



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Welcome to our new members and continuing members. We now have 1,207 members but we still have room for more at the Embassy lectures and in some Special Interest Groups. Feel free to hand out our U3A business card – available at the Embassy foyer scanning desk - to anyone you think may be interested.

Lectures: Our *physical* lecture programme was interrupted for just one week in March when we returned to Level 2 Covid-19 restrictions. The Zoom application again proved useful in delivering the lectures virtually.

The NZ International Film Festival which was scheduled from 29 July to 15 August has been postponed to November, thereby making the Embassy available for four additional lectures which will be held in the first two weeks of August. This increases our total lectures to 58 for the year – a record. Congratulations and thanks to our Programmers. Please contact us if you know of an interesting speaker with an engaging topic.

Special Interest Groups Coordinator, Linda Beckett, has met with most of the leaders of the 18 groups and you will see in her report the wide variety on offer. Linda is always interested to hear of your special interest and can assist you to set up a group.

Front of Desk Volunteers: we are pleased that our new computer and upgrading of the scanning application has made life easier for volunteers who report a much speedier and more reliable process. Thanks to Dougal Congalton, Volunteer Coordinator, for managing the implementation and liaising with Sam Devoy, of IT Spinach.

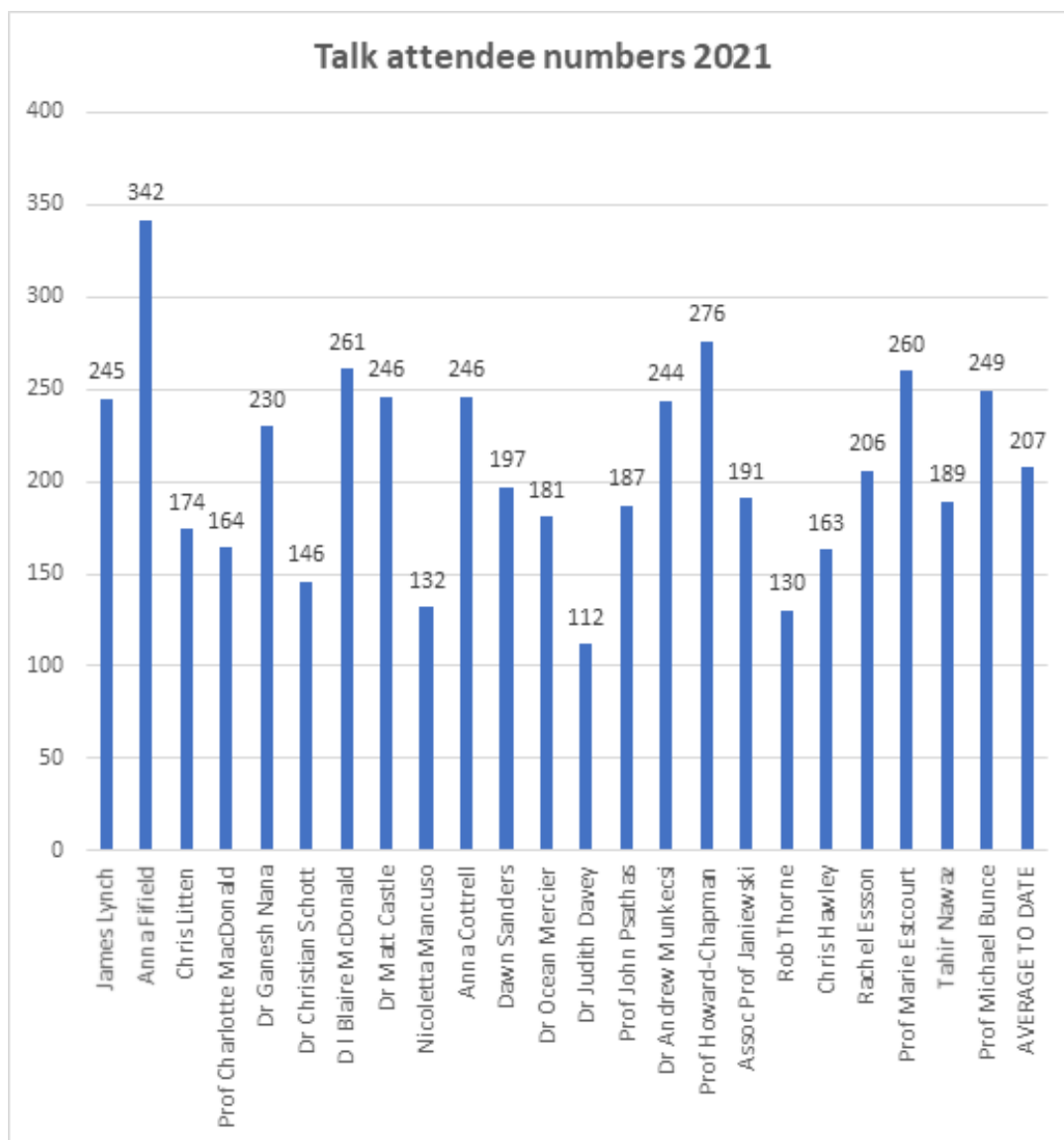
Subscriptions: Gwen Levick's report describes the renewal process, that is currently underway. As indicated at last year's Annual General Meeting subs will be \$40 which will contribute to the increased Embassy rental.

Committee Vacancies: Four of our excellent committee members Judith Nathan (Newsletter), Aidan Kay (Events), Rae Julian (Programming) and Dougal Congalton (Volunteers) will be retiring in September and we are looking for people to take on their roles. We have one nomination for the Newsletter role. Have a chat with any of the Committee to see if you should have a go! There are four committee meetings each year that are friendly, productive, efficient and often entertaining. My thanks to all committee members for being such a great team and while we will miss the outgoing members and thank them for their service, we look forward to new people.

Significant Others: U3A is superbly supported by many volunteers. My thanks for the on-going help with lectures given by Roger Chapman, Ian Goodwin, Anthony Fletcher, Tony Thomson, Bruce Levick, the people who attend Front of House and to the Coordinators of the Special Interest Groups. Without you, U3A would not function.

We look forward to the second half of our U3A programme.

Barbara Crump, President



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

It is very pleasing to note that our membership continues to grow, with a record number of new members joining since the beginning of 2021. We welcome:

Bonnie Low, John and Janice Jones, Andrew Simpson, Iwona Stolarek, Robyn Tiller, Susy Balmforth, Susan Jones, Michele Haines, Vernon Phillips, Don Aimer, Brendy Weir, John Schiff, Colin Boswell, Averil Treloar, Sue Ramage, Maggie Bayfield, Kathy Griffin, Rosina Price, Alison and Mike Hannah, Lorraine Cummings, Karen Balshaw, Deb Player, Jane George, Julie and Gerald Weenink, Jo Elliott, Marilyn Marsh, Mary Slowey, Glenys Ewans, Helen Edwards, Wilf Welburn, Lynnette Mackay, Lynne Dalley, Anne Morton, Tony Nightingale, Diane Woods, Jim Baltaxe, Margaret Bate, Anne Lee, John Eckman, Jillian Hewitt, Derek Gower, Ann and Graeme Pocock, Sandra Pearce, Michael Grace, Alistair Beckett, Nanette Clough, Judith Llewellyn, Sheryn Shackleton, Deborah and Russell Wallace, Colleen Cleary, Jan Duncan, Carol Wilson, Georgina Kelly, Janet Morris, Kathryn Adams, Shirley Malcolm, Merle Jackson, Mary Dinsdale, Penny Griffith, June Hannah, Joanna Tennent, Barbara Crawford, Ian Chalker, Carolyn Lundon, Helen Dunn, Dilys Grant, Joan Druett, Fedelma Thomas, Laurence Harger, Paul Rodway, Ronald Nelson, Dale Powles, Jane Nixon, Fiona Pearson, Janet Holmes and Beth Greensmith.

Membership renewal

We are fast approaching the end of our financial year when membership needs to be renewed. The membership fee has been increased to **\$40.00**, as agreed at a committee meeting on 25 January 2021 and announced in the February 2021 Newsletter. All members with email addresses will be sent a personalised renewal link early in June. **Please check updated instructions for renewal under the tab Members > Current Members on our website.**

Since cheques are no longer accepted, members who are unable to use internet or phone banking, may pay by teller-assisted bank deposit as described below:

Visit any branch of your bank and make a payment of \$40.00 from your account to the U3A account, number 03-1540-0009019-01, including your surname and telephone number as reference. Cheques and cash will not be accepted by the banks.

Once the payment appears on the U3A bank statement, your renewal will be manually processed and your membership card updated. You should continue to use the same card for scanning when attending lectures. Please note that we do not accept subscriptions in the form of cash at the reception desk.

A useful feature of the new scanning system is the notification by email to the membership secretary of scanned cards that have expired. This enables us to follow up promptly and advise on renewing the membership.

Gwen Levick
Membership Secretary

NOTICES

AGM

The AGM will be held on September 21st. The agenda will be sent with the August newsletter.

FOUR COMMITTEE VACANCIES

A short description of the four vacancies appears below. In addition to the specific responsibilities of each role, we all meet up at four Committee meetings per year. These are held in Anvil House, Wakefield Street on a Tuesday at 1 pm. They usually finish around 3.30 pm. The outgoing Coordinators are very happy to tell you more about their role and we have a detailed role description available. Basic computer experience is needed. Once you decide you would like to take on a role, you will need to complete the Nomination Form. If you are interested in contributing to U3A Wellington in one of these roles please let one of the Committee know.

Lecture Programming Coordinator for one of the lectures each week - this is a chance for you to identify and invite excellent speakers with an interesting topic. You are **not** solely responsible for filling all the 27 or so slots - we receive recommendations and suggestions from U3A members and the job involves contacting and allocating lecture slots to people. The Coordinator hosts the speaker at the meeting, arranging introduction and thanks. There are two other Lecture Programming Coordinators with whom you will liaise. Rae Julian, the outgoing Coordinator, is available to 'mentor' in the early months.

Front-of-House/Volunteer Coordinator - this role involves recruiting, rostering and managing volunteers throughout the lecture period for staffing the reception desk, as well as managing and scanning the number of attendees. The process has been streamlined over recent months resulting in a reliable and smooth scanning operation. Dougal Congalton, the retiring Coordinator, is happy to answer any questions and assist in the early months of taking on the role.

Holiday Events Coordinator - Aidan Kay has been organising trips and events to various places during our holiday breaks and making the arrangements for the Mid-Winter Luncheon at the James Cook Hotel. Visits have included Matiu Somes Island, Stonehenge Wairarapa, Bata Factory, NZ Dance, etc. with a full list and the numbers involved to be found under Visits and Events on our website. Our IT system's ability to accept bookings and payments makes the role far from arduous, while in fact, it provides the Coordinator with a great opportunity to meet many of our members each holiday. Having completed his five year term, Aidan is happy to discuss his experience as Events Coordinator with any of our members.

Newsletter Editor/Coordinator - Newsletters are published three times a year. Committee members email contributions and the membership secretary sends addresses for members who do not have email and require hard copies. Costs are reimbursed by the treasurer. Copies (both Word and PDF) are sent to the website administrator and to Roger Chapman who emails them to members. Judith Nathan is happy to assist. We have one nomination for this role.



NOMINATION FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2021-2022

I (Proposer) _____

Please print

Signature

and (Seconder) _____

Please print

Signature

Nominate _____

Please print

For the Role of: _____

I accept the nomination:

Signature of Nominee _____

Address:

Phone: _____ and _____

Email:

Date: _____

U3A LECTURE PROGRAMME

Lectures are usually held at the Embassy Theatre, 10 Kent Terrace

from 10.30 am until 11.45 am

TERM 2 Tuesday 20 April to Friday 9 July

TERM 3 Tuesday 3 August to Friday 1 October

TERM 4 Tuesday 19 October to Friday 5 November

Sometimes our advertised lectures may change, and if so, an update will be made under "Lecture Programmes" on our U3A website.

TERM 2 LECTURES JUNE to JULY

TUESDAY 8 JUNE

Richard Wagstaff

Covid and Employment

Richard Wagstaff was elected NZCTU President in 2015. Richard began working as a full-time paid union official in 1988 as a researcher. Later, during the introduction of the Employment Contracts Act he became a full-time union organiser working in the Auckland region with union members in the health and disability sectors. He eventually took up the position of national secretary of the PSA in 2000 which he held until becoming CTU President in 2015. As national secretary Richard was responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Union's industrial and political strategies and operations for NZ's largest trade union. The CTU consistently speaks out about the need to create workplaces that are friendly and appropriate and is especially connected to the issue of the Future of Work which forms an integral part of its programme.

FRIDAY 11 JUNE

Dr Hera Cook

Firearms in New Zealand: What are the issues?

Hera is a senior lecturer in the Otago Wellington Medical School Department of Public Health and a founding member of Gun Control NZ. Despite the rapid government response to the Christchurch massacre and subsequent improvement to firearms control the problems of regulation and control have not been solved. Why has the continuing resistance to the necessary tightening of the law, including a gun register, still have such undue influence?

TUESDAY 15 JUNE

Luke Malpass

The Life of a Journalist

Luke is Stuff's political editor, leading the Parliamentary Press Gallery team, based in Parliament. Before taking on this role in 2019 he worked at the Australian Financial Review as an editorial writer, Opinion & Editorial Page Editor and Features Editor and spent time as acting foreign editor. He also worked at The Sydney Morning Herald. Originally from New Zealand, he has covered the NZ and Australian elections, budget lock-ups, the Christchurch terror attack and has written extensively on politics and economics on both sides of the Tasman. He has reported from the Middle East, China, India and the United States. Luke will talk on the life of a Parliamentary Press Gallery journalist in the age of Covid-19 and media stress.

FRIDAY 18 JUNE

Dr Monica Gertha

Kauri dieback disease - what it is, why it matters and what we can do to help

Monica Gertha is a senior lecturer in microbiology at Victoria University of Wellington. Her research interests include microbial chemotaxis, microbe plant interactions and the biochemistry of new antimicrobials. She will cover some of the history of Phytophthora agathidicida, the microbe causing kauri dieback, why these microbes are so difficult to control and what is being done to tackle this problem in New Zealand. She will also present her research into the development of new anti-microbials by using a collaborative approach that incorporates mātauranga Māori, microbiology and chemistry.

TUESDAY 22 JUNE

Oliver Mander

The role of activism in the markets

Oliver was appointed CEO of the NZ Shareholders Association in 2020. Prior to that, he worked as the Data & Information Manager at Wellington Water, leaving in 2019 to pursue an interest in financial markets. He wrote for the NZ Herald during 2020 as well as performing some technology consultancy services. Much of

his career was spent at BP Group plc, working across Australasia, Europe and the US – opportunities that provided him with the opportunity to develop a broad range of functional and leadership skills.

- What is the NZ Shareholders Association?
- The role of shareholder activism in markets
- What is NZSA doing right now to help investors?

FRIDAY 25 JUNE

Jordan Carter

The internet and its (dis)contents: Misinformation, rage and hope

Jordan is Chief Executive of InternetNZ. He has also been closely associated with the civil society backup to the Prime Minister's Christchurch Call meetings. From sharing family photos to misinformation affecting elections - and even stoking a riot at the United States Capitol in January 2021 - the power of the Internet to do harm and to do good is something we see around us almost every day. Jordan will present an outline of some of the challenging issues shaping the internet and shaping our world; why it is that the online world presents new challenges in determining appropriate standards and how we might require big players online to follow them.

TUESDAY 29 JUNE

Dr Anna Powles

Identity, Influence and Geopolitics: “Pacific Reset” and the Shaping of New Zealand’s Relations with the Pacific Islands

Dr Anna Powles of Massey University specialises in geopolitics and security in the Pacific Islands region. She is senior lecturer with the Macmillan Brown centre for Pacific Studies at Massey University Wellington, an Associate Scholar with the East-West Centre Honolulu. Her current research is on New Zealand foreign and security policy in the Pacific and foreign interference in the Pacific Islands region. She has published widely on Pacific security issues and has been commissioned to write and speak on Pacific security issues by leading global think tanks.

FRIDAY 2 JULY at 12 noon at the James Cook: Professor Chris Gallavin

Professor Gallavin is Chief Executive of the Sisters of Compassion Group and serves as Chair of the Board of NZCGS (NZ Centre for Global Studies) Chris is an Eisenhower Fellow and former law professor and Deputy Pro Vice-Chancellor of Massey University. Before that he was Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Canterbury. Chris did not have a privileged upbringing and his big passion in life apart from his wife and daughters is poetry which he says is “absolutely fundamental to who I am.” Chris will speak on a wide range of issues and you can be sure there will be humour and poetry.

TUESDAY 6 JULY

Dame Winnie Laban

Pacific Youth in a Changing World

Associate Professor Hon. Luamanuvao Dame Winnie Laban QSO DNZM was appointed Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Pasifika), at Victoria University in 2010. She provides leadership to assist the University in achieving the goals set out by its strategic plan as they relate to growing Pasifika opportunities and success including Pasifika students and staff. She previously served as a Member of Parliament (1999 – 2010) and was Minister of Pacific Island Affairs, Minister for the Community and Development, and Associate Minister of Trade, Associate Minister of Economic Development, and Minister of Social Development and Employment. Dame Winnie is a graduate in Social Work from Victoria University and completed a post-graduate qualification in Development Studies from Massey University.

FRIDAY 9 JULY

Professor Heidi Thomson

William Wordsworth, Annette Vallon and France

Heidi Thomson is Professor of English Literature at Victoria University of Wellington, with a special interest in the Romantic poets. She will discuss Wordsworth's lifelong close connection with France. In 1791 the young poet travelled to France and had a relationship with Annette Vallon, who gave birth to a daughter, Caroline. Heidi will sketch the history of Wordsworth's connection with France, his travels to the country, his ambiguous feelings about the French Revolution and how this mattered for his poetry. She will prove that this quintessential English bard was far more cosmopolitan than is generally assumed.

END OF TERM 2

TERM 3 LECTURES

TUESDAY 3rd AUGUST

Colin Keating

Time for a serious reform of the UN system

Colin Keating is a former NZ Ambassador to the UN in New York and senior NZ diplomat and international lawyer. He was Secretary for Justice in Wellington and subsequently a partner in a private law practice. From 2005 – 2011 he was the founding Executive Director of a think tank at Columbia University in New York called Security Report which monitors and issues monthly reports on the work of the UN Security Council. From 2012 -2016 he was a Special Envoy of the Prime Minister and Special Advisor to MFAT in connection with the NZ term on the UN Security Council.

Even before Covid it was clear that the international organisations set up in 1945 and the related proliferation of over 200 intergovernmental multilateral bodies were proving increasingly ineffective. In late 2019 the United Nations Association of New Zealand and the NZ Centre for Global Studies commissioned Colin Keating and Dr Kennedy Graham to study these issues and produce recommendations. In December 2020, a discussion paper was completed. It proposes reforms to the multilateral system as a whole. In particular it has detailed proposals covering specific areas which could be priorities for New Zealand.

FRIDAY 6 AUGUST

Dr Pamela Hyde

Discovering the life of Henry Suter, a New Zealand naturalist during the 19th and early 20th Centuries

Dr Hyde has a PhD in medical sociology and has worked in a number of roles in education and health, most recently as the Executive Director of the NZ Psychological Society. She is the author of *The Colonial Naturalist*, which tells the story of her great grandfather, Swiss naturalist, Henry Suter. The presentation will describe the challenges that led to Henry leaving Switzerland with his wife and their 7 children in 1886 and those he faced in NZ as he attempted to make a living from his abiding interest in nature and science.

TUESDAY 10 AUGUST

Cristina Sanders

Jerningham Wakefield 1840 – 44 Wild Boy of Wellington

Cristina Sanders is an historical fiction writer from Wellington, now living in Hawke's Bay. She publishes a book review blog and writes about books, history and running. In 2018 she completed a graduate Diploma in Creative Writing which kicked off a writing career. Her debut novel, *Jerningham*, about Jerningham Wakefield and the recklessness of colonial New Zealand delves into Jerningham's background, the society that shaped him, and his impact on our first colonial settlement. The book was published by the Cuba Press in June 2020 and shortlisted for the NZ heritage Literary Awards. In 2020 she won the Storylines Tessa Duder Award for an unpublished YA manuscript, with a novel about immigrant families in the 1870s. This became *Displaced* published by Walker Books in April 2021. Jerningham Wakefield has been described as a wastrel and a failure, talented and intelligent, but reckless, weak-willed, contentious, promiscuous and generally unstable. What is the reality behind the first wild boy in Wellington?

FRIDAY 13 AUGUST

Dr Amanda Thomas

Imagining decolonisation: Pakeha and doing the work of decolonisation.

Amanda is a senior lecturer in environmental studies at Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington. She grew up in the South Island and didn't think much about what it meant to be Pakeha in the rohe of Kai Tahu until recently. Now she thinks about it a lot and how it feeds into her other research interests related to environmental democracy and activism. Decolonisation is a term that is confusing and threatening to some and hope-filled to others. In "Imagining Decolonisation" a series of essays on the topic, Amanda explores the role of Pakeha in this conversation - how we think about our identity, what we should do about discomfort and how we might be useful allies (or accomplices) in working towards a country that is based on justice for all people.

TUESDAY 17 AUGUST

Dr Anu Langdana

Snapshots of Doctors without Borders in Aweil South Sudan

Dr Anu Langdana completed her primary medical degree (MBBS) and post graduate training (MD in Paediatrics) in 1991 from India, the country of her birth. She then went to the UK for further training in paediatrics and Neonatology and became a member of the Royal College of Physicians in Paediatrics in 1997. Further training was completed in Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Dublin. In 2000 the family moved to Wellington NZ and Dr Langdana did a year at Wellington Children's Hospital and was admitted as a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians. After working at CCDHB as a Consultant Paediatrician in general Paediatrics for 5 years and as a Developmental Paediatrician for 9, Dr Langdana decided she wanted an adventure. This talk is a glimpse into some of the experiences she had in 2019 while

working with MSF (Medecins sans Frontieres or “Doctors without Borders”) in Aweil, South Sudan. She was the sole Paediatrician in a 200 bed Paediatric ward in a hospital run by MSF. Life in an MSF “house”, and some of the experiences during that time will be shared with the audience.

FRIDAY 20 AUGUST

Professor Mohan Dutta

Challenging disinformation and building democracies: Strategies of communication

Professor Dutta is Professor of Communication at Massey University and Director of the Centre for Cultural-centred Approach to Research and Evaluation, developing culturally centred community-based projects of social change, advocacy and activism that promote health and as a human right. He will explore the ways in which structures of inequality thrive on disinformation and strategies of building communicative registers for democracy at the grass roots. Based his work on health care among indigenous communities, sex workers, migrant workers, farmers and communities living in extreme poverty, he has developed the cultural-centered approach to create entry points for listening to communities at the global margins and addressing unequal health policies.

TUESDAY 24 AUGUST

Ambassador Jesus Domingo

United Nations, Disarmament, Migration

Ambassador Jesus (Gary) Domingo is a career diplomat with broad multilateral, political and consular experience. He has extensive professional networks among Philippines, South east Asia, United Nations and other international organisation officials. With a broad graduate education and professional training in international relations, law and military affairs and a parallel career academe and civic voluntarism. With a background in political security, disarmament migration humanitarian law and inter-faith affairs he contributes to international relations education and civic voluntarism.

FRIDAY 27 AUGUST

Rhys Richards

The first pakeha around Wellington and the Cook Strait 1803-1839

Since 1982, during and following a diplomatic career, Rhys has published many books and articles on early NZ society, the Chatham Islands and various Pacific Islands before 1850. The settlers of the New Zealand Company arrived in 1839, decades after the first foreign visitors to the Cook Strait and Wellington. The ‘Nobs and Snobs’ of the new colony, planned as a pure, unsullied replica of English society preferred to ignore their predecessors – a motley lot of whalers, sealers and traders – who should not be denied their rightful place as the first pakeha settlers to the region.

TUESDAY 31st August

Felicity Wong

Built Heritage Challenges: neglect, earthquakes, and urban development plans

Felicity Wong chairs Historic Places Wellington. Felicity had an earlier diplomatic career with Foreign Affairs & Trade, and led marine protection at the Department of Conservation. She has an LLB (Hons) and Masters in Public Administration, lives in an old villa in Oriental Bay & is a partially sighted cyclist with two grandchildren.

Wellington’s built heritage, and its character, is largely protected by the District Plan rules. The rules, and the general zoning for the city and suburbs, are currently up for review. Central Government implemented stringent rules for earthquake safety, and has instructed the Council to zone for higher buildings and more intensive urban development. Those pressures add to the long-standing issue of owner neglect. On the plus side Wellingtonians care about the city’s heritage and character and we have a rich diversity of buildings. The talk will be general as Felicity is neither an earthquake strengthening nor legal specialist.

FRIDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

Peter Hamilton

New Zealand's next head of state - the debate over becoming a republic

Peter worked for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1977 until 2013, with postings in Fiji, Ottawa, Geneva, Samoa, Germany and Singapore. He was Deputy-Secretary of MFAT between 2006-2010. He is currently a member of the Campaign for a New Zealand Republic. Peter will examine the arguments for and against our becoming a republic and comment on recent polling. Do New Zealanders want Charles III to be our Head of State? He will examine some of the issues that would arise if we became a republic, how a NZ Head of State should be selected and what their role should be. What are the implications for the Waitangi Treaty partner?

TUESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER

Dr Vonda Cummings

Acidification of Oceans: a challenge for marine ecosystems

Vonda is a Principal Scientist and marine ecologist at NIWA. She studies functioning of coastal seafloor communities and the environmental factors that influence them. Her current research is focussed on the

implications of acidification, climate and other anthropogenically derived changes to key species communities and ecosystems around New Zealand and Antarctica. Her talk will provide a brief overview of ocean acidification – known as the “evil twin” of global warming. With the chemistry of the world’s oceans rapidly moving towards conditions not seen for millions of years, researchers are trying to understand the potential consequences for marine habitats, organisms, ecosystems and eco systems. Using examples from New Zealand and Antarctica, this talk will discuss how ocean acidification might impact key species, and the consequences to ecosystem functioning in a changing environment.

FRIDAY 10 SEPTEMBER

David Howman

Drug use in sport

David Howman was the Director General of the World Anti-Doping Agency (known as WADA) from 2003 to 2018 and was instrumental in the shaping of WADA into a highly respected and united global organization responsible for regulating and monitoring the practices in world sports and world governments. Before this, David (BA LLBHons) practised as a barrister specializing in sport law.

TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

Shona Riddell

Lighthouse keepers, remote islands and a war tortoise How family history shaped my writing

Shona Riddell is a Wellington author. She enjoys cold, windy weather and stories about remote locations. She has written three history books: *The Tale of the Anzac Tortoise* (2014), *Trial of Strength: Adventures and Misadventures on the Wild and Remote Subantarctic Islands* (2019) and *Guiding Lights: The Extraordinary Lives of Lighthouse Women* (2020) all available from Exisle Publishing. Shona’s books were inspired by her family history which includes a war nurse who brought a Gallipoli tortoise to NZ, a young couple who sailed from England in 1849 with their three children as part of a tiny, ill-fated settlement on the subantarctic Auckland Islands: and lighthouse families who lived on wild windswept coasts. Shona’s research focuses on women’s history, maritime history and social history and includes “ordinary people’s extraordinary experiences”. In 2016, Shona sailed south to visit her great-great-grandmother’s remote birthplace on the Auckland Islands – a 465 km voyage from Bluff over the rolling waves of the Southern Ocean.

FRIDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

Bronwyn Gibbs

Who succeeds in mathematics? Thinking about learning and what it means to be a mathematician

Bronwyn is a researcher with the NZ Council for Educational Research with a particular interest in mathematics education. She has also worked as a primary school teacher in Porirua East and as a mathematics mentor with Massey University's Developing Mathematical Inquiry Communities professional learning and development project. Bronwyn will talk about current research and issues in mathematics education. If you remember learning maths as memorising rules and procedures, come along and hear about alternative approaches to developing mathematical capabilities and deep mathematical understanding.

TUESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

Dr Christopher Longhurst

Moslems, Jews, and Christians

Chris is a lecturer in theology at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College; a Kaiciid Fellow (King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue); member of the Wellington Interfaith Council (WIFC) and the Wellington Theological Consortium (WTC). He is on the Executive of the Association of Practical Theology in Oceania (APTO). He will speak on the history of the relationship between Moslems, Jews and Christians.

FRIDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

Robyn Hunt

A reflection on a lifetime of disability activism

Robyn has a varied background in print, radio and television journalism and has won a number of awards for her communications work. A former Human Rights Commissioner, she has also worked within both government and non-governmental areas. From a rural upbringing to regular travel to the UN in New York and participating in the Wellington Lit Crawl, she says that she has “found her tribe” and is still learning about making a disability difference. She will describe how the policy, social and cultural landscape around disability is changing and still needs to change.

TUESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

Megan Dunn

A brief history of Contemporary Art at City Gallery Wellington

Megan Dunn (BFA and MA Creative Writing) is the author of *Tinderbox* (2017) and *Things I learned at Art School* (2021) Her art reviews and criticism have been widely published along with her essays and stories and she is well known as a visual arts commentator. In 2019, she was the art editor for *The Spinoff*. In 2020

she received an Emerging Writers residency at the Michael King Writers Centre. She is currently manager of public programmes at City Gallery Wellington. Throughout its forty-year history, the City Gallery has always focused on the exhibition of contemporary art. What is contemporary art and why is it so compelling and simultaneously often so hard to understand? Megan will discuss the high points – Yayoi Kusama and those polka dots| - alongside highly controversial shows – Robert Mapplethorpe VS the Christian Heritage Party – from City Gallery Wellington’s varied history.

FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER

Professor John Macalister

Remembering and forgetting: How our memories are made

John Macalister is Professor of Applied Linguistics at Victoria University of Wellington. His research and teaching spans a broad range of areas, including language teaching methodology and language curriculum design. If you travel around NZ, you will find memories of past wars evoked in cities and towns, in rural areas, even in what appears to be the middle of nowhere. These 'memory places' can be found here and internationally, in many forms such as museums, monuments and memorials. Not all evoke past conflicts but all are places that shape public memory. John will explore 3 different memory places, asking what is remembered and what is forgotten? This exploration leads to some generalisations about the nature of memory places and further questions about how we learn to read such memory places.

U3A EVENTS

About 100 people enjoyed the five Holiday Events in April. We’ve room for six events in the July Holidays though the dates of only three are confirmed on going to print:

Confirmed visits:

Friday 16 July Malaghan Institute

Organised for those who were overbooked for the April visit, still has a few spaces available for participants. All applicants, both previous and new, will be contacted in late June.

Tuesday 20 July Stansborough Woollen Mill and Gallery in Petone

Source of the cloaks in Lord of the Rings, offers a free private view of the Mill from the gallery window, or a \$25 group visit amongst the 19th Century working looms in the Mill itself. We will take the latter.

Tuesday 27 July Supreme and Old High Courts on Lambton Quay

Probable visits:

Inverlochy Art School, Tuesday 13 July

Holocaust Centre, Friday 23 July

Back of House Te Papa Friday 30 July (largely filled from the overbooked April visit)

To book for any of the above, email events@u3awellingtoncity.org.nz. You may also suggest other Events to be passed on to the Events Coordinator.

Midwinter Luncheon 12pm 2 July

The midwinter buffet lunch (a drink included) falls in the week of Matariki this year, and will be held at the James Cook Hotel with Professor Gallavin as speaker (See list of lectures above). Payment of \$45 pp can be made to U3A Account No 03-1540-0009019-01 by Internet or from any Branch of your Bank. Please ensure your name is entered in the Bank details to ensure reservation.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS FOR MEMBERS

All Interest Group Members must be current financial members of Wellington City U3A

Wellington City U3A continues to be very well-served by its 20 SIGs Conveners who invest their time in our 18 special interest groups.

Recent initiatives/changes include:

- A Sewing/Handicrafts group which was started at the initiative of Diane Morgan. This meets at the Hataitai Bowling club rooms on the 3rd Monday of each month.

- Book Group 3's Convener, Pamela Jefferies, has handed over the reins to Diana Duff-Staniland. Thanks are due to Pamela for her lengthy stewardship of this group and to Diana for stepping in. Pamela instituted this group in 2014 and will be very much missed for her '*hospitality... interesting ideas and knowledge*'.
- There has been a change of venue for the Art History Group and this change has enabled more to attend this very popular lecture series conducted by Peter Stupples.
- SIGs Conveners have attended the first of what will become 6 monthly opportunities to meet. 15 Conveners from 14 of the 18 SIG groups shared information and discussed issues including, but not limited to, SIGs timetables, venues and the possibility of adding Bylaws to the Constitution. These are aimed at supporting and enabling SIGs in their decision-making about group operations so that the best outcomes are achieved for the group as-a whole.
- As an aid to selecting times for new SIGs and choosing a SIG to belong to, the aforementioned timetable (see below) can now be found on the Special Interest Groups Website.
- Lastly, we aim to provide a special profile and more in-depth view of our individual SIGs in forthcoming Newsletters. Accordingly, this Newsletter contains an in-depth look at the Music Appreciation Groups first few months of 2021.

Music Appreciation Group

It was very pleasing to make it through Term 1 unscathed without any COVID interruptions, and our five presentations took us on five very different musical journeys. Beverley started the year off with Adagio, a soothing collection of popular favourites including Britain's most loved piece of classical music, The Lark Ascending. Next up, in lieu of actual travel, David presented us with Musical Postcards, a selection of works written to portray actual locations, some well-known - for example, Mendelssohn's Hebrides Overture - and others much less so, giving the group a virtual world tour to places such as Dove Lake in Tasmania, New York, the Alhambra in Spain and a waterfall in Iceland. Following this, we had a guest presenter, Richard Keller, who delivered a presentation in the 2019 general U3A programme on the Queen song Bohemian Rhapsody. For us, he talked about his love of music written for the wind band, an American college staple. Two of our newer members, Ross and Keith finished off the term, the former a selection of chamber music linked by the odd number of players involved, and the latter entertaining and educating us with a talk titled Interesting Rhythms, where a range of musical styles, from the Renaissance to the Beatles, was used to illustrate the different ways that rhythms could be used in music. All in all, a very successful term, and we look forward to our next meeting on June 17.

Our group is a relatively small one and we welcome new members. It isn't all music - we do have a morning tea/coffee break for some socialising, which can include some home baking! If you are interested in joining us, please access the Special Interest group page on the U3A website for details of our meetings.

David Barker

New Groups

Anyone interested in leading/forming a new group please contact Linda Beckett 027 417 5838 or lbeckett0106@gmail.com.

Linda Beckett

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS MEETING TIMES

SIG	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Morning						
Antiques				3 rd Thurs 1000		
Art History				Alt Thurs 1030-1200		
Book One			1 st Wed 1030			
Book Two				1 st Thurs 1000-1200		
Book Four			1 st Wed 1000-MD			
Current Issues			2 nd Wed 1000			
Film group W/E						Day 3 rd Sat
German Conversation	2 nd + 4 th Mon 1030-					
Music Appreciation				Alt Thurs 1000-MD		
Sewing	0900-1300 3 rd Mon					
Shakespeare Studies			Alt Wed 1030-1200			
Smart Phone Photography					Fri 11.30	
Walking Group 1	0945 Monday					
Walking Group 2	Every Mon AM					
Afternoon						
Book Three			3 rd Wed 1400			
Cryptic Crosswords					1200 4 th Fri	
Film group W/E						Day 3 rd Sat
Film Group Mid-week		1 st + 3 rd Tues pm				
Philosophy	1 st /3 rd Mon 1430-1630					

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