



U3A PEGASUS BULLETIN

No 7

July 2023

Latest News & Updates

Our Guest speaker at the 17 July meeting will be David Simmons. Social Time: 10-10.20am. Meeting starts at 10.30am.



Update from President Jorgen



I love members telling me in words or writing what they find great about our U3A, but I am equally pleased when people tell me what they would like to see changed. I am lucky to chair a committee where the

members are forceful enough to express their personal opinions and kind enough to adhere to democratic principles so we can move forward. We are as you know part of a Canterbury Network of 19 U3A groups. Representing well over 1000 U3A members. I have recently taken on the task of updating the details of speakers, an important resource for the groups. The Network has in the past arranged very successful seminars once a year, inviting excellent speakers and open to all the member groups. This is a big job not just establishing the programme, but managing finances, catering, communication, and the venue. By pooling our resources, we can create a very high-quality event. U3A Pegasus will through our membership of the Network try to bring this tradition back to life. We are represented at the Network level by Beth Bradley, our intrepid organiser of speakers and our vice president John Delugar. If you know anyone with experience in organising large events, please let me know.



The Ethics of Memory

Judith Coullie was our guest speaker at our June



meeting. There was a full house to hear her speak. She started with a question. "When is remembering or forgetting right or wrong?" Ethics examines the rational justification for our moral

judgements. Memory is the basis of all knowledge so we hope to remember accurately and be able to retrieve our memories. Memory is like a net full of fish but masses of water has poured through it without sticking. The present is a collage of past memories which shapes our behaviour, opinions, fears, likes and dislikes. Memories ground us in our social position and give us significance. Memory of history also establishes national values. Creeping determinism allows us to reinterpret the past and adjust memories to make them more comfortable. Nostalgia is like a grammar lesson.



Picture above: the Nelson Mandela sculpture made of 50 steel columns, commemorating 50 years since his capture. On the right is what you see from one angle. On the left is what you see from another. Amazingly clever design. (Contributed by Pat Whitman)

(A full report of Judith's talk is on our website)

www.u3apegasus.org.nz



