



U3A Hutt Valley

Members' Update February/March 2021

Greetings everyone

If you're thinking this is very soon after the last Update – you are correct! You are getting this Update now as our AGM is early this year and you need the information below to enable you to make decisions at the AGM.

Meeting Dates 2021

Meetings are at the Dowse, at 1pm, but some dates have been changed. Please note these in your diaries:

Mon 1st March AGM – a week early
Mon 12 April – usual 2nd Monday
Mon 17 May – a week late
From June we revert to the 2nd Monday each month through to December.

We need new committee members

From the AGM on 1 March U3A Hutt Valley needs new committee members.

President Allen Heath, Vice President Mike Clear, and Members Pam Lee, Cleswyn Rogers and Maria Heath are all stepping down. All have made major contributions and will be missed.

We need a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and six committee members. Current members standing again are Brenda Baker, Catherine Chapman, Eric Wadsworth, Janet Ketchell and Leah Herd.

The Committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 1.30pm. The task is not arduous and the rewards in fun, companionship and a sense of achievement are very satisfying.

Nomination forms are on the Notice of AGM sent with this Update. Nominations, in writing, must be received by **Friday 26 February**. Send them to the Secretary brendabaker@xtra.co.nz or give your completed form to a committee member.

Nominations will not be accepted on the day.

February speaker Professor Rod Downey from VUW

took us along a complicated path linking mathematics and Scottish Country Dancing. His maths specialities are algorithmics and the theory of computation. But his other speciality is as a teacher and deviser of Scottish country dances.

For some of us it explained why we did badly at maths at school! But others could see how the cognitive mathematics resembled the forms of Scottish country dances. We all enjoyed the videos of the intricate dances and the patterns that move the couples within the group.



AGM Meeting speaker Allen Heath - Parasites and you

Allen will give a (relatively) brief talk on the external parasites that humans in New Zealand may encounter in their daily lives. The disgust factor is not completely absent, but will be kept to a minimum.

Allen worked at Wallaceville Animal Research Centre in Upper Hutt for over 50 years, until it closed in 2007. He undertook research in veterinary parasitology, including studies on the ecology and control of a wide variety of livestock parasites, with the occasional foray into medical parasitology. Since then, he has maintained a tenuous hold on science and still peers down a microscope from time to time working on his beloved ticks.



Group Activities

Theatre Group

First outing for this group is on Easter Sunday, April 4th at Circa Theatre at 4pm. *The Artist*, an hour long show.

Circa says, "Comedian Thom Monckton will astound you in *The Artist*: an incredible feat of physical strength, skilled theatrics, and comedic storytelling. He makes a spectacular experience out of the ordinary.

An artist arrives at his paint-splattered studio ready to create a new work. He waits for inspiration. Focus strays, the blank canvas terrifies, and the tools have been lost to the bowels of the atelier . . . "

To book ring Christine Williams on 568 2342 by 19th March. Tickets are \$30.

Book Group

Started its year on February 18th when members reported on a book they read during the holidays.

Film Group – first film of the year was *Wild Mountain Thyme* followed with a get together for lunch.

U3A groups & their contacts

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

Books – 3rd Thu 1pm. War Memorial Library.
Convenor – Pam Lee 565 1716.

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.
Convenor – Pam Lee 565 1716.

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

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

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See you at the Dowse

1pm on Monday 1st March 2021

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