

Committee Members 2026 - 27

Pam	Butler	President
Robin	Campbell	
Nola	Cavanagh	
Fin	Collie	
Stuart	Elder	
Isabel	Hopkins	
Bruce	McKerchar	
Murray	Pfeifer	Vice President
Dave	Savage	Treasurer
Laurel	Swan	Secretary
Jenny	Walker	
Vic	Wilkinson	Vice President



Coming up next year:

- Southland Series
- Anzacs
- Ethics

NB

There is no cost for this series

The End of Year function starts at 10:30

Contact

We prefer to contact you by email. If you have an email address, and we are not aware of it, please let us know.

Paper copies of the brochure are always available if you are unable to print one for yourself.

Website

For further information on U3A (including previous brochures) see our website:

<https://www.u3ainvercargill.nz/>



Series 8

November 2026

Roads from Home End of Year Function



Series Organisers

Laurel Swan

Fin Collie

Isabel Hopkins

Venue:	Windsor Community Church 19 Windsor St
Time:	10.00am (EOY function - 10:30am)
Cost:	No cost

Series 8 - Roads from Home

Session 1 : Friday November 6

Hyde and Seek

Presenter: **John Prendergast**



Bio: John was born in Dunedin, and after spending his early years in Hyde, Oamaru and at boarding school in Auckland arrived in Southland on 31st August 1974 – the same day Prime Minister Norman Kirk died.

John did his secondary schooling at Marist College in Invercargill. In 1979 he was the Marist College Head Prefect, and the inaugural Youthmark recipient.

He stayed in Southland on and off for the next 40 years, and for 20 of those years was the CEO of the Community Trust of Southland, followed by 2 years as CEO of Presbyterian Support Southland. In early 2020 John and Donna moved to Wellington, where John was the CEO of the Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington. And then in 2023 moved to Masterton, where John is the CEO of the Masterton Licensing Trust, New Zealand's second licensing trust, formed in 1947 after the Invercargill Licensing Trust was established in 1944.

John is a chartered accountant and as well as a number of commercial directorships, John has been and is involved in the governance of many community organisations, including being an inaugural trustee of Hospice Southland, trustee of the Southland Museum

& Art Gallery, trustee of the Ngai Tahu Fund, director of Rugby Southland, Chair of Kingswell High School, Chair of Verdon College, Chair of Cue Television, Chair of Philanthropy New Zealand, Chair of Camp Quality New Zealand, Chair of the Gift Trust New Zealand, Rotary District Governor, and Chair of the Dunedin Catholic Diocese Board of Management.

John is a Winston Churchill Fellow, a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow, and has been awarded fellowships by the City of New York University, and the Australia New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants. In 2017 John was named Southland Business Personality of the year.

John and Donna have three daughters, each educated at Verdon College and now living in Europe (Meg), Auckland (Ella) and Wellington (Grace).

Session 2 : Friday November 13

Presenter: **Haydn Jones**



Bio: Raised in Gore, Hadyn Jones gained early journalism experience on local newspaper *The Ensign*. He made his television debut reporting for *Holmes* in 2003, then *Close Up*. After shifting to *20/20* in 2005, Jones won a Qantas Award in 2006 for an investigation on drug dealers. Since 2009 he has become well known as presenter of the *Good Sorts* slot at the end of Sunday's *1 News at Six*, which

celebrates community heroes. He profiled more everyday Kiwis in 2012 series *Caravan of Life*, after a stint co-hosting breakfast show *Good Morning*. Starting in 2016, Jones did an eight year stint co-presenting *Fair Go*, before the show's cancellation. Haydn still files stories for Seven Sharp and runs a production company called Mr Jones and Content which specialises in helping Community Groups and Charities get their message heard.

In his spare time, he runs ultra marathons and runs a charity t-shirt social enterprise.

EOY Function : Friday November 20

Presenter: **Matt Russell**



Bio: Raised in Southland, Matt ventured overseas for work but returned five years ago with his wife and two children. Matt has extensive experience across several sectors including commercial and not-for-profit, in both executive and governance roles. Since returning to Southland, Matt worked as General Manager of Infrastructure and Environmental Services for the Southland District Council. He also holds governance roles with the Regional Sports Trust – Active Southland and Milford Sound Tourism Limited.