



University of the
Third Age

Howick Inc.

PO Box 39035

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NOVEMBER 2017



COMMITTEE 2017-18

WARREN YARDLEY

President/Guest Speakers

MARGARET NICHOLLS

Vice President/Director of Studies

CORA YOUNG *Secretary*

JONI BURGESS *Treasurer*

DAVID DWERRYHOUSE *Membership*

CHUA HUCK CHENG *Newsletter*

MARIAN HEYWOOD *Ten-minute Speakers*

JENNIE LEYLAND *Almoner*

NEXT MEETING: November 13, 9.30 am
Nixon Hall, Sale St, Howick

GUEST SPEAKER: Siouxsie Wiles on
Superbugs and Infections

TEN MINUTES: Short Story – Marian Heywood

TEA BREAK: French group

FREE SHINGLES JAB PROBABLE

SENIORS aged 65 and above may soon receive free shingles vaccinations at their GP's clinic, pending completion of Pharmac's public consultation on the matter. If approved, 600,000 seniors will be eligible for the protection against a painful condition common among older people. A jab currently costs \$200 to \$220. The programme could start as early as April next year. This bit of news comes from the Ministry of Social Development in its latest seniors newsletter (superseniors.msd.govt.nz). Whether the change of government to Labour might bring a rethink of optional social expenditures is left to be seen.



BUGGING NASTY MICROBES

Microbiologist Siouxsie Wiles (picture) studies bacteria to understand the link to infectious diseases and thereby help in the search for new antibiotics to zap superbugs grown resistant. Her perch is Auckland University's Bioluminescent Superbugs Lab, which she heads. Born Susanna Wiles in the UK, she obtained her PhD at the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Oxford University, after which she did post-doctoral research at Imperial College. She came to work in New Zealand in 2009. Her work is esoteric, which is why she tries to make science less befuddling to the lay public through blogs, lectures and broadcasts. She has also published widely.

REMINDER TO CONVENORS

STUDY group convenors are reminded that Director of Studies Margaret Nicholls will meet convenors after the November general meeting, to discuss feedback on her proposal to enliven group activities. Standard attendance sheets for group meetings will be handed out.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

PREPARATIONS are well in hand for the Christmas morning tea to be held on Dec 11 at the Howick Bowling Club, following the general meeting. Beverley Luxton and David Dwerryhouse will present word games to set off a thinking-cap buzz.

CARRY ON BANKING

SENIOR citizens who have encountered problems at banks, such as feeling unduly pressured over certain transactions or financial products being dangled, have recourse to the Banking Ombudsman for relief. For complaints/clarifications, call 0800 805950 or log on to www.bankomb.org.nz

OMANI TRAVERSAL, PACIFIC CHARM

LAST month's guest speaker David Howard, who taught school in Oman for a year, provided with the aid of slides a quick traversal of Omani culture, habits and the country's impressive modernisation programme under its sultan (who incidentally had had his father removed from power).

TEN-minute speaker Peter Garrick, whose career had also been in teaching here and abroad, gave his perspective of education as it is organised in the South Pacific (specifically Samoa and Fiji). Inserted in the talk were vignettes of life in the splashy sunshine.

NEWS SIDELIGHT: NOBEL MAYHEM

KAZUO Ishiguro (*The Remains of the Day*, *The Unconsoled*, *Nocturnes*, etc) said of the media crews camped outside his London home before news of his winning the 2017 Nobel Prize for Literature had begun circulating: "Neighbours might have thought there was a serial killer here or something."

OUT AND ABOUT

++ ROGER Hall's comedy *Book Ends* is playing at Howick Little Theatre (hlt.org.nz). Season till Dec 2, with some breaks. 8-10 pm. Sunday matinee Nov 19, 2-4 pm. Directed by Susanne Dell, the play is about a cantankerous bunch of book lovers who meet regularly to talk books and try to upstage one another. Seniors \$26, bookings 6311000.

++ BEATLES nostalgia will come alive for baby boomers at Paul McCartney's concert at Mt Smart Stadium on Dec 16. Not only that, but post-Beatles genres and collaborations with Kanye West and Rihanna will also feature in what the publicists promise will be a three-hour show, starting at 5.30 pm. No word about supporting acts or how much of the three hours they will use up. Ticket range \$69-\$399, Ticketmaster (ticketmaster.co.nz), phone 951 2501.

++ GARDENING enthusiasts take note: The inaugural New Zealand Flower and Garden Show will run for five days (Nov 29-Dec 3) at Trusts Arena in Waitakere (65-67 Central Park Drive, Henderson). 10 am to 5 pm. This show seeks to fill the void created after the Ellerslie International Flower Show was moved to Christchurch. Show details on nzflowergardenshow.co.nz. Seniors \$28 (fixed day) and \$36 (any day) from Ticketek (ticketek.co.nz.)

++ KIWI classical guitarist/composer Bruce Paine will give a *Starlight and Memories* recital at Howick All Saints Anglican Church on Nov 23, 7-8 pm. Admission by donation.

++ CANADIAN circus troupe Cirque Eloize performs at The Civic on Dec 5-10. Start times vary for the show entitled *Cirkopolis* featuring acrobatics, theatre and dance. Tickets start at \$55, 0800-111999. Often compared with Cirque du Soleil, the publicity says Cirque Eloize has been seen by three million people in more than 4,000 performances in 500 cities. The troupe was started 25 years ago.

++ New Zealand Opera's 2018 season is just announced: Bernstein's *Candide* (March 23, 24, 25); Donizetti's *The Elizir of Love* (May 31, June 2, 7, 9); Puccini's *La Boheme* (Sept 13, 15, 19, 21, 23). Puccini's *Tosca* (March) in Christchurch only.

| Group (yellow denotes full) | Date | Place | Topic | Convenor |
|---|--------|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Ancient Civilisations 3 rd Mon 1pm-3pm | Nov 20 | Cora Young's 55 Rodney St | Short piece from each (Also bring a plate.) | Cora Young 534 8623 |
| Anthropology H 3 rd Thurs 10 am | Nov 16 | BM Theatre 795 Chapel Rd. | Potpourri (Bring a small plate.) | Alison O'Connell 534 7539 |
| Anthropology L 4 th Mon 10 am | Nov 27 | Cora Young's 55 Rodney St. | Potpourri (And a small plate.) | Margaret Hieatt 534 9131 |
| Architecture 1 st Fri 10 am | Dec 1 | TBA | Potpourri | Maurice Taylor 534 8538 |
| Book Discussion 4 th Thurs 2 pm | Nov 23 | Margaret Smith's 25 Centre Ct, PPV | Latest reads | Margaret Smith 576 3206 |
| Earth and the Universe 4 th Tues 10 am | Nov 28 | BM Theatre | <i>Measuring Cosmic Distances</i> Clive Bolt | Clive Bolt 534 2946 |
| Famous & Infamous 1 1 st Tues 10 am | Dec 5 | J. Hounsell's Villa 33 7 Flatbush School Rd | Potpourri | Peter Garrick 535 4085 |
| Famous & Infamous 2 3 rd Thurs 2 pm | Nov 16 | Barbara Lord's 23A Seymour Rd | <i>Helen Thayer</i> Alison O'Connell | Allan Reid 534 9895 |
| Famous & Infamous 3 1 st Thurs 10 am | Dec 7 | Jeanette Fenn's 70 Cantora Ave | Potpourri (Small plate each.) | Jean Fitzgerald 577 5546 |
| Forum 3 rd Fri 10 am | Nov 17 | Beverley Luxton's 1 Village Dr, PPV | Open discussion | Beverley Luxton 576 9625 |
| French 4 th Fri 1 pm | Nov 24 | La Fourchette, St Heliers | <i>French Gastronomy</i> | David Dwerryhouse 534 4829 |
| History 3 rd Tues 10 am | Nov 21 | Fencible Longe | Updates and tidbits | Judy Lee 535 8547 |
| History of New Zealand 2 nd Thurs 10 am | Nov 9 | Event concluded | <i>Helen Thayer</i> Alison O'Connell | Tim Pearson 576 4091 |
| Literature 3 rd Wed 10 am | Nov 15 | Ngairé Taylor's 6 Stevenson Way | <i>Oliver Goldsmith</i> Ngairé Taylor | Judy Wilson 576 6340 |
| Nature Walks and Talks 2 nd Fri 9 am | Nov 10 | Event concluded | Ohuiarangi-Pigeon Mt, beside Pakuranga Creek | Alan La Roche 534 7366 |
| Opera 1 2 nd Tues 9.30 am | Nov 14 | BM Theatre | Verdi's <i>Il Trovatore</i> Placido Domingo 150min | Hilary Patterson 533 8785 |
| Opera 2 4 th Tues 1 pm | Nov 28 | BM Theatre | Rossini's <i>La Cenerentola</i> (Cinderella) 154 min | Moya Nixon 535 5309 |
| Philosophy 1 st Mon 10 am | Dec 4 | BM Theatre | Individual contributions | Chris Nixon 535 5309 |
| Poetry 2 nd Tues 2 pm | Nov 14 | Colleen Williams's 1/139 Clovelly Rd | Please bring Poems in the Vernacular | Beth Voogd 534 7468 |
| Science 4 th Wed 10 am | Nov 22 | BM Theatre | Potpourri | Jim Hine 534 4259 |
| Sunday Discussion 3 rd Sunday, noon | Nov 19 | Meadowlands Coffee Club | Open discussion | Joan Clarkson 537 6397 |
| Travel 1 st Wed 10 am | Dec 6 | Gordon Hudson's 1 Elsmore Crescent | <i>Greenland via NW Passage</i> J. Chamberlain | Gordon Hudson 576 8262 |
| World of Art 1 3 rd Mon 10 am | Nov 20 | BM Theatre | Potpourri (Small Xmas plate each.) | Jennie Leyland 534 4034 |
| World of Art 2 3 rd Tues 1.30 pm | Nov 21 | BM Theatre | <i>The Big Picture</i> (final) dvd | Heather Watson 274 4747 |
| World of Music 4 th Wed 1.30 pm | Nov 22 | Ngairé Taylor's 6 Stevenson Way | <i>Spanish Music</i> J. Dowd and D. Dwerryhouse | Ngairé Taylor 534 8538 |
| World War II 2 nd Thurs 2pm | Nov 9 | Event concluded | Potpourri | Ron Clifton 537 1592 |
| Writing 2 nd Tues 1.30 pm | Nov 14 | Judy Wilson's 32 Butley Dr | <i>String Comes In Handy</i> | Marian Heywood 534 1159 |

