

## Letter from the Chair

**U3A Dunedin** 

11th March 2019

Our Annual General Meeting at Salmond College elected Geoffrey Adams, Ngaire Bates, Jill Geary, Jane Johnson, Jude Hathaway, Doug Holborow, Alan Jackson, Rob Lawson, Jeanette Leigh, Barrie Peake, Marion Potter, Stuart Strachan, Evan Taylor and Alistair Wright to the Board for 2019-2020. This is the maximum number allowed under our rules and everyone will be busy to make our organisation and courses fulfilling for as many members as possible.

The new lanyard option was available at the AGM and at the first lectures in week 1 of Series 1. They have proved very popular and so a second order has been necessary. I hope that all members who would like one will have them by the end of this Series. New double-sided name inserts are also being distributed.

A few years ago we introduced Ride Share to help members when all the lectures moved briefly to the Otago Golf Club. We hold lectures at two different venues now, but recognise the need to cut down on use of fossil fuels, reduce congestion in parking areas, promote friendships and so we would encourage members to think of the advantages of travelling to courses together. People who are less mobile appreciate a friend taking the stress out of journeys.

The terms of the U3A Dunedin scholarship to support a mature student at the University are completed. We have one term deposit maturing in June this year and a much larger one in November 2020, so the Board has decided to pass funds to the University in two tranches of \$25 000, the first being later this year - the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of the University.

The Archives have now been deposited with The Hocken and we are about to consider what to do with our digital records.

When you use your member login on the U3A Dunedin home page, you will see a new feature – in the space which reminds you which course you have enrolled in – after the ballot has been run it now tells you which course you have been **accepted for**. You still get e-mail or paper notification in the usual way. Friends can help our "paper members" to check their choices in the event of a postal hold up.

At the end of Series 1 courses, the course feedback form will be available on paper, as now, and online.

Please do have a look at the News and Current Events section of the web site – there are all sorts of things advertised there – the year calendar for the Dunedin Film Club for example.

As a result of one of the courses delivered in Series 2 last year, a new group (Music For Dementia) was set up by certain members of this lecture group and is now a recognised Charitable Trust. Further information for those interested is available on flyers held at reception.

Alan Jackson Chair 2019-2020