

U3A Christchurch Central




'University of the Third Age'

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Newsletter 2, 17 March – 14 April 2026

Course 2 - AI Uncovered

Course Organiser: Sue Allard assisted by Jen Small

	<p>17 March – Dr Trevor Nesbit, Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering</p> <p>What is this AI thing all about? An introduction for the curious mind</p> <p>This presentation will cover some of the core ideas behind AI and what it is and what it isn't; the impact of AI on things we do every day; the opportunities and limitations of AI; and what this could mean for the future.</p>
	<p>24 March - Ryan Radecki, Health New Zealand, Senior Medical Specialist – Emergency Medicine/Senior Clinical Advisor – Health X and AI Lab</p> <p>AI and Health</p> <p>Artificial intelligence offers well-publicized potential to transform the delivery of healthcare. Where is AI already making a difference, where are the risks, and what technology is already making its way into New Zealand?</p>
	<p>31 March – Caelan Huntress, AI Coaching Academy</p> <p>Human First AI</p> <p>Human-First AI helps you do more of the work that matters most—while automating what doesn't. In this session you'll see how to map your workflow to a five-step creative cycle, and learn to use AI like a trusted teammate.</p>



7 April - Elizabeth Stewart, Philosophy Department, University of Canterbury

Bias and AI

Bias is one of the key ethical concerns regarding the use of AI. In this talk, I will discuss what bias is, how AI systems become biased, and why it is morally significant.



14 April – Hilary Walton, Microsoft Technology Strategist

From tools to teammates: how AI is changing the way we work and lead

AI is moving rapidly from being a helpful assistant to acting as a digital colleague — and in some cases, running entire business processes. This presentation provides a clear, accessible look at how artificial intelligence is transforming organisations, education, and leadership.

Membership fee: Members are reminded that the membership fee of \$100 dollars is now due. The bank account number is 38-9018-0354780-00. Please provide you name in the reference details.

Hospitality: Thanks to Yvonne Ekdahl and her team of Denise Falconer and Donna Aitken for morning tea/coffee/biscuits. We encourage you to bring your own cup, but some disposable cups are available.

Visitors are welcome: \$5 per session in cash. Visitors must sign the visitors’ register at the membership desk and be guests of a member.

Cell phone use during presentations: Members are reminded that, while they may use their cell phones to take notes during presentations, they should not take photos of the presenter or any of the slides presented as the distribution of this material requires the consent of presenters. All phones set to silent.

Interest groups: U3A Christchurch Central has two interest groups - the **Walking Group** and the **Art Interest Group**. For the Walking group contact Sue Allard sue.allard@xtra.co.nz , and for the Art Interest Group contact Anne McMurtrie, annemcmurtrie@xtra.co.nz, 027 537 5128.

Art Interest Group visits – March and April 2026

March Event: The group will visit The Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden Exhibition on **Friday 20th March** at 10.30am. Cost is \$20 per person Please bring cash. Carpooling is recommended .

April Event: Friday April 19th. We will travel to Ashburton to view the Zonta Art Awards exhibition at the Ashburton Gallery. Carpooling to be arranged .

Please register your interest for either or both events by texting Anne 027 537 5128