



# Series 6, 2018: The Five Senses

University of the Third Age, Timaru

Organised by Jill Clarke and Solome Mair

*U3A lectures are for members only.*

<b>1 October</b>	<b>The Chemical Senses: Taste and Smell</b>	<b><i>Kristin Hillman PhD</i></b>
Taste and smell are often viewed as 'minor' senses compared to say, sight and hearing. However taste and smell are incredibly important. In evolutionary terms, these two senses serve key survival functions. In contemporary terms, taste and smell can provide us with immense enjoyment and pleasure... or disgust! Here we will cover the basic neuroscience and psychology behind these two intriguing senses.		
<b>8 October</b>	<b>A world of sound and colour: Synaesthesia - is it just hearing colours and tasting shapes?</b>	<b><i>Patrick Shepherd DMus</i></b>
I'm going to be talking about synaesthesia - what it is, the historical context of the condition from the Greeks to present day, how it manifests itself and what I've discovered through my research into the condition. A typical dictionary definition is that it is a neurological phenomenon in which stimulation of one sensory or cognitive pathway in the brain leads to automatic, involuntary experiences in a second sensory or cognitive pathway, for instance hearing colours or tasting shapes.		
<b>15 October</b>	<b>Suspension of the Senses</b>	<b><i>David Hunt PhD</i></b>
The senses convey information, but also pain. Anaesthesia can suspend the perception of pain, a major boon for humanity. This talk will provide a review of the nervous system, how it works, and how anaesthesia can block transmission of pain. Various anaesthetic agents and techniques will be discussed – the talk is aimed at a general audience, so do not feel daunted!		
<b>29 October</b>	<b>Touch – the neglected sense</b>	<b><i>Dr Louisa Baillie</i></b>
Scientists believe touch is the first sense we develop, and the last we lose. It is proven essential for healthy growth and well-being, but it is the least glamorous of the five senses and most times takes a back seat. However it helps us keenly observe detail and deeply remember. Dr Joseph Bell, creator of Sherlock Holmes, knew that. I will show you how essential touch is in our lives, and evidence that its lack of inclusion for many digital age learners is dulling their learning. But my talk will finish with hope, plus specific exercises that will improve your touch sensory, and therefore your learning, and any grandchildren's too, if you dare.		
<b>End-of-year afternoon tea:</b> <i>Our end of year luncheon will be replaced by an afternoon tea free to all members following the final talk on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October. For catering purposes please give numbers on or before 15<sup>th</sup> October. We will have a sheet at the first 3 meetings for this purpose. Otherwise please email the secretary.</i>		
<b>Interest Groups:</b> <i>If anyone is interested in starting an Interest Group next year please contact the committee for help and suggestions.</i>		

Series 1, 2019 Cultural Explorations

February 25, March 4, 11, 18

## MEETINGS

West End Hall, 35a Maltby Avenue, Timaru.

Coffee/tea will be available after the meeting at no cost.

Lectures commence at 1.30 pm and conclude about 2.30 pm with questions to follow.

## REMINDERS. Please ...

Wear name tags	No talking during lectures
Be seated by 1.20 pm	Wait until the end of the lecture before asking questions
Turn all cell phones off	Stand when asking a question, and wait for the microphone

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