

Hi,

Great to see you all at our first session for 2022. The Magic of DNA was an interesting discussion on how we can use DNA to find out more about our past.



Fiona Brooker certainly knew her topic and gave us a real insight on the use of genealogy sites.

Fiona is a genealogist who loves to teach. She gives classes in genealogy and helps others to research their own family history.

She explained the difference in DNA testing that the various companies do and how to do

the different sorts of tests.

She acknowledged that many people who do their DNA do it for ethnicity reasons only and are not interested in tracing their family tree. Medicinal DNA for hereditary diseases should only be done via health professionals.

It was a most enjoyable talk, and I am sure those in the audience who have not yet done their DNA will be buying kits and sending off their swabs for analysis

The committee has decided to continue with meetings but may have to cancel at short notice according to the Covid 19 situation. This is especially so with the Omicron strain. We hope to continue with as many sessions as possible.

***March 2022 Meeting:***

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Venue: Darfield Baptist Church, 15 Greendale Road, Darfield.

Time: 10am (There will be no cuppa, so the session will start at 10:15am with members announcements followed by the speaker).

Topic: Forensic Anthropology

Speaker: The talk will be presented by Dr Rachel Scott.

### **Attendance Notice**

Attendance at Darfield Baptist Church in 2022 for U3A meetings will be in accordance with current Covid-19 practice. Currently this is at red.

*Under the “traffic light” system we will need to ask for vaccine passes.* Remember to bring your pass. You can get one online, by phoning the 0800 222 478 or going to a vaccinating chemist (our nearest is in West Melton).

Attendees will need to sign in with the Covid app and register their presence by telling the people on the desk who can also [view the vaccine pass or exemption](#).

We will ensure well-spaced seating and masks will be worn by all members of the committee and we suggest be worn by attendees. Anyone who is unwell is encouraged to stay at home and that is the same if you feel uncomfortable about being in crowds at this time.

### **Programme from February to December 2022.**

<b>April 8<sup>th</sup> 2022</b>	Braided Rivers –	Duncan Gray, Scientist from ECAN
	The current state of braided rivers in Canterbury presents a management conundrum and forces consideration of what society considers important.	
<b>May 13<sup>th</sup> 2022 (AGM)</b>	China’s Achilles Heel -Environmental Issues	Alan Blackburn
<b>June 10<sup>th</sup> 2022</b>	Matariki	Tahi Roberts
<b>July 8<sup>th</sup> 2022</b>	Vitamin C in Human Disease	Anitra Carr
<b>August 12<sup>th</sup> 2022</b>	Suffragists in Selwyn	Lynda Seaton
<b>September 9<sup>th</sup> 2022</b>	Chatham Islands and Moriori History	Frieda Looser
<b>October 14<sup>th</sup> 2022</b>	Guardians of the Future	Suky Thompson
<b>November 4<sup>th</sup> 2022</b>	Malvern Hills Geology	Prof James Shulmeister

### **Subscriptions**

The 2021-2022 subscription runs until the AGM in May 2022 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.

## ***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 an appropriate Covid 19 level.

**Mahjong.** Members continue to be very active meeting 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. Please let Ruth know if you are interested. Contact Ruth Warren:  
[rwifwarren@gmail.com](mailto:rwifwarren@gmail.com)

**Current Affairs** 8 members meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:rwifwarren@gmail.com)

### **Local and NZ History.**

Meetings have started on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month for 2022.

The History Group visited Steventon on Wednesday – this is where Lady Barker ("Station Life in New Zealand") once lived. Helen McArthur hosted and did a great job on the long history of Steventon and the area. Margaret Copland presented Lady Barker's exciting life across five continents. Then over a traditional afternoon tea Margaret read from Station Life the story of the gigantic five-day snowstorm with all its trials and tribulations. This was preceded by a walk around the grounds including the heritage dairy and outbuildings.

The March (Wednesday 23rd) outing is a trek around Glentunnel -Museum, Brick & Pottery, the village, Willows Cafe. Time and date to be confirmed. Covid rules. Contact Jim 03 318 1712 or [adjimcopland@gmail.com](mailto:adjimcopland@gmail.com)

**Everyday Te Reo.** With 5-6 members currently meeting weekly (starting in February) at 4pm on Wednesdays in Darfield. The group uses mixed media to assist with language and are progressing well. Contact Margaret Copland:  
[coplalex@snap.net.nz](mailto: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](mailto:adjimcopland@gmail.com) and Judith Phone 021 1522900 or email [jcpascoe@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jcpascoe@xtra.co.nz)

*We look forward to seeing you in March 2022.*

*Janet MacDougall, Newsletter and Website Co-ordinator, [u3amalvern@gmail.com](mailto:u3amalvern@gmail.com)*