



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

# U3A Port Hills Inc

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

Bank Account Number: 38-90060413325-00

## Port Hills U3A Newsletter February 2024



**Next Meeting: Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> February**

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

**9:30** Morning tea and socialising

**10:00** Speaker: Sharon Crean      BeyondWater - Helping Communities in Kenya

Originally from Hastings, in 2001 while living in the Northern Beaches of Sydney, Sharon and her husband Pete co-founded BeyondWater. Faced with the fact that nearly one billion people did not have access to clean drinking water, and two billion did not have any form of a toilet, they became advocates for some of the most vulnerable people on the planet.

In 2006 they left their jobs and moved to a place they had only been to a couple of times - Kenya. Based in Nairobi, they continue to raise and train a team of nationals that can duplicate their work. Their dream has become a reality. They now work across several countries where each day 240,000 people, along with schools, medical clinics, and remote communities have access to clean water and sanitation facilities through the work of BeyondWater. While they are currently in their 12th year of being based in Kenya, they also travel to share their work about how schools, clubs, churches, and community groups can be involved in transforming lives.

**11:00** The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place immediately following the speaker's presentation.

The agenda for the Annual General Meeting is on the next page and the Minutes of the 2023 AGM are included as an appendix.

# 2024 AGM Agenda

17th Annual General Meeting of the Port Hills U3A  
St Martins Presbyterian Church, St Martins Road  
Wednesday 7 February 2024 11:00am

1. Present
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting 2023 (see Appendix)
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes
5. President's Report
6. Financial/Performance Report
7. Election of Officers and Committee Members

**Nominations are open for Vice President and for 2 to 3 committee members.**

If you are interested in joining the committee, you are very welcome to contact Joy Evans, President, or any of the members listed below.

You may also put your name forward at the AGM on Wednesday 7, February 2024

President:	Joy Evans
Vice President	
Treasurer	Mureen Turfrey
Corresponding Secretary	Cathy Goulter
Recording Secretary	Helene Mautner
Committee:	George Edwards
	Moira McPhail
	Malcolm Robinson
	Shona Steele

8. Subscriptions
9. Resolution to adopt revised Constitution
10. Study Groups for 2024
11. General Business
12. Appendix (Minutes of 2023 AGM)

## Constitution and Performance Report

Thank you to everyone who took the time to make suggestions and amendments to our Constitution. We have now updated the document and a final copy is attached to the newsletter for you. We will ratify this document at the AGM and it will be submitted to Charities Services with our request for re-registration. The changes to the Charities Act also require us to do a Performance Report which includes our financial data. As this report is several pages long, we will not be producing paper copies to be placed on seats at the AGM. A copy of this report is also attached to your newsletter.

If you have queries before the AGM on the 7th, please direct them to Mureen Turfrey (mureen.turfrey@xtra.co.nz) or raise them at the meeting.



## Study Groups for 2024

The three 2024 study groups chosen by the membership are:

1. Antarctica
2. The Romans
3. The History of Espionage

At the conclusion of the AGM, members who are interested in joining one or more of the study groups will get together to choose a *co-ordinator* for each of the study groups, as well as making a *group decision* about the day, time, and venue for the course meetings. After the meeting we will put up details of the groups in the Group grid on the website, so if you are not able to come on Wednesday, you can contact the co-ordinator and get details of the first meeting. In the meantime, you can access and review the online study materials:

### **To Access to U3A online courses**

1. Type u3aonline.org.au into google search
2. Click login
3. User name:
4. Password:
5. On the page click Members' Lounge
6. Scroll down the page and on the left, you will see a heading in yellow 'Your Courses'
7. Click on the course title to view the details.



## Interest Groups

Photos of the Botany Interest Group's visit to Mona Vale in December. Photos by Cathy Goulter



## Christmas Morning Tea December 2023



Following the presentation by our speaker, author Gavin Bishop, at our December meeting, the Port Hills U3A celebrated the start of the holiday season with a special Christmas Morning Tea.

Thanks to committee member Paula Boot for organising the morning tea.





## Online Scams

The following information is copied from an email from the ANZ Bank about online scams.

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An online sales platform is a popular place for scammers. So, if you are buying or selling online, try these tips to help protect your money.

### What's an online buy and sell scam?

It can be when someone poses as a seller or creates a fake business on a buy and sell platform. The goods or services they offer don't exist, or they don't intend to go ahead with the sale, and once they receive your money, they disappear. Sellers can get scammed too. A buyer can claim to have paid in full or overpaid for an item you're selling, using a fake screenshot to prove payment, when they haven't paid you at all. You unwittingly refund the difference, and they disappear with your money.

### Ways to avoid online buy and sell scams

- Price looks too good to be true = alarm bells
- Check the seller's star ratings and reviews
- Never give a seller or a buyer your online banking login or credit card details
- If you're selling goods, you should never have to pay the buyer any money
- Don't rely on screenshots as proof of payment. Check your bank account and only send goods after your money has been received

### Been scammed? What next?

Sadly, it can be tough to get your money back from an online buy and sell scam. However, you must tell your bank straight away. You should also report it to the sales platform and the NZ Police.

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**You might want to check with your own bank or financial service about the specific processes they have in place to help protect you from, and to deal with, online scammers.**



## Contributions and Donations

Thanks to our members for their continued support to the Hoon Hay Foodbank and knitting wool community projects.

### Foodbanks

We are continuing to collect cans and/or packaged food, including baby food, as well as fresh food such as fruits and vegetables at our monthly meeting.

Please place your contributions in the boxes in the entrance foyer.  
Thanks for your contributions.



**December food collection**

### Knitting Wool

The wool is used by volunteer knitters to crochet blankets or knit jerseys for pre-schoolers. Finished items are mainly given to the Plunket Outreach programme, Salvation Army programme and other charities as needed. Please contact Naida Murray on 338 5030 if you have any questions, or check at our monthly meeting.

Helene Mautner  
for the Port Hills U3A Committee  
[h.mautner@xtra.co.nz](mailto:h.mautner@xtra.co.nz)



## APPENDIX

### Minutes

16<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Port Hills U3A  
St Martins Presbyterian Church, St Martins Road  
Wednesday 1 February 2023 11:00am

1. Present: Malcolm Robinson, President chaired the meeting and welcomed 80 current members attending the AGM.
2. Apologies Jan Greig, Peter McEwan, Rose Catley, Anne McWhirter, Trevor Flint  
Moved: Cathy Goulter Seconded: Graeme Ell carried
3. Minutes: Moved that the minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, 2 February 2022 are a true and correct record of the meeting.  
Moved: Seconded: Bev Kenny carried
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes  
There were no matters arising from the minutes.

#### 5. President's Report

Malcolm read his report to the meeting. He thanked the retiring committee members Graeme Ell, Treasurer and Anneke Howie, Secretary, for their good work on the committee.

Moved acceptance of the President's Report

Moved: Malcolm Robinson Seconded: Brenda Nagle carried

#### 6. Financial Report

Graeme spoke to his report which had been distributed to the membership at the meeting. He recommended that subs go back to the pre-covid membership sub of three years ago of \$30.

Moved acceptance of the Financial Report and setting the subscriptions back to \$30.

Mover: Graeme Ell Seconded: Wendy Gallagher carried

#### 7. Election of Officers and Committee Members

Wendy Gallagher acknowledged President Malcolm Robinson for doing a sterling job and for volunteering to be President in 2021 when the position was vacant.

President: Joy Evans Nominated by Wendy Gallagher and seconded by Jill O'Malley

The following members were nominated by Wendy Gallagher and seconded by Rosalie Richardson

Treasurer	Mureen Turfrey
Corresponding Secretary	Cathy Goulter
Recording Secretary	Helene Mautner
Committee:	Paula Boot, George Edwards, Bob Richardson, Shona Steele, Amama Thornley

Malcolm Robinson will remain on the committee as the immediate Past President.

Malcolm called for volunteers from the floor for the position of Vice President. Ian Butcher put his name forward and was seconded by Kathleen Ell.

8. Subscriptions: The subscriptions will return to the pre-covid amount of \$30 for all members.
9. General Business: Vivienne Boyd acknowledged Graeme Ell and his exceptional work as Treasurer. Malcolm thanked all members who have helped throughout the past year. Your assistance has been appreciated.

Note Taker: Helene Mautner

The Annual General Meeting closed at 11:40am