

## PORT HILLS U3A OCTOBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Greetings Members

It's hard to believe that we are rapidly approaching the close of another year. You will notice that I have written this newsletter in the main text of the e-mail. This has been on requested by some members, but unfortunately I cannot paste in the colourful U3A logo at the top of the page.

2018 has been a good year. We have seen an increase in our membership numbers and heard some outstanding speakers at our monthly meetings.

Keeping you up to date is the purpose of this newsletter. The following is a list of decisions made on your behalf by your hard working committee in the past few months.

- We have voted to discontinue the insurance policy. After research showing other U3A organisations only insure for big events, it was deemed an unnecessary expenditure of \$400+ a year annual fee.
- Unfortunately the C.C.C. has decided to charge \$12 per hour for the use of rooms at all its libraries next year. Many of our interest groups use South Library for two hours a month. The committee has voted to pay a 50% subsidy to all monthly interest groups using paid venues for one hour per month for 10 months of the year. Remaining costs for a two hour session must be covered by the members of the group using the facility. (Mah-jong meets weekly and will receive a donation of \$50 for the year)
- I am in the process of trying to negotiate a reduced fee for room rental for senior citizens at the library. I will keep you posted of any changes or reductions to current policies.
- Port Hills U3A were well represented at the Canterbury Network Table held at the Age Expo earlier this month. Much interest was expressed in our organisation's aims and principles and many pamphlets outlining each network member's geographic location and meeting times and programmes, were uplifted on the day.
- It is important that each member signs in as they enter the church at the monthly meeting. We need to keep a check on numbers using the church in order not to exceed our allocation for hiring requirements. To speed things up, remember the number of the board that your name appears on.
- Study Groups. Many of you are aware that we use written material from Griffith University as a basis for discussion in our study groups. You can check out the topics on the U3A Online Learning Portal. However, I have chosen some of the more general interest topics for your consideration for 2019 groups:-

1. Antarctica
2. Introduction to Western Philosophy
3. Ageing and Retirement
4. Resources for the Future- Renewable and Non Polluting
5. Picnic at Hanging Rock- a film and novel short course.
6. Science stage 1 of a 4 part course.

If you are interested in being part of any group, please look for the board circulating at the meeting next week and sign the appropriate column, or contact me if you are unable to attend

the November meeting.

- Christmas Luncheon. This year's luncheon follows the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> December. It is to be catered for by Nelson L. Ching of WHO's the Caterer. ( See attached menu.) If the numbers attending are high, we shall use the Presbyterian Hall adjacent to the church. The total cost is \$15 per head, but \$10 of this will be covered from our existing funds. Unfortunately, we cannot afford to cover the entire cost and \$5 needs to be paid by each member attending the function. The function is for members only. The \$5 can be paid to Graeme at the November meeting, or by direct credit to U3A Port Hills Bank Account 38-90060413325-00 stating 'Lunch' in the comment box. Please indicate any dietary requirements at the November meeting.  
We will need to close this booking by 15<sup>th</sup> November so that we can collate catering numbers.

Finally, this is the last newsletter for the year. May I remind you to check our website for updated news. Our AGM is now on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February as the first Wednesday of the month is Waitangi Day.

Wishing you a safe and happy festive and holiday season

Wendy Gallagher ( President Port Hills U3A)