

Kia ora

The Board of U3A Dunedin met yesterday and this email is to update you on our discussions.

It was my first meeting as Chairperson after elections in March 2021. We welcomed a new member Bill Stanford to our meeting; we now have 12 members and there is still room for four more. Please let me know if you are interested.

Series One is completed and evaluations are in. Both the Programme Committee and the Board couldn't be more pleased with its success .. We have had incredibly positive comments and given four courses had over 100 of you enrolling we are good health and in great spirits. There were a very few critical comments, from which we can learn, but these were well balanced by your overall enthusiasm. Thank you. I now look forward to a strong enrolment for Series Two, commencing June. Once again, there is a great selection of courses, very eclectic with hopefully something for everyone.

The Board has agreed to an application form for those wanting to join existing and new discussion groups. This will allow us to track our members' preferences with up to date statistics. We are also keen to have more Discussion Groups, so please contact Ngaire Bates with your ideas.

With the recent, very sad death of Marion Potter, we need to find and appoint a new Secretary. An email will be sent out shortly, letting you know of this request. Marion had a wealth of institutional knowledge of U3A, and I was very much looking forward to working with her. We missed her sorely at this Board meeting and had a moment silence to remember her and two other members who have recently passed: Honor Anderson, a previous Board Chairperson, and Frank Austin, one of our members. It is important I receive such messages so our organisation can recognise and acknowledge their contributions.

Feedback on the "Two for One" initiative for the Albatross Colony shows it to be popular with our members. The Board will acknowledge this generous offer, thanking them for these wonderful experiences with friends and family. This offer is available until March 31 2022.

Our membership statistics are very healthy. We now have 902 members, with 27 new ones since March this year. Welcome to our new members, and if you would like to be more involved with either the Programme Committee (setting up courses and generating new ideas) or the Board (governance and financials), please let us know.

As Alan Jackson, immediate past Chairperson states, U3A never sleeps. In our older years it is great to have so many opportunities to keep learning.

Ka mihi

Linda Kinniburgh

Board Chairperson

Dunedin U3A