



## General Meetings Restarting Tauranga July

**Date:** Fri 17 July  
**Guest Speaker:** **Dr Lisa Williams**  
Research Fellow, School of Nursing  
University of Auckland



Dr Williams will talk about various research projects she has worked on and a new project regarding Covid-19 lockdown – see p11.

## August

**Date:** Fri 21 August  
**Guest Speaker:** **Professor Chris Battershill**  
Chair Coastal Science, School of Science  
Waikato University



Prof Battershill will be speaking on “The Rena 10 years on”.

**Tauranga Venue: Tauranga Yacht & Powerboat Club  
Sulphur Point, Tauranga**

## August – Mount Maunganui

**Date:** Tues 4 August  
**Venue:** Arataki Community Centre  
Zambuk Way  
**Guest Speakers:** **Greg Misson and Elizabeth Plant**  
Equalis Research Ltd, Katikati



Equalis is the holder of Medsafe Licences to grow cannabis for scientific research purposes and medicinal use. Greg is the MD and Elizabeth is the Chief Medical Officer. They will give us the “good oil” on the burgeoning cannabis industry.

**Tauranga and Mount Meetings 10.00 am – 12.00 noon. \$5.00 entry fee.**

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### Newsletter Team

*Jan Holden - Editor and Layout  
Design*

*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 15.**

- 1 Which Renaissance artist created *Vitruvian Man*?
- 2 Who was known as the Maid of Orleans?
- 3 Where is the Cassini Division?
- 4 What is the gaffer in charge of when a movie is being filmed?
- 5 Which king defeated the Vikings at the Battle of Ethandune in 878?
- 6 What do we call a ring-shaped coral reef?
- 7 Which African country's capital city is named after a US President? a) Guinea; b) Liberia; c) Sierra Leone
- 8 Which country owned Macau until handing it over to China in 1999?
- 9 What do Dame Silvia Cartwright, Dame Catherine Tizard and Sir Keith Holyoake have in common?
- 10 What is the collective name for a group of owls?





# President's Message



**Dear Members**

**Welcome back to U3A Tauranga!!**

Well done everyone for keeping us safe. It has been a difficult time, but we have done really well. We've followed the rules, remained cautious and have avoided a U3A Tauranga Covid-19 cluster!

However, we do need to remain careful. Covid-19 is still with us and we are also in the flu season. If you are not well, please stay home and don't go to groups or General Meetings.

On a more cheerful note groups are meeting again. I know from my own experience that we are all so pleased to be back and socialising with our friends after such a long break.

A big positive out of all of this is how some groups have utilised the time to find new ways of meeting whether by Skype or Zoom; by keeping in touch with phone calls and emails. Although we have been in lockdown some of us have still been learning new things; completing projects or starting new ones. Some of us have been doing nothing; reading; gardening and generally taking a break!

Another cheerful note is that the General Meetings will begin again. The first Tauranga General Meeting will be at the Yacht Club on Friday 17 July at 10.00am. Our main speaker is Dr Lisa Williams from the University of Auckland Research Team. Dr Williams and her team are gathering information from the over 70s regarding their thoughts and experiences during the Covid-19 lockdown. This work is to keep an historical record of how this has affected the older and more vulnerable during this period.

The first "Beachside" General Meeting at Arataki Community Centre, Mount Maunganui is on Tuesday 4 August at 10.00am. Our main speaker is Greg Missen who is the Managing Director of Equalis Research. He will be speaking about research into medicinal cannabis.

Both subjects of these General Meetings are very topical at the moment.

To reassure members that we are still being cautious, Health and Safety procedures will be followed if still required.

Unfortunately, the 25th Anniversary event had to be postponed. However, the Executive have agreed that we should plan for an event for next year and the Anniversary Subcommittee will be meeting in July to discuss this and we will keep you informed.

We have all come through a very alarming and worrying time for ourselves, family and friends. Those of us with family and friends overseas are still hoping for them to keep safe and well.

As always, look after yourselves and enjoy being back to U3A.

Jean Garmonsway  
***President***



# Group Coordinators' Report

## Details of New Groups:

- **Mini Hikes 3** hopes to start up in July
- **Jazz Group** restarts from 26 June:  
**Convener** – Maureen Tatler, 575 7637  
**Co-convener** – Brian Williams, 572 2553  
**Venue:** Convener's home – Papamoa  
**Meetings:** 1.00 pm-3.30 pm on 4th Friday of the month

## Suggested New Groups:

- **French Conversation 2** – 6 new people interested but need to find a convener.
- **Philosophy** – Mount/Papamoa area.

## Group Activities and re-starts under Level 2 and Level 1 Covid-19 protocols

### Groups A - C

- **Ancient History 1** - Alistair Blennerhassett. The group used to meet physically twice a month. During lockdown they have been meeting weekly using Zoom, and this has been very successful. The physical meetings usually have about a dozen attending and the virtual meetings have had about 9. Restarting has not been decided yet. This group is full.
- **Ancient History 2** - Alistair Blennerhassett. The group used to meet physically once a month. During lockdown they have been meeting fortnightly using Skype with great success. The physical meetings usually have about seven attending and the virtual meetings have had about 6. The group will restart in the first week in July and the group is looking for new members.
- **Apple Mac Support 1** - Betty Clethero has reported that the group is restarting on 18 June and currently the group is full.
- **Art History 2** - Margaret Liddell's group met on 10 June. In July the group is celebrating the 500-year anniversary of Raphael with an Italian luncheon. The group operates a roster system for the homes they will meet in, deciding the subjects for each month and scheduling those who are to bring afternoon tea. The system works well.
- **Art Practical** - Barbara Inkster restarted her group on 12 June. They have sufficient numbers at the moment, better than last year.
- **Ballet Appreciation** - Kathleen Fraser reports that the Ballet Appreciation group was unable to function during lockdown, but they had their first re-start meeting on 3 June. Some members were not ready to meet in the close environs of a home just yet, but the attendance numbered 5 out of the 9 members. They have had one resignation and would

welcome maybe one or two more members. Kathleen thanked the Group Coordinator for her communications and TV viewing ideas during lockdown.

- **Book Lovers 3** - Ingrid Rigg's group had their first re-start meeting on 16 June.
- **Book Lovers 4 - Any Book Book Club** - Bev Pitkethley reports that the first re-start meeting will be on 22 June. The members have maintained contact virtually and shared "good reads" information.
- **Cafe Book Lovers 1** - Evelyn Grimley advises that the group is still going strong. Members had a Zoom for their May meeting, which was good fun. The group is full and met again physically on 29 June 2020.
- **Cafe Book Lovers 2** - Marianne Lammers advised that the group restarted on 8 June.
- **Computer Support A** - Pat Wilson would like more members for this group.
- **Computer Support B** - Margaret Marsh restarts this group on Monday 6 July and she is looking for more members.
- **Current Events B** - Vic Sterling restarted the group on Monday 15 June and the group is currently full.
- **Current Events C** - Lorraine Burdett says her group will restart during Level 1.
- **Current Events E** - Marianne Lammers advised that the group re-started on Monday 15 June.
- **Current Events F** - Deidre Elliott. Said the group got together again face to face on 9 June for the first time since the lockdown.
- **All groups in D-H** seem to have coped remarkably well in lockdown and have been happy to meet virtually when possible, but they are looking forward to actually seeing each other for a chat over a cup of tea. **Garden Ramblers 1** held their first meeting on 10 June at Patio Rose, the Café at Villa Ridge Nursery. Everyone enjoyed a catch up over lunch and they were also given a talk and demonstration on how to grow micro greens.
- **I-P Groups are mostly re-starting this month.** Some groups which have had success with Zoom and Skype opted to continue virtual meetings for June with possible physical meetings to be held in July. Other I-P groups have kept in touch by email and phone.
- **IPad 2** reconvened June 8.
- **Mah Jong** recommenced on 26 June.
- **Memoir Writing** - There were a number of names building up wanting to attend the Memoir Writing Course, so Jean Akers decided to have a go at running it by email. Six brave souls were willing to give it a try. They were keen and what's more no-one had anything else on! Funny, that. "My empty diary welcomed an entry," wrote one prospective writer. It was trickier than they thought, by email, but they persevered, writing great memoirs and eventually five finished the six-session course. Four were able

to meet on Zoom for the last two sessions and once the group were at Level 2, to meet in person!

- **Oceanside Music Group** has re-convened at the Mount Maunganui RSA with all the RSA Health and Safety protocols in place.

**R-Z groups** seem to have been very active during lockdown:

- **Rialto Film Group 2** - John Russell reported that the Rialto Movie Group 2 met via Zoom. The Luminaries, a TV series on TVOne, was selected and after the group watched it in their homes and they had discussions giving their opinions at the Zoom Meeting. They also had another Zoom meeting and discussed the intricacies of the complex plot of this series.
- **Rialto Film Group 3** - Linda Kennedy sent an email to all members mid- April to ask how they were doing during this time. She replied to those who answered, telling them what she had been doing. So, it was through emailing that they communicated, and it worked out fine. For those who live on their own, it was a nice way to keep in touch.
- **Rummikub 2** - started again on 18 June and Jenny Mathews reported that everyone was keen to meet up and play. Jenny emailed the members during lockdown regularly just to keep in touch and check all were keeping well and ask what they were up to.
- **Science Today 1** – The group did not have Zoom meetings during lockdown. In the early days of lockdown one of their members created and distributed an Excel file on which members could plot the daily number of Covid-19 cases on a graph if they wished. Members finding interesting information on the internet sent links to Kate Mulligan that she distributed to all and they started meeting again from 9 June.
- **Science 2** - The convener, John Denne, was stuck down in Christchurch during lockdown but the group got together for morning tea in a café on 15 June for a catch up prior to their first post-covid-19 meeting on 17 June.
- **Shakespeare** - The Shakespeare Group met weekly on Zoom, even though they normally only meet twice a month. Members valued the contact and there were repeated comments during lockdown such as "It's the highlight of my week!" The group members had to adapt by all individually watching a section of the play they were studying at home (instead of all watching it together at a meeting) and they then discussed their ideas and insights on Zoom. Normal meetings started on Monday 22 June.
- **The Sea and Oceans** - Pat Chainey did a bit of emailing and a few phone calls to keep in touch with the Sea Group. A meeting was held on the first day of Level 1. Pat had promised chatting and afternoon tea and that went well as they found themselves again. John Maunder did a "minute" talk on the future of cruising but most wanted to get back to talking about what they did over the lockdowns. Most told Pat as they left, "Gosh I enjoyed this afternoon". She was glad she held the afternoon meeting.

- **Ukulele** – Eileen Ammann’s Ukulele Group tried websites like Zoom and Messenger to try and get something going but it all proved too difficult trying to keep in time. We certainly could have done with a tech savvy person who could possibly have made it happen. Once we got to Level 3, four or five of the members enjoyed meeting up on several occasions in each other’s homes but although it was enjoyable, they missed the noise that the rest of the gang provides. It is now great being back together again in a new venue.



- **Writers Inc** - Jean Akers reported that members in Writers Inc began emailing each other their lockdown experiences and eventually some battled technology to meet on Zoom to read their latest stories.
- **Yoga 2 and 3** have started back with good attendances.

### Other Information:

- **Garden Ramblers 1** – Kate Cater has resigned as she has gone to live in Christchurch. Elizabeth Reeves has agreed to step in until we can find a new convener and has also offered to co-convene next year, if required, in order to help the new convener to settle into the role.
- **Dining 3** – The Convener will suggest to the two people on the waiting list for this group that they look at joining one of the three other dining groups.
- **French Conversation** – The group now has 6 people on the waiting list. A new group could be started if a convener can be found.
- **Opera Appreciation** – This group has vacancies for new members.
- **Geology** – Robert Turnbull has resigned as co-convener of this group due to ill health.
- **Philosophy 2** - Dave Higson has decided to resign as convener after 10 years. He has suggested another Philosophy Group for the Mount/Papamoa area which he would help start up if there is sufficient interest. Philosophy 2 will decide on a new convener shortly. The group needs some extra members.
- **Philosophy 3** – This group is currently full.
- **Oceanside Music Group** - Convener Alan Read reports that this group is so successful that membership is now closed. However, there will be a wait list and if the wait list grows quickly Alan will consider starting a second group.
- **Yoga 3** is looking for new members – phone Graeme Wilson 574 2392.

### New Members’ Meeting:

**The New Members’ Meeting scheduled for 9 June has been postponed to late July.** Margaret Marsh is emailing new members to gauge interest in participating.

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



# Facts and Figures to Date

Financial members as at 12 June 2020	861
Life members	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>871</b>
Unpaid subs (memberships cancelled)	91
<b>Number of Groups:</b>	<b>101</b>

## Newsletter Editor Vacancy for 2021



If you can use the desktop publishing features of Word or Publisher and enjoy working in a team, you might be interested in this very rewarding and creative role, please contact Jan Holden, phone 543 3747 for more information and to obtain a copy of the job description.

Jan is prepared to be the back-up person for the new Editor and can provide training.

*My boss asked me to start the presentation with a joke.  
I attached my pay slip on the first slide!*

# It's a Funny Old World



## Blooper spotting adds more fun to movies

By Paul Chapman



**W**e all enjoy a good movie but, for some people, there is a whole extra degree of pleasure to be had.

“Blooper” spotters are in their element when they pick up on a glaring anachronism in the script, the starlet’s otherwise perfectly groomed hair is coiffed in a different way between takes, or – best of all – when something like a jetliner is caught passing over the armour-clad shoulder of a historical hero. That’s exactly what happened in a shot of Brad Pitt during filming of the 2004 blockbuster *Troy*, and nobody in the cutting room appears to have noticed. See for

yourself above.

If you look hard enough, it would probably be rare to find any two-hour long film that doesn’t have at least one or two minor glitches. But enthusiastic blooper spotters have a field day when they spot blatant examples in Hollywood’s most lavish and expensively made movies.

*Braveheart*, that 1995 tale of derring-do starring Mel Gibson as Scottish patriot William Wallace, is a favourite and it’s not difficult to see why. Quite apart from the fact that the script is riddled with historical inaccuracies, fans point out that Gibson’s thirteenth-century Wallace is wearing a kilt, an item of clothing unknown before the eighteenth century.

But perhaps the movie’s most exciting blooper is a shot in which our horseback heroes charge into the fray at the Battle of Stirling Bridge. Right there, in the background, a white car is visible.



Even television series are not spared the blooper spotters' scrutiny. Take the popular 1970s series *Charlie's Angels*. In one scene, the character Sabrina checks into the Tuxedo Hotel in New York. She is seen unlocking the door of Room 325. But when the camera zooms in on the key fob, we see the key is meant for Room 1207 at a hotel with a different name (the last three letters of which appear to be "rac"). In the first shot, she is reaching down to the doorknob, in the second she is reaching upwards. In fact, they look like completely different doors. And yes, it was a continuity error, not part of the plotline.



If you want to enjoy more fun at the film-makers' expense, the internet is full of them. Just try googling "movie bloopers" and for starters you could check out <https://www.moviemistakes.com/> for a random selection.



## Group News

In this issue activities reported from some Groups during Covid-19 Alert Levels 3, 2 and 1 have been included in the "Group Coordinators' Report". However, now that groups are back to meeting in person, I invite Conveners to submit articles to the Newsletter Editor that would be of interest to all members. We would love to know what you are doing and please include a photo or two if possible. Email: [newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz](mailto:newsletter@u3atauranga.kiwi.nz)

***The police came around last night and told me my dogs  
were chasing people on bikes.***

***My dogs don't even have bikes!***

# Surveys

## Auckland Medical Research Foundation 70+ Covid-19 Lockdown Experiences

People 70 years and over are invited to share their experience of lockdown and other aspects of Covid-19. All letters (which can be anonymous) will become part of a permanent archive at the Auckland Museum. This will be a significant historical record as well as a resource for informing future responses to pandemics by the government and media. Go to the website below and use the online form:

[https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_b14012ayXtru4gl](https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b14012ayXtru4gl)

Dr Lisa Williams, Research Fellow, School of Nursing at the University of Auckland will be our guest speaker at the Tauranga General Meeting on Friday 17 July, if you would like to find out more about this survey.

## Garden Bird Survey 27 June to 5 July

The New Zealand Garden Bird Survey is an annual citizen science project organised by Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research. It takes place over 9 days between 27 June and **5 July**. People count the birds they see in their backyards.

### How to get involved:

- 1 Visit the NZ Garden Bird Survey website to get started
- 2 Select a garden, or a local park or school grounds
- 3 Choose any ONE day **before 5 July 2020**
- 4 Look and listen for birds on that day for ONE HOUR
- 5 For each species, record the HIGHEST number seen or heard at one time.
- 6 Submit the results online at the NZ Garden Bird Survey website.

### Resources are available:

- A tally sheet
- A banner image
- A “What’s That Bird” identification poster.

<https://gardenbirdsurvey.landcareresearch.co.nz>





# Well, Fancy That!

In this series we look at some remarkable but not so well-known facts

## How they stole John Dennis's thunder

By Paul Chapman

The critic and dramatist John Dennis appears to have had more of a talent for quarrelling with his contemporaries – Alexander Pope among them – than for writing successful plays. He did, however, unwittingly make an enduring contribution to the English language.

When in 1709 London's Drury Lane Theatre agreed to put on a production of his new work, *Appius and Virginia*, Dennis needed a backstage device to simulate the sound of thunder. So he set about creating an apparatus that reportedly resembled "a large mustard bowl," in which large metal balls were rolled around, creating a suitably impressive thunderous roar.



John Dennis

Dennis's skills as an inventor clearly surpassed those he possessed as a playwright because his lacklustre play closed almost as quickly as it opened. The theatre management were so impressed with his thunder machine, however, that they made their own replica.

Sometime later, Dennis went along to the theatre as a member of the audience to watch a performance of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. When a distinctive clap of thunder sounded during one of the play's scenes featuring the witches, he immediately recognised the sound. He stopped the show by leaping to his feet and shouting: "That's my thunder, by God! The villains will not let my play run, yet they steal my thunder!"

Years later, Alexander Pope couldn't resist taking a dig at Dennis by addressing lines to him in the satirical poem *Dunciad*. Pope wrote: "With Shakespeare's nature or with John's art / Let others aim: 'Tis yours to shake the soul / With Thunder rumbling from the mustard bowl."

"To steal one's thunder," of course, now means someone has taken another's idea either to pre-empt the other person or to use to their own advantage. Poor old John Dennis meant the expression quite literally.

Dennis's downfall pales against that which ultimately befell two other theatrical figures, William Henry Ireland (1777-1835) and his father Samuel.

On 2 April 1796, the Drury Lane Theatre (again) debuted what was sensationally claimed to be a previously undiscovered play by the great William Shakespeare, who had died in 1616. John Kemble, the theatre's manager, may have harboured his own private doubts about the authenticity of the play, *Vortigern and Rowena*, because he originally proposed the opening

night to be 1 April, All Fools' Day. Kemble changed his mind after strong objections from Samuel Ireland, the actor who said he had found the "Shakespeare" manuscript.



William Ireland

Ireland had been causing a stir in the theatre world for some years, purporting to be in possession of a whole trove of documents in Shakespeare's handwriting. His claims were so convincing that many prominent literary figures, including James Boswell and Richard Brinsley Sheridan, believed him.

The hoax was finally blown out of the water by Edward Malone, the most eminent Shakespeare scholar of the day, who published a detailed 400-page book convincingly exposing the "discoveries" for the forgeries they were.

Every one of the "Shakespearean" documents, including the play itself, were the elaborate creations of Samuel's son, William Henry. Malone's book appeared just two days before the opening night of *Vortigern and Rowena*. It turned out to be quite a spoiler. The play had no second night.

Samuel Ireland's reputation never recovered from the scandal. Neither did that of his son. Despite his tell-all volume *The Confessions of William Henry Ireland* being published in 1805, he died a pauper.



**After 2 weeks of not going out, the animals came to check if everything is OK**



# Puzzle

**Vocabulary mind-bender!** Each of the following statements is a well-known phrase, translated into less common words. Your job is to give the well-known phrase for each. **For example, “Scintillate, scintillate, asteroid minific” is better known as “Twinkle, twinkle, little star.”** (Solutions on p15).

- 1 Members of an avian species of identical plumage congregate.
- 2 Surveillance should precede saltation.
- 3 Pulchritude possesses solely cutaneous profundity.
- 4 It is fruitless to become lacrymose of precipitately departed lacteal fluid.
- 5 Freedom from incrustations of grime is contiguous to rectitude.
- 6 The stylus is more potent than the claymore.
- 7 It is fruitless to attempt to indoctrinate a superannuated canine with innovative manoeuvres.
- 8 Eschew the implement of correction and vitiate the scion.
- 9 The temperature of aqueous content of an unremittingly ogled saucepan does not reach 212 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 10 All articles that coruscate with respondence are not truly auriferous.
- 11 Where there are visible vapours having their prevenience in ignited carbonaceous materials, there is conflagration.
- 12 Sorting on the part of mendicants must be interdicted.
- 13 A plethora of individuals with expertise in culinary techniques vitiate the potable concoction produced by steeping certain comestibles.
- 14 Eleemosynary deeds have their incipience intramurally.
- 15 Male cadavers are incapable of yielding any testimony.
- 16 Individuals who make their abode in vitreous edifices would be advised to refrain from catapulting petrous projectiles.
- 17 Neophyte’s serendipity
- 18 Exclusive dedication to the necessitous chores without interludes of hedonistic diversion renders Johnathon a hebetudinous fellow.
- 19 A revolving lithic conglomerate accumulates no congraries of a small, green bryophitic plant.
- 20 A person presenting the ultimate cachination possesses thereby the optimal cachination.
- 21 Abstention from any eleatory undertakings precludes a potential escalation of a lucrative nature.
- 22 Missiles of ligneous or oterous consistency have the potentation of fracturing my osseous structure, but appellation will eternally remain innocuous.

## Answers to Quiz p2:

1. Leonardo da Vinci; 2. Joan of Arc; 3. Between the rings of Saturn; 4. The lighting; 5. Alfred the Great; 6. An atoll; 7. b) Liberia (Monrovia is named after James Monroe); 8. Portugal; 9. They were all Governors-General of New Zealand; 10. A parliament.

## Puzzle solutions p#:

- 1 Birds of a feather flock together.
- 2 Look before you leap.
- 3 Beauty is only skin deep.
- 4 Don't cry over spilt milk.
- 5 Cleanliness is next to godliness.
- 6 The pen is mightier than the sword.
- 7 You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
- 8 Spare the rod and spoil the child.
- 9 A watched pot never boils.
- 10 All that glitters is not gold.
- 11 Where there's smoke there's fire.
- 12 Beggars can't be choosers.
- 13 Too many cooks spoil the broth.
- 14 Charity begins at home.
- 15 Dead men tell no tales.
- 16 People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.
- 17 Beginner's luck
- 18 All work and no play make Jack a dull boy.
- 19 A rolling stone gathers no moss.
- 20 He who laughs last, laughs best.
- 21 Nothing ventured, nothing gained.
- 22 Sticks and stones may break my bones, but names will never hurt me.



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**Next Newsletter September 2020**

Deadline for contributions is 24 August 2020

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