



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 2025



**Next Meeting: Wednesday, 5th February**

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

**9:30:** Morning Tea and Socialising

**10:00** Speaker: Margaret Copland Title: Wife of the Lyttelton Gaoler

I started my working life as a teacher of History and English and for several decades I was a professional storyteller, focusing on local history, working in local and international festivals, schools, community groups and tourism. I still have regular employment with *Roadscholar* tours.

My stories are centred around a character, generally a woman who was alive at the time. I research her background and present the history from her point of view.

Before the earthquake I developed The *Gaoler's Wife*, which I was then able to present on the site of the old prison. Eliza Reston was the matron of the gaol from 1854 to 1876. Her story is the story of Lyttelton in those early years, before the railway and the tunnel, when Lyttelton was arguably a more important commercial and administrative centre than Christchurch.



**11.00** U3A Port Hills AGM



The Annual General Meeting (AGM)  
will take place immediately following the February monthly meeting.

The agenda for the AGM is on page 5

The Minutes of the 2024 AGM is on page 6.

## Speakers 2025

<u>Month</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
March	Antony Bush	Canterbury Sport and Spinal
April	Dame Sue Bagshaw	Christchurch Youth Hub
May	Assoc Prof Debbie Munro	Biomedical Engineering
June	To be confirmed	
July	Dr Viv Levy	Identifying victims of Japan tsunami
August	Brad Lake	Use of hemp products



## Special Interest Groups

All the Special Interest groups will continue in 2025. Most groups that needed to find accommodation because the South Library will be closing have done so. They will meet on the same day and times and if there are any changes to the venue members will be contacted by their convenor. We are working with the remaining groups to find suitable places for them to meet.

The Movie Group have decided to meet just **once a month on the third Tuesday**. Members of the group have been advised and those who wish to remain in the group will be notified of the choice of movie and cinema by email as usual.



## Lecture Series 2025

This is a new venture for U3A Port Hills. The two lecture series, one in May and the other in August are now confirmed.

The first series entitled **Local to Global** (4 lectures) will be run on each Monday morning in May at 10 am. They will be held in the lounge area of St Martins Presbyterian church where we have our monthly meetings. Each lecture will be approximately 50 mins long. No tea or coffee will be served.

The second series of 5 lectures entitled **Extraordinary New Zealanders in WW1 and WW2** will be run in August on each Friday morning. The venue will be the same as above.

We will ask people in April and July meetings to confirm their attendance. There will be no cost for attending the lectures.



## Study Courses for 2025

We have purchased two study courses for this year from U3AOnline Australia: Shaping of the Modern Mind and Resources for the Future. In early January we received an email from U3A Online informing us that over the last few years they have found the upkeep of the website to become increasingly costly. In addition, they have lost government funding and have been relying on membership fees which have not adequately covered their expenses. This meant they were in danger of having to close down the website.

However, U3A Australia have offered to host the website and to increase the range of online courses. For this to happen the website need to be closed down for a month whilst the transfer of data takes place. This has happened faster than they anticipated and they advised us this would take place during January and they had been unable to let users know in advance. They have not given us a date of when the changes will be complete but they had hoped by the beginning of February. This means that we cannot access the course material for the two courses we purchased at the moment.

Our suggestion is that we still go ahead and form the two study groups after the AGM as we usually do in anticipation that the material will be available in mid-February.

# Christmas Morning Tea December 2024



18<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Port Hills U3A  
5 February 2025

Agenda

St Martins Presbyterian Church, St Martins Road  
Wednesday 5, February 2025 11:00am

1. Present: Joy Evans, President to welcome the current members in attendance.
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, 7 February 2024
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes
5. President's Report
6. Financial Report
7. Election of Officers and Committee Members

President:	Joy Evans
Vice President	
Treasurer	Mureen Turfrey
Corresponding Secretary	Cathy Goulter
Recording Secretary	Rene MacPherson
Committee Members	George Edwards
	Deb Kendall
	Moira MacPhail
	Richard Naylor
	Kath Varcoe

8. Subscriptions: The subscription for 2025 will be set.
9. General Business

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

1. Present: Joy Evans, President welcomed 95 current members.
2. Apologies Jan McEwen, Lyn McKinnon, Elizabeth Taggart, Caroline Curry, Liz Ford, Alison Young, Vivienne Boyd, Elspeth Wilson, Wendy Gallagher
3. Minutes: Moved that the minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, 1 February 2023 are a true and correct record of the meeting.  
Moved: Joy Evans      Seconded: Judi Guest      Carried

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes  
No matters were raised.

5. President's Report

Joy read her President's Report to the meeting. As part of the report Joy reviewed the year's activities, and gave special thanks to the following people:

- Amama Thornley, Paula Boot, Bob Richardson, and Ian Butcher for their years of service to the committee, and who are all retiring this year.
- The volunteers who help during the monthly meetings to ensure the meetings run smoothly.
- The Speaker Thanker volunteers in 2023, and to those Speaker Thankers who will be continuing in this role in 2024.
- Thanks to her husband Paul who worked behind the scenes to update the constitution.

Moved acceptance of the President's Report

Moved: Joy Evans      Seconded: Brenda Nagle      Carried

6. Financial Report

The financial report was distributed to the membership prior to the meeting. A copy of the report was also displayed on the screen at the meeting.

Move to Accept the Audited Financial Report

Mover: Mureen Turfrey      Seconded: Shona Steele      Carried

7. Election of Officers and Committee Members

Joy Evans temporarily stood down from the chair and Jill O'Malley took her place.

Jill O'Malley nominated Joy Evans for President, and was seconded by Ian Butcher.

A vote was called and Joy was elected.

Joy Evans resumed the chair.

Joy asked for nominations for Vice President. There were no nominations. Joy described the role of the vice president and let members know they can still put their name forward for this position after the AGM.

Joy nominated Mureen Turfrey for Treasurer, and was seconded by Amama Thornley.

A vote was called and Mureen was elected.

Joy nominated Cathy Goulter for Corresponding Secretary and Helene Mautner for Recording Secretary, both nominations were seconded by Bob Richardson.



A vote was called and Cathy and Helene were elected.

Joy moved the following for Committee Membership and all were seconded by Anne Prior:  
George Edwards, Moira MacPhail, Malcolm Robinson, Shona Steele, Kath Varcoe.  
A vote was called and all nominees were elected.

8. Subscriptions

Move to keep the 2024 subscription at \$30 per member

Moved: Joy Evans      Seconded: Maureen Turfrey      Carried

9. Revised Constitution

Move the adoption of the revised Port Hills U3A Constitution dated 7 February

Moved: Joy Evans      Seconded: Kath Varcoe      Carried

10. General Business:

- Special Interest Groups
  - Regular monthly reports from the special interest groups were not held at this meeting because many of the groups had not yet started for 2024.
  - Rose Catley is starting a new New Members coffee group on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 10am. New members who are interested in joining the coffee group should contact Rose.
  - Study Groups. Members interested in joining one or more of the three study groups, Antarctica, The Romans, and The History of Espionage were asked to meet at the conclusion of the AGM to decide when and where each study group will meet.
- Joy offered financial assistance to those study groups who might have to face room charges for their meetings.
- Joining the Committee. Joy invited members to join the committee.
- Shona Steele thanked Joy for the work she has done this past year as president.

Note Taker: Helene Mautner

The Annual General Meeting closed at 11:25

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Joy Evans, Port Hills U3A President

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_



## Foodbanks

We had a generous response from our members for our Christmas food collection at our December meeting. Our members filled two green bins and five paper carry bags with food for Christmas dinners for members of our community.

We are continuing to collect cans and/or packaged food throughout the year, 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  
for the Port Hills U3A Committee  
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