



U3A Hutt Valley

Members' Update December 2021

Dear Members

Great news that we can go ahead with our December meeting which promises to be a lot of fun!

It is for Members only – this is not the time to bring a friend! And you will need proof of vaccination – ideally your **My Vaccine Pass**.

We don't want members to miss out on what is promising to be the highlight of our U3A year. If you are having difficulty getting your My Vaccine Pass, here are some suggestions:

- Hutt City Libraries will help library users get their vaccine record. Just turn up with your National Health Indicator (NHI) number and some means of identifying yourself e.g. driver's licence or passport.
- Some pharmacies will help get vaccine records. Ring Age Concern at 0800 652 105 to find one of these pharmacies.
- Ministry of Health help line 0800 222 478 has extended their hours – call them for a temporary vaccine record which will expire on the 14th of December. Age Concern suggest you ring after 6 p.m.

As this will be a new experience for us all, it would help if members could arrive a little earlier than usual for the meeting, as there may be delays as we learn how to manage the process.

We encourage you to wear a mask.

Refreshments – you will be catered for!

And there will be the usual quiz to enjoy before the meeting starts.

End of year quiz

"The Essential Poem" is our end of year quiz (see overleaf).

Complete your answers and bring them to the meeting – and maybe win a prize!

MULTIPLE CHOICE:

A B
C D

ALL THE ABOVE



Andrew London

Songwriter and satirist

U3A Hutt Valley is delighted to welcome Andrew and his wife Kirsten to entertain us on 13th December.



Andrew is a songwriter and satirist who performs most often solo or a duo with Kirsten London on bass.

His songs explore social and political themes and although humour and satire is very much to the fore, poignancy and pathos are often not far away.

He plays at festivals, and functions all round New Zealand, and also in Australia, Norfolk Island and even Saudi Arabia.

He has released over a dozen albums of mostly his own original material – and some with a trio called Hot Club Sandwich.

In responding to U3A Hutt Valley's invitation he wrote:

"I'll bring a salvo of frivolous satire.

I'll bring Kirsten to provide some backup bass and vocals, and she has a decent uppercut in case there's a riot.

Just to keep pace with Michael Baker I'm also happy to give my opinion on the differences between the Delta, Lambda and Mu strains of Covid as well, I'm sure half an hour on You Tube would make me an expert."

Andrew will have CDs available for us to buy on the day, so come prepared.

November Speaker

Gill Jolly, the Natural Hazards and Risk Theme Leader at GNS Science.

Gill studied volcanology in exotic locations such as Central Africa and the Caribbean, before coming to New Zealand.

Her team studies the natural hazards of volcanic activity and earthquakes along with the tsunamis which can occur after volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. She explained how their studies help Civil Defence plan for potential catastrophes and how they respond to the emergency afterwards. She used as an example the eruption on Tongariro in November 2012 where there were tourists on the mountain and risks to flights and road transport on the Desert Road.

She also explained the unusual nature of the Kaikoura earthquake, where a whole series of fault lines moved over a short period of time, and outlined the briefing which she would give to Cabinet after such events to help Government develop a response.

We learnt why this team is now well resourced, because while they cannot prevent these events and only partly predict them, they enable us to prepare for them.



U3A Hutt Valley Groups & their contacts

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

Armchair Travel - 1st meeting is Tue 1st Feb at 1.30pm at Failoa Family Trust Meeting Room 1st Floor, Woburn House, 79 Knights Road, cnr Knights Road and Bloomfield Tce.
Convenor - Ray Manning 0274 587 565

Current Affairs and Topics of Interest Group (CATIG) - 4th 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.

End of year quiz

"The Essential Poem"

This extraordinary poem combines lines from many memorable poems songs, nursery rhymes and plays written in English.

For this competition try to identify as many of the original poems and plays as you can.

The Essential Poem

I wandered lonely as a cloud,
To the lonely sea and sky,
The noblest Roman of them all,
Will know the reason why.

There's a breathless hush in the close tonight,
Cap'n art tha sleeping' there below?
"The time has come," the walrus said,
"I will arise and go."

She walks in beauty like the night,
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run.
The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
Her eyes are nothing like the sun.

April is the cruellest month,
When icicles hang by the wall,
A man's a man for a' that,
Old Uncle Tom Cobley and all.

The king was in his counting house,
Drinking the blood-red wine,
The ploughman homeward plods his weary way,
O World! O Life! O Time!

For east is east and west is west,
Nor all that glisters gold,
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
In the brave days of old?

Answers on the back of a postcard, please!
Then bring them along on the 13th December and maybe win a prize!

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See you at the Dowse
Monday 13th December for a 1.30pm start.

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