Auckland unit is especially short of volunteers. Call Julia Castles, manager of the unit, on 2789099 or email julia.castles@englishlanguage.org.nz.

RESIGNED

CHRISTINA Smith resigned her membership last month. Howick U3A membership has stabilised at 158.

PASSING

DOREEN Tucker, aged 88, and ex-member Judith Carr, 89, passed away in April 2018. Our condolences to their families.

LITERARY SIDELIGHT

THE Man Booker prize, in its 50th year this year, will have its milestone observed with a literary festival in London in July, featuring past winners gathered together in discussion. Among alumni appearing will be Julian Barnes (*The Sense of an Ending* 2011), Michael Ondaatje (*The English Patient* 1992) and Kazuo Ishiguro (*The Remains of the Day* 1989.) New Zealand winner Eleanor Catton (*The Luminaries* 2013) will discuss experiments in literary form. From the festival will emerge the Golden Man Booker Prize, a one-off honour for the best novel of the Booker's first half-century. Jurors are now reading winning novels of each of the five decades of the prize. These five 'decade's best' books will be revealed on May 27, from which the public will choose their personal favourite. Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children* (1981) has been the most honoured work on the Booker roll, having been named as the Booker of Bookers twice (on the prize's 25th and 40th anniversaries.)

OUT AND ABOUT

+ THE annual Auckland Writers Festival is on May 15-20 at the Aotea Centre. Details writersfestival.co.nz.

+ MONTEREY cinema has decent performance offerings this month. Puccini's *La Boheme* is on May 20 and 28 at 1 pm, with Sonya Yoncheva as Mimi and Michael Fabiano as Rodolfo. From the New York Met Opera. Running time 200 min. Lighter operatic fare comes in the shape of Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love* on May 14 at 1 pm, 180 min. Pretty Yende is the female lead. Drama fans can catch Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* on May 18, 24, 27 at 10 am. Running time 3 hr, from London's Bridge Theatre. David Calder is Caesar, Ben Wishaw plays Brutus.

+ CLASSICAL music fans have a trio of concerts on consecutive nights to choose from this month. Leading off is the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra on May 17 at the Town Hall, 8 pm. Michael Barenboim, son of the pianist-conductor Daniel Barenboim, plays the Sibelius Violin Concerto. The symphony on the programme is Saint-Saens's Third, the Organ Symphony (organist Christopher Wrench.) Conductor is New Zealander Gemma New, making her debut with the APO. Seniors from \$42, APO Ticketing 6231052.

+ FOLLOWING on the next two nights (Town Hall, 7.30 pm) is an unusual pairing by the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. On May 18 is a Leonard Bernstein centenary celebration featuring music and songs from American theatrical works (*West Side Story*, *On the Waterfront*, *Candide*, *Peter Pan*) for which, alas, this iconic American conductor-composer is remembered rather than his symphonic output. On May 19 the NZSO goes Italianate: Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* (violin solo by American Angelo Xiang Yu) and *The Pines of Rome*, one part of Respighi's famous Roman trio of tone poems. Conductor for both concerts is Brett Mitchell, with Morgan James as vocalist in the Bernstein. Seniors from \$29, Ticketmaster (ticketmaster.co.nz.)

Groups (yellow denotes full)	Date	Venue	Topic	Convener
Ancient Civilisations 3 rd Mon 1pm	May 21	Cora Young's 55 Rodney St	<i>Genghis Khan</i> Beth Voogd	Cora Young 534 8623
Anthropology H 3 rd Thurs 10 am	May 17	BM Theatre 795 Chapel Rd.	<i>Emergence of Women's Rights</i> Marj Silcock	Jennie Leyland 534 4034 Betty Reid 534 9895
Anthropology L 4 th Mon 10 am	May 28	Rona Heywood's 2/15 Millhouse Dr	<i>Emergence of Women's Rights</i> Marj Silcock	Margaret Hieatt 534 9131
Architecture 1 st Fri 10 am	June 1	Helen Bolt's 20 Camwell Close	<i>Mostar Bosnia</i> H. Bolt <i>Factory-built Houses</i> M. Taylor	Maurice Taylor 534 8538
Book Discussion 4 th Thurs 2 pm	May 24	Margaret Smith's 25 Centre Ct, PPV	Latest reads	Margaret Smith 576 3206
Earth and the Universe 4 th Tues 10 am	May 22	BM Theatre	<i>Chaotic Formation of the Solar System</i>	Clive Bolt 534 2946
Famous & Infamous 1 1 st Tues 10 am	June 5	Nancy Edwards's 17 Masfield St	<i>George Harrison</i> Peter Garrick	Peter Garrick 535 4085
Famous & Infamous 2 3 rd Thurs 2 pm	May 17	Barbara Lord's 23A Seymour Rd	<i>New Zealand Nobel prize winners</i>	Richard/Moira Burns 533 8793
Famous & Infamous 3 1 st Thurs 10 am	Concluded June 7 next			Jean Fitzgerald 577 5546
Forum 3 rd Fri 10 am	May 18	Beverley Luxton's 1 Village Dr, PPV	Open discussion	Beverley Luxton 576 9625
French 4 th Fri 1 pm	May 25	David Dwerryhouse's 74-A Aberfeldy Ave	<i>Marie and Pierre Curie</i>	David Dwerryhouse 534 4829
History 3 rd Tues 10 am	May 15	Fencible Lounge	<i>A Lady Smuggler</i> J. Pickles <i>The Timbuktu Libraries</i> Monica Mooney	Judy Lee 535 8547
History of New Zealand 2 nd Thurs 10 am	May 10	June Barton's 16 Tui Vale, Cockle Bay	Potpourri	Tim Pearson 576 4091
Literature 3 rd Wed 10 am	May 16	Ngair Taylor's 6 Stevenson Way	<i>George Sand</i> Ngair Taylor	Judy Wilson 576 6340
Nature Walks and Talks 2nd Fri 9 am	May 11	Meet Greenmount Reserve carpark	Up Kelvin Hart Drive and back to Greenmount Res	Alan La Roche 534 7366
Opera 1 2 nd Tues 9.30 am	May 8	BM Theatre	Verdi's <i>Aida</i>	Hilary Patterson 533 8785
Opera 2 4 th Tues 1 pm	May 22	BM Theatre	<i>Jessye Norman: A Portrait</i>	Moya Nixon 535 5309
Philosophy 1st Mon 10 am	June 4	BM Theatre	<i>Aristotle: Ethics and Politics Part 2</i>	Christopher Nixon 535 5309
Poetry 2 nd Tues 2 pm	May 8	Linda Bown's 42B Minerva Tce	<i>Poems of Sam Hunt</i>	Beth Voogd 534 7468
Science 4 th Wed 10 am	May 23	BM Theatre	Potpourri	Jim Hine 534 4259
Sunday Discussion 2nd Sunday, noon	May 13	Meadowlands Coffee Club	Open discussion	Joan Clarkson 537 6397
Travel 1 st Wed 10 am	June 6	Warren and Alice Taylor's 170A Clovelly Rd	<i>Saudi Arabia</i> Beverly Johnson	David Dwerryhouse 534 4829
World of Art 1 3 rd Mon 10 am	May 21	Meet at BM 9.30 am	Trip to Sculptureum	Garry Law 271 6505
World of Art 2 3 rd Tues 1.30 pm	May 15	Jean Denholm's 2/21 Drake St	<i>Charles Goldie</i> J. Forsyth <i>Rene Lalique</i> H. Watson	Heather Watson 274 4747
World of Music 4 th Wed 1.30 pm	May 23	Ngair Taylor's 6 Stevenson Way	<i>Dvorak</i> Joan Dowd <i>Chopin</i> Heather Watson	Ngair Taylor 534 8538
World War II 2 nd Thurs 2pm	May 10	Jim & Sheila Russell's 8/50 Cook St	<i>Sister battleships Bismarck and Tirpitz</i> Malcolm Booth	Allan Reid 534 9895
Writing 2 nd Tues 1.30 pm	May 15	Bev Johnson's Apt 144 BM	<i>The Decanter Was Empty</i>	Marian Heywood 534 1159