



## U3A Hutt Valley

### Members' Update October 2021

#### Dear Members

Your Committee has decided to go ahead with our monthly meetings for the rest of the year, unless the virus plays more tricks and forces us back into a higher level of lockdown.

However, our meetings will be for members only in October, November and December.

If you have friends who want to come, they will have to pay the \$10 sub for the rest of this year which ends at the AGM March 2022.

We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 11th October.

Social distancing of 1m will apply and we will not be serving tea and coffee.

#### October Speaker

##### Cathrine Lloyd MA

"The Language of Lace".

Cathrine, who is based in Wellington, is a skilled practitioner of embroidery and threadwork. Her work draws on historical embroidery techniques, including goldwork, needle lace, blackwork, appliqué, tambour and stumpwork.



Her talk will cover the social history of French lace from the 17th century to present times

Cathrine studied at the Royal School of Needlework in London, the Lesage embroidery school in Paris, and the embroidery school of Pascal Jouen in Brittany. She completed a City and Guilds Certificate in fabric embellishment in 2013 and has been an invited speaker at Te Papa, and the JC Beaglehole society at Victoria University of Wellington Library.

She completed her MA, entitled "*The Language of Lace and Embroidery: from the Court of Louis XIV through to Contemporary Haute Couture*", in 2015.

Her recent exhibition "The Disappearing Woman" was shown at Aratoi Museum of Art and History.

#### October Meeting Bonus

A bonus for the next meeting (expected to more than make up for the missed cuppa!) is that Cathrine Lloyd is bringing three lace makers to demonstrate their lacemaking techniques from 1pm.



#### November meeting

Gill Jolly, MA, the Natural Hazards and Risk Theme Leader at GNS Science, who was scheduled to speak to us in September, has agreed to speak at our meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> November.



#### Long standing groups call it a day

The Book Group, originally called the Literature Group, has wound up.

The group was started in U3A Hutt Valley's early days by Donald Robertson and founder members included Sue Topley, Per Jorgensen and Arthur Tucker. Thanks go to Pam Lee and Sue Topley for running this group in latter years.

The Film Group was organised by Pam Lee, a long time U3A member and committee member. Pam has been unwell, and can't continue the Film Group. But, she came to the recent Antiques and Collectibles meeting, and it was good to catch up with her.

Our heartfelt thanks to Pam for facilitating the monthly outings to movies at the Lighthouse and lunch afterwards, which many have enjoyed over the years.

## Local History Group walk on 30 September

Brenda Baker reports:

Eleven group members headed into Wellington, despite the unpromising weather, for an exploration of the Thorndon area.

On arriving at the railway station, we looked at the Old Station Bell which was originally made to go on an American style locomotive. Not many locomotives in New Zealand had bells. Later it graced one of the old stations, Thorndon and Lambton, which preceded the current station built in 1937.

The bell no longer has a clapper but one of our members managed quite a significant dong by hitting it with a walking stick. We walked along Thorndon Quay, the



old shoreline and site of the Pipitea Pa.

A small sculpture on the corner of Davis Street recognises the Te Atiawa people.

At this point we reluctantly made the decision not to continue with the planned walk - drizzle and a cold wind made walking unpleasant. We sought shelter in Old St Paul's where a knowledgeable staff member showed us several things of interest. From there we moved to the Thistle Inn, New Zealand's oldest surviving tavern, where we were booked in for lunch.



Many historic photos line the walls and glass panels in the floor allow diners a glimpse of the basement as it once would have been, complete with rat (not real!).

The Thorndon area leaves us much still to be explored at a later date.

## Theatre Group

Christine Williams is planning to book the Theatre Group to go to Circa's Pantomime "*The Little Mermaid*" in late November or early December. She will contact group members when the date is decided, but any non-members can contact her if they would like to go. Phone 568 2342.

## Armchair travel anyone?

Ray Manning has offered to host an **Armchair Travel Group** in the New Year.

This is an opportunity to share your interesting travel experiences.

Ray and his wife Cheryl, have travelled in small groups with GAdventures / National Geographic, which bring

sights and information not seen with other travel providers.

He is willing to start things off with photo studies put together from their travels to places such as Israel and Jordan, Myanmar, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Scandinavia, Russia, Malta and Antarctica.

"We need to see what the level of interest is, and importantly how much interest there is," Ray says. "Then we can decide if such a group is wanted, and what sort of venue we need".

In the recent Hutt Valley U3A survey Armchair Travel was the most popular choice of members who responded.

If you are interested contact Ray at 0274 587 565 or email him at 46ray.manning@gmail.com

## Ideas for groups?

U3A Hutt Valley is always interested in supporting new groups.

Groups run by other U3A's include art, armchair travel, food, games, gardening, knitting for charity, languages, Maoritanga, music, technology, writing, etc etc.

To see what other U3A groups are up to go to

[www.u3a.nz](http://www.u3a.nz)

If you have an interest that you would like to further explore, others might like to join you.

Any ideas? Contact Catherine Chapman on 970 4932.

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## U3A Hutt Valley Groups & their contacts

**Antiques and Collectibles** – 4<sup>th</sup> Tue 2pm.

Convenor – Catherine Chapman 970 4932.

**Current Affairs and Topics of Interest Group**

(CATIG) – 4<sup>th</sup> Mon 1 pm. Russell Keown House, Convenor - Ken Baird 564 2579.

**Theatre** – Sun pm several times a year.

Convenor – Christine Williams 568 2342.

**Local History** – last day of the month.

Convenor – Brenda Baker 569 5308.

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See you at the Dowse  
Monday 11 October from 1pm.

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