

U3A REMUERA

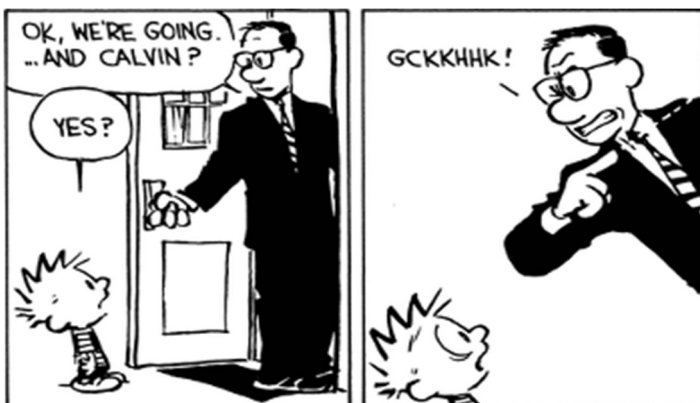
President's Piece – May 2024

By the time you read this, I hope to be happily holidaying on the Dalmatian Coast, having survived the 17 hour flight to Doha and four hours more to Zagreb. It will be a pleasure to finally be out of aeroplanes and walking the streets of Zagreb.



The last time I did this trip was some 50 years ago when the area was still Yugoslavia and I was travelling in a VW Combi van with two friends. We were close to the crossing with Albania, stopped at the side of road chatting happily to a gypsy. Suddenly he grabbed two of our suitcases, whistled up the family horse and cart with about 10 gypsies on board and raced off with our suitcases. I was driving so I took off in pursuit and stopped the horse and cart. My two friends leapt out and confronted the gypsies. The gypsies pulled out enormous knives as I sat watching through the rear vision mirror thinking “Do I go to help them and get killed also or shall I drive off and feel awful for the rest of my life?” Luckily our goods were returned and we went happily on our way.

That night, feeling a bit chastened, we decided to stay in a camp site for safety. The camp site manager, with little English said “Not safe” followed by the throat cutting sign. We drove on through the night to Greece. I was told later that a few days before, tourists had been hospitalized by a gypsy attack. We were lucky and I assume this trip will be a tad safer.



John Malcolmson has very kindly offered to run the May meeting. Our Guest speaker is Professor Peter Thorne, CNZM, who has done major research on the human ear and hearing loss as one ages. I am sorry to be missing it as I have lost hearing in my right ear. I shall be asking various people what he said.

Enjoy the meeting. And if you can, please stay to hear the post morning tea speaker.

See you in June.
Raewyn

2024 Meetings

13th May
10th June
8th July
12th August
9th September
14th October
11th November
9th December

Meeting Tasks	May
Greeters	Foodies
Morning tea	Use it or lose it
Mini Talk	SARUS
Group Reports	Philosophy Genealogy

Meeting tasks	June
Greeters	Genealogy
Morning tea	Monday History
Mini Talk	Use it or lose it
Group Reports	Classic Movies Monday History

Speaker for May is Professor Peter Thorne

Professor Thorne completed a PhD at the University of Auckland, followed by post-doctoral studies at the Kresge Hearing Research Institute, University of Michigan. He is a leading auditory neuroscientist with research interests focussed on mechanisms, diagnosis, and treatment of inner ear diseases and clinical and population health approaches to prevention and alleviation of hearing loss.

Professor Thorne's work has been cited over 5000 times and he has held senior management positions at the University of Auckland, where he led the establishment of the Section of Audiology and the Master of Audiology degree programme.

He is currently the Director of the Eisdell Moore Centre and co-lead of the Aotearoa Brain Project.

Professor Thorne also contributes substantially to the hearing-impaired community, serving as the President of the National Foundation for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and was one of the lead advocates for the establishment of Newborn Hearing Screening through Project Hearing Impairment and Early Detection and Intervention (HIEDI).

In 2009, he was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (CNZM) for services to audiology and auditory neuroscience.



May mini talk

The May mini talk will be by a member of Science Around Us Study Group. Mark Wotton will give a ringing presentation on TINNITUS.

Mini talk for June will be by a member from Use it or Lose It.

Study Group Reports

Philosophy

The word Philosophy comes from the Greek "love of wisdom". This year our focus is on the history of Philosophy. We have had talks on Ancient Greece, From Greece to Rome, and will continue with the Medieval World, the Enlightenment and the Modern Age.

The talks are followed by group discussion, afternoon tea, then another talk on a subject of the speaker's choice e.g. "The Open Society and Its Enemies" and "Constructive Ambiguity." This is followed by a vibrant group discussion on a controversial topic.

We meet at Edmund Hillary Village at 2pm on the third Monday of the month. We have some excellent speakers who never disappoint.

Bruce Heasley - Convenor

Genealogy

We are a friendly group of 12 or so, who meet monthly in each other's homes over a shared interest – our families' histories. Our skill-levels vary from 'just starting out' to seasoned researchers.

Meetings start with reports of progress or discoveries since we last met. Last year, we had a presentation from a member about one ancestor of significance. This year, we are focussing on a family member who emigrated to New Zealand – what was their story? Why did they make the big decision to change countries? What happened next?

These stories are part of our shared social history. They bring our pasts to life.

If you have thought about investigating your family's histories and have got no further than thinking about it, why not give us a shot? What's the worst that might happen?

We gather on the first Friday of each month – next meeting Friday, 3rd May.



They said:

“If you cannot get rid of a family skeleton, you might as well make it dance.”
George Bernard (Bernard) Shaw (1856-1950)

Michael Littlewood - Convenor

From the Director of Study Groups

Two new study groups have started. Poetry with nine enthusiastic members, with Jim Feist as convenor. The new Travel group has seven members with Wallis as convenor.

Check our website for more information about these two groups. New members welcome.

Convenors and deputies are meeting on Monday 29 April at 10.00 am at St Chads.

Wallis Walker – Director of Study Groups

U3A Auckland Network

Remuera U3A is one of the 27 U3A groups making up the Auckland Network with groups located throughout Auckland from Warkworth to Papakura.

Auckland Network office holders host meetings several times a year attended by one or more representative of each U3A. The Auckland Network provides a forum for individual U3As to discuss common issues such as maintaining membership in these changing times, occupational health and safety requirements for our meetings and the level of fees. The Network publishes a newsletter circulated to the Auckland member groups and maintains connections with U3A New Zealand and other regional networks.

The Auckland Network’s main activity is holding a day long annual event around July each year and all members of Auckland U3As are eligible to attend. The event features two keynote speakers and a number of shorter presentations.

John Berridge – Network Rep

Auckland Network Event – Celebrating U3A in Action

The annual Auckland Network this year will be held on **Saturday July 27th**. Numbers are limited.

The main speakers are Distinguished Professor Emeritus Paul Spoonley MA MSc PhD FRSNZ and Sir Ashley Blomfield KNZM

Click the link below and then EVENT for full information and to register for the event.
<https://www.u3aauckland.net/>

A reminder to all members

Please wear your name badge and if it is lost or broken request a new one.
Committee members have a yellow dot

To Contact Remuera U3A

Listed below are the email and web addresses of Remuera U3A.

Please give them to anyone who may be interested in knowing more or is thinking of joining us.

Remuera U3A Email address: u3aRemuera@gmail.com

Remuera U3A Web address: <https://remuerau3a.org.nz>