



Website: www.u3aporthills.org.nz
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Newsletter October 2021

Port Hills U3A

Hello Members,

Wednesday 6 October Meeting and Covid Update

We will be having our 6 October meeting following the government guidelines for Covid level 2. Please read the following rules for our October meeting.

1. Attendance at the October meeting:

- We will restrict the numbers to 80 people.
This will allow us to observe the 2 metre distancing rule.
- Let our Treasurer Graeme know either by email or phone by next Sunday evening 3rd October if you wish to attend.
Graeme's contact details are email: ellgk127@gmail.com. Phone: 338 5116.

2. Morning Tea and Start Time

- There will be **no** morning tea, and
- We will start the meeting promptly **at 10am**.

3. There will be **no** Sales Table.

4. There will be **no** collection for Creative Junk.

5. **You must wear a mask !**



Spring

This hasn't been an easy time for a lot of people because of covid, but Spring brings us more sunlight hours and new bursts of colour in our gardens and around our neighbourhoods. I thought I'd give our membership some flowers from last summer to enjoy.



Next Meeting: Wednesday 6 October 2021

Venue: St Martin's Presbyterian Church, 43 St Martins Road, St Martins

10:00 Speaker: Nic Low

Walking the old Ngai Tahu Trails Across the Southern Alps

Nic is a Ngai Tahu author and arts organiser. His new book *Uprising* is a history of the southern alps from a Ngai Tahu perspective told through walking journeys. The fun part of writing the book were the fifteen journeys on foot through the mountains retracing historic routes – and then finishing off the writing and editing whilst raising a toddler!

Nic's book 'Uprising' will be featured at the Christchurch Word Festival, now rescheduled because of covid to Wed 10 – Sat 13 November 2021.

11:00 Monthly Port Hills U3A Meeting

Announcements - Notices - Reminders

Study Groups - Proposed New Australian Online Learning Courses for 2022

Information prepared by Wendy Gallagher

A check list of the following courses will be circulated at the November Meeting for members to tick their preferences. We will then use this as a guide to selection for 2022 and purchase the appropriate study material. Groups will assemble in February and courses start in March.

The outlines for the courses listed below can be found on the Australian online link: u3aonline.au
The Logon ID and the Password are restricted to Port Hills U3A members.

List of proposed courses:

Left, Right or Centre -- A very brief introduction to political ideologies

Design in your Life Looks critically at some modern design concepts, including age issues. To consider accessibility and appeal for the whole community including older people.

Shakespeare: Rediscovering the Bard

Thoreau, Emerson and the Conduct of Life Philosophers Henry Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson present their ideas to improve the quality of an individual's life.

Tauhere Lectures from the University Canterbury <https://www.canterbury.ac.nz> public lectures. Scroll down and click on You Tube to see a full list of the 150 past lectures available for viewing

In addition, we also have the continuation of the Botany Course and the Writing Life Stories.

What I have tried to do is to vary the options. I view the study material as being extremely important to our organisation; U3A is established from the premise of ongoing learning and study courses give members further chance to participate in this.

Wendy Gallagher

New Interest Group: Garden Group

Pamela Mathias is starting a Garden group - one that *visits* gardens. In the first garden outing we will be joining a guided tour in the Botanical Gardens, but in subsequent Garden Outings we will be visiting private gardens. Will those interested please meet Pamela at the back of the lecture hall after the speaker has finished to decide which week and which day of the week suits the group.

Looking forward to meeting you all, **Pamela**

Future Meeting Speakers

November 3rd 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.

Peter was originally scheduled to speak at our September meeting which had to be cancelled due to covid lockdown level 4.

December 1st 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

February 2nd 2022 Paul Miller *How to Write a Literary Biography*

Paul Millar is a Professor of English Literature and Digital Humanities in the School of Humanities and Creative Arts at the University of Canterbury. His research interests include the literature of Aotearoa New Zealand, Life Writing, and Cultural Heritage Digital Archiving. His literary biography of novelist and cultural commentator Bill Pearson was a finalist in the New Zealand Book Awards,

and he is currently writing the biography of influential poet, philanthropist and editor, Charles Brasch. Millar has been involved in Digital Humanities projects and research since 1996. In 2001 he co-founded Victoria University of Wellington's New Zealand Electronic Text Collection, and at UC he led the establishment of New Zealand's first Digital Humanities teaching programme. Following the 2010/2011 Canterbury earthquakes he founded the CEISMIC Canterbury Earthquakes Digital Archive (www.ceismic.org.nz), a cultural heritage database that collects stories, images and media about the earthquakes' impacts for the purposes of commemoration, teaching and research.

Contributions and Donations

Thanks for your contributions.

Wool Donations



Wool or other knitting yarns (any size balls or bits) and also volunteer knitters are needed to help crochet blankets or knit jerseys for pre- schoolers. These are given mainly to the Plunket Outreach programme, Salvation Army programme and other charities as needed. Please bring donations to our monthly meetings

Creative Junk

Creative Junk will not be collected at our monthly U3A Meetings until we are down to Level 1 Covid restrictions. However, please do continue to gather Creative Junk items (if you have the garage space) for future collections. Please add any spare **buttons**, however few, to your contribution, these can be glued onto paper to make patterns and bright pictures.

Thank you to everyone who has brought items along, your contributions are always welcome at the Creative Junk warehouse. Jo Lord.

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.

Helene Mautner
for the Port Hills U3A Committee
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