



U3A Hutt Valley

Members' Update June 2023

From your Chairs!

Greetings everyone!
Our sharing arrangement for the position of Chairperson is going well, with Chris Jared, who is also our Treasurer, hosting the June meeting.



Subs still to come

Thanks to those who have already paid their 2023 subs of \$20. If you have not yet done so, you can pay to our Bank of New Zealand Account no. 02-0544-0209806-000. If you make an internet payment please copy our bank number and paste into your online banking payment. Put "Sub" in the Code space and your name in the Reference Box.

When you renew, use your ID number and email u3ahuttvalley@gmail.com so we know you have paid.

A booklet of stamps from members who do not have email is always welcome to cover the cost of posting the Update.

Last month's Speaker Sir Geoffrey Palmer KC

Christine Williams reports:

Sir Geoffrey explained that the more people that participated in voting the more democratic our system would be.

He believes that New Zealand needs a longer Parliamentary term and more MPs so that legislation is better

prepared and discussed before being made law. And along with that various laws and protocols that manage parliament need to be changed so that it is more open and accessible to the public. If we did this our Parliamentary system would be more democratic - an important change in these times of wars, climate crises, digital revolution and misinformation, and extreme views making government more difficult.



June Speaker

**Sir Anand Satyanand
GNZM QSO KStJ**

"A Pulse Take of Universities in 2020s New Zealand"

Sir Anand is a former lawyer, judge and ombudsman.



He was appointed New Zealand's 19th Governor-General by Queen Elizabeth II on the advice of the New Zealand Government under Prime Minister Helen Clark. He succeeded Dame Silvia Cartwright on 23 August 2006.

Prior to that he had been a lawyer in practice in Auckland, a Judge of the District Court in a number of North Island settings, and one of the country's Parliamentary Ombudsmen for a decade, based in Wellington.

Since leaving office as Governor-General, he spent some years working with the Commonwealth and also Transparency International. In more recent years and in semi-retirement, he is patron of a number of community organisations – the Wellington Jazz Club, Friends of Fiji Health and the New Zealand Rugby League – as well as having been Chancellor of the University of Waikato since 2019. It is the last mentioned University, his own, and the Universities of New Zealand, and their current issues, that he has chosen to speak about to U3A Hutt Valley.

As well as English, Sir Anand also speaks some Fijian, Telugu, Hindi patois, and Māori.

Pre-meeting cuppa

It's a pleasant to come a little early to the monthly meeting and chat with other members over a cuppa and biscuit.

You're welcome to take this opportunity to catch up with friends and make new acquaintances. If you would like to help by occasionally coming to the meetings a bit early to help with the tea and bikkies contact Mary Estcourt phone 973 6421.

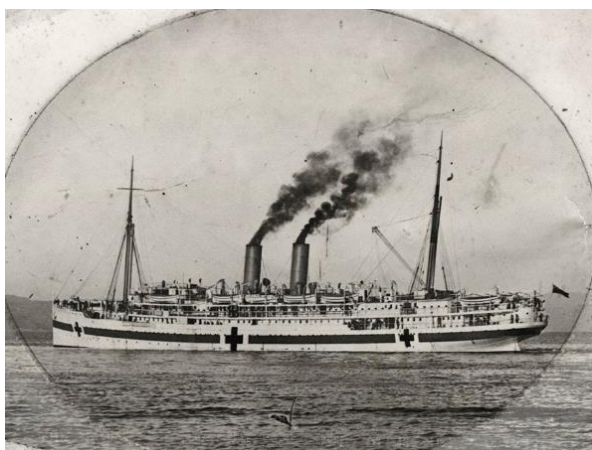
POPPY PLACES



Many New Zealand places are named after Kiwis who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Concerned that the origin of these names may be lost over time, the NZ Poppy Places Trust provides a "place" to capture and store these stories. Each approved place is marked with an official poppy – the flower of the Royal New Zealand Returned and Servicemen's Association.

RNZRSA has given the Trust authority to use the poppy and the Minister, through the NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi, has authorised placing poppy logos on street signs. The poppy may also be placed on buildings, memorials and plaques to denote a place's significance.

All of the stories are retained and can be accessed from - <https://www.poppyplaces.nz/>



Sandra Greig reports, "They are good stories, including one about the WW1 work of this New Zealand hospital ship "MAHENO", which brought my 9 month old dad, his 17-year-old UK mum, and 22-year-old Danish Kiwi soldier Vincent, to New Zealand in 1919."

* * * * *

Walking and Local History

Brenda Baker reports

Our "walk" at the end of May was an exploration of the Miramar Peninsula - by bus. The number 24 route must be one of the most scenic suburban bus routes in the country and we had a beautiful day to enjoy it. We admired the skill of the driver as he negotiated narrow hill roads with inches to spare between the bus and oncoming traffic or parked cars.

Historically Miramar is an interesting suburb. Initially, development was slow because of its distance from the city. However, the formation of the Miramar Cutting and the coming of the

tramways in the early twentieth century made the suburb more popular. The bus route skirts the perimeter wall of the old Mount Crawford Prison which opened in 1927 and closed in 2012. Two of our members had lived in Miramar earlier in their lives and were able to share



their recollections. The name Miramar means "sea view" or "behold the sea" in Spanish.

U3A groups & their contacts

Antiques and Collectibles – 4th 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) – 4th Mon 1 pm. Russell Keown House, Queens Drive. Convenor - Ken Baird - 564 2579

Film – 1st Mon morning at Lighthouse, 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

* * * * *

Chamber Music Hutt Valley

The Chamber Music Hutt Valley concert on Wed 21st June at 7.30pm at St Marks Church, Woburn Road, features Mark Menzies (violin) and Michael Endres (piano) playing music by Schubert, Salina Fisher, Alfred Schnittke and Beethoven. See www.cmhv.org.nz for programme details.

* * * * *

For information about U3A Hutt Valley visit our Website

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

**See you at St Marks Church
Woburn Road
1pm Monday 12th June 2023**