

Newsletter April 2017

April has been an extremely busy month for me. The weather was nothing to write home about. The whole of Anzac weekend was spent, along with my neighbours, without running water after a burst pipe. As well I have been busy stripping my table and chairs and redoing them with Danish Oil. Today saw the final coat go on the last of the items so I am very pleased.

As you will have seen names for the TED talk and Philosophy groups are now being taken. If you wish to join the TED talk group please contact Ravi Vohora on phone: 464 0182 or email: vohora@xtra.co.nz to join this group.

If you wish to join the Philosophy group please contact me on phone: 454 2170 or email me on: mikni@ihug.co.nz

If you would like to see any particular group running please let me know.

The Book and Local History Groups are still after new members.

Please contact me about these as well.

Art Group

We met at the DPAG to hear Dr Natalie Smith talk and walk through the current exhibition 'When Dreams Turn to Gold'. An amazing collection of garments from the Smoke Free Fashion Design Awards, 1964 – 98. She also gave us a history of the awards from their inception through Benson & Hedges and to Smoke Free.

We meet again at DPAG next month – 17 May 10.30am to hear Inge Doesburg – an informal talk. Following that we will decide whether or not this group continues in its present form.

Art History Group

The Art History Group met at Moya's house in Macandrew Bay on Wednesday 12th April, 2-4pm. We looked at the latest exhibition of the enfant terrible of British modern art, Damien Hirst. The exhibition is now showing in Venice in the Punta Della Dogana and is entitled "Treasures from the Wreck of the Unbelievable". The title is a play on the idea of art inspiration. This led to a good discussion on the meaning of Hirst's work, since he conveys both a literal and metaphoric truth about the sources of art in his title. For our next session, some group members are preparing to present their findings on the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. We look forward to a lively session on Wednesday 10th May, 2-4pm. We were pleased to welcome new member, Bill, to the group and would welcome any new members in the future.

Creative Writing

Creative Writing this month saw us listening to the groups individual writings on Trump. These were many and varied but all very interesting. Time, I am sure, will tell whether this man makes a difference in the world. For our homework we have to write a short piece on how we are affected by daylight saving. These will be presented to the group on the 4th May at 1.30pm at my home 67A Tahuna Road, Tainui.

Book Group

This group is not meeting at the moment due to lack of numbers

If you would like to join this group please contact Sallyann Hart on phone: 021 173 2119

Or email her on sallyannhart@yahoo.co.uk

Expanding Musical Horizons

We listened to a range of composers from around the world who wanted to break free from the dominance of Italian, German and French styles of writing music. From 1850 to 1950, these composers started to use their own country's folk lore, songs, dances, rhythms, scenery and legends as the basis and inspiration for the music they wrote. We now refer to it as the rise of nationalism in music. Some of the pieces were rather familiar, but other

Local History Group

This group also did not meet this month due to lack of numbers. If you would like to join the activities please contact me on phone: 454 2170 or email: mikni@ihug.co.nz

Monday Current Affairs Group

This group did not meet this month due to our facilitator being overseas. However it is meeting this coming Monday the 1st May at Ngairé Bates home 67A Tahuna Road Tainui at 1.30pm. We will be looking at questions about ageing.

Museum Group

There has been no monthly meeting of the Museum Group in April. We have yet to schedule our next meeting, but I will advise when that happens. Doug.

Poetry Group

The poetry group are not meeting till May 10th. There was no meeting in April.

Tuesday Current Affairs Group

The TUESDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS GROUP raises any local, New Zealand, or international current issue, and this is followed by discussion. The format is very relaxed; each member would have the opportunity to raise an issue at least once every two meetings. Some topics are followed for several meetings. Membership is currently ten; we could take two or three more. Note there is likely to be a short but steep walk up to my house from your car, so membership requires some nimbleness. Cost of membership is a gold coin per meeting, towards the morning tea/coffee