



Website: www.u3aporthills.org.nz

Bank Account Number: 38-90060413325-00

Port Hills U3A Newsletter May 2025



Next Meeting: Wednesday, 7th May

- Venue:** St Martin's Presbyterian Church, 43 St Martins Road, St Martins
- 9:30** Morning Tea and Socialising
- 10:00** Speaker: Debbie Munro Title: Recent Biomedical Engineering Field Trip to Tonga
- 11.00** Business Meeting, followed by special presentation

Subscriptions for 2025

The final date for payment of subscriptions was April 30th. If you still have not paid and wish to continue your membership, please pay by direct credit before Wednesday to our bank account (38-90060413325-00) or pay in cash to Mureen (our Treasurer) at the meeting. If payment is not received by then, we will assume you no longer wish to remain a member of Port Hills U3A. Subscription is \$30.

Our May Speaker

Debbie Munro is Associate Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Canterbury.

As well as leading the Biomedical Engineering course, she also serves as faculty advisor for the Biomedical Engineering Club and manages the work experience programme for biomedical engineering students in the Pacific Islands.

Her research focuses on medical devices, biomechanics and diagnostic sensors designed to enhance peoples' lives. Throughout much of her career she has worked in the orthopaedic implant industry, designing implants and instruments for hip and knee replacement surgery. Her research interests include advancing systems for training personnel in developing countries on the repair and maintenance of medical devices.

Speakers for 2025

<u>Month</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
May	Debbie Munro	Biomedical Engineering
June	Xanthe Rose	Patriotism, Food and Kiwiana
July	Dr Viv Levy	Identifying victims of Japan tsunami
August	Brad Lake	The use of hemp products

Lecture Series 2025

The first lecture in the Local To Global series will be on [Monday 5th April](#).

There are still places available. Please come to St Martins Church [by 9.50am on Monday 5th](#).

There will be no cost for attending the lectures.



WANTED

Your U3A Needs You!

I and your Treasurer (Mureen) will be both be retiring from our roles at the end of 2025. I will have served for three years and under our constitution that is the maximum time a President can hold the office. (the standard term is two years).

It is now becoming critical that we fill the position of Vice President and have a nomination for Treasurer so that we can ensure a smooth handover at the end of the year.

If these roles are not filled, there is the real possibility that U3A Port Hills will have to fold.

So, if you think you can help, **please** come and talk to me or any of our Committee members.

Interest Group Report

The Botany Group met on the third Wednesday in April for a visit to Casa Rosa. The rain held off and we had a very interesting tour of the garden by the owner. He created it from an old gravel pit and built the house, which he painted dark red, in an Italianate style (hence the name Casa Rosa).



If any other interest group would like to send a short piece about their activities during the month, together with any pictures, it would be great to include them in the newsletter.



Foodbank

We are continuing to collect cans and/or packaged food throughout the year, including baby food, as well as fresh food such as fruit 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 .