

September 2021



Browns Bay Newsletter

WEBINAR MEETING

This month we are again having our main meeting using Webinar. This will be a shortened meeting, with just a recorded guest speaker. The meeting will last approximately three quarters of an hour. Details on accessing the meeting and the required link will be sent out prior to the meeting to members.



GUEST SPEAKER
Guy Slocum

**My tasks in the Cold War as an
RAF Fighter Pilot**

Guy developed a passion for flying at a very early age. As soon as he could, he joined the Air Cadets and rose to become the Cadet Leader of his Squadron. At 16, he acquired his glider pilots licence which was paid for by winning a Government award.

Shortly thereafter, he won a British Government flying scholarship which entitled him to undergo a flying course for the private pilot's licence at government expense. The week after he gained his private pilot's licence he joined the Royal Air Force as a fast jet fighter pilot. During his time in this role, he operated at the height of the Cold War – chasing Soviet intruders and he is here to tell us of some of those experiences.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello members,
Peter Kammler who was our Guest Speaker for the August meeting gave us a very clear and understandable review of the difference between internal combustion engines and electric motors in vehicles. As well as this, he highlighted the environmental impact of different types of propulsion for modern vehicles. Unfortunately there wasn't enough time for many questions, however Peter has been kind enough to forward some of his slides for us to print in this Newsletter, and you will find them at the end.

The Travel Special Interest Group gave us several examples of 'interesting' (or things that went wrong) things from some trips their members have taken. I think those of us who have travelled can relate to these situations.

I remember many years ago traveling by train from Sydney to Adelaide. We didn't have a sleeper, but dozed on the train, so when we arrived, were pretty tired. We had booked at the YWCA, and asked a friendly taxi driver where this might be. He said it would cost us 10 pounds for the trip. We agreed. He did a u-turn in the road and loaded our luggage out of the taxi and held his hand out for the fare!

I always think of August as being (very) early spring and am surprised when the weather gets colder. However, in Dannevirke my daughter's family is increasing and so far, they are well. The mis-mothered lambs happy at their lambateria.

As you will know, CER (closer economic relations) between us and Australia has had an unintended consequence – and we are locked-down again. So hopefully you will be able to join us in a webinar for our Monthly Meeting on 7th September where Guy Slocum will talk about a different kind of Cold War.

Keep well. Val Lloyd

NOTICES

Upcoming speakers

Our Speaker Co-ordinator Gloria Ward advises the following speakers have been scheduled for the next 3 months. (Note these may be subject to change)

- **October:** Margaret Gane will speak on U3A in New Zealand and overseas. And very topically she will also tell us how the town of Eyam in Derbyshire England famously coped with the Great Plague that raged in the 1660s.
- **November:** Professor Stephen Hoadley will talk about life post Trump
- **December:** Christmas meeting

New SIGs- Oops!

A typo last month had the Dance SIG meeting on the wrong week. It should be the second Friday of the month. This has now been corrected in the newsletter.

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. Members visiting a SIG at another U3A may be required to make a payment at the discretion of that SIG group

Change of Contact details

Please let the Membership Manager know if your contact details change so our database can be kept up to date.

New Inquiries to join U3A

If you know anyone who is interested in joining our U3A, please pass their names onto our Membership Liaison Myfanwy Van Hoffen. Your committee has prepared a whole “interest pack” for any such inquiries.

Online network learning

Your attention is drawn again to the online network learning courses available from u3aonline.org.au. Members from U3A Browns Bay are able to join this resource as individual members. Courses and costs are detailed at this website.

U3A Browns Bay facebook page

Did you know that we have our own facebook page? If you have a Facebook account please join our newly launched Facebook account: U3A Browns Bay, Auckland. You are invited to contribute any adventure you have had with your

Special Interest Groups - Photos and some info about the photos. All content must be related to U3A Browns Bay or from other U3A's in New Zealand

Committee news

Your committee meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month, to deal with matters arising, and to agree and finalise your newsletter. This means you are up to date with the Committee's deliberations

Committee changes

After 3 years in the position, Elizabeth McNee is relinquishing the position of Convenor Co-ordinator, and our Associate Co-ordinator, Ngaral Hogan takes over the role from her. The Committee wishes to thank Elizabeth for her work to date and advise Ngaral that these are big shoes to step into. Most of you will be unaware of the work Elizabeth (and now Ngaral) does to keep our SIG groups running smoothly. Pictured below are photos of Ngaral and Elizabeth taken at today's committee meeting (yes it was a Zoom meeting!) so you will recognise them at our next face to face main meeting.



Elizabeth McNee



Ngaral Hogan

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Active Travellers

Scott and Maureen talked about their trip to the Chatham Islands March. They went on a small group tour which they recommended access to some places was expensive and difficult without the right contacts. The group was impressed with the variety and the high standard of motel accommodation provided. Scott gave an overview of the Chatham's history from hundreds of years of culture of the Nunuku non-violent society, to the arrival of Whalers hunting whales and seals, and the 19th century Maori invasion and genocide. Maureen then described their trips around the islands visiting the marae, an art centre, remote homes, along with a nature reserve and various beaches. Much of the topography resembled New Zealand but the effect of the strong winds could be seen clearly in the photos. A fascinating look at a place the rest of us hadn't visited.

Archaeology - No report this month

Art History

This month Patricia presented on the Crystal Palace, the innovative and amazing cast iron and glass building erected in Hyde Park, London, to house the 1851 Great Exhibition. We learnt about its creator, Joseph Paxton, and how it was inspired by glasshouses he had previously built.

The building (and the exhibition) had its critics, but the public was enthralled and so was Queen Victoria. She

referred to it as 'incredibly glorious and really like a fairyland,' and visited numerous times. The Crystal Palace was destroyed by fire in 1936 so this work of art is unfortunately now no more. We ended our meeting with an interesting video clip of the restoration of the *Mona Lisa*.

Art Potpourri

Fused glass artist, Jenny McLeod demonstrated the techniques she used to create her beautiful, distinctive and striking glass creations when we visited her West Auckland studio. Jenny graduated from a 4 year technical institute course with distinction in glass and received a QE2 grant to buy the first of her 2 kilns. Sheet glass is cut, and lain into hand drawn pumice designs, fired then moulded and fired again, for 2 days each time. She produces a great variety of designs- home wares, dramatic wall pieces, wearable pendants and garden sculptures sometimes using recycled glass bottles or windows. Thanks Nanette for arranging this visit. Next meeting will be at Denise's for feedback on the Wellington surrealist exhibition and to see a DVD on 16th C Venetian artist Tintoretto.

Book_Group

We held a ZOOM meeting and talked about the following books:

: *Later* and *If it Bleeds* by Stephen King; *Hairpin Bridge* by Taylor Adams; *A Gambling Man* by David Baldacci; *Win* by Harlan Coben; *Collectibles* edited by Lawrence Block; *A Writer Prepares*, *Ariel* and *Resume Speed* by Lawrence Block; *Threesome* by Lawrence Block writing as Jill

Emerson; *Artemis* and *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir; *My Mother and Other Secrets* by Wendyl Nissen; *Aue* by Becky Manawatu; *The Author's Cut* by Owen Marshall; *The Mirror Book* by Charlotte Grimshaw; *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* by Christy Lefteri; *Trust* by Chris Hammer; *The Carer* by Deborah Moggach; *A Killer Harvest* by Paul Cleave; *Around the World in 80 Days* by Michael Palin; *The Return* by Nicholas Sparks; *China* by Edward Rutherford and *The Great Darkness* by Jim Kelly.

Books and Beyond

Our topic for this month was books related to the sea. Coleen opened the session by reading *The Sea Prayer* by Khaled Hosseini - a heartbreaking short story of the current refugee crisis across the Mediterranean Sea. A young father stands on a moonlit beach watching over his sleeping son, and reflects on the dangerous journey across the sea that lies before them. She then spoke of the NZ classic "South Sea Vagabonds" by John Wray. His story of being sacked at 21 and building his yacht Ngataki. His many incredible adventures and experiences dealing with a hurricane, to that magical feeling of trade winds blowing, sun shining and calm seas, then reaching his ultimate destination Tahiti. Other members also spoke of very interesting sea tales.

Classical Music

Our August meeting was held at Elaine Rankin's home, where Ian Rankin provided a presentation on the life and music of Franz Joseph Haydn. Haydn was born 31 March

1732. His musical life began as a five-year-old choir-boy, singing at St Stephens Cathedral in Vienna. This lasted until his voice broke at age 16, and he was also caught snipping off the pig-tail of one of his fellow choristers. He then spent eight years freelancing and teaching music, before being selected as Music Director for Count Morzen. His “trend-setting” and adventurous musical style had a big influence on Beethoven and Mozart. In 1761, aged 31, Hayden was selected to become Music Director for Prince Nicholas Esterhazy, where he continued to work and compose until the age of sixty. He then spent a period of time in London, where his music was extremely popular, before returning to work at Esterhaza from 1795 until his retirement in 1804.

Haydn died on 31 May 1809 aged 77. During his life, he had written 107 symphonies, 83 string quartets, 45 piano trios, 62 piano sonatas, 14 masses and 26 operas, plus countless other miscellaneous scores.

Creative audio visual

This month we each had to demonstrate how we went about creating a story for video. We were presented with 3 random photos and that was what we had to work with. Lois also demonstrated some features of Proshow - the software we use. However, we now have got a difficult dilemma as the 'Proshow Producer' that we have been using for years supplied by Photodex, has gone out of business and some members of the group have lost access to it . We now need to decide on what it can be replaced with both for members that have lost Proshow

and also so that new members will have software to play with. We are a dwindling group and would LOVE some new members please. You do not have to be a guru but just have some computer skills and the will to challenge yourself! We are all keen to help if you should come and join us.

Creative Writing No report this month

Current Affairs

Two topical issues were presented and discussed at the August meeting. The first presentation highlighted an article written by freelance journalist Karl du Fresne for the Spectator about the direction that the government appeared to be taking and the second was about the Three Waters proposal. Both topics led to a lively discussion which gave members the opportunity to express their views on two controversial matters.

Cycling No report this month

Dance

There are now 18 ladies in this group and still room for more. At our meeting this month, we began learning Line Dancing using Youtube videos. We enjoyed this especially 'Achy Breaky Heart' but the standard of instruction in the videos varies. We are becoming clearer about what to look for in selecting a Youtube clip. There is enthusiasm to practise the moves at home.

Early NZ History

We had an excellent turnout for our first meeting. People introduced themselves and their interest in the topic.

The first presentation was based around two early colonial women, Jane Deans and Kate Shepperd, who arrived in the first decades of the Canterbury Settlement in Christchurch. Their lives and significant contributions were set against the backdrop of the first five decades in the development of Christchurch.

Famous / Infamous No report this month

Film Appreciation No report this month

Foodies New SIG

Français pour rire No report this month

Genealogy

Wendy gave an excellent description of the process for taking a DNA test with Ancestry. She started by showing the kit provided and how to use it. She went through the steps for analysing and understanding the results when received – first for ethnicity and then for linking to relatives identified on the Ancestry trees. She showed how she had categorized and colour-marked relatives and described the range of match scores for the levels of relationship from parents and siblings to distant cousins. The group found the discussion very helpful.

International Studies

Gareth took the group to Wales this month. A useful video of Wales in the 20th Century also did a recap of the previous centuries.

Huge changes in the economy saw coal production almost cease and white goods production replacing it. Tourism, Agriculture and University education grew in this time

Devolution of power to the Welsh Assembly gave more power to Welsh people to determine their future

The city study was given by Heather who showed the city of Manchester, and the growth of industrialisation for the cotton trade. in 18th and 19th Centuries Did you know why bed linens and towels are called manchester?

Next month Margaret will take us to North Korea, which promises great interest . For our city tour Geoff will take us to North Shore City ,Auckland

Inventors and Inventions

20 members met for the August meeting to hear Peter Dawson talk on the history of water wheels through to turbines and future developments to use the moon's gravity to harness tidal energy. Rob Voss gave an interesting insight into the scope of iris recognition as a tool for ID, followed by Terry Dale who covered the invention of Velcro and hydrogen power for heavy earth moving machinery like front end loaders and graders.

Local History No report this month

Mah Jong Start time 10 am and new members welcome

Medical Science and History No report this month

Modern History

August session cancelled due to lockdown.

Music - Mainly Classical –

Our August meeting was at Jill's home where we watched the DVD "In Search of Beethoven", one of a series, which had received several awards, on famous composers. It traced Beethoven's life through his amazing musical output and excerpts from his letters and notebooks. It also featured many enlightening conversations with famous musicians, conductors, and musicologists. Beethoven was an "over-comer" in spite of his dysfunctional family, on-going health problems, failure to find a wife, and social isolation because of deafness (noticeable when 28 and total by age 45), he had the spirit to live on and the musical genius to create the wonderful music that is so much enjoyed to this day and will be for years to come.

Puzzles Patterns & Paradoxes No report this month

Renaissance

Anne told us about how Bess of Hardwick went from humble beginnings to dizzying heights well beyond the reach of most Tudor women. Born in 1527, she married her first husband at 16. It was a strategy she employed time and again in the years to come with startling success. After

he passed away at 17 she soon lined up a second, Sir William Cavendish who made his fortune from the dissolution of the monasteries. He bought Chatsworth estate near Sheffield and ignited in Bess a passion for lavish building projects. After he passed away she married Sir William St. Loe, a widower from an ancient and noble family who brought her even greater riches than Cavendish. He left her the bulk of his estate on his passing. In 1567 Bess took her fourth and final husband, one of the richest and most powerful men in the kingdom. The marriage did not last but she gained much from him financially. She purchased the family manor house at Hardwick from her brother and renovated it. 3 years later her estranged husband died and Bess inherited one third of his disposable lands. Immediately she turned her attention to building another Hardwick Hall, adjacent to the old one. Bess died in 1608 having been one of the most successful builders of dynasties and houses that England has ever seen.

Ruth's talk was about Ottaviano Petrucci who was an Italian printer and was the first to print music with several lines of melody using movable type. His books of printed music, including sacred and secular songs as well as lute music, were published widely throughout Europe. That meant composers became identified and could build up a known body of work. His work revolutionised the distribution of music.

The Maori World

We enjoyed a programme looking at a video of portraits of Māori painted by Gottfried Lindauer. In the late nineteenth century- early twentieth century he was well known as a prolific artist who was commissioned to paint portraits of eminent Māori, both living and deceased. The latter being painted from black and white photographs. As well as seeing a selected number of these paintings, it was interesting to hear from the descendants of the subjects speaking about their tipuna and the lives they had lead. Our mini talk was looking at the nine largest iwi in Aotearoa and their locations.

Travel No report this month

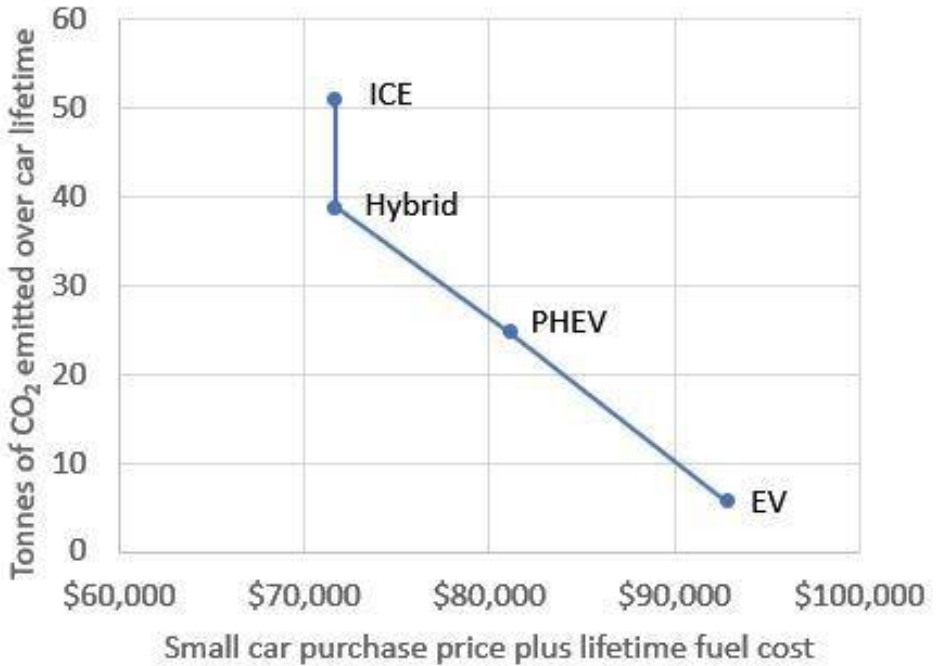
Ukulele

In the live practise sessions in August we started building a catalogue of "go to songs":- one can remember to play and sing without a music chart. The most common and essential one is Happy Birthday. The first session we examined songs where chords can be substituted to provide a subtle change of mood. eg Em7, G7 and G . Rest of the session played other regular group favourites. Because of the level 4 lockdown, we will be holding practise sessions on ZOOM until further notice. Those that are not regular members of the group can contact Garry if interested to join in.

Slides (as requested) from Peter Kammler's talk August

Source: S Goldthorpe SEF

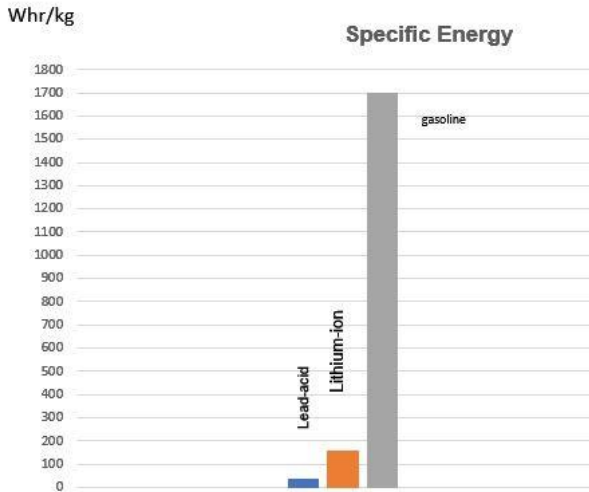
Cost of CO₂ emission reduction with EVs



Embedded CO₂ Emissions

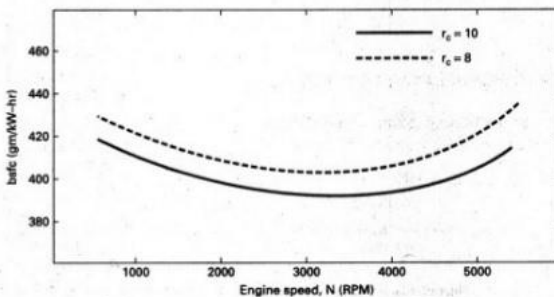
Car		HP	Weight Kg	CO ₂ tons
Citroen C1	basic spec	70	800	6
Ford Mondeo	medium spec	160	1500	17
Landrover Discovery	high spec	340	2200	35

Specific Energy Content



Brake Specific Fuel Consumption vs Speed

- There is a minimum in the bsfc versus engine speed curve



- At high speeds the bsfc increases due to increased friction
- At lower speeds the bsfc increases due to increased time for heat losses from the gas to the cylinder and piston wall
- Bscf increases with compression ratio due to higher thermal efficiency

Tyre Size

- 19": 21.1 MPG
- 18": 21.9 MPG
- 17": 22.8 MPG
- 16": 22.9 MPG
- 15": 23.3 MPG

On the same car, the smaller tyres save about 10% of fuel over the big tyres.

Mild Hybrid: Saves up to 20% of fuel in urban driving
Drives only a few metres in electric mode
No weight penalty

Plug-in Hybrid: Electric range around 50 kms
Can be recharged overnight from household outlet
Moderate weight increase

Battery-Electric: Range about 400km
Expensive home charger needed
Long recharge time, queues at charging stations
Heavy weight penalty (600kg)
Big footprint in embedded energy

} Remote aircon and heating

} Immediate aircon and heating

Conclusions

- Buy a car of a size which meets your daily needs, but no bigger than that.
- Avoid SUVs if you can
- Look for the smallest available engine for this car.
- Look for a bus or ride sharing if you commute to Auckland five days a week.

If you want to go electric:

- Look for a plug-in hybrid if you drive mostly in urban traffic, with the occasional trip overland, say to Auckland.
 - Look for a battery-electric car if you drive 100kms or more per day to various destinations but be aware of the initial cost of the car.
-