



# Mt Aspiring U3A

## *Newsletter*

*March 2021*

*Number 34*

### **Next Meeting**

Bus trip to Mt Aspiring Station **Wednesday 24 March:**  
the bus will leave the Showgrounds at **1.00 pm**.  
Information about the trip has been emailed to  
those who have booked seats on the trip.

**NB. there is no Thursday meeting in March**

### **A Word from our President: March, 2021**

1. More than a year ago, in the times before SARS-CoV-2, our U3A arranged a visit to Cardrona and their Distillery and this last month we enjoyed a visit to Lammermoor Station to learn of their history and to sample some of the whisky, now produced legally, from their still. Later this month we have been invited to visit Mt Aspiring Station and I understand that all the seats on the bus have been sold. If you have suggestions for similar "Field Trips", please let us know.
2. Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May. You will remember that the timing of last year's meeting was compromised by the pandemic, but for this year we must give 14 days' notice and need 40% of our paid up members to be present to form a quorum. Please put this date in your diaries / on your calendars, and please plan to be present.
3. Some of our current Committee are leaving or standing down, and we are looking for members to step forward. Please consider that you might be able to make important contributions to our U3A Committee, or that you might suggest another who would be willing to contribute because of experience or expertise. If you would like to volunteer or make a nomination, please contact one of our committee, or email me.

Allan B MacLean.

## Last Month's Speakers



**Jo Wilton** explained how she, a retired dietitian, came to become involved with the Upper Clutha Historic Society. She and her husband had moved to live in Wanaka in 1967. The UCHS was formed in 1977 by a group of local people who were enthusiastic about history and genealogy and had good knowledge of local families.

The society now comprises a small, dedicated group working within the Wanaka Library to record a wide range of events in the Upper Clutha area. Last year the group obtained a good computer system and the site [uppercluthahistory.org](http://uppercluthahistory.org) has all the group's excellent newsletters and much interesting information. Funding is limited. Projects undertaken include the book "Courageous and Free" about WWI soldiers, a book about schools in the area, and one detailing local monuments. Of interest is the statue at Hillend that commemorates the first dog trials held in the world. The society has a display at the Wanaka Airport Transport Museum. It welcomes volunteers to help continue its valuable work.

**Bridget Legnavsky**, General Manager of the Cardrona Alpine Resort, is the only female head of a ski resort in New Zealand. Her upbringing in Tekapo helped shape her as a resilient and strong person: her qualifications in physical education, ski instructor certification at a young age, and a subsequent post-graduate MBA in business excellence all contribute to her dedicated people-oriented values.

Planning for the development of Cardrona has identified clear strategies to deliver operational excellence - the aim being to have guests return. Every decision is subjected to the risk lens and sustainability issues, thereby creating a connectedness to each other and to the land.

The three cores to the strategy are the terrain, a huge area; variations/experiences - they must be unique; and being open all year round, enabling the retention of staff.

Ideas include establishing the highest town, building luxury accommodation huts dotted around the area and high spec restaurants. Treble Cone has the potential to provide hiking experiences in the summer season.

At Cardrona, the development of the SOHO basin would double the number of users, as its area is larger than the current freehold area. The new lift under construction will open up 65 ha of land.

Acting on environmental concerns will prohibit the use of plastics, takeaway cups or plates; and will ensure that the new building is designed to blend into the natural landscape.

Post Covid-19, the planning group regards the domestic market as its fundamental market. Planning for the season ahead is underway and all staff are being encouraged to act as if they own the business.

Questions from U3A members included setting limits to development, consideration of climate change, parking provision strategies, the possibility of a universal student pass, the effect on high-performance athletes of the increased number of skiers, and possible pressure being placed on local medical services.



## Images from the Whisky Appreciation Group's bus trip to the Lammermoors



### Notice Board

Wednesday 24 March bus trip to Mt Aspiring Station

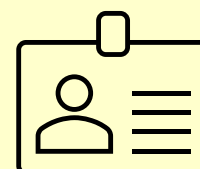
Thursday 22 April meeting in St John meeting room

Thursday 27 May Annual General Meeting in St John meeting room

Our guest speaker at the AGM will be our own U3A member, Emeritus Professor Russell Bishop. Russell has had a long career in education, having taken a special interest in how Maori students fare in mainstream schools.

Russell has been a teacher, a university lecturer and a writer, and has crafted an international reputation for his scholarship.

**Name tags** to be worn by all members at meetings are available at the entrance to the St John meeting room - return them to their box at the end of the meeting.



## Study Groups

Attached for your information you will find an updated list of Mt Aspiring U3A Study Groups.

Here is a book review from Book Group #1:

Have you ever wished you could be a fly on the wall of the All Blacks' dressing room during the half-time pep talks? I certainly have; does the coach berate, rant, enthuse, inspire, criticise or applaud his team - what works on these tightly wound sportsmen, how does he get the best out of his players whether they are winning or losing?

In the best-selling *Legacy*, author James Kerr examines the heart of the world's most successful sporting team, the legendary All Blacks. He reveals 15 powerful lessons in leadership, revealing the secrets of sustained success including: how do they handle pressure, expectations, setbacks? How do you train to win at the highest level? What is your purpose? What will be your legacy?

*Legacy* is a unique, practical handbook which offers proven strategies for succeeding - for individuals, companies and teams.

## Members' Forum

This is a section devoted to contributions from members: these are personal opinions and in no way reflect the views of, or are endorsed by, the Mt Aspiring U3A. Contributions are limited to 200 words.

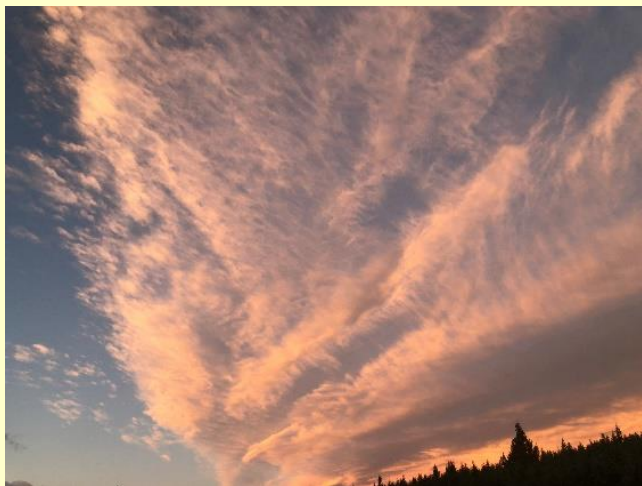
Thank you to those members who have forwarded "cloud effect" photos: we love them and are happy to continue to receive more! Here is a selection:



*"Sweeping Along", 2021, Liz Holland*



*'Coming to get you', Snow Farm 2020, Liz Holland*



Sunset, Mary MacLean



'Baluga whale', Su Anderson



Moon setting over Black Peak, Ruth Highet



A glider pilot's dream - altocumulus lenticularis and fracto cumulus, Allen Hogan

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