



# Letter from the Chair

U3A Dunedin

21<sup>st</sup> October 2019

Series 3 2019 has now concluded, all the available course lecture materials have been posted on the web and it is heartening to see how much use is being made of them. I can see the number of times items are downloaded and the Gardening course tops the list.

Please do look at the News and Coming Events page since we advertise many lectures, seminars, and calls for volunteers to help with research at University and Medical School. We ensure that the requests are accompanied by ethical approval before we post them. There are two excellent links at the top of that page: one about automation and one about climate change.

The Programme Committee is working on ADDITIONAL one-off lectures to be held in association with University. Members will be advised about the one planned for February in the usual way.

The full eulogy to Brian O'Rourke is on the public documents part of our web site. I hope that things which have been said about Brian, who was a major force in setting up U3A Dunedin, might well inspire people to follow his lead. He has left a wonderful legacy.

That brought to mind: ***"It doesn't matter WHAT it is, so long as it's POSITIVE"***.

The Board approved a notice of motion to go on to the AGM notice paper that *Rule 6.1 might be modified to allow up to 16 members to be on the Board*. Given the number of members we are dealing with now, there is need for more hands to share the load and it is very important for the Board to deal with succession planning in all the areas of responsibility.

Shortly we shall post the list of 2020 Series 1 courses – the Board approved them all this morning.

Discussion Groups are still going strong and one new person has joined U3A Dunedin at this late stage just to be a part of the Discussion Groups for the remainder of the year. Welcome to that new member. There is always plenty of room for more groups, just contact Ngaire Bates 454 2170.

The Board decided that any lost property unclaimed by the start of Series 1 2020 (more than the usual 3 months) would be passed on to a charity. Items that have identified owners will be held.

If you know of any members who used to use any of these e-mail addresses: ihug, es, clear, vodafone – can you please ask them to get in touch with Membership Secretary on 473-6947 and register the updates if they have not already done so. We discovered ten such last week – those e-mail addresses will not deliver this Letter from the Chair.

When I downloaded the new Super Gold app, I noticed that Noel Leeming is offering 30 minutes of tech advice for \$19.99. That is very attractive price indeed.

We are now in the business of distributing the latest paper version of FORUM to those who receive it in that form, getting 2020 Series 1 brochures ready and sending out membership renewals to 927 members. U3A Dunedin never sleeps.

*Alan Jackson Chair 2018-2020*