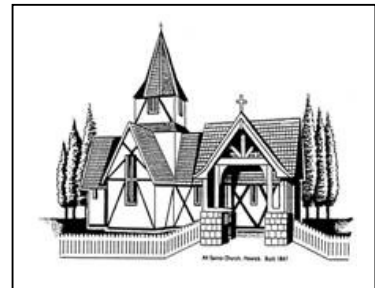




## Howick Inc.

PO Box 39035  
Howick 2145  
MAY 2019

FINAL EDITION



### COMMITTEE 2018-2019

**MARGARET NICHOLLS**

*President/Director of Studies*

**DAVID DWERRYHOUSE**

*Vice President/Membership*

**WARREN YARDLEY**

*Immediate Past President/Guest Speakers*

**CORA YOUNG** *Secretary*

**JONI BURGESS** *Treasurer*

**CHUA HUCK CHENG** *Newsletter*

**ROSEMARY OVENS** *Almoner*

**BEVERLY JOHNSON** *Assistant Secretary*

**BEVERLY JIN** *Ten-Minute Speakers*

### 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

May 13, 9.30 am, Howick Bowling Club

**GUEST SPEAKERS: Dave Ronson: Howick in the UK**

**Geoff Mooney: Maritime Rescue**

**TEA ASSIST: Writing group**

### 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

- ++ Minutes of the 2018-2019 AGM
- ++ Outgoing President's report
- ++ Treasurer's report
- ++ Election of the President and committee for the 2019-2020 term
- ++ General business

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT SOUGHT

NOTICE of a constitutional amendment on the scheduling of the annual general meeting was given last month by David Dwerryhouse, who presided over the monthly meeting in the absence of President Margaret Nicholls. The constitution provides for the AGM to be held in April. The amending motion, to be tabled at this meeting, seeks to permit the AGM to be deferred for a month if circumstances warranted it. Half of paid-up members form a quorum and a two-thirds majority is required for the motion to pass. The motion:

**After Clause 5.4, the following clause be added:**

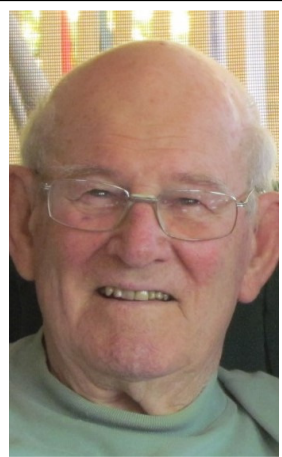
**'5.5 The AGM may be deferred until the May monthly meeting if the committee considers that there is a compelling reason to do so. This provision applies from April 2019'**

### VICE-PRESIDENT, ANYONE?

THE meeting chair reported that no nomination for Vice-President for the 2019-2020 term has been received. Probables approached had all declined. Nominations will remain open and it is hoped this position will be filled during the year.

### MEMBERS HOUR

Two members will share the speaker's rostrum at this meeting. **DAVE RONSON** (picture far right) was born in England, came to live in New Zealand at age 24, and has been in the chemicals industry for most of his life. His subject: An English town named Howick. **GEOFF MOONEY** (right) spent most of his life in the merchant marine, attaining the level of master mariner. Latterly he was with the Transport Ministry's marine division which coordinates air-sea rescue in coastal waters. Maritime rescue is what he will talk about.



**NEXT MONTH:** Paediatric scientist Jane Harding of Auckland University will speak on the Liggins Institute.

### ***SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE NOW***

SUBSCRIPTION of \$20 for the new financial year can be paid to Treasurer Joni Burgess at the meeting. Cheques made out to Howick U3A can also be mailed to Howick U3A Box 39035, Howick, Auckland 2014. Online payments to ASB Bank 12 3040 0556154 00 with surname as reference.

### ***WELCOME, WELCOME***

DAVID and Adrienne Teape (sponsor Jan Naish-Wallis) and Angela Cullen (sponsor Geraldine Rose) were welcomed as new members last month. The Teapes are keen on opera. Likewise Angela Cullen, who likes French besides.

### ***RESIGNED***

CELIA Martin, Joan Ransom and Jeannie Erikson have resigned their memberships.

### ***AVIATION & AEROSPACE TAKES FLIGHT***

EIGHT members have signed up for the new group, Aviation and Aerospace, and six of them attended the inaugural meeting on April 3 which had the Boeing 737 and MiG 15 on the agenda. More members are sought – so zoom in.

### ***AUCKLAND NETWORK SPECIAL***

THE Auckland U3A parent, the Auckland Network, holds its annual special on Aug 30 at the Barfoot & Thompson Netball Centre, 44 Northcote Rd, North Shore. Mike King, New Zealander of the Year, will be the main speaker and U3A chapters will make presentations. Duration 10 am to 2.30 pm. Cost is \$25 including lunch. Book with Secretary Cora Young or register online [u3anz.com/event](http://u3anz.com/event).



*Photo credit Warren Yardley*

### ***WALKY-TALKY***

**WALKING** in windy conditions as rain threatened, and learning nuggets of local history along the way: What could be more fun? Alan La Roche, walks convenor and Howick Historian, explained to the group of eight on their April 12 walk that the Nixon Hall area, from where they started out, was once swampland. Sale Street where the hall stands was named after a ship, the *Sir Robert Sale*, which arrived in Auckland in 1847 with a complement of retired Fencible soldiers and their families. They were then transported to Howick Beach. This event coincided with the calamitous Irish potato famine which led to an exodus of Irish emigrants to the New World. A small number came to Australasia. The walkers then swung by where Augusta Wallace had grown up. She was the first woman district court judge who also served on the Waitangi Tribunal for a long 18 years. Next up was Keppoch Lodge, residence of a Fencible captain. Mr La Roche, with his store of knowledge, kept up the commentary along Nun's Walk and down to Howick Beach. Pictured above at the Nixon Hall steps are (from left) Joan Clarkson, Geoff Austin, Maureen Meyrick, Liz Smith, Pamela Henty, Allan Reid, Alan La Roche and David Teape. The ninth walker was Warren Yardley, who took the photo and sent in this report.



## REPORT ON LAST MONTH'S TALK

### **BILL POTTER – THE AGES OF MAN**

IT TOOK humour and some daring for last month's guest speaker, Bill Potter, to confront a U3A audience with the admonition that they will feel only as old as they think they are. An opening remark in his talk went like this: "It is a privilege to stand in front of a hot, young crowd." Subdued, scattered laughter. Those Howick members who are wise to the ways of the world and reasonably read in motivational psychology might have thought, "Oh please, not *that* corn again." Mr Potter acknowledged he had been told by his hosting committee the youngest member in the Howick U3A was 68 and there were not a few in their nineties.

Members had come to hear him, in all likelihood not to be persuaded of the old chestnut that age is what you make of it, but to ascertain how persuasive he could be in his assertion that age is mind over matter. (If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.) The trim Mr Potter was reasonable advertising for himself as he didn't look his years. Being good sports members engaged him in his parlour-game routine of playing feel-good games within their table groups. Some in the audience nodded in concert with his gags and throwaway lines.

This was above all an entertainment which most of the audience took in the spirit in which it was intended. Charm Mr Potter laid on in oodles with the practised ease of a public speaker who said he had given talks and presentations in 57 countries. Gosh, that number is close to one-third of the United Nations membership. He spoke ambiguously of encounters with the royals of Japan and Sweden; he had been in senior management in New Zealand and the United States; he has refereed in rugby at up to international level; and as a boy he was interned by the invading Japanese in Indonesia, where he was born. This person has been around. Delivery was well-oiled, facial cues timed perfectly.

A sampling of his attempted persuasions on the subject at hand:

"Do not live by the birth date in your passport, birth certificate or driver's licence – or you will really feel old-old."

"What's your inner age?," members were instructed to ask table-mates. Mr Potter gave his as 27. "You say you are marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of age 27 – and you'll never feel 77."

Who are the people perpetuating the notion that old is old?, he asked. After running off a string of ageism put-downers (some unprintable), he settled on one ("a burden to society") to make his point about being self-defeatist. "Yes", he said triumphantly, "it's not young people who are doing that old-is-old stuff, but oldsters themselves." So stop punishing yourself, he was saying.

To turn the tables, not that there has been much evidence of a young versus old divisiveness in New Zealand society, Mr Potter offered his version of a one-liner to wipe the smirk off young people's faces: "Keep up" -- as in going one better on self-proclaimed sophisticates.

Now *that* will make them feel behind the curve, he suggested. Latest smartphone from Apple/Samsung that young people lust after? His rejoinder: "After Alexander Graham Bell, all that came after were dumb phones because Bell's was the first phone that worked." Electric scooters ridden by young fiends that are knocking old people off footpaths? A suffragette in flowing costume was riding one (perhaps mechanically enabled?) in 1916, it was claimed. Mr Potter brandished what appeared to be photographic evidence.

The last act of showmanship had tease written all over it. Mr Potter inveigled audience members to say to themselves: "I am still doing it." A titter ran through the hall this time. It could have been a hiss, but the senior folk of Howick were nothing if not charitable.

## OUT AND ABOUT

++ **THE Manukau Symphony Orchestra** performs **Faure's Requiem** and **Beethoven's 8<sup>th</sup> Symphony** on May 25, 7.30 pm. Vodafone Events Centre, Great South Rd. Soprano **Gina Sanders** and baritone **James Harrison** in the Faure, backed by two choirs. Conductor **Uwe Grodd**. Seniors \$37-\$63, [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz) or call 5773031.

++ **AUCKLAND Writers Festival** at the Aotea Centre, May 13-29. Full programme on [writersfestival.co.nz](http://writersfestival.co.nz). Tickets from [ticketmaster.co.nz](http://ticketmaster.co.nz) (0800 111999). Star turn by **PM Jacinda Ardern** on May 17 to talk about stardust, image and substance in politics. Another notable event is historian **Vincent O'Malley** giving the Michael King Lecture on the Maori-Crown wars, also May 17.

++ **BACH Musica NZ** presents **Beethoven's 2<sup>nd</sup> Piano Concerto** (soloist **Ashani Waidyatillake**) and the premiere of NZ composer **Andrew Perkins's The Birds** on May 26, Town Hall at 5 pm. Conductor **Rita Paczian**. Tickets \$30-\$70, buy online [bachmusica.com](http://bachmusica.com).

++ **UXBRIDGE Arts & Culture** presents country and folk music featuring **Raylee Bradfield** and friends on May 18. Showtime 8 pm. Tickets 5356467 or [info@uxbridge.org.nz](mailto:info@uxbridge.org.nz).

++ **THE Spirit of Annie Ross**, a comedy by Irish dramatist Bernard Farrell, is playing at **Howick Little Theatre**. Season ends May 25, starts 8 pm. Directed by **Jan Saussey**. Tickets [iticket.co.nz](http://iticket.co.nz).

<u>Groups (yellow denotes full)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Convenor</u>
Anthropology H 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs 10 am	May 16	BM Theatre	<i>Immunisation</i> Gill Muggleston	Jennie Leyland 534 4034 Betty Reid 534 9895
Anthropology L 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon 10 am	May 27	Rona Heywood's 2/15 Millhouse Dr	<i>Immunisation</i> Gill Muggleston	Margaret Heatt 534 9131
Architecture 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri 10 am	June 7	Helen Bolt's 20 Camwell Close	<i>Spanish Missions</i> H. Bolt <i>Church in Quito</i> J. Lamborn	Malcolm/Dilys Booth 534 3604
Aviation and Aerospace 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed 10 am	June 5	BM Theatre	Potpourri	Clive Bolt 534 2946
Book Discussion 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs 2 pm	May 23	Margaret Smith's 25 Centre Ct, PPV		Margaret Smith 576 3206
Civilisations 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon 1 pm	May 20	Cora Young's 55 Rodney St	<i>Polytheism in Late Neolithic Era</i> C. Young & W. Yardley	Cora Young 534 8623
Earth and the Universe 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues 10 am	May 28	BM Theatre	<i>Supernovas and Neutron Stars</i>	Clive Bolt 534 2946
Famous & Infamous 1 1 <sup>st</sup> Tues 10 am	June 4	Nancy Edwards's 17 Masefield St	<i>Te Whiti &amp; Parihaka</i> Peter Garrick	Peter Garrick 535 4085
Famous & Infamous 2 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs 2 pm	May 16	Allan Reid's 4A Paton Rd	Potpourri	Ray Lewis 535 5628
Famous & Infamous 3 1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs 10 am	June 6	Jeanette Fenn's 70 Cantora Ave	<i>William Bligh</i> Jeanette Fenn	Gill Muggleston 534 9863
Forum 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri 10 am	May 17	Beverley Luxton's 1 Village Dr, PPV		Beverley Luxton 576 9625
French 4 <sup>th</sup> Fri 1 pm	May 24	David Dwerryhouse's 74A Aberfeldy Ave	<i>Monaco and the French Riviera</i> Maria Wijchers	David Dwerryhouse 534 4829
History 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 10 am	May 21	BM Theatre	<i>Potpourri - 5 min on your choice of history topic</i>	Judy Lee 535 8547
History of New Zealand 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs 10 am	June 13	June Barton's 16 Tui Vale, Cockle Bay	Potpourri	Alan La Roche 534 7366
Literature 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 10 am	May 15	Judy Wilson's 32 Butley Drive	<i>South American Myths &amp; Legends</i> Judy Wilson	Judy Wilson 576 6340
Nature Walks and Talks 2nd Fri 9 am	June 14	Meet St Paul's Church carpark, Chapel Rd	<i>View Barry Curtis Park improvements</i>	Alan La Roche 534 7366
Opera 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 9.30 am	May 14	BM Theatre	Gounod's <i>Faust (contd)</i> <i>and operatic sundries</i>	Jean Denholm 534 6844
Opera 2 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues 1 pm	May 28	BM Theatre	<i>La Traviata</i> by Verdi Placido Domingo 110 min	Geraldine Rose 537 1917
Philosophy 1st Mon 10 am	June 3	BM Theatre	<i>Get Better At Living Life</i> Group discussion	Christopher Nixon 535 5309
Poetry 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 2 pm	May 14	Colleen Williams's 1/139 Clovelly Rd	<i>A.A. Milne Revisited</i>	Beth Voogd 534 7468
Science 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 10 am	May 22	BM Theatre	Potpourri	Jim Hine 534 4259
Sunday Discussion 2nd Sun noon	June 9	Meadowlands Coffee Club		Joan Clarkson 537 6397
Travel 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed 10 am	June 5	David Dwerryhouse's 74A Aberfeldy Ave	<i>More of the UK and Vivid Sydney</i> Warren and Alice Taylor	Warren Taylor 534 3482
World of Art 1 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon 10 am	May 20	BM Theatre	<i>Potpourri on glass plus a video</i>	Garry Law 271 6505
World of Art 2 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 1.30 pm	May 21	Jean Denholm's 2/21 Drake St	<i>Pavement Artists</i> J. Denholm <i>M.C. Escher</i> H. Watson	Heather Watson 274 4747
World of Music 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 1.30 pm	May 22	Ngaire Taylor's 6 Stevenson Way	<i>Holst and The Planets</i> Ngaire Taylor	Ngaire Taylor 534 8538
World War II 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs 2pm	June 13	Ray Lewis's 1/57 Mellons Bay Rd	<i>Spitfire Lost in France</i> Ray Lewis	Allan Reid 534 9895
Writing 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 1.30 pm	May 14	Judy Wilson's 32 Butley Drive	<i>Barking Up the Wrong Tree</i>	Marian Heywood 534 1159

