



## U3A Hutt Valley

### Members' Update April 2022

#### Greetings

It was encouraging to see our 2022 Annual General Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March well attended despite the ongoing pandemic. The meeting took the opportunity to award two U3A Hutt Valley Life Memberships.

#### Honours

A Life Member is honoured for meritorious service to U3A Hutt Valley after recommendation by the Committee and agreement by a two-thirds majority of members present at an Annual General Meeting.

Life Members have all the rights and privileges of any member and shall be subject to all the same obligations except paying the annual subscription.

The AGM unanimously decided to award two Life Memberships this year, to Judy Melbye and Pam Lee.



#### Judy Melbye

Judy joined the Committee at the AGM of 2005 and was Vice-President 2015-2019. She convened the Arts and Culture Group from 2010-2015 and continued to support Delphine Turney with this group until it went into recess some years later. Judy still does greeting at the door for monthly meetings.

#### Pam Lee

Pam served on the committee from 2004 until Feb 2021. She re-convened the Film Group in 2010 after it had been in recess, and ran it until last year. She was also convenor of the Books Group 2018 – 2021 and the Scrabble Group which a dedicated number of members enjoyed for years up till 2020.



#### New Committee

Vice President Ray Manning was elected President at the AGM in March.

Outgoing President Catherine Chapman moved to the position of Immediate Past President.

Others elected were:

Secretary – Cheryl Baughan- Manning

Treasurer – Chris Jared

Committee – new member Margaret Twigg and returning members Don Rennie, Eric Wadsworth and Malcolm Law.

Outgoing President Catherine Chapman thanked the committee for their work, particularly outgoing Secretary Brenda Baker, former Treasurer Leah Herd, and committee member Janet Ketchell for their considerable input over the years.

President Ray Manning thanked Catherine for her contribution as President.



#### Subscriptions

The AGM set the subs at \$20 per person this year, but removed the discount for two at the same address. Thanks to those who already have paid. You can pay by Internet banking to: BNZ 02 0544 0209806 00, or with cash at the monthly meeting.

If you bring cash please put the money in an envelope with your name written in full. If the Members' Update is posted to you please supply a book of stamps.

#### AGM Meeting speaker

##### President Ray Manning

Ray, convenor of the new Armchair Travel Group, was our AGM in-house speaker. His presentation on the subject of Armchair Travel was full of life and bright images of travel.

It showed something of what had been enjoyed at the group's first two meetings and gave an introduction to the subject of the next meeting on Tuesday 5 April.

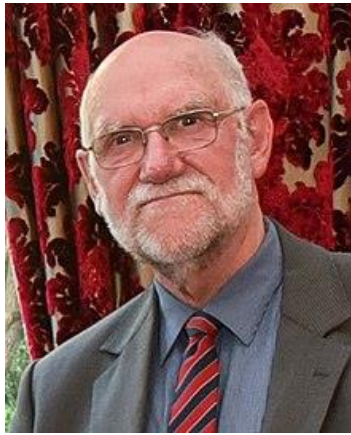
The presentation showed that interest in this group is not only from people who have travelled but also for people who dream of or imagine travel.

All members are welcome to come along to the next meeting of the group on the 5 April. The topic is Myanmar (Burma) and travelling 500 miles up the Irrawaddy River from Yangon (Rangoon) to beyond Mandalay.

## April Speaker

**James Lynch** QSM is a conservationist and the founder of Zealandia.

He was the President of the Wellington Branch of Forest and Bird from 1991 and promoted the idea of a wildlife sanctuary. In 1993 a feasibility study was carried out by the Wellington Regional and City Councils. After public consultation in 1994, the idea of a sanctuary was given the go-ahead and the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary Trust was formed to implement the proposed 'mainland island' wildlife sanctuary



*Toutouwai one of the many birds free to breed in the sanctuary and re-populate the surrounding environment.*

Jim Lynch was also a political cartoonist during the Muldoon years. His cartoons appeared weekly in the *Taranaki Daily News* from 1979 till 1986 and fortnightly in the *New Zealand Times* from 1981 - 85.



## Group News

### Theatre Group

This group is going to *Sundays at Ira's* on 10<sup>th</sup> April. A close personal friend of Ira Gershwin, Alice, tells stories and songs from Gershwin's Sunday Soirées with famous guests.

A couple of seats are still available for the next outing to *His/Her Story* on 8<sup>th</sup> May. Price \$30. Ring Christine on 568 2342 to book or email her at [mizuchris@yahoo.com.au](mailto:mizuchris@yahoo.com.au)

## Local History

Brenda baker reports:

A warm sunny day was perfect for this group's walk around the Lower Hutt Civic Centre on 31 March. Starting in Laings Road outside the Dowse, we considered how different the outlook would have been 70 years ago. The area now covered by the Town Hall complex would have been houses, the old Horticultural Hall (which burnt down in the 1950's) and the fire station about where the Town Hall now is.

Further along on the corner of Queens Drive (which was not there in 1952) were the Riddiford Baths



which some of us remembered fondly. We walked through St James' graveyard to Woburn Road and down to the Recreation Ground.

One member of the group told how she and her husband were instrumental in bringing up the river boulders which replace the vandalised commemorative plaques that line the driveway. Returning to the Dowse, we visited the Ans Westra exhibition of photographs taken around Lower Hutt in the 1980's.

## U3A Hutt Valley Groups contacts

**Antiques and Collectibles** – 4<sup>th</sup> Tue 2pm. Convenor - Catherine Chapman 970 4932.

**Armchair Travel** - 1st Tue 1.30pm at Failoa Family Trust Meeting Room 1st Floor, Woburn House. Convenor - Ray Manning 0274 587 565

**Current Affairs and Topics of Interest Group (CATIG)** - 4<sup>th</sup> Mon 1 pm. Russell Keown House. Convenor - Ken Baird 564 2579.

**Local History** - last day of the month. Convenor - Brenda Baker 569 5308.

**Theatre** - Sun pm several times a year. Convenor - Christine Williams 568 2342.

\*\*\*\*\*

See you at the Dowse  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April for a cuppa at 1pm and a 1.30pm start.

<https://u3ahuttvalley.weebly.com/>