



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Welcome to a new year of U3A lectures and special interest group activities. Our Programme Coordinators – Gill Sutherland, Philip Harrison Sue Driver and Brian Pauling – have arranged an exciting and varied programme of 59 lectures beginning Tuesday 14 February and finishing 17 November. These dates mean we begin a week earlier than last year and end later in November than usual. To balance the number of lectures between holiday breaks we now have a five-term year. Check our website for the programme and for any changes in lecture presenters and topics. Many of the Special Interest Groups have continued meeting over the past months and the leaders enjoy receiving updates from their Coordinator, Linda Beckett. Sue Dale, Events Coordinator, has already been busy planning for holiday activities and again is presenting a varied programme.

This year the format of lectures will change. At the November Committee meeting it was decided to no longer invite people to leave at the end of a presenter's talk and before question time. We believe it disrespectful to the speaker to have people walk out for the last five to ten minutes of the lecture session and therefore questions will immediately begin when the talk finishes. Another change is that the speaker will be thanked by the Chair of the meeting.

The Committee recently reconsidered our position regarding Covid protocols while attending lectures. We confirm that, in line with other in-door events, masks and social distancing, while recommended, are an individual choice. If you are unwell, please don't attend U3A events and isolate if you have a positive Covid test result.

We look forward to seeing you and hope you enjoy another stimulating year.

Barbara Crump