



PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2022

We have much to celebrate over the past year as we have managed to continue and enjoy our U3A activities despite Covid again changing the way we do things.

Lecture Programme

This year all 15 Term 1 lectures went ahead via Zoom. By 3 May the change to the Orange Traffic Light setting meant we could return to the Embassy. The Committee were thrilled to see a large crowd attending with such enjoyment at once being part of a group activity enjoying stimulating lectures. To date we have continued with high attendance numbers at the Embassy and are enjoying the new lobby renovations.

A great deal of organisation goes into our lecture programme. Key people include our four Programme Coordinators, Robin Halliday, Gill Sutherland, Doug Helps and Philip Harrison. They have done a great job in trying circumstances; at times having to find a replacement for a scheduled presenter at short notice. The presenters are ably assisted by our audio sound expert, Ian Goodwin and on occasion Anthony Fletcher. Paul Armstrong and Faith Atkins send the weekly emailed lecture reminders and the athletic microphone 'runners', Bruce Levick, Ian Goodwin and Glenda Lewis facilitate questions.

Jeannie Buxton, Volunteer Coordinator, and volunteers who welcome and scan membership cards are very much appreciated. Towards the end of the year Jeannie will check with this year's volunteers and invite them to continue their commitment for 2023. Please contact Jeannie if you can help on the desk.

We continue to enjoy the support of Manager, Caleb Button, and Technician Darryl Burnard who sets up the sound and projection facilities. We will shortly be organising dates for next year's lectures. Your contribution is to let us know ideas of speakers and topics for our 2023 programme!

Finances

The financial statement for the year ending 30 June 2022 is available in this Newsletter. Treasurer, John Rutherford, provides the Committee with regular financial reports and notes a surplus for the year ending 30 June 2022 of \$8,712.00. A contributing factor to this surplus is the lower cost of the online lectures for Term 1. The Annual Accounts Report will be presented for approval at the Annual General Meeting and then submitted to Charities Services.

Membership

The winter months of June and July keep our very efficient Membership Secretary, Gwen Levick, busy with subscription renewals. The remaining weeks in August allow a grace period of membership. From September U3A all activities will require current membership.

Visits and Events

Sue Dale, Events Coordinator, has done a great job with a varied holiday events programme. Sue managed to navigate the difficult circumstances caused by Covid that limited some options. Thank you, Sue.

Website and Newsletter

Alison Dixie, Website Administrator, and Rae Julian, Newsletter Editor, keeps us updated with the lecture programme, Special Interest Groups and the latest news. Thank you both for keeping communication lines open.

Special Interest Groups (SIG)

Our Coordinator, Linda Beckett, is very keen to hear from you if you wish to start a new group (or a second group where there is a waiting list for an existing group). Linda keeps SIG Leaders informed and we very much appreciate her liaison with this important tier of U3A Wellington activities.

Committee

At the Annual General Meeting three of our long-serving Committee members are 'retiring' after five very busy years. Membership Secretary, Gwen Levick, has done a wonderful, efficient job of keeping the membership database current, responding to members' queries and contributing thoughtful and considered

opinions at our Committee meetings. Programme Coordinators Robin Halliday and Doug Helps (also Vice President) have done a superb job with 'staffing' the lecture programme. Always willing to go that extra mile, they have been dependable and responsible for sourcing and organising many of our speakers. We very much appreciate the valuable contribution the three retirees have made. Their retirement means that we have three vacancies and I am pleased to say that we have received nominations for these.

I am most fortunate in working with 12 committed, collegial and capable Committee members, including our excellent Secretary, Tricia Walbridge. While we will miss those who are retiring at our upcoming AGM, we look forward to working with the successful nominees and the committee members who have been nominated for re-election at the AGM.

Barbara Crump