



Members' Update October 2019

Greetings

Our next meeting is Monday 14th October at the Dowse. We are open from 1pm for you to catch up with friends and meet other members. Have a coffee and biscuit or bring your lunch if you wish. The formal meeting starts at 1.30pm.

Looking ahead – December meeting

Last year we held Hutt U3A's first December meeting. People enjoyed it so we're doing it again this year on Monday 9th December. A light lunch will be served at 1pm and there will be competitions and quizzes as well as musical entertainment.

You have a chance to star with a CLERIHEW! i.e. 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 e.g.

Donald "The Donald" Trump
Surprisingly took to the political stump
What is, perhaps, not as great a surprise
Is that he should thrive in a realm ruled by lies.
Dave Martin

1st and 2nd prizes for the funniest, wittiest cleriheW. For an added twist the subject must be a New Zealander, living or dead. Mike and Cleswyn will judge. Send your creations to Mike at tradingman66@gmail.com Limited to 5 entries per person.

Pithy Political Comment

Colin James, political journalist in Wellington for 50 years, spoke to Wellington U3A last month. His interesting talk, "*After Jacinda*" is available on his website <http://www.colinjames.co.nz>

Theatre Group Outings

Convenor, Christine Williams, has booked for Hutt Repertory's "*The Rivals*" at 4pm on Sat 19 October. There's still time to join the group – contact Christine and pay \$18. "*Meeting Karpovsky*" starring Helen Moulder and Sir John Trimmer is at Circa on Sat 16 Nov at 2pm. Pay \$30 to Christine by 4 Nov if you want to go. Ph 568-2342 or mizuchris@yahoo.com.au

October Speaker

Karl Chitham, Director of The Dowse

Karl took up this position at the Dowse Art Museum earlier this year. He says:

"Museums and galleries are a way for people to be transported and to have an experience beyond the everyday. Sometimes, these experiences can blow you away by being challenging or inspiring while others might sometimes be more subtle, but they stay with you for many years."



Last month's Speaker David Sole

Manager Botanic Gardens of Wellington

David delighted us with the early history of the Wellington Botanic Gardens established in 1868.

The first manager, James Hector, of the New Zealand Institute, planted conifers as part of a programme to import plant species and assess their potential for economic benefit to New Zealand. The first Map of the Garden by John Buchanan published in 1875 included a list of all plants growing there, and a survey of native plants indigenous to the Reserve.

Some animals were kept at the Botanic Gardens before Wellington Zoo was founded in 1906. Wellington City Council took over the gardens in 1891.



Group News

Walking and local history folk took a look at the handsome Lower Hutt and Petone (see below) Railway Stations. Both were designed by Gordon Troup, the first official architect of the New Zealand Railways. He designed many stations, but is best known for the Dunedin station. (Photo Brenda Baker)



U3A – it's about lifelong learning!

As well as interesting speakers U3As offer ongoing learning opportunities through various groups. Do you have an interest or specialty that others might enjoy too?

Hutt U3A members are invited to consider their particular interests with a view to starting a group. It does not need to be a long term commitment – groups may form for short periods to enjoy a specific topic.

Go to <http://www.u3a.nz/home.htm> to a list of U3As, each with the groups they run. Check it out for some inspiration – then talk to a Committee Member.

The **8th Lifelong Learning Summer School** at Girton College, Cambridge 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.

September Word of the Day

Palinode

- ▶ *noun*: A poem in which the author retracts something said in an earlier poem
- ▶ From Greek palin (again) + oide (song)
- ▶ Example:
*Oh, yes, I wrote 'The Purple Cow,'
I'm sorry now I wrote it!
But I can tell you anyhow,
I'll kill you if you quote it.*
- ▶ American Gellet Burgess wrote this when he realised in 1895 that his most widely known work was:
*I never saw a Purple Cow,
I never hope to see one;
But I can tell you, anyhow,
I'd rather see than be one!*

September Thought for the Day

- ▶ If the world were merely seductive, that would be easy. If it were merely challenging, that would be no problem. But I arise in the morning torn between a desire to improve the world and a desire to enjoy the world. This makes it hard to plan the day.
E.B. White - writer (1899-1985)

See you at the Dowse for a cuppa 1pm on
Monday 14 October.

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

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