

U3A

Dunedin Charitable Trust

A LEARNING OPTION FOR THE RETIRED

in association with



Series 1 2009

THE METAPHYSICAL POETS

Dates: Thursday, 5 March – Thursday, 23 April 2009

(there will be a two week break between Sessions 3 and 4)

Time: 2.15 – 4.15 pm

Venue: Salmond College, Knox Street, North East Valley

Enrolments for this course will be limited to 50

Course Fee: \$30.00

Tea and Coffee provided

Course Organiser: Sue Harvey (471 0546)

Course Assistant: Judith Cowley (471 0026)

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You may apply to enrol in more than one course in each series (subject to numbers). If you wish to do so, you must indicate your choice preference on the application form, and include payment of the appropriate fee(s).

All applications must be received by noon on Wednesday, 11 February 2009, and you may expect to receive a response to your application on or about 20 February.

Any questions about courses after 20 February should be made to the Secretary, U3A Dunedin, telephone 471 9913 or on email at <graysinn@clear.net.nz>

Please keep this brochure as a reminder of venue, dates, and times for the courses for which you apply.

THE METAPHYSICAL POETS

Following on from his U3A course in 2007 on John Milton's "Paradise Lost", one poet in one poem, Dr John Hale, former member of the staff of the University of Otago Department of English, intends to tackle a whole set of outstanding English poets and numerous poems from the same epoch. Famous now as the "Metaphysicals", they went out of favour after 1660, till T.S. Eliot and others regained attention for them.

The Lecture Programme

5 March This session will explain why Donne, Herbert, Vaughan, Crashaw, Marvell and the others came to be known by the name "Metaphysical" (for does not most good poetry probe behind the physical to what sustains it and gives it meaning?), and how they constitute a group, sharing a way of thinking and composing, yet not a single "school of thought", because their differences are a great source of their value.

Some earlier and later poets will be compared and the session will start to look at John Donne, who epitomizes Metaphysical poetry.

12 March John Donne, looking at his religious and satirical poems as well as his love poems.

19 March George Herbert.

9 April Henry Vaughan and Richard Crashaw.

16 April Andrew Marvell.

23 April The many others who made this period and style of poetry glorious. Henry King, Bradstreet, Bunyan, Dryden and more. A closing look will be taken at their rise, fall and revival, with reference to Coleridge's perceptions and so back to T.S. Eliot.

Dr Hale recommends "Metaphysical Poets" ed. Helen Gardner (Penguin)