



## 2024 Series 1, Course A

- Title**            **Trails, Tribulations and Triumphs:  
The History of Transport in Otago**
- Date**            **Tuesdays 20 February – 26 March 2024**
- Time**            **10 am – 12 noon**
- Venue**           **Otago Golf Club, 125 Balmacewen Road, Dunedin**
- Convenor**        Andre Smith  
Email: [andrej.smith@gmail.com](mailto:andrej.smith@gmail.com)  
Phone: 022 024 0088
- Developer**      Andre Smith
- Course fee**      \$50 (please do not pay until you receive an invoice)

The course aims to give an overview of the history of transport in the Otago region. The objective is to discuss the use of different modes of transport from before the arrival of the first Europeans, through colonial times, up to the present day. Along the way, we shall also gain a better understanding of the social issues of the times and routes we traverse.

**All applications must be received by Thursday 25 January 2024.** You will receive a response to your application by Monday 4 February 2024.

Please contact the Programme Secretary [courses@u3adunedin.org.nz](mailto:courses@u3adunedin.org.nz), phone 467 2594 with any queries.

## **Trails, Tribulations and Triumphs: The History of Transport in Otago**

- 20 February**      **Waka and walking, trails and tribulations: Modes of travel before colonial times**  
Before the wheel arrived in New Zealand, walking and water-based transport were the main methods of travel. We shall delve into history, and also learn of the Greenstone Trails.  
*-Andre Smith*
- Across the ocean waves: Emigration to NZ in the age of sail**  
This lecture will consider the physical and organisational challenges involved in the great migration of New Zealand's colonial period.  
*-Sean Brosnahan, History Curator, Toitū Museum.*
- 27 February**      **A horse! A horse! My kingdom for a horse!**  
At its peak in 1911 New Zealand's horse population surpassed 400,000 - about one horse for every three people! Saddle up as we embark on a journey back through time, to when horses and horse-drawn vehicles ruled the road, and when Cobb and Co. was king.  
*-Peter Read, Curator for Transport, Toitū Museum*
- 5 March**            **Railways: Dunedin - Port Chalmers and Taieri Gorge lines**  
A look at the history of both railways starting with the Dunedin to Port Chalmers Railway, which opened in 1872 - its development, rolling stock and how it changed over the years to meet the changing world of transport.  
The Taieri Gorge Railway also has interesting history in opening up Central Otago. We delve into the history of the route, political interference to progress it, the completion of the Clyde Dam, closure of the line, up to the present.  
*-Grant Craig, Railway enthusiast*
- 12 March**          **Dunedin trams and cable cars**  
Dunedin had the first electric tram in New Zealand and the second cable car service in the world after San Fransisco. We discuss the service, equal to the best in the world in development and innovation from horse, steam, and electric trams to its cable cars.  
*-Grant Craig, Railway enthusiast*
- Early aviation in Otago**  
Our speaker was commissioned by Dunedin International Airport to research the history of aviation in Otago and the result was *Flight Path Dunedin* published in 2012. This lecture, covering the story of early flying in the province, highlights many quirks and achievements.  
*-Jim Sullivan, Writer*

**19 March**

**Dunedin adopts and adapts to the motor car 1901—1930**

Car ownership needed changes to the built environment, building types, commercial activities, realignment and resurfacing of streets, traffic control and more.

**Motoring and the environment before the Second World War**

This talk explores changing perceptions of how private motoring affected the environment: physically, audibly and visually.

*-Former Associate Professor Alex Trapeznik, History, School of Arts, University of Otago*

**26 March**

**Coastal transport**

This talk covers coastal shipping transport from colonial times to the present. It explores the rise (and demise) of New Zealand maritime companies, the expansion of the Port Chalmers and Dunedin port facilities, the deepening of the harbour channels and berthing areas, and much more.

*-Brian Turner, Chairman, Otago Maritime Society*

**The future of transport in the Dunedin region**

A look at the present situation regarding transport in and around the city; problems, potential solutions, and a peek at the future.

*-Jeanine Benson, Group Manager, Transport, Dunedin City Council.*