



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 November 2024



Next Meeting: Wednesday, 6 November

Important:

For the safety of our members the outside door to the church will be locked at 10am when the meeting starts.

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

9:30 Morning tea and socialising

10:00 Speaker: Dr Vivienne Levy Work of a Forensic Dentist

Dr Levy was born in Liverpool and trained as a dentist at the London Hospital Medical College qualifying in 1986. She worked in London for a few years in various dental practices part time, as well as getting a qualification in Forensic Odontology in 1988 (LHMC) followed by part time work as an Honorary Lecturer at the London Hospital.

She enjoys all aspects of dentistry but has a special interest in Paediatric Dentistry. Keen to keep up to date with current changes in dentistry she attends many courses and lectures and is a member of various professional bodies including the NZ Dental Association, being a past- president of the local Canterbury Branch.

The Forensic side of her career is busy too. She is the Forensic Odontology Co-ordinator for Canterbury, West Coast and Nelson working for the Police and the Coroner. She was deployed to Phuket after the Boxing Day Tsunami to help identify the victims of the Tsunami and most recently was the DVI Dental Ante-Mortem and Reconciliation Co-ordinator for the Christchurch Earthquake.

11:00 Monthly Meeting



Port Hills U3A Annual Spring Outing 2024

The Geopark Bus Tour is happening this week

Thursday 31st October

and there are still a few seats available.

You are also welcome to bring a friend to come along with you. The cost of the bus tour is \$35.00 per person.

Interested? Please contact our Treasurer Mureen Turefry on treasurer@u3aporthills.org.nz

A couple of Important things to remember on the day

1. **Meeting point – Princess Margaret Hospital – 8:45am**
2. Bring a packed lunch, and wear sturdy shoes and weather appropriate clothing.

Future Speakers 2024

Date	Speaker	Topic
December 4th	Dr Graham Sattler CEO Canterbury Symphony Orchestra	The CSO Past and Present



We have had a good response to our request for additional *speaker thankers* for our monthly meetings – but we still need a few more volunteers !

If you are interested, please contact Malcolm Robinson malcolm.robinson55@yahoo.com

A big *thank you* to Kathy Hill who was our speaker thanker at the October meeting, and to Tony Brooker who has volunteered to be the speaker thanker for our November meeting.



Study Courses for 2025

We are now at the time of year when we choose the study courses for next year. From those available through U3A Online we have selected four possibilities. These are:

1. The Shaping of the Modern Mind.
2. Continents on the Move (tectonics, earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanoes).
3. Property To Partnership – A History of Women’s Struggles for Equality.
4. Resources for the Future.

At our November meeting we will circulate boards and ask you to indicate which if any of the courses you would be interested in doing. We will then purchase the two courses with the most interest.

Once the two courses are selected and purchased, full descriptions of the course material will be available on line and can be viewed so you can make a final decision if you would like to join the relevant study group. The courses normally commence in March.

If you are unable to come to the next meeting, but would like to put your name for a course or courses, please email Richard Naylor on richard.naylor6@gmail.com.

The outlines of the contents of each of the four courses are given below.

1. The Shaping of the Modern Mind

Unit 1 - The Cosmos We Lost

Medieval people saw the universe and their place in it in a way that now seems quaint. But it was coherent and rational in the light of all available knowledge.

Unit 2 - Rebirth and Reform

The 15th and 16th centuries see the Renaissance, Reformation and Counter-Reformation. Each leads to further, unforeseen problems. People feel radical change is in the air but no one sees what is coming.

Unit 3 - A New Heaven and A New Earth

In the 17th Century a new approach to nature that we now call "science" proves to be immensely successful. Its implications extend further with each generation.

Unit 4 - The Enlightenment

In the late 17th and 18th Centuries there is a new confidence in human reason, called the Enlightenment. It leads to ideals of progress and freedom, with revolutionary achievements in many fields. Many of the issues are under intense discussion again today.

Unit 5 - The Impact Of Science

In the 19th century the impact of science continues to grow, particularly when the theory of evolution challenges older views. The universe presented by science grows vaster and stranger. Intense debates about what it all means still continue.

Unit 6 - Facing The Big Questions

Though specific issues get settled, underlying ones recur. Why should this be so? How far can we hope for reasoned solutions?

Unit 7 - Domination And Doubts

Western nations expand to colonise or dominate the rest of the earth but within our lifetime the balance is changing again. As we adjust to living in a global village, the meeting with other cultures and religions leads to new issues.

Unit 8 - Where Are We Now?

Current knowledge emphasises how our beliefs are influenced by our upbringing in a particular culture. How does this bear on the tension between science and religion? Where does it leave us today?

2. Continents on the Move

Week 1 - What Determined the Shape and Location of Continents?

This unit examines the location and shape of the world's continents and how early scientists contributed to our understanding of the geological age of earth and why the continents exist where they are today.

Week 2 - What Is the Theory of Plate Tectonics?

The Earth's surface consists of a series of crustal plates which move and interact with each other at their boundaries. This interaction results in the forces of nature which are responsible for earthquake, volcano and tsunami activity.

Week 3 - Why Is Our Terra Not So Firma?

Earthquakes are one of the most severe of the world's natural disasters and throughout human history have been the cause of death for millions of people. This unit is a study of the distribution, causes and effects of the world's earthquakes.

Week 4 - Why Does Australia Shake and Rattle?

From time to time an earthquake will take place somewhere in Australia. Australia is not on a plate boundary so where do these earthquakes occur and what causes them?

Week 5 - What Is a Tsunami?

Giant waves, called tsunamis, cause death and destruction in the Pacific Basin and other parts of the world. What is the nature and formation of these giant waves?

Week 6 - What Are the Mountains of Fire?

Volcanic eruptions have caused death and destruction for countless centuries and continue to do so. Why do some parts of the world experience more of these destructive forces of nature than others?

Week 7 - What Are Hotspots?

Although volcanic activity is usually associated with plate boundaries some volcanoes are active in plate interiors far removed from plate boundaries. The source areas for such volcanic activity are called hotspots.

Week 8 - Can People Live Safely in Areas of Natural Hazards?

Natural hazards are a threat to millions of people worldwide - can scientists predict the occurrence of such hazards or make it safe for people who live with the ongoing threat of volcanic eruption, earthquake, or tsunami?

3. Property to Partner - A History of Women's Struggle for Equality

- A brief look at the theories advanced for why women have not been treated as equals to men. In this unit we start looking at women in ancient civilisations, particularly in Ancient Egypt and their marriage, divorce, and dowry rights.
- Women in Ancient Rome - their status and some famous Roman women.
- Women in the Middle Ages and Renaissance - the beginnings of the move to equality.
- Tudor to Georgian England and some of the first women who led the struggle for equality.
- The 19th and early 20th centuries - the move to legal equality, suffragettes, and some famous fighters for women's rights.
- The last one hundred years and beyond - the effects of two world wars, the feminist movement and where we are today.

4. Resources for the Future - Renewable and Non-Polluting

Unit 1

The Non-renewable Resources

Unit 2

Hydroelectric power "White Gold"

Unit 3

Harnessing the Power of the Wind - Part 1

Unit 4

Harnessing the Power of the Wind - Part 2

Unit 5

Power from the Depths of the Earth

Unit 6

Power from the Sun

Unit 7

Utilizing the Energy of the Ocean - Part 1

Unit 8

Utilizing the Energy of the Ocean - Part 2

Unit 9

Fuel and Power from Biomass

Unit 10

Renewable Energy and the Transportation Industry



Proposed Lecture Series for 2025

The results from the signup sheet that was circulated at our October meeting asking about interest in two lecture series showed that 20 people were interested in the 5-week lecture series (Extraordinary New Zealanders in World Wars 1&2) and 34 people were interested in the 4-lecture series (Local to Global). We are now planning to offer these two-lecture series in 2025 in addition to our study and interest groups.

Four-week Series: Local to Global is planned for four consecutive Monday mornings in May.

Lecture 1: Old English to World Language

Lecture 2: Religion and Economy

Lecture 3: Health, population, politics, and Geopolitics

Lecture 4: Community

Five-week Series: Extraordinary New Zealanders in World Wars 1&2 is planned for five consecutive Friday mornings in August.

This series will look at the contribution of five lesser-known Kiwis in the world wars, Ettie Rout, Harold Gillies, Keith Park, Nancy Wake and David Low.



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.

Would you like to be a **volunteer knitter and/or crocheter** making blankets and jerseys for pre-schoolers? Please let Naida know on 338 5030



Helene Mautner
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