



Members' Update November 2019

Greetings

Next monthly meeting is Monday 11 November at the Dowse. Come to mix and mingle over a cuppa and a biscuit at 1pm. Hospitality provider and scientist Allen Heath has studied biscuit consumption at these meetings and concludes that Tim Tams are the most popular. Bring your lunch if you prefer. The formal meeting starts at 1.30pm.

December meeting Mon 9th December.

Light lunch will be served at 1pm and then competitions and quizzes and excellent musical entertainment from Sacred Heart College. Come prepared to make a donation to the group.

Have you written your CLERIHEW yet? There are prizes to be won for these. A Clerihew is a 4 line whimsical poem - the first line is the poem's subject, usually a person, and the rhyming scheme is AABB. The rhyming couplets are of unequal length. Mike and Cleswyn are the judges. Send your creations to Mike at tradingman66@gmail.com

Membership

We now have 170 paid up members of Hutt U3A. Recently we had a get-together of Members who live in our northern reaches. Almost all of the 18 Members who live in Upper Hutt met for coffee at Expressions. It was a chance for the Committee to say we appreciate their travelling to Lower Hutt for our meetings, and to be sure that they knew each other.



We also took the opportunity to let them know that the Committee will put a proposal to the 2020 AGM to change our name to U3A Hutt Valley. Formal notification of this proposal will be sent with the AGM papers early next year.

November Speaker

Dr Phil Lester

Professor of Ecology and Entomology at VUW.

Insectageddon: a global crisis of insect extinction and population decline.

A recent review of insect populations showed a "dreadful state of insect biodiversity in the world, as almost half of the species are rapidly declining and a third are threatened with extinction". This grabbed media attention around the world. Some scientists, however, have been critical of the work. They consider the biodiversity crisis to be over-stated.

In this talk Phil will review the evidence for an "Insectageddon" and its relevance for New Zealand.



Last month's Speaker

Karl Chitham

Director The Dowse

Karl Chitham, spoke about his background in jewellery, sculpture and teaching art. He showed photographs of exhibitions he had curated including a history of The Elms Tauranga, one of NZ's



oldest heritage sites. Another exhibition was "Hihita & Hoani," missionaries to the Tuhoe people.

There were also images of Tuhoe Prophet Rua Kenana and his Temple at Maungapohatu deep in Te Urewera.



The **8th Lifelong Learning Summer School** at Girton College, Cambridge, UK, is from 16-29 August 2020. Participants live in the College, take academic courses for the love of learning, and enjoy Cambridge college life in the company of other lifelong learners from around the world!

More information from:

<http://www.girton.cam.ac.uk/summer-programmes/lifelong>

Hutt U3A Group 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.

Scrabble – 2nd Tue and 4th Wed at 1.30pm. Convenor – Pam Lee 565 1716. Meets in members' homes.

Theatre – Convenor – Christine Williams 568 2342.

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

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Classic Coaches Travel Club

Seats are still available for tour to Marangi and Ngarere Gardens in Levin on Saturday 23 November. Tour includes two contrasting gardens and a homestead. Price is \$70. Call Richard on 564 5015.

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October Word of the Day

Chirality

- ▶ *Noun* The property of not being superimposable on its mirror image - dissymmetry



Chiral Non-chiral

- ▶ Coined by physicist, engineer, and mathematician William Thomson, Baron Kelvin, also known as Lord Kelvin (1824-1907)
- ▶ From Greek cheir (hand)
- ▶ Ultimately from the Indo-European root ghes- (hand), hence chiromancy (palmistry), surgeon (literally, one who works with hands), and enchiridion (handbook).
- ▶ Earliest documented use - 1894

October Thought for the Day

You may not be able to change the world, but at least you can embarrass the guilty.

Jessica Mitford, author, journalist, and civil rights activist (1917 – 1996)

See you at the Dowse for a cuppa 1pm on Monday 11 November.

<https://huttu3a.weebly.com/>

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