

Art Collections Group

Convenor: Anne-Marie Hutton
First Tuesday 10 am
annemariehutton@gmail.com



Bike Group ** April start **

Convenor: Gillian Alexander
Proposed day/time
2nd & 4th Thursday 9:30
saltarelo@xtra.co.nz



Book Share Group full

Convenor: Trish Irvine
First Friday, 1:30
trishjockloch@gmail.com



Dining Group

Convenor: Karen Wards
Third Friday, 7 pm
karendwards@gmail.com



Expanding Musical Horizons

full
Convenor: Paul Wheeler
Second Monday, 10 am
wheeler@outlook.co.nz



Film Group ** April start **

Second Wednesday 2 pm
Joint Convenors:
Bill Stanford
billstanford9@gmail.com
Graham Corbett
gcorbettmd@gmail.com



Gallery Group full

Convenor: Tash Hurst
Second Wednesday, 10:30
tash.hurst@xtra.co.nz



Gardens Lovers Group full

Convenor: Robyne Selbie
Second Wednesday, 1:30
robyneselbie1945@gmail.com



Genealogy Group full

Convenor: Jean Tilleyshort
1st and 3rd Fridays, 10-12
s-jtilleyshort@xtra.co.nz



Lunch Group

Convenor: Anne Stratford
Second Friday 12:30
annestratford@gmail.com



Mahjong Group

Convenor: Jean Tilleyshort
Every Thursday, 10 am
s-jtilleyshort@xtra.co.nz



Monday Current Affairs Group

full
Convenor: Joy Hayward
Third Monday, 1:30
joyhayward@hotmail.co.nz



Photography Group full

Convenor: Ann Wood
First Thursday, 1:30
Third Thursday, TBA
ann.wood14blaw@gmail.com



Poetry Group full

Convenor: Carole Bezett
1st or 2nd Wednesday, 11 am
carolebezett@gmail.com



Singing Group full

Convenor: Claire Stevens
Every Monday, 1 pm
cstevensnz@gmail.com



Tuesday Current Issues Group

full
Convenor: Gretchen Kivell
Third Tuesday, 10 am
gretchen.kivell@xtra.co.nz



Waikouaiti Global Conversations

Convenor: Kath Ryan
Second Wednesday 2-4pm
kathryan09@gmail.com



Walking Group full

Every Thursday, 10:30
Joint Convenors:
Averil McLean
averilmclean2@gmail.com
Janet Hewson
je.hewson@xtra.co.nz



Gallery Group Special trip in March

The March meeting was an extended visit to Central Otago over three days. We visited some wonderful people and places from Cromwell to Lumsden.

Below: Odelle at Dicey's wine and art studio:



R: Tash Hurst enjoying a wine while admiring the paintings

We started our tour with a wine and art combination. Odelle Morshuis is a celebrated artist with a combined



gallery/studio and wine tasting area in a stunning area above Bannockburn, surrounded by vines as far as the eye can see.

Odelle is a painter and sculptor with a highly recognisable style. Figures in the landscape is the main theme of the paintings, demonstrating the close relationship between people and their place on the land. Odelle gave us a wonderful welcome in a warm and friendly studio which was a great way to start our trip.



Above: Chris Hewitt admiring a painting (L) and two water colours by Natalia.

Our next visit was to the home and gallery of Natalia Olssen. Natalia had to be at work, but John Olssen welcomed us into their home/gallery where a range of Natalia's water colour paintings were displayed among other works by a wide range of artists. All were for sale. John was the previous owner and founder of Olssen wines on Felton Road and was an entertaining and amicable host in a lovely setting by Lowburn Inlet. The landscape water colours were cleverly mastered of the beautiful surrounding and were appreciated by the group.

Below:

Our host: John Olssen





L: The Middleditches by a painting of the Rangitata Valley.

One of the artists that had been on our 'To Visit' list was Maurice Middleditch of Aurum Studio fame. Maurice and his wife had moved to a lifestyle village in Cromwell and Maurice had said he had a few paintings still that he could show us, in his garage. We were not prepared for the huge number of landscape paintings that Maurice had, and we enjoyed every minute in the garage! Several paintings were bought, with many oohs and aahs to be

heard amid admiration for the outstanding quality of the natural landscape art.

Below: Examples of Maurice Middleditch's work.



And so, to the motel in Cromwell and dinner at the Stoaker Room Bistro and Bar.

A visit to David John in Arrowtown was next. David gave us a very interesting talk about his background in Liverpool, UK and how he came to NZ. His outstanding ability to interpret landscapes, do still life and portraiture demonstrate his huge range of very skilful work, and the reason he has been able to make a living from art for many years. His work was an absolute delight, and this was the art many of us remember in detail. A painting was bought from him by a member by our group. We really enjoyed this visit.

R: David John in his studio.



L: One of his exquisite still life paintings

R: Humorous art as well!



R: Lunch at Provisions in Arrowtown in the area of the old miners' cottages.

And so, to our next artist and perhaps the highlight of the trip, Gus Watson. Gus's house and studio are in a delightful countryside location just outside Queenstown. We thought we had arrived at Monet's Garden! The house is built around a lily pond and garden. The weather was beautiful, and the colourful art lit up the whole area. Gus was welcoming and natural, obviously loving his lifestyle, surrounding



himself with his popular and interpretive colours and range of paintings.



Above: Gus Watson showing us his annual records of sold paintings.



R: Two examples of his beautiful art in the studio.

And so, to our last visit to the art gallery in Athol where we saw several paintings from artists we had visited. Karen Soundy had built the Gallery a few years ago as her retirement project and accepts work from a range of artists, many from Dunedin. Karen is a vivacious and enthusiastic art seller and is extremely supportive of artists in general. She is very knowledgeable about art and gave us generous time to explain her philosophy and range of art.



Above: The group enjoying the Art Gallery

R: Karen Soundy in her Athol Art Gallery

And on we went to Lumsden Motel for the night and a great night out for dinner in the Lumsden Hotel. A most enjoyable three days with great company and an increased understanding of art and artists.

Tash Hurst



Mahjong Group March

Mahjong is the Chinese name for sparrows, probably named that because the shuffling of the



original ivory or bone tiles sounded like sparrows twittering. Mahjong was developed in the 18th century in China and spread throughout the world in the 19th century. It is credited with fostering a sense of community and camaraderie.

L: Playing Mahjong in the Tidal Basin Bathing Beach, Washington DC, in 1924.

We haven't gone this far, but we are enjoying meeting every week. We had four new players come to learn the game in February, and they are now playing like pros. If you are interested in learning, or joining, please contact me, and we will make you welcome. Jean

Genealogy Group March

We are working away on our family histories. Sharing what we have learned, and tips for solving problems is an important part of belonging to our group.

Last week Kevin shared his learnings from a workshop with the Ulster Historical Foundation, which included a talk from Sean Brosnahan on Irish settlers in Otago. Kevin found out about many sources of historical and family history information for Ireland, and Northern Ireland in particular, as well as the Irish in New Zealand.



The Emigrant's Farwell, engraving by Henry Doyle (1827-1893) from Mary Frances Cusack's *Illustrated History of Ireland*

We discussed emigration patterns, and what we learned about emigration from Britain on the history of transport course. Those who came to New Zealand in the early years of settlement were very brave! Jean

Garden Lovers Group March

Our group met up at the Copper Café for a light lunch before visiting the gardens at Olveston House. It was a sunny day, so spirits were high. There have been so many days which disappointed this summer, but today was a great day for an outing.



This is very good time of year to see the Olveston greenhouse at its best, but after a wander around the gardens we agreed it would be a great place to return to in the spring to view the rhododendrons and the spring flowers. It is free to visit the gardens, but they do advertise garden tours, so look on their website for times if you are interested.



The greenhouse is well worth a visit, and we were all impressed at the work required to keep the displays in such good condition. The begonias were in full bloom and a favourite of Kiri Te Kanawa, as described in a recent article in the local paper.



The pots of streptocarpus, or cape primrose, plants were a delight with their vibrant colours, pots of rex begonias reminded us of our grandmothers' gardens, and several succulents added to the display, the succulent known as the bead plant for example.



A display of cacti on a shelf above our heads also caught the eye.



After the visit here, we drove to Midge Ruka's garden in Green Island. Midge is the President of the Dunedin Garden Club, and she has developed a beautiful garden over the eleven years she and her partner have lived there. They built their retirement home a stone's throw from their original family home, so she



knew the area well and transferred many of her favourite plants to their new home. Originally the site was an organic garden, and Midge maintains it today as a spray free garden.



Her partner has built outdoor structures, laid gravel pathways, and added a dovecot, and a seat or two, for sitting and admiring the views of the

garden after the hard work has been completed.

Midge has an artist's eye for colour, and her garden is a gorgeous mix of pinks, mauves, and everything in between. The pergolas are adorned with clematis and heritage roses which bring wonderful scent into the garden along with pesky possums who are causing damage to the roses.



Crepuscule is a lovely old rose which covers the entrance to the garden and flowers several times a year, many of the other roses were finishing off their displays, but dahlias and perennials were in full bloom along with citrus bushes, apple trees, and cranberries which provided lots of interest and showed how it was possible to develop a small garden to be a treasure trove of plants and a treat to the eye.



After a tour of the house, one of our members was drawn to the views of the garden from the house and commented on how attractive it was, remarking "you could sit and look at that all day".

We will march on, and next week we are going out to see a garden at Warrington to check out the apples.

Robyne

Expanding Musical Horizons March

As usual, each year we start with a session called 'Pops Meet the Classics'. It's an easy-going look at the world of popular music, with the common thread that each piece was borrowed, stolen, nicked, purloined, plagiarised, or flogged from the hard work of some famous composer from as recently as forty years beforehand or sometimes up to four hundred years ago.

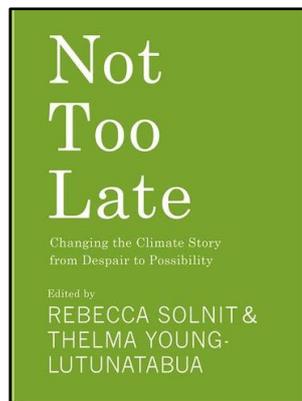


Most of the pop selections are ones we remember – we heard them when we were kids listening to the radio. And then we started to see them sung on television as well, as we reached our teens, twenties, or thirties. The songwriters for the crooners of the 40s, 50s or 60s were adept at recycling Chopin, Brahms, Borodin, Saint-Saens, Bach, and others. Elvis Presley sang a range of melodies that came from the old masters. And so, each track we listened to became a mini-quiz: who was the singer, what was the name of the song, who wrote the original music and what was its title?

Sometimes it was not too difficult to remember the popular singer and the song. The classical origins were more tantalising – we knew the piece really well, but just couldn't recall the composer or what it was called. And when we found out the answer, we said, "Oh, of course it was – I remember it really well, but do you think I could remember what it was or who composed it?"

Paul

Rebecca Solnit, a prolific American writer, has been mentioned a few times in our discussions as someone to read for a more hopeful, positive slant on the things that bother us. An activist and historian, her website says



that she writes on a variety of subjects such as ‘feminism, western and indigenous history, popular power, social change and insurrection, wandering and walking, hope and disaster’. Her 2023 edited volume, ***Not Too Late: changing the climate story from despair to possibility***, promises to provide hope for people who are already engaged with climate change but weary. I have reserved it from our local library in the hope that it delivers!

Another recommended antidote to negativity is the series ‘***The Genius of Modern Life***’ currently on TVNZ. This led on to a brief discussion about the demise of Newshub, changes within TVNZ and the potential threats to democracy, locally and globally.



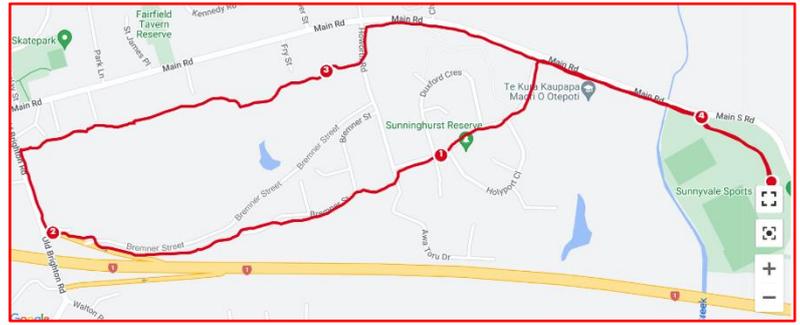
We spent some time going through the DCC Future Development Strategy (FDS) for our area, the North Coast. The FDS is a very readable document and worth having a look at to

see what planning and infrastructure priorities have been identified for the next thirty years. We learned that not much will change out our way!

Kath Ryan

Walking Group February/March

Martin marched us out of the Sunnyvale sports ground car park at a fast clip, with no stopping at the Kura Kaupapa Maori O Otepoti, the full immersion school, just across Abbotts Creek. The map attached



shows the route through some lovely new homes and walking tracks up to the Old Brighton Rd. We looped back through the recently completed community track built by Fulton Hogan that runs between their yard and behind the houses lining the Main Rd, to enjoy

the great hospitality at the Village Green.

Our next excursion was a little further along State Highway One at Kinmont Park. You, like us, have probably driven past this housing development hundreds of times on your way to the airport and places

further south but never ventured in. Alison's description of the walk. "This week I have planned a walk around the Braeside and Kinmont area, plus a hop, skip, and a jump under the



motorway to view from the street the new Mosgiel Retirement Village 'The Grange'. (see the area here : <https://maps.app.goo.gl/nEFy9ugxdffB8K2YA>). The scale of this new retirement village is very impressive, and it's conveniently located beside the East Taieri Cemetery. Other handy amenities on Cemetery Road for grandparents' pets, are a dog park and a school and preschool. We went back to the Village Green again for their good food, parking, and fast service.

Glenfalloch was our starting point on the 7th March as we sauntered along the harbourside walkway on a rare beautifully calm, sunny morning to Macandrew Bay. We headed up Greenacres St past the school and all the houses, and, as Ian phrased it, to the top (*pause for effect, or was it to let his companions catch their breath?*)



of a rise to take in the view and grab a photo. Walking back along the walkway we had the vista to the south with the City of Dunedin and all the new houses climbing up the slopes behind Ravensbourne, Maia and St Leonards to see. Sipping coffee while sitting on the cafe terrace surrounded by the trees, lawns, and bird song at Glenfalloch was a wonderful end to a perfect morning, thank you, Jill.



Our walk last week was again in an area few of us were familiar with, let



alone the hidden paths through the Dalmore Reserve that Gretchen revealed in Liberton. Some of the areas were steep but there were homemade steps in the gully to access the extensive native replantings behind Aquinas College. Once we made it back up to the top, we walked further up Pine Hill to three areas of community gardens/fruit trees. This loop around took us past two schools and a couple of our lively lasses availed themselves of the playground equipment



to be, in Martin's words, "Swingers". We wound up a great morning of discovery at the Gardens Corner Cafe.



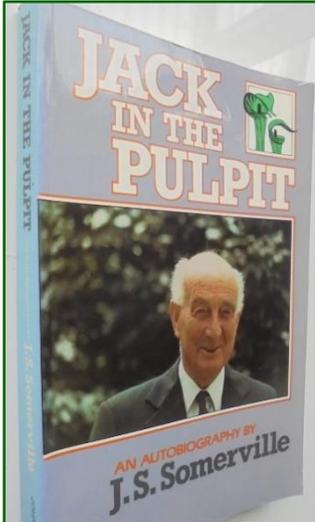
This week we are exploring St Kilda with Ian, but that will be in next month's newsletter, and we should have a few more members back to make up the numbers after the popular Series 1 lectures finish. Until then stay well.

Averil

Book Share Group March

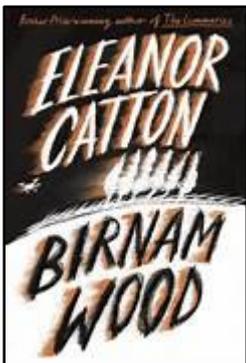
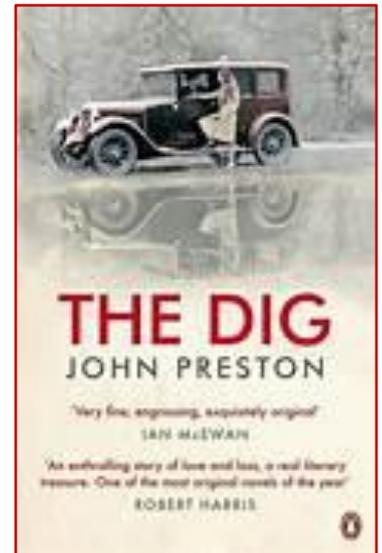
At our March meeting we welcomed three new group members. Our group is full, but we do keep a waiting list.

We received Elaine's apology.

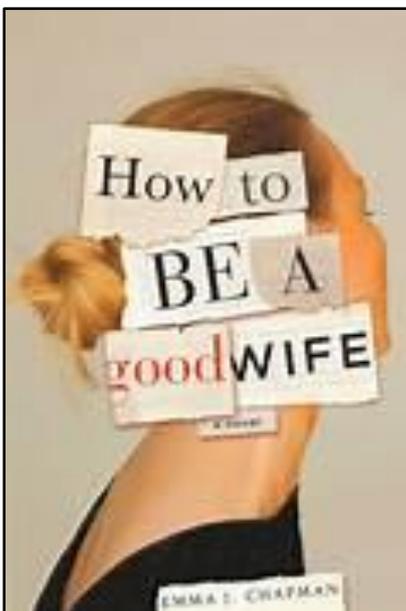


Carolyn has been reading *Jack in the Pulpit* by **J.S. Somerville**, an autobiography. Jack had a distinguished career as a minister of the Presbyterian Church and a politician in University of Otago affairs. He went from the parish of Tapanui to serve as a Chaplain with the 19th regiment in Italy, where he was present through the Battle of Monte Casino. Jack was minister of St Andrews, The Terrace, Wellington for 16 politically and socially eventful years, where he was all things to all people from Prime Ministers to humble parishioners. In Dunedin, Jack was Master of Knox College and Chancellor of the University of Otago. In this illustrated biography he pays warm tributes to many friends.

Ros has been reading *The Dig* by **John Preston**, a literary adventure which tells the story of a priceless treasure discovered in England on the eve of World War II. In the long hot summer of 1939 Britain is preparing for war, but on the riverside in Suffolk there is excitement of another kind. Mrs Pretty, the widowed owner of the farm, has her hunch confirmed that the mounds on her land hold buried treasure. This fictional recreation of the famed Sutton Hoo dig follows three months of intense activity where locals fought outsiders, professionals thwarted amateurs, and love and rivalry flourished in equal measure. As the war looms closer each character searches for answers in the buried treasure. This is a vividly reimagined piece of history, also told in a Netflix film of the same name.



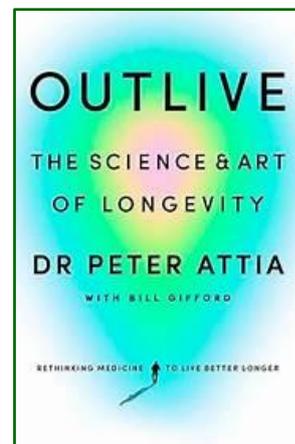
Ros has also read *Birnam Wood* by **Eleanor Catton**. This novel is an ideologically driven guerrilla gardening collective which plants crops on empty sites and, on hearing that a South Island farm has been abandoned after a landslide cut it off, believe it might be a great place to grow food. They reckon without a US billionaire who has other plans for the property – he tells them he is building a bunker for the end of days – and their respective interests collide; things turn exhilarating and then utterly terrifying. Birnam Wood is a reference to 'Macbeth', which is highly appropriate as this book is Shakespearean in its scope and themes. Both books are recommended by Ros.



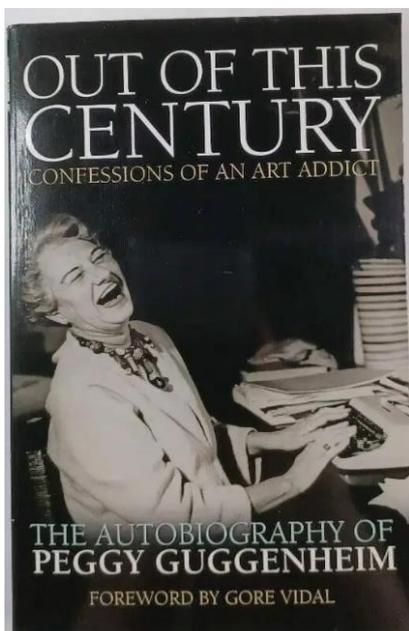
Ruth has been reading *How to be a Good Wife* by **Emma Chapman**. Marta and Hector have been married a long time. Through the good and the bad; raising a son and sending him off to life after university. So long in fact that Marta finds it difficult to remember her life before Hector. He has always taken care of her, and she has always done everything to be a good wife – as advised by a dog-eared manual given to her by Hector's aloof mother on their wedding day.

But now something is changing. Small things seem off. A flash of movement in the corner of her eye elapsed moments that she can't recall. Visions of a blond girl in the darkness that only Marta can see. As Marta's visions persist and her reality grows more disjointed it is unclear if the danger lies in the world around her or in Marta herself. Ruth says this is a well written book.

Victoria has been reading ***Outlive: The Science & Art of Longevity*** by **Peter Attia**. Wouldn't you like to live longer? And better? In this operating manual for longevity Dr Peter Attia draws on the latest science to deliver innovative interventions. Techniques for optimising exercise and sleep and tools for addressing mental health. For all its successes, mainstream medicine has failed to make much progress against the diseases of aging that kill most people. Too often it intervenes with treatments too

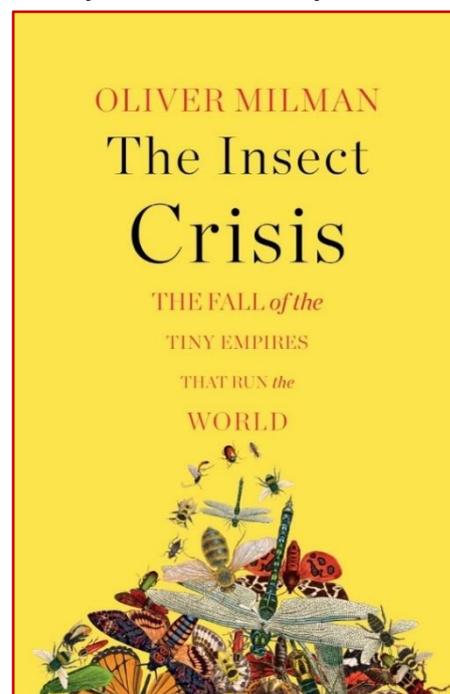


late to help prolong lifespan at the expense of health span, or quality of life. Dr Attia believes we must replace this outdated framework. Victoria says this is a good read.

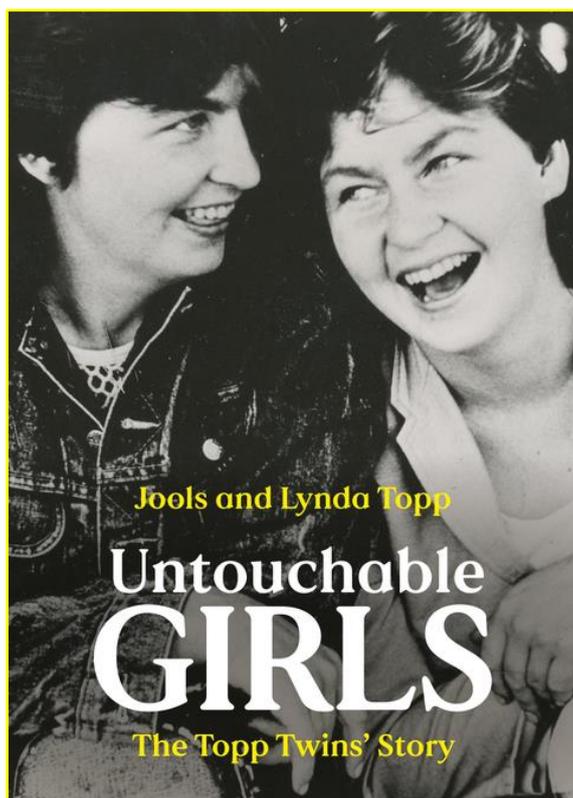


Pam has been reading ***Out of this Century — Confessions of an Art Addict*** by **Peggy Guggenheim**. This is a fascinating autobiography of a society heiress words, is the frank outspoken story of her life and loves, her stormy relationships with men such as Max Ernst and Jackson Pollock, and her discovery of new artists. Known as 'the mistress of modern art' Peggy Guggenheim was a passionate collector and major patron. She amassed one of the most important art collections of the early twentieth century. This is a highly recommended read by Pam.

the World by **Oliver Milman**. This book has been described as a devastating examination of how the collapsing insect populations worldwide threatens everything from wild birds to the food on our plates. Oliver Milman dives into the torrent of recent evidence that suggests this kaleidoscopic group of creatures is suffering the greatest existential crisis in its remarkable 400-million-year history. What is causing the collapse of the insect world? Why does this this alarming decline pose such a great danger to us? The Insect crisis is a wakeup call for us all.



Nola has been reading ***The Insect Crisis: The Fall of the Tiny Empires of***



Trish has been reading ***Untouchable Girls: The Topp Twins' Story*** by **Jools and Lynda Topp**.

This is an incredible story, told in their own words, of how a couple of country kids from Huntly became much-loved Kiwi icons and TV stars, with their own unique brand of country music and comedy that has captivated audiences in New Zealand and overseas for more than forty years. As well enjoying long careers as country music stars and comedians, with their characters like Camp Mother and Camp Leader and Ken and Ken, the twins have always stood up for their political beliefs and have been embraced by New Zealanders from all walks of life. It includes lovely stories from all the times they have lived and is a must read about these trail blazing women.

Our next meeting is on April 5th.

Trish Irvine

Art Collections Group March

— Shortlisted for 2024 Ockham New Zealand Book Awards

The Dunedin Public Art Gallery team is thrilled to see *Marilynn Webb: Folded in the hills* selected on the shortlist for the Booksellers Aotearoa New Zealand award for Illustrated Non-Fiction.

Our Art Group followed in the footsteps of the other U3A Art group and went on a tour of the 'Marilynn Webb: Folded in the Hills' exhibition at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. We were guided by Lauren Gutsell, one of the three curators of the show. Although most in our group had already viewed this exhibition, we all enjoyed the visit and learned a lot from Lauren's very informative talk. Be quick to view, closes on 7 April.



Marilynn Webb, although not born in Dunedin, lived most of her life here. She is one of New Zealand's most prominent printmakers. The exhibition of about 150 works covers many phases of her art and shows her commitment to the environment, and to the relationship between land, sky, and water.

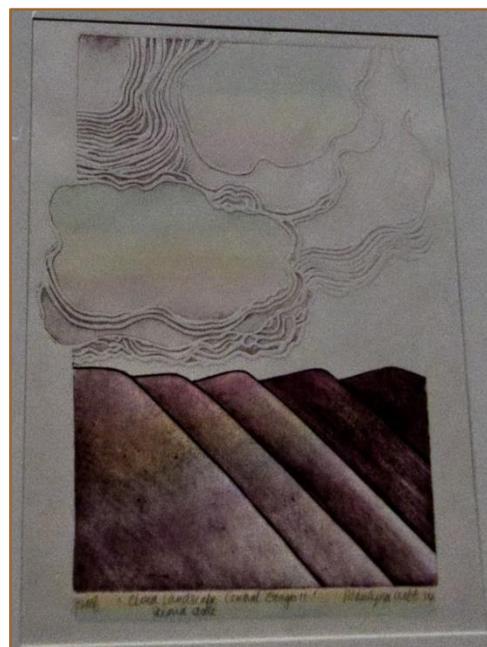
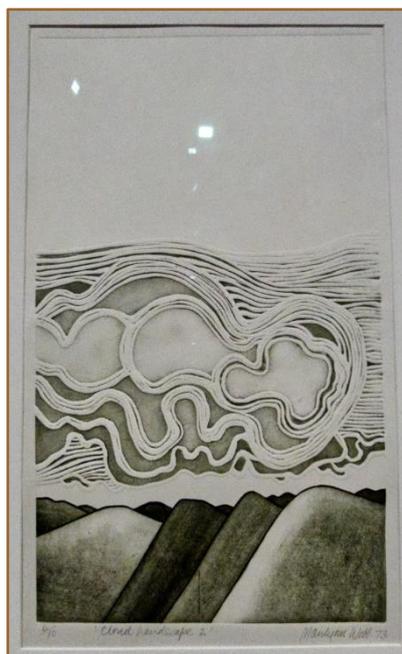
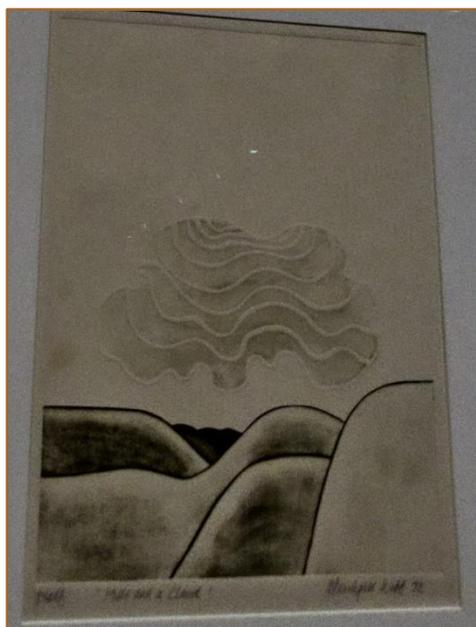
I particularly liked the 'Taste before Eating' series of prints. The recipes to match were written in the 'Aunt Daisy' style. They showed the gentle activist and her sense of humour. As well as spending time with Lauren and viewing the stunning prints, we tried our hands at making our own works unfortunately nowhere near the standard of Marilyn's work!

ARAMOANA SOUP

Find a dead albatross, a dead swan, a dead shag, a dead heron, a dead seal, a dead penguin, a dead shark, some dead sandpipers and assorted flat fish. Prepare a stock with them and let it stand for some days. Strain, and discard bones, beaks, feathers, feet and skin. Add the following ingredients to the stock:—

- 1 sack of blue mussels
- 1 sack of cockles
- 1 sack of flouride
- 1 sack of carbon waste
- 1 sack of cyanide
- 1 sack of southern tua tua

Cook for a week at alternating high and low temperatures. Garnish with dry chopped salt marsh vegetation and sea weed. Choose a restaurant with a high noise level and serve the soup at blood heat in aluminium bowls. Finally, add the cost of the electricity incurred in making the soup, to the diner's bill.



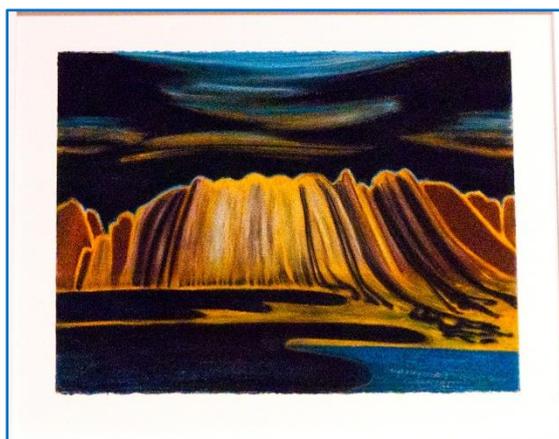
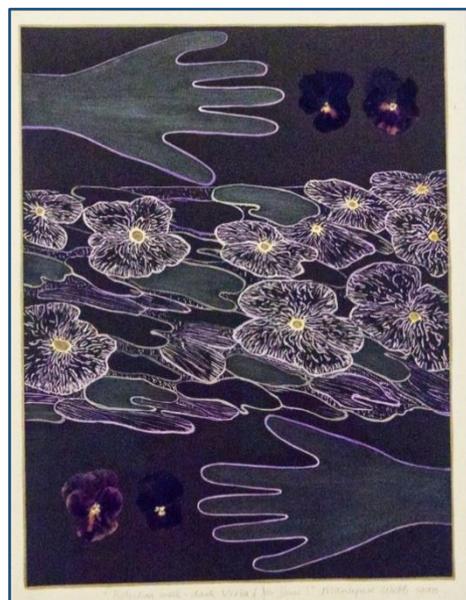
The textural cloud prints were my

favourites. I was lucky enough to visit an earlier exhibition of Marilyn's work at the DPAG in 2018.

Marilynn was still among us at that time, and she related a very funny tale from her earlier life, while employed by the Department of Education as a travelling art advisor to schools. She simply could not resist looking at clouds, and one day while travelling along a rural road, was doing just that, when she ran off the road and later had a hard time explaining to her boss why the car was looking the worse for wear.



Ani



As always after the Art Gallery, we walked to a nearby café, today it was the Perc, for discussion and a good gossipy catch up.
Anne-Marie



Monday Current Affairs Group March

Time paucity and subject complexity means this is a very short report. Our topic was the Israel - Palestine conflict, the genesis of which goes back centuries, and the solution to



which, almost certainly involves aid and peacekeeping input from other countries. Unfortunately, vested interests mean there is little sign of



this happening, and our group's despondency and confusion is reflected in the rest of the world. The trauma feels unbearable.

Our prior research into this topic included articles by Gwynne Dyer in the ODT, and Robert Patman from University of Otago, and two books by Jewish writers who want to draw a clear line between Jewish and Zionist beliefs. The first of these, was *The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestinian* by Ilan Pappé, and the second is a chapter in Naomi Klein's book *Doppelgänger*. Her concern at the situation has meant that she has made the relevant chapter of her book available for free online. It's well worth reading.

<https://naomiklein.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Israel-Palestine-and-the-Doppelganger-Effect.pdf>

Joy Hayward



Bike Group ****** starting in April ******

There has been a good response to the call for interest in starting this group as per the last U3A IG newsletter. There will be an inaugural meeting on **Thursday 11 April at the Esplanade café in St Clair at 10.30 am**. Maybe come along on your bikes! If anyone else is keen, please contact Gillian Alexander, as she will need to book a table. Email: saltarelo@xtra.co.nz

Gillian said in an email to the initial respondents: *There seems to be a fair consensus that Thursday mornings are a good time – however, it would be good to chat about start/finish times, degree of difficulty, accommodating cheetahs and sweaters, road vs. off-road, places we would like to go, etc.*



Poetry Group March

Our group met in mid-March and the hostess of the day had selected the topic of sleep. Well, there was no sleeping on the job with these, as we had some great choices on offer. Hard to narrow down for this newsletter, but one followed on from last month and was a must.

Mrs Rip Van Winkle By Carol Ann Duffy

I sank like a stone
into the still, deep waters of late middle age,
aching from head to foot

I took up food
and gave up exercise.
It did me good.

And while he slept
I found some hobbies for myself.
Painting. Seeing the sights I'd always
dreamed about:

The Leaning Tower.
The Pyramids. The Taj Mahal.
I made a little watercolour of them all.

But what was best,
what hands-down beat the rest
was saying a none-too-fond farewell to sex.

Until the day
I came home with this pastel of Niagara,
and he was sitting up in bed rattling Viagra.

Snowball

By Shel Silverstein

I made myself a snowball
As perfect as could be.
I thought I'd keep it as a pet
And let it sleep with me.
I made it some pajamas
And a pillow for its head.
Then last night it ran away,
But first it wet the bed.

And two of us chose this beautiful poem: Ani
Variation on the Word Sleep

Margaret Atwood

I would like to watch you sleeping,
which may not happen.

I would like to watch you,
sleeping. I would like to sleep
with you, to enter
your sleep as its smooth dark wave
slides over my head

and walk with you through that lucent
wavering forest of bluegreen leaves
with its watery sun & three moons
towards the cave where you must
descend,
towards your worst fear

I would like to give you the silver
branch, the small white flower, the one
word that will protect you
from the grief at the center
of your dream, from the grief
at the center. I would like to follow
you up the long stairway
again & become

the boat that would row you back
carefully, a flame
in two cupped hands
to where your body lies
beside me, and you enter
it as easily as breathing in

I would like to be the air
that inhabits you for a moment
only. I would like to be that unnoticed
& that necessary.

Lunch Group March



A small number ate at the Waterloo Tavern at Forbury Corner in March. We all had the daily special of fish and chips plus a dessert of cheesecake and fruit for lunch.



Next month we are going to the RSA in Mosgiel. Do join us! We really need some more faces around the table. Anne

Dinner Group March

A smaller number of members dined at The Best Cafe in Stuart Street in March. An old haunt for many of us. A good number of us grew up with this café. The high school pupils that came into Dunedin on the train each



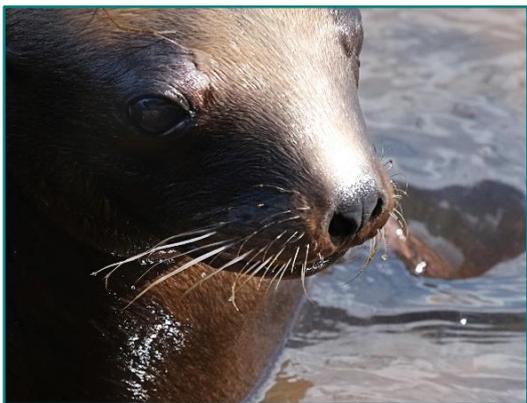
day walked past this café on their way up Lower Stuart St.

In April we are heading to Mosgiel to dine at The Black Sheep in Factory Road on the third Friday at 6.15 pm.

Anne

Photography Group March

Such was the speculation this month: will they be there? Oh no, they have not been spotted. Yes, some were there last weekend ... but not seen this week. All very fraught, but, as I said to the organizer of this trip "All will be well on the night". And it was. The sea lion pups were in the nursery on Allens Beach Rd and doing what they do best. Skylarking. Chasing. Playfighting.



Thanks *Graham*. Ctrl +Click to watch:

<https://youtu.be/xFz6Na4PwIQ>

They were ignoring a SAM (sub-adolescent male) who was trying to herd

a couple back into the water. Thank you so much, UK Anne and Kevin, for your planning. Most of us met up at 12:30 at the Portobello Cove Café for a chat and lunch.



A good turnout, and the afternoon was a grand success. The majority of us just had to





stop at the pup nursery prior to heading to Allens Beach. Several shots of the beach by just as many of the group.



L: a shot of Victory Beach taken from just off the Cape Saunders Rd. Below: must be tired. Yawning his head off.



We spread out from the nursery and beach. On the home run, the sheep below was sitting placidly in a paddock on the high road amid a thistle down storm!



The boathouse above lacked a jetty. How might you keep your boat in there when you need to row out to it?
Pics this trip: *Kevin, Eunan, Chris, UK Anne, Graham, Ross, Anne M, Caz, Hildegard, Wyn and Ani.*

Well worth a look here while the pups are in the nursery.
Good, and legal, parking on a farmer's field



Chalk from cheese were our two outings in March. Eunan selected an around town with the start and finish at Vanguard Coffee in Princes St. A marvellous turnout of sixteen who thoroughly embraced his idea of allocating half the group to find and photograph circles, and the other half to do the same with squares. It was a wonderful way to take a closer look at our city.

And the people at the twice-visited coffee house were not complaining either! We welcomed back Bill Stanford, and I mustn't say just which one of us led him astray into op shops to find circles.



Email responses of this reader quiz to:

ann.wood14blaw@gmail.com Wyn took the photo L: and asks which one of you can identify what it is. No chocolate fish on offer, but the first person to respond with the correct answer will get an honorable mention in next month's newsletter.

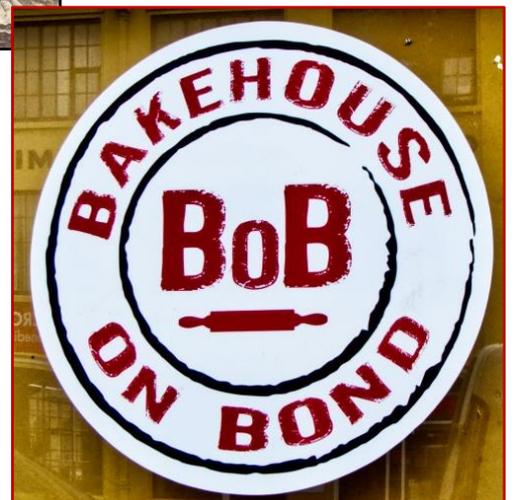


The circles group may have outdone the squares in terms of pics sent in,

but so many participated, that I am only able to fit in some the choices.

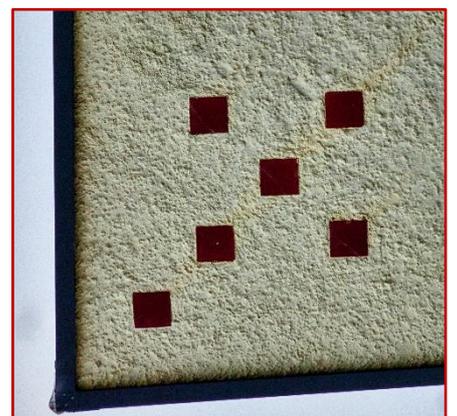
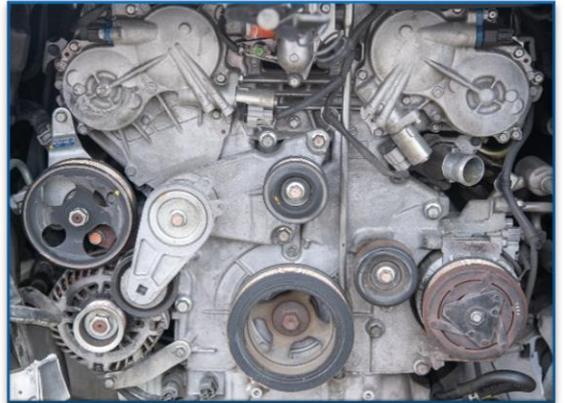


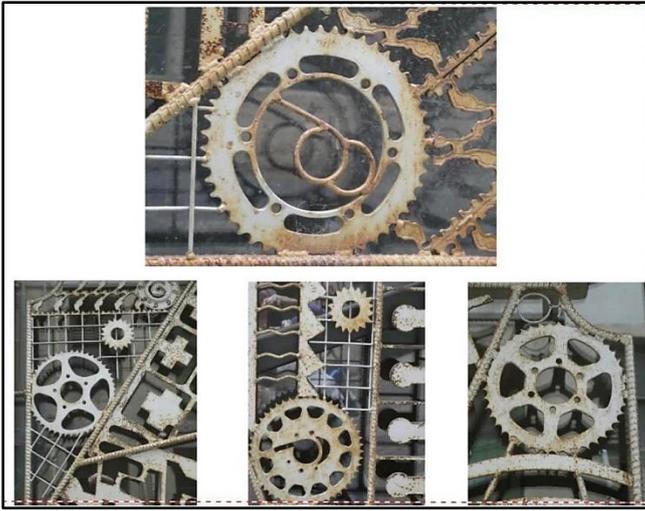
Eat one too many of these and you may end up quite circular!





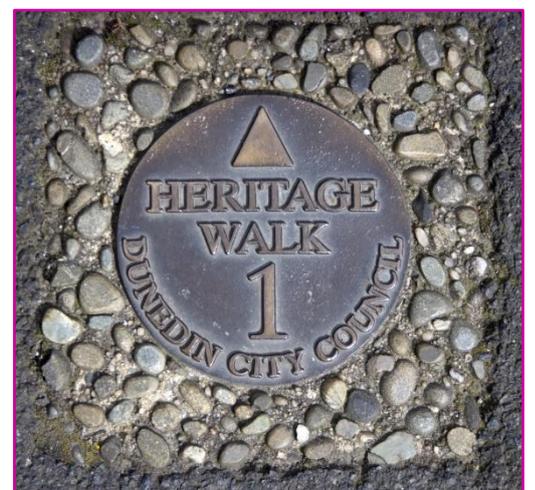
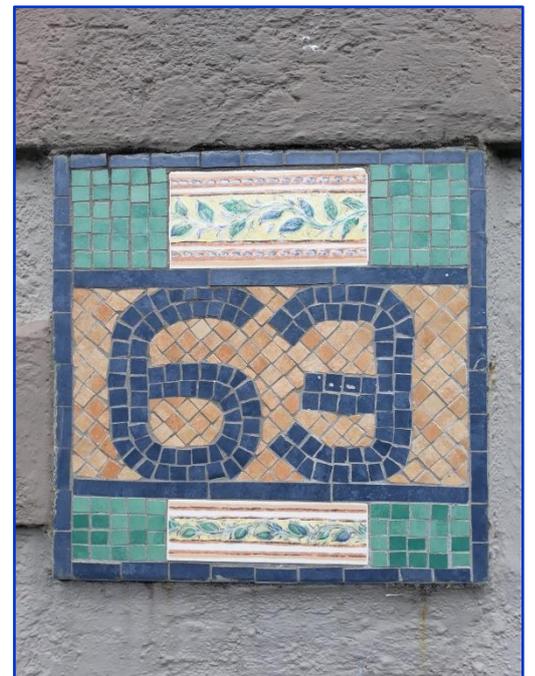
The odd wag took liberty with a pic that may not fit into either category. Some of us rather liked our imperfect pics.





Some of us found circles within circles and squares within squares.





As usual, here are far too many photos, but such a lot of fun we had spotting these, that it has been hard to do without even one of them. The photos shared with you from this trip were by *Bill, Eunan, Hildegard, Wyn, Anne M, Sue, Anne H, Graham, Chris, Ani, Ross, UK Anne, Kevin and Marie*. We greatly appreciated your planning Eunan. T'was a very good afternoon.

Ani