



PO Box 14453, Tauranga 3143  
[www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](http://www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

# Newsletter

May - June



## Meetings Cancelled or Postponed

Owing to the Covid-19 Level Restrictions, there will be no General Meetings or face-to-face Group Meetings until such time as the Government will again allow mass gatherings.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration that was scheduled for Friday 22 May 2020 is postponed. A new date will be advised in due course. Those who have already purchased tickets will be refunded



Unite  
against  
COVID-19

For latest information go to [covid19.govt.nz](http://covid19.govt.nz)

If you have symptoms call your GP or Healthline 0800 358 453

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*Paul Chapman - Quiz and Feature  
Articles*

*Kit Divehall – Interviews and  
Proofreading*

*Judy Armstrong – “Beachside”  
Notes*

*Cliff Freer & Graeme Wilson –  
Meeting Photographs*

## Quiz Corner

**Test your general knowledge with these questions. Answers on page 19.**

1. Which astronaut circled the moon while Armstrong and Aldrin walked on its surface?
2. According to the Gospels, who was the first person to witness Jesus' resurrection?
3. What unit is used to measure the volume of oil production?
4. Which planet's surface is 70 per cent covered by water?
5. What was the name of King Arthur's sword?
6. To which country does the Sinai Peninsula belong?
7. What is the state capital of Alaska?  
a) Fairbanks; b) Anchorage; c) Juneau
8. How many moons does Venus have?
9. What did David Lange say he could smell on the breath of his opponent in the 1985 Oxford Union Debate?
10. Which word in the English language is always spelled incorrectly?

# President's Message



Dear Members

I hope you, your family and your friends are keeping safe and well inside your bubble. It is a difficult time for everyone not being able to see our friends and family. However, when we do come out of complete lockdown and are able to move freely again, we will appreciate our freedom even more!

Nevertheless, U3A members are resilient and have found other ways of keeping in touch by email, phone, WhatsApp or Messenger. Quite a few groups are using video conferencing technology and holding virtual group meetings. From my own experience with the Shakespeare group the fact that you can see your friends, have your usual lively discussions, present something of interest to your group makes such a big difference.

**However, I must stress to you that as we move into Alert Level 3 we are still in lockdown. Even when we move to Level 2 there will be restrictions on group gatherings and U3A Groups and General Meetings will not physically be resuming in the immediate future.**

I hope that you will all continue to keep in touch, support each other and make use of any medium or technology to do this.

Stay safe, keep well and be kind to yourself as well as others.

And in the words of a very famous song:

*We'll meet again  
Don't know where  
Don't know when  
But I know we'll meet again some sunny day  
Keep smiling through  
Just like you always do  
'Till the blue skies drive the dark clouds far away*

Jean Garmonsway

**President**

*"The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees possibility in every difficulty!"*

- Winston Churchill

# Member's Profile



**N**inety-year-old Betty Clethero was one of the original founding members of U3A Tauranga and a member of the 1995 Steering Committee. Being a real pioneer of U3A Tauranga, she also became a few years later in 2004, our first Life Member.

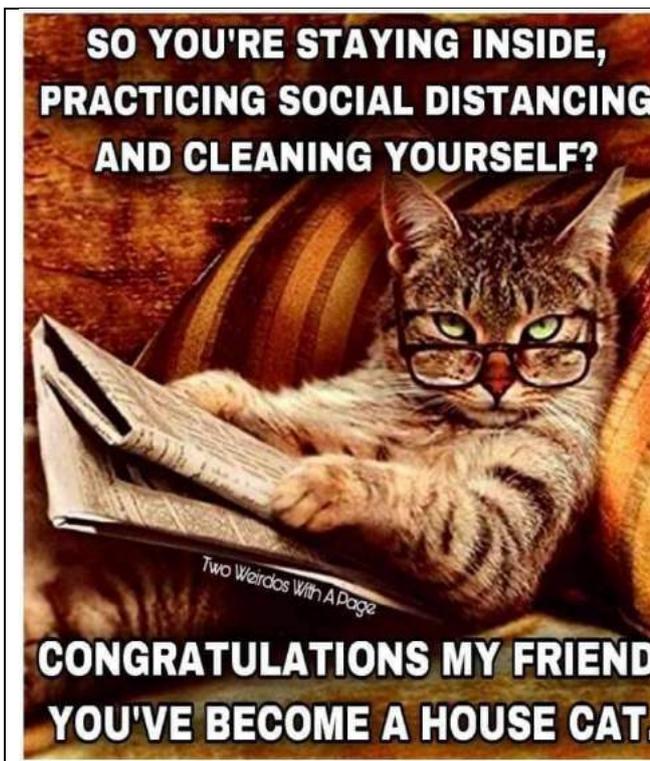
During the first year of U3A Tauranga, there were 100 very active members including Betty. In those early years, outside the entry door to General Meetings, there was always a U3A Notice Board displaying all members' names and Betty knew "every" member!

Betty has been a very active U3A member and amongst her many activities, she founded the Computer Group and was also the first Newsletter Editor.

She continues to be an active member and she also started the Apple Mac Support Group of which she is the Convener. Her interests also extend to the Nature Study Group who are planning a trip to Miranda at Thames. Over the years she has been in numerous groups such as walking, geology, languages etc.

From all her years in U3A Tauranga, Betty has really enjoyed the experience with many interests and a host of friends, which has done a lot for her.

Betty and her late husband, an engineer, were originally from the UK, both later moving to Pakistan. Then in 1965, they moved to NZ. where they lived all over the North Island, eventually moving from Auckland to Tauranga in the early 1980's. Betty has lived in her current home for 25 years and her children and families visit regularly from Tauranga and other places.



# March & April Meetings

Unfortunately, all General Meetings that were scheduled for March or April, were cancelled due to the Covid-19 lockdown. We hope to resume General Meetings as soon as possible and members will be kept informed via the newsletter, website and emails.

## Group Coordinators' Report

### Details of New Groups:

- **Tivoli film group:** Convener - John Russell, phone 562 3467. Venue - Tivoli Theatre 4 Golden Sands Drive. Meet alternate months on 1st Sat and 3rd Sun, late morning/early afternoon
- **Ancient History 2:** Convener - Alistair Blennerhassett - blenney@gmail.com. Meet 2 - 4pm 1st Friday of the month in members' homes, mainly Beachside.

### Suggested New Groups:

- **Table tennis**
- **Photo editing:** 2 hrs weekly for 5 weeks offered by Margaret Osbourn on a day agreed by the group at her home in Hairini. Numbers limited to 4. Margaret is prepared to cater to the needs of participants.

### Groups seeking New Members:

- Ancient History 2
- Art practical
- Ballet Appreciation
- Computer support B
- Current events A
- Hikers 1
- Horticulture and Gardening

### Other Group Information:

- **Dining 3:** is full - Convener Ray has a waiting list
- **French Conversation:** Convener Ouida has 4 people keen to join, but the group is currently full. Perhaps a new group might be started.
- **Samsung group:** 2 enquiries received, but more interest needed before group can be formed.
- Permanent conveners are required for **Solo Adventurers** and **Weekend Walkers**
- **Bridge and Canasta:** A few more people are needed to form these groups.

## Reports from Lockdown – how some groups are keeping in contact:

- **Ancient History 1 & 2:** Ancient History 2 had their first very successful Skype meeting; only one absence/apology. Art History 1 were invited to join in. Anne Briggs gave an excellent talk on Boudicca, Warrior Queen of the Iceni who raised an army of Britons against the Romans. The ensuing discussion inspired member, Ian Morrisson, to write some limericks:

*Boudicca, the Iceni Queen,  
Was rarely, if ever, seen  
Without lashings of woad,  
Which was quite à la mode  
On the Ancient Brit social scene.*

*A Britannic monarch named Boad  
Led an entourage coated in woad.  
Folks quaked at their comin'  
In Camulodunum  
And everywhere else that Boad rode.*

*Boudicca by Romans was hated  
Although by the Brits she was fêted.  
In revenge for her daughters,  
She ordered some slaughters,  
With weapons now thought antiquated.*



- **Any Book Book Club:** Are having ‘virtual’ meetings and have already had one last month. Each member is reviewing a book and sending the reviews to the Convener by email who collates and sends them out on the meeting day. It has resulted in some interesting online discussion.
- **The Acoustic Performers** group is just resting for the moment. If the lockdown is extended, Zoom meetings are an option.
- **Book Lovers 1:** Operates on a “sharing books” basis, which they can’t do now. However, the Convener is in touch with the members of the group and members are sharing via email what they have been doing during the lockdown and providing a synopsis of the books they have been reading.
- **Book Lovers 2:** The Convener has opened an on-line discussion of what the members are reading during lockdown.
- **Book Lovers 3:** Waiting for the all clear and reading lots.
- **Cafe Book Lovers 2 and Current Events E:** These groups are resting.
- **Art Practical:** It’s hard to make art together online but the Convener has suggested that members share any work they have done.

- **Current Events C:** The group continues to be in contact by phone, txt, emails and Skype. Not all members of the group Skype so the other option seems to be working well.
- **Current Events D:** The Convener is keeping in touch by regular phone calls to the group. They have not decided on other activities, but the Convener will circulate the idea of Zoom meetings or circulating articles.
- **Current Events F:** The Convener is emailing every so often to the group just to keep in touch. The group have already discussed the Corona virus so they feel that as the Corona virus and lockdown is the main Current Events subject at the moment and as the situation changes from day to day in NZ and overseas, there is at this time not much point in discussing the matter further. Once we drop down to level 3 they will review the situation.
- **Computer Support B:** in recess for the duration.
- **Garden Ramblers 1:** The Convener has been in contact with group members via email and has also distributed a video virtual tour of the garden that the group were due to visit in April.
- **Global Issues:** Have had their first meeting via Zoom and have decided to have another one soon.
- **International Affairs:** Working on virtual meeting for 16 April.
- **Mini Hikes 1:** Mini Hikes 1 meet once a fortnight, so on our first "locked down" meeting day I emailed the group. What was really upsetting was it was a perfect hiking day!! Convener plans to contact members each hiking day
- **Dining Group 3:** The Convener sent an email to the members suggesting they try Zoom as the Convener had used it for family chats and found it excellent.
- On an individual basis Ray Goldfinch found himself without a library book when the lockdown commenced and following guidance from Tauranga Libraries learned about e-books. The service is outstanding and is free. So many titles available that aren't in hard cover. I thoroughly recommend it. The App is easy to download.
- **Money Matters:** Members are keeping in touch on an ad hoc basis. One member sent an article, which was forwarded to the others.
- **OMG Music Group:** Alan is sending out chords and songs to practise for the ukulele and is looking at a virtual get-together.
- **Philosophy 3:** Organisation for a virtual meeting for April in progress.
- **Photography Group:** The Photography group are continuing to hold meetings as per usual, but instead of meeting at the Convener's home to view the photos, they are doing it by email. The members will, as usual, email their photos to Glenne, who will then collate them and email all the photos back to them so they can vote for their favourite. Glenne will then send the photos to the Webmaster to put on the web page. Glenne says that apart from the social contact which she is sure we are

all missing, she thinks this will help keep us all in contact and busy, trying to source photos from our archives. This month's set subject is 'Emotion' which she suspects will be a bit difficult at this time, but which could lead to some great lateral thinking!

- **Shakespeare Group** - has used Zoom to hold video meetings.

**Please keep these reports of what your group has being doing during lockdown flowing through to the newsletter editor.**

*Keep Safe*

*Christine Denne, Carol Simpson, Margaret Marsh and Anne Briggs*



## Facts and Figures to Date

Financial members as at 9 April 2020	837
Life members	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>847</b>
<b>Subscriptions owing</b>	<b>107</b>
<b>Number of Groups:</b>	<b>102</b>

# Armchair Travel

- Contributed by Margaret Marsh

It looks like we won't be travelling overseas any time soon! Are you bored with being locked in? Why not travel the world right from your armchair? Listed below are some YouTube travel links for your entertainment.

Some travel links have relaxing music which you can run on your PC or a smart wifi TV– all very good right now! Enjoy!

## Nature Relaxation Films:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftlvreFtA2A>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tbodhmmqa-g>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fPQ1INAuBY>



## Main

channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/dhuting/videos>

## Travel Films:

### Western Norway:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dI0hBpUOYMo>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BuimvwZrs\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BuimvwZrs_g)

### Scotland:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CsR2Xy-HGpk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qk6B4YyQSbo>

### England:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lEgPVrSZa6w>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6csatGWw0s>



### Netherlands:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imjq5yQzNil>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cd8gLq6iZg4>

### Italy:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WP316ABiTt0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKUd8QbLp3U>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rx9dWL6cAc>



Hungary:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rs\\_w9cwJ1Fg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rs_w9cwJ1Fg)

Mediterranean Cruise: - not for this year!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5dgrOSk-Wyk>

India:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6fy8ozyYOCw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NKNouapzVp8>

Trans-Siberian Railway:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1NtdmNVNosA>



Main channel: Rick Steves travel guides:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/RickSteves/videos?view=0&sort=p&flow=grid>

## Quarantine week 4: I cut it myself



# Wonders of the Web



In this series, we look at websites that may be of interest to members.

## All the British history you can handle

By Paul Chapman



**W**hat you see here is a map of London as it was in the 1560s, meticulously compiled by a chap called Ralph Agas, who lived at the time. Not only did Agas draw the map, astonishingly he created it as a woodcut so copies could be printed. Imagine how long that must have taken him!

Right in the middle of the picture is St Paul's Cathedral – the original one destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666 – predating the great domed structure built by Christopher Wren that we know today. On the left is the Fleet River, long since consigned to underground culverts but still remembered in the name of Fleet Street.

You can zoom in or out to decrease or increase what is on view, with a much wider area of London also being available.

The map is just one of the hundreds of documents on a website that is rich in resources for history buffs who are interested in the period before organised European settlement in New Zealand.

British History Online is a digital library of printed primary and secondary sources for the study of Britain and Ireland, with a focus on the period 1300 to 1800.

The home page is <https://www.british-history.ac.uk> You can simply browse through the catalogues of documents and maps available or look for something specific in the

Search field. For details of how to make the most of the site, check out <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/using-bho>

Click on 'Subject Guides' to help you navigate your way through the site. These are listed as: biography, religious history, local history, parliamentary history and urban history. The pages themselves are filled with further hyperlinks. Other maps on the site include the entire 19th-century series of the Ordnance Survey.

British History Online also features some fascinating links to other related sites, such as:

- Historical criminal cases that have been heard in London's famous Old Bailey court rooms over the years (<https://www.oldbaileyonline.org/>),
- The celebrated Victoria County Histories covering rural England (<https://www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/explore/>)
- The Gazette, the official newspaper of the Crown (<https://www.thegazette.co.uk/>)
- A history of British and Irish furniture makers (<https://bifmo.history.ac.uk/>)

## Group News – (Pre Lockdown)

### Nature Study Group



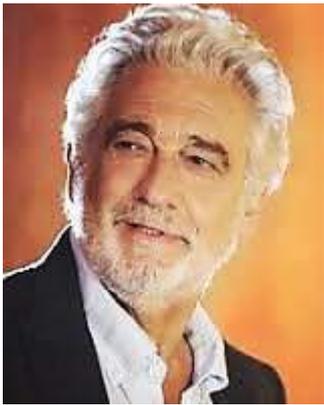
**T**welve members of the Nature Study Group spent a magical day cruising our Big Blue Backyard on the Bay Explorer - blue sky, blue sea, no wind and just enough swell to send the landlubbers lurching round the boat. Out near Tuhua, Mayor Island a pod of about 200 dolphins appeared travelling in a long line. As we approached, they broke into groups and some came around the boat. There were a number of young dolphins with their mothers and midwives. As their food is so plentiful here the dolphins have time to relax and play. We were spellbound for about an hour!

Other marine animals spotted were little blue penguins, flying fish, puffer fish, blackjack tuna, a baby shark and later a big shark. One lone seal was cooling off in the water at the base of Mauao.

The crew of the boat, Brandon, Amy and Heidi kept us informed about what we were seeing. If you get a chance to do this cruise the contact number is 021 605 968. Convener: Mary Sanson, phone 571 2509.

## Opera Appreciation Group

### Placido Domingo as a Baritone



**M**ost of you will know of Placido Domingo as one of the Three Tenors (Pavarotti, Domingo, Carreras) of "Nessun Dorma" fame at a football World Cup.

Well, some things have changed. Luciano Pavarotti has passed away. Jose Carreras still sings tenor, but Domingo's voice has got lower with age and he now sings great baritone roles such as Nabucco in the Verdi opera of that title. One of them is the title role of Macbeth in Verdi's opera "Macbeth". The Opera Appreciation group recently had a DVD performance of that version of "Macbeth" with the Los Angeles opera, a 2016 production. It was interesting to see Domingo in the baritone role. He always was the best actor of the three and no change in that, showing Macbeth in all aspects of the character: ambitious, hesitant, manipulated by his wife, ruthless and brave facing the enemy. Not all the group members liked him as a baritone, nostalgic for his glorious tenor sound. But it was a very good operatic experience overall.

**Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands ??**

**ANYONE ELSE'S CAR GETTING THREE WEEKS TO THE GALLON NOW?**

**Yesterday my husband thought he saw a cockroach in the kitchen. He sprayed everything down and cleaned thoroughly. Today I'm putting the cockroach in the bathroom 🤢🤢🤢**

**The spread of Covid-19 is based on two factors**  
**1. How dense the population is**  
**2. How dense the population is**

## Covid-19 Lockdown - would you have believed it?

- No gatherings permitted. Everyone except essential workers must stay at home.
- Only allowed outside for walks or cycling in our local neighbourhood, or to visit the supermarket, petrol station, doctor or pharmacy.
- All non-essential shops, businesses and trades closed.
- Queues to get into the supermarket. Only 1 designated shopper per household at the supermarket. Limited numbers allowed inside the premises and shoppers must keep a 2-metre distance from other shoppers.
- Doctors and vets carrying out consultations by phone, Skype etc.
- Essential workers need to be at least 2 metres away from their work colleagues wherever possible.
- Early childhood centres, schools, universities, churches and mosques closed. Some churches broadcasting services via TV and Internet.
- Parks, reserves, playgrounds, bush trails, water activities, swimming pools, and gyms closed and visits to the beach off limits.
- Weddings, family celebrations, funerals and holiday gatherings cancelled.
- Only members of the same “bubble” as the deceased allowed to visit funeral homes.
- Entire sports season cancelled.
- Concerts, tours, festivals and entertainments events cancelled.
- Border closed to all except New Zealand citizens or residents.
- Shortage of masks, gowns and gloves for our front-line workers.
- Around the world there is a shortage of respirators, hospital beds, doctors and nursing staff.
- Teddy bears appearing in windows for children to spot when they are out for their daily walk.



# Poignant Pandemic Poem

This poem has been circulating on social media and has been reported as having been written in 1869 by Kathleen O'Meara and reprinted during the 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic. However, alert fact checkers have claimed that this was in fact written in 2020. Its worth republishing whatever its era! The photo is not fake news!

*And people stayed at home  
And read books  
And listened  
And they rested  
And did exercises  
And made art and played  
And learned new ways of being  
And stopped and listened  
More deeply  
Someone meditated, someone prayed  
Someone met their shadow  
And people began to think differently  
And people healed  
And in the absence of people who  
Lived in ignorant ways  
Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,  
The earth also began to heal  
And when the danger ended and  
People found themselves  
They grieved for the dead  
And made new choices  
And dreamed of new visions  
And created new ways of living  
And completely healed the earth  
Just as they were healed.*

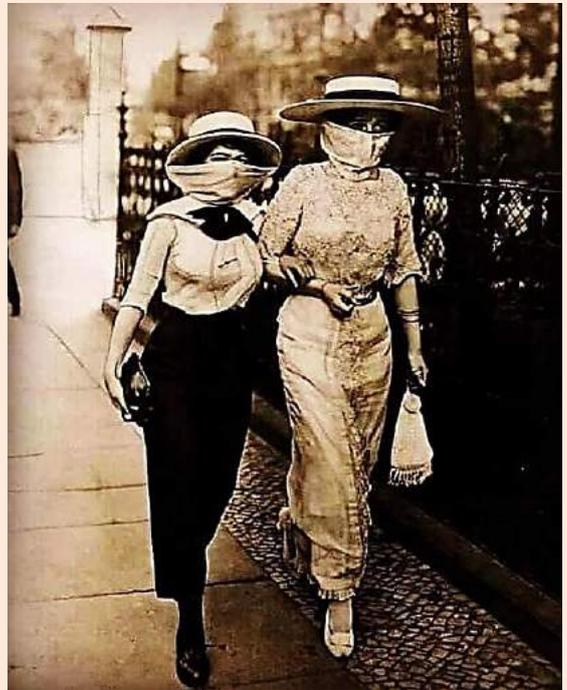
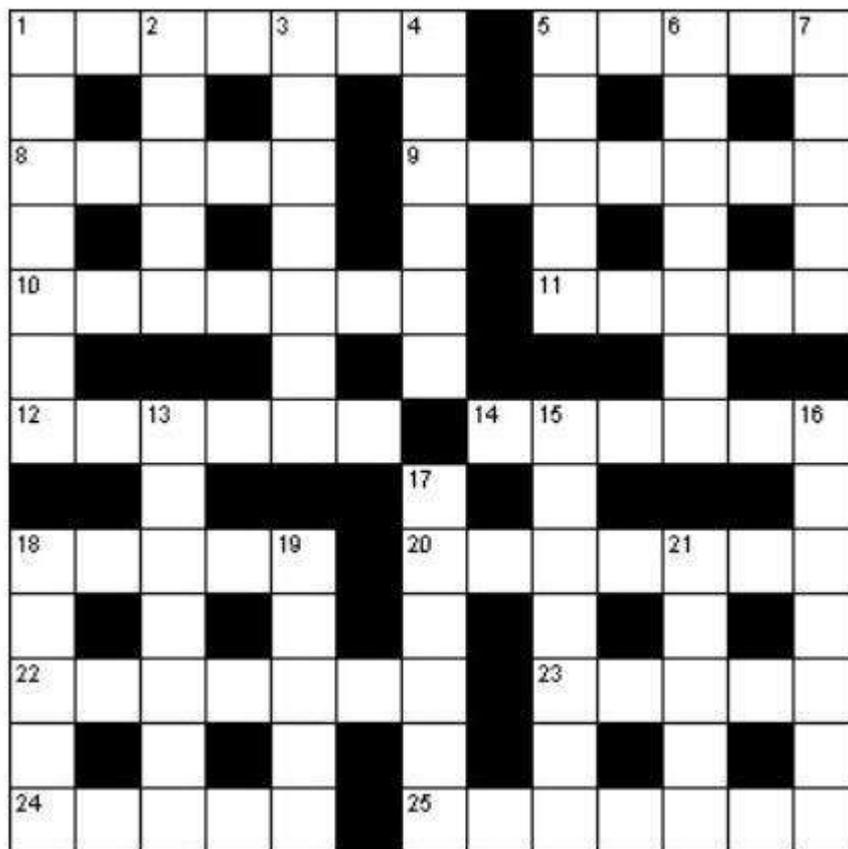


Photo taken during Spanish Flu Pandemic

# Quick Crossword



## Across

- 1 Seemliness (7)
- 5 Dire (5)
- 8 Purloin (5)
- 9 Italian rice dish (7)
- 10 Not prepared (7)
- 11 Borders (5)
- 12 Gents' hairdresser (6)
- 14 Animal Farm author (6)
- 18 Domesticated (5)
- 20 Oriental (7)
- 22 Root vegetable (7)
- 23 Intended (5)
- 24 Prose composition (5)
- 25 Incessant (7)

## Down

- 1 Upset, agitate (7)
- 2 Shout of approval (5)
- 3 Let go (7)
- 4 One who dies for a cause (6)
- 5 Gangway (5)
- 6 Weariness (7)
- 7 Physical appearance (5)
- 13 Comments (7)
- 15 Started again after a break (7)
- 16 Syrupy medicine (7)
- 17 Place of worship (6)
- 18 Native American tent (5)
- 19 Fop (5)
- 21 Rub out (5)

Answers p19

# Poem

- Pam Ayres

*I'm normally a social girl  
I love to meet my mates  
But lately with the virus here  
We can't go out the gates.*

*You see, we are the 'oldies' now  
We need to stay inside  
If they haven't seen us for a while  
They'll think we've upped and died.*

*They'll never know the things we did  
Before we got this old  
There wasn't any Facebook  
So not everything was told.*

*We may seem sweet old ladies  
Who would never be uncouth  
But we grew up in the 60s -  
If you only knew the truth!*

*There was sex and drugs and rock 'n roll  
The pill and miniskirts  
We smoked, we drank, we partied  
And were quite outrageous flirts.*

*Then we settled down, got married  
And turned into someone's mum,  
Somebody's wife, then nana,  
Who on earth did we  
become?*

*We didn't mind the change of pace  
Because our lives were full  
But to bury us before we're dead  
Is like a red rag to a bull!*

*So here you find me stuck inside  
For 4 weeks, maybe more  
I finally found myself again  
Then I had to close the door!*

*It didn't really bother me  
I'd while away the hour  
I'd bake for all the family  
But I've got no bloody flour!*

*Now Netflix is just wonderful  
I like a gutsy thriller  
I'm swooning over Idris  
Or some random sexy killer.*

*At least I've got a stash of booze  
For when I'm being idle  
there's wine and whiskey, even gin  
If I'm feeling suicidal!*

*So let's all drink to lockdown  
To recovery and health  
And hope this bloody virus  
Doesn't decimate our wealth.*



*We'll all get through the  
crisis  
And be back to join our  
mates  
Just hoping I'm not far  
too wide  
To fit through the  
flaming gates!*



## Review of the Seminar organised by Age Concern regarding Age Connect

Age Concern Tauranga has been awarded funding for five years to undertake a new programme called Aged Support. This project is being overseen by Professor Ngaire Kerse of The University of Auckland in association with Age Concern Tauranga. This project aims to:

- **Enhance Wellbeing**-it is aimed at older people who are socially isolated and/or lonely by connecting them with people, activities and events within the community.
- **Value Contribution**-ensuring older people are socially integrated and engaged in a community that values their knowledge and experience.
- **Meaningful Participation**-optimizing participation in activities and groups so that individuals are empowered and age well.
- **Community Collaboration**-by engaging with the community, health and social services to encourage collaboration, this will promote interventions and activities that reduce social isolation and improve integration.

### **The Age Concern Social Connector Jenni Hurn will:**

- 1 Accept referrals for older people and link them to activities and support to meet their individual needs.
- 2 Carry out community consultation.
- 3 Work with other organisations, volunteers and older people themselves to support or develop social opportunities.
- 4 Provide information on local groups and activities.

### **Referral Criteria:**

- Be 65 or older
- Must want to increase their social connection
- Must agree to be referred to the service

### **Who can refer?**

- Older people themselves
- Family members and friends
- Health Professionals
- Community Agencies

This programme is aimed at preventing isolation and helping older people to have a cohesive path to a good healthy lifestyle. By having one hub to link all their needs, will ensure the correct services and organisations are informed of the individual's requirements.

If you would like to also volunteer to help with this programme, please contact Age Concern Tauranga.

With the Louvre Museum in Paris closed during the Covid-19 Lockdown, Mona Lisa took the opportunity to have a little time to herself.....



**Answers to Crossword p16**

1	D	E	2	C	O	3	R	U	4	M		5	A	W	6	F	U	7	L
	I		H		E				A		I		A					O	
8	S	T	E	A	L				9	R	I	S	O	T	T	O			
	T		E		E		T			L		I						K	
10	U	N	R	E	A	D	Y					11	E	D	G	E	S		
	R						S			R							U		
12	B	A	13	R	B	E	R			14	O	R	W	E	L	L			
			E						17	T		E							I
18	T	A	M	E	D				19		20	E	A	S	T	E	R	N	
	E		A		A					M			U		R		C		
22	P	A	R	S	N	I	P					23	M	E	A	N	T		
	E		K		D					L			E		S				U
24	E	S	S	A	Y					25	E	N	D	L	E	S	S		

**Answers to Quiz p2:**

1. Michael Collins;
2. Mary Magdalene;
3. Barrels;
4. Earth;
5. Excalibur;
6. Egypt;
7. c) Juneau;
8. None;
9. Uranium;
10. Incorrectly.

# 2020 Executive Committee

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## Next Newsletter July 2020

Deadline for contributions is Mon 22 June 2020

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