

Literature is one of the most interesting and significant expressions of humanity.
- P T Barnum -



Committee 2023-4

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Coming up for the remainder of the year:

- 1. Artificial Intelligence
- 2. Sport
- 3. Genetics
- 4. Roads from Home

Registration Form - Series 3 2024

Payment methods in order of preference

- 1. Direct Credit to
Acc: 03 1746 0080910 000
- 2. EFTPOS
Debit card payment available on the day
- 3. Cash in an envelope, please, with your name or include this registration form. Amount enclosed \$30 per person

| |
|---------------|
| Cash enclosed |
| Name: |
| \$ |

Contact

We prefer to contact you by email. If you have an email address, and we are not aware of it, how about letting us know.

Spare paper copies of the brochure are always available if you are unable to print one for yourself.

Series Organiser

Nola Cavanagh



May 2024

Series 3

Books: the Joy of Reading



Great Literature is simply language charged with meaning to the utmost degree.
- Ezra Pound -

| | |
|--------|-------------------------------------------|
| Venue: | Windsor Community Church 19 Windsor St |
| Time: | 10.00am |
| Cost: | \$30 per person |

Series 3 - Books: the Joy of Reading

Session 1 : Friday 3 May

Travels with Katherine Mansfield; Exploring a Writer's Europe

Presenter: *Redmer Yska*

Redmer Yska is an award-winning Wellington writer and historian. He began his writing career as a copy boy on tabloid weekly NZ Truth and later worked on newspapers in England.



In the 1990s, he produced books about NZ post-war youth culture: NZ Green, the Story of Marijuana in New Zealand and All Shook Up, the Flash Bodgie and the Rise of the NZ Teenager in the 1950s.

In 2001, Yska explored his identity as a Dutch New Zealander with An Errand Of Mercy, Captain Jacob Eckhoff and the Loss of the Kakanui, a book about his grandfather's clash with Invercargill Mayor, former MP and businessman Joseph Hatch in the 1890s.

In 2004, Yska was commissioned to write a history of Wellington City: Wellington: Biography of a City. In 2008, he was awarded the National Library Research Fellowship to write NZ Truth: the Rise and Fall of the Peoples' Paper.'

Yska was the major recipient of a NZ History Trust Fund Award in 2014, allowing him to write A Strange Beautiful Excitement: Katherine Mansfield's Wellington 1888-1903. The book was longlisted for the 2018 Ockham Book Awards.

In 2019, a grant from Creative NZ allowed him to write Katherine Mansfield's Europe: Station to Station, published in 2023 by Otago University Press.

The decline of literature indicates the decline of a Nation.

- Johann Wolfgang van Goethe -

Session 2 : Friday 10 May

The Sparrow

Presenter: *Tessa Duder*

Tessa Duder won a silver medal in swimming at the Cardiff Empire Games 1958, then trained as a journalist and has published more than forty works of fiction, non-fiction and anthologies for both children and adults.



Her best-known work Alex (1987) was adapted for a 1993 movie, and recent non-fiction has included works on Margaret Mahy, Sir Peter Blake, Auckland's 'First Lady', Sarah Mathew and James Cook. Her four Alex books were reissued as Alex the Quartet in 2019, and her debut novel, Night Race to Kawau, was reissued in 2021 by Penguin Random House in a 40th anniversary edition. Her recent historical novel, The Sparrow, has been shortlisted for the upcoming NZ Booklovers Young Adult award and chosen as a 2024 Storylines Notable YA Book.

Her awards include a number of children's fiction prizes, the Storylines Margaret Mahy Medal, the Katherine Mansfield Fellowship to Menton, an Artists to Antarctica award, the OBE and an honorary doctorate from the University of Waikato. In 2020 she received the Prime Minister's Award for Literature (Fiction) and the CNZM for services to literature and youth. She was the New Zealand Society of Authors' President of Honour in 2021. She is a Trustee of the Storylines Children's Literature Trust and is vice-patron of the Spirit of Adventure Trust.

She has four daughters and two grandchildren and lives on Auckland's North Shore.

Session 3 : Friday 17 May

Historical Books

Presenter: *Des Schollum*



Des Schollum has been a collector of historic documents and rare books for more than 50 years and has built up an impressive

collection during that time. Following a 40 year career in the travel industry with Thomas Cook and American Express, Des realised a life long dream to own his own second hand book store which he has operated now for the past 21 years in Lower Hutt, New Zealand.

Des has appeared as a guest on the 'Breakfast' TV programme to showcase his collection and featured on [TVNZ's Seven Sharp](#) and [Stuff.co.nz](#) and has held a private exhibition of his collection in conjunction with American Express at the Auckland Museum and Te Papa Museum in Wellington.

A study of hand writing styles has equipped Des with the ability to authenticate questionable items and this experience, together with over 50 years of examining autographic material, is often used to provide an opinion to various auction houses & individual collectors.

He has been a contributor to the US publication 'Autograph' magazine with articles on 'Collecting Down Under' and 'Odette – the Most Highly Decorated British Woman in WWII'.

Session 4 : Friday 24 May

Lifetime Advocate of Children's Literacy

Presenter: *Helen Campbell*



Southlander for 50 years
Resource Teacher of Literacy, serving up to 22 schools for 26 years.
Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit, 2012

For services to children's literacy
Paul Harris Fellow, awarded by the Invercargill East Rotary Club, 2021

Author of:

What is a Southlander?

More about Southlanders

A Tribute to Sir Tim Shadbolt, Mayor of Invercargill for 26 Years
Creator/Author of the Invercargill East Rotary's Literacy Project, "Literacy Kits for 5 Year Olds, now in its 15 th year.

Talk First, an oral language programme designed for 5 year olds who are at risk when entering school.

A Teacher's Spelling System suitable for use in classrooms