

U3A



Southland

**Invercargill has joined the many cities in the world in which a University of the Third Age has been founded.**

Beginning in France in the mid seventies the U3A movement has now spread to most countries and has many hundreds of thousands of members.

U3A is a response to the idea that human life is divided into three periods: firstly, childhood and schooling; secondly, child rearing and work; and thirdly retirement.

The third age is seen to provide the greatest opportunities for learning and understanding because it is during this period of retirement that the idea of a university as a community of those who seek greater understanding through learning can be put into practice.

#### **The unique characteristics of U3A**

- Learning topics are selected by the members
- In-depth courses are planned by members
- Opportunities for reading, research and discussion are provided
- Presenters/facilitators are usually members of the groups
- The company of others who enjoy learning is ensured
- The atmosphere for learning is informal and

friendly

- There are no examinations
- There are no compulsory activities
- Courses take place during daylight hours
- Costs are minimal and within the reach of everybody

*University of the Third Age*

# U3A

## Wilding Pine Control

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Southland

**Venue:**

**Legends Room I.L.T STADIUM  
ISABELLA STREET  
INVERCARGILL.**

**Time: 1.30 – 3.30pm**

### **Session 1. June 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Jolie Hazley**

**Environment Southland Biosecurity Pest Plants  
Team Lead**

“Wilding pines in Southland - a growing issue”. Wilding pines are changing our landscapes, our ecosystems and reducing the productivity of our land. Southland has been fighting the battle of wilding pines since the 1980s / 90s due to the planting of a number of wilding pine species including contorta, mugo and scot pines for experiments or to help with erosion issues. These legacy pines have spread across a number of places in Southland including the famous Mid Dome. While this battle still continues, Southland is now facing the next battle from conifers like Douglas fir in shelterbelts, woodlots and forestry plantations that are spreading into new or previously cleared areas of land. So we need to ensure we have the right tree in the right place for now and the future.

### **Session 2. June 14 by Zoom (TBC)**

**Vanessa Horwell**

Manager of Te Waiau Mahika Kai Trust

Vanessa discusses the problem of wilding Douglas fir trees invading the west side of the Takitimu mountains. These invasive trees are spreading from nearby plantation forests, threatening the native ecosystems. Te Waiau Mahika Kai Trust manages a 445-hectare area in the Jericho Valley, focusing on preserving Ngāi Tahu cultural practices like gathering food and resources from the land.

Despite efforts to restore native forests and control pests, wilding conifers threaten to undo this work. Learn about the impact of these invasive trees on cultural traditions, food gathering practices, and biodiversity. Vanessa will also share what the trust is doing to tackle this problem.

### **Session 3. June 21**

#### **Graeme Watson**

Member of the Whakatipu Wilding Conifer Group. (WCG)

Graeme has had a love for the high country and its open tussock landscapes since he was a child. He has been involved with the WCG for 7 years after he retired from QEII trust, working throughout the Whakatipu Basin

The WCG have a funding manager plus a volunteer coordinator with support from QDLC and DOC. The Executive is made up of volunteers of which he is one. The WCG covers the Whakatipu Basin which has many plantations that spread seeds over this area.

Our removal techniques are boom spraying/ basal bark spraying/drill and fill, chain sawing and hand sawing.

Our funds come from MPI, QDLC plus in kind contribution from Landowners

If our funding stops the Remarkables, Coronet Peak, Walter peak, Skippers etc will be covered in wildings within 10 years. No views and a terrible fire risk!

### **June 28 Matariki – no meeting**

#### **Session 4. July 5**

#### **Richard Bowman**

Chairman of the National Wilding Conifer Trust

I will introduce wilding conifers as a national issue by describing how the problem began and how it has developed and grown over the last 50 years. I will then describe the history of the responses to the wilding conifer issue from the grass roots level up to Government and legislation. The national Wilding Conifer Control programme which began in 2016 was a major turning point and since then it has shown how effective a nationally coordinated and funded programme can be in addressing the wilding problem. Since then over \$137M has been invested in this work and we are now starting to see some spectacular progress being made across New Zealand. Unfortunately, the substantial funding injection of \$100M over 4 years provided in 2020 as part of the Covid/Jobs for Nature budget has run down to a base level at which it is not possible to maintain all of the gains made or to make further progress. This presents a major challenge to both those affected by the adverse impacts of wilding conifers as well as to the new Government elected in October 2023. Failure to resolve this may result in New Zealand's next biosecurity disaster.

**Full Course fee \$15.00**

**Casual Guests \$5.00**

**Inquiries to:**

**Paul Morris (President) 021 187 9176**

**Maurice Rodway (Secretary)**

**021 221 5801**

Programme subject to change when unexpected circumstances arise.

**To register please complete this form and bring to the stadium on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> with your course fee.**

Name(s):

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Telephone and E-mail

**Only if changed:**

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**Or:** Please pay by internet banking,.  
(This will register you)

Internet Banking

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Include your **name** and **“Wildings”** in the reference fields