



## Series 3 - 2016

Course title:

### *Law Matters: rambles - and some brambles - in the legal thicket*

Dates: **Fridays, 9 September - 14 October**

Time: **10:00am - 12 noon**

Venue: **Salmond Hall, Knox Street, Dunedin**

(Enrolments for this course will be limited to **50**.)

## U3A

## DUNEDIN

CHARITABLE TRUST

Website:

***u3adunedin.org.nz***

**Course fee: \$45.** Tea and coffee provided.

**Course Organiser: John Burton**

*john.burton@actrix.co.nz*

**Course Assistants: Greg Sligo, Rosemary  
Hudson**

If you would like to apply for more than one course, please rank your choices. If you enrol via our website **please complete payment of the appropriate fees** EITHER by internet banking (include Membership No. in Reference box), OR by cheque (to: Programme Secretary, U3A Dunedin, PO Box 6491, North Dunedin 9059.)

All applications must be received by **Wednesday 10 August 2016** and you will receive a response to your application by Friday 19 August 2016.

Please contact the Programme Convenor ([courses@u3adunedin.org.nz](mailto:courses@u3adunedin.org.nz)) or the Secretary ([mw.potter42@gmail.com](mailto:mw.potter42@gmail.com), 453 4721) with any queries.

#### **Postponements:**

Check the website: **u3adunedin.org.nz** or listen to:

The Breeze 98.2 FM — Radio Dunedin 99.8 FM — MoreFM 97.4 FM

**Please note:** please no recording, photographing or videoing at any session in any of the courses.

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

## **LAW MATTERS: rambles - and some brambles - in the legal thicket**

Law is often seen as obscure, arcane, and distant. And, of course, expensive! Sometimes it's all those things, but this course aims to sort out *some* of the mystery via the skills and enthusiasm of our presenters as they range over a variety of topics, from both theoretical and practical perspectives.

### **9 Sept Overview of how law works and key concepts**

The what? when? why? and where? of law. Everyday law affecting citizens (and other persons) and their property. Examples and discussion of law in action.

***Stephen Baird, former Senior Lecturer in Commercial Law, School of Business, University of Otago***

### **16 Sept Issues of tax and taxing issues.**

Would a capital gains tax solve the Auckland housing 'crisis'? What are foreign trusts and what is a tax haven? What is a 'fair amount' of tax? These questions arise all the time. Let's see if we can shed more light than heat on them.

***Shelley Griffiths, Associate Professor, School of Law, University of Otago***

### **23 Sept Family Law: Relationships and marriages break up.**

Mum wants to take the children back to where she came from in Australia. Dad opposes that. Mum wants more than 50% of the relationship property because she has given up her career to bring up the three children. What's fair and just in these circumstances?

***Mark Henaghan, Professor, and Dean of School of Law, University of Otago***

### **30 Sept Employment Law**

How employment law redresses the power imbalance in the workplace. What is a fair and reasonable employer? Does it matter? Why are employment lawyers a confounded nuisance? What happens in practice? The principles of employment law illustrated by some bizarre tales from the dark-side.

***Barry Dorking, Consultant at Anderson Lloyd specialising in employment law***

### **7 Oct Trusts: Does the Law Matter?**

Trusts are all the rage in New Zealand. Settlers transfer their assets into trust, but continue to enjoy them as if nothing has changed. Are these trusts a mere illusion? Should they be ignored? Or should they be treated as a valid disposition of property? What are the implications of recent trust busting decisions?

***Nicola Peart, Professor, School of Law, University of Otago***

### **14 Oct 1. International Law**

What is International law and how does it deal with challenges facing ethnic minorities within existing states? Is the current position on the right to self-determination really helpful? Perhaps a more liberal approach could assist in resolving many of the security issues the world now faces.

***David Sim, Senior Civil Litigator at Downie Stuart Lawyers***

### **2. Criminal Law**

NZ's sentencing approach is an economic and social failure. We have the 7<sup>th</sup> highest imprisonment rate in the OECD, a 52% return to prison within 48mths, a prison roll of 9000 costing \$93k per person per year. We clearly need a different approach. What can be done?

***Anne Stevens, Barrister, specialising in Criminal Law and Mental Health Law***