



## U3A Hutt Valley

### Members' Update July 2021

#### Greetings Everyone

#### Next meeting

Next meeting is Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July at the Dowse. Come at 1pm for a cuppa and mix and mingle before the 1.30pm start.

#### July Speaker

#### Gail McJorrow

#### Have your say on your last day



Gail is the creator of the website

[www.bettersendoff.co.nz](http://www.bettersendoff.co.nz) and publisher of "Better Send Off – The Ultimate Funeral Guide" which gives tips on saving money, personalising a funeral, how to leave a green footprint and writing a great eulogy.

She is not anti-funeral home, saying most funeral directors see their work as a calling, but she is pro-choice. Many people are not aware of their options, and don't know that a funeral has no legal status and that they can have a family-led home funeral and do everything themselves.

She encourages people to plan their funeral. When families are actively involved there are healing benefits in the grieving process.

#### Last month's Speaker Duncan Campbell



Duncan Campbell gave an informative talk about the place books have played in Chinese history and culture. The Chinese not only discovered how to make paper and invented printing but they also were one of the earliest cultures to make the modern book. (The Egyptians, the Greeks and the Romans read scrolls not books.)

This resulted in a highly literate society where both men and women could read and write. While the goal of reading was to learn, and the important books were Confucian texts, wealthy men would

build quite large private libraries which contained prose stories, lyric poems and works of history. Many of his old texts also showed how readers would write their own comments on the pages and stamp their name on the book to show they had read it. He reminded us that the second most widely published book after the Bible is the Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-Tung, or the Little Red Book. Mao, he pointed out, was a librarian before becoming a revolutionary.

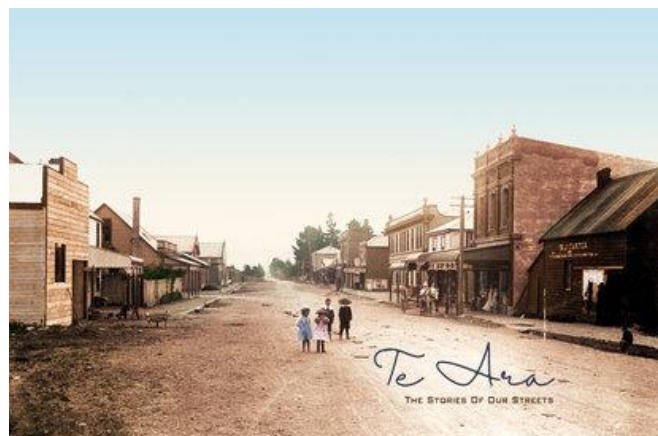
#### 2021 Membership List

The current membership list was emailed last week to members opting to be on it. A paper copy is enclosed with this Update to members without email.

Our thanks go to system designer Chris Jared and membership manager Eric Wadsworth for this work.

#### Group News

#### Walking and Local History



On the last day of June, the Local History group visited *Te Ara: The Stories of our Streets*. This exhibition in Whirinaki Whare Taonga (Expressions Gallery) tells the history of Upper Hutt. For many of us it brought memories of picnics at Maidstone Park, the Brown Owl Tearooms and the Remutaka Incline. Others who did not grow up in the Hutt Valley, saw things that reminded them of their own childhoods such as writing on slates at school. The exhibition is well worth seeing. It runs until 23 January 2022, so you have plenty of time yet.

## Heads Up

August speaker at U3A Hutt Valley is Professor Michael Baker, Department of Public Health, Otago University of Wellington.



Michael is a public health physician who is passionate about opportunities to organise society in ways that promote health, equity and sustainability.

His work during 2020-21 has been dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic response. Michael is a member of the Ministry of Health's Covid-19 Technical Advisory Group and has been a leading architect and advocate for the Covid-19 elimination strategy.

He established a programme of research on the epidemiology, prevention and control of Covid-19 in New Zealand and internationally (Co-Search), which generated a large amount of published research and commentary aimed at improving the pandemic response.

Michael's work on public health, and the Covid-19 response in particular, was recognised by a number of recent awards including: the Critic and Conscience of Society Award (from Universities NZ), the Public Health Champion award (from the Public Health Association of NZ), being made a Member of the NZ Order of Merit (MNZM), his selection as the 2020 Wellingtonian of the Year, and the Prime Minister's Science Communication Prize in 2021.

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## U3A Hutt Valley Groups & their contacts

If you would like to know more about a group or to join a group contact the Convenor. The groups are:

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

**Books** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thu 1pm. War Memorial Library.  
Convenor – Pam Lee 565 1716.

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

**Film** – 1<sup>st</sup> Mon morning.  
Acting Convenor – Les Malloy.

**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 12 July 2021

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