



University of the Third Age,
Timaru

Series 6, 2019

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES & EXPERIENCES

Organised by Kath Calvert, Solome Mair and Reese Hart

U3A lectures are for members only.

We regret we're unable to welcome visitors to our lectures. It would be unfair to those who have been on the waiting list for a year or more.

7 Oct **China and Vietnam's perspectives on the South China Sea Disputes** *Minh Tran MA*

Will there be a solution to the South China Sea disputes? The disputes remain one of the world's most complicated territorial disputes. While there are many factors that constitute the dynamics of the disputes such as geo-strategic and economic factors, in this presentation I will specifically focus on China and Vietnam's diverging perspectives to argue that it is this huge difference among the claimants that makes it impossible for any solution.

14 Oct **"Despot Housewives" or Politically Relevant Actors? First Ladies & Authoritarian Rule in the Middle East & North Africa** *Dr Nadine Kreitmeyr*

This talk sheds light on the political roles and functions of Arab first ladies in authoritarian states. Their beauty, lifestyle as well as their engagement in socio-economic development initiatives have been praised; at the same time, many Arab first ladies also have been harshly criticized inter alia for their alleged corruption, favoritism and costly lifestyle. This was perhaps most evident during the Arab Spring of 2011. Arab first ladies have been depicted as the symbols of the authoritarian regime and its (mal)functioning.

21 Oct **Global Security versus 'America First': The Geo-Political Significance of the Transatlantic Divide over the 2015 Iran Nuclear Deal** *Robert Patman PhD*

Despite intense diplomatic lobbying by French, German and British leaders to keep the US in the 2015 Iran nuclear pact, President Trump withdrew the US from the agreement on 9 May 2018. However, the Europeans' continuing commitment to the nuclear deal and the evident limitations of the Trump administration's alternative 'maximum pressure' strategy towards Iran indicates that an 'America First' approach to security is hurting rather than strengthening US leadership in a globalised world.

4 Nov **Middle Eastern Affairs** *Professor William Harris MA, PhD*

Professor Harris has written four sole-authored books on Middle Eastern affairs as well as variety of book chapters and academic article, principally on the politics and history of the Levant states. In recent years his work has concentrated on Lebanon and Syria. His latest book is Lebanon: A History, 600-2011.

High Tea will be served following our final lecture on 4th November. All members welcome. No charge

LECTURE PROGRAMME FOR 2020: During 2020 we will have 9 lecture series, each of three lectures, held on the first three non-holiday Mondays each month, with an adjustment around Easter.

Meeting dates for 2020: **Series 1:** Mar 2, 9 16 **Series 2:** Mar 30, Apr 6, 20 **Series 3:** May 4, 11, 18 **Series 4:** Jun 8, 15, 22 **Series 5:** Jul 6, 13, 20 **Series 6:** Aug 3, 10, 17 **Series 7:** Sep 7, 14, 21 **Series 8:** Oct 5, 12, 19 **Series 9:** Nov 2, 9, 16

Visit www.u3atimaru.org to check the upcoming programme, download a copy of the newsletter, check the U3A calendar, download a copy of talk notes, find information and an application form for people who want to join.

MEETINGS

West End Hall, 35a Maltby Avenue, Timaru.
Lectures commence at 1.30 pm and conclude about 2.30 pm with questions to follow.
Coffee/tea will be provided after the meeting.

PLEASE ...

Be seated by 1.20 pm Wear your name tag
Turn your cell phone off No talking during lectures
Wait until the end of the lecture before asking questions
Stand when asking a question and wait for the microphone

OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE

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