



Website: [www.u3aporthills.org.nz](http://www.u3aporthills.org.nz)

Bank Account Number: 38-90060413325-00



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

## Newsletter August 2021

### Port Hills U3A

Hello Members,

### Mid-Winter Lunch – 7 July 2021

The Mid-Winter Lunch planned for last year in 2020 had to be cancelled because of covid, so it was particularly nice to be able to get together this year to share a wonderful meal and good company at the Shirley Golf Club. The food was enjoyable, well prepared and the service was very good. The venue and staff were welcoming which added to the lovely event.

Organising a luncheon for 60 people takes a lot of time and effort, so a great ‘thank you’ goes to Joy Evans, Vice President for arranging the venue, the food and keeping track of everyone’s orders, and to Graeme Ell, Treasurer for processing the payments and orders, and to the other U3A members who volunteered their time.



### Next Meeting: Wednesday 4 August 2021

- Venue: St Martin's Presbyterian Church  
43 St Martins Road, St Martins
- 9:30 Socialising
- 10:00 Speaker: Simon Pollard  
Topic: *Science and Pseudoscience, and how to tell the difference.*  
Were the moon landings faked? Is the Earth flat? Are vaccines dangerous? Dr Simon Pollard is Adjunct Professor of Scientific Communication at UC. He will talk about how science works and why it is different from the pseudoscientific claims of its often-vocal detractors.
- 11:00 Monthly Port Hills U3A Meeting

## Announcements - Notices - Reminders

### Future Meeting Speakers

September 1<sup>st</sup> Peter McCarthy     *In the wake of Mortimer and Tim McCarthy–Irish seafaring brothers.*

Peter's Antarctic connections stem from the heroic era when his Grandfather Mortimer McCarthy served with Captain Robert Falcon Scott's British Antarctic Expedition 1910-1913 on-board the Terra Nova. He is Programme Planner for Antarctica New Zealand in the Christchurch, and for six summer seasons 2011-2016 he was the Programme Support Supervisor at Scott Base

October 6<sup>th</sup>     Nic Low     *Walking the old Ngai Tahu Trails Across the Southern Alps.*

Nic is a Ngai Tahu author and arts organiser. He is currently working on his second book, Uprising, a history of the southern alps from a Ngai Tahu perspective told through walking journeys. He has already completed the fun part - fifteen journeys on foot through the mountains retracing historic routes - and is now trying to finish off the writing and editing whilst raising a toddler!

November 3<sup>rd</sup> Paul Miller     *How to Write a Literary Biography*

December 1<sup>st</sup> Amanda Atlas     *Training and Working as an International Opera Singer*

Amanda is a New Zealand dramatic soprano, embarking on her international career in 1999, spending ten years singing leading roles for various opera companies and orchestras in the US and Europe. Amanda is now based in New Zealand and Australia. Upcoming engagements include her debut with the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra

### A lot is going on at the Port Hills U3A

Our U3A is fortunate to have a lot of special interest and study groups. Joining these groups is a great way to meet other U3A members, to learn new things, and just to have some fun. Some groups are so popular that there's a waiting list! To find the full *list of special interest and study groups* check out our website [www.u3aporthills.org.nz](http://www.u3aporthills.org.nz) .

To find the list on our website:

- 1) Click on the left bottom blue button Int Group Grid.
- 2) On the next page click on words Interest Group Grid.

The grid gives the list of all the special interest and study groups along with the names and contact details of group coordinators.

## Contributions and Donations

At each monthly meeting we collect items to donate to several local charities we support. Please leave all items in the front entrance foyer.

### Wool Donations



Donations of spare wool for Nadia Murray's knitting circle are very welcome. This is a worthy cause as items are sent to needy families and charities. Please bring donations to the monthly meetings.

### Recyclables

Creative Junk is an early childhood Resource Centre that recycles 'non-toxic', clean and safe items that can be used by children of all ages. A description of Creative Junk and a list of acceptable and non-acceptable items is printed at the end of this newsletter.

### Food Aotearoa

There is a great need for food in our community, as many people are doing without enough to eat. You can donate packaged/canned food, including baby food as well as fresh food such as fruits and vegetables to Food Aotearoa.

### Creative Junk

Creative Junk is an Early Childhood Resource Centre that recycles "non-toxic, clean and safe items" that can be used for creative and imaginative happenings in the community for use by children of all ages – such as play groups, schools, holiday programmes.

Here is a list of some items that are welcome and not welcome at Creative Junk.

#### They welcome:

- Egg cartons
- Any washed bottle tops plastic or metal, such as milk bottles, jam jar metal tops, any sauce bottle tops even if they are flip tops.
- Corks – **in demand**
- Washing machine liquid tops, if washed.
- Scoops from laundry powder, milk formula etc. – used in water play and sandpits ; **much in demand.**

- Large plastic containers such as 1 litre ice cream and 900gm yoghurt, preferably with lids-good for mailing around the country and for play groups to store things
- Cardboard inner tubes from Gladwrap etc.
- Metal nuts and bolts, preferably screwed together, cogs, nails.
- Birthday etc. Cards – ensure that any addresses and phone numbers are cut out, it doesn't matter if a bit is cut off the card, kids often like a splash of colour to stick on and don't need a complete picture.
- Buttons, zips, cotton reels
- Fabric at least 1 metre square –not usually asked for by play groups, suitable for quilters who drop in at times.
- Shiny or colourful paper- not small scraps.
- Jigsaw puzzles, doesn't matter if pieces are missing
- Old, clean, paint brushes – not tiny ones
- CDs, floppy disks.

**Not Welcome:**

- Toilet roll tubes
- Plastic tops or bases from take-away food containers- neither plastic nor polystyrene
- Meat or fish trays of any kind
- Plastic milk **bottles**, cream etc
- Tops of chemical cleaners – they can't risk the odd person not washing them properly before donating.
- Soft plastic such as used in some biscuit packets.
- Plastic wrappings such as bread wraps.
- Small plastic pottles like yoghurt pottles.

Website [www.creativejunk.org.nz](http://www.creativejunk.org.nz)

25 Disraeli Street, Addington (Selwyn Street end) Phone 379 4040.

Open Wed – Fri 11am – 5pm, Sat 11am – 1pm.

Helene Mautner  
for the Port Hills U3A Committee