



Supporting
Lifelong Learning

Howick Inc.
PO Box 39035
Howick 2145
JUNE 2020



**INTERIM 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*

Images of lockdown

Howick beach



Jean Denholm's blanket
made of wool scraps



Judy Lee's bears



Dawn chorus



Howick U3A President's Report 2019/2020



I am pleased to present the President's Report for 2019/2020. Under normal circumstances you would have received this report at the AGM in April or May. However, due to the extraordinary events of the last few months, we have been unable to hold our AGM at the normal time. The committee therefore decided that it would be best to publish my report in the June newsletter.

The last year has been one of continued intellectual challenge, great speakers and warm friendship among all our members. U3A is one of the few community organisations which hold small group meetings in members' homes. This promotes close friendships and shared learning around subjects of common interest and passion.

The group convenors are key people who organise, facilitate and often host these meetings. It is their enthusiasm and commitment that make this interaction possible and enable all group members to be actively involved in the teaching and learning process. We owe our convenors a debt of gratitude.

A strong membership is the basis of any organisation. We are fortunate to have many long-standing members and a steady stream of new people seeking to join us. Our membership now stands at 135, a 12% decline on our numbers 12 months ago. It is with sadness that we record the passing of a number of long-time members: Joyce Armstrong, Dorothy Bell, David Bone, Bruce and Joan Dowd, Judith Garrick, Tony James, Marjorie Silcock, Lynley Spurdle and Willem Van Rheenen. Our deepest sympathy goes out to their families and friends.

Other members have moved away or decided that the time had come to resign their membership. A special farewell was held in March for Beverley Luxton, who was not only a foundation member but served two terms as President. We wish her and all our former members the very best for the future.

It takes a large team of people to ensure the smooth running of our monthly meetings. Our thanks go to Betty Reid and her teams who serve morning tea, and to Jim Hine and Bevin Cornwall, who provide the technical expertise to run the audio-visual systems. Jim has for many years maintained the membership data base and prepared name badges for new members. We appreciate his quiet efficiency and reliability in completing these tasks.

Special thanks go to Marian Heywood and the Writing group for providing their entertaining and skilfully written short stories, and to all our members who have offered 10 minute talks. We never cease to be impressed by your fascinating life stories and the wealth of knowledge and experience you share with us. We are fortunate to have a very capable team of dedicated people who make up our committee. I would like to conclude my report by acknowledging and thanking each of them for their great contributions.

Joni Burgess continues to be our highly professional treasurer and has recently taken over the running of our membership data base. Her eye for detail is invaluable in picking up on matters that the committee might otherwise have overlooked.

Chua Huck Cheng has brought a high level of professionalism to his role of newsletter editor over the last 3 years. His background in journalism and meticulous attention to detail have produced newsletters which are not only a delight to read, but give a comprehensive record of our activities, thoughtful comments about guest speakers and notes on cultural events of interest to members. Thank you, Huck, for your great commitment of time and expertise.

Mary Kennedy has done a very competent job as minute secretary over the last year. Her literary and computer skills make her the ideal person to take over as newsletter editor. We are grateful that she has accepted this challenge and we know that she will do a fine job.

Margaret Nicholls has been a supportive Past President, as well as offering guidance to convenors. As Director of Studies she has overseen the establishment of two new groups, Movies and Poetry. The Past President's trip to the Maritime Museum was greatly enjoyed by those who attended.

Rosemary Ovens is always a smiling and welcoming face at the door. As Almoner she sends good wishes to members who are unwell or have suffered a bereavement. We are grateful that she will continue in this role.

Geraldine Rose joined the committee after last year's AGM. We are grateful that she was willing to accept the role of Vice President in preparation for taking over as President in the coming year. She is well equipped for this task and has also taken on the role of U3A Network representative.

Warren Yardley has done a marvellous job as speaker convenor over the last few years. He has been very thorough in researching the background of potential speakers and selecting those most likely to bring us interesting and lively presentations. Thanks to Warren, we have been treated to a wide range of high calibre speakers. We are indeed fortunate that Alan La Roche will continue this work, as well as being our new Vice President.

Corajean Young has been our secretary for many years and is quite possibly the longest-serving committee member we have had. As well as her secretarial duties, she has represented us at U3A Network meetings and is always a guiding hand in the organisation of our Christmas morning tea. We wish Cora a long and active retirement.

We welcome Alan La Roche and Jan Naish-Wallis to the new committee to replace the two members who are retiring.

It is to be hoped that our meetings can resume in the near future. Group meetings will restart at the discretion of convenors once we reach Alert Level 1. We will hold the AGM as soon as practicable.

I have enjoyed my year as President and thank you all for your support and encouragement. My best wishes to Geraldine and the new committee for another satisfying year. To all our members, please take care and stay well over the coming winter months.

David Dwerryhouse

Past President

Meetings Update

All meetings remain as moveable feasts, pending the arrival of Alert Level One. Our next main meeting will be the Annual General Meeting, The AGM will be held at 9.30 on July 13th, as long as we are in level one, which looks increasingly likely.

Thanks to all the convenors who have provided feedback regarding activities during lockdown. The general consensus seems to be that contact has been maintained mainly by phone and through email links to various sites, articles and humour. Many have watched movies and listened to opera online. Apparently, some have also enjoyed twice-daily concerts courtesy of their local tui.

No doubt we are all waiting to return to face-to-face meetings with our fellow members. Tentative information regarding group meetings has been included in the study group calendar where available – all information is subject to a return to level 1, and many convenors have not yet made decisions regarding when and where their meetings will restart.

General Matters

Just a reminder that you can pay the \$20 subscription online. Pay to the ASB account 12 3040 0556154 00 and please remember to state your name in the reference field.

There have been several applications for membership received during lockdown and once we are up-and-running we will be looking for more prospective members. If you are aware of anyone who might be interested, please encourage them to join one of our general meetings.

As was mentioned in last month's newsletter, the new committee has now taken over, pending formal voting at the AGM. We have said good-bye and thank-you to Corajeau Young and Chua Huck Cheng; they will be missed. I, Mary Kennedy, have taken over the production of the monthly Newsletter. I know that you have become used to a highly professional document. I have no newspaper experience so please bear with me as I get used to this new role.

Out and about

As you all know, we are now on alert level two. With the new guidelines allowing gatherings of up to 100 people, the focus is now on contact tracing. No particular advice is given regarding the 70+ group, and we will each need to make our own decisions regarding how much to mix with the outside world. Processes may be more technological than usual because of the necessity of contact tracing. You may need to book for services, including restaurants - cafes and shops may require the use of EFTPOS or credit cards, rather than cash. The Government is rolling out a tracking app and many businesses have a QR code register, but generally a paper option is available. Unless you have an app, you should keep a diary of where you go, when, and who with. Take a pen when you go out in case you have to sign in anywhere.

Jacinda Ardern has said that the Government will consider moving to Alert Level 1 soon, so with luck, we will be free to restart operations in July, or even late June. There's many a slip, though, as the saying goes, so all plans remain tentative.

*The New Zealand Film festival takes place in July and will be held online this year. Email festival@nziff.co.nz for details.

*Auckland Live gives a variety of information about upcoming cultural events, including the writers' festival. Their web address is online@aucklandlive.co.nz and their phone number is 09-309-2677

*Auckland Libraries has a huge collection of e-books, audiobooks, e-newspapers and magazines. Go online at <https://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz> to register. Once the libraries are open, and if you feel safe to visit, the librarians are able to assist you to register, download books etc. Unless you have a tablet or very up-to-date e-reader, you will need to download onto your computer and transfer to your e-reader.

*The Monterey Theatre is open, and those who have ventured out report good sanitation and distancing processes.

*The Howick Market will be back on Saturday 6 June.

***Dates for all groups have been entered for July. However, if we reach level 1 in June, some convenors who meet later in the month may wish to have a meeting in June. Contact your convenor if you are unsure.**

Groups (yellow denotes full)	Date	Venue	Topic	Convenor
Anthropology 1 3 rd Thurs 10 am	July 16 *	BM Theatre	TBA	Jennie Leyland 534 4034 Betty Reid 534 9895
Anthropology 2 4 th Mon 10 am	July 27 *		TBA	Margaret Hieatt 534 9131
Architecture 1 st Fri 10 am	July 3	6 Stevenson Way	Building Castles	Malcolm/Dilys Booth 534 3604
Aviation and Aerospace 1 st Wed 10 am	July 1		TBA	Clive Bolt 534 2946
Book Discussion 4 th Thurs 2 pm	TBA			TBA
Civilisations 3 rd Mon 1 pm	July 20*		TBA	Cora Young 534 8623
Earth and the Universe 4 th Tues 10 am	July 28*	BM Theatre	TBA	Clive Bolt 534 2946
Famous & Infamous 1 1 st Thurs 10 am	July 2		TBA	Gill Muggleston 534 9863
Famous & Infamous 2 3 rd Thurs 2 pm	July 16*		TBA	Allan Reid 534 9895
Forum 3 rd Fri 2 pm	July 17*		TBA	Jessica Pybus 534 7415
French 4 th Fri 1 pm	June 26*	74A Aberfeldy Avenue	French regions	David Dwerryhouse 534 4829
History 3 rd Tues 10 am	July 21*	BM Theatre	TBA	Judy Lee 535 8547
History of New Zealand 2 nd Thurs 10 am	July 9		TBA	Alan La Roche 534 7366
Literature 3 rd Wed 10 am	July 15*		TBA	Judy Wilson 576 6340
Movies 2 nd Mon, 1 pm	July 13*		TBA	Margaret Nicholls 536 6709
Nature Walks and Talks 2 nd Fri 9 am	July 10*	Meet Howick Domain by tennis courts.	Walk via Stockade Hill to Wellington Street	Warren Yardley 5330057
Opera 1 2 nd Tues 9.30 am	July 14*	BM Theatre/TBA	Daughters of the Regiment by Donizzetti	Jean Denholm 534 6844
Opera 2 4 th Tues 1.15pm	July 28*	BM Theatre	Anna Bolena, Donizzetti	Geraldine Rose 537 1917
Philosophy 1 st Mon 10 am	July 6	BM Theatre	TBA	Christopher Nixon 535 5309
Poetry 2 nd Tues 2 pm	July 22*	1/39Clovelly Road, Bucklands Beach	Post Covid poetry plans	Beth Voogd 534 7468
Science. 4 th Wed 10 am	July 22*		TBA	Jim Hine 534 4259
Sunday Discussion 2 nd Sun noon	July 12*		TBA	Joan Clarkson 537 6397
Travel 1 st Wed 10 am	July 1	159 Pah Road, Cockle Bay	A tour of Buckingham Palace	David and Adrienne Teape 5336103
World of Art 1 3 rd Mon 10 am	July 20*	31 Lansell Drive, Dannemora	Artist Ian Fairweather and <i>Fake or Fortune</i>	Garry Law 271 6505
World of Art 2 3 rd Tues 1.30 pm	July 21*	BM Theatre	TBA	Heather Watson 274 4747
World of Music 4 th Wed 1.30 pm	July 22*		TBA	Ngaire Taylor 534 8538
World War II 2 nd Thurs 2 pm	July 9		TBA	Allan Reid 534 9895
Writing 2 nd Tues 1.30 pm	July 14*		TBA	Marian Heywood 534 1159

