



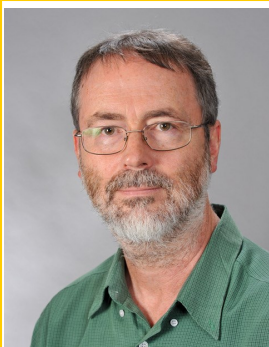
Lifelong Learning

# Newsletter June 2024

**Prof Anthony Robins**  
**What is AI (Artificial Intelligence)?**

**Tuesday 25th June 2024**  
**Event Centre**  
**Doors open 9.30am**  
**Speaker starts at 10.15am**

Please invite your friends to this series as casual visitors and a chance for them to learn about belonging to U3A.



**What is Artificial Intelligence (AI)?**  
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a decades-old field, but significant advances in the last ten years have put it in the public and media spotlight. This talk will summarise the history of AI and the technologies that it has been based on, from symbolic computation to artificial neural networks to the current “large language models” such as ChatGPT.

Anthony Robins is a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Otago. After a BSc (Hons) in Psychology at the University of Canterbury, he completed a Masters and Doctorate at the University of Sussex (UK). He was appointed as a lecturer at Otago in 1989, and has been there ever since. Anthony’s research focuses on artificial neural networks and computing education.

**Tuesday 23rd July “Six Sons and a Seismograph”**  
**Glenn Vallender (Life Member U3A Hakatere/Ashburton)**

This lecture will be the story of a pioneer seismologist and educator and his 1898 seismograph. A story of tragedy and triumph.

**Ocean Series**  
Tuesday 27th August Prof. Adrian McDonald  
How Changes in Antarctica Affect the Oceans

Tuesday 3rd September Dr Bridie Allan  
Plastic Pollution in our Oceans

Tuesday 10th September Cindy Baxter  
Seabed Exploitation and Small Blue Whales

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**Contact U3A:**  
u3a.ashburton@gmail.com



The event centre has a hearing loop which is always on (apart from the odd exception). You may need to adjust your own hearing aid to the loop if needed.

Please do not use the Cinema carparks. Most of the parks outside the Event Centre are for limited times.