



NEWSLETTER March 25, 2018

Website: www.u3aporthills.org.nz

Bank Account Number: 38-9006 0413325-00



Greeting Members

Since taking over as your president, it has been a busy couple of months for me. I hope to keep you regularly updated as to what is happening in our organization, and request that you communicate to one of our committee members anything that you think other members would find interesting, informative or amusing. Please visit our updated website for information on groups, meetings and speakers. I have attached an updated grid of the group meetings, venues, times and leader contact details for your information. Please print off a copy if you can.

I anticipate there will be very few changes to it this year.

Thank you for supplying updated contact details during the March Meeting. This allows us to reach most members electronically.

Wendy Gallagher-President

Newsletter Items

1. Graeme has requested that the \$30 annual fee be paid ASAP, preferably by automatic bank transfer. This makes his job easier. Bank account number is at the top of the newsletter.
2. We have several new members joining us from April onwards. They will be clearly identifiable by the green stickers on their badges. Please make them feel welcome at our social pre-meeting time.
3. The committee has voted to discontinue the mid year soup luncheon. The preparation of the soup puts a lot of extra work on committee members. In addition, this is not the function of the committee who already work hard for members. Should anyone in the membership wish to organise this event, please feel free to go ahead and let me know.
4. Some of you may be aware that our study group material is provided by Griffiths University in Brisbane, Australia. Currently we have only one study group: 'Religions of the World' which meets at Beckenham Library on the first Monday of the month 2pm -4pm. (Next meeting 9 April due to Public Holiday on 2 April) There is a provision for independent study on numerous topics, or a further study group if there is an interested leader. Each course costs A\$20 to register and then the study material, together with individual study questions, is available to download. If you are interested in seeing what is available go to U3A Online The login is u3aporthills and the password hoonhay 8025. Should you wish to enrol, you will need to contact George Murray at huntsbury@hotmail.com and after forwarding the money to him, he will enrol you. If you are keen to start a new study group please contact me.
5. Our new Interest Groups are all up and running. Listen for information at the April Meeting for reports on past and forthcoming events. If you miss the meeting, please contact the group leader.
6. Speakers for the coming months include:- April: Kiwi Conservation Trust- Breeding Programme; May: Philip Aldridge CEO Court Theatre- Implications of the move to the City
June: Helen Webby, Harpist with NZ and Christchurch Symphony Orchestras
July: Gavin Bishop- NZ Children's books illustrator and author.
Acknowledgements to Naida Murray for arranging this varied selection of speakers.
7. Margaret Clarkson has joined Naida in the role of 'Speaker Selection' If any member has contact with a person who they think would be a suitable person to talk to our u3a, could they in the first instance contact Margaret with a brief summary of the potential speaker and topic. Phone 9604308/e-mail:margclarkson@yahoo.co.nz We attempt to attract a variety of speakers to our

monthly meetings, and the fee paid is \$120 for an hour's lecture. Many of our speakers elect to donate their fee to a nominated charity.

8. Advance notice of a proposed seminar on Friday 25 May at St Albans Baptist Church organised by the Canterbury u3a network. The topic is 'Curious Minds 2' and the keynote speaker is Lance O'Sullivan. More details at future meetings as they come to hand about enrolments. The cost is \$35 per person, which probably includes a light lunch.
9. Naida has asked me to ask members for more donations of any spare wool for her knitting circle. This is a worthy cause as items are sent to needy families and charities. Members can bring donations to the monthly meetings.
10. The Committee has discussed the mid year Christmas Luncheon at their last meeting. We are currently investigating the possibility of joining with u3aSouth West to increase our total numbers, and once again using Lincoln University as our venue as their prices are reasonable.
11. A request has been made to the committee that we try to leave the car parking spaces behind the church for people with disabilities and try to park closer to one another to accommodate more vehicles. Currently there is a shortage of street parking due to the expansion of the Vegetable Scheme in the Church Hall nearby. We are unable to do anything about this, and encourage members to maybe get dropped off if they have difficulty walking.

Finally. I hope you find these 1930's advertisements as amusing as I did. How ideas change in less than a hundred years.

