

U3A PEGASUS BULLETIN No 8 September 2023

Update from President Jorgen



I have recently learned that U3A's groups from the Canterbury region have almost 3000 members. U3A Pegasus is one of the largest. For me, it is an affirmation of the need we as senior citizens have for

intellectual stimulation and to engage socially with likeminded people of a similar age from our community. In the case of Pegasus U3A, we have to balance the capacity of the hall with the size of the membership. Until now, we have managed quite well, with one exception. The waiting list is forever increasing in size. We closed the waiting list for a while, but that did not address the need and we have now reopened it. There is no appetite for going to a larger venue and the committee unequivocally supports the local community. Our rules state that you must be a member to attend an interest group but at our Special General Meeting on 18 September, we will ask for the committee to be given authority to try as best they can to accommodate people on the waiting list. Primarily we want to talk to them individually establishing what their wishes are. We will do this gradually so we can judge the impact on our numbers, our capacity and our finances.

Jorgen Schousboe

Latest News & Updates

Our Guest speaker on 18 September will be Moyra Sweetman whose topic will be 'Comprehension: how we hear, see and read things.' Social Time: 10-10.20am. Meeting starts at 10.30am. Note: The meeting includes a Special General Meeting as previously advised this week. If you haven't received it please contact Jorgen at jschousboe@gmail.com

August Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker was Richard Mallet whose topic was 'making sense of the world.' He lives in Sumner after some 40 years in the military service. He described his upbringing as 'privileged' with good educational and experiences in England. He gained a Masters in Science at Dublin University and was a mentor with the Australian Defence Academy for four years having served in the British Army before then. He became dissatisfied with his lifestyle, quit the army after having served in Afghanistan, remarried and moved to New Zealand – all in 2019.

His tour of duty in Afghanistan made him appreciate the more important things in life, including going to Sumner beach every morning to enjoy the sunrise. Sustainable development is his ambition, satisfying current needs without compromising the future. In this regard, he was definitely an advocate for recognizing the impact of global climate change, and believes that wealth in the world relies on the health of the planet. He congratulated U3A as an organisation which, with its emphasis on active learning, can help with dispensing the myths and misinformation that abound in our communities. It is a vehicle, he said, that makes us smarter and more resilient and able to make good decisions for the future.

Helen Peate gave the vote of thanks.

October Speaker

Our guest speaker for our October meeting will be Dick Sainsbury on the subject of 'Healthy Aging'