



**GUEST SPEAKER:** Tessa Duder  
**Title:** James Cook – the Man and the Navigator



Tessa Duder trained as a journalist and has published more than forty works of fiction and non-fiction for children and adults, plays and anthologies. Her best-known work *Alex* (1987) was adapted for a 1993 movie, and recent books include biographies of Margaret Mahy, Sir Peter Blake, Auckland's 'First Lady' Sarah Mathew. Her latest is about the charting of New Zealand by James Cook, "The First Map" and a new edition of her *Alex* books is also being reissued (2019). Her awards include a number of children's fiction prizes, the Storylines Margaret Mahy Medal (1996), the Katherine Mansfield Fellowship to Menton (2003), an Artists to Antarctica award (2007), the OBE (1994) and an honorary doctorate from the University of Waikato (2008). She serves on the boards of the Storylines Children's Literature Trust and the Spirit of Adventure Trust. She has four daughters and two grandchildren and lives in Auckland, where she enjoys sailing, concert-going, teaching creative writing and reading. Work-in-progress includes an historical novel for young adults. (Photo Channel Magazine)

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**AGM 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019** This is my final President's Report and I write it with concern that we do not have a president and still need at least one more name forward for committee. U3A Browns Bay needs YOU. Financially and in terms of equipment we are strong BUT we need more people to step forward to be on committee and provide leadership.

You will receive, along with this newsletter, copies of the AGM Minutes from 2018 and a copy of the Reviewer's Report of the past twelve months of financial operation. Members who have paid their current membership fee are urged to attend the AGM next Tuesday and participate in the debate which will be held before morning tea.

We have tried to think laterally by making some traditional committee roles into shared team roles. This is not ideal but it allows more members to make a meaningful contribution.

**BUT we still need at least one more nomination for committee and for someone to take over as President.**

Glen Plaistowe President

### Special Interest Groups

All members should be part of at least one special interest group.

If there is a talk on in one of the groups that you would like to attend phone the convener and see whether they are happy for you to attend.

## SIG GROUP MEETINGS CALENDAR \*

Day	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Mon am	10.00 Photography	10.00 Local History 10.00 Computer Skills	10.00 Computer Skills	10.00 Français pour rire
Mon pm	1.30 Music Mainly Classical		1.30 Archaeology	
Tues am			10.00 Music Appreciation	10.00 Active Travellers
Tues pm		1.45 Art Pot Pourri	1.30 Inventors & Inventions	1.30 Ukelele
Wed am	10.00 Cycling		10.00 Modern History	10.00 Travel
Wed pm				
Thurs am	10.00 Making History 10.00 Med Science & History	10.00 Current Affairs		10.00 Puzzles, Patterns & Paradoxes
Thurs pm	1.30 Creative Audio Visual	1.30 International Studies 1.30 Art History		1.30 Creative Writing
Fri am	9.45 Walking 10.00 Mahjong 10.00 Classical Music	10.00 Mahjong 10.00 Books & Beyond	10.00 Mahjong 10.00 Film Appreciation	9.45 Walking 10.00 Mahjong 10.00 Renaissance 11.00 Te Reo Māori
Fri pm			12.30 Philosophy 1.30 Book Group	

## POP UP SIGs

We are trialling the concept of having “pop up” SIGs. These may be one off meetings for discussion/interest and will be advertised beforehand in the newsletter. If attendees wish to continue discussing the topic, they may go on to become SIGs in their own right. This month we have 2 pop ups both relating to China.

**China today** - a look at two areas of Chinese activity which have huge consequences for the international community

**Thursday October 17, 10:00 am: 'Who controls the South China Sea?** - Chinese island building activities causing concern in this crucial waterway for international trade and freedom of navigation.

**Thursday November 21, 10:00 am: The 'One Belt One Road' Initiative** - the staggering redevelopment of the Old Silk Road and other land and maritime routes all of which have huge impact on international trade and travel.

## SIG REPORTS

### Active Travellers

Maureen continued the highly recommended Insight British Isles coach tour through the beautiful and charming Ireland including Belleek, Waterford, Dublin tours to Wales with its impossible language but charming people, then to England with the crazy town of Glastonberry without getting converted!, finally to Bath with all its history to London. Insight tours 'cherry pick' the best sights and history, have 5 star Guides, beautiful coaches with excellent views and the groups are made of like minded people who have a thirst for knowledge.

Scott continued the Spice Islands cruise, starting in the Philippines and moving East, where the economies weaken. Food off the land, or sea, can't compete with oil and gas. So no big cities. But the native folk were very pleasant and friendly. Special moments were at the Turtle Sanctuary, on the Conflict Islands, where the tiny creatures were under protective guard, and at the southern islands of Vanuatu, where A J Hackett discovered 'land diving', and at Cairns and the Kuranda railway, and Brisbane's art gallery, QAGOMA, featuring a stunning, huge dynamic photo art wall of Cook's Venus voyage created by Lisa Reihana (a Kiwi).

### **Archaeology** – <http://u3abb.net.nz/archaeology.html>

We have seen experimental archaeology on "Time Team" but France has taken this to a new level. At Guedelon, in the middle of France a medieval castle is being built, started in 1997, using only methods from the Middle Ages as revealed by archaeology and by reputable documents. Fifty people, stone masons, blacksmiths, rope makers, millers, carpenters, etc work on a site visited by 300 000 people per year. 2023 is the expected date of completion. Visit [www.guedelon.fr](http://www.guedelon.fr) to see more. **Next meeting:** Evelyn will be talking about the Anahera waka and the discovery of pre-European waka.

## Art History <http://u3abb.net.nz/art.html>

Last month's meeting was cancelled

## Art Pot Pourri [http://u3abb.net.nz/Art Pot Pourri.html](http://u3abb.net.nz/Art_Pot_Pourri.html)

Dame Laura Knight 1877-1970, was an English artist who worked in oils, watercolours, etching, engraving, and drypoint. Knight was an artist in the figurative realist tradition who embraced English Impressionism. She remained throughout her long career focussed on movement, temperament, time and energy and their effects on people and places. Perhaps this is one reason why Dame Laura Knight remains such a fascinating figure in British art. She was always interested in what people did, rather than who they were. In 1928 Knight won the silver medal in painting at the Summer Olympics in Amsterdam; in 1929 she was created a Dame; in 1936 she was elected to the Royal Academy; during WW2 she was an official war artist and in 1965 she held a retrospective at the Royal Academy, the first for a woman artist. Her painting "The Bathing Pool" was displayed at the recent Frances Hodgkins exhibition at the Auckland Art Gallery and her "Self Portrait" hangs in the Te Papa gallery. **Next meeting:** The October meeting is on October 15th and is a visit to Emma Jane Framing Gallery, Silverdale to see hand set printer and artist Tara McLeod's exhibition. He'll meet us there to explain his work and techniques.

## Book Group

Some of the books discussed this month: *The Room of White Fire* and *Swift Vengeance* by T Jefferson Parker; *When it All Went to Custard* by Danielle Hawkins; *Cemetery Road* and *Third Degree* by Greg Iles; *The Girl in Kellars Way* and *The Escape Room* by Megan Goldin; *Careful What You Wish For* by Hallie Ephron; *The Puzzle Universe: A History of Mathematics in 315 Puzzles* by Ivan Moscovich; *Crimson Joy* by Robert B Parker; *Robert B Parker's Kickback* by Ace Atkins; *Run Away* by Harlan Coben; *Know Me Now* by C J Carver; *Dead Simple* by Peter James; *Sourdough* by Robin Sloan; *Wolf Pack* by C J Box; *The Nancys* by R W R McDonald; *All That's Dead* by Stuart MacBride; *The Retreat* by Sherri Smith; *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn; *The Note Through the Wire* by Doug Gold; *Force of Nature* by Jane Harper; *Trust No One* by Paul Cleave; *Island Nurses: stories of birth, life and death on remote Great Barrier Island* by Leonie Howie and Adele Robertson; *Big Sky* by Kate Atkinson; *The Greater Good* and *State of Fear* by Tim Ayliffe; *The Chain* by Adrian McKinty; *Night Watch* by Iris Johansen and Roy Johansen; *Edgedancer* by Brandon Sanderson; *The Diary of a Bookseller* by Shaun Bythell; *A Thousand Ships* by Natalie Haynes and *The Whisper Man* by Alex North.

## Books and Beyond

The book of the day was *The Legacy of Elizabeth Pringle* by Kirsty Wark, a well known BBC broadcaster and journalist. It is set in the Isle of Arran, Scotland, which triggered fond memories for our reviewer, Marion. The book is written with rotating chapters using the voices of Elizabeth, who was born and died on Arran and who left her much loved house to a stranger, and Martha, 30 years later, who was the daughter of that stranger. The journey of their lives has many fascinating twists and turns and the characters are brought to life with superb prose and wit.

The challenge was 'islands' and, not surprisingly, many familiar novels on that theme were recommended, as well as some not so well known. We had *Treasure Island*, *Mr Pip* and *The Light Between Oceans* mentioned more than once, and also non fiction books about life on Waiheke and Great Barrier Island. **Next meeting:** Next month Margaret will be the presenter. The challenge will be to read a book with "husband or wife" in the title

## Classical Music

Richard Strauss was born in Munich in 1864 and died aged 85 in 1949. He was no relation to Johann Strauss of Waltz fame. At the age of 22 he was conducting music of many of the well known composers of his time. He wrote 298 musical works, many well worth discovering. He had a profound influence on 20th century music. The theme music of 2001-Space Odyssey which was filmed in 1968 was music composed by Richard Strauss. We viewed a very interesting DVD of the life of Richard Strauss and listened to an Alpine tone poem - Symphony op 64, with a huge orchestra of 120, played by the Dresden orchestra.

## Computer Skills Workshop

The computer skills workshops have now been completed for this year.

## **Creative audio visual**

No report this month

## **Creative Writing**

No report this month.

## **Current Affairs**

Topics are chosen as events and issues occur locally and internationally

No report this month.

## **Cycling**

No report this month as weather was against having a ride.

## **Film Appreciation**

"We viewed the 1945 hit "Blithe Spirit". This won the 1947 Academy Award for Special Effects. Originally one of Noel Coward's plays it appeared in 1941 with actress Margaret Rutherford. She performs as Madame Arcarti in the film version alongside Rex Harrison.

To create the ghostly appearances they wore fluorescent green clothes, make-up, and a wigs with bright red lipstick and fingernail polish. As they moved, a special light was directed on them allowing them to glow and give an otherworldly appearance. A new version of the film is coming out next year with Judi Dench in the leading role.

Interesting films showing this summer are "Judy" (the dark side of Judy Garland. Oct 19), Taika Waititi's film "JoJo Rabbit" Oct 24th, and "The Laundromat" on Netflix next month. This stars Meryl Streep (about the 2016 Panama Paper documents). Current films "Young Picasso", "Naples in Veils" and "Amazing Grace". **Next meeting:** Another look at the DVD of "Bombshell : the Hedy Lammaar Story"

## **Français pour rire**

Rosemary talked about two classic French films 'Jean de Florette' and 'Manon des Sources'.

Filmed in beautiful parts of Provence, in the South of France, they had a major influence on tourism in the area. The story was first filmed in 1953 but was 4 hours long. It was remade into these two films in 1985 starring Gerard Depardieu and Daniel Auteuil and won several awards. **Next meeting:** Our October meeting will be held at Settlers as it is a holiday Monday. We will have the usual exercises and a talk from Trisha.

## **International Studies across Countries**

No report this month.

## **Inventors and Inventions**

15 members were treated to a presentation by Prof. Geoff Duffy from our Group, on how innovative thinking has been used to reduce the cost of pumping wet, thick, wood pulp in a paper mill. These ideas have then been adapted to other applications such as pumping coal, sand and even gravel. Ian Graham showed us an interesting Ted Talk on the pitfalls awaiting driverless cars when artificial intelligence has to decide what action to take if an unavoidable harm accident is about to happen, and who the liability will lie with. Brockie King gave us some innovative options on ways to keep tank rainwater clean without the use of chemicals. **Next meeting:** October Meeting theme is proposed to be on the launch of 5G in December. What is so special about it ? November Meeting is a visit to Buckley Systems factory in Mt Wellington to see a World Leader in the manufacture of high intensity magnets.

## **Local History**

Our September meeting consisted of short talks by members, and showing of Books of History and other old books. We also had a talk with Power Point presentation - about Kauri timber milling in the Waitakere District. Despite the difficulties of the terrain and proximity to the West Coast rough seas, they were able to get the logs to the mills and then to the ships. It was a great feat of engineering and ingenuity. **Next meeting:** Our October meeting will be led by one of our members. It will be 'bibs and bobs' We will look at different places in N.Z. - their origins and where their names came from etc. There will be plenty of opportunity for input by members and visitors. We always have a lot of discussions. New members welcome to join in our lively meetings.

## **Māori / Te Reo**

We continued with Te Reo exercises practising Māori words and vowels. Jinnty gave a presentation on how native flora has been collected and used for food and medication. The session finished with a presentation on the arrival of Māori to Aotearoa.

## **Mah Jong**

Beginners & new members welcome.  
No report this month.

## **Making History**

No report this month.

## **Medical Science and History**

Our meetings consist of a presentation by a main speaker followed by Morning Tea. "Five" minute Talks on current inventions, concerns and passions follow. All talks are based on information recognised by research bodies and published in recognised journals in the health field. **IS VAPING A GOOD THING?**: this presentation was from Gabrielle: VAPING is a relatively recent phenomenon which is increasingly being picked up by people who believe it is less harmful and offensive than smoking cigarettes. However, vaping still contains Nicotine which is addictive. The risks are largely unknown and research is minimal at this time. Reports of deaths overseas are emerging. The marketing is supported by the tobacco companies who have seen the cigarette smoking market decline.

Mini Topics: **Ecco Alternatives to the traditional burials and cremation**: Maureen outlined several alternatives, in particular alkaline hydrolysis using calcium hydroxide. This technique is new and used in some countries. Consideration is being given in NZ parliament presently. Google will give you lots of information!

Denise mentioned **Dr. Marewa Glover , Massey University Professor in Public Health** whose work fields in NZ and internationally include reducing smoking in pregnancy and post-smoking obesity in Maori women and other indigenous populations

Dr Nikki Turner , Immunisation Advisory head has said that a contributing factor to the **current measles outbreak** is that a National Immunisation register was not started until 2005 and people were not reminded to have booster shots. Her advice if people are unsure whether or not they have been fully vaccinated is " just do it" . Rare long term effects of measles are immune suppression and SSPE , Sub acute Sclerosing Panencephalitis , a fatal brain disease

A 17 year old extremely " fussy eater " in Britain has registered as blind with nutritional optic neuropathy . He has lost his peripheral vision and developed osteoporosis because of a long term very restricted diet . He did not continue with vitamin injections and supplements advised by his GP .

## **Modern History**

Kay presented the 1958 film "Carve Her Name with Pride. This is the story of the French/English OSS agent Violette Szabo who was posthumously awarded the George Cross.

The OSS recruited her after her Free French husband was killed in North Africa. Was parachuted into France captured and executed with two other female OSS agents at Ravensbruck Concentration Camp. New members most welcome.

## **Music Appreciation and History**

No report this month.

## **Music - Mainly Classical**

Our September meeting was held at Lois's home and the internationally renowned Canadian violinist, James Ehnes was the subject of her presentation. One of the highlights of the 2019 APO season was the April concert when James Ehnes was the guest artist, playing the Bruch Violin Concerto No 1. Three of our members were lucky enough to be at that concert and during the meeting we saw interviews with Ehnes. We watched videos of him playing Bruch's concerto and a section of Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto in D with an orchestra. We also enjoyed videos of him playing 2 violin solos, Paganini's Caprice No 24 in A Minor and Ysaye's Sonata No 3.

## **Philosophy**

New members welcome. Our discussion was on epistemology, the study of knowledge: the nature of knowledge and how it relates to truth, belief, and justification, the sources and scope of knowledge and beliefs, the problems raised by sceptics and how they test truth. **Next meeting:** Our discussion in October will explore idealism, realism and aesthetic.

## **Photography**

New Members Welcome. No report this month.

## **Puzzles Patterns & Paradoxes**

No report this month

## **Renaissance**

No report this month

## **Travel**

New members welcome.

Joan told us about her trip to Europe which began with a seven day cruise among the tulips in N. Holland, then touring Denmark, Sweden, Norway and the Baltic States with Insight Tours Group.

**Ukulele** [www.u3abb.net.nz/ukulele.html](http://www.u3abb.net.nz/ukulele.html) **Website has tutorials & contact form.**

No report this month

## **Walking - Fiona Kandziora**

Friday - Milford

Meet at the south entrance of Milford Mall, park there and we will walk down to Milford Beach. No leader for this walk so you can choose your route and café.

Friday - Browns Bay.

Meet at the car park at the corner of "The Esplanade" ( opposite "The Sands" ) at 9.45. We will go up the walkway to Clifton Tce then back down by the new cliff walkway finishing off by visiting some heritage sights in Browns Bay and a cup of coffee.