



Supporting
Lifelong Learning

Howick Inc.

PO Box 39035

Howick 2145

September 2020



COMMITTEE

2020-2021

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President/Auckland U3A Network Liaison

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ROSEMARY OVENS *Almoner/Welcomer*

WARREN YARDLEY *Ten-minute Speakers*

Next General Meeting:

(*subject to Level 1)

Monday 12/10/ 2020: 9.30 at Howick Bowling Club

Speaker: Richard Lees: Making Victorian Toys

Ten-minute speaker: Short Story

Tea Group: History of New Zealand

Subscriptions are now due. Thanks to those who have paid their subs. If you have not yet paid (\$20.00) please pay to the ASB account 12 3040 0556154 00 - state your name in the reference field.

If you do not have internet banking, you can pay by cash at the front table before general meetings.

Editorial:

Well, here we are again. We all knew that the dreaded Covid would be back, but its return was shocking nevertheless. Once we all get back together in our groups, whenever that may be, no doubt there will be more stories to tell. For now, though, we must just wait and see.

The timetable of group meetings, therefore, must be viewed as a work of fiction – which may or may not turn out to happen in real life. I have put in tentative information that convenors have given me, and put in TBA where specific information is not available at the moment. Given that we now know that level 2 will remain until at least mid-September, I have put in tentative October dates for meetings that will definitely not be happening. In the meantime, I'm sure we are doing a lot of keeping-in-touch from a distance. Take care, and see you soon.

General meeting August



The ten-minute speaker was Peter Robson who talked about his experience as an opal miner in 1969. On a working holiday in Australia, he met a friend who had a licence to mine for opals at Lightning Ridge in north-western New South Wales, so he decided to go in search of a fortune. The land was dry and the diggers had to live in holes in the ground with tin roofs but no power, water or drainage. Peter and his friend had to dig into a single three-foot by four-foot shaft through clay soils using shovels, buckets and ladders, underneath which a layer of opals could be lying. After an hour, their candles went out- no oxygen! They then moved on to a four-shaft mine, which had better ventilation, but was also occupied by snakes, which had to be removed before entry. They were searching for an angel stone, which would denote the presence of more opals. After two weeks, they did find an angel stone, but unfortunately no other opals turned up. This was disappointing, as a \$100,000 opal had been found sixty kilometres away. In March, the rains came, and the mines started to collapse. The friends had not made their fortune but had a priceless experience.

Main Speakers: Fiona Leydon and Chrissie Miller from the Salvation Army



Fiona and Chrissie, Public Relations Officers for the Salvation Army, gave an interesting and informative talk on the history and work of this amazing organisation. The religious denomination was started in the mid nineteenth Century in England by William Booth who, with his wife, Catherine, left the Methodist Church to become a travelling preacher, especially in the slum areas of London. Their work spread around the world, including in the Front Line in WW1 and in New Zealand. Members are generally married couples and gender equality is important. The workers wear uniforms and use army terminology, although their work is peaceful and focussed on service to others.

In New Zealand, The Army worked among Maori and in Dunedin during the goldrush, where alcohol and drug use were common. In 1884, they established Epsom Lodge for newly-released prisoners, which now provides 70 beds for the homeless.

These days, the organisation is involved in a dazzling variety of services for the needy. They run social housing around Auckland and even won an architectural award for a 70-Unit block to house single and elderly people, where counselling, chaplaincy and communal lounges are available. They also work with Habitat for Humanity and are building new units in Westgate and Flat Bush, all with wraparound services for tenants.

They run mentoring services for troubled teens, along with trips and camps for the disadvantaged. They run soup-kitchens and provide food parcels for the needy – a service that has exploded during the Covid 19 lockdowns. After the Christchurch earthquake, they provided portable toilets and showers for displaced residents.

When they noticed that mobile shopping trucks, with huge mark-ups on goods, were preying on people in poorer suburbs, they set up “The Good Shop”, a mobile store that sells at retail prices with reasonable loan repayment and budgeting schemes available.

The presenters emphasised that the aim of the Salvation Army is to walk beside people to assist them to make changes in their lives, and their talk certainly showed us the many and creative ways the Army does this.

October Speaker*

Details to follow in October’s Newsletter.

Membership

It is with sadness that we announce the loss of Dawn Peterson who died recently. Vivian Roberts has resigned. Theo Surynt, Fred Holland and Celeste Holland have joined us.

From the Committee

At our September (zoom) meeting, we discussed the frustration of missing meetings on account of raised Covid levels. We all agreed, though, that it is better to be safe than sorry, and even though meetings of less than ten are legally allowed, it remains unsafe for us older folk to meet unless we are at level 1. In the meantime, convenors are asked to keep in touch with group members, perhaps by phone or even via zoom for those of you confident enough to give it a try.

Out and About

Arts + Climate Innovation: Livestream Korero “Track Zero, in partnership with Auckland Live and the Performing Arts Network NZ, is hosting a series of korero with leading thinkers in the science, arts and cultural communities” Watch free online on youtube: details on www.aucklandlive.co.nz/show/arts

ArtweekAuckland 2020 Aotea Arts Quarter 10 – 18 October (details on Auckland Live website)

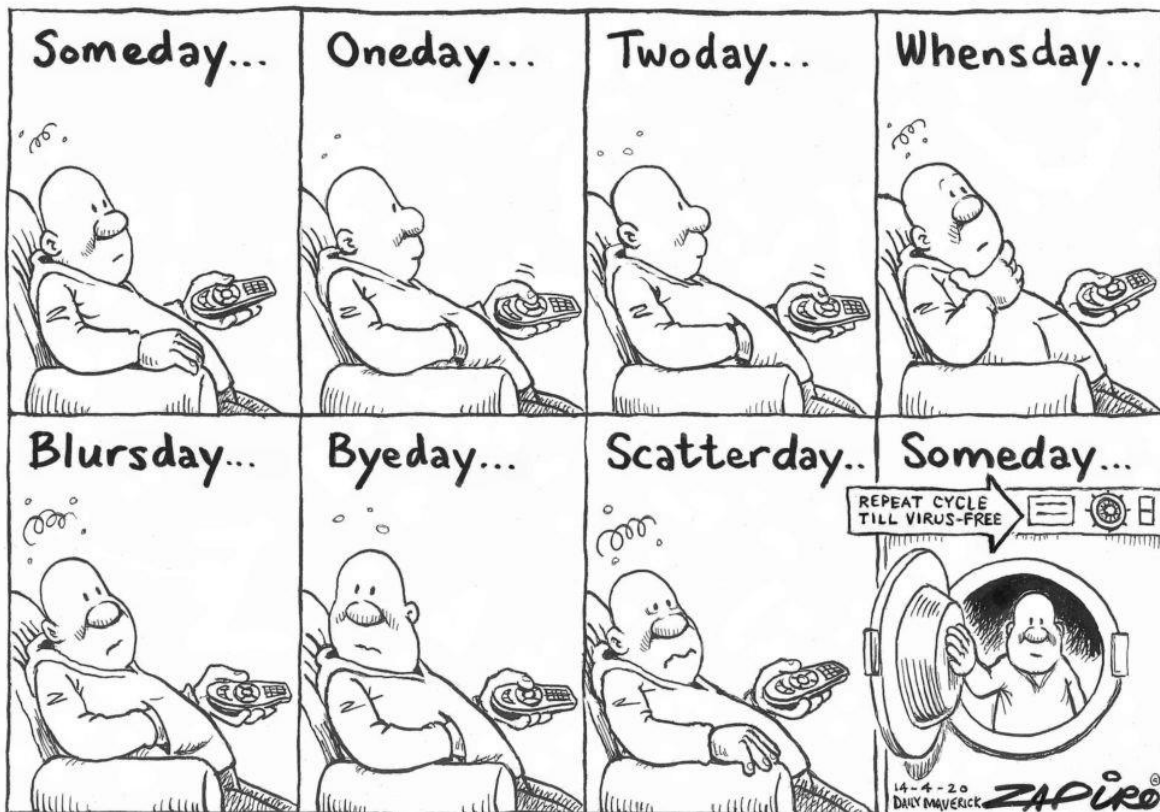
Morning Melodies 2020 Concert series 12 October: A morning with the Caitlin Smith Trio. Tickets \$7.00 – book through Auckland Live website

Vivaldi, Rodrigo and Mozart: 20 September Auckland Town Hall Tickets \$15.00 to \$17.00. Book through Auckland Live website

Uxbridge Theatre: St Andrew’s Big Band – Thursday 8 October at 8pm
Paul Ubana Jones – Friday 13 November

For both of these, book through www.uxbridge.org.nz

Out and about covid-style:



***All dates are tentative – Groups will not meet until Level 1.**

Groups (yellow denotes full)	Date	Venue	Topic	Convenor
Anthropology 1 3 rd Thurs 10 am	September 17*	BM Theatre	Queens of the kingdom War on women	Jennie Leyland 534 4034 Betty Reid 534 9895
Anthropology 2 4 th Mon 10 am	September 28	55 Rodney Street	Whaling in the Pacific	Margaret Heatt 534 9131
Architecture 1 st Fri 10 am	October 2*	12 Daria Place, Northpark	James Chapman-Taylor Art-deco centres NZ	June Lamborn 5358069
Aviation and Aerospace 1 st Wed 10 am	October 7 *	BM Theatre	Rescue by flight 771	Clive Bolt 534 2946
Book Discussion 4 th Thurs 2 pm	September 24*	9A Merino Ave Howick	Books	Joni Burgess 5374834
Civilisations 3 rd Mon 1 pm	September 21*	55 Rodney street	The Persians	Cora Young 534 8623
Earth and the Universe 4 th Tues 10 am	September 22*	BM Theatre	The search for life in the solar system	Clive Bolt 534 2946
Famous & Infamous 1 1 st Thurs 10 am	October 1*	70 Cantora Avenue, Northpark	Lady Anne Gloncommon	Gill Muggleston 534 9863
Famous & Infamous 2 3 rd Thurs 2 pm	TBA	11 Shelly Beach Parade	Princess Louise/Thomas Jefferson/Alex Hamilton	Allan Reid 534 9895
French 4 th Fri 1 pm	September 25*	74A Aberfeldy Avenue	French regions	David Dwerryhouse 534 4829
History 3 rd Tues 10 am	TBA	BM Theatre	Augustus Caesar	Judy Lee 535 8547
History of New Zealand 2 nd Thurs 10 am	October 8*	130 Point View Drive	Pot pourri	Alan La Roche 534 7366
Literature 3 rd Wed 10 am	September 16*	32 Butley Drive	J B Priestly	Judy Wilson 576 6340
Movies 2 nd Mon, 12.30 pm	TBA	2/21 Drake Street	Discussion of movies seen BYO lunch	Margaret Nicholls 536 6709
Nature Walks and Talks 2nd Fri 9 am	October 9 *	Meet at Howick Beach	Walk up Marine Parade, Mellons Bay Rd	Warren Yardley 5330057
Opera 1 2 nd Tues 9.30 am	October 13*	BM Theatre	Tosca	Jean Denholm 534 6844
Opera 2 4 th Tues 1.15pm	September 22*	BM Theatre	TBA	Geraldine Rose 537 1917
Philosophy 1st Mon 10 am	October 5*	BM Theatre	How to live lives well	Christopher Nixon 535 5309
Poetry 2 nd Tues 1.30 pm	Oct 13*	Hawthorndene café – Botany Road	American poems and cake	Beth Voogd 534 7468
Science. 4 th Wed 10 am	Sept 23*	BM Theatre	Potpourri	Jim Hine 534 4259
Sunday Discussion 2nd Sun noon	TBA	Dannemora Gardens Cafe	Potpourri	Joan Clarkson 537 6397
Te Reo Maori (New group) 2 nd Wednesday 2pm	Oct 14*	Apt 486 BM Village	Introduction	Chris Cameron 5338735
Travel 1 st Wed 10 am	October 7*	159 Pah Road, Cockle Bay	Visit to Hobbiton movie set Okoiroire Hot Springs Hotel	David and Adrienne Teape 5336103
World of Art 1 3 rd Mon 10 am	TBA	BM Theatre	Van Dyke/Pot potpourri – a favourite art book	Garry Law 271 6505
World of Art 2 3 rd Tues 1.30 pm	TBA	12 Daria Place Northpark	David Mealing on Colin Mccahon	Philippa Wilson 5342558
World of Music 4 th Wed 1.30 pm	September 23*	6 Stevenson Way.	Paganini/Rachmaninov	Ngairie Taylor 534 8538
World War II 2 nd Thurs 2 pm	TBA	Polish Museum	Visit	Allan Reid 534 9895
Writing 2 nd Tues 1.30 pm	TBA	32 Butley Drive, Farm Cove	TBA	Marian Heywood 534 1159