



Letter from the Chair

U3A Dunedin

29th July 2019

We hoped that use of the on-line end-of-course feedback option would prove useful to members and there were 226 course feedbacks on-line, 37 on paper. I felt that there was more time to make more thoughtful comments, as well as the saving of paper and printing costs.

For courses held at Leith Bowling Club we asked whether the advantages of that venue outweighed the difficulties of parking. 9 totally agreed, 73 somewhat agreed, 6 somewhat disagreed and 3 disagreed strongly. The conclusion is that members are prepared to put up with the difficulties there and we have shelved the search for an alternative venue for now.

Some members told us that they had no e-mail about course confirmation – we do send to all who are enrolled. From this end we can see to whom e-mails are sent. Please do look in SPAM/junk folders. Other than that I'd be delighted to know what might be wrong.

If two members wish to apply to attend a course together – do look for the check box on the enrolment form. It doesn't look as if there will be a ballot for Series 3 at the moment.

Again, following course feedback, the high windows at the Golf Club have been screened and plans to improve ventilation are on the table. There is Wi-Fi at both of our venues.

Some folk found venues chilly during the morning courses despite using all the heaters – I encourage members to bring a knee blanket if you suffer from cold. Also bring a cushion if it helps you to be more comfortable when sitting for the better part of two hours.

Kiwi bank will shortly stop issuing cheques and from 28th Feb 2020 they no longer accept them for banking. Our bank is ANZ so this does not affect us just yet but society is forcing change whether we like it or not. We are fortunate to belong to U3A where we can stay connected and learn to adapt to change.

I would like to thank all course Developers, Convenors and Assistants. Nick Wiseman (farming) had nine trips to the airport to ferry speakers who came to us. Annette Riley has just written over 40 thank-you letters, Clare Robertson was getting brochures ready for Series 3 at the same time as convening a course. U3A never sleeps and the volunteers working on everyone's behalf are brilliant.

The Board reaffirmed the policy on name badges today: **that a U3A Dunedin supplied name badge should be worn to all U3A Dunedin events.**

Use any sort of badge holder you wish: lanyard, rigid plastic or another but the badge that U3A issues is proof of your membership, as well as being a great help to others in using names in conversations.

26 more people have joined since the end of Series 2. I look forward to meeting many of you during Series 3.

Alan Jackson
Chair 2018-2020