

NEWSLETTER, February 2024



We trust you have all had a good break and enjoyed your holiday time. This year we will be running our courses with a new format. Our terms will correspond with the school terms, giving you more time to spend with your families. Each course will now be 4-5 weeks long with one or two one day's free one-off talks between them. It will be important to refer to each course outline, so that you know the venue and days specific talks are on.

First series for 2024:

"Lesser-Known Histories of the South"

February 9th "The Moa in the South"

Quinn Berentson Legends Lounge ILT Stadium Southland 1.30pm

Quinn is an experienced and multi skilled writer, documentary director and photographer who has created a wide range of projects for international clients such as the Discovery Channel, National Geographic, Animal Planet and the History Channel. He has a first-class Honours degree in Zoology and a master's degree in science communication. He published the book *Moa-the life and death of New Zealand's legendary bird* in 2013 which won the New Zealand Book Awards; Best First Book and the Royal Society of New Zealand Science Book Prize.

February 16th "Maori in the South prior to 1840"



Before Europeans, Murihiku Maori were largely hunter gatherers with about 2000 living in the region. It was too cold for Kumara and at first moa and seals were the main source of food. Hunters caught eels and mutton birds. Our speaker from Waihopai Rununga for this session will discuss this existence.

February 23rd "The Streets of Early Invercargill"



Lloyd Esler Legends Lounge ILT Stadium Southland 1.30pm

Lloyd is a legendary Invercargill teacher, writer, and tour guide with a general interest in birds, insects, marine ecology, seaweeds, plants, reptiles and amphibians as well as our local history. He was well known as a teacher at the Southland Museum and Art Gallery and still regularly works in classrooms in Invercargill. He has written over 1000 columns for the Southland Times and many books.

March 1st

"Scottish Settlers & their Connection to the Slave Trade"



Professor Angela McCarthy Legends Lounge ILT Stadium Southland 1.30pm

Angela gained her MA (1st Class hons) at University College and her PhD at Trinity College, Dublin. Angela's research focuses on global transnational and comparative migrations and the history of migration to New Zealand. She is currently working on three projects: a history of global migrations, Scotland and transatlantic slavery, and former refuges in Dunedin. Angela is the Director of the inter disciplinary Centre for Global Migrations research theme.

March 8th "Irish Settlers & Chain Migration"

Sean Brosnahan Legends Lounge ILT Stadium Southland 1.30pm



Sean is the history curator at the Toitu Otago Settlers Museum in Dunedin. He will explore the history of Irish immigration to the south of New Zealand. Sean has written a number of books including one on his family history *Kerrytown Brosnahans* which includes his family large family tree of descendants, many members may be related to. On a visit to Ireland, he was made, by acclamation, the chief of the Brosnan clan. For the last 40 years Sean has practiced Karate for recreation.

The next series ... March/April "The Challenges & Opportunities of the 3rd Age"

Initial 3 Topics: More details to follow

March 15th "Aging Well – never too early, never too late"

A panel of medical professionals specializing in health for Seniors

March 22nd & March 29th Meeting Venue unavailable plus Good Friday

April 5th "Mental / Emotional Challenges of the Senior stage of the Life Journey" Dr. Alice Bentley Clinical Psychologist Southern DHB

April 12th "Legal Matters & Seniors"

Liz Henry LLB, Director Mee & Henry Law