



Supporting
Lifelong Learning

Howick Inc.

PO Box 39035
Howick 2145

JULY 2018



COMMITTEE 2018-2019

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BEVERLY JIN *Ten-Minute Speakers*

NEXT MEETING: July 9, 9.30 am
Howick Bowling Club

GUEST SPEAKER: Giuseppe Gallina: An Italian
in New Zealand

TEN MINUTES: Short story

TEA BREAK: Science group

NEW HOME FOR HOWICK U3A

THE Howick Bowling Club will be Howick U3A's new 'home', starting with the July meeting. President Margaret Nicholls announced this to applause at last month's meeting. This facility is better than the Nixon Hall in every respect: spaciousness, range of facilities, ambience and the general aspect. Besides, and this is important, ample parking on level ground makes manoeuvring of cars easier than kerb-side parking on the undulating Sale Street and its side lanes.

The Auckland Council-owned Nixon Hall is no longer fit for purpose. The committee had for some time been made aware of members' unhappiness with the state of the toilets. There had also been the odd occasion when malfunctioning locks required urgent calls to be made to Council to secure entry on meeting days. Ventilation is poor. There is no installed sound and video system, a notable omission for a meeting hall. Above all, rent is to be raised from January 2019. We will be charged \$100 a month for the use of the Bowling Club, against \$81 we paid for Nixon Hall. The hike will not place a burden on Howick U3A's finances; it is small considering the superior facilities. Howick U3A has been refunded for the rent paid in advance for Nixon Hall, less a cancellation charge of \$150.

A note of caution: Drive carefully when entering and exiting the club's car park as the one-way roads are steep and rather tight.

FAREWELL TO THE PEARSONS

TIM Pearson and Kerry, who are moving away to live in Pauanui after 36 years in Howick, were bid a fond farewell by members last month. Mr Pearson was Howick U3A president in 2015/16 and had been with the club for eight years. Mrs Pearson had an even longer association, for 14 years. President Margaret Nicholls spoke for many when she expressed appreciation for Mr Pearson's work in rewriting Howick U3A's constitution and his participation in numerous study groups. As a stalwart of the textile industry in his working life, he was elected a Fellow of the Textile Institute. He had also been tapped by the government to help resolve industry disputes between New Zealand and Australia in the late 1980s and early 1990s under the Closer Economic Relations pact.

As for their new phase in trendy Pauanui ('Our home is by a lovely golf course,' he enthused), Mr Pearson may start a community initiative like the U3A there. The Pearsons thanked members for their friendship and wished them well.



ITALIAN NORTH SHORE BOY

This month's guest speaker Giuseppe Gallina (picture) moved to New Zealand in 1993 from Italy. He will recount his experiences as an immigrant in a country nearly as multi-cultural and multi-ethnic as Australia, which has a sizeable Italian presence. A resident of Milford, he describes himself as a North Shore boy through and through.

NEXT MONTH: Heather Baigent will talk about her diplomatic career with postings in China (as No 2 in the embassy), Indonesia and Samoa. She will also fill the 10-minute slot to discuss the work of the Auckland U3A Network, of which she is a council member.

SEX AND TAX: THE LINK

WHAT does sexually transmitted disease (STD) have to do with New Zealand's revenue base? Plenty, but few people may see the nexus. In her talk last month on infectious diseases and drug-resistant bacteria, microbiologist Siouxsie Wiles spoke of how STD -- principally chlamydia, widespread in many countries and whose symptoms are easy to miss -- can lead to infertility in men and women.

For a low-population, fast ageing country like New Zealand, the consequences then become clear. Reproductive impediments coming on top of a historically low total fertility rate will over time result in a shrinking tax take as, proportionally, there will be fewer working-age people to replenish a work force depleted by accelerating ageing. This could be New Zealand's dilemma, similar to Japan and Singapore. New Zealand's 1.8 fertility rate in 2017 is below the replacement rate of 2.1 at which level the population stays constant.

Outcome: tax revenue stagnates or declines, the country's fiscal position gets out of whack and urgent capital and recurrent social expenditures are cut back. Dr Wiles gave her audience the example of funding for superannuation becoming problematic in the not too distant future. It would in part be attributable to the proclivity among twenty-somethings for unprotected sex, leading possibly to infections and infertility. Not only the young but also among the middle-aged, according to her data.

The stark message in Dr Wiles's talk was that New Zealand could do a better job of prevention and control of communicable diseases (it has the highest rate of increase in the OECD developed world), and that more resources need to be allocated for research and development of new vaccines and antibiotics. Her own research unit in Auckland University has been chronically under-funded, she said.

CALLING, CALLING

THE history and book discussion groups have vacancies. New members are heartily welcome. Contact Judy Lee and Margaret Smith, respectively. The poetry group (convener Beth Voogd) is also seeking to reinforce numbers while it suspends activities for now. Reading poetry is a favourite pastime of retirees so what gives, members?

WORLD WAR II PAUSE

THE World War II group will not have meetings for at least three months, from July, as acting convener Ron Clifton will be abroad while the convener, Allan Reid, recuperates after surgery.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A NUMBER of members are outstanding on the \$20 subscription. Cash/cheques may be paid to Treasurer Joni Burgess at the front desk. Online payments to ASB 12 3040 0556154 00 with name as reference. Cheques to Howick U3A Inc, mail Howick U3A Box 39035, Howick, Auckland 2014, or to Ms Burgess.

TEA SUPPORT

VOLUNTEERS are wanted as a permanent assistant to help tea-break coordinator Betty Reid at the monthly meeting. Please approach her directly. Not only women, but men too are welcome.

OUT AND ABOUT

++ **IRISH Celtic**, a song and dance presentation from Ireland, at The Civic next month. If you've seen the immensely successful Riverdance, you get some idea of the entertainment although this troupe's moves are more earthy, less salon-like. Evening shows Aug 15-18, weekend matinee performances Aug 18-19. Video trailer on irishceltic.co.nz. Tickets start at \$70 from Ticketmaster (ticketmaster.co.nz, 0800 111999.)

++ FANS of voice should flock to the Town Hall on July 28 (7.30 pm) for the final of the biennial **Lexus Song Quest**. Five aspiring opera singers will compete for the grand prize, accompanied by the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. Semi-finals in Wellington on July 21-22. Kiri Te Kanawa and Malvina Major were past winners when the competition was known as the Mobil Song Quest. More on songquest.co.nz. Tickets from \$39, Ticketmaster.

++ **CELINE Dion** gives three shows at Spark Arena Aug 11, 12 14. Showtime 6.30 pm. Cheapest tickets \$119 for D Reserve, Ticketmaster.

++ FANCY an encounter with **Jane Fonda**? The actress, exercise trend-setter and anti-war icon will be the focus of one of those 'Evening with...' events. Aotea Centre, Aug 30, 8 pm. She will hold forth on acting, political activism, gender wars and more, if the right questions are asked of her (that is, if her appearance contract has a Q&A clause.) See janefondatour.com. Tickets from \$100, Ticketmaster.

++ THE **Auckland Philharmonia** presents a concert performance of the opera **Aida** on July 20, 7.30 pm, Town Hall. Italian lyric soprano Maria Luigia Borsi in the title role, Antonello Palombi is Radames. With the Freemasons NZ Opera Chorus. Conductor Giordano Bellincampi. Seniors concessions from \$58, from the APO box office in the Town Hall or call APO Ticketing 6231052. Bookings also available with Ticketmaster.

Groups (yellow denotes full)	Date	Venue	Topic	Convener
Ancient Civilisations 3 rd Mon 1pm	July 16	Cora Young's 55 Rodney St	<i>The Vikings</i> Monica Mooney and David Dwerryhouse	Cora Young 534 8623
Anthropology H 3 rd Thurs 10 am	July 19	BM Theatre	<i>Indigenous and Chinese Medicine Pt 2</i> Jennie Leyland and Betty Reid	Jennie Leyland 534 4034 Betty Reid 534 9895
Anthropology L 4 th Mon 10 am	July 23	Cora Young's 55 Rodney St	<i>Indigenous and Chinese Medicine Pt 2</i> Jennie Leyland and Betty Reid	Margaret Hieatt 534 9131
Architecture 1 st Fri 10 am	Aug 3	Bevin Cornwall's 77 Pah Rd, Cockle B	<i>Le Corbusier</i> Bevin Cornwall <i>Zaha Hadid</i> Margaret Nicholls	Maurice Taylor 534 8538
Book Discussion 4 th Thurs 2 pm	July 26	Margaret Smith's 25 Centre Ct, PPV	Latest reads	Margaret Smith 576 3206
Earth and the Universe 4 th Tues 10 am	July 24	BM Theatre	<i>Atmosphere Dynamics</i>	Clive Bolt 534 2946
Famous & Infamous 1 1 st Tues 10 am	Concluded Aug 7 next			Peter Garrick 535 4085
Famous & Infamous 2 3 rd Thurs 2 pm	July 19	Ray Lewis's 1/57 Mellons Bay Rd	<i>Eleanor Roosevelt</i> Jeanette Fenn	Richard/Moira Burns 533 8793
Famous & Infamous 3 1 st Thurs 10 am	Aug 2	Jean Denholm's 2/21 Drake St	<i>Carl Faberge</i> Jean Fitzgerald	Jean Fitzgerald 577 5546
Forum 3 rd Fri 10 am	July 20	Beverley Luxton's 1 Village Dr, PPV	Open discussion	Beverley Luxton 576 9625
French 4 th Fri 1 pm	July 27	Gayleen Mackereth's 170 Cook St	<i>Louis Pasteur</i> Ros Vallings	David Dwerryhouse 534 4829
History 3 rd Tues 10 am	July 17	BM Theatre	<i>Hadrian's Wall</i> DVD and discussion	Judy Lee 535 8547
History of New Zealand 2 nd Thurs 10 am	July 12	Alan La Roche's 18 Tui Vale Rd	Potpourri	Alan La Roche 534 7366
Literature 3 rd Wed 10 am	July 18	Judy Wilson's 32 Butley Drive	<i>Alexandre Dumas</i> Ilona Kington	Judy Wilson 576 6340
Nature Walks and Talks 2nd Fri 9 am	July 13	Meet outside Nixon Hall	Howick historical highlights: Waipaparoa, Uxbridge, Selwyn, Cook, Sale	Alan La Roche 534 7366
Opera 1 2 nd Tues 9.30 am	July 10	BM Theatre	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> by Charles Gounod	Hilary Patterson 533 8785
Opera 2 4 th Tues 1 pm	July 24	BM Theatre	<i>Mefistofele</i> by Arrigo Boito	Moya Nixon 535 5309
Philosophy 1st Mon 10 am	Aug 6	BM Theatre	Individual contributions	Christopher Nixon 535 5309
Poetry 2 nd Tues 2 pm			Activities suspended until September	Beth Voogd 534 7468
Science 4 th Wed 10 am	July 25	BM Theatre	Potpourri	Jim Hine 534 4259
Sunday Discussion 2nd Sunday, noon	Concluded Aug 12 next			Joan Clarkson 537 6397
Travel 1 st Wed 10 am	Concluded Aug 1 next			David Dwerryhouse 534 4829
World of Art 1 3 rd Mon 10 am	July 16	Meet Urban in East Cafe, 121 Picton St	<i>Guided visit to Malcolm Smith Gallery, Uxbridge</i>	Garry Law 271 6505
World of Art 2 3 rd Tues 1.30 pm	July 17	Philippa Wilson's 12 Daria Place	<i>Degas</i> Philippa Wilson	Heather Watson 274 4747
World of Music 4 th Wed 1.30 pm	July 18	Ngair Taylor's 6 Stevenson Way	<i>Scandinavian Composers</i> Chua Huck Cheng <i>Dvorak</i> Joan Dowd	Ngair Taylor 534 8538
World War II 2 nd Thurs 2pm			Activities suspended for about three months	Ron Clifton 537 1592
Writing 2 nd Tues 1.30 pm	Aug 7 (No meeting in July)	Marian Heywood's 1/8 Aylmer Ct, Eastern Bch	<i>Painting</i>	Marian Heywood 534 1159

