



# Mt Aspiring U3A

## *Newsletter*

*September 2020*

*Number 28*

<b>Next Meeting</b>	Thursday 24 September 2020 at 1.45 pm
<b>Venue</b>	St John meeting room, 4 Link Way
<b>First Speaker</b>	Helen Howarth - to speak on Bullock Creek
<b>Main Speaker</b>	Monique Kelly of the One New Zealand Foundation (now rebranded as WAO)

### **Speaker Profiles**

**Helen Howarth** is both a Mt Aspiring U3A member and a committee member of 'Friends of Bullock Creek'. Helen will share with us some of the history of Bullock Creek and explain what the FOBC has been doing to develop and enhance the reserve at Bullock Creek Hatchery Springs.

**Monique Kelly** is an enthusiastic supporter of WAO (We Are One), a registered charitable trust based in Wanaka. WAO highlights the importance of individuals all with their own unique gifts, collaborating to form one cohesive unit to achieve a better future for all. This might include concerns about sustainability, mental health, fast fashion, food waste, plastic pollution, poverty, social justice, diversity and inclusivity etc. Monique will focus her address to us on translating global sustainability goals into a local community to practical steps that can lead to a systems shift from the grassroots upwards.

Monique lives in Wanaka and has two school age children.

### **A Word from our President**

Our Committee met last week and supported the notion that we hold our monthly meeting on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September with Helen Howarth (on Bullock Creek) and Monique Kelly (on Global Sustainability Goals and their

translation into the activities of the local community) as our speakers. While we are eager to get started again, we are mindful that the Government is unlikely to lift the Level Two restrictions currently imposed on us.

We are not anticipating more than 100 people attending, we will request that you sign in when you arrive at St Johns, and use the sanitiser provided. We will increase the distances between seats, and if you feel more comfortable you are welcome to wear a mask. We will not serve hot drinks / tea or coffee at the break between speakers; please bring your own drink. If the weather allows we will open the doors to allow some circulation of attendees outside the Hall during the break.

If you are symptomatic, or may have been in contact with someone who might be asymptotically carrying SARS-CoV-2 ie visiting from Auckland and been in contact with the identified community there, or working at our quarantine facilities, we ask you not to attend this meeting – the risks are small but our U3A include some people who would have increased susceptibility. Our thirst for knowledge should not be taken with increased risk, and if there are suddenly cases appearing in the South Island / Otago forgive us if we need to cancel at short notice.

Overall, I believe we can be optimistic, but we realise that some will decline attending until there have been no new cases reported in NZ. And one day I would like to chair a meeting: Can Medicine Deliver Us From These Evils, or does the solution rest with ourselves?

Cheers,

Allan B MacLean

## **Last Month's Speakers**

Our August meeting was cancelled due to Covid-19 concerns. However, we are hoping to hear Cassandra Treadwell's address on International Aid at a future meeting.

## **Study Groups**

You have received a copy of the Study Group list. In order to clarify the way each Study Group is structured and make your choices a little easier, each month one or two will be featured in this section.

### **Current Affairs**

The group meets monthly with a presentation, on a topic of current interest, by a member; then informally over coffee each week. Over lockdown meetings were held by zoom.

There are no taboo subjects and members must respect the views of others.

Convenor is Chris Tempest at [hello@tempestonwanaka.co.nz](mailto:hello@tempestonwanaka.co.nz)

## Chess

What a wonderful game is chess. Each player commands an army, plotting and planning to overcome his/her opponent's forces. No luck is involved, all the pieces are there for both players to see: victory goes to the player with the better strategy.



The game can be learned in an hour or so, leaving the rest of your life to go on improving. Whatever your level of skill the game is both enjoyable and challenging.

If you'd like to learn or play chess contact Richard Paxman at 022 673 4594 or email: [paxmanr0@gmail.com](mailto:paxmanr0@gmail.com)

## Members' Forum

National election time is here again ...



## September is NZ Suffrage Month

September 19, 1893 is the day we remember and celebrate the day that women in New Zealand were granted the right to vote alongside men. This occurred because many women and men worked hard together to convince the government of the day this was the right and proper thing to do.

Today we have a group of young people and their supporters who are asking us to consider that 16- and 17-year olds should also have this right to vote. Some of us probably do not agree with this. However, I believe we need to listen to them and show respect for them and their reasons.

Consider this: at age 16 years they are closer in age to our current Prime Minister, aged 40 years, than many of us can claim to be. Government decisions made currently will probably affect the lives of these young folk longer than it will our lives.

Yes, some 16- and 17-year olds may not be seen as mature enough to vote but doesn't that apply to some adults as well?

So all I am asking is that we all listen to our young suffragists, respect their views and support their rights to bring this to the attention of all ages.

Jenny Moss

## **Mt Aspiring U3A Committee and Contacts**

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