



U3A Hutt Valley

Members' Update August 2022

Greetings everyone

From President Ray Manning

Our U3A meetings seem to be occurring much earlier in the month during 2022! The next monthly meeting is on Monday 8th August at the Dowse, so be sure to enter that in your diary.

Maybe I should apologise for having welcomed the passing of the shortest day in the last Update – my hopes for better weather seem to have been misplaced!

We encourage you to spread the word about U3A's excellent speakers and interesting groups to your friends. Bring a friend or neighbour along as a visitor to a meeting and maybe they will be keen to join us. They can come as a visitor twice, and then join U3A on their third visit.

We have had a number of new members join U3A recently including Amanda Plimmer, Alola Frederikson, Carilyn Banks, Cecile O'Connell, Dave Stonyer, Fiona Day, Kevin Willis and Laurel Birkett. Welcome to you all, and please don't hesitate to get in touch with the organisers of any of our groups that you would like to try.

August Speaker



Caitlin Cherry, the Head of Content at Consumer New Zealand.

Caitlin joined Consumer in September last year after many years at Radio New Zealand, where

she worked on Morning Report and Nine to Noon, before becoming the Director of Content for RNZ National.

Established in 1959, Consumer NZ is funded largely through its membership and does not receive Government funding. It is an independent, non-profit organisation working to get New Zealanders a fairer deal.

July speaker

Nicola Sladden, Banking Ombudsman, told us about their work to prevent and resolve banking problems.

An independent service, it helps to remedy things that go wrong and deliver fair outcomes for both parties.

She and her deputy were generous in responding to U3A members' questions about various problems they had encountered in dealing with their banks.



Group Activities

Film Group

On 1 August this group went to "The Quiet Girl" set in rural Ireland in 1981. Based on the story "Foster" by Clair Keegan it is a very moving tale of a quiet, neglected girl sent to live with foster parents for the summer.

At lunch afterwards, there was considerable discussion about the film.

Film Group is the first Monday of the month so the Update is too late to advertise the next film.

If you are interested is it important to join the group so Judy and Gordon can contact you about upcoming movies. Their contact details are 04 973 8816 or email heeleyjudygordon@gmail.com.

Armchair Travel

This group met on 2nd of August to hear Barry Warner present the second stage of his 1961 Overland Journey from London to Kolkata. His journey by road took the group from Prague to Iran and the border with Pakistan following a most convoluted route due to wanting to visit certain places, and due to visas that they could not get. This was at the height of the Cold War.

They drove through Italy, Croatia, Bosnia/Herzegovina, Greece, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Israel then north into Iran.

Hopefully we will be able to finish this amazing journey next month. The group is very much enjoying Barry's adventures.

All HV U3A members are welcome to join the group which meets at the Failua Famili Trust rooms, 1st Floor Woburn House (Cnr Knights Road and Bloomfield Tce) on the 1st Tuesday of the month.

Local History

Local history, which has its outings on the last day of the month, has been curtailed by the weather recently. However, Brenda Baker has some intriguing programmes coming up.

Antiques and Collectibles

This group looked at coins recently. One member told of the "good luck penny" that was hidden in the chimney when they bought a house. In due course, that "good luck penny" was passed to the appreciative new owners!



The 1943 New Zealand penny value can range from \$0.40 to over \$95, depending on state of wear, desirability, demand,

and availability in that relative state of preservation.

So scour your jars, drawers, boxes and chimneys – and hope that, if you find one, it's not dated 1944!

CATIG

This current affairs discussion group recently focussed on noise pollution, and in its usual way found plenty to talk about – perhaps to the extent of creating some noise pollution of its own!

Theatre

This group is off to Circa to "*Wednesday to Come*" by Renée on 7th August at 4pm. Organiser Christine Williams will also book for *Fate's Thread*, a one-act ghostly comedy at The Studio on Ward Street in Upper Hutt on Sunday the 25th of September.

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U3A groups & their contacts

Antiques and Collectibles – 4th Tue 2pm.
Convenor – Catherine Chapman 970 4932.

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

Current Affairs and Topics of Interest Group (CATIG) – 4th Mon 1 pm. Russell Keown House, Queens Drive.
Convenor - Ken Baird 564 2579.

Film – 1st Mon morning at Lighthouse Cinema, Petone.
Convenors Judy & Gordon Heeley – 973 8816

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

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

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See you at the Dowse

1pm on Monday 8th August 2022

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