



# U3A WAKATIPU

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

FEBRUARY 2010  
NEWSLETTER

**The purpose of learning  
is growth, and our minds,  
unlike our bodies,  
can continue growing,  
as we continue to live**  
*Morris Adler*

Thank you for supporting our lectures in 2009 based on the Antarctica and Middle East.

A short notice meeting was called over the Christmas Holidays as the Harvard Institute of Learning in Retirement was travelling through New Zealand and contacted us on Boxing Day in the hope of organising a meeting. My apologies for not contacting everyone as I had only email addresses at the readiness. Due to the busy summer season only a few members were able to attend but the meeting was extremely beneficial.



The HILR were very friendly, welcoming and eager to share their learning experiences. They shared their organisation, financial and assessment structure. The philosophy underpinning the HILR is to create a 'Learning Community; which is, at the same time 'fun but serious'. Their courses are usually 10 weeks and participants self-evaluate their learning. Academic rigour is important and all courses and interest groups should reflect this principle.

This year we are hoping to broaden our horizons and move forward with thinking, interest and learning. We would like to introduce Study Groups in which they will report back on shared findings, resource researching, matters of interest and research details. Study Groups can study and discuss over coffee! If anyone would like to lead a Study Group please contact Catherine Robinson at [catherine@nozicle.com](mailto:catherine@nozicle.com) or 03-248-8870. Some suggestions are: Reading, Poetry, Film, Cuisine, Music, Shakespeare, Architecture etc – the list can be endless!



Attention members with experience or an interest in education: We are looking for people to form a Curriculum Committee to plan future education activities for U3A Wakatipu. If you are interested in contributing your knowledge and becoming involved, please contact Catherine Robinson by 26<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

We have received a notice from a U3A member (June Allen) in Auckland offering a group package for U3A members to visit Norfolk Island in April. This package is a great opportunity to meet other members including members from Australia. If you would like to receive a flyer please contact our office or email [june.all@xtra.co.nz](mailto:june.all@xtra.co.nz)

### **Dates for your Calendar of Upcoming Events:**

Our guest speaker will be **Professor Blair Fitzharris**. Blair will be delivering all three lectures and we greatly appreciate his commitment.

Blair is Emeritus Professor of Geography at the University of Otago and has undertaken research on climate change in NZ, Canada, Norway, UK, Switzerland and Australia. He has written over 150 research publications on the subjects of climate, snow and glaciers and acted as a consultant on climate matters for resource development for many of New Zealand's largest corporations. Professor Fitzharris has been a Convening Lead Author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) since 1993. IPCC and Al Gore were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2007. Blair is a past member of the Royal Society of NZ Standing Committee on Climate Change, a former President of the Meteorological Society of NZ and former Chair of the NZ Mountain Safety Council.

**All Lectures will be held at the Queenstown Events Centre, Mezzanine Function Room from 10am until 12pm.**

**Date:**

Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010

**Introducing Climate Change - Processes of Climate Change**

**Date:**

Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010

**Impacts of Climate Change. How Vulnerable Are We?**

**Date:**

Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2010

**IPCC, Climate Scepticism and Copenhagen**

*If you plan to attend all three lectures you are welcome to pay \$15 on the first day otherwise entrance is \$5 on admission. Please contact Adelle Bond at the U3A office to register.*

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