



Supporting  
Lifelong Learning

Howick Inc.  
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February 2024



#### COMMITTEE 2023/2024

**GRAEME DIVER** *President*  
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**COLLEEN RIGBY** *Past President*  
**JAN NAISH-WALLIS** *Secretary*(0272203777)  
**ROBERT RIGBY** *Treasurer*  
**GERALDINE ROSE**, *U3A Network representative*  
**JUDITH NEL** *Director of Studies*  
**MARY KENNEDY** *Newsletter Editor*  
**JUNE POOLE** *Vice-President*  
**JOHN SAVORY** *Speaker Convenor*  
**CYRIL NEVEZIE** *Membership*  
**LINDA STUBBS** *Almoner* 027 297 5601

**General Meeting:**  
**February 12, 9.30am**  
**Howick Bowling Club, Selwyn Road, Howick**

**Speaker: Colleen Brown**  
**10-minute speaker: Short Story**  
**Tea team: Opera**

#### President's Report

Hi Members

As we enter 2024 I extend warm greetings to you all and a huge thank-you to all our members who supported our December meeting. A record and one that we can duplicate in the future.

January/February will see the resumption of our interest group meetings. Be sure to take advantage of the interest groups.

2024/2025 has great promise for our club. In April we will appoint a new President and committee.

If you feel you would like to be involved in the running of our organisation contact a committee member for a nomination form, or print and complete the form attached to this email.

There are several new members to be inducted so please be aware and make them welcome.

We have arranged a great speaker for the February meeting; let's see if we can pass 67 members present for our first meeting.

**Breaking News:** Morning tea in February will be provided by Bruce McLaren Retirement Village.

Look forward to seeing you.

Regards Graeme

#### Editorial

So, another year has passed, and another long hot summer is in full swing. I often find during holiday periods, when routine is disrupted, I start to see life from a more distant perspective. This year, my daughter took a trip to Europe, and communication with her always felt slightly disorientating .." Off to Iceland today", as I prepared to settle down to sleep. After watching the 6 O'clock news and calling her to see what's going on: "What volcano? I've just woken up!"

The natural cycles of life are big, and for me, conceivable only intellectually. The earth spins on its axis, and night follows day. We spin round the sun as the seasons pass. The tide rises and falls as the moon circles around us. Tectonic plates push apart until the earth splits and sends red hot rock into the air. Meanwhile, we share pictures of our families, talk about what we did for Christmas and update each other on the present dramas of our lives. We live as if we were the centre of our world, which in fact we are. Like the dot on the map saying, "You are here." We wrap ourselves in our people, culture, thoughts, stories and routines, protected - most of the time - from full force of the natural cycles of nature circling around and within us. And, while I quite enjoy the occasional period of "zen", I do on the whole prefer a few routines and human contact.

So, I'm looking forward to another year of U3A activities.

## February Speaker: Colleen Brown



Colleen Brown is a former local body politician, and community advocate, serving on Manukau City Council for nine years and for 15 years as a Counties Manukau representative on the DHB. She lives with her family in Hillpark, one of the last remaining urban forests in Auckland City.

She is the parent of four adult children one of whom, Travers, has Down Syndrome. Her background is as an educationist and disability advocate. She writes for the Listener, is a published author and a disability commentator. She is the Chair of Disability Connect, an information and support service for families of disabled people, and is also a member of CPAG executive.

Colleen will speak of her research into the Bulford Kiwi. Members may have seen the Kiwi and the letters NZ in the side of a nearby hill above the Salisbury Plains, England, created in 1919 while NZ soldiers awaited return from WWI.

## December Speakers: Braden Harris and Julia Banks

We had plenty of entertainment for our Christmas meeting. Julia Banks, after telling us of her impressive “credentials” as an actor, singer, songwriter and inventor of a popular word game, delighted us with a variety of ingenious and humorous songs and poems. My favourites were her shaggy dog story of outback musicians - the Ayers Rock poem— delivered in a wonderful ocker accent – which had us all laughing, and her “telephone” poem, where she expressed so well the confusion we all experience when coming to terms with new smartphone technology.

After that, Braden Harris aka Elvis , sang a medley of Elvis songs, charming us with his lovely smile and colourful ribbons.

The entertainment was followed by a delicious lunch and a huge raffle with many prizes. A great time had by all!



Some pics from the day





## From the committee:

For those who plan to use their AT Super Gold Cards this year, they might like to check that their cards have not expired. The cards do not have an expiry date on them. I needed mine for a ferry trip to the city last week. I phoned the help number to find that my card had expired after six years. They can be reissued, with a gold card and photographic ID at the Panmure Train Station or Ferry buildings in the city. Given the covid years, when many people did not use trains, buses or ferries, there may be more than a few of us with expired cards!

## U3A Howick website

Don't forget to become a follower on our website. Just google [u3ahowicknz.co.nz](http://u3ahowicknz.co.nz) and then click on the bottom right corner of the home page where it says Follow and enter your email address.

U3A Facebook page: Join this facebook group (u3ahowick) for interesting information and updates.

## From the Convenors:



Mobile Photography group at Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition at Auckland Museum on 24 January

## Out and about:

- Alliance Francais French Market, 1 April, 131 Remuera Road 9am to 1.00pm
- Auckland Live Summer in the Square, Aotea Square 1 to 25 February – see Auckland Live website for details
- NZ Trio – Groove Café, February 16 Uxbridge Centre 1.00 pm
- Howick Little Theatre, Grand Horizons – a “comedy of marital mayhem” 24 February to 16 March
- Exhibition at the Auckland Art Gallery showing Guo Pei’s innovative and visually striking clothing ensemble designs, shoes and jewellery. It is on until 5 May 2024.
- Manukau Symphony Orchestra – Rachmaninov 2: 9 March 7.30pm at Due Drop Events Centre

<b>Groups(yellow=closed * members welcome</b>	<b>Date 2024</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Convenor</b>
Anthropology 1 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs 10 am	February 15	4A Paton Road	Cappadocia and people who lived there	Betty Reid 534 9895
Anthropology 2* 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon 10 am	February 26	1/73 Frank Nobilo Drive	Mysteries of the Ancient Dead	Linda Stubbs 0272975601
<b>Architecture</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri 10 am	February 2	2/21 Drake Street	Pot pourri	June Lamborn 535 8069
Book Discussion 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs 1.30 *	February 22	129 Pah Road	Books	Susanne Morgan 0211852020
Civilisations 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon 1 pm	February 19	55 Rodney Street	Sea peoples and demise of Bronze age	Linda Stubbs 0272975601
Comparative Religions 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday 1.30pm *	February 26	55 Rodney Street		Margaret Nicholls 021344083
Current Affairs* 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed 1.30pm	February 14	11 Shelly Beach Parade	Rehabilitating prisoners and safe release	Jan Naish-Wallis 027 220 3777
Earth and the Universe 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues 10 am	February 27	BM Theatre	TBA	Clive Bolt 534 2946
Famous & Infamous 1 1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs 10 am	February 1	Cinema lounge Dannemora Gdns	Elizabeth Woodville	Gill Muggleston 534 9863
Famous & Infamous 2 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday 2.00pm* New time	February 22	11 Shelly Beach Parade	Raold Dahl	Margaret Nicholls 021344083
French Circle* 4 <sup>th</sup> Fri 1 pm	March 1 *	74A Aberfeldy Avenue	History of French Colonialism	David Dwerryhouse 0210315416
Gardenz 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday 10am	February 6	1/73 Frank Nobilo Drive	Planning	Linda Stubbs 0272975601
History* 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 10 am				Judy Lee 535 8547
History New Zealand 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs 10 am	February 8	18 Tui Vale Shelly Park	Pot pourri	Alan La Roche 534 7366
History of NZ2* 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 2pm	February 20	39 Devon Road	New Zealand Prime Ministers	Graeme Diver 0274728033
<b>Literature</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 10 am	February 21	32 Butley drive	King Lear, by Joy Kirschberg	Judy Wilson 576 6340
Military History 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday 2.00pm	February 8 12.00pm*	Avspecs - Ardmore	WWII Mosquito bomber then café lunch	Allan Reid 5349895
Mobile photography* 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 1.00pm	February 21	1/19 Butley Drive	Portrait photos	Colleen Rigby 0272916781
Movies * 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon, 12.30 pm	February 12	11 Shelly beach Parade		Jan Naish-Wallis 027 220 3777
Opera 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues 1.15pm	February 27	BM Theatre	TBA	Geraldine Rose 5371917
Philosophy 1 <sup>st</sup> Mon 10 am	February 5	55 Rodney Street	Planning for year	Christopher Nixon 5343843
Science. 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 10 am	February 28	BM theatre	Pot pourri	Jim Hine 534 4259
<b>Travel</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed 10 am	February 7	159 Pah Road, Cockle bay	Dubai's latest tourist attraction. The Miracle Garden.	David Teape 5336103
Walks and Talks 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri 9.30 am	February 16	Meet 108 Price Road, Wiri	Puhinui Reserve	June Poole 021583893 Goeff 0211154560
World of Art 1 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon 10 am *	February 19	31 Lansell Drive	Pot pourri	Garry Law 0275665764
<b>World of Art 2</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 1.30 pm	February 20	98 Beach Road Howick	Van der Velden	Philippa Wilson 5342558
World of Music* 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 1.30 pm				Julia Forsyth 021 164 1664
Writing 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 1.30 pm	February 13	13 Anure Place, Highland Park	“You’ll never guess what happened today”	Mary Kennedy 02102250341



