



U3A Hutt Valley

Members' Update May 2023

From your Chairs!

Greetings everyone!

Your new committee held its first meeting in April and agreed to share the job of

Chairperson. This means committee members will each take a turn at welcoming you to the main U3A meeting each month, and at chairing the regular committee meeting.

First one up Mary Estcourt volunteered to chair our

April committee meeting and will greet you at our next main meeting on May 8th at St Marks Church.



We also welcomed Kevin Willis who has taken on the vital job of Secretary and Chris Jared who is continuing on as Treasurer.



Subs remain at \$20

The AGM decided to leave our subs at \$20. Thanks to those who have already paid. You can pay to our Bank of New Zealand Account no. 02-0544-0209806-000.

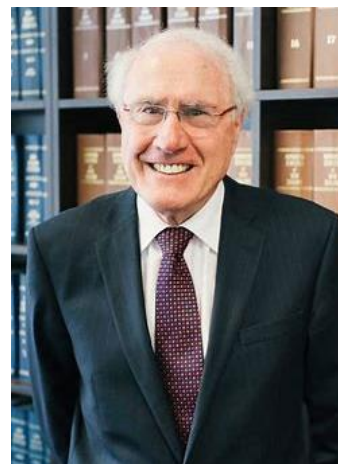
If you make an internet payment please copy our bank number and paste into your online banking payment. Put "Sub" in the Code space and your name in the Reference Box. When you renew, use your ID number and email u3ahuttvalley@gmail.com so we know you have paid.

We always appreciate a stamp booklet to cover the cost of posting the Update to members who do not have email.

May Speaker

Sir Geoffrey Palmer KC

U3A Hutt Valley's "speaker arranger extraordinaire", Don Rennie, has secured well-known and respected lawyer Sir Geoffrey Palmer as our May speaker. Admitted as a solicitor in 1965 and a barrister in 1966, Sir Geoffrey has been Attorney-General, Minister of Justice, Leader of the House, and Prime Minister.



He's also been President of the Law Commission, a multi-jurisdictional law professor (holding four honorary doctorates), a member of the NZLS Rule of Law Committee, and chaired a highly sensitive United Nations inquiry. He also holds the honorary title Master of the Bench of the Middle Temple.

Sir Geoffrey will share his views on the effect New Zealand's three year Parliamentary term has on any governments' ability to make and implement policy. We also expect that he will explain how a written constitution would benefit New Zealand and the way we make our laws.

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 – please contact Mary Estcourt phone 973 6421.

Antiques & Collectibles - ANZAC

This group's scheduled meeting was on ANZAC day so took this as their topic. Many sad stories were told from members' family histories.

As well, Brenda Baker explained where the acronym ANZAC came from:

The first official use of "ANZAC" was by C.E.W. Bean, an English clerk, at the request of General Birdwood, to denote where the Corps established a bridgehead on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

However, ANZAC was earlier used in Egypt, according to English historian Robert Rhodes James who states: two Australian Sergeants Little and Millington cut a rubber stamp with the initials "A & NZAC" to register papers at the Corps Headquarters in Shepheard's Hotel, Cairo. When a code name was sought for the Corps, ANZAC was suggested, and it was in general use by January 1915.

It became famous with the landing of the Corps at the Dardanelles on 25 April 1915 and has become synonymous with the spirit of our armed forces. ANZAC was used briefly in WWII and in Vietnam when Australian and New Zealand forces served together.



This bugle is even older, brought back from the Boer War 1899-1902 by

William Thomas Bowen who went to war aged 23. He also served in WW1 and returned, but with serious injuries to his face. However, he did live till he was 81.

Armchair Travel

This group is meeting on 2nd May to hear from Barry Warner about the geography, neighbouring countries and history of the Ottoman Empire, taking a look at the Black Sea and its effect on Istanbul. "We will visit a few excavations, see the result of earthquakes, and what is left of one of the 7 Wonders of The Ancient World."

Local History group's outing is closer to home on 30 April, looking back to the Riddiford Gardens and baths and the Methodist Church before Queens Drive was put through in 1953.

Theatre Group has a busy time ahead with performances of Hutt Repertory's "The Butler did it" on 29 April and "Lock Down in Little Grimley" by the Heretaunga Players on 7 May.

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

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Chamber Music Hutt Valley

The Chamber Music Hutt Valley concert season is underway. The next concert on Wednesday 3rd May features French music through the ages played by the trio Les Voisins. Concerts are held at St Marks Church, Woburn Road.

To see the programme details for the year go to the website www.cmhv.org.nz

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For membership enquiries and information about U3A Hutt Valley visit our Website

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

**See you at St Marks Church
Woburn Road**

1pm Monday 8th May 2023