

Hi,

At our July meeting Dr Peter Field gave a very thought-provoking talk on understanding the influence of religion in the United States of America. Dr Field, Head of the School of Humanities and Creative Art at the University of Canterbury is an American who has lived in Canterbury for 20 years. He, in a written brief prior to speaking described his speech, and I quote, "America and religion is a complex issue. Yet it's Founding was decidedly secular. Today there is a great divide between religious (Right) and the agnostic (Left). Yet paradoxically, the Right seem to be devotees of the Founding and the Left seem to manifest traits some have compared to religious enthusiasm."



Dr Field's presentation certainly challenged all about their beliefs and it was the motivation for further discussion after the meeting about trying to understand America's Right and Left and their motives for being so fanatical about politics.

We will send out a message regarding the next talk in our calendar early next week

September Meeting:

Date: 10th September 2021

Venue: Darfield Baptist Church, 15 Greendale Road, Darfield

Time: 10am (Cuppa, then members announcements followed by the speaker)

Topic: Communications and Demand Timelines for Emergency events

Speaker: Canterbury District Commander Police Superintendent John Price who was honoured with the ONZM will speak on communications and demand timelines for the Mosque shootings and various earthquakes.

Note: Dependent on which Covid 19 level Canterbury is in the above event may need to be rescheduled.

Programme for rest of 2021

October 8th 2021 Frieda Looser will present Persia to Iran.

November 5th 2021 Sue Bagshaw has agreed to speak on Youth of Tomorrow. Note the date change to 1st Friday of the month as the 2nd Friday is Show Day.

Note: The committee has finalised the speakers for 2022 and will present the programme before the end of 2021.

Subscriptions

This year's subscription from AGM 2021 to AGM 2022 is set at \$25 and is payable online, or in a cash deposit at Kiwi Bank, or on a meeting day to the treasurer. We would appreciate it if you could pay by the end of August 2021. Those who are not financial are casual attendees and will be asked for a koha per meeting until joining.

Bank Account with Kiwi Bank

Account Name: U3A Malvern

Account number: 38 9022 0205868 00

When paying subs please include a name so we can identify the payee. This is especially important if you are paying for more than one person. Those who were not members in the last financial year will get a name tag at the next meeting.

Talks of Interest to Members

Free public lectures at University of Canterbury

On the [Canterbury University website](#) lookup Public Lectures and register for a lecture that suits your interests.

Special Interest Groups

We have the following groups operating and will start a waiting list for those groups that are full so contact the Group leaders to register your interest. Note: Meetings are dependent on being in Level 2/1.

Mahjong. Members are very active meeting 1st and 3rd Monday of the month with Susan Baldwin tutoring. There is some interest in starting a second group. Please let Ruth know if you are interested. Contact Ruth Warren: rwifwarren@gmail.com

Current Affairs 12 members meeting on 4th Monday of the month. Interesting discussions on elections, economic recovery etc. A topic is set at each meeting so members can research for the next meeting. Contact Ian Warren: rwifwarren@gmail.com

NZ and Local History.

Information on future activities for the group will be published as soon as available.

Everyday Te Reo. Up to 6 members currently meeting weekly at 4pm on Wednesdays in Darfield. Contact Margaret Copland: coplalex@snap.net.nz

Jim Copland and Judith Pascoe are keen to hear from you with ideas for **new topics for interest groups**. There will be a box to post ideas in at each meeting.

For Jim Phone 03 318-1712 or email adjimcopland@gmail.com and Judith Phone 021 1522900 or email jcpascoe@xtra.co.nz

We look forward to seeing those of you when we can hold our next meeting.

Janet MacDougall, Newsletter and Website Co-ordinator, u3amalvern@gmail.com