



University of the Third Age,
Timaru

Series 5, 2020

SPEAKERS' CORNER

Organised by Kath Calvert and Kevin Foley

U3A lectures are for members only.

We regret we're unable to welcome visitors to our lectures. It would be unfair to those who have been on the waiting list for a year or more.

We're back! It's so nice to be getting settled in to the "new normal".

COVID-19 RESEARCH PROJECT:

Dr Lisa Williams of the University of Auckland is undertaking a research project that will collect the views and experiences of New Zealanders aged 70+ regarding Covid-19 and lockdown. Details on Page 2 of this newsletter.

6 July **Legionnaires' Disease - A Canterbury Tale** *Prof Stephen Chambers*

This talk will be about legionnaires disease in New Zealand. We have the highest reported rates in the world. Of particular concern is the rate of Legionnaires disease caused by organisms in potting mixes which is particularly an Australasian problem. Older people are more susceptible to this infection. It is important to keep safe.

13 July **Science: Good, Bad and Bogus** *Doug Campbell, PhD*

Good critical thinking skills are crucial for telling science from pseudo-science, truth from falsehood, logic from rhetoric, sound reasoning from wishful thinking, effective medicine from quackery, and good evidence from lies, fraud and fakery. They are an essential aid to steering clear of scam-artists, charlatans, confidence-tricksters and get-rich-quick-schemes. This talk is about the principles of critical thinking and how to put them into practice.

20 July **The Career of a Girl from Pleasant Point** *Diana Crossan, BA*

My career has been full of many and varied roles. I will tell stories from my time as a probation officer, my work with gangs and street kids, senior management roles in the Public Service, head of the Equal Employment Opportunities Unit, running the Clyde and Roxburgh dams, with AMP, as Retirement Commissioner and CE of Wellington Free Ambulance. I will also talk about some of the charities I have worked with.

2020 PROGRAMME:

Series 6: Aug 3, 10, 17 **Viewpoint**
Series 7: Sep 7, 14, 2 **The Future of Work**

Series 8: Oct 5, 12, 19 **Music**
Series 9: Nov 2, 9, 16 **The State of the Nation**

Visit www.u3atimaru.org to check the upcoming programme, download a copy of the newsletter, check the U3A calendar, download a copy of talk notes, find information and an application form for people who want to join.

Meetings

West End Hall, 35a Maltby Avenue, Timaru.
Lectures commence at 1.30 pm and conclude about 2.30 pm with questions to follow.
Coffee/tea will be provided after the meeting.

Please ...

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

OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE

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A team of researchers from Auckland University are investigating how the lockdown affected older people, and would love them to write her letters.



Hello,

My name is Dr Lisa Williams and I am part of a research team at the University of Auckland. I am writing to you regarding a new research project funded by the Auckland Medical Research Foundation that will collect the views and experiences of New Zealanders aged 70+ regarding Covid-19 and lockdown. [Our website: <https://haveoursay.org>]

We are inviting people 70 and over to write a letter to share their experience of lockdown and other aspects of Covid-19. All letters (with the letter-writer's permission) will become part of a permanent archive at the Auckland Museum. This will be an important historical record as well as a resource for informing future responses to pandemics by the government and media.

(To write us a letter now online, go to: https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bl4012ayXtru4gl)

People over 70 were identified as most vulnerable to the virus, but were characterised by the media as passive and in need of protection. We heard very little about how people in this age group felt about the pandemic and lockdown. We feel it is vitally important these voices are heard to inform future pandemic responses.

Since U3A has many members over 70 we believe you will understand why this project is so important and we hope you have the time to help us with recruitment. The more letters we are able to collect, the more weight the project will have in terms of informing government responses to future pandemics and the richer the historical archive will be.

If you would like one of the team to give you a ring to discuss the project further, please let me know.

The project has received ethical approval from the University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this invitation and looking forward to your response.

Lisa Williams

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University of Auckland

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<https://haveoursay.org>

<https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/news/2020/06/02/merryn-gott-researching-lockdown-for-older-people.html>

<https://tearairresearchgroup.org>