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May 2018 Newsletter  
Founded 1991

[www.u3amana.org.nz](http://www.u3amana.org.nz)

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## Note from the President

Hello all

We started our year with a fascinating talk about the National Archive of Film, Television and Sound. Many of us will know it simply as the Film Archive, and will have enjoyed their screenings of New Zealand films from the past. We discovered that there is much more to what the National Archive does. More about that talk below.

I hope you have heating sorted for the coming winter. Don't forget that one of the best ways to keep warm is to put on a polyprop or merino layer next to the skin first thing in the morning. These have become much more affordable, and make a huge difference when we're having a cold snap. They may even lower your energy bills. We've included some information about the Government's winter energy payment in this newsletter.

We have some great speakers lined up for our quarterly meetings, and as well we will be organizing Monday morning seminars starting in May. More about those shortly.

Jocelyn organizes the afternoon teas that we all enjoy after our talks, and needs helpers. Could you please contact her the day before or on the day of the meeting. Jocelyn's email is [joce\\_choong@hotmail.com](mailto:joce_choong@hotmail.com).

And finally, don't forget about the various interest groups coordinated by our members. They are a great way to learn and make new friends.

Regards

Irene Swadling

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## ***Second Quarterly Meeting***

**Thursday 17 May**

North Baptist Church, Discovery Drive, Whitby

Please wear your name badge

1: 30 Guest Speaker  
Professor Nigel Roberts



Nigel Roberts is Professor of political science at Victoria University. He was an official advisor to the Electoral Referendum Panels that were established to ensure that official information in the 1992 and 1993 electoral systems referendums was accurate, fair and unbiased, and he was also an official advisor to the New Zealand Electoral Commission for the 2011 electoral systems referendum and the 2012 review of MMP. Nigel Roberts has lectured and written extensively about New Zealand politics. Many of us will have seen him on election nights, when he has provided expert commentary on radio and television for more than 30 years. The title of his talk is "Mrs Shipley's Confession: The Mysterious Case of MMP". It promises to be stimulating, informative and topical.

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## The National Archive of Film, Television and Sound



Our speakers at our first quarterly meeting on Thursday 15 February were two staff from Nga Taonga Film and Vision, the National Archive of Film, Television and Sound. They told us about the work of the Archive and its plans to progressively digitize selected parts of its huge sound and image collection. They also explained how best to look after old film and sound recordings. There were several questions about the care of sound and visual items at home, including old film and videotapes. They told us about the information and guidance on caring for audio and visual items available through their website. If this advice doesn't answer your queries you can contact the Archive's specialists at this email address <https://www.ngataonga.org.nz/contact>, filling out the form on the Archive's website.

### Winter Seminar Programme

Our Monday morning winter seminar programme begins on 28 May. This will be followed by further seminars on 25 June, 23 July 20 August and 17 September. The seminars will be held at 10am at St Andrews Church Hall, 11 Steyne Avenue, Plimmerton. Please bring along \$2 to cover hire of the hall.

At our first meeting on 28 May Age Concern will deliver a Staying Safe workshop for senior road users. Put the date in your diaries.

During the workshop you'll re-familiarise yourself with traffic rules and safer driving practices as well as increase knowledge about other transport options available to help keep you mobile for as long as possible.

We ran this workshop a few years ago, and it was very well received. There will be a break for a cuppa part way through the workshop. Please bring \$2 to cover the costs of morning tea.

Age Concern usually charge \$10 per person for their workshops, but have generously offered to charge us only \$5 per person. Be sure to bring this along, as we'll be collecting this at the entrance to the hall. Thank you.

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At our second seminar on 25 June we will learn all about the Transmission Gully project from Belinda Mackenzie-Dodds, Manager, Stakeholder and Community Relations for the company responsible for undertaking design and construction of the motorway. This is a project which will affect us all, every day. Here is a link to information about the project for those who would like to do some research before the talk

<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/wellington-northern-corridor/transmission-gully-motorway/>

### **Our New Opera Group**

A small group of opera lovers will meet at Irene Swadling's home on Wednesday 9 May at 1.30 to enjoy a DVD opera. We talk about it afterwards over a cuppa. Do contact Irene 233 9988 for further details if you would like to join us. We plan monthly viewings with participants choosing a different opera for each get together.

### **The Government's Winter Energy Payment**



The Government's Winter Energy Payment will begin on 1 July and will be paid with your usual New Zealand Super. You will get the payment automatically; you don't need to apply.

To find out more go to [www.workandincome.govt.nz](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz)

### **Subscriptions**

Some subscriptions are now overdue for the financial year 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018. They are \$10 per person. Please add \$5 if you wish to receive a printed copy of all newsletters.

You can pay by cash at one of our meetings, by sending a cheque posted to Mana U3A (address above), or by internet banking to 03 1533 0008763 00. Please enter subs in the Code section and your surname and your initials in the reference section.

New members and those whose details have changed need to complete a subscription form available on the website.