

**U3A**

**Dunedin Charitable Trust**

A LEARNING OPTION FOR THE RETIRED

in association with



**Series 2 2010**

**THE VICTORIAN AGE – 1837- 1901**

**Dates: Tuesday, 6 July – Tuesday, 24 August 2010**

**Time: 2.15 pm - 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: Judith Cowley (471 0026)**

**Course Assistants: Jenny Laws (467 9890)**

**Graham Batts (477 4880)**

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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, 12 May 2010, and you may expect to receive a response to your application on or about 21 May.

Any questions about these courses after 21 May 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.***

# THE VICTORIAN AGE – 1837-1901

This is an eight-week participatory course designed to give members the opportunity to research an aspect of Victorian life and present their findings to the rest of the group. Not everyone needs to be a presenter, however.

England seemed unassailable at this time, ruling over an ever expanding empire. For some, it was an age of optimistic advance but for many in the burgeoning cities, rising industrialism led to appalling work conditions, overcrowding, child exploitation and prostitution.

Whatever one's field of interest, one can explore it through a Victorian lens. This vital age produced some remarkable advances in technological innovation, science, engineering, exploration, social and electoral reform, art, writing et al.

## The Programme

- |                |   |                      |
|----------------|---|----------------------|
| <b>6 July</b>  | 1 Victorian era overview                                    | <i>Jenny Laws</i>    |
|                | 2 Discussion of subject options and methodology of research |                      |
| <b>13 July</b> | 1 Victorian London  | <i>Judith Cowley</i> |
|                | 2 Isambard Kingdom Brunel                                   | <i>Graham Batts</i>  |
|                | 3 Finalise timetable for course member presentation         |                      |

**20, 27 July, 3, 10 17, 24 August**

Course members' presentations (two per week over the six weeks)

*Members might like to research and present a topic alone, in pairs or even in a small group of three or four.*

It is envisaged most people would take 50 minutes per topic; 30 minutes for presentation and 20 minutes for questions and discussion, but these times could be longer or shorter according to individual needs.

The following is a list of possible topics and characters which might spark your interest; it is not exhaustive and you may well have other areas of interest you would like to pursue:

**The Age of Steam.** Though the steam engine was an 18<sup>th</sup> century invention, it made the 19<sup>th</sup> century expansion of the industrial revolution possible, pumping water from the mines, driving machinery in mills and powering trains which rapidly linked far flung towns and cities of Great Britain.

**Exploration.** Livingstone, Stanley, the colonization of Africa.

**Bridges, canals, building with steel.**

**Science.** The impact of Charles Darwin's "The Origin of Species".

**Social reform.** The social and political impact of Methodism, Florence Nightingale, Keir Hardie, John Stuart Mill and the Utilitarians, Sidney and Beatrice Webb, the Temperance Movement, William Booth and the Salvation army, the Bluestockings...

**Electoral Reform.** Disraeli, Gladstone, early suffragettes.

**Eccentrics and Originals.** Edward Lear, Lewis Carroll, Richard and Isabel Burton, John Ruskin, Karl Marx, Disraeli, Oscar Wilde, Lady Hester Stanhope amongst many others.

**Art and Architecture.** The Pre-Raphaelites, the Arts and Crafts Movement, Victorian sentimental art, the Decadent Movement, Aubrey Beardsley, the Gothic revival and Augustus Pugin.

**Literature.** The Golden Age of the novel: Dickens, Thackeray, the Brontes, George Eliot, Hardy.

**Poetry:** Tennyson, Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Matthew Arnold, Gerard Manley Hopkins.