

## Series 1 - 2017

Course title: **Aspects of Agriculture -  
the backbone of the NZ Economy**



Dates: **Thursdays, 16 February - 23 March 2017**

Time: **2:15 - 4:15 p.m.**

Venue: **Leith Bowling Club,  
2 Duke Street, Dunedin North**

(Enrolments for this course will be limited to 110.)

**U3A  
DUNEDIN**  
CHARITABLE TRUST

**Course fee: \$60** \* Tea and coffee provided.

Website:  
***u3adunedin.org.nz***

**Course Convenor: Evan Taylor**

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Mobile: 020 40759190

**\* This course features speakers of international repute, whom we are bringing to Dunedin.  
The increased fee will assist with their travel costs**

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 **Friday 27 January 2017** and you will receive a response to your application by Friday 3 February 2017.

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.***

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE STARTING DATE OF THIS COURSE IS**

**16 FEBRUARY 2017**

# Aspects of Agriculture - the backbone of the NZ Economy

Course Developed by Jock Allison

- 16 February Arable cropping in New Zealand**  
Grain and forage crops, areas value, markets, research, extension to industry.  
**Future opportunities and challenges for cropping. Is this the way forward in reducing NZ's reliance on animal agriculture?**  
The changing requirements re water use efficiency and the environment, changing lifestyles and food habits nationally and internationally, new crops and enhanced value.  
*Nick Pyke, CEO of FAR (Foundation for Arable Research, Canterbury)*
- 23 February Forage breeding. From visual selection onwards. Have we actually improved our breeding methods in the last 10,000 years?**  
A review of the different approaches currently employed in forage breeding.  
**Metabolically engineered forages. Make it globally applicable or go home.**  
Genetic modifications to forages. This technology is controversial, but of major importance to world food production and reduction of industry footprints.  
*Dr Nick Roberts or Dr Greg Bryan, AgResearch: Principal scientists, Plant Biotechnology, AgResearch. Scientific leaders, ZeaKal, a Biotech company.*
- 2 March Insect Pests of grasses and crops**  
The damage and the answers, from chemical to Bio Control  
*Colin Fergusson, Entomologist AgResearch Invermay*  
**Salmon Farming in New Zealand**, The role of genetic improvement and a clean green image in making the NZ Salmon farming industry competitive  
*Dr Peter Amer, AbacusBio – Dunedin. Consultant, NZ King Salmon Company*
- 9 March Climate Change: an opportunity for New Zealand Agriculture or a publically and politically engineered misfortune?**  
Agricultural emissions, what is the real story?  
*Dr Jock Allison, ONZM, former director of AgResearch at Invermay*  
**From Farm Advisor to Marlborough Wine industry Pioneer**  
The transformation of land use since 1978 in the Marlborough region -  
*Neal Ibbotson, principal of the St Clair winery in Marlborough*
- 16 March Changing the sheep – through genetics, genomics and associated technologies**  
The role of these technologies in the sheep industry from farm to plate  
*Dr Neville Jopson, AbacusBio, Dunedin*  
**International food trends: the path for New Zealand agricultural products.**  
This talk will draw widely on AbacusBio's innovative work portfolio,  
*Dr Anna Campbell, Managing Partner of AbacusBio, Dunedin, ODT columnist*
- 23 March Irrigation in Godzone – its history and the genesis of current local water squabbles,**  
The talk will explain the relevant historical background to the current situation; the position being taken by the protagonists; and the role and position of local and national governments. Is a win-win possible?  
**Water Wars in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century? Conflicts when international water bodies separate neighbours?**  
Water resource conflicts in two unstable jurisdictions – the Indian sub-continent and Central Asian republics, a catalyst for serious inter-country tensions?  
*Dr Terry Heiler, previously CEO of the Agricultural Engineering Institute, Lincoln University, CEO Irrigation New Zealand, is a world authority on national and international irrigation development.*