

**U3A**

**Dunedin Charitable Trust**

A LEARNING OPTION FOR THE RETIRED

**in association with**



**Series 1 2010**

**LIVING ON A PLATE BOUNDARY**

(This course is a repeat of one presented in 2007)

**Dates: Wednesday, 3 March - Wednesday, 7 April 2010**

**Time: 10.00 am - 12 noon**

**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: Graham Batts (477 4880)**

**Course Assistant: Gary Blackman (467 2822)**

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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, 10 February 2010, and you may expect to receive a response to your application on or about 19 February.

Any questions about courses after 19 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.***

## LIVING ON A PLATE BOUNDARY

Our Aussie neighbours call New Zealand "The Shaky Isles" because we get shaken up by earthquakes from time to time. Why do we get shaken and not Australia? The reason is because we straddle the boundary between two of the earth's tectonic plates and these move in jerks. The moving plates are also responsible for our volcanoes and our mountains. In fact, they are why we have land above sea-level to live on and why we have our unique fauna and flora. Most places on Earth are not on plate boundaries, but those that are are special. This course will examine plate tectonics and what makes our place special! The presenters are all members of the academic staff of the Department of Geology, University of Otago.

### The Programme

- 3 March** Some basic concepts of the Earth's interior, drifting Continents, magnetic fields, and the origin of continents and oceans.  
*Professor Richard Norris*
- 10 March** Ocean Ridges and spreading of the ocean floor; Island arcs and destruction of the ocean floor; Transform faults to join them all together as tectonic plates.  
*Professor Richard Norris*
- 17 March** Plate tectonics: the global dance of the tectonic plates; plate tectonics and the New Zealand region: straddling a plate boundary.  
*Professor Richard Norris*
- 24 March** The "Shaky Isles": Plate tectonics and earthquakes; earthquake hazards in New Zealand.  
*Dr Andrew Gorman or Professor Richard Norris*
- 31 March** "The smoking gun": Plate tectonics and volcanoes; volcanic hazards in New Zealand.  
*Associate Professor James White*
- 7 April** Are we a remnant of Gondwana or are we all newly made after being drowned? Plate tectonic history of the SW Pacific and the origin of New Zealand's fauna and flora.  
*Associate Professor Daphne Lee*