



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A Port Hills Inc

Website: www.u3aporthills.org.nz

Bank Account Number: 38-90060413325-00

Port Hills U3A Newsletter June 2024



Next Meeting: Wednesday, 5th June

Important:

- For the safety of our members the outside door to the church will be locked at 10am when the meeting starts.
- Please plan to be at the meeting before 10am.
- The door can be always be opened from the inside to make exit from the church easy.

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

9:30 Morning tea and socialising

10:00 Speaker: Prof. Anthony Robins Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a decades old field, but significant advances in the last ten years have put it in the public and media spotlight. This talk will summarise the history of AI and the technologies that it has been based on, from symbolic computation to artificial neural networks to the current “large language models” such as ChatGPT.

Anthony Robins is a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Otago. After a BSc in Psychology at the University of Canterbury, he completed a Masters and Doctorate at the University of Sussex (UK). He was appointed as a lecturer at Otago in 1989, and has been there ever since. Anthony’s research focuses on artificial neural networks and computing education. He is the winner of a national award for Excellence in Tertiary Teaching, and the co-editor of the Cambridge Handbook of Computing Education Research.

11:00 Monthly Meeting

Annual Mid-Winter Lunch

Having the Port Hills U3A annual mid-winter lunch at the Russley Retirement Village has proven to be a very popular choice, and consequently the lunch is now fully booked.

Venue: Russley Retirement Village, 73 Roydvale Ave, Burnside.

Please **do not** park on the Russley Village property.
Ample parking is available on the road, though it may require a short walk to the Village.

Date: Wednesday July 3rd – following our monthly meeting.

Time: 12noon for a 12.30pm start



Special Interest and Study Groups

Art Appreciation Group

Two photos from the Art Appreciation Group's visit to the Arts Canterbury's exhibition at the Russley Village.

Sent in by Moira MacPhail





Espionage Study Group

The members of the Espionage Study Group had some lively and interesting discussions about espionage, as well as about a whole range of general contemporary issues.



*What has your Special Interest or Study Group been doing lately?
We would love to see your photos*

Share photos of your group's activities with the rest of our membership. Please send photos, name of the group, where you are or what you are doing. Simple! To Helene at h.mautner@xtra.co.nz

Future Speakers

Date	Speaker	Topic
July 3rd	Prof Greg O'Beirne University of Canterbury	How's your hearing? Advances in hearing technology
August 7th	Nicola Toki CEO	Forest and Bird
September 4th	Glen Vallender	
October 2nd	Frieda Loser	History of Chocolate



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.

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
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