



South West Christchurch U3A Incorporated

[www//u3aswchch.org.nz](http://www.u3aswchch.org.nz)

E-Mail: u3a.southwestchch@gmail.com

Newsletter for February 2022

A message from our President, Kevin Coakley

Our first meeting of the year is on **Wednesday 9th February at 1.00 pm**. We are back at the Halswell Library in familiar surroundings - the Mohoao room.

This meeting is also our AGM and we will start with the AGM business. As I mentioned in my report we are looking for some new committee members. Please give it serious consideration. We would like some of you to also consider the roles as secretary and vice president. Being elected as the vice president does not mean you have to progress to the role of president. It is really a role to support the current president.

Most of you will be aware that the library is a public facility and you will have to produce your vaccine pass and also record your visit either with the tracing app or by signing in. We will be using the side door (half-way down the south side of the building). This should make it easier to get to our room. We do however suggest you allow a bit more time to help with the necessary recording we must undertake. This door will be closed as soon as we start the meeting and if you are late you will need to enter by the front door. You should be wearing your mask to and from the Mohoao room and if you need to leave that room. Masks may be removed while you are in the meeting.

As this is the first meeting of the year you may wish to pay your subscription. If paying by cash could you please put the money in an envelope with your name on the envelope. This will make our Treasurer's task a lot easier matching payments to members.

Our first speaker of the year is Abbas Nazari. this promises to be an outstanding presentation.

Abbas Nazari fled the Taliban in Afghanistan as a child, and was resettled in New Zealand after his family were rescued by the Tampa containership in 2001, an international story known as the Tampa Affair. Abbas and his family have thrived since being resettled to New Zealand. In 2019, Abbas was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to the United States, where he graduated with a Master's in Security Studies from Georgetown University, Washington DC. His memoir, *After the Tampa: From Afghanistan to New Zealand* (Allen & Unwin, 2021), is a #1 bestseller. Abbas is a sought-after speaker and media commentator, a prominent advocate for refugees, and has recently been named a finalist for the 2022 University of Canterbury Young New

Zealander of the Year. Abbas will be speaking about his journey, his experiences of thriving in a foreign country, and some lessons learned along the way.

Abbas will have copies of *After the Tampa: From Afghanistan to New Zealand* available for sale and signature for \$40. Cash and eftpos accepted.

Looking forward to seeing you in great numbers.

Kevin Coakley
President

2022 Meeting Dates for your calendar

February 9th

March 9th

April 13th

May 11th

June 8th

July 13th

August 10th

September 14th

October 12th

November 9th

December 14th

Reports from Special Interest Groups

Book Discussion Group

The Book Group meet on the 2nd Monday of the month to discuss the book supplied by the Book Discussion Scheme from our selected list.

The next meeting will be on 14th February when we receive book 8 from the current subscription of 10 books. For anyone interested please contact Ros Thornley about when the new year's sub begins.

Current Affairs Group

We have had a small number of resignations from this group and will be able to add 2-3 new members. If you are interested just email me gandqmcnally@xtra.co.nz and I can send you details of how we operate/when we meet, together with the draft programme for 2022.

Graeme McNally 021399324

Cycling Group January ride

To start 2022, we met at the beginning of Old Tai Tapu Rd and rode towards the Raspberry Café. We continued on Rhodes Rd, Otahuna Rd and onto Cossars Rd before stopping for coffee at the café. There were 11 of us who enjoyed the beautiful

garden setting. It was lovely to meet up again and we all look forward to some good rides throughout the year.

Next month we will ride on the Quarrymans Trail into the city and back via the Southern Motorway.

We ride on the last Friday of the month, usually meeting at 10am. New members are always welcome. Mary

Family History Group

The Family History Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 1.30 pm.

Whether tracing back your family tree, record your findings in a variety of ways, delving into the times that could have been instrumental in your ancestors immigrating and recording memories of some of your ancestors we are there to support and assist each other as well as providing relevant information.

If you are interested in coming along contact

Carole: ca_gprdon@darstar.co.nz or Julia tjscollard@xtra.co.nz

History Group

New U3A online course for 2022 - 10:00am on 3rd Thursday starting on 17th February. This course is available for all club members to log in and follow the units by themselves or meet as a group to discuss each unit

Property to Partner - A History of Women's Struggle for Equality

This Course looks at the various theories of why women have not been treated as equals and then trace the development of the movement towards equality in the Western world from ancient times to modern day. Leader Ros Thornley

Movie Group

The Movie Group will be getting together for our first outing on Tuesday 25th February. Choice of film as yet is unknown as is the venue. Our last outing was to the luxury Silky Otter cinema in Wigram which everyone enjoyed. Who knows it may become our local choice. Pam

Quarry Group

The Quarry Group meet on the first Thursday of the month at the Coffee Cart at the Kennedys Bush Road entrance to the quarry.

We meet at 10.00 am then work for 1 to 2 hours. Lynne

Scrabble Group

10 members are meeting twice monthly in each other's homes for 3 games of scrabble and afternoon tea.

We are unable to increase our group size due to space limitations.

I have the names of three people who would like to play scrabble in a group, and I am happy to pass these to any person who would like to arrange a new group.

Vivienne Kane
